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### NOTE ON A HITHERTO UNNOTICED CONDITION OF THE OMENTUM IN CANCER OF THE OVARIES.

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My attention was first called to this matter about ten years ago by the following case: I was sent for in a hurry to a woman about fifty years of age, whom I found sitting upright in a chair, gasping for breath, with a fluttering pulse and quite cyanosed. A hasty examination revealed the fact that her abdomen was tightly distended with fluid, free in the cavity, and that the first aid that should be given her was to draw off this fluid so that her heart might have room to beat. I returned in a few minutes with a small trocar, which I always employ, so as to avoid the danger of hemorrhage into the veins by the sudden removal of the supporting fluid surrounding them. After the first five minutes she felt immensely relieved, although it took more than an hour to withdraw four gallons. But long before this quantity had come away the cause of the ascites was apparent, for two large masses as large as a man's head made their appearance, lifting up the relaxed abdominal wall. Three days later I removed these tumors at my private hospital through a large incision about eleven inches long. Before closing it I tried to get a hold of the omentum to draw it down under the incision to prevent the intestines from becoming adherent to the latter, when to my surprise I found there was practi-

\* Martin's Gynecology, Cushing's translation, Second edition, page 499.