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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

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ART. XI.—*A case of Intestinal Obstruction.* By N. BETHUNE, M.D.  
Toronto.

Francis ———, æt 43, ostler at an inn in this city, a man of well knit frame and strong constitution, was seized on the night of June 30 and July 1st instant, with violent pain in the epigastrium, and constant vomiting of dark bilious matter containing a large quantity of mucus plentifully streaked with blood. The pain was increased by pressure—no tension of the abdominal parietes—tongue clean, pulse natural, skin hot and perspiring—urine scanty, turbid and high coloured—bowels constipated. He was sitting in the bed, his head resting upon his knees. I had attended this patient on two previous occasions; once in Feb. 1851, and latterly in June of the present year; on each occasion obstinate constipation was the chief symptom, and was relieved in the course of five or six days by venesection and the more active aperients. In the present instance however, notwithstanding the free abstraction of blood both by the lancet and by cupping, the exhibition of the most powerful purgative medicines, the employment of enemata, simple and medicated, and the introduction of the long tube into the colon, nothing passed but a few scybala on the 8th day. The symptoms gradually increased in intensity, stercoraceous matter being ejected with the fluids vomited. Dr. Hallowell saw him with me on the 9th day. The long tube was again introduced, and the colon well washed out with a weak solution of the inspissated ox-gall, and purgatives again exhibited—