

different attempts, under chloroform, were made at reduction, but neither successful, so amputation above the knee was advised. To this the boy's father strongly objected, and failing this they sawed off what they could not reduce (about an inch and a half), tucked in the remainder, and left the case in disgust at the obduracy of the father. It was hot weather and before the days of modern antisepticism, so that the neglected wound soon became septic. The father (an intelligent French-Canadian blacksmith) then took the case in hand, and henceforward was the only surgeon employed. He killed the maggots by pouring whiskey into the wound, improvised a sole-leather back-splint, and in four weeks the lad was propelling himself around the garden, and in two months was walking, at first stiffly, but as time went on he got the perfectly good knee-joint, which he now presents. The injured limb is shorter than the other by exactly the amount of bone removed thirteen years ago ($1\frac{1}{2}$ inches), but in every other respect is as strong as its fellow, and he is able to do any kind of work. The specimen of bone is not quite perfect, owing to the father having singed it at his forge "to burn off the stink," but anyone can see it is the lower end of a femur.

The above history (which I took pains to verify by the doctors who attended) puzzled me not a little; and I exhibited the case to several of the medical men here a couple of years ago, when Dr. Shepherd suggested the explanation of what had occurred as a compound separation of the lower epiphysis of the femur.

In the *New York Medical Record* for Jan. 3rd last (1891) a case is reported by Dr. John H. Owings almost identical with this one, and the treatment and result tally so well that I will ask your forbearance to quote it in a condensed form.

"On Aug. 29th, 1890, was called to see a ten-year-old girl whose left leg had been caught in a waggon wheel and fractured at the knee. A careful examination under an anæsthetic showed that the condyloid epiphysis had been separated from the diaphysis, and that the shaft of the femur had lacerated the soft parts and was protruding through the skin over the popliteal space fully five inches. Amputation was advised, but owing to absence of the father, the strenuous objections of the mother, and