

fixed upon a straight back splint, and the joint was opened by two lateral incisions, each about one inch in length; through the incisions escaped much synovial fluid mixed with pus and flakes of lymph. A drainage-tube was passed through the joint underneath the patella, and the irrigation apparatus was adjusted precisely as in the case already detailed. Cold water containing a little boracic acid was allowed to run through the joint without intermission night or day for one month. The temperature became normal the day after the operation, and never rose again above 99°. The patient was at once quite easy.

The tube was removed on December 8th, and was replaced by two short tubes for either incision. On December 17th all drains were left off and the splint was removed. There had been no rise of temperature, no suppuration, and no sign of a relapse. The wounds were now (December 17th) quite healed, and passive movement was commenced. The patient left the hospital on January 8th.

In the following month I exhibited the patient at the Harveian Society. His recovery had been complete. The patella was quite moveable, and he could execute a complete range of movements with the right leg; indeed there was no appreciable difference between the right limb and the left, except that the former presented two cicatrices.

The treatment advocated is extremely simple, and would appear to be efficacious. In my previous experience of other methods of treatment I have never seen complete restoration of function to follow an acute suppuration of a large joint.

A SUCCESSFUL CASE OF TOTAL EXTIRPATION OF THE LARYNX.

A case in which the whole of the larynx was extirpated for epithelioma was communicated to the meeting of the Victoria Branch of the British Medical Association, on April 25th, 1888. The patient was a man, aged 62, a native of Germany, residing at St. Kilda, Victoria, who began to lose his voice in the early part of 1887,

when Dr. Cox, of Melbourne, diagnosed a smooth growth below the left vocal cord, but the patient refused treatment. His voice was regained for about four months, but he again became hoarse, and in September he began to suffer from cough, attacks of spasm, and inability to lie down. Laryngoscopic examination on October 1st showed a small ulcer below the left vocal cord, and Dr. W. Garduer, of Adelaide, who happened to be in Melbourne, concurred with Dr. Cox in making the diagnosis of cancer. Dr. Cox then removed with the laryngeal forceps a small portion of the growth, which was examined by Professor Allan, who pronounced it to be epithelioma. On the following day Dr. Gardner, assisted by Drs. Cox and Yorke, removed the whole of the larynx. Next morning the patient almost died of suffocation from blocking of the tracheotomy tube; but Dr. Yorke sucked the tube clear, and restored the patient by performing artificial respiration. After that his progress was uninterrupted. Jelly was taken by the mouth on October 10th; on the next day he was able to get up, and on Christmas Day he was able to go out in the city unattended. The patient attended the meeting of the Branch in excellent health; there were no signs of recurrence of the disease, and he could speak in a whisper intelligible to those around. An artificial larynx of silver was made for him, but he preferred not to use it. The report published in the *Australian Medical Journal*, May, 1888, contains an addendum by Dr. Gardner, giving his reason for preferring total extirpation as a rule. There are (1) diminished probability of recurrence *in situ*; (2) diminished risk of blood and pus passing down the wound into the trachea, this being prevented by the immediate insertion of a rectangular tube into the trachea; (3) greater facility in administering the anæsthetic during the later stage; (4) scepticism as to the results after partial excision turning out eventually to be so much better as is now said; (5) diminished risk of perichondritis. In this particular case the disease was so nearly in the middle line that removal of half the larynx was contra-indicated. Examination after removal showed that all