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RETROVERSION AND RETROFLEXION OF THE
UTERUS.*

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In preparing a paper for this Society on some subject within the domain of gynecology, it has seemed to me that a subject should be selected which should have, as far as possible, relation to the every-day work of the practitioner. The question of backward displacements of the uterus has been so thoroughly discussed in the books, in the societies, and in the medical newspapers, that it would seem that there is little that is new or novel to be brought forward. Nevertheless, the daily experience of anyone whose time is much occupied in the consideration and treatment of special maladies is almost sure to develop practical and successful methods of treatment, the relation of which is likely to prove of interest to the general practitioner.

Before proceeding to the discussion of individual experience and opinion, it may prove profitable to say a few words concerning the anatomy of the pelvic organs; and first, as to the much vexed question as to what forces are potent in retaining the uterus in its natural position, or perhaps we might ask, What is the natural position of the uterus? In the case of an organ so movable as the uterus, attached as it is by elastic and movable supports to the surrounding parts, changing its position with every movement of the diaphragm and of the patient's body, it

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