

## SURGICAL SECTION.

The minutes of the last session were read.

The next paper handed in was written by Dr. Groves, of Fergus. It dealt with a case of

## LAPARO-ELYTROTOMY.

It was a case of a young woman, her first confinement, under Dr. Chisholm, of Wingham. She had been in labor two days and two nights; when Dr. Groves arrived he found her much exhausted. A solid bony tumor filled the pelvis; the antero-posterior diameter of which was less than an inch. An operation was decided upon, although the surroundings were unfavorable. They incised on the right side, parallel to Poupart's ligament, commencing close above the symphysis pubis and extending six inches, a sound being passed through the urethra into the emptied bladder. The section was continued into the vagina, and the child, a strong, healthy girl of average size, extracted. The mother died, but the child lived. The doctor said this operation was much safer than Cæsarean section. He concluded by saying that it was never justifiable to deliberately destroy one human life when there was reasonable hope of saving both.

Dr. P. P. Burrows, of Lindsay, then read a paper on

## TREATMENT OF TALIPES VARUS BY CONTINUOUS EXTENSION.

It was unnecessary, he said, to enter into an anatomical description of this deformity, as he had entered fully into the question in the case reported in the *Canada Lancet*, June, 1887. In the case reported he divided the contracted tendons, the plantar fascia, and muscles. Next morning he applied a plaster of Paris splint, with cotton batting padding. After ten days a small portion of the splint below the ankle joint was removed, the foot over-corrected, and fresh plaster applied to secure it in the new position. In thirty days he removed the splint and found the limb perfectly straight. He then had a laced boot put on, stiffened on its inner side.

Dr. Powell, of Ottawa, asked what age the child should be before the tendons should be cut.

Dr. Burrows said that in the child reported the age was four.

Dr. Bryans asked how long the plaster of Paris splint should be left on in a marked case. Dr. Burrows replied that he left it on thirty days.

Dr. Sullivan, of Kingston, asked Dr. Burrows how many cases he had used traction on. He also wanted to know if he would operate before the fourth year. He (Dr. Sullivan) thought that great deformities could not be overcome before the fourth year by traction; nor could talipes varus be overcome where there was contracture of the tendons, etc., without section.