

less injurious pressure, and being less likely to be kicked off by a restless child.

4th. It is much less likely to occasion excoriation or ulceration of the integuments.

5th. It expedites the cure, giving a better support to the foot, and bringing it more readily into its normal position.—*N. Y. Med. Record.*

CONGENITAL HYPERTROPHY OF THE TONGUE. AMPUTATION.

BY ALFRED BOLTER, M.D., OVID, N.Y.

The subject of this malformation is a girl of a little over three years of age—of large physical development, and of healthy parentage. The unusual size of its tongue was noticed at its birth, and, the mother says, continued to grow with its growth. It materially interfered with the process of suction, but did not wholly prevent it.

My attention was not called to the case until after the period of dentition. The tongue was then protruding from the mouth to the extent of something more than an inch. Its appearance was tumefied, red and glossy, as if inflamed. But I soon discovered that this was not the case. There was no unusual heat, or tenderness, or febrile excitement. It was obviously a case of preternatural growth, or abnormal enlargement, and not one of *disease*, any more than an extra finger or toe would be. I advised nothing to be done except the removal, by the knife, of so much of the organ as prevented the teeth and lips from coming together. After explaining, as fully as possible, to the parents, the nature of the operation—its dangers and probable and possible results, they determined, after long deliberation, that it should be done.

Accordingly, on the 12th of December last I proceeded to the work, assisted by Doctors Post, Morris and Woodward. I should here remark that the child, at this time, was in perfect general health. But its tongue had become a much more unsightly and disgusting deformity. It was constantly dribbling with saliva, and parts of the exposed surface were blackened, dried and shriveled. Fissures traversed those parts, from which flowed considerable quantities of bloody serum. This was, no doubt, very much aggravated by the child frequently picking the surface of the tongue with its fingers. The countenance of the child was, of course, filthy and revolting, despite every parental effort at cleanliness. From the size of the tongue, the orifice of the mouth appeared nearly circular, and to be entirely filled when the features were in repose. The under lip was everted upon the chin, and the lower incisor and canine teeth, covered with tartar, were projected obliquely forward. The