

of surgery, and I see with pleasure the valuable contributions made in this direction, especially by Messrs. Gutteridge, Pemberton, Baker, Pracey, Bartlett, Elkington, Freer, and Jackson, which add largely in my estimation to the value of your museum display.

Most of these specimens were exhibited years ago at the Royal College of Surgeons, London, when I lectured on the subjects of lithotomy and lithotripsy, but the time for their display was so evanescent, that they attracted little attention, although at that date there was not a specimen of crushed stone by lithotripsy in the Museum. A feeling seems to prevail that there is no interest in a stone broken into fragments by the lithotrite, but if it has been cut into two by a saw, after its removal from the bladder, the cut surface is eagerly looked at. No doubt the interest here has reference to the chemical composition of stone, and possibly the nucleus, although the section does not invariably make that clear. In my estimation, the fragments in lithotripsy possess an interest equal, if not greater, in every respect to the cut or entire specimens. The chemical composition of a stone can be as readily made out from fragments as from sections; so also, as regards the nucleus; and, indeed, from these fragments we can often acquire a knowledge of a patient's constitution, as regards the tendency to the formation of stone, which we cannot in any other way. We can see how in some the fragments will lie in the bladder, without change of surface much longer than in others. In one case we can recognize for days, even weeks, the fragments of an uric acid stone with edges defined and surface the same as when first broken; in another, we perceive how readily and rapidly new stone deposit occurs—generally phosphatic. Then, too, we can speedily appreciate the danger of neglect or carelessness after lithotripsy is once begun, for, in place of probably only one stone being present, there may, indeed there will, soon be many stones, for each fragment becomes a nucleus for fresh deposit, and this hastens on with greatly increased rapidity. Even the nucleus, always a centre of interest, may be as appreciable in the fragments from lithotripsy as when displayed by the saw. It has happened to me in a case of crushing, in a female, to be struck with the appearance of redness in many of the fragments; and, on investigation of the mystery has been revealed on confession, that the patient had been in the habit of tickling herself with a stick of red sealing-wax, a portion of which