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PREGNANCY WITH OVARIAN TUMOUR—FOUR CASES—THREE SUCCESSFUL OVARIOTOMIES.*

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The association of the gravid state of the uterus with ovarian tumour will be admitted on all hands to possess exceptional interest to the clinician. The danger to a patient thus afflicted, unless the condition be clearly recognized and skilfully dealt with, is very considerable.

An examination of the subject will show that in almost all cases the neoplasm existed before the advent of pregnancy. The impregnation of a woman with ovarian disease of one side need not excite any surprise when the other ovary is healthy. It is surely, however, a reason for wonder when pregnancy occurs with double ovarian tumour, sometimes malignant; and yet a number of such are on record. The only possible explanation of such cases is that pregnancy occurred before complete obliteration of all ova-producing stroma. It would be obviously uncalled-for, before this learned body, to enter into any minute discussion of the subject, yet I venture to remind you of some of the more important dangers to a woman in this grave dilemma.

In the first place, a quiescent or very slowly growing tumour is in most instances with the advent of pregnancy stimulated to rapid growth, with development or great increase of all the

^{*} Read before the Canadian Medical Association, at Montreal, September, 1891.