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THE MANAGEMENT OF THE VARIOUS FORMS OF NASAL OBSTRUCTIONS.

BY PERRY G. GOLDSMITH, M.D., C.M. Belleville.

Fellow British Laryngological, Rhinological and Otolological Association. Late Registrar of the Central London Throat and Ear Hospital.

BY the term nasal obstruction is meant an interference with the inlet, or outlet, of air through the nose, whether it be intermittent, or continuous. This obstruction may cause little or no inconvenience, if situated on one side only, as the opposite side is frequently proportionately increased in size. The obstruction may be due to causes which are permanent, or to causes which allow periods of normal nasal respiration.

I assume that all, who read this paper, appreciate the importance of continuously unimpeded nasal breathing. I think its importance is too frequently overlooked and many complaints, due to it, are thereby unrelieved.

Obstructions of the nose may be conveniently discussed under three headings.

I. Obstruction in the vestibule.

II. Obstruction between the vestibule and posterior nares.

III. Obstruction due to causes situated in the naso-pharynx.

One might also add a fourth series in which there is a complaint of nasal obstruction, or insufficiency, with no objective reason for such—"fixed idea."

I. OBSTRUCTION SITUATED IN THE VESTIBULE EXAMINED WITH UT A SPECULUM.

(a) *Congenital smallness of the anterior nares.*

This condition is fortunately quite uncommon; and, when causing marked disturbances, is treated by dilation. It is particularly annoying

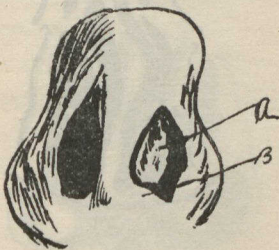


Fig. I.

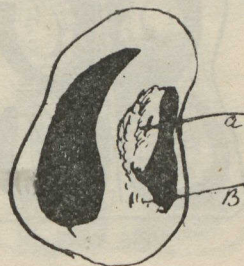


Fig. II.