

diseased side of the tongue and the jaw, as far back as it will go—viz., a little beyond the last molar tooth,—and to this point the needle is guided, taking care to keep it rather nearer to the bone than to the side of the tongue; here it pierces the mucous membrane, enters the mouth, and the thread, being released, is withdrawn, a loop of cord being left behind. The same thing is then done for the other side, except that here a loop in the mouth is unnecessary. The *écraseur* is now taken in hand; it must have one end of the wire detached and bent into a sort of hook at as sharp an angle as the material will bear. Tie an end of the last placed thread in the bend of this hook; then by traction on the other end, that in the mouth, draw the wire along the track of the needle. When the metal appears in the mouth just beyond the last molar tooth, pull the wire gently through till the nozzle of the *écraseur* is close to the supra-hyoid wound; then detach the thread and pass the wire hook into the loop of twine that enters the mouth on the diseased side of the tongue, and by gentle traction draw the metal from thus far back in the mouth, out at the hyoid wound, and attach it to the body of the instrument. Before screwing the wire tight, pass a finger along the dorsum of the tongue and ascertain its exact position. I am not afraid of its lying too far forward—it might easily, without care, sit too far back, also it might slip away from the desired place as the screw is used; therefore, having fixed the exact line along which the tongue is to be severed, I place my finger where that line intersects the raphe on the dorsum of the tongue; to it I pass the Liston's needle, letting its point project a line or two, and taking care that the wire lies behind it; by this means the *écraseur* can be guided exactly along the required plane. When the base of the tongue has been cut through, and the wire has come out at the wound, the loop of the same or of another *écraseur* is passed over the tip of the tongue into the line of incision, and the tissues, small in quantity but very vascular, which attach the tongue to the floor of the mouth, slowly cut through, when the whole organ is severed, and is removed from between the lips.

Now to call your attention to the man himself. He lost during the operation not more than ten drops of blood, and none since. He has in front of the hyoid bone a very small scar of an already healed wound,\* and no other external mutilation. He has lost the whole of the tongue, well clear of the disease, as you see by the specimen, and within a line or two of the epiglottis; yet he has no fever, his temperature is normal, and he takes tepid liquids without difficulty. Whenever I have asked him if he is in or has suffered any pain, he invariably answered in the negative. It seems strange, at first sight, that an organ so sensitive as the tongue can be removed without the production of a moment's pain, especially as a good deal of suffering follows the usual modes of excision; yet, when we have considered the matter together, you will see that this is a necessary result of my method of operation. By avoiding any dragging of the tongue forward, but, on the contrary, getting the *écraseur* wire round it *in situ*, and by keeping that wire, just previous to its entrance into the mouth, rather near though not close to the ramus of the jaw, I divide the sensory nerve of the tongue—the lingual-gustatory—close to the bone; it then retracts into its groove, and the whole wound must of necessity be insensible to pain. Therefore the man could immediately after the operation take abundance of liquid nourishment, avoided fever, and the part has rapidly healed. I would suggest, though I have not yet had an opportunity of reducing the proposal to practice, that when a less portion of the tongue has to be removed the lingual-gustatory nerve of one or both sides, according to the extent of amputation, might with advantage be divided on the ramus of the jaw.—*London Lancet*.

TREATMENT OF EPIDIDYMITIS WITH THE ELASTIC BANDAGE.—The customary pressure treatment of epididymal tumours with adhesive plaster straps is a complicated process, not a pleasant task for the physician, is exceedingly painful to the patient, often does not fit well,

\* The very oblique and valvular communication between this wound and the cavity of the mouth renders the passage of fluids along it almost impossible; thus obviating the production of a fistula.