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## ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

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ART. XV.—*Excision of the Elbow-joint.* By JOHN R. DICKSON, M. D., Professor of Surgery, University of Queen's College, Kingston, C. W.

J. F. McCoy, aged 17 years, was admitted into the Kingston Hospital on the 11th October, 1861, to be treated for a traumatic deformity of the elbow-joint which rendered the arm useless.

He stated that more than three months previous to his admission, he was assisting to build a log fence; that whilst supporting a heavy log with a handspike, he fell, and the log rolled over his arm.

On his way home an old woman looked at his arm, and told him that it was broken. She applied a couple of splints and a bandage, extending the forearm as much as possible, and instructed him to keep the parts wet with vinegar.

The splints were not removed for three weeks, when the same feminine bone-setter imagined matters were not progressing favorably, and thought he had better consult a doctor.

He stated that he visited a medical man in a village adjoining his residence, who told him there was a dislocation of the elbow-joint, and made prolonged extension without altering the shape of the joint, after which he re-applied the splints, and told him to wear them three weeks longer, when he would find all would turn out right.

At the end of three months, the parents of the boy became alarmed at the deformity and immovable condition of his elbow, and brought him to the Kingston Hospital.

On admission it was found that, there had been an oblique fracture of the inner condyle of the humerus, the olecranon ulnæ was thrown backwards, and the head of the radius forward. The elbow and forearm had a strangely twisted appearance, the latter slightly flexed, and the hand prone.

The fracture had united in a most awkward position, and some spiculæ of bone threatened to pierce through the skin which was exceedingly tense. The transverse diameter of the joint was nearly double the natural size.

Hot fomentations and poultices were ordered for a few days, as the joints and