The wound suppurated for a few weeks, then closed in, and the divided surfaces of the bone were early united by a firm osseous bond.

In somewhat less than three months she was able to lean on the leg, and, aided by crutches, she could without difficulty walk about the ward. From this onward her progress was continuous and satisfactory; and she was daily paraded for walking exercise before the students, who marked with evident satisfaction her steady improvement. The leg and thigh not being in the same straight line, but meeting at a very obtuse angle, salient anteriorly, she had the advantage of the spring of the foot, which imparted to her gait an elasticity that was truly surprising.

My operation differed from Barton's in two particulars: he left the posterior portion of the bone uncut by the saw—I effected its complete severance; the base of his flap was on the inside—mine on the outside.

By cutting quite through the bone, I left no spiculæ to pierce the fascia behind, thus preventing the passage of pus to the popliteal space, and, having the base of the flap on the outside, averted the possibility of the bagging of matter, and made the wound more accessible for dressing.

Plate II. shows the result of the operation on her limb, the sketch having been made just prior to her return home.

There was no shortening, or, if any, not more than the tenth of an inch.

She is now strong and robust, able to discharge her domestic duties free from lameness or pain, and as favourably circumstanced as the most enthusiastic advocate of Barton's operation could desire.

ART. XI.—*A Boot which allows Walking and Maintains the Foot in good position during the Treatment of Equino-Varus.* By R. L. SWAN, Fellow and Member of Surgical Court of Examiners, R.C.S.I.

ONE of the most important considerations in the treatment of club-foot is (while stretching abnormally contracted structures) the restoration of the tonicity of over-extended muscular tissues, and their development, as well as that of the entire limb. An indulgence of the patient in exercise of the disused muscles during treatment, is a powerful element in the fulfilment of those ends. Nevertheless, unless what is gained in the restoration of symmetry be maintained, a rapid recurrence of deformity is inevitable. In most cases, then, Mr. Barwell's appliance is truly

valuable. Practically it will be found that in the treatment of equino-varus there are certain objections to this method. These may be briefly classed under three heads:—

1st. Difficulty of keeping the toes abducted, especially if the tendo Achillis be divided before the varus is cured.

2nd. Impossibility of keeping up daily manipulation, or galvanism, as may be desirable.

3rd. The pressure of the necessary bandages on the entire limb, which is a positive hindrance to its development.

An appliance to fulfil the following requirements would therefore be useful:—To keep the posterior segment of the foot firmly fixed with the heel well down; to abduct, as might be necessary, that portion of the foot which is abnormally deviated in rotary varus—namely, that anterior to the articulation between the calcis and astragalus, cuboid and scaphoid; to allow of wear and tear without breakage, which is the invariable result of the strain on any appliance for progression, used on an imperfectly-cured club-foot.

I have found the boot here described to serve those purposes in repeated instances. It is composed of a laced leather anklet which covers and fixes the tarsus, leaving the toes and front of the foot free. There are two stems and ankle-joints to prevent undue strain. From the outer a spur, moved at pleasure from a universal joint worked by a key, acts on the anterior segment of the foot by a toe-strap.

The boot is manufactured for me by Messrs. M'Adam and Corcoran, 22, Bachelors'-walk.

BALSAM OF PERU IN PRURITUS.

IN a communication to the *Deutsche med. Wochen.*, No. 34, Dr. Auerbach, of Berlin, states that having, in common with so many other practitioners, found the balsam of Peru a most valuable remedy in itch, he has for some time past used it in the treatment of pruritus with the greatest success. After the first rubbing into the part affected, great relief is obtained, and in a few days a cure results. He relates a very obstinate case which, after resisting all kinds of treatment for years, was speedily cured by the balsam.—*The Medical News and Library*, Dec., 1879, and *N. Y. Med. Record*, Jan. 17, 1880.