

CANADA

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ULCERATION AND STRICTURE OF THE RECTUM,

WITH REPORT OF

TWO CASES IN WHICH COLOTOMY WAS PERFORMED.

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Ulceration of the verge of the anus, or fissure of the anus, is a most distressing malady ; it is, however, very amenable to treatment and will yield to appropriate measures. Ulceration, extending above the internal sphincter, is by no means so frequently seen, at least I speak from my own experience in this matter, as I have met with fissure of the anus frequently, whereas cases of ulceration extending up the bowel have been comparatively rare. Ulceration of the mucous membrane of the rectum situated above the sphincter is a very serious malady. It is slow and insidious in its advance, capable of relief in its early stage, seldom, however, recognized as such until the local alteration of the parts, that takes place as the disease progresses, produces such a condition as to preclude all hope of relief, except by operative interference.

In the early stage of the disease, the treatment by local applications will occasionally be successful, but it is generally tedious and prolonged, and too often the patient will neglect to carry out instructions, or he will abandon all further attention