

Knight also gives an instance, where large posterior hypertrophy had been removed too extensively by the surgeon; the result being that, after the first few months, the patient became a permanent sufferer from pharyngitis sicca.

Shurly says that too decided surgical interference, either by galvano-cautery or other means may produce permanent atrophic nasal catarrh.

It was rash use of this excellent method of treatment which placed the electric battery in disuse for so long a period after it was added to the rhinologist's armamentarium. In some instances, the septum was perforated, in others the turbinates destroyed; and thus the curable was transformed into the incurable by the use of an instrument which is now considered to take the highest rank for all operations within the nasal cavity.

During the last few years, the use of the galvano-cautery has been established upon a sure foundation. Recent improvements enable the operator to illumine almost the entire nasal cavity; while the experience of specialists, so widely published, enable him to avoid the pitfalls that have been so disastrous to others. Voltolini, Michael, Sajous, Morell-Mackenzie, Rice, Shurly, Bosworth, Delavan, in fact all the leading laryngologists strongly support its use; and I feel sure it occupies a place in rhinology from which, it can never be removed.

My own treatment of the hypertrophic tissues, during the present year, has been almost exclusively by galvano-cautery; and I will close by giving a short history of the cases as they occurred.

January 30th, Case 1. Mr. F. J. P., journalist, married, age 31 years. Father and mother died of consumption. Personally tolerably healthy; has had catarrh for two years, chiefly on right side, with partial stenosis; has had hæmorrhage from right nostril every day on using handkerchief, for three or four weeks. On examination I found two dark polypi hanging from middle turbinated bone. After applying a solution of cocaine, I removed one by snare. There was considerable hæmorrhage. This was so great that I did not remove the second polypus, but gave an astringent solution to be applied by patient. Two days later he returned, and I removed the remaining one with forceps, and applied chromic acid to the root.

I then discovered a large hypertrophy of middle

turbinated, immediately behind the attachment of the polypi, and as the patient was going away on business for some time, I delayed operating until his return.

On march 5th, I used the galvano-cautery, passing the knife longitudinally over the growth in two places, from back to front, at white heat. There was not much suffering and after local treatment for some time, patient made a good recovery. The hæmorrhage did not occur again, the catarrh was greatly relieved, and there has been no return either of polypi or hypertrophy.

March 1st, Case 2. Mrs. R. D., age about 30 years. Has been suffering from catarrh for two years, with progressive stenosis of right nasal cavity. There has also been frontal headache and offensiveness of breath.

On examination, I found hypertrophy of septum and inferior turbinated to such an extent, that it was impossible to pass a probe through without pain. Superficial ulceration, produced by pressure, existed where the parts were in contact. There was also hypertrophy of the middle turbinated, though to a less extent.

After cleansing, I applied by spray and absorbent cotton a four per cent. solution of cocaine. With difficulty I passed the cautery knife backwards between the lower hypertrophies, and cauterized from behind forwards; making two cauterizations at the one sitting upon the lower turbinated and septum. The subsequent treatment consisted of sprays and the local application of ol. petrol. Three weeks later I made a single application of the cautery to the middle turbinate. The patient did not come as regularly afterwards for treatment as she should have done; still the result was complete removal of the stenosis, abatement of the headache, and subsidence of the catarrhal symptoms.

Sept. 10th, Case 3. Mrs. W., age 44, family history good. Has had naso-pharyngitis for a considerable length of time, with impediment in breathing through right nasal cavity. A year ago, her family physician told her she ought to go to a specialist, to have a growth in the right naris removed. On examination I found hypertrophy of the right turbinate. The application of the cautery was followed by considerable reduction. Four weeks later I made a second application; subsequent treatment similar to that in former