

ful in his exploit that he repeated it ten days before I saw him, on a similar emergency occurring, but on withdrawing the pipe he found that it was shorter by at least two inches than it ought to be. Relying, however, upon the efforts of nature to expel the body, he consulted no one, although he had great pain and irritability of the bladder, which went on increasing until his parents, hearing his groans whilst he was passing urine, made him confess the accident. He was immediately taken to Dr. Riding, who sent him to me.

On introducing a sound, I at once struck the pipe, lying on the right side of the bladder. The urethra was fortunately a capacious one, free from stricture, and not at all sensitive. I sent him home, told him to go to bed, and retain his urine for three hours before my arrival, and on the same afternoon I proceeded to operate. I at first had some hopes of being able to extract the entire portion of pipe by means of a very fine lithotrite, but, either owing to my own awkwardness, or to the abrupt curve of the instrument, I had so much difficulty in introducing it that I changed my tactics, passed in an ordinary sized lithotrite, and, readily catching the foreign body, broke it in two pieces. I then seized one of the halves—the waxed end, as it proved to be, and broke it up. I then washed the bladder well out with warm water, using a catheter with very large eyes, but I got nothing away. At ten p.m. I called on the patient and found that he had passed about half of the waxed end of the pipe, and he was very comfortable. On calling the following morning, to my great astonishment I found that the patient had passed in its entirety the half unbroken portion of pipe, measuring exactly one inch and an eighth, and numerous fragments besides. On placing them all together it was evident that the whole two inches had come away. I washed the bladder well out on that and the following day, removing a quantity of powder and minute fragments of clay; and on the next day but one the patient walked a long distance to my house, free from every symptom.

This case is an interesting addition to the two cases recently published in THE LANCET, where, in the first instance, Mr. Ferguson removed an entire bougie from the bladder by means of a lithotrite, and in the second Mr. Henry Thompson was equally successful in extracting a hair-pin, and, together with them, it goes to prove what may be done with the lithotrite in cases of foreign bodies in the bladder. It is doubtful whether I could have succeeded in extracting two inches of a rigid body from the bladder along the urethral canal with safety had I introduced a proper instrument. However the result of the treatment I adopted, if not so brilliant a *coup de main* as in the cases referred to, was equally satisfactory. There is one reflection which this case suggests in reference to