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## Original Communications.

### RECENT ELECTRO-THERAPEUSIS OF GOITRE, WITH IMPROVEMENTS IN APPARATUS.

By DR. CHARLES R. DICKSON, Toronto,  
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[Abstract of paper read before annual meeting of American Electro-Therapeutic Association, in New York, September, 1894.]

About five years ago I formed the opinion, that for the treatment of goitre we had at our disposal an agent which, properly and rationally employed by competent operators, should prove safer, more efficacious and acceptable than any other in a majority of the various forms of this trouble. Electricity had been on trial with very varying results, but it seemed to me that the discrepancies were attributable to the apparatus employed or to the operator, and that we did not fully appreciate its value.

The literature on the subject was conflicting, misleading and most disappointing. Electricity was discredited, and other methods advocated fraught with gravest menace to the patient's future health, usefulness and happiness, in the event of recovery, from the immediate results of the procedures, and recent literature shows little improvement.

Here, surely, was a promising field for research, and I determined upon a careful investigation.

The immediate vicinity of Toronto is not goitrous, yet as a recognized medical and surgical centre it draws many cases from an extensive territory around, and in the great majority of these cases the best known therapeutic measures adopted by the general profession have already been resorted to. My connection with Toronto hospitals places me in a most favorable situation with regard to the supply and character of this clinical material, and a number of our prominent practitioners have very kindly referred to me their private as well as their hospital patients, thus