

patient is remarkably improved, and is sensible of the great change that has resulted from the operation. I have had several letters from her, all of which manifest a good mental condition. There is still much to be done in this line, and I am anxious to see what may be achieved in the way of castration of insane male subjects. The well-known effect of the operation on animals leads me to hope that very many cases of mania might be so far relieved of their violent character, as to permit of their being retained at home, and thus lighten the dreary monotony of an asylum life. Such a case as I refer to, came under my observation a short time ago, but, unfortunately, too late to allow of the performance of the operation before the patient was removed to Longue Pointe Asylum. Without further remarks I now give a brief report of the case with the after-results of the operation, so far as known, up to the present time :

CASE 1.—Miss S., æt 34. Canadian, spare habit but well developed, and, except for disorders of menstruation, healthy. For many years patient has suffered during menstruation, but for the past year has been a confirmed invalid, seldom able to leave the house. I could not get any information from her former medical attendant, inasmuch as she had been under twelve doctors before she fell into my hands.

Upon examination I found the uterus low down in the pelvis and retroverted—the condition of the os was normal, the depth of cavity  $5\frac{1}{2}$  centimetres, and the organ freely moveable. On the right side found a small growth which was supposed to be either an ovarian or tubular cyst. As the uterine displacement with all its accompanying distress could only be treated palliatively, and as such treatment could not possibly offer any future to the patient worth living for, the removal of the uterine appendages was advised.

OPERATION.—On 31st of March, 1883, assisted by Drs. Ross, Armstrong, Gardner, Young and Shepherd, I removed the ovaries and fallopian tubes. The abdomen was opened in the median line, below the umbilicus, to the extent of about 9. c. m. On the right side there was a cyst about the size of a goose egg = 1 lb. The left ovary was enlarged and cystic, both tubes much congested and apparently the seat of inflammatory action. The external wound was closed by three deep silver sutures and five superficial horse-hair sutures.

The after-treatment does not require special note, as the convalescence was rapid and the tem-

perature almost normal throughout, except on the second day when it rose up to 100.5 for a few hours. On the 12th day patient was able to be up in an easy chair. The only after-trouble encountered was small abscesses, due to the irritation of the silver sutures in the recti muscles, an occurrence which now, thanks to the suggestion of Dr. Goodell, need never occur.

This patient returned to her home in Ontario, and in less than three months after the operation was performing nearly all the work of a family of seven persons. Eighteen months have now passed, and though her general health was feeble for some months, and there was a good deal of pain and pelvic distress, on account of a too early resort to duties of life, yet on the first of this month (Nov.) she writes : “The great pain I suffered in the body is gone, am not troubled so much with my head and back, able to walk three or four miles a day, and gaining in flesh, and able to do *all* my own work, which has been very heavy for the last two months my mother was in Toronto for six weeks during the busy season and I did every thing myself. Were it not for the great pain of rheumatism I would be, comparatively speaking, *quite* well.” This patient suffered a good deal, especially the first few months after the operation, from flashes of heat all over the surface of the body, followed by perspiration. This peculiarity has been noted in all the other cases now reported, but in some cases much less severe than in others.

CASE 2.—Miss—, æt 32. Born in Quebec. Well-developed, healthy girl in every respect, except as to the organs of generation. Her menses have always been painful, and though for a number of years she led an active life between the menstrual epochs, yet for the last four or five years has been unable to walk or sit for any length of time on account of severe and constant pains in the pelvis. In fact, most of her time was passed on her couch, with her feet elevated, in which position alone she obtained relief.

The patient had been a sufferer from the time menstruation began, but it was only after the menses had been arrested by the use of cold water baths that her disease assumed a serious character. Before, during, and after menstruation the pains are severe, while the interval between these epochs permit of limited out-door exercise. These periods of comparative relief have been gradually diminishing, in fact are almost absent at the present