

by the patient swallowing an alkali. The contraction following was of such a nature that no sound would pass below the cricoid cartilage, and swallowing was nearly impossible. Gastro-tomy was resorted to, and electrolysis applied at the part. The current was commenced with five cells, gradually increased to fifteen cells. After one hour the electrode bougie suddenly passed through the stricture. The second

electrolysis successfully a case which has not been published.

Stricture of the Male Urethra.—Strictures of the urethra have been treated by myself successfully for nearly twenty years, and so many hundred cases are on record, that I did not intend to take up any time here, on this subject; but having seen in this city very imperfect instruments, which have been called, and sold as,

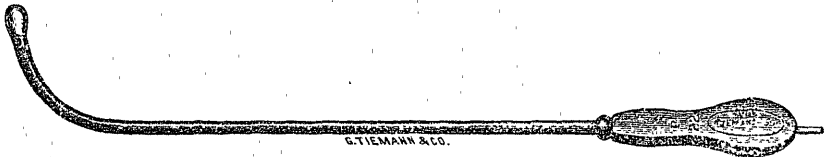


Fig. 1. Egg-shaped Electrode.

application was made after twelve days, after which the stricture was so well cured that the patient could eat and swallow both solids and fluids, and a Charrière bougie No. 19 passed through the former stricture both ways, from below and above. Two weeks later the gastric fistula was closed by operation. The prognosis in cesophageal stricture is almost always grave. The elaborate statistics by M. Petit, of Paris, of one hundred and fifty-five operations show only two per cent. of cures, and seventy-five per cent. of deaths. Therefore electrolysis in cesophageal strictures must necessarily play an important part in the treatment in future.

Stricture of the Rectum.—Strictures of the rectum have better chances by electrolysis than by other means, provided they are not malignant. I have prepared a paper on this subject for the next meeting of the American Medical Association which will be held this month in Newport. I have to report twelve of my own cases with nine permanent cures and three relieved,

Newman's Electrodes, I consider it a duty to show you the original set of electrodes as devised by myself. They consist of four distinct sets, and are manufactured to my perfect satisfaction by the well-known firm of Geo. Tiemann & Co., No. 107 Park Row, New York City.

1. *The Egg-shaped Set.*—The regular electrodes for all ordinary cases have a short curve, an egg-shaped metallic bulb at the working end; while at the upper end there is a round wire rod for the binding screw of the negative pole of the battery; the only points not insulated and acting as conductors are these extremities. The rest of the electrode must be well insulated, smooth, and without inequalities. I consider a conical bulb objectionable in most cases, as we depend on the electrolytic power of absorption, not on force. The length of the bulb is proportioned to the size of the electrode, thus for No. 11 French the bulb is $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch, while for No. 21 it is $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch. The set consists of Nos. 11, 14, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 25, 28 of the

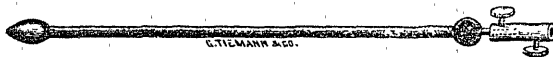


Fig. 2. Acorn-shaped Electrode.

as also successful cases of Dr. S. T. Earle, of Baltimore; Samuel Benton, M.D., and W. T. Whitmore, M.D., of London.

Stricture of the Female Urethra.—Strictures of the female urethra are rare, but they occur occasionally and are readily cured (Newman, *Americal Journal of the Medical Sciences*, Oct. 1875).

Atresia Vaginae.—In 1872 I treated by

French scale.

2. *The Acorn Set.*—These are for use in the first six inches of the urethra in certain cases, and consist of Nos. 15, 17, 20, 22, 25, 27, French. They are without a curve, short, and the bulb is acorn-shaped. Sometimes it is desirable to gain ground by entering the contraction first with the point of the electrode, in order to follow easier with the larger part of the