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EXTENSIVE WOUND OF THE KNEE JOINT, WITH DIVISION OF  
THE PATELLA, AND EXCISION OF A PORTION OF THE INNER  
CONDYLE OF THE FEMUR; AND PERFECT RECOVERY.

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TO THE EDITORS OF THE MONTREAL MEDICAL GAZETTE.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to transmit to you an account of a very serious and somewhat novel injury of the knee joint, which perhaps you may deem not unworthy of insertion in your valuable Journal.

J. M., a boy of good constitution, aged eleven years, on the 7th April, 1843, while sitting astride on a low billet of wood, with his knees much bent, received a blow from an axe on the left knee from below upward; the axe first took effect on the lower extremity of the Patella, which it completely *split*, dividing it into an anterior and posterior portion, the inner edge of the instrument next came in contact with the inner condyle of the femur, from which it all but severed a portion of its articulating cartilaginous extremity. I was fortunate enough to see the case a very few minutes after the accident occurred. The limb was extended, and presented a large flap-shaped gaping wound over the knee joint; attached to, and drawn upwards with the upper portion, could be distinctly perceived the anterior section of the Patella, in the centre of the wound the articulating surfaces of the femur and tibia were felt; at the lower part, the remaining or posterior section of the Patella was found *in situ*, being retained by its ligament; while protruding from the inner angle of the wound, and attached only by a