

ART. XV.—*Apparatus for making Extension in Fractures of the Lower Extremity of the Radius.* By PROF. BEAUMONT, F. R.C.S., Eng., &c. &c. &c.

Having introduced into the practice of the Toronto Hospital an apparatus for making extension in fractures of the lower extremity of radius, and finding its success commensurate with my expectations of its usefulness, I was induced to publish an account of it. I have now the pleasure of adding Dr. Warren's opinion of its value :—

*Dec. 8.—Fracture of the Lower End of the Radius, with other Fractures—Description of Professor Beaumont's Apparatus, &c.*—Dr. J. M. WARREN presented the specimen, which was quite interesting from the fact of the opportunities being rare for observing this fracture in a recent state.

The patient was a man thirty years old, and was brought into the Hospital, having fallen a distance of forty feet through a scuttle to the floor. The following is the Hospital Report :—

"There is now, at six P. M., fracture of the right radius, apparently just above the joint. There is great deformity, simulating dislocation of the wrist backwards. Crepitus distinct.

"The right leg is shortened, by measurement, one and a quarter inches. It is everted, with edge of foot lying flat upon the table. There is distinct crepitus at or near the cervix femoris. When pressing the two iliac crests, they yield sensibly, and give a *feeling* of indistinct crepitus." The patient died at ten P. M.

The pathological appearances of the parts exhibited were as follows: The right radius was fractured transversely half an inch above the joint, with a comminuted fracture extending into the joint. The internal lateral ligament was torn away from its attachments to the ulna, carrying a bit of the bone with it.

The right femur was the seat of a comminuted fracture through the trochanter, and a longitudinal fracture of the shaft of the bone extended from its cervix downwards for four inches. Neither of these fractures communicated with the capsular ligament.

The right sacro-iliac synchondrosis was torn asunder, and the bones forming it, fractured. The ramus of the ischium and pubis was fractured. The lower half of the sacrum and os coccygis were comminuted.

In connection with the specimen of fracture of the lower extremity of the radius, Dr. W. made some remarks on the interesting nature of this accident to surgeons, from the liability to deformity so likely to occur in spite of the best-directed treatment. The various apparatus invented by so many distinguished surgeons, with the object of preventing this deformity, show