ABSCESS OF THE TIBIA.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

MESSRS. EDITORS,—In March, 1854, I saw John Neish, of a light complexion and scrofulous appearance. He had a "fever-sore" when a boy, and probably necrosis. He was aged 32, and had been treated for rheumatism during six months by different physicians before I saw him. I found him pale, weak, and without appetite. Paroxysms of pain were very intense and often repeated—ranging from his hip to his ankle. His emaciation was great, and pain extreme.

Having considered the symptoms, I pronounced his disease abscess of the tibia. I greatly feared the disease might have extended somewhat in the cancellated structure of the bone, towards its ends, breaking down or dissolving its delicate net-work, owing to his weak and greatly-impaired constitution. In place of the trephine, I took the common gimlet. Having cut down upon the flat side of the tibia, I put on my sharp gimlet, and bored down to the centre of the bone. The operation was somewhat painful. About a teaspoonful of matter followed the withdrawal of the instrument. One most extraordinary paroxysm of pain followed some hours after the operation, and since that time he has had no pain in the leg. The discharge gradually lessened and stopped. Tonics and *full diet* were directed, and he soon recovered. He works regularly on his farm, and has to this day had no return of the malady.

I am yours truly,

Delhi, Del. Co., N. Y., April, 1855.

FERRIS JACOBS, M.D.

TWO CASES OF SUPPOSED MALIGNANT GROWTHS, REMOVED BY OPERATION.

[THE following account of two cases, treated by Dr. William J. Wheeler, of Chelsea, the specimens of which were shown at the last meeting of the Suffolk District Medical Society, as reported in our last number, has been furnished us for publication.—Eds.]

CASE I. was that of a lady aged about 45, who presented herself with a large tumor, situated upon the anterior and outer side of the knee-joint. The tumor was as large as a goose egg, but more round in shape. It had an elastic, and almost a fluctuating feel at points. It seemed slightly movable, and not implicating the cavity of the joint. It was also very vascular, the skin in places was of a purple hue, and the subcutaneous veins enlarged and tortuous. On the most prominent point was an ulcer, about as large as a quarter of a dollar, with a rank fungoid growth shooting from its surface, the seat of a profuse hemorrhage at short intervals, causing fainting. This tumor was about eight years in attaining its present size, and will weigh nearly sixteen ounces. Dr. Wheeler, with the assistance of Drs. Davis and Thorndike, removed the mass without