

of his *Diseases of the Urinary Organs*. His exact words are: "The proper capsule, which cannot be regarded as a mere offshoot from any adjacent fascia, but is a special envelope belonging to the prostate itself, although thin, is firm in texture, and defines clearly the form and limits of the prostate here." It is in this proper capsule that the entire prostate is removed, and the procedure might in fact be spoken of as "extra-capsular" enucleation. If the recto-vesical covering were removed urinary extravasation would naturally follow with probably a fatal result. The fibrous bands uniting the proper capsule to the fascial covering are easily torn through by the finger, but as it is in this space, between the two capsules, that the prostatic plexus of veins runs, caution is necessary to avoid hemorrhage; by keeping close to the tumor with the finger, the bands and adjacent tissue readily peel off and the mass then completely shells out.

Some British surgeons of note are still skeptical as to the practicability of this operation, and Mayo Robson holds that complete removal of the prostate in its capsule is anatomically impossible. However, such opinions must soon give way in face of the remarkable results obtained by Mr. Freyer, who has now published an account of thirty-one cases, and in addition almost daily successful reports are being published by those who have followed closely his method. These reports are such as to engender the hope that this operation will soon establish for itself a recognized place in surgery, and relief thereby obtained from a most distressing and frequently fatal malady.