

I am induced to give this case to the profession through the columns of *The Lancet* sooner than I at first intended, so that my brother practitioners may give it their earliest consideration, as I am convinced that, when compared with Syme's operation or amputation through the leg, it will be found to be incomparably superior, as Syme's is much more difficult to perform and has the further disadvantage of the liability to the formation of a bag of matter in the cavity of the heel. It has been objected to Pirogoff (*Holmes' System of Surgery*, vol. ii., page 85), "that it tends to direct towards the ground the thin skin of the back of the heel instead of the thick cushion of the sole, while the increased length of the stump is rather objectionable than otherwise," to which I need only reply that in both of Thibault's stumps the thick cushion of the heel is opposed to the ground and in another case where I performed Pirogoff on a young woman at Seaforth over a year ago, the same result was obtained, as it always may be, by sawing the os calcis through rather obliquely from above downwards and forwards.

With regard to the second part of the objection, where both feet have to be removed, there need be no trouble, and if only one is amputated, the limb may be made quite short enough either by leaving less of the os calcis, or removing more of the tibia.

When the patient returns for his artificial feet, I will notify you of his condition.

PUERPERAL CONVULSIONS.

BY A. MCKINNON, M.D., CALEDON, ONT.

On the 3rd April last, I was called to see Mrs. McC——, whom I found in a convulsion. It speedily passed off, leaving her perfectly conscious, but easily agitated. The pulsations numbered about 92. Of her previous history, it may be briefly stated that she had been delivered, about eight hours before the convulsions occurred, of her third child. The labour was easy and very rapid. The placenta was expelled soon afterwards. The loss of blood was very slight. Her previous labours were also rapid and natural. The pelvis is of medium size and well formed. Her health during the period of gestation was good. She is thirty-four years of age.