

TORONTO GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORTS.

BY S.

TREPHINING IN EPILEPSY.

G—— R——, aged 17, was received into the Hospital under the care of Dr. Hodder, to be treated for Epilepsy, caused by the pressure of a portion of depressed bone upon the brain, the result of an injury received about eight or nine years ago. When about eight years of age he received a kick from a horse, a little above and posterior to the left ear causing fracture of the cranium and depression of some fragments of bone. The surgeon in attendance made some efforts to elevate the depressed portions and the boy recovered. After a time Epileptic fits began to make their appearance and continued to increase in severity and frequency until his admission to the Hospital. Upon a close examination a distinct depression could be felt over the seat of the original injury. This undoubtedly was the cause of the mischief, and it was finally decided that an operation was the only procedure that held out any hope of benefit to the patient. Accordingly the trephine was applied to the part and by means of an elevator,—considerable force being necessary—the depressed portion of bone was raised by forcing it outwards and partly breaking it off. Notwithstanding the force used and the critical nature of the operation, the patient did well. He made a rapid recovery and was soon sent home entirely cured of his trouble.

AMPUTATION AT THE UPPER THIRD OF THE THIGH.

C—— G——, aged about twelve, was admitted into the Toronto General Hospital under the care of Dr. Bethune, about two months previous for disease of the knee joint. He was put under tonics and other appropriate treatment, but the disease continued to progress. Numerous openings occurred all around the neighbourhood of the joint. The leg was much swollen and edematous, and the discharge very profuse. No necrosed bone could be detected although sinuses led in every direction, even up along the shaft of the femur. The boy rapidly lost flesh and was gradually sinking. It was finally decided with a view to save the boy's life, to amputate the leg. The operation was performed by Dr. Bethune, assisted by Drs. Hodder and Richardson of the Hospital staff. The flap oper-