

was much prostrated and very weak, the circulation, as shown by the pulse at the wrist, was very feeble, he was, moreover, incoherent in his manner and speech; and in these circumstances, when brought into the theatre for operation, chloroform could not be administered. Mr. Erichsen had previously tried the taxis when the patient was in the ward, but ineffectually, and from the low state of the patient, he could not employ any of the ordinary means, such as tartar emetic, the warm bath, &c., to assist in the reduction. From the nature of the tumour also, in its feeling very soft, without much pain, the presence of hiccup and stercoraceous vomiting, he did not augur very favorably as to the result of the operation, as he suspected the bowel might be in a gangrenous condition. The operation was performed in the usual manner, and the sac was opened, from which protruded a dark claret portion of small intestine, together with omentum to the size of the fist; the stricture was divided, and as the bowel appeared to be otherwise intact, it was carefully returned, the omentum, however, was only partially replaced, as a portion of it was adherent to the cord, the testicle and the tunica vaginalis, it was, however, quite healthy; a few stitches were put into the lips of the wound, and a figure of eight bandage applied. In his remarks upon the case, Mr. Erichsen mentioned that the portion of omentum which remained in the inguinal canal would act the part of a plug, and thus, in the event of recovery, permanently cure the hernia; he, however, thought the prognosis serious, from the age of the man, together with the amount of prostration present. The hernia, he observed, was neither at the internal nor external ring, but had been protruded between the two, through the conjoined tendon, thus forming a direct inguinal hernia; the structures divided were exceedingly thin, and in dividing them in succession he very speedily came to the sac, this might be owing in some measure to his having long worn a truss. As expected, death occurred on 12th, when at the autopsy, a large portion of small intestine was found in the left iliac fossa, of a dark slate color, in a gangrenous condition and agglutinated together from inflammation.

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*Pd. Ferri Comp. P.L.*—This preparation, consisting of pulv. myrrhæ, sulph ferri, carb. soda and syrup, is often prescribed by itself, and in combination with other pill mass. Owing to the decomposition which takes place between the salts of which it is composed; it is one of the most intractable and inconvenient preparations of the pharmacopœia. If prepared for the occasion, as it ought always to be, a perfect decomposition of the salts often does not take place till after the pills are formed either increasing them to a large size or reducing them to powder. If the mass is kept by the apothecary for any length of time, it becomes hard and changed in character, possessing no advantage over the common carb. ferri. The following will be found a good substitute without any of the objections which apply to pill ferri co.,—R Gum myrrh pulv. ʒi.; Sac. carb. ferri, ʒij.; confect. rosar. ʒi.; ol caryoph. gtt. ii., m ft. massam. In pillule dividenda, No. xlviii.—S. J. L.