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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ARTICLE XI.—*Remarks on Gunshot Injuries to the Extremities; from Observations made during the late War.* By Assistant Staff Surgeon D. Woods, Licentiate of the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, &c., &c.

In making the following observations on gunshot wounds of the extremities, it must be recollected, that no intention is entertained of giving anything like a detailed description of these accidents. On the contrary, I merely intend to put forward such facts as came under my notice, supported in so far as possible by cases, together with the reflections, induced at the time, when the subjects were under treatment, and afterwards by the ultimate results of the treatment put in force.

I shall commence by alluding to wounds of the shoulder. Of the larger articulations in the human body, the shoulder joint is, I am of opinion, capable of bearing the greatest amount of injury, with the least danger to life; and, when suitable treatment has been adopted, a more useful limb is preserved to the patient than is likely to be the case when gunshot injuries have befallen other articulations, whether of the elbow, wrist, knee, or ankle. In so far as my experience tends, that excessive degree of inflammation, so imminent after severe injury to the last mentioned parts, rarely follows injuries to the shoulder; whilst the operations, whether of excision of the head of the bone, or removal of the