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FISSURA ANI—ITS DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT*

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In this paper I intend to give my observations of cases of anal fissure as successfully treated at the Rectal Clinic of the Post-Graduate Hospital for the last five years, and also intend thereby to make more easy the diagnosis of fissure, so as to enable the general practitioner to give his patients relief from this very common, most painful and distressing anal trouble, which is so frequently passed up by the general practitioner as "hemorrhoids" or "piles" to the great relief of the diagnostic conscience of the doctor and the continued agony and torture of his patient.

The inability of the general practitioner to readily diagnosticate rectal conditions or diseases about the anus as well as diseases of the other parts of the body, with the exception of an occasional snap-shot diagnosis of "hemorrhoids," can be attributed to the following reasons:

First: While our medical colleges throughout prepare their students or matriculates in all kinds of major operations and thoroughly equip them with methods and means of diagnostica-

^{*}Address delivered before the East Side Physicians Association, May 25, 1910, New York City.