taught in my college days that if we removed the periosteum the inevitable result would be death of the bone. In this case six or eight inches of the bone was denuded of its periosteum, and in a rough condition yet we had the most happy results, thanks to the recuperative powers of nature and the blessings of antiseptic surgery.

A RARE ANATOMICAL ABNORMALITY OF THE NASO–PHARYNX WITH REPORTS OF THREE OBSERVATIONS.

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The naso-pharynx varies greatly in contour and in capacity, and extreme anomalies may exist without giving rise to discomfort. So long as the function of this part is properly performed any departure from normal conditions is likely to escape observation.

The relation of the plane of the choanæ to the horizontal plane offers a diversity of angles. The choanæ may look almost directly downwards, as was observed in a case of adenoid disease operated upon this month, and at which Dr. John A. Macdonald assisted. The antero-posterior and lateral diameters show constantly marked differences amongst themselves when a comparison is instituted. The cavity occupies a position in the skull by no means constant. It is occasionally situated so far back as to be reached with difficulty when examining with the finger or when operating. The posterior pharyngeal wall also affords examples of varying degrees of inclination, the integrity of the naso-pharyngeal cavity being sometimes seriously trespassed upon, so great is the obliquity. Prominent cervical vertebræ also project into the cavity and render posterior rhinoscopy difficult of performance. There are a number of other departures from the normal state, of which perhaps atresia or a disposition thereto is most commonly met with. The abnormality, however, to which I shall call your attention, and of which I report two examples, which