

At the end of a few weeks he recovered and left the Hospital. In February, 1849, he again came under my care as a private patient. He had transgressed, and again the urethra had burst somewhere in the vicinity of the bulb, the result of closure of the stricture. As he was seen early, incisions were made, and no sloughing of the soft parts occurred. He had minor attacks of infiltration, in which I attended, according to my note-book, in the following years: two attacks September and April, 1851; one in October, 1853; one in October, 1854; two in January and April, 1855; one in July, 1856; one in March, 1857, and this last attack, which set in on the 25th November, 1858. Each attack was followed by a fresh opening externally, until the scrotum and perineum were riddled with fistulæ. During all this time the patient absolutely refused to submit to treatment by the passage of instruments, and during the last two years not a drop of urine came through the natural passage. At the time he consulted me in December, 1858, the scrotum and perineum was thickened and brawny, presenting much the appearance of elephantiasis of the part. There existed a number of minute openings, through which issued pus, and when he made water it flowed away from three fistulæ as through a sieve. His general health was failing; he had frequent rigors, more resembling ague, and coming on with periodical regularity. His appetite was indifferent, and from the disgusting odor arising from his clothes, which were always more or less saturated with urine, he was forced to relinquish his employment. An instrument could be passed down to a little beyond the root of the penis, when it came to an obstruction of cartilaginous hardness. This mass could be indistinctly made out, and appeared to be about three-quarters of an inch in extent. The man was willing to submit to any operative measures, and with that end in view his general health was improved by tonics and good food. Assisted by my friends Drs. R. P. Howard, Craik, and the late Dr. Walter Jones, perineal section was performed on the 26th January, 1859. There was no guide to the situation of the urethra, and the difficulty of finding it was greatly increased by the altered condition of the structures.