

of Montgomery," says Dr. Sims, "was the theatre of my early operations. Bad health compelled me to leave there in 1855. I then gave Dr. Bozeman of that place a partnership in business and indoctrinated him in my peculiar method of operating for vesico-vaginal fistula, instructing him in my various modes of using silver wire as a suture, not only in this class of affections, but in general surgery; not understanding its principle of action, and therefore failing in its practical application, he was quite disheartened with his ill-success, when by mere accident he fell upon a plan of fastening the wire, and so modifying my method, that in awkward or inexperienced hands it became easier of application. Instead of passing the wires through the leaden bars on each side of the fistula, he passed them through a concave disk or "button" which rests upon the surface of the parts to be united." Now while we consider Dr. Bozeman's conduct in this matter deserving of censure, we cannot approve of the way in which Dr. Sims endeavours to make it appear that his former partner is a stupid, inexperienced surgeon who stumbles on a plan, by which his operations become successful notwithstanding his awkwardness, and then calls it an improvement. From what we have read of Dr. B's writings we would certainly award him a more than average amount of ability—more, indeed, than is requisite to understand thoroughly the "principle of action" of Dr. S's "peculiar method of operating for vesico-vaginal fistula."

Like many other men of talent, Dr. Sims is a thorough-paced egotist, and his egotism takes the hero complexion. He is called to the great work of discovering and making known to the world "Silver Sutures in Surgery." In the early part of his career he ignores entirely the treatment of diseases peculiar to women, the class of diseases which is destined to lead him to the fulfilment of his mission. This accords beautifully with the experiences of other heroes, whose youth almost invariably gives little or no promise of the subsequent career of the man. Surgery is his ambition, and he does not fail to inform his hearers and readers, "it was gratified, for my head and heart and hands were full." Short-sighted and unfortunate young man! he is blindly and vainly endeavoring to run counter to the decrees of fate. His destiny is to treat diseases of women and discover "Silver Sutures in Surgery": but he will persist in treating diseases indiscriminately. Man, woman and child experience the benefits of his care, and he stitches their gaping and bloody wounds with saddlers' silk. For ten long years he pursues his course, reckless of the bright and glowing future that awaits him. At length however the time arrives which is to mark the commencement of a series of doubts and fears, of restless nights and anxious days,