

## Normal Labour after removal of 23 Fibroids by Myomectomy.

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I WAS asked to see Mrs. H., aged 40, in June, 1919, by her doctor because she had been in labour for two days and no progress was being made. She was seven months pregnant, was having regular labour pains, and her pelvis was filled with a fibroid tumour, as large as a foetal head, which prevented the child engaging in the pelvis. Other fibroids could also be felt in other parts of the uterus. I took the patient into St. Mary's Hospital and delivered a dead child by a Cæsarean section. As this was the first pregnancy, and the patient was very anxious to have a living child, I decided to remove the fibroid tumours by myomectomy, though there were so many I was very doubtful if I should be able to do this and leave a useful uterus.

In addition to the fibroid in the lower uterine segment, the size of a foetal head, I removed 22 others, though several of these were quite small. Although I removed as many as possible through each incision, the uterus was scarred all over at the end of the operation, and I was doubtful whether I was justified in leaving this organ behind. I closed all the incisions with catgut sutures, and the patient made an uninterrupted recovery.

Four years later Mrs. H. consulted me, as she thought she was again pregnant. There were no fibroid tumours to be felt in the uterus, and I advised that the pregnancy should be allowed to continue, although feeling anxious about the strength of the scars on the wall of the uterus. I took the patient into St. Mary's Hospital a short time before labour was due, and kept her under observation.

The labour was uneventful. The cervix dilated quite easily, and there was no sign of rupture or impending rupture of any of the scars, interference was not attempted until the head was on the perinæum, when it was helped through with the low forceps.

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