A SELF-RETAINING TONGUE-DEPRESSOR.

DR. ARTHUR J. HERZIG, New York City.

During the year 1904 Tiemann & Co. constructed an instrument for me to be used as a self retaining tongue-depressor. This instrument consisted of 4 parts. One, the upper, to be placed upon the dorsum of the tongue; the lower to be placed under the chin. The two parts were joined together with two L-shaped parts and held in place by 4 screws. All the screws were to be tightened when the instrument was in place. The present instrument is a replica of the old one with the exception that I have had a solid plate placed upon the tongue part (upper) so that the tongue would not raise through the fenestrum. The report of the first instrument was published in the *N. Y. Medical Journal*, April 6, 1907. I have used this instru-

ment almost continuously for the past 18 years and have found it of the greatest assistance in removing tonsils under local anesthesia, also under general anesthesia. When a view of the lower part of the tonsil is required, why the instrument which is already in place is tilted backward and a view of the lower tonsil is obtained, also the tip of the epiglottis. It may also be used in any throat operation where the immobility of the tongue is desired. By reversing the parts it may be used as a simple tongue depressor. Many thanks are due to Tieman & Co. who were kind enough to assist me in the mechanical details of this instrument.

229 West 78th Street.