

been made for the extraction of the foreign body. Never use forceps, rather invert the patient, or use a hook, bent probe, or wire snare, inversion, suction.

But never invert unless you have your tracheotomy instruments ready, for the danger of instant suffocation, through lodging of the foreign body in the glottis, is great.

Never forget that lung disease invariably ensues on the retention of a foreign body in the bronchus.

WARNINGS TO PATIENTS AND THEIR FRIENDS.—Never forget to warn your patient that a Colles' fracture, even when treated with the greatest care, leaves some deformity.

Never forget to warn a case of fracture of the patella, that the fragments tend to separate.

Always warn your patient that there may be loss of power of deltoid after dislocation of shoulder if much pain is experienced, *i. e.*, the nerves have been pressed upon.

Always warn the patient or his friends of the possibility of suspension of growth, in injury to an epiphyseal cartilage.

Never forget to warn the parents of a hare-lip that the operation is usually inadequate.

Never forget to warn your patient that the loose cutaneous anal tags swell after an operation for piles, or he may suppose you have overlooked them.

Never forget to warn your patient that a Meibomian cyst fills with blood after being scooped out, or he will think that the operation has been performed in a slovenly manner.

Always warn the patient's friends that fluid taken by the mouth may run out through a tracheotomy wound for the first few hours, and that such is not due to a wound of the gullet.

WOUNDS.—Never forget that the surgeon who neglects to suture a nerve or tendon commits the same mistake as he who neglects to reduce a fracture.

Never forget the tripod of successful healing of wounds has three legs—asepticism—rest—coaptation of edges.

Never forget that if an operation wound suppurates the fault lies with the operator or his assistants. *

A SCHOOLBOY ON BONES.—The following essay on bones was actually written for a school exercise by a boy. It may be found helpful as an intro-

duction to the science of osteology (*The Hospital Gazette*). "Bones are the framework of the body. If I had no bones in me I should not have so much motion, and grandmother would be glad; but I like to have motion. Bones give me motion because they are something hard for motion to cling to. If I had no bones, my brains, lungs, heart, and large blood-vessels would be lying around in me, and would get hurt, but now the bones get hurt, but not much, unless it is a hard hit. If my bones were burned I should be brittle, because it would take the animal out of me. If I were soaked in acid I should be limber. Teacher showed us a bone that had been soaked. I could bend it easily. I would rather be soaked than burned. Some of my bones don't grow close to my body, snug, like the branches of a tree, and I am glad they don't, for if they did I could not play leap-frog and other nice games I know. The reason they don't grow snug to my body is because they have joints. Joints is good things to have in bones. There are two kinds. The ball and socket, like my shoulder, is best. Teacher showed it to me, only it was the thigh-bone of an ox. One end was round, smooth, and whitish. That is the ball end. The other end was hollowed in deep. That is the socket, and it oils itself. It is the only machine that oils itself. Another joint is the hinge joint, like my elbow. It swings back and forth, and oils itself. It never creaks like the school-room door. There is another joint that don't seem like a joint. That is in the skull. It don't have no motion. All my bones put together in their right places make a skeleton. If I leave any out, or put any in their wrong places, it aint no skeleton. Cripples and deformed people don't have no skeletons. Some animals have their skeletons on their outside. I am glad I aint them animals; for my skeleton, like it is on the chart, would not look well on my outside.

CHLORAL IN OSTEOMALACIA.—Dr. M. Petrome, of Naples (*Wiener Med. Presse—Cincinnati Lancet-Clin.*), knowing that this disease is produced by a nitrate-forming bacteria, which is rapidly killed by chloroform, conceived the idea to administer chloral internally in the treatment of the affection, as this drug produces chloroform as a by-product after its introduction into the system. The writer thus treated a fifty-year-old vii-para, who had always been well and healthy,