

ism, delicacy and beauty; its numerous diseases, and the importance of a correct diagnosis. An error here, usually led to an error in practice, which if continued for a single day might end in opacity or rupture of the cornea, occlusion or prolapsus iridis, or staphyloma. The skill requisite in the treatment of these diseases was also alluded to. He exhorted his present class to avail themselves of the clinical advantages to be derived here, and not to be disheartened by difficulties; what others had surmounted, they could surmount; and in this way they would leave behind them an impress for good, or, in other words, *make their mark*.

CYSTIC AND INTESTINAL FISTULA.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

MESSRS. EDITORS,—Mr. Wm. A. S., of P., 26 years old, was jammed between two cars at Blackstone, Mass., Sept. 1, 1857. He was a thick, fleshy man, and was caught just above the hip bones, and jammed from side to side, to within eight inches of entirely bringing his sides together. He also broke his arm, in falling across the railroad track as the cars rebounded. He bled largely from his bowels, and had much pain over the left kidney and left ischium, from the outset. The digestive organs generally were very much deranged. He emaciated much, had very little appetite, and what he did eat distressed him at times. There was much pain at the neck of the bladder most of the time after the accident, and also pain in passing his urine. He seemed gradually to improve, up to April, 1858, so that he went about town somewhat, occasionally having sick days from more severe pain than usual in his left side and neck of bladder. From April, his sickness returned oftener, until he was confined to the house all the time. In January, 1859, air began to pass by the urethra, and continued to do so in large quantities, till his death. Some thin fæcal matter and fig-seeds also passed from time to time with his urine. The whistling of the wind from the urethra could be heard all over the room, as it made its exit, showing that adhesion had taken place between the bowels and the bladder, or ureter, and ulceration had opened a communication between them.

May 6th, 1859, an abscess broke on his left side, at the lower edge of his ribs. On the 10th, it discharged fæcal matter profusely, and continued to do so until his death, showing that adhesion of the bowels to the abdominal parietes had also taken place, with ulceration. In July, 1859, two more abscesses opened near the first, through which fæcal matter continued to pass, as from the first one. Each abscess discharged more or less pus from the outset, and one of them quite largely. At the time of his death, October 24th, 1859, the openings in his side were large enough to admit the ends of the fingers; indeed, sometimes he said pieces of

hard faecal matter passed out of them, as large as ever came through the natural passage. After these abscesses opened, his former costiveness increased, so that, from the 9th of August, last, to October 21, he had had no discharge from the anus. During the last three days of his life, a little faecal matter passed the anus involuntarily.

His health, previously to the accident, was good. He seemed to die from pure exhaustion. No *post-mortem* examination could be obtained.

N. L. FOLSOM.

Portsmouth, N. H., November, 1859.

LABOR, WITH THE HYMEN UNBROKEN.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

THE patient was 18 years of age, Irish, and had been married ten months. On examination, the hymen was felt to be in a state of cartilaginous hardness, and no aperture could be found by the finger to the vagina. Through the rectum, the enclosed waters were felt slightly protruding into the vagina, with the head entering the superior strait. In two hours the membranes ruptured, and the waters discharged into the vagina, producing a bulging of the hymen outward, not unlike in feeling to the unbroken bag of waters. A slight moisture only was felt on the external parts. A probe was now carried on the end of the finger in search of an orifice to be enlarged by incision, but in vain. A less forcible pressure, however, by the finger point, than had been used, broke through the hymen, it having been apparently thinned and macerated by the progress of labor. The waters gushed forth, and the child soon followed.

The above case is distinguishable from a similar class of cases by the almost complete imperforation of the hymen. These cases bear interest in a medico-legal point of view, showing that sexual congress may be repeated, pregnancy ensue, and continue for the full period, without destruction of the hymen.

Ware, November, 1859.

JOHN YALE.

CASE OF INTUSSUSCEPTION—RECOVERY.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

G. L., middle age, farmer, residing in this vicinity, Sept. 28th, having eaten largely of apples, was soon most violently seized with what he calls colic, having for some time been subject to such attacks. His suffering was so great that a neighboring physician, Dr. C., was sent for, and arrived. There was vomiting occasionally, with stoppage of the bowels. Repeated doses of active cathartics were administered, with the hope of forcing an operation,