

XIV.—*Removal of the Superior Maxilla Bone.* By A. RUTIAN, M. D.,
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J. Woodcock, brought his son to me, a lad aged 13 years, in March last, with a large tumour in the superior maxilla, which occupied the whole of the right antrum, and projected about two and a half inches out of the mouth. The history of the case was to the effect, that about three years previously, the tumor made its appearance in the socket of the canine teeth, "having the resemblance of a new tooth," and that its growth had continued uninterruptedly to the present period. That he had suffered during its progress no pain in it whatever, and had enjoyed from early infancy remarkably good health.

The seat of the morbid growth as it then presented itself was evidently within the antrum, and the thin plate of bone which was pushed before it, as it escaped from that cavity formed part of its covering superiorly. Upon further examination I found that the tumor had so far enlarged as to press outwards the malar bone to a considerable extent, and had also protruded into the cavity of the nares. That the palatine and alveolar process had also yielded to pressure, so as partly to fill the mouth, and interfere with the process of mastication. The teeth were loose and distorted, and some of them had dropped out spontaneously. The eye ball was projected outwards and in an amaurotic condition, vision having disappeared about three months previously. Ulceration upon the most projected portion of the tumor had existed for several months, and furnished a continued discharge somewhat fetid at times; but there were no excrescences characterizing fungus hematodes. The ulcer was level with its margin, and thinly coated with lymph, exhibiting a marked inclination to heal in many places. The neighbouring soft parts though tinged and purple from enlarged veins, were not implicated in the morbid growth, the tumor being distinctly lobular, hard and elastic, and no portions of it presented any indications of suppuration. The maxilla itself appeared quite loose in its articulation with the neighbouring bones, and would move perceptibly when the tumor was handled roughly.

The circumstances which rendered it both advisable and necessary to remove the whole of the maxilla were,

1st. That the tumor had directly implicated in its growth many of the most important parts of the bone.

2dly. That the remainder of it was so deformed or destroyed by pressure, that it would be useless to the patient if its preservation should prove possible.