

is done in Chopart's amputation, and the fulcrum is directly under the weight. The lever is destroyed, and no amount of power applied to the os calcis will suffice to raise the weight. The foot no longer being a lever, it would be better to have the leg a little shorter than the other. But in the case of Chopart's amputation, it is actually longer, on account of the tilting forward and downward of the stump, and serves to increase the inconveniences of the operation. We sincerely hope that surgeons will realise the inferiority of this amputation, in comparison with the other amputations of the foot and that it will soon be abandoned.—*Cal. Med. Gazette.*

LOCAL ETHERIZATION FOR REDUCING STRANGULATED HERNIA.—Among the applications of local anaesthesia is that of reducing strangulated hernia. Bouchardat in his Annual Abstract of Therapeutics for 1867, quotes from the *British Medical Journal*, the following case:

"A man, aged 35, affected for two years with a left inguinal hernia, and having never worn a support, had suffered for 36 hours with a strangulation produced by a violent effort. The tumor was painful, and there were continuous eructations with vomiting. Mr. Wallace applied the taxis; and Mr. Barclay, in turn, renewed these efforts, but without success, although opium and calomel had been administered."

Before operating, Mr. Barclay suggested the use of Richardson's ether-spray instrument.

He directed the jet on the tumor, and at the expiration of forty seconds the skin became blanched, when the instrument was suspended. Upon reapplying the taxis the hernia was immediately reduced as if by magic.

TREATMENT OF INTRA-UTERINE POLYPI.—Dr. George H. Kidd observes that we are indebted to Sir James Simpson's application of sponge-tents for the dilatation of the uterus for being able to detect or treat intra-uterine polypi; but sponge-tents, it is shown, are liable to many objections. They become very fetid when they have been a few hours in the uterus; they require prolonged and repeated applications before they open up the canal of the cervix to allow of a complete exploration of the uterus; and they dilate the os externum to an unnecessary degree before they act on the os internum; and their use may give rise to so much irritation as to be attended with fatal consequences. Instead of sponge, Dr. Kidd recommends the use of scantangle, with pieces of which, sufficiently long to traverse the whole cavity of the uterus, and about the size of a No. 5 or 6 bougie, he fills the canal of the cervix as completely as it can be done without using force or causing pain. If the os should be abnormally small, it might be necessary to introduce a single tent for a few hours, as a preparation for more full dilatation; but in general the parts are so relaxed by the hemorrhage from the polypi, that five or six or more pieces can be introduced at the first attempt; and this is found sufficient to permit of a full exploration of the uterus, and the removal of any polypi found in it. For extracting the polypi, the use of a single wire *écraseur* is found the most certain and simple method. The tumor

is seized in a volsellum, guided to it by the finger on the uterus; and then the loop of the *écraseur* is guided to it by the volsellum, and adapted round its neck by the finger, when tightening the screw divides the attachment of the tumour, allowing it to be extracted along with the volsellum by which it had been seized. Dr. Kidd stated that he had operated in this way on very many cases during the last three years, and had always found it safe and efficacious; and he concluded by exhibiting twenty-nine fibrous polypi that he had removed in this way from the interior of the cavity of the body of the uterus of an unmarried woman aged 56, at four operations; three being removed in the first operation, in September, 1867; nine in the second, in March, 1868; eleven in the third, in May; and six in the following July, when the interior of the uterus was freely painted over with strong nitric acid, with the hopes of preventing their further growth; and, for so far, with good effect. The tumors were found, on microscopical examination, to be simply fibrous, different in this respect from the recurrent fibroid tumors described by West and others; and Dr. Kidd stated that he believed the case to be unique in the annals of medicine.—*Proceedings of Brit. Med. Ass., in Brit. Med. Jour., Aug. 8, 1868.*

In the report of the Transactions of the New York Obstetrical Society, published in the *American Journal of Obstetrics*, we find the following:

NEURALGIA OF TOES FROM ULCERATION OF OS UTERI.—Dr. Ois mentioned the case of a patient who suffered from a neuralgia of the two toes next to the great toe, apparently due to ulceration of the os uteri. She had suffered in one foot or the other for more than a year, and obtained complete relief on the healing of the ulcer, after application of nitrate of silver.

Dr. Emmet had seen a case in which one joint of one of the fingers of the left hand was always affected painfully by uterine disease.

Dr. Peaslee remembered having treated a patient in the State of Maine, who had ulceration of the womb, and in whom applications made to the ulcer always produced pain in the two toes of the left foot, next to the great toe. He had also treated another patient from Brooklyn, who was relieved of a continuous neuralgia of the left foot, on curing an affection of the womb.

Dr. Chamberlain recited a similar case.

Dr. Noeggerath had known a vascular polypus at the orifice of the urethra to cause pain in the ball of the foot, and sometimes in the instep.

Dr. Jacobi related the case of a lady, who always had neuralgia when pregnant, and could diagnose her condition from this circumstance. The seat of the pain was a neuromatous swelling of the cutaneous nerve, on the anterior aspect of the thigh, near the point where the artery, vein and nerve emerge from beneath the sartorius muscle.

IODIDE OF LEAD IN ECZEMA.—Iodide of lead is a remedy of great value in eczema. It should be applied in the form of an ointment, 12 grains to the ounce, with 1 ounce of glycerine, and 40 minims of chloroform, to relieve the itching. Another formula is the following:—Iodide of lead, 20 grains;