

the symmetry of outline, convinced me that we had a neoplasm to deal with, complicated by a hernia. The mass imparted a sense of fluctuation and was everywhere flat on percussion. The tumor measured 28 inches over its antero-posterior diameters and 24 over the lateral. The tumor was placed on a starch-box resting in a scales, in such a manner as to relieve all possible tension from above, and was weighed. The net weight was 14 lbs. and 12 ounces, or 236 ounces. Being assured that, at all events, we had liquid of some kind to deal with, the next question was to determine its character. With this object in view, I passed in an exploratory needle, and under suction withdrew half an ounce of

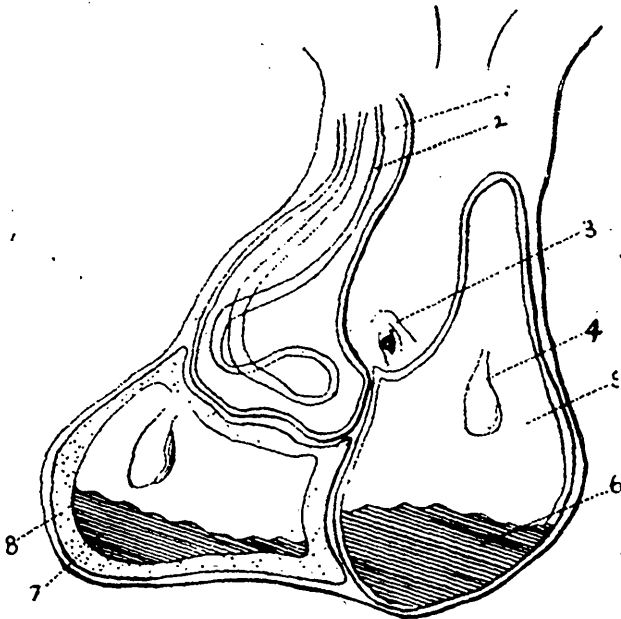


FIG. 3.—(1) Hernia sac; (2) Intestines; (3) Prepuce; (4) Testis; (5) Fluids; (6) Putty; (7) Putty; (8) Cartilaginous walls of sac on right side.

liquid from one side and the same quantity from the other side of the scrotum. This was of a reddish-brown color, odorless, and of a watery consistence. Its specific gravity was 1020, reaction alkaline. Chemist who examined the withdrawn fluid reported it as containing urea, the urates, phosphates and biliary salts, especially cholesterine. The microscopical examination revealed plenty of fat granules, disintegrated epithelia, crystals of the triple phosphates, urates, phosphate of lime and cholesterine. There was a considerable quantity of homogeneous material. In making the punctures to withdraw this fluid, the needle on the left side went in easily, but on the right force was necessary to send it through