

THE SURGICAL TREATMENT OF CERTAIN FORMS
OF BRONCHOCELE, WITH REPORTS OF
SIXTEEN CASES.¹

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THE surgical treatment of bronchocele has always excited great interest among surgeons, but it is only since the introduction of antiseptic methods that surgeons have been able to perform operations on tumors of the thyroid with any measure of success.

The continental surgeons, especially those of Switzerland, where disease of the thyroid is so common, have done much to perfect our methods in the surgical treatment, and to such men as Socin, Reverdin, and Kocher much credit is due. My experience in the surgical treatment of bronchocele has been small compared with that of these men, who count their cases by the hundreds; but, although the number of cases operated on by me only reaches sixteen, still, I have learned something, and this is my excuse for inflicting a paper upon you.

The method I have adopted is that of enucleation or "shell-ing out," and the more experience I have the more I am convinced that this is the true method to practise in all cases of encapsulated or cystic tumors of the thyroid, and these are seen infinitely more commonly than the diffuse or angiomatous forms. In fact, nineteen out of twenty cases of diseased thyroid, and perhaps more, can be treated in this way.

This method of operating was adopted first by Juillard, Rott-

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