

these gentlemen, for a throat-specialist who cannot use the forceps is like a physician who cannot use the stethoscope, or a carpenter who cannot use a saw."

Gerhardt on the occasion of the second operation, accused Mackenzie of removing a piece of the healthy vocal cord. Mackenzie denies this absolutely, and says, "I did not, because I could not with his model of forceps."

He thus defines his position: "I repeat that I gave no opinion one way or the other as to the nature of the disease. I did not say that it was not cancer; I only said that that opinion was 'not proven' and in the absence of positive proof I refused to sanction surgical procedures which at present are at the best more or less of the nature of experiments, which are dangerous to life and nearly always destructive to the voice."

Practically Mackenzie claims that the case was originally one of papilloma, which was cured (see fig. 4, p. 47, made June 28th); and which entered on a new phase on or about September 9th.

Things went on from bad to worse until February 9th, when dyspnoea became urgent, and tracheotomy had to be performed by Dr. Bramann, sent from Berlin for that purpose. The canula used was one of extraordinary size and length, and it was not long before it made its presence felt by pressing on the posterior wall of the trachea and causing cough and hemorrhage. On February 28th, a new tube was made in San Remo by a silversmith under Sir Morell's directions. When used this gave great relief. On March 9th the Emperor William died, and next day the new monarch started for the capital. Matters went on for some weeks without much change. On the night of the 12th April, Mr. Hovell noticed that there was a rattling noise apparently in the tube. Several times during the night the position of the tube was altered. The next morning it was determined to change it. Out of courtesy, Von Bergmann was sent for. He did not arrive until five p.m., and then in a state of great excitement. Without making any remark, he pulled the old canula out of the neck and roughly endeavored to push another in. This was followed by a violent fit of coughing and considerable bleed-

ing. Von Bergmann then *pushed his finger deeply into the wound*. Bramann at that moment fortunately arrived on the scene, and introduced a moderate-sized canula into the trachea with ease. The Emperor continued to cough almost incessantly, and lost much blood. After the Professor left, His Majesty said, "Why did Bergmann put his finger into my throat." I replied, "I do not know." His Majesty then said, "I hope you will not allow Professor Von Bergmann to do any further operations on me."

The result of this treatment was the formation of a diffuse abscess, necrosis of the cartilages of the trachea, and indirectly death. Gerhardt is held responsible for the extreme cauterization of the larynx with galvano cautery (every day for two weeks), as having caused a benign growth to become malignant, and Bergmann finished the business. These are the chief counter-accusations.

*Controversial.*—The truth about the proposed operation, Sir Morell says, "I propose to show (1) that the operation of thyrotomy which it is stated was proposed to be performed on the Crown Prince in May, 1887, is not free from risk, as is pretended by Von Bergmann, but on the contrary, is a dangerous procedure, soon leading to death. (2) That the proposed operation does not afford a fair prospect of eradicating a malignant growth, but, on the contrary, is most frequently followed by recurrence. (3) That the presence of cancer was not ascertained even with approximate certainty until November, 1887, if indeed it really existed before that date."

*Palliative Treatment*—*Life is preserved* under normal circumstances for at least one year, and under a favorable state for two years.

*Radical Treatment (Thyrotomy)*—*Life is sacrificed at once* as the result of the operation in 27.2 per cent. of cases, while in 54.54 per cent. death is hastened. *A complete cure has been obtained twice.*

Such is a brief sketch of this remarkable book, which I would advise everyone interested in the case to obtain. It is published by Sampson, Low & Co., London, and can be had in this city.

60, College Avenue.