another. The feeling conveyed to the hand on grasping the joint, and moving it, was the sensation produced by feeling a number of marbles in a bag. The affected joint was rather hotter to the feel than the healthy one. There were no signs of inflammation; and there was no history of rheumatism.

On September 12th, the joint was opened under strict antiseptic precautions, and twenty-two loose cartilages were removed. The total weight of these bodies amounted to 1,681 grains; they varied in weight from 230 grains to 20 grains. The largest body measured fully an inch and three-quarters in length, by an inch in breadth,

and an inch in thickness. The bodies were white in colour, and were of different sizes, one or two being as small as a boy's marble, the

majority of them being of considerable size, up to an inch and three-quarters in length, fully an inch broad, and an inch thick. All were formed alike of smaller rounded masses stuck together like the lobes of a conglomerated gland, each body being distinctly rounded on its outer surface, but flattened on its lateral, or inner adherent surface. A large part of the outer surface of one of the largest masses had undergone calcareous degeneration. On cross section, the surface presented a distinctly laminated character, the outer laminae being firm, bluish white in colour, and about a quarter of an inch in thickness. This disclosed a slightly darker and softer part, which occupied the centre; and the two parts might be distinguished as the cortical and medullary portions. Opaque spots were formed in both the cortical and medullary parts, which were obviously due to calcareous degeneration.

The microscope showed that the structure of the bodies was that of fibro-cartilage, in which the fibrous element was comparatively scanty and the hyaline was predominant. The cells of the latter were arranged in large irregular masses embedded in a granular matrix, which were surrounded and only slightly traversed by fibrous tissue. Numerous patches of calcareous degeneration were found which seemed to affect chiefly the granular matrix of the cartilage.

The individual bodies were carefully weighed by Dr. Du Moulin and myself, and subjoined I give the weight of each cartilage: 230, 200, 170, 90, 90, 90, 80, 75, 70, 60, 60, 57, 56, 51, 49, 50, 44, 40, 40, 37, 22, 20 grains = 1,681 grains.

The patient made very satisfactory progress after the operation, his temperature remaining normal all through; the dressing was not changed till October 9th, twenty-two days after operation, when the wound was found to be healed, the drainage-tube (which was a de-calcified chicken-bone) having become absorbed. Dry dressings were applied.

October 11th. The patient left the hospital able to walk perfectly well, but was advised to wear an elastic bandage for some time to support the joint.

HEARING, AND THE EXAMINATIONS FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICES.

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A PHYSICAL defect, which does not seem to have received the attention it deserves in the examination of candidates for the different services, is that of a deficiency in the normal hearing power. In the case of the eye, any marked imperfection of vision in both eyes generally forces itself upon the observer by the peculiar gait, or position of the head, or closure of the lids, which the sufferer employs to give him his best possible unaided vision. But a loss of hearing power much below the normal, either in both ears or limited to one ear, may escape detection by a careful observer who does not have recourse to more minute methods of investigation for determining the acuteness of hearing. This arises partly from the fact that ordinary conversation is carried on in a much louder tone than is necessary for the proper hearing thereof. With two normal ears the same conversation could be carried on with half the volume of sound, or even in a whisper; and, as the pica or long primer types are employed by the popular publisher to give comfortable and easy reading to eyes much under the normal in acuteness, so does the barrister or lecturer gauge, as far as he can, an intensity of sound which will give his audience easy hearing without straining. But, in the case of the candidate for admission to any of the services, not merely is it necessary for him to have the vision and hearing which can carry him through the daily avocations of private life, but he ought to have a standard normal acuteness of both organs on both sides. With only one sound and normally acute eye or ear, a man may pass through life without anyone, perhaps even himself, having discovered that he was partially blind or deaf; but he is essentially a one-barrelled man, and his chances of remaining with good vision and hearing during life are about 50 per cent. less than those of a man with two normally acute eyes and ears.

Attention has been lately called to a standard of vision which is necessary for entrance to the Indian service, and the non-possession of which ensures rejection. It is, in the opinion of the writer, not less important that a standard of hearing-power should be formed for the same purpose. It is indeed probably of greater importance that a fuller examination be made of the aural organ and its acuteness, than of the visual organ and its function. For, as the loss of function by an abnormal refraction—which is the great cause of defect—can be remedied by the use of lenses, and make the candidate as fit, with those lenses, for the service as a candidate with normal refraction, so may the remedy of altered tension and position of the aural conduct-