

ago, is not totally devoid of interest, and the principle upon which it was treated may not prove useless, nor do I believe the result was different from what might have been attained in many similar accidents, had the same method of treatment been pursued.

If, by the avoidance of an operation, the safety of a patient and the cure of his disease can be equally as well accomplished, as by its performance, it is considered a great improvement in modern surgery, and he who has discovered a plan by which recourse to the knife is avoided, is justly esteemed a more accomplished surgeon, and a more successful cultivator of our science, then he who, however skillfully he may perform an operation, does not, perhaps, do it with more adroitness than hundreds of others; and in most cases, is but a servile follower of some master-mind who first originated the operation. Hence it is, that the modern system of treating aneurisms by compression, has placed the names of its authors in the foremost ranks of surgical pathologists, and as I believe, that the plan may be advantageously employed in many instances, for the arrest of hemorrhage from wounded arteries, I bring forward the following example, as the most striking I have met with, to illustrate this point of practice.

It has been very much the fashion in some quarters, to depreciate any attempts at the simplifying of surgery, and one distinguished practitioner, for whom no one entertains a higher opinion than I do, whilst he himself has shown the most striking instances of this very improvement, inconsiderately, as I believe, has thrown a slur upon the attempts of others, in furtherance of that object. I allude to Professor Syme's depreciation of Dr. Bellingham's discovery—in expressing which, upon one occasion he declared, that such a procedure as the cure of aneurism by compression, should only be adopted by surgeons who *were not capable of practising the higher departments of their art*. In justice to Mr. Syme, it must be stated, that he considers deligation of the femoral artery for the cure of popliteal aneurism, a much more simple procedure than the treatment by compression, an opinion, in which, few surgeons, either on this, or the old continent, will coincide. Even then at the expense of being charged with having missed an excellent opportunity for tying the brachial artery, I have great pleasure in laying the following case before my readers, for I doubt not, many a brother practitioner, called to severe injuries, so common in our rural districts, will be better pleased to learn how to arrest secondary hemorrhage from the upper extremities, by a simple and easily applied apparatus, than if he were given some new landmark for finding the brachial artery itself: so, without further comment, I shall proceed to the detail of the case.

Thomas Foley, aged 28, a ship carpenter, was admitted into the