

enlargement where administration of thyroid extract has proved of no benefit. In operating in these cases enucleation should never be attempted, but the superior thyroid artery and veins should first be ligatured, and then the inferior thyroid artery compressed, and the tumour on one side removed without opening its capsule. The inferior thyroid branches should be ligatured quite near the thyroid to avoid injury of the recurrent laryngeal nerve. In vascular cases especially, it is very important first to cut off the blood supply and avoid opening the capsule, for then the thin-walled veins are torn, and furious and uncontrollable hæmorrhage results; the veins are so friable that forceps will not secure them, and it is possible to control the hæmorrhage only by packing. The isthmus should be ligated, if of large size, in sections, with strong catgut or silk. The surgeon of experience will have no great difficulty in performing this operation. A drain should be placed at the lower end of incision for twenty-four hours and then removed entirely.

2. *Enucleation*.—In this country, at any rate, the most frequent form of goitrous tumour is the cystic, solid or fluid. These cysts may be single or multiple, unilateral or bilateral. The unilateral single cysts are the most favourable for operation. Thyroid extract is of no benefit in cystic cases. In these enucleation is the proper mode of treatment. I have now operated on nearly thirty cases by this method, and have not yet had a death, and in all there was a rapid cure.

The operation is undertaken for the relief of dyspnœa, especially on exertion, dysphagia, and to relieve deformity. Nervous symptoms, such as tachycardia, tremor, etc., are frequently noticed in these cases, especially where there has been a sudden increase in the size of the tumour. All my cases have, with one exception, been in women, chiefly for the reason that women submit more readily to operation, and nervous symptoms in them are, perhaps, more pronounced. No doubt—in the province of Quebec at all events—goitre is more common in women than men. In every case in which I have operated, benefit to the general health has resulted,