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SOME REMARKS ON THE SYMPTOMS AND OPERATIVE TREATMENT OF BRONCHOCELE, ESPECIALLY IN RELATION TO GRAVES' DISEASE.*

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real General Hospital.

I have been asked this evening to say something about the symptoms and treatment of goitre, both of the ordinary and exophthalmic variety, and also the malignant form.

Simple Goitre usually commences as a small kernel like mass in one or other of the lobes of the thyroid, and gradually increases in size as the years go on. Sometimes both sides of the gland are affected and also the isthmus, but in this country at any rate the unilateral variety is the most common. This form is usually encysted, and the cysts may be multiple or single, and may contain clear or blood-stained fluid, or the contents may be solid or semi-solid, colloid material. A cyst which has suddenly become larger from hæmorrhage very often when it is tense simulates a solid growth. In addition to these two forms of goitre we have cases where the gland is uniformly enlarged,—the interstitial or parenchymatous form. This kind is seen chiefly in young girls, especially at the time of puberty, and generally disappears in a few months; it increases markedly before the menstrual periods, and is often, when not of the soft, vascular variety, benefited by the administration of thyroid extract and iodides. In all these forms of goitre the general health is apt to be affected, the patients are more or less nervous, are subject to breathlessness on exertion owing to pressure of the growth on the trachea and sometimes tachycardia, in fact, some of the encysted solid forms are subjects of a kind of pseudo-Graves' disease produced by the growth.

* Read before the Montreal Medico-Chirurgical Society, June 12th, 1899.