

suppressed the details of her malady, yet I have a right to assume that the circulated whispers were well founded, and that the malady was abdominal tumor. Here (in Norwich) this celebrated author is so well known that her age can be no secret ; and her amiable and simple character would render her careless to conceal it. And she will not be surprised, therefore, nor angry, if she is told, that she has been laboring under the climacteric disorder of her sex ; that this often produces a physceny of the abdomen, with oppression and universal languor ; that in such circumstances the single woman is terrified with ideas of cancer, dropsy and organic diseases ; the married lady fancies she is about to multiply the species, and her fond husband provides a doctor and the nurse. A case of this kind is reported in the person of a Mrs. Trunnion, by Dr. Smollet ; and instances of the first-named deception in spinsters are daily occurring. But nature goes through her proceedings ; the abdominal tumefactions subside ; and when the climacteric period has passed, women often enjoy better health and longer life than the other sex. In this particular case of our popular townswoman let not the mesmerizer triumph ! The success was due to the natural process, aided by the vigor obtained from faith and hope. Hence energy, exercise, air, *omission of opiates*—and it seems to me that this delightful result would have been earlier effected—I mean the natural cure—had not the patient become, from her own confession, a complete opium-eater. She had poisoned herself for years with this exterminating drug. To conclude : my firm persuasion is, that this vaunted case is one of thousands, in which the mind has relieved the body from *functional*, not organic, disorders ; while ladies of a particular age will do well *not* to applaud Mesmer for the cure of their peculiar symptoms, which time and the physician will generally cure, unless baffled by pernicious treatment ; and that young ladies should be especially careful to eschew this revived foolery, which in many instances hath created, instead of relieved, tumors of the abdomen.”

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A MESSIEURS LES ÉDITEURS DE LA GAZETTE MÉDICALE DE MONTRÉAL.

MESSIEURS,—Sachant par avance, votre obligeance à élucider tous les sujets d'embarras professionnels qui vous sont soumis, je prends aujourd'hui occasion de soumettre à l'impression, dans votre intéressant Journal, les quelques réflexions suivantes, en vous priant de donner toute l'expansion possible à chacune de vos remarques ; si toutefois vous trouvez la teneur de cet écrit digne d'insertion.

Vous obligerez, infiniment

Votre obéissant serviteur,

ED. BOUDREAU, M. D.

1°. Que doit faire l'accoucheur dans une présentation du bras, en totalité, hors de la vulve, avec portion du cordon ombilical, lorsque les contractions utérines se succèdent bien rapprochées et que la femme a sa pleine vigueur.

2°. L'accoucheur doit-il temporiser pendant huit à neuf heures