

She had been in bed two weeks. Her previous history was that of a well-balanced, active woman, fond of outdoor recreations of all kinds and passionately devoted to music. Her weight previous to her illness was 135 pounds. Like most neurasthenics, she had an obsession; hers was that food is injurious. From the relatives the following facts were elicited: She had gradually abandoned all her pursuits, complained of tiring easily, and had lost flesh gradually, until at my visit she weighed but 85 pounds. There were no indications of an acquired neurasthenia through the usual exciting causes, neither was there any family history that pointed to an inherited neuropathic tendency. Examination of pelvic and other organs was negative.

Treatment.—No medical treatment was instituted, but, after gaining her complete confidence through various suggestions, she again took up her former pursuits, and within three weeks developed a voracious appetite, accumulating fat at such a rate that in March, 1904 (a period of nine months), she weighed 240 pounds, an increase of 155 pounds, accompanied by an amount of physical energy that was startling. Any attempt to restrain either her appetite or her movements was met with violent opposition.

Subsequent History.—So she remained till June, 1904, when, just as unaccountably, she stopped eating and the adipose tissue visibly melted away, so that in October, four months later, she dropped from 240 to 135 pounds. Her pulse became feeble and rapid, at times almost imperceptible, requiring considerable stimulation. There was likewise an edema of the feet and legs. Examination of urine was negative. She would take to bed for weeks at a time. In January, 1905, her long-lost appetite reappeared and with an increased voraciousness, mostly confined to cereals and milk. The quantities consumed were simply enormous. I have watched her eat for two hours at a stretch, actually shovelling in the food. To-day she again weighs 245 pounds, an increase of 110 pounds in six months, with every prospect of a still further increase in weight, I trust not in appetite. I am daily looking for a "tack" in the opposite direction. Her mind remains clear.

A Large Hydrocele of the Tunica Vaginalis. C. LLOYD WORRALL,
L.R.C.P. London, L.S.A., District Surgeon, Barberton, Transvaal, in
The Lancet.

On May 30th I was called to see a native (at the office of the Commissioner of Native Affairs) who was reported to be "suffering from an extraordinary enlargement of the testicles." Visions of elephantiasis of the scrotum flashed across my mind, but these