

The "tent", so frequently referred to, was a drainage dressing, made of flax or lint—

Hector. Modest doubt is call'd
The beacon of the wise, the tent that searches
To the bottom of the worst.

Troilus and Cressida, ii, 2.

It is noteworthy that our technical term for a healed wound should be more than once used by the poet—

Where is he wounded?
Vol I' the shoulder, and i' the left arm: there will be large cicatrices to show the people, when he shall stand for his place. He received in the repulse of Tarquin, seven hurts i' the body.

Men. One i' the neck, and two i' the thigh—there's nine that I know.

Coriolanus, ii, 1.

The appearance of a recent scar is referred to metaphorically—
Since yet thy cicatrices looks raw and red
After the Danish sword.

Hamlet, iv, 3.

First principles in the sound healing of wounds are manifested in the following quotations—

It will but skin and film the ulcerous place,
Whilst rank corruption, mining all within,
Infects unseen.

Authority, though it errs like others,
Hath yet a kind of medicine in itself,
That skins the vice o' the top.

Hamlet, iii, 4.

Rest, care, and general treatment should all be employed—

I will not lend him stir
Till I have us'd the approv'd means I have,
With wholesome syrups, drugs and holy prayers,
To make of him a formal man again.

Measure for Measure, ii, 2.

The callus thrown out round a fracture is evidently used as a simile in the following—

If we do now make our atonement well,
Our peace will, like a broken limb united,
Grow stronger for the breaking.

Comedy of Errors, v, 1.

Finally, whatever variety of surgical technique we may severally employ, each one of us must lay to heart, and persuade our patients to adopt, the philosophy of Iago—

How poor are they that have not patience!
What wound did ever heal but by degrees?

Henry IV, Part II, iv, 1.

As to the treatment of wounds in that time we must remember that it had but little changed from the days of Hippocrates until, with the Victorian epoch, general anæsthesia reached us from America, and anti-septic surgery was brought to us from Scotland by an Englishman.

Othello, ii, 3.

Vivisection is, curiously enough, proposed by a woman. The Queen in *Cymbeline* says—