

CONSERVATIVE SURGERY OF THE TUBES, WITH REPORT OF FIVE CASES.*

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When watching a surgeon fish up and cut away ovaries and tubes for adhesions, thickening, cirrhosis or cystic degeneration, the thought has often occurred to me as to how the operator would relish having the corresponding organs in his own person so unceremoniously whipped off!

My leanings towards conservatism in these cases is the reason I am able to present brief notes of the five following instances of repair work done on diseased ovaries and tubes. With one exception, I have been able to keep all the cases under observation, and I am therefore able to speak from personal knowledge as to the subsequent course of each of the four cases I have been able to watch.

Case I.—Mrs. A. Consulted me October, 1898, for an abdominal tumour. Examination revealed an ovarian cyst on the left side about the size of an adult's head. Operation November 17, 1898, removal easy, few adhesions being encountered. After removal of the cyst, the right ovary was drawn up for inspection. It was in an undoubted state of cystic degeneration. It measured about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in its longest diameter, and was proportionately enlarged in other directions.

I punctured the cysts, cut away their walls, and trimmed down the ovary as much as possible. Recovery uneventful.

This woman conceived, but I was obliged to stop the pregnancy on account of adhesions about the stump of the cyst on the left side tying down the uterus. For three or four years after the operation I examined this case about every six months to keep watch on the state of the right ovary. It never enlarged, gave no trouble; she menstruates regularly, and enjoys excellent health.

Case II.—Mrs. B. Diagnosis, double pyosalpinx following septic abortion. This woman was seriously ill. I advised immediate section, and asked for authority to act as I thought best in the patient's interest after the abdomen was opened and the exact condition revealed. This permission was refused, both the patient and her husband stipulating that nothing was to be removed.

I pointed out the danger of tying my hands in this way, but

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