

CANADA MEDICAL JOURNAL.

VOL. I.

MONTREAL : JANUARY, 1853.

No 11.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ART. LVI.—*False Aneurism of the Femoral Artery, the sequence of Abscess—cured by ligature upon the External Iliac.* By S. S. STRATFORD, M.R.C.S.L., Toronto.

In the Spring of 1845, I was called by Dr. Corbin to see a son of Mr. Leek, a wealthy farmer residing in the township of Oxford East, C. W. The boy was about 15 years of age, and was affected with a very large abscess in the right thigh; the whole thigh was greatly swollen, especially its anterior and internal portions, which swelling extended from the groin to the ham. The skin was red, shining, and pitted upon pressure, while an examination distinctly indicated a fluctuation. It had been progressing for a month or six weeks, notwithstanding the means used to arrest it, and now distinctly presented all the indications of a very large and extensive abscess.

I had been called to consult as to the propriety of opening the abscess, and immediately decided as to its absolute necessity; accordingly I made an opening in a dependent position upon the inside of the thigh, about its centre—good healthy looking pus freely escaped, amounting to about a pint—not a drop of blood was lost, and to ascertain the extent of the abscess, I introduced a large probe, upwards, as high as the groin, and downwards nearly to the ham; a tent was introduced into the opening, and a bandage applied around the limb. Upon calling about a week afterwards, I found that the matter which had collected from time to time had been regularly evacuated, and was now but small in quantity: the general swelling of the limb was greatly diminished, and only a thickening remained, which I expected would gradually be absorbed, and the patient would get well.