Before beginning the inflation it is best to tell the patient that she will experience painful sensations. As the distension progresses the patient suffers considerable pain and an urgent desire to void her urine. By forwarning her of these attendant symptoms she will be able to withstand the pain, and the inflation can be carried up to the desired degree in 3 to 5 minutes.
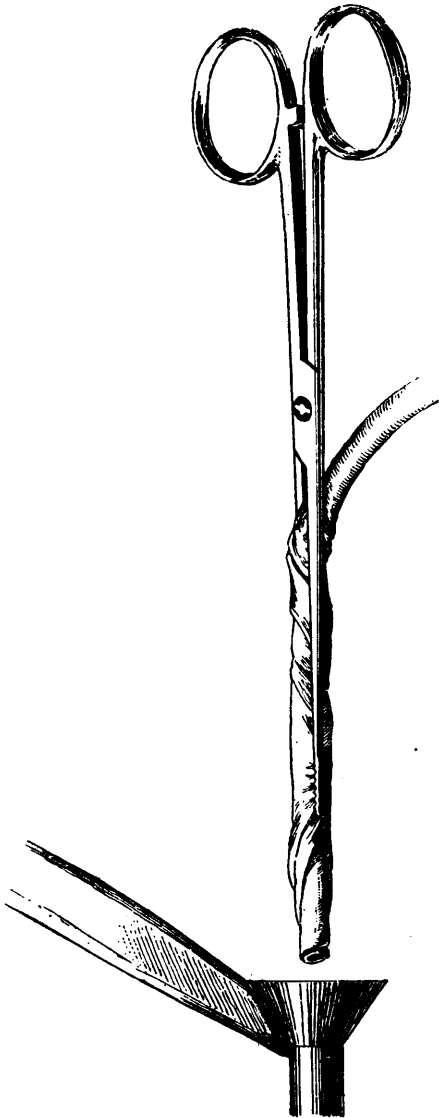

FIGURE 4.

The pain in chronic cystitis is usually severe during the first two or tree applications,

but the patient as a rule experiences so much relief subsequently that she is willing to persevere in the treatment.

A rectal suppository of 1 grain of opium, introduced immediately after the treatment, is of great service in alleviating the subsequent suffering. Having inflated the bag up to the required size, the clip on the rubber tube is closed, and the patient then assumes the dorsal or lateral posture.

Our rule is to leave the balloon in place 15 to 20 minutes, beyond which time it does not appear safe, as the ureters are blocked by it. In removing the balloon the clip is opened, when all but a small amount of air escapes; the rest is then aspirated with the air-pump bulb, when the collapsed rubber bag is easily pulled out through the urethra without causing pain.

We have treated at least ten cases with success by this apparatus. A history of one case, of a severe type of chronic cystitis of 13 months standing, well represents the efficiency of the vesical balloon.

CASE OF CHRONIC CYSTITIS.

M. J., admitted 21, 10, 95, colored, aged 35 years, married 10 years, no children, no miscarriage.

Complaint.—Frequent and painful micturition. Hematuria.

Menstrual History.—Menses appeared first at 15 years always irregular, sometimes not occurring for two months. When she was about 27 years old she had a slight discharge every three months.

For the last 7 or 8 years the menstrual flow has ceased and there is no history of vicarious menstruation. She has suffered no inconvenience on this account, and says she is perfectly well with the exception of her present complaint.

Family History.—Mother living and well, two sisters died of phthisis.