

Compound Fracture of the Alveolus and Maxillary.

Read before the Odontological Society of Quebec.

By C. H. WELLS, L.D.S., Huntingdon, Que.

In attempting to bring forward this subject this evening, I feel very much like the man that was shipping coal to Newcastle, but, from what I see from different parts of the country, I feel encouraged to think that I may say something that will be of use to some one, and, if so, I shall feel that my object is attained.

The first case to which I will invite your attention is that of Robert Lumsden, of Athelstan, P.Q., at that time eight years old.

This is a compound fracture of the lower jaw, from the effects of a blow of a club, which struck the jaw to the left of the centre, coming end-wise, the centre of the blow being just in front of the canine, and causing a complete fracture between the second temporary molar and the six-year molar, on the left side; also another at the canine, or between the canine and the first molar; and another, between the right canine and the lateral incisor; and the fourth, between the second molar on the right and the first molar. Then there was another fracture, extending from one of the fractures at the canines to the other, thus breaking the alveolus with one canine and four centrals completely out, which the mother brought me in her hand. After examining the case carefully, I consulted the physician who had brought them to my office, and he proposed that we disjoint the lower jaw entirely, and take it out, as he did not think it possible to save it. I thought that I could make an improvement on that. I gave the patient æther, got the fractures reduced as near as possible to their proper places, and had them held in place by assistants until I took a wax impression, when I made a capping plate to fit over all the lower teeth, which, you will remember, were all knocked out but the two permanent molars. I replaced them all but one lateral incisor, where the socket was gone altogether, and I left it out, which I much regret, as I saved all that I put in, and I believe might have saved that one also. I then riveted a V-shaped piece of plated steel to the capping plate, passed a bolt down through the head of the V, soldered it fast there, and carried it down through an iron