

It will now be found that the line of union is quite as thick as any other part of the lip, and that the notch, in ordinary cases, does not exist.

I invariably apply the same principle in all cases, and it seems to me that the idea of effecting the object aimed at without the slightest loss of tissue ought to commend itself to all, more especially as the results are so much better than where paring is done. I might incidentally mention that in cases of vesico-vaginal or recto-vaginal fistulæ, the application of this principle will be found much better than that commonly practised—paring the edges of the fistula and then bringing the thin edges together. In those cases I separate the mucous membrane of the rectum or bladder, as the case may be, from that of the vagina by means of an incision about a quarter of an inch or more in depth, extending entirely around the fistulous opening, and then bring the parts together by a double row of stitches, one on the rectal or vesical, and the other on the vaginal side. It is now nearly twenty years since I first operated in this way on a case of recto-vaginal fistula, and the result was so good that I have adhered to the plan ever since, and I feel satisfied that it is impossible to urge it too strongly upon all surgeons.

---

## Notes on the Medical Services of the British, French, German and American Armies.

BY DEPUTY SURGEON-GENERAL G. S. RYERSON, M.D.

*Honorary Associate of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England,  
Honorary Member of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States.*

(CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE.)

---

## II. THE MEDICAL SERVICE OF THE ENGLISH MILITIA AND VOLUNTEERS.

### THE CONDITIONS OF SERVICE AND EDUCATION OF THE MEDICAL STAFF OFFICERS.

THE royal warrant of 1891 authorized the formation of a militia medical staff corps. This corps is as yet in a formative stage, but one or two companies being raised. There is, however, a body of 1,200 n.-c. officers and men of the militia reserve who are put through an annual training in medical staff duties, and who would be available in time of need. The volunteers of the United Kingdom, who are so numerous and so efficient, furnish a valuable auxiliary medical staff corps. There is a brigade in London of eight companies, under