

will come together, thus greatly facilitating introduction. The new india-rubber tracheotomy tubes have been extensively used, but several accidents which have occurred point out a certain danger incident to their employment, that of rotting at the curve and slipping into the bronchus; if used, they should be lubricated with glycerine which soon dissolves in the mucous and does not rot the rubber.

The unusual operation of extirpation of the larynx has this year been successfully performed by Dr. David Foulis, of Glasgow. The patient was subsequently provided with a Gussenbauer's voice apparatus, like Billroth's case in 1873. This makes the tenth time the operation has been performed, and the fourth success. Extirpation of the kidney was more than once performed in 1877. Dr. C. Langenbuch reports a successful case where the kidney formed a painful tumour on the left side. Mr. Jessop, of the Leeds Infirmary, also removed the left kidney from a child æt. $2\frac{1}{4}$ —the kidney weighed 16 oz. and looked encephaloid. Another case was recorded in France, in which the kidney was drawn into an abscess cavity by contraction, and thence removed. This is the eighteenth case and the tenth recovery on record. Excision of the rectum has been successfully performed during the year. M. Koeberle, of Strasburg, records one where all the functions were regained. Dr. Briddon, of New York, and Dr. Levis, of Philadelphia, each report a successful case. The latter gentleman also reports an unsuccessful one, as does also Dr. D. Hayes Agnew, of the same city. Excision of the tongue has been frequently performed during the year, and the use of Paquelin's thermo-cautery appears to be of great service in such cases. The great advantages it possesses are facility of employment, cheapness, and the entire absence of pain after its use. It will probably supersede the *rouge fer* and the galvano-cautery altogether. Mr. Annandale records its use in three excisions of entire tongue, with two recoveries, two scirrhus breasts, with one recovery, and three epitheliomata of face recoveries in all. Dr. Ogilvie Will, of Aberdeen, records two successful cases, and Mr. Ashburton Heath, one of excision of entire tongue for epithelioma by the

method suggested by Sedillot and Syme, and perfected by Mr. Annandale, which consists in splitting the lip, dividing the symphysis of the lower jaw with a saw, separating the soft parts, pulling forward the tongue, and removing the organ slowly with an ecraseur or Paquelin's thermo-cautery. Some of the patients recovered speech. H. A. Reeves contributed an interesting account of the *immediate* cure of piles by Paquelin's thermo-cautery. Dr. Hennig, of Leipsig, records a case of excision of entire uterus for cancer, with recovery. M. Pean records an extirpation of all that portion of the scapula below the spine, for meduloma, followed by recovery. Mr. Ernest Sheaf extirpated the right submaxillary gland for lympho-sarcoma, and the patient subsequently suffered from persistent salivation.

The discussion at the late Congress of German surgeons on the subject of exsections, was on the whole, favourable to the operation. There, as well as elsewhere, it has come to be recognized that in these operations, partial are less dangerous than total resections, and that the antiseptic system renders the former feasible. Prof. Volkmann, of Halle, has performed excision of the knee-joint twenty-one times with one death; he describes a new mode of operating. Instead of the H or U incision, he cuts straight across the joint and bisects the patella with a saw. After the removal of the diseased structures, he unites the femur and tibia with catgut ligatures, he also joins the two portions of the patella by catgut. Surgeons have not been slow to avail themselves of the information afforded by recent researches in cerebral localizations as bearing upon the point of application of the trephine, and M. Lucas Championniere records a case of immediate recovery from a brachial monoplegia with aphasia, upon the application of the trephine, although he had no external signs of fracture to guide him. Dr. Proust at the *Lariboisiere* created quite a stir by opening an abscess of the brain with the knife, affording temporary relief to the symptoms. Nerve-stretching in neuralgia and also in tetanus has been a good deal practised and with favourable results. Besides cases reported by Callender and others in England, Billroth and Nussbaum in Germany, Paul Vogt records