

large quantity of fat or enlarged matter. He had witnessed two instances in which the difficulties were of a formidable character, and it was impossible always to predict what they might be. Great stress had been laid by some authorities upon the necessity of dividing the transversalis fascia freely upon a director, but his experience of this operation had not led him to acknowledge the importance of this precaution. He would, however, caution them to handle the peritoneum very gently while turning it on one side; for if hasty or rough manipulation were employed in that important part of the operation, the artery would be pushed up along with the membrane, and the surgeon, although seeking it in the right place, would actually not be able to find it. This accident had occurred to him whilst operating on the dead body, and once in the theatre of King's College Hospital whilst seeking for the vessel in the living subject.

The patient progressed most satisfactorily; the ligature came away on the thirteenth day, and the wound rapidly closed. —*Lancet*.

ON EXTRACTION OF CATARACT.

BY DR. N. J. MARTINACHE, LATE MASTER OF CLINIC OF SICHEL
AND WECKER, PARIS.

It is not my intention to give a complete description of the operation for cataract, but simply to call the attention of physicians to a particular *modus operandi* for the extraction of the crystalline lens in the capsule. Every physician knows perfectly that the methods of operating for cataract are very numerous — too numerous, indeed, but little by little, all these methods have almost entirely disappeared, and the only one now performed on adults is the extraction. This is certainly great progress, and it is not my design to commence any discussion as to the comparative merits of the ordinary method and Graefe's linear extraction.

It is enough to mention the name of Von Hasner, who is absolutely in favor of the ordinary extraction, to prove its merits. But putting the merits aside, let us speak of the inconveniences. By these two methods we leave certainly in the eye some crystal-