

and increasing pain, which prevented her either sleeping, moving about or resting in any position. In fact, her "life was becoming unbearable." The cause of the pain was at once obvious, for the tumour was compressing the foetus against the pelvic bones. The question to be settled was whether the patient's health and strength would enable her to bear the pain until the womb enlarged sufficiently to rise out of the pelvis, and so permit the child to escape from the extreme pressure between the growth and the pelvis to which it was being subjected. In making a

in any case, the patient was faced, within the next five months, with the certainty of hysterectomy, whilst the possibility of the child's development on the one hand, and of her being able to bear the continued and increasing pain on the other, were both extremely doubtful. Under the circumstances, it was clear, the certain dangers outweighed the possible chances of the child's survival, and therefore immediate hysterectomy was recommended, agreed to, and performed. As the photograph shows, the growth was so intimately associated with the uterine wall that it is practically certain the



FIG. 2. The posterior wall of the uterus being reflected back to show the foetus in the cavity.

decision, one was much influenced by the fact that the pelvic cavity itself was entirely filled by part of the tumour which was of stony hardness, and that, therefore, it would be quite impossible, if pregnancy did continue, for the child to be delivered in the normal way. In other words, if the patient had gone to full term, it would have been necessary to have performed Cæsarian section in order to deliver the child; and then one would have been called upon to remove the pelvic tumour, which would have necessitated hysterectomy; so that,

child could not have developed. The lower mass had undergone calcareous or stony degeneration, and was firmly fixed by adhesions in the pelvis, so that the uterus could not have dragged away so far, from this immovable mooring, to have allowed it to rise sufficiently out of the pelvis to enable the child to grow to full term. The patient recovered quickly and completely, and it is quite certain that under these conditions she must have soon succumbed, if she had been permitted to continue subject to such great and increasing pain and

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