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## SIMPLE ULCERATION OF THE STOMACH AND DUODENUM.\*

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WHEN asked some time ago to suggest a suitable subject for discussion at this meeting of the Ontario Medical Association, one ventured, after due consideration, to bring forward that of simple ulceration of the stomach and duodenum as a most deserving one, and especially so in view of the recent, rapid advances made in the treatment of this disease.

It was with pleasure that one learned some few weeks ago that our distinguished visitor, Dr. Ochsner of Chicago, was to discuss the surgery of the stomach from the clinician's standpoint, because one felt that the subject one had suggested would receive the attention which it so properly deserved, considering that recent advances in gastric surgery have for their basis, to a very great extent, the encouraging results of treatment of gastric and duodenal ulcers by surgical procedures as carried out by such men as Miculicz, Robson, Moynihan, Mayo, Finney, and by others, including our visitor.

In a review of the more recent literature on this important subject, one is at once impressed by its enormity, and after that by the impossibility of abstracting therefrom the subject matter for a fifteen minutes' paper without passing over a vast amount of important and useful data. One would require months, and even years, to put together in a manner fit for presentation at a meeting of this association the various statistics that one observes on the various phases of the subject in question, and especially so on account of the great variability of such statistics, whether clinical or post-mortem, and coming as they do from various hospitals scattered over Europe and America, in which the number of such patients has been relatively small, and this no doubt on account of the fact that gastric or duodenal ulceration is largely a home disease rather than a frequently occurring one in hospital practice.

One's first intention was to devote most of the allotted time to a consideration of the surgical treatment, but in view of Dr. Ochsner's contri-

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