

# THE SUBCUTANEOUS INJECTION OF PARAFFIN WAX IN CORRECTING DEFORMITIES OF THE NOSE.\*

BY

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To Gersuny<sup>1</sup> of Vienna is due the credit of introducing this method of treatment. He has used it with success not only in cases of nasal deformity, but for other defects in various parts of the body, *e.g.*, after removal of the maxillæ, to obliterate a hernial orifice, and after castration. His first cases of paraffin prosthesis of the nose were reported in 1900, in one of them two years had elapsed since treatment without impairment of the improved shape of the nose or softening of the paraffin, another had gone through typhoid fever without any ill result. Frey of Vienna has used this method to correct congenital defects of the pinna, Haskins<sup>2</sup> to fill in the cavity left after mastoid operations, Rhomer<sup>3</sup> and Dianoux<sup>4</sup> after enucleation, to improve the shape of the socket for an artificial eye, Pfannensteil<sup>5</sup>, Gersuny<sup>1</sup>, Klapsamer<sup>6</sup> and others for incontinence of urine, and Halban<sup>7</sup> for prolapse of the uterus.

It is however within the past year that attention has been drawn especially to the suitability of this treatment for correcting deformities of the nose, particularly for filling up depressions of the dorsum following syphilitic, lupoid and tuberculous destruction of the septum, and for flattening of the nose the result of traumatism. On the 21st of October last, Hamilton<sup>8</sup> of Australia, reported five cases of saddle-back nose treated by paraffin prosthesis, he being, I believe, the first writer in English to record cases treated by this method. Heath<sup>9</sup> of Chicago soon after reported a similar case in which he had obtained a very satisfactory result. Since then Scanes Spicer<sup>10</sup>, Walker-Downie<sup>11</sup>, Parker<sup>12</sup>, Harmond Smith<sup>2</sup>, Baratoux<sup>13</sup>, and Delie<sup>14</sup> have reported cases of this type, and previous to Hamilton and, since Gersuny, Stein<sup>15</sup>, Moszkowicz<sup>16</sup>, and other surgeons in Europe have obtained good results.

Lake<sup>17</sup> of London has used the injection of paraffin wax to form artificial inferior turbinals in a case of long standing atrophic rhinitis, and claims that the result was most satisfactory after various other methods of treatment had failed.

What happens to the injected mass in the tissues? It is probable that the paraffin becomes encapsuled and Gersuny claims it remains so

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