

physiotomy, but we must be ever on our guard to see that the case is one suitable for the operation before attempting it, or it will again fall into disuse.

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## THE SUPPRESSION OF VIVISECTION.

The great discussion which has been going on lately in England regarding physiological experiments on living animals, or, as the opponents of the practice prefer to call it, vivisection, has pretty well died out. For years the physiologists have remained quiet under abuse and misrepresentation, and when at last stirred up to retort, their opponents hold up their hands in holy horror at the plain and forcible language used. The cause of the late discussion was a book called "The Nine Circles," written by Miss Cobbe, a member of the Society for the Total Abolition and Suppression of Vivisection. This book purported to give an authentic account of some twenty-six cases selected to show the cruelty of this mode of investigation. However, there were twenty fundamental misstatements in these twenty-six cases (*Brit Med. Jour.*), and this provoked Mr. Horsley and others to reply in pretty plain Anglo-Saxon. The leaders of the Society, Canon Wilberforce, Bishop Barry and others, would not retract the statements although the falsity of them was proved, and protested against the use of such strong language against "women and clergymen." As an example of their own moderation in this respect, we notice, in the report of one of their meetings, that Canon Wilberforce applies the expression "inhuman devils" to all experimental physiologists. The same meeting formed itself into an admiration society of Mr. Lawson Tait who came forward, *Athanasius contra mundum*, to champion their cause against all comers and to apologise for his profession. Another medical man, Dr. Berdoe, also joins hands with them, but seems to be more anxious to disclaim any responsibility regarding the accuracy of the quotations in the Nine Circles which he reviewed than to carry the war into Africa. The two luminaries of our profession unite with the members of the Society in stating that no great discovery has been made by means of vivisection. Mr.