

# Hospital Reports.

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*Operations for Congenital Cataract, on Different Plans.* Reported by M. O'B. WARD.

The object of these operations was to try the relative advantages of performing the operation for cataract by solution, by passing the needle through the sclerotic or through the cornea. Severe inflammation was said to follow the older method, and a plan by which this could be avoided was desirable.

The advantages claimed for corneal puncture were: 1st. The cornea being less vascular than the sclerotic, the risk of inflammation was of necessity less. 2d. The cornea being transparent, the operator could see the point of the needle, thus being better able to guide it.

Here remark how the operations for hard and soft cataract are reversed. At first, hard cataract was extracted through the cornea, and solution in the soft variety affected through the sclerotic. Now, the contrary is the rule. The hard cataract is, according to Graef's plan, extracted through the sclerotic, while the soft kind operated on through the cornea.

To try the efficacy of both plans, and to compare their results, it was determined upon by Drs. Hingston and Desjardins, to operate upon two patients suffering from this disease, each operator to operate after his favorite plan; Dr. Hingston through the sclerotic and Dr. Desjardins through the cornea.

The patients were both inmates of the "Asile Nazareth." One was a young girl of about 12, and was Dr. Hingston's. The other, a little boy of 8, being Dr. Desjardin's.

The first operation was performed on the 12th of December. Both doctors confined themselves to operating on one eye each. The following was the result:

No inflammation whatever in the eye operated upon through the cornea, and severe inflammation in the one operated upon through the sclerotic.

A second operation was performed on the 17th of January, Dr. Desjardin repeating his operation on the same eye as before, while Dr. Hingston operated on the other.

The object of the latter for not repeating the operation on the first eye was, as he said, that the lens continued to be absorbed for a considerable length of time after the operation, and by refrain-