

Editorials.

Ureterotomy.

IN the December number of the *Bulletin* of Johns Hopkins Hospital, Dr. Howard Kelly gives some interesting details of three cases of ureterotomy undertaken for diagnostic purposes. Whilst operating for severe pelvic diseases, he noticed in three of his cases such bulging of the ureters as led him to the belief that one of the ureters had been included in some of the ligatures which had been placed to control bleeding. After locating the ureter over the brim of the pelvis, he cut a slit in it, and passed a catheter through the ureter down into the bladder in two of the cases, thereby demonstrating that the ureter was pervious, and concluding that the dilatation was probably due to pressure upon the ureter by the tumor which he had just removed. In one of the cases he found, as he suspected, that one of the ureters was included in a ligature. This he cut, after which he could pass the catheter freely into the bladder. The slit in the ureter he repaired by mattress sutures. In one of the cases there was leakage of urine, which, however, was controlled by superficial sutures. Care has to be taken not to make the sutures pass into the lumen of the ureter. In these cases the operation on the ureter had no untoward effect upon the patients, recovery having been uninterrupted in each case.

Whilst we admire the advance of surgical technique which now renders it possible to do such delicate operations speedily and without harm, we feel sure that in at least some cases harm is done through hurry, and we would warn those of a lesser degree of experience against attempting such delicate procedures, unless the indications are very definite.

The Honorable Dr. Montague.

THE elevation of one of the members of the profession to the honorable position of Privy Councillor and member of the Government of the day, is an event which must interest all who hold the profession in honor, no matter what may be their political creed. In the case of Dr. Montague, his rise has been so rapid that it seems but yesterday that his eloquent words and far-reaching tones were heard as chairman of the annual dinner of the Toronto School of Medicine. The predictions made then as to his career have been fully realized. We extend our hearty congratulations to the honorable gentleman, and