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THREE CASES OF MALIGNANT DISEASE.

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(Read before the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Montreal.)

I propose to read to you this evening the histories of three cases of scirrhus cancer, and I hope by them to illustrate three points in the clinical history of malignant disease.

1. The insidious progress of cancer of the upper part of the rectum and sigmoid flexure.
2. The irregular course of symptoms of cancer of the stomach.
3. The rare co-existence of pregnancy and malignant disease of the breast:

CASE I.—Mary B., exact age unknown, apparently about 70 years of age: for many years a widow; of fair complexion, thin but not emaciated. Has been an inmate of the Church Home for many years.

I was sent for on the 28th June, 1878, to visit her. A slight cough, to which she had been subject for many years, was rather worse than usual, and for the first time she noticed the sputa tinged with blood. She had a fairly strong pulse and did not feel ill at all. The hæmoptysis was very trifling. I prescribed rest, cold food, and a mustard poultice to the chest. She was to take a pill of acetate of lead and opium every four hours until I saw her again.