

Areas of fibrinous exudate in the abdomen, tumors, distended bladder, pericecal inflammatory masses, aneurisms and splenic enlargements yield their outlines to auscultatory-resonance. Of its value in the topography of the kidneys I have not had opportunity to convince myself. Each method of precision has its limitations, but by a systematic use of all of them we may arrive at conclusions. Auscultatory-resonance or percussion is not intended to supplant any of the older methods. It should be used to check over results obtained by ordinary procedure and as an extra aid in the unravelling of knotty skeins of evidence.

A conscientious investigation of their merits will convince one that their practice is not esoteric, not a fad, but a legitimate and valuable aid to diagnosis.

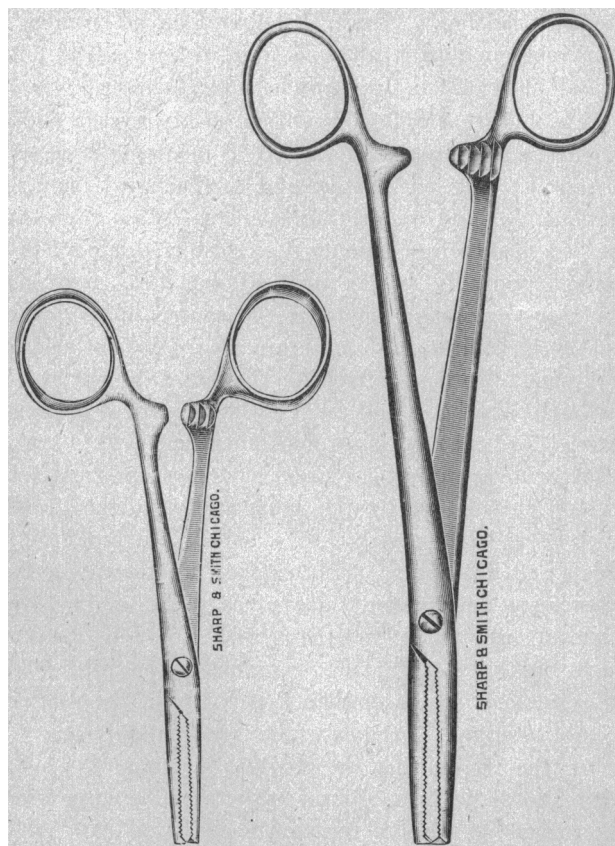
### New Instruments.

#### A NEW HEMOSTATIC FORCEPS.

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It is rare to find a hemostatic forceps, as supplied in the ordinary instrument shops, which will last through more than a dozen ordinary operations without extensive repair. The selection of the proper instrument is frequently impossible because most of the instrument dealers carry in stock only the poorest constructed instruments, made by large factories in Germany. The models selected by these manufacturers are frequently such as have many excellent points, but, owing to



failure in some minor particular, the instrument soon deteriorates.

I have had an artery forceps made which seems to combine a number of useful qualities. The forceps are made in two sizes. The dimensions of the smaller size are the following: total length,  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches; distance from lock to point,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches; distance from lock to proximal end,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The dimensions of the larger forceps are: total length,  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches;

distance from lock to point, 2 inches; distance from lock to proximal end,  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

No single new feature is introduced into the design of these forceps, but it is believed that the combination of old points of construction will make these instruments more satisfactory and durable than those commonly found on the market. The forceps are provided with mouse-teethed extremities and serrated jaws. After the plan of Doyen, they are made to meet first at the points, the jaws coming together gradually from before backward as increasing pressure is applied on the handles. Sufficient elasticity of the steel is provided to enable one to get the advantage of this principle. The branches are made sufficiently heavy, so that the shearing strain will not readily wear them out. The catches are unusually deeply grooved, preventing their readily slipping apart. The branches are so set that they lock firmly on the first notch. The rings are beveled, so that one may easily apply the rather firm pressure necessary to close the strong instrument. It will be noted that the length of the jaws in proportion to the length of the handles is short. This serves two purposes: it gives the operator greater leverage; and second, it gives greater strength to this part of the forceps, where so frequently lightness of material and length of jaw cause the forceps to twist and the ends of the instrument to turn over like a crossbill.

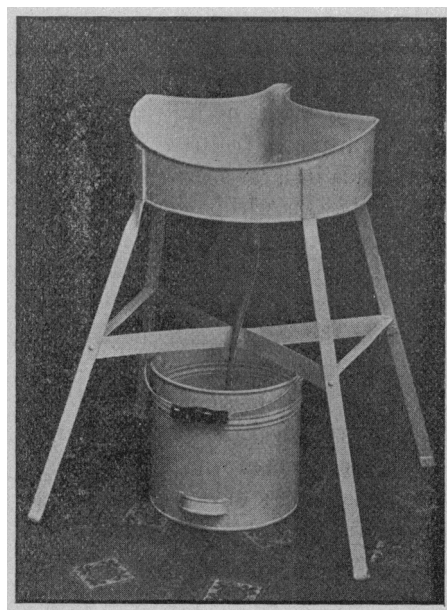
A most important point about these forceps is the return to the old-fashioned screw lock. The screw is made especially large to resist the shearing strain. This lock has not only the advantage of being very much firmer, but has the advantage of being adjustable for wear. The writer uses this lock for scissors also for the same reason. The objection that the forceps can not be taken apart for cleaning is trivial, since boiling in sodium carbonate (ordinary sal soda) will remove the materials which usually constitute the dirt.

#### AN IRRIGATING STAND.

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The accompanying illustration shows an irrigating stand of use to the venereal specialist and also to the general practi-



tioner who has much to do with the irrigating treatment of gonorrhea in the male. It will enable the physician to get conveniently near his patient and irrigate without soiling the clothes of either party, since there is no splashing of the returning fluid other than that which is the receiving basin will accommodate.

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