

tised for the relief of the pain and inconvenience of a floating kidney; the substitution of nephrorrhaphy for nephrectomy in these cases is a decided advance, for the former operation is a much safer as well as a more scientific one.

In the *surgery of the bladder* progress has also been made, though not to the same extent as in that of other abdominal organs. Tumors of the bladder are now successfully removed, and Guyon of Paris and Thompson of London have done excellent work in this direction. The introduction of the electro-endoscope has much facilitated diagnosis. The old supra-pubic operation is now the fashionable one for the removal of stone from the bladder, and it is being practised largely everywhere. The operation has been much improved by the introduction of Petersen's rectal bags and the practice of moderately distending the bladder before operation with an antiseptic solution. The operation is suitable for cases of large and hard stones, and for the removal of tumors and foreign bodies, but it will no more supplant the old operation of lateral lithotomy than did lithotripsy. In some cases of stone in the bladder, Mr. Reginald Harrison\* of Liverpool justly remarks, "it is necessary to do something more than merely remove the stone. In cases of cystitis with enlarged prostate where stone has formed, removal of the stone is necessary, but it is also necessary to prevent further formation by getting the bladder into better condition." The bladder, says Mr. Harrison, is like a chronic abscess with a stone in it, and it is quite as necessary to drain the one as the other. These cases are unfit either for supra-pubic lithotomy or lithotripsy; but the lateral operation provides an excellent means not only for the removal of the stone but of after-drainage of the bladder. Ruptured bladders have recently been *successfully treated by abdominal section* and suture of the bladder rent. An early diagnosis is, of course, important in these cases.

I fear I have already exceeded my allotted time, and although many other subjects of intense interest to the surgeon might be touched upon, yet I feel constrained, for the remainder of my address, to confine myself to giving a short account of the re-

\* Lettsomian Lectures, 1888.