

ing the abdominal suture and dressing, in from nine to fifteen minutes, and so, in proportion, are other operations done with the same marvellous rapidity. Mr. Tait succeeds in removing adherent multilocular cystomata through wonderfully short incisions by getting his fingers in through the anterior large cyst after it has been tapped and opened, and breaking up the solid matter and small dense-walled cysts. One of the strong statements so characteristic of the man is that no laparotomy ought ever to take more than an hour, and he who thus consumes more time doesn't understand his business. It was my fortune to see him do scarcely anything that could be called simple, except a few of the removals of appendages, but I was told by a number of Americans who saw him do a simple ovariectomy for a unilocular cyst, that it was all over in exactly five minutes.

Mr. Tait uses the drainage-tube very often, and also very often washes out the peritoneum. He does not wait, as those who have seen Keith say he does, to tie or otherwise arrest every bleeding point, but if the oozing is inconsiderable, and sometimes even when it seemed to me considerable, he puts in a drainage-tube to the bottom of the Douglas pouch, and closes the wound, the accumulation in the tube being removed from time to time by a rubber ball and glass sucker, with a piece of rubber tubing at its end, which is made to dip to the bottom of the tube. During the operation he controls oozing surfaces by the pressure of sponges. If this is insufficient to stay the bleeding, he uses the cautery, or, as it seemed to me, oftener the perchloride of iron. A lump of the salt is dissolved in a few ounces of water and applied lightly to the part with a sponge, or a piece of the salt is grasped with forceps and pressed on the bleeding point. This applies to bleeding that cannot easily be reached by silk ligature, and he never uses catgut or any other. For washing out he uses plain water, which may have been boiled, but which many times I have seen him cool sufficiently by the addition of cold water as it came from the tap. All washing out cases are also treated by the drainage-tube, through which the remains of the water are sucked out, as they subside to the most dependent part, as well as by sponging. One of the great advantages of the drainage-tube claimed by Tait is that, besides its rendering