

## CASE OF DISLOCATION OF THE HIP.

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On Saturday, the 7th Sept., I was called to Louisville Switch, about nine miles distant on the G. W. Railway, to see a man who had just been run over by a hand car, containing eight men. Dr. Tye accompanied me, and, on arrival, we found a man named G. Bapel, about 45, strong and very muscular, lying on a lounge, moaning greatly, and complaining of intense pain in the left hip. He also was bruised over almost every part of his body and extremities. On examination under chloroform (for he would not allow of it without), we found the left femur dislocated upwards and backwards. The signs were well marked: knee rotated inwards; leg flexed, shortening of about two inches; and the tendons of the biceps femoris, semi-tendinosus, and semi-membranosus muscles on the stretch. After he was thoroughly under the influence of the anæsthetic, which was administered by Dr. Tye, I thought I would try what manipulation would do, and was much gratified with the result, for in less than five minutes I had the satisfaction to find the head of the bone in close proximity to the socket, and then, by elevating the head a little, it immediately returned to its place with an audible snap. I do not report this case as anything new, but to show that in recent dislocations of the femur (no matter how unpromising they may appear), how much better it is to reduce them by manipulation—when it can be done—than to do so by means of extension, either with or without the pulleys—for the ligaments about the joint are always more or less lacerated—and forcible extension, no matter how applied, does not tend to improve their condition in this respect.

This was the fourth dislocation of the hip I have had, and the only one I succeeded in reducing by manipulation, although it was tried in the other three cases; and I am persuaded that the chief reason why I failed was, that the patients were not thoroughly anæsthetised, and although Hamilton says there is more chance of reducing this dislocation by manipulation, without an anæsthetic, as certain sets of mus-

cles aid in the return of the bone, which force is lost when chloroform or ether is given. Still, I cannot agree with him, for if one set of muscles assist in replacing the femur, another and a stronger set of muscles antagonize their efforts, and it is only when the whole muscular power is lost that this difficult dislocation can be reduced with comparative ease.

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### Selections.

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#### FATTY DEGENERATION OF THE LIVER.

MM. Lépine and Eymonnet in the *Lyon Medical* note the fact that the diagnosis of fatty degeneration of the liver is surrounded with great difficulties. The local physical signs being equivocal and defective, the increase of volume, the form and consistence of the organ having nothing characteristic, Verneuil's sign, general dropsy and diarrhœa, having no decisive signification, and the dosage of the biliary sulphur of the urine being only indicative of diminution of the activity of the liver, they bring forward a new element to assist in the diagnosis. This new element is taken from the dosage of phosphoglyceric acid contained in the urine. Their method is as follows: Remove all the phosphoric acid by the magnesian fluid or baryta water, filter and evaporate to dryness, calcine the residue with nitrate of potash, dissolve this in a little water acidulated with nitric acid, this solution treated with magnesian fluid will show the presence of phosphoric acid anew. This phosphoric acid proceeds from the destruction during calcination of the phosphoglyceric acid contained normally in the urine, as an integral part of lecithine. In the normal state the quantity of phosphoglyceric acid contained in a litre of urine is very small—compared with the urea, about 1-200th part. This proportion in fatty degeneration of the liver may be quintupled or decupled, which happens in no other physiological or morbid condition known up to the present.

Professors Dastre and Morat have pointed out that the fat of the liver contains lecithine. MM. Lépine and Eymonnet have verified this by the direct analysis of fatty livers, and have