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METALLIC SUTURES IN FRACTURE OF THE PATELLA, WITH AN IMPROVED METHOD OF INTRODUCING THE SUTURES.

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J. R.—, æt. 34, male. The history of this case showed that in December, 1883, the patient sustained a fracture of the right patella, which was treated for three months in the usual manner. In June, 1884, he stumbled in getting off a waggon in Toronto market, and owing to the muscular strain made in recovering the erect position, a second fracture, or rather a recurrence of the original fracture took place. For this accident I treated him at the Toronto General Hospital, using Langier's splint. The result of the treatment, which lasted three months, was fairly satisfactory, though bony union did not occur. As the sequel will show, a cartilaginous union took place about a quarter of an inch in depth, uniting the anterior parts of the fragments. Previous to the first fracture, he had done farming work, but subsequently he was obliged to confine himself to light work, such as attending to horses and driving. Occasionally, also, he was laid up, owing to strains of the injured part, and was obliged to give up work for several weeks at a time. On one occasion, when climbing down from a hay loft, he slipped, and being unable to use the injured leg freely, he was obliged to throw himself to one side for fear of breaking the patella, and, in falling to the floor, sustained a Colles' fracture of the wrist. In