

explained that his theory was that the contents of the stomach had been escaping into the abdomen through some ulcerated opening! The following day they proceeded to perform ovariectomy. When the dilated stomach was reached, it was taken for the peritoneum, and a 4-inch incision made into it. About a gallon of fluid, mixed with food, seeds, &c., was removed. The operator's hand was freely passed in, and he discovered that there was *no pyloric obstruction*. Having satisfied himself on this point, the parts were sewed up. The patient died the same night. The author then writes some pages to show how a dilated stomach may resemble an ovarian cyst or an ascites. Now we feel bound to say that the heading of the paper is misleading. The conditions present did *not* simulate ovarian cyst, and should never have been mistaken for it. Vomiting a marked feature, rapid emaciation, the enlarged, but soft, abdomen in which no tumor could be felt, and, above all, the description as given of the outline and location of the enlargement, would suggest to any who had ever seen such a thing—a greatly enlarged stomach. Is it not strange that no one suggested the stomach-pump to aid in the diagnosis of such an apparently doubtful case? We think the history of ovariectomy affords no such example. To tap the abdomen, draw off grains of rice and bits of potato, and then do gastrotomy to see where they came from! It is remarked that neither Spencer Wells, Peaslee, Barnes, Thomas, Hewitt nor Scanzoni make mention of dilated stomach as being possibly mistaken for ovarian tumor. For the simple reason, that none of them had ever experienced the slightest difficulty in distinguishing cases presenting such entirely different clinical features. Such cases as the above are not creditable to the science of medicine, and we hope it will be long before its annals find for it a fellow.

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THE CAT AS A SUBJECT.—Dr. Burt G. Wilder, of New York, has written recommending students to use the bodies of cats for purposes of dissection. He points out that the anatomy of the cat is very much like that of man: the resemblance being closer than that of most other domestic animals.