

the bladder. I then arm a common sewing needle with a piece of saddler's silk thread, and making a small knot on the end, I pass the needle through the eye of the catheter and out at its point, drawing the thread out to the knot. I next invert the needle into the upper or pubic surface of the catheter, (if I may so say) about $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches from its point, and with the assistance of a piece of wire, draw the needle and thread through the inside of the remaining portion of the catheter to the ivory ring. Three and a half inches of the thread are thus outside of the catheter, and the end of the remainder hangs out at the ivory ring. I now insert the wire stilet which belongs to the catheter into it, and having given the instrument the ordinary bend, and warmed the portion which is to enter the bladder in water at blood heat, I pass it into the bladder. Withdrawing the stilet $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, I seize the end of my thread and pull gently upon it, thus causing the portion of the catheter within the bladder to assume the form of a circle having the diameter of one inch. The thread being fastened to the ivory ring, the stilet is now completely withdrawn, and the catheter is prevented from falling out by that part which is in the bladder being bent into a circle. I usually find no difficulty in removing the instrument; by twisting the thread around the stilet, the knot will be disengaged and the instrument may be removed in the ordinary way.



THE FLEXIBLE CATHETER AS IT APPEARS IN THE BLADDER.

The circular bend of the flexible catheter, as above, may also be attained by inserting three inches of the most curved portions of two old watch springs (which may be obtained gratuitously from the nearest watch-maker), through the eye of the catheter. By putting the instrument in water at blood heat, and withdrawing the stilet, the catheter, *self-acting*, will form the required circle. By re-inserting the stilet, the bend in the catheter will be sufficiently removed to admit of the withdrawal of the instrument.

A surgeon is called upon to go a dozen miles to visit a patient who has been suffering extreme pain for many hours from retention of urine; peradventure he has been tampered with, in vain