

## Pathology.

UNDER THE CHARGE OF J. G. ADAMI.

### The Changes Produced in the Abdominal Viscera of the Adult Woman as a Result of Corset-wearing and Pendulous Belly.

HERTZ. An abstract of Paul Hertz's "*Abnormitäten in der Lage und Form der Bauchorgane bei dem erwachsenen Weibe sine Folge des Schnürens und Hängebauches.*" Berlin, 1894. Verlag von S. Karger.

Hertz has made a very careful study of the cadavera of 50 women and the results of his examination are of great interest to all who are interested in abdominal work. They show that very great variations are produced, the mechanism of the alterations, being difficult to understand in certain cases. Several points, indeed, remain quite obscure, and it seems to me that our knowledge will not be complete or satisfactory until the influence of lacing and of pendulous belly be studied under different conditions, *e.g.*, in the growing period, in the full-grown state, in relation to pregnancy and in relation to occupation. Hertz describes the changes in the different viscera as follows.

#### THE LIVER.

There are two chief types of alteration produced in this organ as the result of the wearing of corsets.

*First Type*—(*Die lange herabgeklappte Leber mit Schnürlappen, einfach oder doppelt, Sustentaculum-bildung und Nirennest.*)

In this form one or both lobes are thinned and elongated downward into the abdomen for a distance of 10, 15 or more cm. below the transverse curvature, as a kind of flap which covers the intestines or is partly covered by them. On the anterior surface is a transverse or oblique depression—the well-known corset furrow, slight or well-marked, over which the peritoneum may be thickened and fibrous as a result of perihepatitis. It is usually placed high, running from about the 8th left costal cartilage to the 10th or 11th on the right side. The upper surface of the liver is greatly diminished in area, so that the organ might be described as possessing a large anterior, a large posterior, a narrow upper surface and a thin lower margin. The outline, viewed from the front is that of a right-angled triangle, the hypothenuse being the left lower border. Sometimes it presents four corners which may be more or less like right angles; the part developed from