

Ionia, have been given to Johns Hopkins University and will soon be taken to the United States.

The instruments show a type of workmanship unequalled in any other extant specimens, and generally reveal the great progress in surgery which the ancients had made. Their date, though somewhat uncertain, was probably the first or second century A.D. It is possible, however, that it may have been before the Christian era.

An elevator for raising a depressed bone is part of the interesting exhibit. Its presence in the collection would seem to prove that after a battle efforts must have been to treat surgically even the most serious wounds of the skull.

Another still more remarkable brain instrument is a dull bow for operating on the skull.

A NEW URETHROTOME.

BY W. W. BREDIN, M. D., C. M.,

It must be readily admitted by all surgeons, and more especially by those who confine themselves to genitourinary work that there is not a single urethrotome to-day on the market which has in its construction the essentials which they so much desire. These essentials may be enumerated as follows: Simplicity of construction, as well as of application; an absolute safeguard against the possibility of making a false passage; absolute protection of the nonstructured portion of the urethral wall; the accurate mapping out, as it were, of the strictured portion, outlining just what is to be cut as well as the necessary length and depth of the incision, while at the same time protecting the nonstrictured portion from unnecessary mutilation; applicability to all strictures, including those with a filiform entrance only, and to all parts where strictures are usually found; concealed knives with sufficient cutting calibre to readily make way for the passage of a No. 30 French sound, at least. The accompanying cut represents an instrument which seems to possess all these features. It consists practically of three parts: A main shaft in which the knife rod moves backward or forward, and a guide. The guide terminates in a No. 9 French catheter with a filiform tip. The bulbous end of the guide in which the knives are always concealed except when in action, screws on to the main shaft. The knives operate through the grooved portion of the guide in which the knives are always concealed, except when in action, screws on to the main shaft. The knives operate through the grooved portion of the guide, which must pass through the stricture first. The knife rod works within the guide, and the knives cannot take any direction but straight through the stric-