

expression of countenance, indicative of suffering, which she presented. She had been a woman of loose character, and had contracted syphilis about nine years ago, for which she had been treated. She had had ulceration about the lower part of the rectum, and for the last twelve months had suffered from obstruction. On examination her condition was as follows: There were a number of sinuses opening around the anus, at a distance of from one to three inches from it. The index finger could be introduced into the rectum only as far as the first joint, when it was met by a stricture, which would not admit more than a No. 12 urethral bougie. The stricture was cartilaginous in hardness. There were also a number of hard nodules around the sides and back of the vulva. Her history, which was known, left no doubt as to the nature of the ulceration and stricture. She had frequent desire to go to stool, as often as every hour, and each time suffered agony from straining that availed nothing, except occasionally, when she passed small masses of feces very much flattened.

Dr. Fenwick decided that the only thing to be done was to perform colotomy, by way of alleviating her sufferings and ameliorating her condition, which conclusion was approved of by the rest of the medical staff. On March 25th the operation was performed under chloroform. The operation was Collisin's in the left loin, an oblique incision from the last rib to the crest of the ilium being used. The incision was about four inches long. The patient was very fat and the muscles well developed, so that the incision was about two inches deep. There was great difficulty in finding the gut, even after the intestines were distended with air by means of an enema syringe introduced into the rectum. An elastic oesophageal bougie was introduced also, but could not be felt through the wound. Several curved needles were introduced through what was imagined to be the gut till air began to escape, when an incision was made in the length of the gut between the needles, and the edges were attached to the edges of the external incision. The operation occupied a considerable time. At eight the same evening her temperature was 103°, and pulse 120 and weak. There was a good deal of tenderness in neighborhood of