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Original Contributions

OPENING OF THE ANTRUM AND THE RADICAL MASTOID OPERATION UNDER LOCAL ANESTHESIA

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DURING my work in the Politzer Clinic, I had the pleasure of assisting Dr. Neumann in two Radical Mastoids under Local Anesthesia. Though his methods may not be of practical benefit here in Canada, yet a review of the previous literature on the subject, and an account of his mode of operating would, I thought, be of interest.

After Schleich, in 1894, demonstrated that the opening of the mastoid process under local anesthesia was practicable, provided that the sclerosis of the mastoid cells was not too pronounced, the usefulness of this method was accepted by some and rejected by others.

Hoffm. 1, at the fifth meeting of the German Otologic Association in Dresden, reported the use of Schleich's method in some cases. Owing to the chiselling and use of bone forceps being disagreeable to the patient, he had given it up. He also reported headache, lasting for some days after the operation, and attacks of vertigo.

In 1894, Noack (*Munchener Medizin, Wochenschrift*, page 135) reported his findings. He says: "In contrast to Schleich's expec-