

week or two later. But by this time the adhesions are not strong enough of themselves to hold up the kidney, which is then liable to fall again. Other operators have used catgut or kangaroo tendon for the same reason, but for the same reason are to be condemned. The silkworm gut stitches, if well sterilized and not tied too tightly, only suppurate in about 5 per cent. of the cases, and then can be easily hooked up with a crochet needle and removed. There is no objection to a little irritation of the cellular tissue, as mild inflammation of it causes the kidney to adhere more firmly. Some of the writer's patients have complained of soreness in the wound and on the hip-bone for a month or two, but eventually this disappears. It is important to remedy displacements of the uterus or of the other kidney at the same time, in order to obtain perfect results.

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OBSERVATIONS ON THE RELATION OF THE UTERUS TO THE THYROID GLAND.*

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For the past nine years or so I have been devoting some special attention to the treatment of diseases of the thyroid gland, more particularly by means of the use of electricity in various forms. The results have been laid before the Canadian Medical Association on two previous occasions, and also before other medical societies.

The present brief contribution is of a somewhat different character, namely, the relation of the uterus, or more properly speaking, the female reproductive organs to the thyroid gland.

A very cursory glance at current medical literature would suffice to dispel effectually any claim to originality in this theme, but it will also disclose a certain lack of unanimity on the part of our authorities.

For instance, the only reference in Flint's "Human Physiology" to this subject of relation to or sympathy with the thyroid is: "An instance is quoted by Longet of periodical enlargement of the gland in a female during menstruation, but there is no evidence that this is of constant occurrence."

In Walsham's "Practical Surgery" there is also but brief reference, namely, under causes of goitre: "In sporadic cases, heredity, disturbance of the sexual functions and conditions producing congestions of the head and neck, are given as causes."

* Read at the Thirty-second Annual Meeting of the Canadian Medical Association in Toronto, Ont., 1899.