

RADICAL CURE OF HERNIA IN THE ADULT (BASSINI.)

CASE I.

P. H., age 55, had suffered from occasional attacks of gastralgia for several years. He had a right inguinal hernia, and as the gastric pain was sometimes unendurable and seemed to be associated with the descent of the bowel (his truss at times failing to hold it), operation for radical cure was advised, and consented to by the patient.

On May 20th, under thorough asepsis, an incision, starting from near the ant Iliac spine and ending at the external ring, was made through the superficial tissues exposing the aponeurosis of ext. oblique muscle. A director was inserted under the external pillar of the ring and the aponeurosis divided the whole length of the skin incision,—the edges of the aponeurosis were separated from adjacent tissues until the margin of the rectus was exposed internally, and the under surface of Poupart's ligament externally.

The sac and cord being now exposed, an attempt was made to separate them, and was only successful after a great deal of trouble, as the long continued pressure of the truss had caused extensive adhesions and there was no characteristic appearance of the sac to assist in distinguishing it. It was impossible until after opening the sac, and, with the finger inside as a guide, the rest of the tissues were torn away from it.

The sac being now isolated was drawn down, and, being certain that no bowel or omentum was included, a catgut ligature was passed through it, tied, and the lower portion of the sac excised.

The cord was now held up and the free margins of the internal oblique, trans-versalis, and conjoined tendon were united to the shelving edge of Poupart's with interrupted sutures of kangaroo tendon. The aponeurosis of ext. oblique was next united by a continuous suture of the same material, and the skin with silkworm gut. The patient was kept in bed for two weeks and then, with a supporting bandage was allowed up. The pain which had rendered his life miserable was greatly relieved and in two months time he resumed work without a truss.

CASE II.

J. H., age 35, was admitted to Hospital with a strangulated inguinal hernia, June 16th. He had worn a truss since childhood, and had been employed two days before admission lifting heavy beams, when he felt the bowel suddenly appear in the scrotum. Being