

ably. That it was the only effectual way for the complete removal of the tumor in order to secure it from a return.

OPERATION.—The bowels having been moved by a saline draught administered the previous evening, the patient was seated in a chair, and the posterior part of the roof of the mouth divided through the soft parts corresponding with the articulation of the horizontal portion of the palate, with the palatine process of the superior maxilla. Chloroform was then administered, so as to put the patient partially under its influence, and a triangular incision made from the mouth to the malar bone, and the cheek reflected upwards, by dissecting it from the tumor, and the bone removed in the usual way by dividing alternately its articulations with the malar,—and with each other at their palatine processes,—and removing the bone from its articulation with the palate. The horizontal, with part of the perpendicular portion of the latter were successfully preserved. The amount of hemorrhage which followed its removal was far less than I had anticipated, the carotid having neither ligature nor compression, yet not more than a pint of blood escaped during the whole operation. This was particularly fortunate, as I was obliged to perform the operation without medical assistance, an event not at all uncommon in practising amongst the rural inhabitants of Upper Canada. It might perhaps be accounted for by the diminished calibre of the vessels from the age of the patient, or more probably their complete obliteration by pressure in their passage through the various foramina. The cavity was then filled with a sponge moistened in a weak solution of sulphate of copper, and the cheek closed by a series of figure of eight sutures.

With the exceptions of some hemorrhage which occurred on the third day in consequence of the sponge getting detached, the patient progressed rapidly. Suppuration took place on the fifth day, the wound in the cheek united by first intention, and he was taken home by his parents on the ninth day after the operation.

Upon a section of the tumor it appeared to be a dense homogeneous mass, resembling in colour and consistence the tubular structure of the kidney, filled with numerous spicula of bone, no traces of malignancy could be discovered. I have seen the lad several times since he has completely recovered, the cavity has partly filled up with healthy granulations and cicatrized, and on the whole but little deformity is perceptible. I send you the above without comment, as adding another to the successful operations of this character.

September 20, 1855.