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Original Communications.

DEMONSTRATION OF INTESTINAL ANASTOMOSIS WITH THE MURPHY BUTTON.

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While attending the Pan-American Congress at Washington a few months ago, I had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of one of the brightest men in the medical profession to-day. This gentleman's paper was near the end of the list, and he was just barely able to secure a hearing for it; but he had not read very far when the audience was completely taken by storm, each one inquiring of his neighbor who the reader was. The answer I received to my enquiry was that he was Murphy's button. As I had never at that time heard of Murphy's button, I was not much the wiser. While returning on the train I made his acquaintance, and had this ingenious invention thoroughly explained to me. For the sake of those among us who are frequently called upon to remove portions of gangrenous intestine

during operations for strangulated hernia, and to obtain anastomosis between gall bladder and intestine in case of obstruction of the common bile duct, or between stomach and intestine in case of stricture of the pylorus—for the sake of these gentlemen as well as their patients I deem it my humble duty to bring this device to their intimate notice. The buttons are made in three sizes. A button consists of two small circular bowls; size No. 2 measures as follows:—diameter 25 m.m., depth 8 m.m. There is sweated into a circular opening 12 m.m. in diameter, at the bottom of the bowl, a cylinder 15 m.m. in length with female thread on its entire inner surface. The cylinder extends perpendicularly from bottom of bowl. There is an opening in the male bowl, in which is sweated a similar and smaller cylinder of a size to easily slip into female cylinder. There are two brass springs soldered on either side of the inner surface of the lower end of the male cylinder, which extend almost to the top, where small points of them protrude through openings in the cylinder; these points are destined to catch the screw thread when the male cylinder is pressed into the female cylinder, and thus hold the bowls together