

FIBROMA MOLLUSCUM.*

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The following case is of such sufficient rarity and unusual character that a report of the condition may be found interesting :

Mary H., aged twenty-five years, spinster, was admitted into the General Public Hospital, St. John, on the 29th March, 1898, complaining of the difficulty she had in moving about, owing to the presence of a large tumor of the side. She is a native of New Brunswick, and of French descent. Her father is living and well. There are, however, numerous nodules scattered over his body. Neither her mother, who died after confinement, nor her two brothers and one sister, who are healthy, have had any skin disease.

The patient has been told that she was born free of blemish and she was about ten years of age when various changes began to be noticed in her skin, some of which had gradually increased up to the time of her admission into hospital. She was otherwise in good health. Her height is five feet two inches, her complexion dark, and intelligence is of a good order.

A tumor attached to and hanging from the left side of the abdominal wall was the most striking feature on inspection, in length 21 inches, and in circumference 36 inches. Its attachments extended from the costal margins above to the inferior spinous process of ilium below, and from near the middle line in front to the mesial line in the lumbar and upper sacral regions posteriorly. There was no pedunculation, the base of the tumor, on the contrary, spread outwards. The mass could be raised and lowered and felt lumpy and rather firm.

Over a large part of the tumor the papillæ of the skin were much hypertrophied, which gave a vegetative or keloid appearance with deep pigmentation. There were, also, areas of ulceration from pressure. Over the upper part of the tumor, as well as the lower half of the trunk and upper half of the left thigh, there was also brown pigmentation, lighter in color than that just mentioned. The upper part of the trunk and the arms were abundantly freckled, while there were also small scattered patches of pigmentation.

The face showed numerous small nodules, while the chest and arms were similarly, although less, involved. These nodules vary, some are

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