

rated from the cellular structure in the more external portion of the mastoid.

CASE XVIII.—First seen July 17th, 1879. An exceedingly corpulent woman, 65 years of age ; never had ear disease before the present attack. During the past three months suffered martyrdom, from *neuralgia* in the right ear and right side of head. About a month ago the right ear began to discharge, and has continued to do so up to the present time. For the past three weeks has been unable to sleep at all on account of the pain, which nothing seemed to relieve. I saw the patient in consultation with the family physician, and at his request took charge of the case. There was perforation of the drum in lower posterior quadrant of the tympanic membrane, considerable swelling of meatus, free otorrhœa, mastoid region slightly swollen and tender. Leeching and other remedial measures were actively employed, but afforded only transient benefit. The swelling over mastoid increased, and there was severe constitutional disturbance ; several slight chills occurred. On the 27th, permission was with difficulty obtained to incise behind the ear ; an immensely deep incision was necessary, but a large quantity of pus escaped ; great relief ensued for about three days ; the pain then recurred worse than ever, radiating all over the side and up to the top of the head ; it could only be partly quieted by morphia. The patient refused to allow any further operation and she gradually lapsed into stupor. Whilst in this condition, as a sort of forlorn hope, the mastoid was opened in the usual way ; after cutting through a thick layer of very dense bone, softer tissue was reached, and pus welled out freely from the aperture in the bone. The operation failed to give relief, and the patient died comatose 48 hours afterwards. The autopsy revealed general purulent meningitis, with thromboses and purulent lymph in the lateral and inferior petrosal sinuses.

I quite believe the same operation performed a few days earlier would in all probability have been the means of saving the patient.

CASE XIX.—A gentleman about 30 years of age, of good constitution and uniformly excellent health, came to see me