

has already been before the profession for more than ten years, and has been, in fact, almost universally adopted by surgeons. In the present paper he contrasts this operation with removal of the tongue by the *écraseur* much to the detriment of the latter method. He holds that partial extirpation of the tongue is a wrong procedure, and advocates total extirpation in every case. He says that the patient can eat and speak better when the whole tongue is taken away than when a portion only has been removed, and that as no surgeon can define the ultimate limits of the disease when dealing with a cancerous growth, it is better to err on the right side and remove plenty. If the lymphatic glands are affected as well as the tongue, they may be removed at the same time as the tongue, or, what he considers a still better procedure, at a later period, as soon as the patient has recovered from the first operation. In removing the tongue through the wound he uses Mason's gag. In not one of his ninety-one cases has he been troubled with hemorrhage. The arteries are easily secured either before or after cutting them. He uses torsion entirely, and has abandoned ligatures. Since he has adopted torsion he has never had a case of secondary hemorrhage. After operation he made use of an antiseptic varnish to cover the wound, after having washed the wound thoroughly with perchloride of mercury solution. The varnish used consists of the ordinary constituents of Friar's balsam (Tinct. Benz. Co.), substituting a saturated solution of iodoform in ether for the rectified spirit. This dries immediately and leaves a firm coating on the wound which lasts for twenty-four hours. He prefers this to the sticky gauze of Billroth. When the varnish is used the patient can take food by the mouth the day after operation. After removal of the tongue Mr. Whitehead never encourages the patients to consider themselves invalids, in fact the less they adopt the recumbent position the better. Open air exercise (weather permitting) should be taken on the second day after operation, as it helps to promote rapid convalescence. Many of his cases of excision are alive after two, three, four and five years; one old lady whose tongue he removed in 1872 died from other causes in 1886. He looks