

ABDOMINAL AND PELVIC OPERATIONS FOR THE RELIEF OF CONDITIONS INCIDENT TO THE PUERPERAL STATE.*

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THE subject under discussion is apt to be of interest to the general practitioner, and deals with questions that are liable to occupy any day a few hours of his life. It is not my intention to give you a very learned dissertation upon the various conditions of which I intend to speak, but a summary of my experience, and on this account I must ask you to bear with many imperfections.

FIBROID TUMORS AND PREGNANCY

Of all the curious tumors that grow grafted anywhere on the human being fibroid tumors are among the most curious. I have met with these tumors in all the various positions in the pelvis in conjunction with pregnancy in its early weeks and on up to term. The degree of the gravity of the case varies according to the situation of the tumor. When such a tumor is found in a young married woman who has never borne a child the prophylactic treatment to be adopted to prevent pregnancy is the removal of the ovaries and tubes; thus pregnancy will not occur, and early miscarriages, premature labor, and labor at full term, with all their accompanying dangers, will be avoided. But cases are met with that seem to stay the hand of the surgeon.

I on one occasion delivered a lady, the wife of a physician, with great difficulty of her first child. There was a large fibroid tumor situated on the fundus of the uterus at the time of this confinement. After a very prolonged illness she convalesced. In spite of every precaution there was septic infection. A gradual diminution in the size of the tumor followed. At the time of her second confinement the tumor had almost entirely disappeared. She was then delivered without difficulty. In this case the operation of oophorectomy would have saved the patient from a

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