

CONTENTS.

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| <p>ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.</p> <p>Abstract of a Paper entitled Observations on the Treatment of Fibroids of the Uterus..... 145</p> <hr style="width: 10%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">SOCIETY PROCEEDINGS.</p> <p>Montreal Medico-Chirurgical Society..... 146 Spitting on Floors..... 147 Discussion on the Management of the Third Stage of Labor..... 147 Académie de Médecine..... 155 Sudden Death on the Bicycle..... 155</p> <hr style="width: 10%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">PROGRESS OF SCIENCE.</p> <p>Treatment of Strangulated Hernia.. 156 Effects of Thyroid Administration.. 156 Diagnosis of Tuberculosis in Children 156 Chloral Hydrate—Some of Its Uses.. 156 Some Recent Views on Appendicitis. 157</p> | <p>Treatment of Pott's Disease..... 158 The Antitoxin Treatment of Diphtheria..... 159 Pernicious Anæmia at the age of Twenty-one..... 160 Meningitis of Obscure Causation..... 160 A Case of Tænia Nana in a Child.... 160 The Value of Sugar and the Effect of Smoking on Muscular Work..... 160 Scorbutus in Infants..... 161 Subcutaneous Injection of Artificial Serum in Serious Hemorrhage..... 161 Class-Room Notes..... 162 Therapeutic Briefs..... 163</p> <hr style="width: 10%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">EDITORIAL.</p> <p>Canada Medical Association..... 164 The International Language of the Future..... 164 The Outlook for Medical Students.. 164 The Duty of Naval Surgeons..... 165 The New York Academy of Medicine 165 Patent Medicines..... 165</p> | <p>Medical Items..... 166</p> <hr style="width: 10%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">BOOK NOTICES.</p> <p>Clinical Gynæcology, Medical and Surgical..... 166 Saunders' New Aid Series..... 167 A Manual of Bandaging..... 167 Therapeutic Suggestion in Psychopathia Sexualis..... 167</p> <hr style="width: 10%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.</p> <p>Resection of the Kidney..... 168 Impressions of American Medical Schools..... 168 The Surgical Treatment of Inguinal Hernia..... 168</p> <hr style="width: 10%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p>Publishers Department..... 168</p> |
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Original Communications.

ABSTRACT OF A PAPER ENTITLED OBSERVATIONS ON THE TREATMENT OF FIBROIDS OF THE UTERUS.

Dr. O. S. Phelps of New York (*Am. Medico-Surg. Bull.*) reports an unusually complicated case of uterine fibroid in a girl 17 years of age who came under his care in July, 1894. She was sent from the West to New York by the family physician to have a hysterectomy performed, and came directly to his sanitarium. The tumor was 8 to 10 centimeters in diameter, and crowded the uterus well over to the left side. The uterine cavity measured 5 inches, and the organ with its appendages was surrounded and bound down by an inflammatory exudate. The bladder was impinged upon so that it could not hold more than one or two ounces of urine, causing the patient great agony to evacuate it. The whole mass, including tumor, exudate, uterus and appendages, filled the pelvis, and rose well up to the umbilicus.

The patient was much emaciated, weighed 60 lbs. (normal weight 125 pounds), could not stand or walk, nor could she turn in bed without great pain. Temperature 100° to 103°. Dr. A. H. Goelet was called in consultation, and confirmed the diagnosis; he also agreed that no operation could be considered at that time, but thought ligation of the uterine arteries might be resorted to later. The treatment adopted was the high tension faradic current, 15 minutes thrice daily, vagino-sacral and abdominal. At each séance the temperature was reduced ½ to 1 degrees, lasting 1 to 2 hours. A system of feeding was adopted under the guidance of microscopical observations of the blood and secretions to determine the correct choice of food. In two months the temperature remained normal, and the weight had increased 30 lbs. Galvanism was then begun, with anode to tumor per vaginum, by means of a special clay electrode with cathode closely adapted to tumor over abdomen; -20 to 30 milliamperes of current, 7 to 10 minutes every five days. January 15, tumor was reduced to a mere nodule, about the size of a small