

CANADA

MEDICAL & SURGICAL JOURNAL

JULY, 1880.

Original Communications.

A CASE OF FIBROID DISEASE OF THE HEART.

WITH OBSERVATIONS UPON THE GENERAL PATHOLOGY OF FIBROSIS.

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[A Paper read before the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Montreal.]

GENTLEMEN,—As this Society combines the features of a clinical and pathological, as well as of a medico-chirurgical and obstetrical society, it may not be out of place to bring before its members the clinical and pathological facts of a case of Fibroid Transformation of the Heart which not long ago has been under my care. Although not a very rare affection, it is a comparatively infrequent one, so that private practitioners have not many opportunities of seeing an example of the disease, which, moreover, is usually, as it was in this very instance, mistaken for fatty degeneration of the heart.

Mr. H. H. W., aged 60, of sedentary habits for the last 15 years, but previously a very active merchant and politician, consulted me first on the 11th September, 1874, respecting an attack he had had for the first time a night or two before. About bedtime he was suddenly seized with urgent dyspnoea, threatening suffocation, as it appeared to him; an incessant cough followed promptly, and in 15 or 20 minutes he expectorated large quantities of very frothy white mucus, and the orthopnoea disappeared.