

can satisfactorily determine its condition, and that in every case an incision should be made into the organ and the parts explored with the probe or finger. The aspirator failed to evacuate the contained pus, because it was so thick and tenacious, although a previous exploration had revealed its presence in small amount. In cases of tuberculous pyelitis the disease is often symmetrical, and it would be folly to perform a nephrectomy without a knowledge of the condition of the opposite kidney. Such cases demand a nephrotomy with subsequent drainage until the condition of the other kidney is ascertained. If it is found to be healthy, nephrectomy may be afterwards performed with the object of removing a suppurating organ and ridding the patient of foci of disease. The condition of the other kidney is easily ascertained after a nephrotomy, for all the urine from the incised and drained kidney would come out of the lumbar wound, and that which was passed through the ordinary channel would necessarily come from the other kidney. If the urine is large in amount and of a healthy character, this is partly good proof that the other kidney is performing its functions properly.

For the report of the following case I am indebted to my late house surgeon, Dr. H. S. Birkett :—

S. B., aged 38, was admitted into the Montreal General Hospital on the 13th of July, 1886, complaining of frequent and painful micturition. These symptoms first appeared three months before, and he had been treated by several physicians for catarrh of the bladder. Had always been healthy up to three months ago, and was formerly stout, but had lost considerable flesh lately. He made water every few minutes, night and day, and each time the pain was severe. It commenced in the small of the back, on the left side, and extended down the groin, along the urethra to the point of the penis. He complained of continuous dull, aching pain in the left lumbar region. Had never passed any blood; urine contained a small amount of pus, but no mucus, specific gravity 1.005, contained albumen, and only two grains of urea to the ounce. Quantity passed daily, 60 to 70 ounces. No tumor could be made out in the lumbar regions. Bladder sounded for stone,