

at this "monthly period" she felt no inconvenience of any kind.

Concluding that I had to deal with a case of hydrometra or hæmatometra, I explained the nature of the case to her mother and the necessity for immediate relief, which could only be obtained by a surgical operation. After a good deal of persuasion she consented that the operation should be performed, but on condition that "no man but myself should be present at it." Accordingly I was compelled to make assistants of her mother and aunt.

The bowels having been relieved by an enema, the patient was placed in the position for the operation of lithotomy, the aunt gave her ether, her mother held the catheter in the urethra, while, with the index finger of the left hand in the rectum, I made a transverse incision two inches long midway between the anus and urethra, through the integuments and cellular tissue, and with the handle of the knife and the fingers I carefully tore open a passage, making the wound exactly $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches deep before I came to the tumour. At the base of the wound there existed a slightly elevated circular ridge which I considered was the sealed os uteri, and through it I passed a large sized trocar, when out poured a fluid nearly as thick as molasses but darker in colour, and, as is usual in such cases, without offensive odour. For the purpose of ascertaining the extent of dilatation of the womb, I introduced through the canula the longest probe I had—eleven inches—without being able to reach the fundus of that organ.

In order to secure the passage of the fluid from the uterus *slowly* I introduced a soft rubber catheter through the canula, which was then removed; when she was carefully placed in bed with strict directions not to allow pressure upon the abdomen. The ether did not produce sickness, but she complained of pain for which an anodyne was given. She passed a good night, during which time upwards of two quarts of fluid flowed from the womb. On the second day it ceased passing, when, fearing decomposition of any that might have remained, warm water was carefully injected through the catheter and repeated each day until it passed away without colour.