

eight o'clock. Symptoms much the same, difficulty of breathing very great. It was agreed that the tumefied parts should be freely scarified; this was done and the parts bled freely. Large bran poultices to be applied to the throat—difficulty in deglutition so great that he could not take medicine.

24th, 9, A.M. Saw him in consultation; rather better; tumefaction much the same; difficulty of breathing rather less; could articulate, but not distinctly. To have solut. arg. nit. (20 grs. to the ounce) applied to the tumefied parts, and small doses of hydr. chlor. pulv. ant. and opium every three hours.

Saw him alone about 7, P.M., when I found all the symptoms very much aggravated; the difficulty in respiration had increased to such a degree that danger of suffocation was imminent; head very much thrown back; great action of the muscles of respiration, but very little air entered the lungs; slight coma, but could be roused; physical signs of engorgement of the lungs. It was evident that without surgical interference the boy could not live many hours; and I at once made up my mind to open the trachea, should it meet with the approbation of Dr. Sewell, who was immediately sent for. On seeing the patient, Dr. S. was of opinion that nothing less could save life. The patient was placed upon a bed with pillows to elevate the shoulders, the head was thrown back, and an incision made exposing the rings of the trachea below the isthmus of the thyroid gland; two of the rings were then divided, but this not proving sufficiently large to admit the tracheal tube, another ring was subsequently divided; very little blood escaped, and but slight spasmodic action, manifested itself. The poor boy immediately obtained relief, and expressed his gratitude by an earnest grasp of

the hand. Respiration took place entirely through the tube, which was fastened, and retained in the trachea. He was ordered to keep small pieces of ice constantly in his mouth, and perfect quietness enjoined.

25th, 8, P.M. Has had a good night; fever less, tumefaction rather less, respiration entirely through the tube, has not been able to swallow, perfectly sensible, and with a pencil writes that he feels no pain. From that time he gradually recovered, the tumefaction about the throat subsiding so that he could swallow on the second day; on the third subsequent to the operation, respiration returned through the natural passage, and on the fourth I removed the tube. The boy had not a single bad symptom, and is now going about perfectly well.

Quebec, 16th December, 1850.

ART. XLVIII.—*Nævi Materni*.—By VON IFFLAND, M.D., M.R.C.S.L., Beauport.

The following case, although offering nothing of any practical utility, affords another of those—as yet—unexplained phenomena which have so often engaged the attention and researches of several of our most distinguished physicians and writers, on the complicated and multiplied actions of the animal economy; but on this, as on others, they have also found limits to their inquiries—limits, concerning the powers and laws of nature, which neither industry nor ingenuity has enabled them to penetrate:—

On the afternoon of the 16th instant, I was requested to attend to the accouchement of Mrs. (François) Cambré of Beauport, then reaching her full term of pregnancy. My attention on seeing her was particularly directed to an enlargement of the neck, involving the