

TUMOR OF HAIR.

Weighing 1 lb. 7 oz. two feet in length, removed from the stomach of a woman, with recovery.

By HERBERT A. BRUCE, M.D., F.R.C.S., Eng.

Assoc. Professor of Clinical Surgery, University of Toronto. Surgeon St. Michael's Hospital. Surgeon Outdoor Dept., Toronto General Hospital.

MRS. G. B. age 26, married six years, two children. A lump was noticed in the abdomen by the attending physician, two months previous to birth of last child. He thought it a twin pregnancy. The patient had no symptoms in connection with this lump. After parturition the lump was found to be unconnected with the uterus or any of the pelvic organs. The doctor then thought it was a displaced spleen. Different consultants were of the same opinion, or that it might be malignant disease of the stomach, omentum or kidney. On examination a lump could be felt and seen in the upper part of the abdomen, about 12 inches in length, the left border being slightly convex and the right somewhat irregular, but with a deep notch or sulcus in it. The lump was about 5 inches in width. It could be lifted forward and moved from side to side freely and downwards also to a less extent, until the lower end reached 3 inches below the umbilicus. It could be pushed up under the ribs on the left side, until it was almost out of reach. It seemed to be anchored somewhere behind the lower left costal cartilages. It felt very hard. No special discomfort was caused the patient by moving it about. There were absolutely no symptoms present apart from the patient's knowledge of the lump. She was never nauseated and had a good appetite. She was a little thinner than usual, but not more so than she had been after the birth of her first child. Dr. H. B. Anderson made an examination of her blood for me, and reported it normal, with no evidence of leukaemia. Three days before the operation she ate most of a chicken, stating that she did so because she knew she would not get solid food for some time after. When I examined her I thought I could make out splenic dullness, and while not being able to deny that the lump might be spleen, did not think it conformed quite to the shape of the spleen, and advised an exploratory operation. This I did at St. John's Hospital, on the 24th of July last, assisted by Dr. R. J. Wilson and Dr. Ross. Chloroform was given by Dr. Hendrick. On opening the abdomen in the middle line, the spleen and kidneys were found in their normal positions, but there was a large mass free in the stomach. On the anterior wall of the stomach, a greyish white area about the size of a ten-cent piece was seen. I could make out the mass to be lying free in the stomach and extending through the pylorus. It could now be made out to consist of a couple of limbs