

line. This abnormal portion of the liver commenced at the great fissure where the round ligament entered, and extended upwards to a furrow, corresponding to a lacing furrow, and to the left it reached to the edge of the left lobe, where the lateral ligament leaves the liver. This portion was thick, somewhat puckered on its surface as if from cicatricial contraction. It was of a deeper color than the rest of the liver. A needle entered into the cicatricial part with difficulty, but in other parts no resistance was offered to the entrance of the needle. On holding the lobe between the finger and thumb well marked nodules, like masses of new growths, were felt. Adherent to this part of the liver were some portions of omentum. On removing these, the liver bled freely and hæmorrhage could only be stopped by application of the cautery, indeed this abnormal portion differed from the ordinary cirrhotic lacing lobe in that it was exceedingly vascular. There was some intention of removing this diseased portion of the liver, but it was decided not to do so, because the pedicle was so broad and the parts were so vascular, so the wound was closed.

The patient after operation had some pain for 24 hours and distension, but went on to an uneventful recovery. After the exploratory incision she had no more tenderness, and after the first day no more pain. Her sweating ceased and her temperature became absolutely normal. On examining her a few weeks after operation the tumour could still be felt, but it was immovable. She soon returned to her work and complained no more, in fact she was perfectly cured, and when last heard from, some short time ago, she was in perfect health and able to perform all her duties as superintendent of a hospital. The tumour disappeared within a year of the operation—or at least could not be felt.

Thinking the case might be of specific origin, I put her on Potassium Iodide for some time, which may have had something to do with the disappearance of the tumour.

No doubt the benefit derived from simple incision, without any other procedure, is due in many cases to the moral effect of the operation itself, or expectation, as in metallic therapy,