

### Fibroid Uterine Tumor Successfully Removed.

The patient, aged thirty-seven, and married, was sent to Dr. H. R. Storer, in November last, by a physician in San Francisco. She was completely exsanguine, with all the symptoms attending the long-continued loss of blood. She had consulted several physicians, at home, in London, and on the Continent, none of whom, though vaginal examination had been made, had diagnosed the case. Dr. Storer being at the time unwell, Dr. Warner found the uterus somewhat enlarged, but the os uteri not at all dilated. Upon introducing the sound, it came into contact with an evident tumor of considerable size within the uterine cavity. Upon passing a sponge tent, the tumor was found to be of the size of a large hen's egg, and attached by a broad base to the fundus uteri.

Upon November 14th, Dr. Storer proceeded to operate, with the assistance of Dr. Warner. The chain of an écraseur having been applied, with some little difficulty and the attachment of the mass divided, it was found impossible to deliver it through the well dilated os, there being no compressibility to the tumor. The cervix was then freely slit up to the vaginal reflexion on each side by angled scissors, and the inner sphincter divided by a guarded bistoury, and still delivery could not be effected. Nor was this accomplished till a finger had been forced past the tumor, and bent above it, while powerful traction was exerted from below by hooked forceps. The hemorrhage was readily restrained, and the patient soon returned to her home convalescent. Upon incising the tumor, the cause of its being so incapable of longitudinal compression became very evident. There were present two distinct nuclear masses, the superior one the size of a large walnut, and the inferior one somewhat smaller, harder in structure than the tissue adjoining; the former of them was distinctly capsulated, and might easily be tugged out from its bed.

Dr. Storer, in quite an extended experience with the removal of intra-uterine fibroids, some of them of much larger size, had never before had so much difficulty in extraction after excision had been effected. He quoted from Klob with reference to the extreme rarity of nuclei in uterine fibroids, and remarked that this writer had evidently never known of anything approaching the nuclear enucleation so beautifully demonstrated in the present tumor.

Dr. Jackson had never seen a similar specimen. He considered it perfectly typical of the theoretical uterine fibroid.

Dr. Bixby had examined the tissues under the microscope, and found them purely fibrous.—*Gynecological Journal*.

### Belladonna in Hooping Cough.

In order that belladonna should produce its full effects, it should be administered according to a particular method, which is of such importance that if you neglect to observe it, you will not succeed in curing hooping-cough, any more than you will succeed in curing ague, however large the dose of bark you may give, unless you follow certain rules which I will some day point out to you.

Before I give you the details of the plan of treatment to adopt, I must first establish the following capital point:—The active principle of solanaceous plants influences neuroses only when given in sufficiently large doses, and this influence lasts for some time; but lest the therapeutic effects should be greater than desired, the medicine should first be given in doses which are probably less than those needed for exerting a favourable action on the disease; these doses must be gradually increased until therapeutic effects begin to show themselves. As soon as this result is obtained, it is generally sufficient to continue the same daily dose in order to increase the good effect produced. If the dose which has brought on these good results were increased hastily with the view of accelerating the cure, and especially if it were repeated on the same day, one might at first wonder at the success obtained, but an unpleasant dryness of the fauces, and some disturbance of vision, which increases rapidly, would soon render a diminution of the dose necessary, and the consequence of this would be to allow the disease to reproduce itself, and to escape the influence of the mode of treatment.

Bearing well in mind these general principles, the treatment is to be carried on after the following method:—

If the patient be an infant, have pills made containing each one-tenth of a grain of extract of belladonna, and one-tenth of a grain of powdered belladonna leaf. For children above four years old, and for adults, the pills should contain one-fifth of a grain of extract, and one-fifth of a grain of the powdered leaf. Whatever quantity of belladonna you may give, it is an essential point that it be taken in one dose. If you have been obliged to increase the original quantity ten or twelve times, let the patient take it in one dose, in the morning, fasting, at the same hour, and not at distant intervals in the course of the day. But before you increase the quantity, wait two or three days, and according as there has been an improvement or not, keep to the same dose, or increase it by degrees, unless symptoms of poisoning should come on, when of course you must stop.—*Trousseau's Clinical Medicine*.