

Hospital Reports.

Montreal General Hospital.—Cases in Medicine and Surgery under the care of Dr. D. C. MacCallum.

CASE 1—CARCINOMA MAMMÆ. REMOVAL BY EXCISION.

(Reported by Mr. W. Osler.)

C. S., aged 47, was admitted into Hospital on the 1st of July, under the care of Dr. MacCallum. The tumour was situated in the left mamma, to the inner side of the nipple, where it was felt as a hard circumscribed mass about the side of an egg. The disease appeared limited to the gland structure, the skin and subjacent parts being unaffected. On questioning her as to its origin and progress, she stated: that she noticed it first, about four years ago, as a small round lump, the size of a bean. There was no pain in it and she forgot about it for three months, when her attention was drawn to it again by the pain which it caused. She then perceived that it had increased somewhat in size. From that time until a few months ago its growth has been slow and the pain, especially at night, caused much uneasiness. Lately its growth has been much more rapid and the pain increasing in severity. These circumstances exciting her fears, caused her to consent to its removal.

Having been placed under the influence of chloroform, Dr. MacCallum proceeded to excise the tumour, by means of two elliptical incisions about six inches in length, and inclosing the nipple, the direction of the incisions being downwards and inwards. The whole gland was removed, exposing the fascia of the Pectoralis major. There was but little bleeding, a few small vessels requiring torsion. The edges of the wound were brought together by means of wire sutures, and carbolic acid dressings applied.

GENERAL AND MINUTE STRUCTURE.

On removal it was found to be an irregular, hard mass covered with fat, connective tissue, &c. On section a distinctly creaky feel was communicated to the knife, and a large quantity of dark turbid matter,—cancerpus—exuded. This was contained principally in numerous small cysts, scattered through the structure. The cut surface was of a greyish white colour, intersected with numerous irregular bands of firm connective tissue. The microscopical structure agreed in the main with that of schirrus, the cells were however much broken down, especially those of the cysts, and the arrangement of the stroma and contained cells presented a greater irregularity than is common.