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EXPERIENCE OF TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY-EIGHT CASES OF ABDOMINAL SURGERY.*

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From Jan., 1890, to Nov., 1897, he had opened the abdomen 248 times with 17 deaths, or a mortality of $6\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. for the whole eight years. In 1892 he had lost 2 out of 12 operations, or nearly 17 per cent., but in 1895 he had lost two out of 57, or a mortality of only $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. In 1896 his death rate had been low, losing only 2 out of 60, or a little over 3 per cent. 93 of these operations were performed at his private hospital, 79 at the Samaritan, 66 at the Western, and the remainder at private houses and other hospitals. The death rate at the Samaritan for laparotomies was 5 per cent., and for the same at the Western six and a half per cent. Many of the operations were of the most serious nature, such as two of removal of large tumors of the kidney without a death; 11 large ovarian tumors with two deaths; 14 abdominal hysterectomies with 4 deaths; 9 ventral and umbilical hernias without a death; 62 for double pus tubes with five deaths; and 99 ventrofixations with one death, which, however, had nothing to do with the ventrofixation as it occurred in a bad pus tube case. He referred to the charge sometimes brought against gynecologists that they often operated unnecessarily. This certainly could not be said in his

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