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Original Articles

A NEW APPLIANCE FOR SUPRAPUBIC DRAINAGE, WHICH KEEPS THE PATIENT DRY WHILE "UP AND ABOUT."

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The difficulties in the way of drainage following suprapubic cystotomy has influenced in a considerable way the choice of route for prostatectomy and the use of a catheter *à demeure* in cystitis, cancer, etc. Perineal prostatectomy probably owes its lower death rate, to a large extent, to getting these patients out of bed early. An analogous condition is fracture of the neck of the femur in old age. The advanced in years do not do well if confined to bed for surgical conditions. On the other hand, the impossibility of keeping the urethral flora from getting a foothold and setting up urethritis and perhaps urethral fever when permanent catheterization is resorted to, is well known. Probably the best thing to do in most cases is suprapubic cystotomy, provided one could but keep the patient dry in any position and yet have efficient drainage. No such appliance, so far as the writer knows, has heretofore presented itself. The one now brought to your attention has been used with satisfaction in two of our cases, in which most other methods had failed.

The first tried was on the same principle as the *trompe d'eau*. The writer had seen it used by Zukerkandl, of Vienna, and was much impressed with its apparent efficiency. This exhaust method

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