

Ergot and hot douches had arrested the hæmorrhage, while during the next twenty-four hours the remaining portion came away of itself and the patient made a good recovery.

### **Cancer of the Rectum.**

Dr. WYATT JOHNSTON exhibited for Dr. Armstrong a specimen of cancer of the rectum of the adenoid type. The disease had involved the whole circumference of the gut for between two and three inches above the anus.

He also showed for Dr. Armstrong an adenoid cancer of the sigmoid flexure, which showed great constriction at the point of disease and great dilatation above.

Dr. G. E. ARMSTRONG read the history of the first case (reported by Dr. Kinghorn) as follows:

Wm. M., aged 58, was admitted on February 25, 1896, to the Montreal General Hospital complaining of passing blood *per rectum*. The trouble was first noticed ten months previous to admission, and up to that time he had had no trouble of any kind about the anus.

The onset was gradual and the first symptom noticed was irregularity of the bowels. Previous to this time the bowels had been very regular, but it gradually came about that they moved only every third day. The stools were fairly formed, but rather contracted and of a pale colour. Some months later he noticed the bed-clothes soiled in the morning with a blood-coloured fluid, having a peculiar, rather sweetish, offensive odour. This fluid came to be passed both day and night and increased in amount. Pain was first noticed about four months after the onset of symptoms and was felt at the bottom of the spine and at the anus.

Five months after onset he had great frequency of micturition during the night, but had to wait sometimes fifteen minutes before the stream would come away. This condition lasted until six weeks previous to admission.

About six months after the onset he had an attack of diarrhoea, which lasted one week, but otherwise the bowels gradually became more constipated, and finally would not move without a purgative.

While the above symptoms were developing he lost about ten pounds in weight, and though his appetite continued good he became pale and lost strength.

He was born in England and when younger was ten years in the British Army, in an infantry regiment. Of late he has worked at dry goods packing. His occupations have always kept him on his