ANTRUM TROCAR AND IRRIGATING CANULA.*

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The two instruments herein described were suggested because of the difficulty first in securing satisfactory instruments for tapping antra through the lateral nasal wall under the inferior turbinate to drain pus and for diagnostic purposes, and second, a suitable canula which could readily be passed into the same opening for washing out the antrum.

The trocar is a sharp, pointed, curved tube with but one opening running along its entire length and with no channel for return flow. There are two openings, one on either side of the point of the trocar. A heavier portion is at the opposite end to give more strength and a handle to the instrument. To this is attached a piece of rubber tubing. The trocar is of sufficient strength so that it will not bend with

the necessary amount of force employed. Its curve is such that if the tip of the instrument is placed under the inferior turbinate anteriorly, the handle rotated towards the mid-line and the force employed directed upward, outward and backward, the trocar will readily pass into the antrum at the thinnest portion of the lateral wall, about half way back in the nasal passage. A syringe with catheter tip may be attached to the rubber tubing and the antrum irrigated. If it is necessary to irrigate the antrum, in a few days the irrigating canula, a Killian canula bent in the same shape as the trocar, is most useful, since it is a little smaller in diameter and it readily passes into the same opening without the necessity of feeling along the lateral nasal wall to locate it. By this method no local anesthetic is required. These instruments have been used at the Mayo Clinic for the last three years with entire satisfaction.

*From the Mayo Clinic.