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TWO HERNIOTOMIES IN A CHILD UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE—BASSINI'S METHOD.*

Dr. S. E. Milliken, of New York, reports in the *Medical Record* the case of a child under five years of age, upon whom he had done a herniotomy in June, 1893, for the cure of a left oblique inguinal congenital hernia, after the method of Bassini, or better known as the reconstruction of the canal, by bringing together the shelving process of Poupart's ligament and the conjoined tendon, posterior to the cord structures, with interrupted sutures of kangaroo tendon.

The obliquity of the inguinal canal was re-established, by suturing the aponeurosis of the external oblique, which had been previously divided, by a continuous suture of the same material. The skin wound was closed with interrupted catgut, and no drainage was employed. The wound healed primarily under one dressing, which was

changed on the tenth day. The patient was kept quiet for three weeks, so as to ensure union of the deep structures, where a specially prepared suture material was used.

One year later, he operated upon the hernia of the right side which was acquired, and the only difference in the technique from the operation on the left side was the total extirpation of sac. The second wound healed as satisfactorily as did the first, and the same instructions were given.

The author, who has had a large experience in the treatment of hernia at the Hospital for Ruptured and Crippled, and at the New York Polyclinic, particularly with Bassini's method, concludes as follows:

1st. When any difficulty is met with in the mechanical treatment, the radical operation should be performed even in young children.

2nd. If after six months or a year, the truss has been steadily worn, and there still exists a flabby or weakened condition of the inguinal region, the operation is indicated.

3rd. The risk of operating on children,

* Abstract furnished by author.