

obliquely through the skin, and about half the contents of the sac were withdrawn.*

In proportion as the tumor and the pedicle diminished in size, the clamp was screwed the tighter, so that after the withdrawal of a part of its contents, the tension of the cyst was kept about the same as before. Owing to the oblique introduction of the canula, not a drop of fluid followed its withdrawal, neither, of course, could any air enter.

The child bore this operation uncommonly well. No febrile reaction and no nervous disturbances followed. Therefore we did not hesitate on the next day, the tumor having become a little larger and harder, to withdraw another portion of fluid and still further tighten the clamp. This proceeding was repeated daily; the tumor collapsed, became cold, ulcerated, and, on the seventh day, fell off, carrying with it pedicle and clamp. We now had before us a granulating surface of about the size of a silver half dollar, but—to our disappointment and dismay—there appeared in the centre of this space a depression from which, on the child's struggling or crying, flowed the same clear fluid which we had found in the cyst! Our plan for obliterating this channel of communication with the spinal canal had failed. The only thing that prevented the passage of air inwards through this channel was its small calibre. But the prospect for the patient was most gloomy.

We now treated the opening with cauterizations, by the ordinary means as well as by the actual cautery. The only result was a narrowing, not a closure of the opening, and a general tendency of the wound to cicatrization. Notwithstanding the continued escape of the *liquor cerebro-spinalis*, though now in less amount than at first, the general condition of the child improved, it became better nourished, no nervous symptoms appeared, and the wound began to heal kindly.

In this condition the little one was sent home on the 16th of December, two weeks after the operation and seven days after the detachment of the tumor. One month later, the mother reported as follows. "At first, the child was very weary, slept much and quietly, cared for neither food nor drink; this lasted

* The fluid withdrawn was clear and watery in appearance, and proved to be rich in chlorides, but devoid of albumen. Under the microscope, it presented but few cells, and these were chiefly epithelial.