

not have been of recent origin, as there were no symptoms of recent inflammation, either about or below it; in fact, this part of the intestinal canal was the only part free from inflammation.

Query,—was this stricture occasioned by an occasional enlargement of the uterus, or did it arise from accidental and unknown causes?

*Charlestown, July 13th, 1829.*

## II.

Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

### CAROTID ANEURISM,—OPERATION.

*Performed at the House of Industry at South Boston,*

By WINSLOW LEWIS, Jr., M.D.

THE subject of the following operation was a colored female of 26 years of age, married, of very intemperate habits, and of an excessive irritable temperament. Her ordinary occupation was that of a domestic, but her labors were severe, and she was accustomed to carry heavy weights on her head. During an exertion, about five months since, to raise a large body for the purpose of placing it on her head, she thinks she "felt something give way," was immediately faint, and soon after perceived a tumor on the left side of her neck. This increased slowly, and at times caused great pain in the head and eyes, with vertigo; and for some time past she has expectorated a bloody mucus. For the relief of these distressing symptoms, she entered the House of Industry February 25th, 1829. I found, on examination, a tumor of the size of a pigeon's egg on the left side of the neck, under the angle of the jaw, pulsating and exhibiting the usual characteristics of aneurismal disease.

I waited for some weeks, to observe if any effect might be produced on the tumor by the total deprivation of ardent spirits, which must have so much increased the circulating force. I also, during this time, applied over it a moderate compression, and put her upon the lowest diet. This was wholly ineffectual as regarded the disease, but her general health became much improved. With Dr. Warren in consultation, the operation was advised, but during the examination to determine the nature of the disease, the necessary pressure on the tumor for the purpose of emptying it, caused such excessive pain and excitement that it could not be effectually done. However, enough could be ascertained to show the true character of the tumor, and to distinguish it from ordinary swellings in that part; for the tumor did not move with the larynx or trachea, and other indications were evident of aneurism of the common carotid.

*Operation, March 9th.*—The patient was placed in a chair, with the head inclined to the right and a little bent backwards. The incision was made over that spot where the sterno-cleido-mastoideus muscle crosses the omo-hyoideus, in the direction of the fibres of the tracheal portion of the first named muscle. After the common sheath was exposed, the patient fainted. The operation was completed without difficulty, except that the internal jugular would occasionally interfere with and cover the artery. The patient did not complain of any peculiar sensation on tying the ligature. The pulsation above immediately ceased.—Half an hour after the operation, she suffered from pain on the left side of the head and in the region of the tem-

poral muscle; and then, and for sometime after, asserted that a tooth was drawn during the operation.

March 10th.—Still pain as above, and also *very severe in the two first molar teeth*, extending to the occiput; very restless and irritable; has had, since last evening, a difficulty of swallowing.

11th.—Slight delirium yesterday; pain in the head constant; saliva from the affected side; deglutition painful; pulse 104.

12th.—Better; but while swallowing feels great vertigo.

13th.—Ptyalism diminished; expectorated some bloody mucus. Examined the wound, which had healed with the exception of the place kept open by the ligature.

25th.—Endeavors to withdraw the ligature cause great pain in the above-mentioned teeth.

April 1st.—Ligature removed without further pain in the teeth.

4th.—Discharged.

July 1st.—The above patient is now in good health, nor has she experienced any inconvenience since she left the House. The tumor has entirely disappeared.

*La Grange Place, Boston.*

### III.

Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

#### IRREGULAR GESTATION.

*A Case exhibiting some singular Phenomena in Parturition.*

By JOHN HOMANS, M.D.

MR. EDITOR,—The following extraordinary case having recently occurred to me, I beg to make it public through your Journal.

In September, 1827, Mrs. N., who had been married several months, supposed herself pregnant from indications which rarely de-

ceive. From this time until the third month, morning sickness attended her; she increased in size until between the sixth and seventh month, when there was an evident diminution, so that by the ninth month she was not larger than at the fourth. At this time she was seized with regular labor-pains and sickness at the stomach; these continued for twenty-four hours, when they ceased, and she returned to her accustomed occupation. She however continued to diminish in size, and in the following August was no larger than before she supposed herself in this situation. In the next September I was called to her in haste on account of profuse uterine hemorrhage, attended with labor-pains. Before I arrived it had abated; but something was preserved for examination, which proved to be a fœtus attached to its placenta by a cord. The fœtus was one and a half inch long, and of corresponding breadth: on it was clearly delineated the head with the features of the face, the arms (to the hand) attached to the body, and the lower limbs joined together. The cord was about two inches in length, and the placenta of proportionate size. The fœtus and placenta were remarkably firm, and evinced that they had been closely pressed. The time of delivery was within a few days of twelve months from the time of conception.

*Boston, July 13th, 1829.*

### IV.

Abridged from the London Weekly Review.

#### STATE OF SURGERY IN SIBERIA AND ASIATIC RUSSIA.

DR. HENRI DE MARTIUS, who resided some years in Russia, has drawn the following hasty sketch of the different methods of cure