

with him, I would add that, if we rely upon the woman's statements, yet we will often be led into error, but if we rely upon our own bimanual examination we will rarely be so. Over and over again have women come to me for some uterine trouble, some of them even having urged me to operate on them for a tumor, who on examination I at once declared to be pregnant. This they indignantly denied being possible, basing their assurance on the fact that they were widows or that their husbands had promised not to impregnate them or because they were wearing a little piece of sponge which of course was lost in the vaginal vault; or they were using a syringe after intercourse; all of which reasons, of course, weigh as nothing as compared with the result of a bimanual examination.

Dr. Gardner's paper closed with a reference to some mistakes which had been made in diagnosing tubal pregnancy. These mistakes would be very much reduced in number if every one were to adopt the rule I have laid down for myself, namely, to make a careful vaginal examination in every case of irregular hemorrhages, or of supposed membranous dysmenorrhœa, and if a mass is felt on either side or behind the uterus which should not be there, and if this mass remains after the bowels have been well emptied, then to take it for granted that it is an ectopic gestation unless we have proof to the contrary. Since beginning this article I have operated on my fourteenth case of tubal pregnancy, all of whom have recovered so far. Some ten of these were removed before rupture. But the women came with a pain in their side and more or less temperature, and on examination a mass was felt which should not be there. This I considered quite enough to justify me in operating. With one exception all these fifteen cases were diagnosed before operation, the exception being one case diagnosed as a fibroid tumor, owing to the pregnant tube being intimately cemented to the uterus, and the two as large as a foetal head, being wedged into the pelvis under great tension, which gave it a solid feeling. The prolonged and irregular bleeding was thought to be due to the fibroid, when it was really from the tube. It is true that, by following my rule, I opened the abdo-