

done, put a dressing on the wound, but dress the wound first and wash the surrounding parts afterwards. . . The edges of the wound are septic; the wound, if it is as it ought to be, is aseptic."

At the adjourned meeting of the Medical Society held Nov. 5th, Prof Lister's paper was discussed. The majority of the surgeons who took part in the discussion, including Bryant, Morris, S. Jones, Gant and M. Baker, held that with all caution ankylosis resulted sometimes from this mode of treatment, that if this occurred in the hands of the most careful and skilled surgeons, what would be the result if this operation were performed by men not trained in the many proceedings necessary to practice antiseptic surgery and without the necessary surgical experience. For the present, therefore, they argued that the simpler and less hazardous measures were the best in the majority of cases, and only when these measures failed were the new rigorous measures of Prof. Lister justifiable. Prof. Lister in his reply said it gave him great satisfaction to learn how universally the antiseptic principle had been recognized so long as the grand principle of antisepticism remained it mattered not what the antiseptic used was. After replying to the objections raised by the various surgeons, he concluded by saying that he had brought the cases of suture of the patella before the Society principally with the object of illustrating what could be done by antiseptic surgery, more than to advocate its employment under all circumstances.

At a meeting of the Clinical Society of London, held Nov. 9th, Mr. Turner read particulars of a case of *Ununited Fracture of the Patella* treated by suture of the fragments, with strict Listerian precautions. Mr. Turner's case recovered with an ankylosed joint after a long period of suppuration. Mr. Turner also gave a summary of fifty cases treated by various surgeons with a fatal result in two instances, whilst suppuration and ankylosis of the joint frequently supervened. Mr. Lister, who was at the meeting, said that no surgeon should perform so serious an operation unless either prepared himself to dress the patient's wound as required or convinced of the ability of