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ORIGINAL ARTICLES.

(No paper published or to be published elsewhere as original, will be accepted in this department.)

LATERAL CURVATURE OF THE SPINE—TREATMENT BY NON-RESTRICTIVE AND DEVELOPMENTAL METHODS.

BY B. E. M'KENZIE, B.A., M.D.

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Within the last decade the treatment of roto-lateral curvature of the spine has received much attention, and the opinions and practice of those who to-day give this subject much consideration, differ greatly from those of the surgeons of only a few years ago.

Bernard Roth urged the matter upon the attention of the Clinical Society of London, and claimed such superiority in the results obtained by the Ling system of gymnastics over those obtained by the ordinary methods of treatment by braces, that a committee of investigation was appointed to inquire into the merits of the different plans.

Up till about 1887 little had been done for these cases in the United States, except to apply some form of brace. With the remarkable development, however, of physical education in that country, has come a special application of its principles to the treatment of various deformities.

Though spinal curvatures, varying in form and degree, may occasionally be found in persons who are muscular, have strong bones and enjoy good health, yet it is generally in those who are weakly, who have small, flabby muscles and poorly-developed chests that lateral curvature exists.