

years afterwards, Mr. Wardrop published a small treatise on aneurism which was almost altogether confined to the cure of the innominatal variety, by the ligature of the subclavian or carotid arteries. In this *brochure*, six cases were described, two of operation upon the former, and four upon the latter vessel, and in reference to them the author observed, "I consider the operation of tying one or both of the branches of that vessel (innominata,) on the distal side of the tumor, likely to become an operation of great utility, and in an especial manner applicable." The views of their immediate successors, as seen by the light of the original writers, display a party tendency. Mr. B. Phillips, in 1831, doubted whether the operation had ever been successfully performed; and M. Tarral, in 1834, with more truth on his side, declared, in direct contradiction, that the operation had been "completely successful," and was "indisputably established." Subsequently more modified expressions were ventured, and the profession, generally, became chary in their encomiums. The animus thus manifested grew with time, so that at the present day Pirrie's conclusion may be received as a correct reflection of popular estimation, that "certainly this mode of treatment has not gained the favorable opinion of the profession." The reasons for this might readily be shown, but these, with further general considerations, would be too obtrusive in a communication intended to consider the question of operation, *solely*, as it relates to aneurism of the innominata, treated by ligature of the right common carotid artery.

This question may be profitably examined from points of view different to those customarily adopted; from views that will enable us to ascertain whether in cases of failure the result be due to inadequacy of the operation to accomplish the purposes for which it was performed—or to dangers incurred by the ligature, independantly of the cause necessitating its application—or to the prejudicial influence of other circumstances co-existent with the aneurism. And thus we may, secondarily, determine whether the operation can be justifiably resorted to in any case, or whether it should be wholly proscribed from future repetition.

Hitherto there have only been recorded, in English periodicals, 10 cases of aneurism of the innominata, treated by ligature of the right common carotid. In accordance with the objects above expressed these may be arranged under 3 classes. 1stly. Cases in which the operation was successful, and the patient survived three months or longer. 2ndly: Cases in which the operation was successful, but death ensued within three months after. 3rdly. Cases in which the operation was unsuccessful. In these distinctions the word *successful* is used in reference to the alterations produced by the ligature upon the aneurism—to the obliteration of its cavity by contained fibrin, and the arrest of circulation from

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