

ed. To accomplish the first intention, on the third or fourth day the bandage and lint are to be removed, when the punctures will have healed. The foot and leg are then to be bandaged to a pliable splint placed on the outer side of the leg and foot, and by means of this moderate traction is to be kept up until the leg is not only in the median line, but a very little beyond it, which generally requires about three weeks to accomplish, it now being reduced to *T. Equinus*, is then treated as usual.

The distortions of adults are treated in the same manner, although it requires months with them where weeks are sufficient in infants. To form any idea of how these deformities can be relieved, you have only to walk through the wards, where you see numerous cases of double talipes varus; the sole of the foot never having been walked on, but turned towards its fellow of the opposite side; the patients having walked for years on the malleolus externus, and a very large bursa formed over that portion. Generally in cases of this kind one foot is operated on first, and in part restored, before the other one is interfered with; and, to enable the Surgeon to judge of the amount of benefit received, plaster casts are taken of all the cases, which thus give a certain knowledge of the progress of cure.

Mr. Broadhurst has lately made a great improvement in the common Scarpa's Shoe, by which every desired motion of the foot can be commanded, and most obstinate forms of varus are thus brought under the power of the Surgeon. In the common shoe, abduction and flexion are only provided for. I need not mention, that, in all the operations, subcutaneous incision is the method adopted.

Spinal curvature is also here treated on a different plan. The deformity caused by the old instruments, in place of removing the original, is now prevented by Mr. Broadhurst's improvement. The ribs are not interfered with; respiration unobstructed; and I have never heard the patients complain even when the instrument was tightly applied.

This branch of the profession is yet but in its infancy (so to speak), and no doubt a few years will greatly change its present appearance; however, in its present state, it demands attention. Even to give an outline of the treatment would require many more pages than could be here devoted to it. There are now several new works on the subject, in which all the latest information can be obtained.

London, 2nd July, 1857.

A. R.