

manner." It appears to us that the danger in such cases is not due to the occurrence of vomiting. Rupture is much more likely to be caused by the bi-manual examination, unless very cautiously employed.

The anatomical and historical parts of the book strike us as being the most satisfactory; the clinical portion deals with matter that has already received considerable attention at the hands of other authors. There are no less than twenty-two excellent plates at the end of the volume from drawings made by the author. The book must undoubtedly be regarded as a valuable work of reference on ectopic pregnancy.

JOURNALS AND REVIEWS.

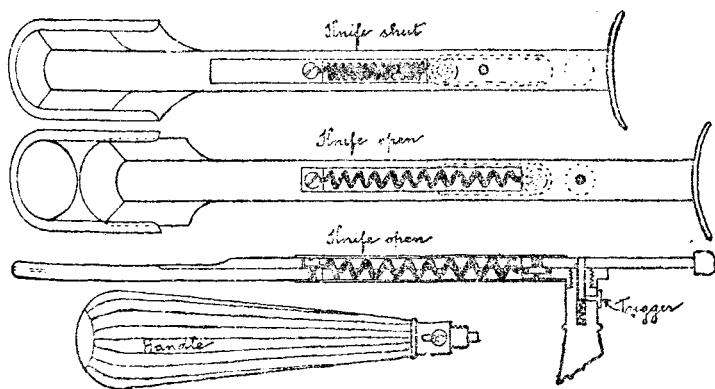
St. Thomas's Hospital Gazette.—St. Thomas's men will notice with regret the announcement in the first number of Vol. VII. of the retirement of Mr. F. G. Parsons, who has so ably edited the *Gazette* from its earliest infancy. Among the articles is a succinctly-written little paper entitled "Notes on the Application of x rays" and the first instalment of a paper by Mr. W. G. Sutcliffe, "Recollections of the Second Matabele War."

Guy's Hospital Gazette.—The recent death of Surgeon-Major Manser, who lost his life at the post of duty, is fresh in the minds of all, and the two letters from Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. Wilkins and Dr. L. F. Childe respectively, announcing the death and appreciating the worth of the late officer will be read with interest. R. O. M. continues his "Notes from a Holiday in Persia." From them we learn that the only hospital in Teheran is under the charge of an American and that in the matter of surgical machinery it is quite up to date—"all the latest from New York."

New Inventions.

AN AUTOMATIC SPRING TONSIL GUILLOTINE.

I WISH to draw the attention of the profession to a form of tonsil guillotine which I have devised to work by "spring action." Owing to the fact that there are numerous forms of guillotine already in use, one naturally hesitates before describing any modification of such an instrument. However, I venture to show the working of one which, with the advice and kind assistance of Mr. C. Vyle, I have had made by Messrs. Arnold and Sons, West Smithfield, and it appears to me to be of some advantage. The accompanying illustrations show at a glance the method I have adopted of applying a "spring" to a Mackerzie instrument. One end of



the spring is fitted to the distal part of the lower segment, and is the fixed point, and the other to the knife slide. On setting the instrument in the usual way, by drawing back the proximal end, the spring is thus made tense, and is fixed and kept ready to be instantly released, by a catch within the handle meeting a small hole in the top slide as it is drawn back, and worked by a smaller spring in the handle. When ready to excise the tonsils, the guillotine is released

simply by touching a knob or trigger, as seen in the diagram. The spring is covered in and so arranged that it can easily be removed for cleansing purposes, and the strength is sufficiently great to enable the knife, on being released, to instantaneously cut through the tissue. The advantages are: rapidity of action; can be worked with one hand, leaving the other free for the thumb to press externally upon the tonsil, the left for the left and *vice versa*; the easy and simple mode of working; the instrument cannot get out of order; is simple in its mechanism and seems to answer the purpose for which it is intended—namely, immediate excision when once the guillotine is favourably *in situ*, and being thus steady and not requiring any force from the operator, so preventing any movement or displacement from the tonsil otherwise necessarily induced.

London.

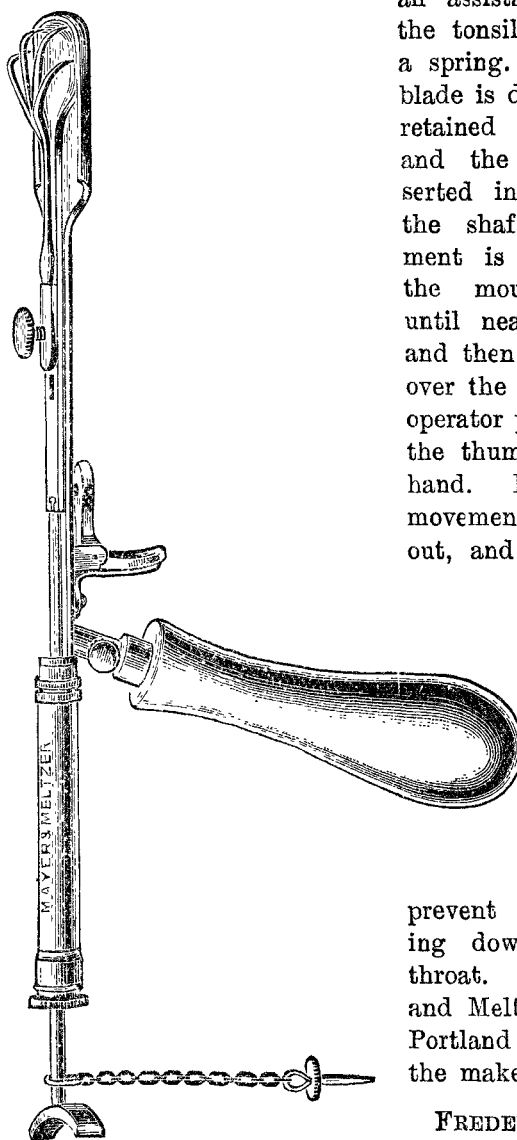
R. BROOKS POPHAM.

AN IMPROVED TONSILLOTOME.

THIS instrument does away with the necessity of

an assistant to push up the tonsils. It works by a spring. Before use the blade is drawn back until retained by the catch, and the small pin inserted into the hole in the shaft. The instrument is introduced into the mouth horizontally until nearly in position, and then turned sideways over the tonsil, while the operator pushes it up with the thumb of the other hand. During the last movement the pin falls out, and on pulling the trigger the tonsil is removed instantaneously, painlessly, and with great precision. A specially devised guard is added to

prevent the tonsil falling down the patient's throat. Messrs. Mayer and Meltzer of 71, Great Portland-street, W., are the makers.



Devonshire street, Portland-place, W.

FREDERICK SPICER,

M.D. Durh.

A NEW TONSIL FORCEPS.

SOME time ago, having to excise a number of enlarged tonsils, I found great inconvenience in working with the instruments commonly used for that purpose. Accordingly, I designed the instrument illustrated below, which has been most satisfactorily made by Messrs. Arnold and Sons, London. The mode of using the instrument is as follows. The forceps having been introduced into the mouth and counter-pressure made beneath the angle of the jaw, the enlarged tonsil is thereby placed between the blades of the forceps. The handles then being approximated, the instrument is locked by means of the neck and catch with which it is furnished. The tonsil is then drawn well towards the middle line by means of the instrument. A tonsil bistoury is then passed from below upwards behind the tonsil about to be removed. The bistoury is made to cut from behind forwards, being kept closely applied and parallel to the sides