



sented in the wood-cut: A is a solid or hollow cylindrical piece, made of steel, polished (or nickel-plated); the distal end (d) being moderately truncated and rounded, as in an ordinary bougie; the proximal end (e) being more conical in its curve, as with the end of a French bougie; B is the shaft to introduce it with, this latter being fitted with a handle (c); the shaft B being cylindrical, of steel, polished; the handle (c) may be flat, with its surfaces smooth or marked with raised lines, or rounded; and may be made of steel, ivory, wood, or any material adapted to the purpose; the shaft to be of proportionate diameter to the portion A, to insure strength.

The portion A is the part inserted in the stricture; the shaft (B) lies in the rectum, protrudes from the anus, the handle (C) being between the patient's legs; in this way, by having the portion A made in diameters equal in size to the different graduated sizes of bougies, with corresponding thickness of the shaft B, a stricture of the rectum can be treated, by gradual dilatation, without at the same time inconveniencing the patient by

having the anus kept long and frequently on the stretch.

As to minor details, the piece A is to be of a proper proportionate length to the shaft, say three to three* and a half inches in length, the whole instrument, including the handle, being twelve inches long; the number of the bougie can be stamped on the handle; in a set of six bougies, of graduated sizes, one handle may be used for all, by screwing it on to the shaft B.

Objections.—The objection might be made that in case the piece A was tightly grasped by or had slipped beyond the stricture, and had become detached from the shaft, it would cause an awkward delay, obliging considerable dilatation by the speculum and subsequent seizure of the piece by forceps. This could not happen if the shaft were securely welded or soldered into the piece A.

Mode of using.—The instrument can be most

easily introduced if held lightly at the middle of the shaft B, with the thumb and two fingers of the right hand; the left hand holding up the near buttock, the middle finger stretching up the anus.

In case of the stricture being situated near the anus, and the piece A slipping beyond the stricture, the end (e) of the piece A is made slightly conical, so that it can the more easily be brought back into the strictured portion.

New York, January 12th, 1880.

Address of J. W. MOUNT, M.D., the President of the Societe Medicale, Montreal.

Delivered December, 1879.

GENTLEMEN AND DEAR CONFREBRES,—I must frankly confess that I was far from expecting the honor which you have conferred upon me in electing me to the Presidency of the Société Médicale of Montreal. I had all the more reason to be surprised at it, because, without having in any way abandoned my sympathy towards this society, I had for some time past neglected to attend its regular meetings. Have the goodness therefore, to accept my sincere thanks for the mark of your confidence in me and the kindly feeling you have seen proper to bestow on one of the founders of the society.

I cannot help saying in all sincerity that I hesitated to accept the charge; I could not conceal the great responsibility and the duties which it imposed on me. I feared, and I still fear, that I will be unable, in spite of my anxiety to do so, to prove myself worthy of the honor. But I am convinced in advancing that I can count on your help and indulgence to promote the interests and advancement of the medical sciences. * * We must all work; we must guard ourselves against indifference in routine and false timidity. In short, each one of us must, in the sphere of his ability, bring the fruit of his knowledge and experience. May all, both young and old, rally round the standard of the society, whose motto should be science, labor, progress and brotherly feeling. I make an appeal to the patriotism of all the French Canadian doctors of the city and district of Montreal; and, if all would make profession of good-will and impose upon themselves some sacrifice, the result cannot be other than honor and glory to our nationality, as well as profit and advantage.

* Three inches is long enough for any stricture.