

the difficulties in the case, the applications of the instrument did not ever exceed two or three minutes' duration.

(Signed) DAVID FINLAY, M.D.
London, June 30, 1833.

CASE IV.—CURE OF STONE BY LITHOTRIPSY,
SIX YEARS AFTER LITHOTOMY.

Mr. J. S***, aged 69, consulted me on the 18th of March last for symptoms under which he had been labouring for three years, and which had become very severe. He was cut for the stone six years ago by Mr. Key, when a flat lithic-acid calculus, of considerable size, was extracted. The pain he felt, on making water, was acute, and the irritation of the bladder very great. He could not walk far, without suffering excessively, and riding he found even more distressing. In short, anything like active exercise was followed by a discharge of urine tinged with blood. The paroxysms of pain were frequently accompanied by pulsations of the heart, and there was often a numbness about the calves of the legs which the patient found very annoying.

Some time before, Mr. S*** had been to Mr. Key for advice, who, judging that there was another stone in the bladder, advised him to apply to Baron Heurteloup, in order to have it extracted by lithotripsy. I fully concurred with Mr. Key, and advised Mr. S*** to go, without loss of time, to the Baron, whose numerous operations I had heard and read of in *THE LANCET*. He immediately detected the stone, which he considered flat, and presenting about the same surface as the one which had been removed by lithotomy six years before by Mr. Key, at which operation I was present. The operation was performed, on the 22nd of March, with the percuter. The stone was immediately seized, and broken by the blows of a hammer. The patient voided a considerable quantity of powder and pieces of stone, directly after the operation, and for several succeeding days. The operation lasted about three minutes, and the patient walked home, as soon as it was over, without difficulty or pain. After three other operations, similar to the first, he returned to Tottenham, where he resides. He is now quite well, and experiences no symptoms whatever indicative of his old complaint. The third operation proved merely an examination, as there was no more stone in the bladder. Some fragments of stone having collected in the passage when the second operation was about to be performed, an obstacle was presented to the introduction of the instrument. The Baron seeing the nature

of the obstruction, desisted, and postponed the operation. He employed gentle and proper means to bring the fragments from the urethra, in which he perfectly succeeded. He very prudently was unwilling to use the slightest violence in introducing the instrument, from fear of lacerating the urethra. The patient has now been home for five weeks, and remains quite well.

(Signed) WM. MOON, Surg.
Tottenham, Middlesex, May 20, 1833.

CASE V.—CALCULUS FIXED IN THE BLADDER—CURE BY LITHOTRIPSY.

Mr. John Lake, ætat. 67, a farmer, and an eminent land-surveyor, residing in Kent, forty-five miles from London, up to the autumn of 1824 possessed uninterrupted health. His own account is as follows:—

"About this period, Nov. 1824, I had several paroxysms of excessive pain in the groins and small of my back, with frequent and painful inclinations to make water, without being able to pass more than a spoonful each time. It frequently occasioned nausea and vomiting. These attacks continued four or five hours, and invariably ended with an amazing discharge of urine. Early in the year 1826 I consulted a very eminent surgeon in London, who sounded me, and pronounced there to be no stone in the bladder. By taking medicine prescribed by him, I was tolerably easy for two or three years, except when riding on horseback, or in a shaking carriage. On such occasions I was annoyed by involuntary passing of urine coloured like coffee, and attended with severe pain. I have been gradually feeling greater inconvenience, and, generally, considerable pain in making water, which has frequently been discoloured. In the month of July last, I had occasion to take a long journey across bad roads, and in worse vehicles. On my return home, I was frequently in perfect torture, constantly desiring to pass urine, which was mixed with blood and bloody slime. I could scarcely bear motion of any kind—even that of lifting up my legs in walking, or of rising up, and sitting down in my chair, and more especially that of getting into bed. At this time, by the skill and ingenuity of the Baron Heurteloup, I am, thank God, relieved from this dreadful affection.—JOHN LAKE, March 28, 1833."

I was consulted by Mr. Lake on the 14th of Feb., 1833. His symptoms leading me to believe there was a stone in the bladder, I requested Mr. Key to sound him, who did so, and found a stone, which

he stated to be fixed in the posterior and right side of the bladder. He thought it a flat calculus, and of considerable size; the urethra and prostate were free from disease. I recommended him to be examined by Baron Heurteloup, and if the case were by him considered eligible, to undergo the operation performed so frequently and so successfully by the Baron, and which I had already witnessed with much satisfaction.

I accompanied Mr. Lake to the Baron, who, upon sounding, confirmed Mr. Key's statement, but hesitated to undertake the case before ascertaining if the stone could be detached from the fixed position it held, without violence, or greatly irritating the bladder.

A second examination took place, when the bladder received a larger quantity of water by injection, and the stone was dislodged. After this he had two severe pseudo-ague attacks.

On the 3rd of March, the Baron performed the first operation before Mr. Key and myself. The stone was seized and broken immediately. The broken portions of it were taken with the greatest promptitude four different times, each of which required very forcible strokes of the hammer to break the portion held by the forceps, but which gave no uneasy sensation whatever to the patient; the duration of this and the subsequent operations, was from three to four minutes; fragments of stone to the quantity of a small teaspoonful passed in the course of forty-eight hours. Among the fragments voided was a large piece, evidently the original nucleus of the stone.

Four other operations were required to remove the stone entirely; several fragments were seized in the last operation, but they were found so small, as readily to pass by the urethra.

Two days after the third operation I called upon Mr. Lake, who expressed his delight at being able to move about with entire ease, saying it was the happiest morning of his life, for whereas before "he was obliged to sneak behind every pedestrian, now he could outwalk them all."

A couple of days after the last operation, the patient was carefully sounded by Baron Heurteloup, conjointly with Mr. Key and myself, and the entire removal of the stone from the bladder was ascertained. Mr. Lake was impatient to return home, feeling himself able to attend his occupations, and enjoy the society of his friends.

On the 2nd of April he left town in good health and spirits.

(Signed) **FRED. COBB, M.D.,**
Physician to the London Hospital.

CASE VI.—CURE BY LITHOTRIPSY FOUR YEARS AFTER LITHOTOMY. — *Related by HENRY OLDKNOW, Esq., Surgeon to the Nottingham Hospital.*

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—You will oblige me by inserting the following operation of lithotripsy, performed at the Nottingham Hospital by Baron Heurteloup. It is a case of unfrequent occurrence, and possesses some points of considerable interest.

John Hancock, aged 56, by trade a stocking-maker, possessing in general a good state of health, although for many years labouring under occasional paroxysms of pain in the back, from the formation and passage of renal calculi (often of so large a size as to lodge in the urethra), in the year 1828 became afflicted with the symptoms of stone in the bladder. He experienced these symptoms with increased violence (the paroxysms of pain having produced scrotal hernia on each side), for a period of a year before he would submit to the operation of lithotomy, which he at last did on the 29th of May 1829. The stone extracted was of the lithic acid variety, in weight five scruples, and in form a flat oval. Except an attack of hernia humeralis, which he experienced first in one testicle and then in the other, he may be said to have done remarkably well, being discharged the hospital in somewhat less than five weeks. He has suffered, however, ever since from a partial paralysis of the bladder, so that he can only retain a small quantity of urine without its passing from him involuntarily. He still continues to pass renal calculi occasionally, and in June 1832, he suffered greatly from the passage of one of large size down the left ureter, which he distinctly felt to enter the bladder in about seven days, when he became immediately relieved. This calculus did not pass the urethra, and in about five months from its entrance into the bladder he again experienced the symptoms of stone, and in December last he presented himself to me, wishing to undergo a second operation, as his sufferings were intolerable. Under these circumstances I deferred the operation, and communicated the case to Baron Heurteloup, to whom I was entirely unknown, stating it to be a favourable one for lithotripsy, and that if his engagements would allow him to come to Nottingham to perform the operation, I was sure it would give the professional gentlemen here the greatest pleasure, also saying that I wished to spare the man the risk of a second operation, as, from the nature of his disease, it was very probable