

an operation naturally found very few followers. The canine fossa is easily reached through the mouth, an incision being made along the gum above the alveolus. A periosteum elevator is used to separate the soft tissues from the bone, which is very thin and easily broken down by a drill or trochar. I prefer to make the opening here large enough to admit my little finger with which I explore the cavity and then use a curet if there is any indication for it. The opening is packed with a strip of sterile gauze which, after a few days, can be managed by the patient himself. Cases treated in this way have invariably done better than those with an opening from an alveolus.

Wherever the opening be made, the local treatment is very important, and on the care with which this is conducted depends the issue of the case. The cavity should be irrigated with a warm antiseptic solution once or twice a day according to the amount of secretion. I have found nothing better than an alkaline solution, to which carbolic acid is added. Bicarbonate of soda, about five grains to the ounce, and carbolic acid, from three to five minims to the ounce, and of such a solution twelve to sixteen ounces should be used for each irrigation. I ordinarily employ a fountain syringe; the tip is introduced into the drainage tube or into the artificial opening, so as to prevent the return of the fluid, which should pass out through the ostium and run freely from the nose, the patient's head being inclined slightly forward. If the secretion of pus does not diminish gradually other application may be made. The dry treatment of Friedlander may be tried. This consists of drying the cavity, after irrigation, by means of a current of air from Politzer's air-bag and then insufflating a powder such as iodoform or boracic acid or stearate of zinc with aristol. Some advise the use of astringent solutions, such as those of sulphate or chloride of zinc or nitrate of silver. It will be better, however, to curet the cavity again than to use solutions which are likely to produce very unpleasant reaction.

Other diseases of the antrum, such as mucoules, cysts, tumours, diphtheria and tuberculosis, belong to general surgery, and I propose to discuss next certain conditions of the frontal sinus.

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*(To be continued.)*