

Gladstone had to wear a very big hat—with an enormous bed of gray matter and numerous convolutions: on the other hand, men whose genius is concentrated upon one line of thought are of small brain and, consequently, have a small head. Newton, Byron, and Cromwell belonged to this class, and each had a small head. Yet many people imagine that this is a sign of small mental capacity. A visitor who was shown the skull of Cromwell was so disappointed at its size, that the caretaker of the relic endeavoured to console him by saying that this was the skull of the great Roundhead when he was a boy. Prof. Symes-Thompson told this anecdote in a recent lecture, and he also mentioned that Newton was so small when born that he could be put inside a quart pot.—CHARLES STIRRUP, in the *Scientific American*.

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DO NOT advise extirpation of large glands in any particular region without making sure that they are not the early manifestations of leukemia or Hodgkin's disease.—*Am. Jour. of Surg.*

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IN performing posterior gastro-enterostomy see that the opening in the transverse mesocolon is not so narrow that it may constrict the anastomosed segment of small intestine nor yet so large that it may permit of a possible hernia into the lesser sac. By inserting a number of sutures between the mesocolon and the stomach wall about the anastomosis these possibilities may, in large part, be obviated.—*Am. Jour. of Surg.*

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THE pain in the lower part of the back that is frequently complained of after operation, can be best relieved by placing a small pillow in the hollow of the spine.—*Am. Jour. of Surg.*

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IF, after a period of post-operative catheterization, the patient finds herself unable to pass urine spontaneously, apply hot towels to the vulva.—*Am. Jour. of Surg.*

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WOVEN catheters may be sterilized by boiling in saturated ammonium sulphate solution. Catheters and bougies may be kept aseptic if they are wrapped in gauze wet with soap-spirits of the German pharmacopeia.—*Am. Jour. of Surg.*