

LANCET

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CONTENTS

ORIGINAL ARTICLES:

Perithilioma of Kidney,
Medico-Surgical Relations of
Anatomy.

SELECTED ARTICLES:

Unusual Fatal Complications
in a Case of Acute Rheu-
matism.

A Case of Impotence—Lig-
ation of the Dorsal Vein of
the Penis—Failure.
Catarrh.
Cancer of the Breast Treated
by Injection of Alcohol.

EDITORIAL.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Dusting
Edison's Remedy for Gout.
Alcohol and Popular Medi-
cines.
The Nose as an Organ of
Vibrator.
Accidents Due to the Em-
ployment of Antipyrine.

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ORIGINAL ARTICLES

PERITHILIOMA OF KIDNEY

Dr. Chown, President of the Winnipeg Medical Association, gave a short history of the above at the February meeting. The patient came under his care at the General Hospital. The kidney was removed, the specimen being exhibited to the association, when Dr. Gordon Bell, Bacteriologist to the Provincial Government and Medical College, gave the following description:—

Perithilioma of Kidney—Graivitz Tumor.

The specimen shows a kidney larger by one-third than the normal, with a lobulated excrescence two and a half inches in diameter and one inch in height, situated on posterior surface a little below the middle line. The interior of this mass is excavated and communicates with pelvis of kidney, and on one side of this cavity is seen a little hollow funnel of fibrous tissue with its base outwards and its apex directed towards pelvis. This tumor is one of the most interesting of malignant neoplasms, a Graivitz tumor, and the little funnel of connective tissue contained the rest of suprarenal tissue—from which it sprang.

With the discovery of the relation of

the suprarenal capsules to Addison's disease a new interest was created in these little organs, but we are probably still far from properly appreciating their true importance. That they have some profound influence on the processes of pymentation going on in the human body is now accepted, and to be noticed in this connection is the fact that in negroes they are uncommonly large and strongly pigmented. They are also said by Zander to be commonly diminished in size where there is a defect of the anterior parts of the cerebrum. Certain it is they have some close connection with the urogenital organs, and in non-development or malformation of these you often get hyperplasia of the suprarenal. Like the ovaries and testes, they are originally developed from the peritoneal epithelium, but later on become separated from these organs, particularly by the growth of the kidneys.

It often happens, however, that little islands of suprarenal tissue are left attached to the different structures with which they were previously in closer relation. Most frequently we find these rests in the kidneys, in connection with solar plexus, in broad ligament, ovary and testicle. In kidney they sometimes occur spread out immediately under the