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FOUR OVARIOTOMIES, AND ONE LAPAROTOMY.

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The following three single ovariectomies—one double ovariectomy, with removal of large fibroid, and one laparotomy, with removal of an enchondroma, were performed by me during the last twelve months. It will be observed, that either in the appearance of the tumour, the history of the case, or the manner of recovery, that there are peculiarities worthy of mention. In each case a diagnosis was arrived at and recorded before any operative interference was made, and in one, the case of laparotomy, the diagnosis was a mistaken one. But, oftentimes, our mistakes are our greatest teachers. They impart unto us a greater degree of caution, and help to ripen our judgment; so from this one case, erroneous in diagnosis, and unsuccessful in result, I learned much.

CASE I. The first case I saw with Dr. Clark, of Aylmer, Feb. 7th, 1884, to whom I am indebted for much of the history of the case.

Mrs. L—, aged 37, married 11 years, residing in the County of Elgin,—one child, 4 years of age,—no miscarriages. First menstruated at 14, and had always been regular up to two years ago (except during pregnancy and lactation). During 1882 she menstruated only four times. In August of that year, while at dinner, there came on a most profuse hemorrhage. In a few

minutes her clothes were saturated, the blood streaming on the floor, and before she could be got to bed, she fainted away. There was no pain, not even the slightest, no clots, or solid matter of any kind (in reference to this she was emphatic). In a few minutes this profuse flow ceased, and she had but a slight discharge, which continued every day for a week, but no pain whatever. She thinks she had enlargement at this time, but of this she is by no means certain. I should have mentioned that there had been no menstruation or discharge of blood for three months previous to this profuse hemorrhage. During 1883 she never menstruated at all, but, in August of that year, she suspected some enlargement, and very soon afterwards felt certain that there was a swelling on the left side, and quite sure that, in its growth, it grew from below upwards.

In December, 1883, she had severe pain in the line of the right ureter, and, some few days after, the same kind of pain on the left side. Her attention was then drawn to her urine. It was turbid, thick, dark, and scant,—measuring as little as 8 oz. in 24 hours. Under the influence of diuretics the quantity was increased to one pint in 24 hours. From Dec., 1883, to Feb. 7th, 1884 (the date of my first visit), she gradually increased in size. Her condition and the physical examination, as recorded in my case-book, at this time, were as follows: Not much emaciated, but wearing an anxious look—has become nervous of late—complains of pains all over, and numbness of lower extremities—loss of appetite, flatulence, and dyspepsia. Skin