

ten only previous to admission, an opening formed on the outer side, of the joint, just above the patella; and in this state I first saw him.

Upon examination the joint was found to be very much swollen, and inflamed, and excessively tender to the touch, so much so, that I was obliged to place him under the influence of ether, before I could satisfactorily ascertain the amount of disease. After doing so, and passing in a probe, I found that the instrument readily passed into the joint, through the external opening, and came in contact with roughened bone. There was at this time a very considerable discharge of tolerably healthy looking pus from the opening. His general condition was far from good, he had a good deal of hectic, pulse wiry, irritable and between 90 and 100, with frequent night sweats. He also rested very badly at night and his appetite was very poor.

*Treatment.*—He was ordered complete rest, the limb to be placed in a guttered tin splint, with a poultice applied to the joint. Also ordered beef tea, quinine and iron, porter, and an anodyne at bedtime.

March, 24.—Patient has been steadily improving under the above, he has very little pain in the joint, except when it is disturbed, sleeps well, has a very good appetite, and will allow the probe to be used without the use of ether. To-day, after a consultation had been held it was decided to resect the joint, with the hopes of giving him a useful limb. He was accordingly placed under the full influence of ether, and an incision of a semi-lunar form was made from a point opposite the middle of the internal condyle of the femur, carried below the patella, to a corresponding point on the opposite side. The flap was then dissected up and the joint opened, when it was found that the right condyle of the femur, and also the corresponding one of the tibia, were entirely denuded of cartilage and synovial membrane, as was also the entire articulating surface of the patella. The crucial ligaments of the joint were also completely destroyed. The tissues around the joint were then carefully dissected up, and the whole of the diseased bone of both femur, and tibia, as well as the entire patella, was removed, the section of the bones, being carried at right angles to their long axis, so as to bring the leg as near straight as possible. Only one small artery in the upper flap required any attention, after which the bones were placed in apposition, and the edges of the wound brought together accurately by means of silver wire sutures and adhesive straps, leaving a small opening at either side for the escape of any matter that might accumulate. The limb was then placed in a guttered tin splint, nicely padded and made to fit the leg, having two doors, one on either side of the joint, to let down so that it could be inspected, and dressings applied without disturbing the limb. He was