

see easily where and how you manipulate, and can complete the work without danger to your patient. what proves successful after laboring for hours without chloroform, is often done in a few minutes in narcosis.

As to the instruments used, the best ones are hooks, blunt or hard, and sharp ones for soft bodies. They are brought behind the foreign body along one wall, then turn and move it slowly by cautious manipulations. In case of want of a long hook, a silver probe may be used, the end having been bent in a right angle.

The use of the forceps or pincette can not be recommended. They are far inferior to the hook, and dangerous, being liable to pull the foreign body deeper, especially when it is a hard one with a smooth surface. In some varieties of seeds a kind of drill has been used to advantage.

The rules from the foregoing are, therefore: Remove foreign bodies from the ear with syringe; if this fails and the use of instruments is necessitated, do this *only* and *at once* in chloroform narcosis.

REPORTS OF SOCIETIES.

Toronto Medical Society.

STATED MEETINGS, *March 22nd, 1888.*

The President, Dr. Nevitt, in the chair.

Cases in Practice.—The first case presented was that of a boy 18 years old, complaining of pain for the past two years in the right shoulder joint, which had recently become much worse. Dr. Doolittle, whose patient he was, said the pain was greatly increased by movement. It was easy when hanging loosely by the side and when in bed, excepting when in a strained position. Family history good.

Dr. Atherton could detect no movement in the joint and believed the head of the humerus enlarged as the result of some inflammatory process. He recommended fixation of the joint for two or three weeks at least, when, if no benefit resulted, an exploratory incision would be justifiable.

Dr. Spencer also presented a boy 14 years of age. Until a year ago this boy had enjoyed perfect health, and the family history was good. He never had convulsions. At school he was bright and could read and write. About that time his mother noticed that he grew dull and walked in a stooping position. His face gradually assumed a stupid look. He began to fall suddenly forward, frequently injuring his nose and face. His mother cannot leave him by himself for fear of his falling. His memory is fair, and he will write but cannot read. He does not speak except when addressed, and then answers in a stupid, abrupt way. His sight is fair, but the pupils are widely dilated and do not respond to light. Taste appears to be defective and there is no appetite, but the boy is stout and well developed. Occasionally he takes

wildish fits, but generally he is quiet, well-behaved and cleanly. The fingers and toes twitch occasionally. Further examination by the members showed that he was knock-kneed. In walking, the gait was shuffling, the left leg being thrown out. The patellar reflex present in the right leg, absent in the left. When the eyes were shut and knees and heels together he swayed a little but maintained his equilibrium and could turn around. The trouble was believed to be tubercular in its origin.

March 29th, 1888.

A lengthy discussion followed upon the reading of a very able paper on *Suprapubic Lithotomy*, by Dr. McCullough.

Dr. Cameron said that in adults the peritoneum was frequently low down and it was well to follow Paterson's method of injecting at least 12 oz. of fluid into the bladder and 10 oz. into the rectum so as to raise the peritoneum out of the way. Recently, Annandale, of Edinburgh, had elevated the stone with a lithotrite, bringing it against the vesical wall when he then cut down upon it. Hæmorrhage, as a rule, was due to the cutting into the large plexus of veins which lay in front of the bladder. It was not advisable to suture the wall of the bladder to that of the abdomen. If the former were sutured at all, the stitches should not penetrate the mucous membrane.

Dr. Atherton, while appreciating the advantages of this operation, believed the perineal operation would eventually be the favorite, especially in children. It had been urged that impatience wa