

THE
MONTREAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

VOL. XVIII.

MARCH, 1890.

No. 9.

Original Communications.

ON ABDOMINAL SECTION IN TUBERCLE OF THE
PERITONEUM AND UTERINE APPENDAGES.*

BY WM. GARDNER, M.D.,
Professor of Gynecology, McGill University.

It is foreign to my purpose, as, indeed, it would be outside my sphere of professional work and experience, to discuss generally the subject of peritoneal tuberculosis. I wish merely to present the report of five cases in which a variety of physical signs existed, but in all of which tuberculosis was present, and in each of which I did abdominal section. It must further be added that in none of these cases was the whole condition diagnosed by the ordinary medical attendant or by myself, except in *Case 2*, in which Dr. Armstrong suspected tubercular peritonitis. Ever since ovariectomy began the ascent to its present magnificent position as one of the great triumphs of surgery, the abdomen has occasionally been opened to take out an ovarian tumor when none has been found, but only an encysted collection of fluid, with more or less matting together of viscera and general studding of the peritoneum with tubercle. Such was my first case, reported to this Society and published in some detail in the *CANADA MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL* for June 1885. I here give an abridged report, as it is the only one of the five in which fluid effusion in the belly-cavity existed.

S. B., aged 23, single, domestic servant, once pregnant, confined at the seventh month one year and a half ago, was sent

* Read before the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Montreal, Feb. 7th, 1890.