

## ON HÆMORRHAGIC CYSTS OF THE THYROID GLAND.

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### PLATE XV.

It is generally taught that the most frequent form of enlargement of the thyroid gland is the parenchymatous goitre, or bronchocele, a form in which, by the overproduction or retention of colloid material within the vesicles in general, there is brought about a very considerable increase in the size of one lobe or in that of the whole organ. There is, however, another form of cystic enlargement, not generalized, but localized, in which the enlargement is due not to multiple retention cysts, but to the development of large isolated, cystic swellings, either solitary or not exceeding three or four in number. The size of these cysts greatly exceeds that of the individual distended follicles in the most extreme cases of parenchymatous goitre, and the walls as well as the contents are of a wholly different nature.

Judging from the material which I have had the opportunity of studying, this in Canada constitutes quite the most frequent form of unilateral and considerable enlargement of the thyroid presenting itself for operation. Out of eighteen cases of bronchocele operated upon by Dr. Shepherd at the General Hospital in Montreal, the material from eight of which came into my hands, no less than nine, if not ten, were of this nature,\* a proportion much larger than I had been prepared to encounter. A study of the literature bearing upon the morbid histology of the gland has convinced me that, relatively, very little attention has been paid to the nature and characters of these

\* Of these eighteen, one was a case of generalised parenchymatous goitre, four were definitely "colloid cysts" (adenomatous nodules with retention), nine were definitely of the type here described, the remaining four being of doubtful nature.