

was small, flat, and compressed.

The dissection of this, and of the spermatic chord, from the bag and from its neck, which I was obliged to do in order to preserve the testicle, took up some time, and gave me some trouble; but, when I had finished it, I found that the cyst was dependant from, and continuous with, a membranous duct about the breadth of the largest wheat-straw, or, what it was more like to, a human ureter, which passed out from the abdomen through the opening in the muscle.

When I had perfectly cleared this duct from all connection with the spermatic chord, I cut it off immediately above the tumor, and upon the division, there issued forth about four ounces of a clear liquor, and the mouth of the cyst, expanding itself, disclosed a stone, exactly resembling what is found in the human bladder.

As there was not the least appearance

of fluid, either in the bag or in its neck, before the division, its immediate effusion, and the appearance of the stone, induced me to believe, that the case was a hernia cystica. In order to be certain, I stayed some time; and when I thought that some quantity of urine might have passed from the kidneys, I desired the boy to try to make water: he did so, and a large stream of urine flowing through the wound, instead of the urethra, put the matter out of all doubt.

He was dressed superficially, had no one bad symptom, though a portion of the bladder was totally removed: his urine came through the wound in his groin for about a fortnight; but as that wound healed, it resumed its natural course, and the patient has remained free from complaint ever since, except that the natural size of his bladder being lessened by the extirpation of a part, he is obliged to discharge his urine rather more frequently.

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I believe that if we will plunge into this thing, not waiting for perfection or for ultimate information, if we will tackle this thing on the principle of trial and error, doing the best we can, beginning and then pursuing the subject in season and out of season, courageously and all the time, new ways will open up. We will discover by trial and error that certain things are not effective, that certain other things are effective, and we will wake up some day to find out that somehow or other, we have made a very considerable and a quite satisfactory gain in the control of cancer.—W. A. Evans, M.D. First Scientific Session of the American Cancer Society (original transcript), October 9, 1929.
