

the histories of the earliest amputations in which acupressure was used for arresting hæmorrhage. To those who wish to be thoroughly acquainted with the history, progress, advantages, and the three principal methods of this new proceeding in practical Surgery, the perusal of the above-mentioned papers, of four original lectures on acupressure, by Prof. Simpson, contained in the numbers of the *Medical Times* for January, 1864, and of his instructive work on the same subject, published in Edinburgh in the end of last year, will afford all the information that can be desired. Both in the lectures and in the work the principal methods of acupressure are so clearly described and so distinctly illustrated that any Surgeon wishing to practise them can have no difficulty in knowing how to do so. The whole subject has been treated so fully that further argument in its favour seems unnecessary; but although such has been the case—although acupressure has been practised by some surgeons in these islands, on the Continent, in Asia, Africa, Australia, and by so many in America that the American demand for the passive iron wire used in the proceeding, and for sutures, has stimulated its manufacture in England to a remarkable degree; and although the progress of acupressure in the time that has elapsed since it was proposed by Professor Simpson as a means of arresting surgical hæmorrhage has been greater than that of the ligature in the same length of time, after its application by Ambrose Paré to arrest hæmorrhage in amputations, still it has not as yet met with general adoption. The period seems now to have arrived when it is desirable that those who have tried this hæmostatic agent should put their cases on record; and however inconclusive the observations of a single surgeon may be, the accumulated experience of many will furnish perfectly reliable statistics, and a just appreciation will be arrived at regarding acupressure.

My hospital experience of acupressure as a hæmostatic agent, in important cases of which records have been kept, comprehends its use in five amputations in the middle-third of the thigh, one amputation of the leg below the knee, two cases of the removal of mamma, and one of excision of the elbow-joint. I have employed this method of arresting hæmorrhage in several major operations in private practice, as well as in many minor ones, which I did not deem sufficiently important to be put on record. Of cases in private practice, I shall in the present communication only mention four—namely, one of amputation above the middle of the thigh, the sixth case in all in which I have used acupressure in amputation in that region; one of excision of the testicle, one of removal of the mamma, and a case of considerable interest in which there was great hæmorrhage from a wound in the back part of the upper half of the forearm, caused