

A TERRIBLE SURGICAL OPERATION.

A FATAL MISTAKE.

THE *Cleveland* (Ohio, U.S.A.) *Press*, of February 23rd, 1883, publishes an account of a fatal surgical operation which has caused a great commotion among medical men throughout the whole country. Dr. Thayer, the most eminent surgeon in Cleveland, pronouncing it scandalous. It appears that a Mrs. King had been suffering for many years from some disease of the stomach, which had resisted the treatment of all the physicians in attendance. The disease commenced with a slight derangement of the digestion, with a poor appetite, followed by a peculiar indescribable distress in the stomach, a feeling that has been described as a faint "all gone" sensation, a sticky slime collecting about the teeth, causing a disagreeable taste, especially in the morning. This sensation was not removed by food, but, on the contrary, it was increased. The eyes then became tinged with yellow, and were sunken. After a while the hands and feet became cold and sticky—a cold perspiration. There was a constant tired and languid feeling. Then followed a dreadful nervousness, with gloomy forebodings. When rising suddenly, there came a dizzy feeling, like vertigo. After a time the bowels became costive, so that it was difficult to procure a movement without a cathartic. Soon followed a disposition to spit up the food after eating, sometimes in a sour fermented condition. All this derangement caused a terrible palpitation of the heart, so as to make the breathing difficult. Finally the patient was unable to retain any food whatever, and there was constant pain in the abdomen. All prescribed remedies failing to give relief, a consulta-

tion was held, when it was decided that the patient had a cancer in the stomach, and in order to save the patient's life an operation was justifiable. Accordingly, on the 22nd of February, 1883, the operation was performed by Dr. Vance in the presence of Dr. Tuckerman, Dr. Perrier, Dr. Arms, Dr. Gordon, Dr. Capner, and Dr. Halliwell of the Police Board. The operation consisted in laying open the cavity of the abdomen and exposing the stomach, bowels, liver, and pancreas. When this had been done an examination of the organs was made, but to the horror and dismay of the doctors there was no cancer to be found. The patient did not have a cancer. When too late the medical men discovered that they had made a terrible mistake; but they sewed the parts together, and dressed the wound that they had made, but the poor woman sank from exhaustion and died in a few hours. How sad it must be for the husband of this poor woman to know that his wife died from the effects of a surgical operation that ought never to have been performed. If this woman had taken the proper remedy for Dyspepsia (for this was what the disease really was), she would have been living to-day. SEIGEL'S CURATIVE SYRUP, a remedy made expressly for Dyspepsia or Indigestion, has restored many such cases to perfect health after all other kinds of treatment have failed. The evidence of its efficacy in curing this class of cases is too voluminous to be published here; but those who read the published evidence in favour of this dyspeptic remedy do not question its convincing nature, and the article has an extensive sale.

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