

*Case 1.* Miss Mary D., aged 16,—a young lady of singularly amiable and quiet manners, with rather a slight figure, and pale but healthy complexion,—was observed by her friends during the month of September, 1862, to be increasing rapidly in stoutness, while at the same time her general health began to fail. I saw her on the 6th of October, when the abdomen was enlarged to the extent usually observed about the sixth month of pregnancy. The enlargement was uniform and soft, no trace of a solid tumour being perceptible at any part. There was no pain, and the catamenia, which had only appeared scantily and irregularly during the preceding year, were unaltered. There was no swelling of the feet, nor of any other part of the body except the abdomen, and the general health was not as yet much impaired. An ovarian cyst was of course believed to be present, but whether unilocular or multilocular could not clearly be made out, particularly as no vaginal examination could at that time be obtained.

She was directed to observe a rather dry regimen, and was given a diuretic mixture with occasional hydrogogue cathartics, care being taken not to reduce her strength by overdosing.

*October 16th.* The treatment has had no effect in retarding the progress of the disease, and the distension has increased so rapidly that it now (only ten days from my first examination) seriously interferes with her breathing, and renders absolutely necessary some attempt to procure at least temporary relief. With the advice and assistance, therefore, of Drs. G. W. Campbell and Drake, I tapped the cyst in the mesial line, and drew off 27 pints of characteristic albuminous fluid, giving of course immediate relief. No perceptible tumour could be felt through the abdominal walls, after the tapping. Uniform and firm pressure was applied to the abdomen, and she was directed to take a pill composed of squills, digitalis and blue mass, three times a day.

*November 6th.*—Since last report various other remedies have been tried in the hope of retarding the secretion, among which, iodide of potassium, in considerable doses, was given; but no internal treatment whatever has seemed to produce the slightest beneficial effect, the distension being already (in exactly three weeks) as great as before. She was accordingly again tapped, and 25 pints of fluid removed, almost as thick as white of egg.

*November 14th.*—Dr. Fraser saw her with me to-day, and we were permitted to make an examination per vaginam. A fluctuating mass was found projecting into the pelvis on the right side, and the impulse was very distinctly felt in that locality when the mass was percussed through the abdominal wall. The uterus was somewhat lower than usual and thrust to the left side, but was in other respects normal.