

effort. A year ago Dr. MacDonnell was consulted. The joint was then in nearly the same condition it had been in for eight years, except that the patella was more thrown to the outside of the articulation. On examination he found the joint in such a condition as to lead him to hold out hopes of improvement from mechanical treatment. He advised Scott's plan to be discontinued, and an instrument, for which he gave the design, to be adjusted, and gradual extension by means of it, to be kept up. *In six weeks from the time Dr. MacDonnell saw this patient, the leg was completely straightened, and she could put the foot to the ground and walk about with scarcely a perceptible halt.* Three months after, she could go to a daily school, and now can walk a distance of two or three miles without the slightest fatigue. Indeed, she has suffered no inconvenience from the treatment whatever; and so little annoyance has the wearing of the instrument caused, that she keeps it applied at night as well as by day. She is now tall and well proportioned, and the halt is scarcely noticeable."

This young lady passes my house every morning on her way to school. Need I say that I take more pleasure in seeing her walk upon a useful limb, which has been rescued from the catlin, than I could have derived from the performance of the most difficult operation in Surgery.

CASE VI.—*Anchylosis of Right Knee-Joint in the straight position.—Forcible Flexion; Cure.*

A strong, muscular young man, came to consult me from the United States, June 16, 1853. Two years before he had fallen upon a scythe, and inflicted a wound through the lower third of the patella into the cavity of the right knee-joint. He was treated very actively for the arthritis that ensued, and after much trouble his medical attendant succeeded in saving the limb, and restoring him to health; but he was not able to follow his usual occupation, viz., that of farming, in consequence of the fixed condition of the leg in a perfectly straight position. I advised him to enter the private wards of St. Patrick's Hospital, and having carefully examined the joint, I found that a little motion could be communicated to the leg, which day by day was increased until the limb could be made to describe an arc of about fifteen degrees. Having practised this gradual flexion for some days, the limb was completely flexed in the following manner:—The patient was placed upon a table, beyond the edge of which the leg extended; and chloroform having been administered, and the thigh held down firmly, gradual flexion was made, until the leg was bent to a much greater extent than on any previous occasion. During these manœuvres, as on the previous occasions,