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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

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ART. I.—*Contributions to Clinical Surgery and Medicine.* By ROBERT L. MACDONNELL, M.D., Surgeon to St. Patrick's Hospital, Montreal.

1. *Two cases of "Closure of the Womb," successfully treated.*
2. *Two cases of the successful Treatment of "Epiphora," or the "Weeping Eye," by BOWMAN'S Operation.*

No. 1.

In the works of modern writers on midwifery, allusion is made to a closed state of the womb preventing the passage of the fœtus in parturition, and Ashwell in his valuable treatise on the Diseases of Women gives some instances that occurred in his own practice, and in that of the celebrated Naegclè, and Dr. Bedford of New York, also gives a couple of cases of a similar nature, where he operated with marked success. Such cases are now familiar to practitioners, but examples of *Closure of the Womb*, such as I am about to relate, have been very rarely met with, even in the practice of those who have devoted most attention to female therapeutics, for I have examined in vain the writings of Churchill,\* Gairdner,† Isaac Baker Brown,‡ Duparque,§ Piorry, Matthieu,|| Picard,\*\* Ashwell, Meigs and others for illustration of this lesion.

It is true that Ashwell remarks that "instances of secreted, but retained catamenia are full of risk, if the fluid cannot be evacuated, and even then there is abundant cause for anxiety," yet he does not give any example of the disease from his own practice. In the elaborate work of Colombat allusion is made to cases, scattered through some of the older French writers, but he does not appear to have met with any himself. In a note to Colombat's work translated by Meigs, the latter writer gives the details of a case in which he and Dr. Randolph were consulted. The

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\* Diseases of Women.

† On Sterility.

‡ Surgical Diseases of Women.

§ Maladies de l'utérus.

|| Etudes cliniques sur les Maladies des Femmes.

\*\* Des Ulcérations et des Ulcères du col de la Matrice. [A work written, avowedly for the purpose of deprecating the use of caustics in uterine disease.]