

this she was attended by my friend, Dr. Arthur Browne, of Montreal, and she recovered easily enough. Her first following menstrual period was on the 2nd of December, and was normal. She remained well during the rest of the month, except that she presented some of the signs of pregnancy, slightly marked. Early in January, a slight bloody discharge appeared and lasted two weeks; it was not like her ordinary menstruation. About the middle of January she was seized with intense pelvic pain and a most alarming condition of collapse, lasting for two days. During a good part of this time Dr. Browne feared she would die. She, however, slowly rallied and partially recovered, when, a fortnight later, during the first days of February, there were alarming recurrences of the pain and other symptoms. Under these circumstances Dr. Browne came to ask me to see the case with him, and he told me that he believed he had a case of extra-uterine foetation.

I found the woman suffering very severely from pelvic and abdominal pain, imperfectly controlled by full doses of morphia. There was marked distension and frequent vomiting, and the pulse was rapid and very weak. On vaginal examination, there was a tolerably free bloody vaginal discharge. The uterus was markedly softened, bulky, and fixed, and to the right of, and behind it, there lay a painful and firm mass of some kind or other.

The results of the history given are by Dr. Browne, and my examination of the patient was fully concurrent in the diagnosis of ruptured tubal foetation previously made by him and Dr. George Ross, who had also been consulted. This being our diagnosis, what was to be done? We discussed the propriety of using electricity, or of performing abdominal section. Electricity, we considered, to be precluded by the evident hemorrhage and peritonitis. At our second visit the patient was decidedly worse, and in great danger, and then we decided to open the abdomen. This was accordingly done on the 8th of February. On opening the cavity a quantity of blood clot, of varying age, and bloody serum was revealed. On the right of the uterus, in the region of the ovary and tube, lay a ragged, granular mass. On attempting to raise this to apply a ligature

to it, it was torn away. I made no further attempt to tie the torn base, but proceeded to scoop out what I could of blood clot, of which there lay a large quantity in the Douglas pouch. The cavity was then well washed out with a large quantity of warm water. In this part of the operation, the signal advantage of Lawson Tait's large ovariectomy trocar became very apparent. This tube measures about seven-eighths of an inch in diameter, and at its free end is a blunt beak, with two lateral openings. The large rubber tube attached to it was immersed in a pitcher of warm water held aloft by assistants. The water was then sucked through till it flowed from the trocar tube, which was then carried to all the deep parts of the pelvis, the powerful strain bringing away masses of clot and fibrine, an operation which could in no other way have been so effectually managed. The blunt beak of the instrument precludes all possibility of any injury to intestines or other structure. A glass drainage tube was carried to the bottom of the pelvis, where it was retained for a week. It will be observed that I applied no ligature to anything, yet the torn vessels yielded no more than a moderate amount of bloody and blood serum, as shown by the fluid sucked from the tube. The wound was closed as usual and the patient put to bed in rather an alarming condition. Her pulse was 140° and small. Nothing was given by mouth for three days. She was fed *per rectum* with beef-tea and brandy. Under soap-suds turpentine enemata flatus was passed within sixteen hours, and a fecal motion obtained in twenty hours. The distension was thus rapidly reduced and the pain soon relieved. Not a particle of morphia or opium was given at this stage. She made a tedious but complete recovery. The tedious nature of the convalescence was entirely due to a severe attack of cystitis.

At the time of operation no semblance of a foetus was seen, but on careful examination afterwards of the mass removed, a blood-stained foetus about an inch in length, as well as characteristic chorionic villi were discovered by Dr. Johnstone, the Pathologist to the Montreal General Hospital. From the appearance of the foetus and parts when removed, I have no doubt