

PERISCOPIC DEPARTMENT.

Surgery.

NOTES ON A CASE OF RHINOLITH, OR NASAL CALCULUS.

By JAMES F. WEST, F.R.C.S., Senior Surgeon to the Queen's Hospital, and Consulting Surgeon to the Birmingham Dental Hospital.

The accompanying case is worthy of note from its extreme rarity, and from the fact of its producing loosening of the teeth on the opposite side to that on which the calculus was found. Nasal calculi generally, as in this case, form around some foreign body which has been accidentally introduced. This patient cannot remember anything having been inserted into his nostrils, so that probably it had been there for ten or more years, and its existence only became apparent when it led to a disagreeable discharge from the nostril, to bulging of the nasal process of the superior maxillary bone, and to loosening of the central and lateral incisors.

G. B., aged 17, a boy of strumous habit, and a parish apprentice to a tailor, came to the Dental Hospital in this town, on the 2nd of August, 1871. Mr. C. Sims, one of the dental surgeons of that institution, found the nose, especially on the right side, much swollen; and also much inflammation and tumefaction of the upper lip and gum. The central and lateral incisors were very loose. He had an offensive discharge from the nose, and was in much pain. He stated that the swelling came on suddenly two days previously, without any assignable cause. He had suffered six months before in a similar way, and was for a few days an out-patient at the Homœopathic Hospital, and then obtained relief by using fomentations to the nose. He had never had syphilis or any injury to the parts. Mr. Charles Sims, thinking it a case for consultation, brought the patient to me. It was decided as a tentative proceeding to extract the left upper central and lateral incisors, they being very loose. Mr. Sims removed them on the 5th of August; a copious discharge of very offensive pus followed the extraction. He was directed to syringe the mouth and nose with ozonised water.