## BRITISH AMERICAN JOURNAL.

## ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

## MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

ART. XL.—Unique Anchylosis of the knee joint forwards at a right angle. By J. A. GRANT, M.D., Attending Physician General Protestant Hospital, Surgeon to the County of Carleton gaol.

W. D. at. 18 years, robust conformation of body and never the subject of acute inflammatory rheumatism, at 11 years of age, received a wound in the knee joint from an axe, which grazed the bone over the inner condule. wounded the proper membrane and gave exit to a principal part of the synovial At first no particular attention was paid to the wound. After the lapse of four days, it was placed under medical treatment. The joint speedily became swollen and very tender. The synovial capsule was distended with fluid and much distorted in appearance; limb semiflexed and considerable febrile excite-The treatment consisted in lecching, with warm applications, moderate diet and occasional purgatives, the limb being constantly retained in one position by means of a Liston's splint; as the inflammatory symptoms subsided a more nutritious diet was prescribed and when pressure could be borne, a proper uniform support was given to the joint; at the end of the tenth week he returned home, having derived marked benefit from the course pursued and in a short time afterwards moved about on crutches with considerable ease and comfort. Up to the 18th month from the period of accident, the limb remained perfeetly straight, the articulation possessing a very slight degree of mobility. All pain having subsided, even when using the limb, the various means of support were unadvisedly removed. As time rolled on the limb gradually assumed a bent position forwards, from an obtuse to a right angle. Thus, for a period extending over five years, this deformity was permitted to pass, without any means being adopted to counteract its advancement. Mr. D. was considered, in his section of country, a superior rider, in consequence of which his horsemanship was frequently called into requisition, so that, between carelessness and over-