the urethra is not so dangerous an operation as has been supposed, as no sloughing followed, nor, indeed, any bad symptom.

ABSCESS UNDER THE TEMPORAL FASCIA.

Mr. — had a tumour just above the zygomatic arch, in which I perceived fluctuation. I opened it, let out pus, and found that it came from under the fascia of the temporal muscle.

Inflammation came on violently, and a tumour formed in the mouth opposite to the insertion of the temporal muscle. This broke, and continued to discharge for about a month, when the patient recovered.

CROUP.

The daughter of a Mr. —, in Goodman's-fields, was seized, at the age of fourteen months, with an hoarseness, which continued for three days without its otherwise affecting her health. At the end of this time she began to cough, and that with so peculiar a noise as to characterise the disease.

A leech was applied to the throat, which sucked about six ounces.

Calomel was given, and two blisters were applied to the throat.

Notwithstanding this treatment, great difficulty of breathing, with frequent coughing, succeeded, and after some hours she died,—not absolutely suffocated, but from irritation and difficult breathing united.

Dissection.—The larynx was the only part permitted to be examined, which was very highly inflamed; the glottis was much narrowed by an effusion into the cellular membrane there. There was no effusion of lymph in this part.

CÆSARIAN OPERATION.

A woman, aged 40, who had had several children, in consequence of a fall fractured the ileum and os pubis, and dislocated the os femoris. She recovered from this accident, and soon proved pregnant. In September (1793) she was taken in labour, when, upon examination, it was found that a depressed and projecting pubes left only half an inch between the basis of the sacrum and pubes; besides the depression there seemed to be an exostosis on the pubes.

As it was obvious that, under these circumstances, she could not be delivered, the Cæsarian operation was determined upon.

An incision was made five inches long in the direction of the linea alba. The uterus was next cut open as far as the outer wound would permit; the breech of the child presented, and it was removed, but the child was dead. Seven sutures were made, and sticking plaster placed between them; a flannel roller was applied over the whole.

No vessels of any size were divided, at least none which afforded hæmorrhage. The uterus was very thin.

On the second day there was sickness and pain in the abdomen, which were removed by glysters and by a blister on the abdomen.

The intermediate sutures only were first removed, so that they might be withdrawn gradually.

It is now (1796) three years since the operation, and there has been no pregnancy.

DIVISION OF CUBITAL NERVE.

I saw a girl, who had, twelve months before, divided the cubital nerve by a piece of glass, and just above the elbow. The glass was removed, the wound healed, but the girl had lost all sensation in the little finger, and partly in the finger next it. The finger was perfectly dead to sensation; it appeared purple, as did the back of the hand towards the little finger; it felt cold, and, upon the application of the thermometer, was found to be eight degrees below that of the middle finger of the same hand. Middle finger, 86 deg.; little finger, 78 deg.

She could move this finger.

The nail also grew upon it, though not in proportion as upon the others.

SUPPRESSION OF URINE.

Thursday, 16. Was consulted by Mr. —, of Wilson-street, who had a stricture of long standing, and now a total suppression of urine. No catheter or bougie would pass, but I introduced a catgut, which was followed by urine when it was withdrawn.

Much pain attended the suppression, which seemed to arise from a sudden and violent contraction of the bladder, for it came in fits.

After discharging a quantity of urine, three small stones, about the size of the head of a large pin, were discharged.

CALCULI.

The calculi which are discharged in old people, and which in them produce the disease called gravel, are formed in the prostate gland. It is on this account that the symptoms of a stone in the bladder so frequently occur in gravel. Mr. Allen took from a subject of his many scores of the above-mentioned stones.

INFLAMMATION OF THE PROSTATE GLAND.

A man with gonorrhœa (Mr. —) had an inflammation of the prostate gland produced by it. I have observed in old people that this is very apt to happen. His age was more than 50.

He was relieved by a blister upon the perineum. If the person has a stricture, it is always very considerably increased by gonorrhœa.

SUPPRESSION OF URINE.

Mr. — came to London from Horsham, in Sussex, and was attacked, on his arrival, with suppression of urine. He was 64 years of age, and had a diseased prostate. His urine required to be drawn off twice in the twenty-four hours.

He had constitutional irritation—namely, loss of appetite, a dry tongue and skin, thirst, hoarseness, purging, urine high-coloured. These symptoms did not come on for four days after the suppression. He got well.

A CASE OF MUSCULAR AMAUROSIS,

CURED BY OPERATIONS ON THE RECTI MUSCLES.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—The following case is one of that class of cases of impaired vision, to which I have recently given the name of muscular amaurosis, because those forms of it which are incurable by medical treatment are curable by operation on the muscles of the eye. In order that my professional brethren may take courage, and put my practice to the test of experience, I am happy to inform them that, since the publication of my pamphlet on the subject of muscular amaurosis, &c., I have had frequent opportunities of putting to the fullest test, the value of the practice therein recommended; and that I have not, in any instance, been disappointed of its merits, towards the proof of which I submit the report of the accompanying case.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES J. ADAMS.

27, New Broad-street, Dec. 8, 1841.

Mary Anne Ryadon, aged 14, is a healthy looking girl of dark complexion, with brown hair; her appearance at first sight is that of a blind child; her

eyes are covered by large glass spectacles of a violet colour, and her head hangs on her chest; the movements of her head and body show that she is intent on finding her way about, and at the same time of avoiding the effects of the daylight on her eyes. If the spectacles be removed, she cannot refrain from firmly closing both eyelids, and keeping them shut in any but a very dim light. The irides are grey, and the eyes, to all appearance, healthy, there being no signs of inflammation or of congestion in any of the tissues.

The position and association of the eyeballs are perfectly natural, though they appear to be somewhat smaller than usual, an appearance probably caused by their being seated in the orbit more deeply than is usual; convergence very slight, but equal at two inches; repulsion active, and slightly more than central in the left eye; inversion and eversion very complete and equal—i.e., perfectly natural; sight, with both eyes open, without the use of glasses, and in a faint light sufficiently good for her to see to read small print at about the distance of *four* inches, and large print at *six*, but not beyond, and then only for a few minutes at a time—e.g. *five or seven*, after which she is not able to recognise the form of the largest letters; the sight, after many attempts to read or to work, requiring a rest of several hours duration for its recovery. She cannot see to thread a needle of less size than number seven; nor see to read the names of streets, of shopkeepers, or of omnibuses, if beyond the distance of eight to twelve feet. She states that her sight is most defective during the first two or three hours of the morning, and during candle light. In the morning her usual time of rising is half-past six o'clock, and her breakfast hour eight o'clock; from the time of her leaving her bed, till about one hour after her breakfast, her sight is always so dim that it is with much difficulty she prevents herself from stumbling over the chairs and other large objects which may lie in her way; indeed, on several occasions, she has fallen. During the remainder of the day, till candle light, her sight is usually much better, but at candle light, she experiences a return of the dimness like to that felt in the morning. Yellow sparks of fire are frequently seen before both eyes, but most frequently before the left. Sight in the right eye, as imperfect as with both eyes open; sight in the left eye, much worse than in the right, yet she can see by it the letters of small print, but not to read them; when this eye is used by itself, its dimness will increase much faster than if both eyes be open, and by it she can see best towards her nose. She is subject to very severe pains over the left eye, forehead, and through the temples, which are most severe in the morning, and when the sight is most dim. These pains are always increased by reading or running, but not by stooping; she is subject to severe intolerance of light, and to frequent attacks of sickness.

History. Soon after birth, her eyes were attacked by inflammation, accompanied by a profuse discharge, which continued during six months. She states that she never remembers her sight to have been very good, but is sure that it has become very much worse during these last two years, which she attributes to her more frequent attempts at needle work, the above described symptoms having gradually increased in their severity. Her treatment has been conducted by one of the most eminent ophthalmic surgeons in London, without any benefit.

Aug. 16. I divided the left internal rectus muscle, which caused the eye to become everted, and, at the same time, to have an instant improvement in its sight. Two hours after the operation, with both eyes open, she could see to read small print, "pearl," at the distance of seven and a half inches, and large print, "double pica," at twelve inches, and she observed that every object was seen much clearer than she had been accustomed to see it; by the left eye

alone she can read small print at seven inches, and large at ten.

Aug. 20. Position of the right eye central, and that of the left slightly everted; the prominence of the eyes as before operation; wound nearly healed; repulsion, more than central in the left; sight, with both eyes open, very much improved; she can see to read small print at the distance of twelve inches; the dimness does not come on so soon, or to so dense a degree as it used to do; with the left eye she is capable of seeing to read "pearl" type at the distance of eight inches; vision is best towards her left shoulder, and the disposition to dimness, after exertion, is greatly diminished. She says that on the evening of the day of operation, she saw, before the left eye, very many bright yellow sparks, which have not since been seen.

25. Position of both eyes frequently natural, but, at times, the left eye is slightly diverged; sight, with both eyes open, still improved; she can read small print for about one quarter of an hour, without resting the eyes; with the left eye she can now read pearl at ten inches, but a dimness still appears after slight exertion of the organ; sight, in the right eye, much improved since the operation on the left, and it is still the better eye of the two, for objects appear clearer to it, and can be seen both for a longer time and at a greater distance; the sight is still most dim in the morning, though not so much so as to cause any fear of falling; her pains are less severe than before operation, are not felt particularly over the left eye, but equally over both, and the intolerance of light has much subsided.

Sept. 10. Her general appearance is improved, and the expression of her eyes is more intelligent; the position of her eyes is at times perfectly natural; but, at other moments, the right eye appears to be slightly more central than the left; no prominence of the eyes since the operation; wound, healed; association, natural; convergence, at two and a half inches, slight, and equal; repulsion, in the left eye, active, and more than central; inversion, more than complete in the right, and complete in the left—that is to say, in the left eye the cornea passes the situation of the inferior punctum, just so far as to show a line of sclerótica between it and the inner canthus, while the inversion of the right cornea is so complete, that no portion of the sclerótica, inwards of it, could be seen; eversion, very complete in both, but slightly more so in the left; sight, with both eyes open, very much improved; she can see to read "pearl" type at fourteen inches, "double pica" type at the distance of four feet, and the names of omnibuses and shopkeepers more distinctly than ever she did. On Sunday last she read her testament and prayer-book during one hour and a half, a result of which was, a slight dimness of sight, which was speedily removed by a short rest; her sight in the morning is not so dim as it used to be, though, still its clearness is much the best towards noon. Since the day of operation, the appearance of sparks of fire before the eyes has not been seen; sight in the right eye not so good as with both open; she does not see quite so brightly, or so far with it—e.g., "pearl" cannot be read beyond ten inches, "double pica" beyond three feet. Sight with the left eye nearly as perfect as in the right; she can see with it "pearl" at ten inches, "double pica" at two and a quarter feet; the dimness still comes on after exertion, though not as before operation, nor to so great an extent.

During the last fortnight she has experienced severe pains, similar to those felt before operation; they have been felt over the left eye and forehead; the temples have not been painful since the first week after the operation.

13. Divided the *left external* rectus, which caused the left eye to become slightly inverted; but, on looking towards any object, with both eyelids open, it was

observed that the right eye would instantly converge to correspond with the left, so that she only every now and then sees double. In about an hour after the operation the sight in the left eye had become clearer than it ever yet had been known to be.

28. Position of the eyes frequently natural and central, but if their motions be attentively watched when she looks to a long distance, the left eye will be observed to be slightly inverted, while the right is as slightly everted; and if she looks at a near object the position of the eyes will be seen to be nearly reversed, the left eye being central, and the right much inverted. Association natural; convergence equal at three inches; repulsion in the left eye more than central; inversion more than complete in the right, and quite complete in the left; eversion very complete in the right, but not in the left by one line; with both eyes open, able to see to read "pearl" at fourteen inches, and "double pica" at four feet. She can now read for fully half an hour at a time, without any dimness appearing before the eyes; after which a slight dimness partly obscures the sight, and she can continue to read for at least an hour before she would feel herself compelled to rest for longer than a few seconds at a time. Yesterday, she sat at needle work for an hour, without any dimness having appeared; her sight still is noticed to be worse during the first hours of the morning; sight, in the left eye, sufficiently good for her to see to read "pearl" at ten inches, and "double pica" at three feet; a slight degree of dimness still appears in this eye after exertion, and its sight continues to be more perfect when directed towards the left shoulder. Sight in the right eye improved; she can read "pearl" at twelve inches, and "double pica" at about four feet; a slight degree of dimness appears before this eye after an exertion of it, but not to the same extent as in the left. The painful sensations in the head and brows are only felt after an over use of the eyes, or a too long and attentive gaze, and then merely a slight pain is experienced over the brows and forehead; she has not suffered any attacks of sickness, since the last operation.

Oct. 8. The general appearance of the girl is much improved, a more lively expression in her face being very perceptible; position of both eyes very nearly natural; the right is slightly diverged, the left equally converged when she looks at a distance, but if she looks at any object within three inches, the position will be reversed. Association natural; repulsion in the left eye central; inversion slightly more than complete in the right, and just complete in the left; eversion just complete in the left, and more than complete in the right by half a line. Her sight has continued to improve in both eyes; to-day she tried to do some fine needle work—namely, stitching, and, after one hour's occupation, she could see to work as distinctly as when she began, not having felt the least degree of inconvenience. Since the last operation she has, on several occasions, read small print and written small text, without the least appearance of her old symptoms. She has not seen double since the last operation, nor has any bandage been worn.

18. Divided the right external rectus muscle, and removed a small portion of it; the effect of which was to cause an equal convergence of both eyes, and a greater disposition to inversion in the right than the left; the power of eversion of the right was immediately after operation almost entirely destroyed; repulsion active and more than central in the left.

25. The position of both eyes is perfectly natural; the eversion in the right is not complete by two and a half lines; the repulsion in the left is more than central; she complains of pain across the forehead. Her sight remains very good, but, since the last operation, until yesterday, she has seen double; to day, all objects appear single and natural.

Nov. 2. Position of both eyes perfectly natural.

Inversion more than complete in the right, and just complete in the left; eversion equal, and not complete by half a line, sight perfect, and equally good with either eye; she worked at her needle yesterday for more than four hours and a half without feeling the slightest inconvenience during the time, or being compelled to rest, but after she had ceased to work a slight headache commenced, which did not last longer than half an hour.

15. The position of both eyes is perfectly natural, and their prominence equal, and more natural than before the operation, when they appeared to be somewhat smaller than they should be; association natural; convergence very slight and equal at the distance of one foot; it continues to increase equally, till it becomes nearly full, which occurs, when the pencil or object viewed, is situated at a point about three inches from the eyes; if the object be then advanced close to the root of the nose, the left eye will be observed to turn; first towards its centre, and secondly outwards and external to it, till it reaches a point situated midway between the centre of its palpebral margins, and the external canthus; during this movement of the left eye, the right has become inverted to the extent of nearly one quarter of its corneal surface; repulsion is then in the left eye more than central and passive; inversion, to the extent of one-third of the corneal surface in the right, and complete in the left; eversion equal, but not complete by half a line; sight perfectly good in both eyes; at the distance of fifteen inches, the patient can see to read "pearl," and "double pica" at four feet; she can see to do the finest work, or to read small print, for as long as she may please, without producing any dimness of sight, or feeling any other symptoms of uneasiness; she has worked at needlework for six hours in each day, during the past week, without noticing the presence of any of the old symptoms, even in the slightest degree. The vision in either eye is nearly equal, that of the left being a shade less perfect than the right; for instance, small print is seen by the right eye at fourteen inches, and by the left at twelve; the large print of "double pica" is seen, by either eye, at about the distance of four feet; all pains and uneasy sensations about the eyes and head have entirely ceased; intolerance of light has completely subsided, and she can bear the strong light of a bright day without any shading of the eyes.

REMARKS.

If the principal features of the above case be briefly summed up, it will appear that a girl of fourteen years of age was so blind, as not to be able, safely, to guide herself about, or to see to read a large sized print beyond the distance of *six* inches, for longer than five or seven minutes at a time, without resting her eyes during several hours; and who was subject to violent pains in the head, to attacks of sickness, and to such a degree of intolerance of light as to prevent her from facing day-light without the protection of a shade to her eyes, has been, by the performance of three operations on the recti muscles, so much improved, with respect to her sight, as to be rendered capable of seeing to read a small sized print at the distance of *fifteen* inches, a large sized print at *four* feet, and to do fine needle work during six hours, daily, without producing the least degree of dimness, or of any other impairment of her vision.

Moreover, the operations have been attended by a complete relief of all her pains, sickness, and intolerance of light; indeed, they have placed her in a state which, under other circumstances, she could never, reasonably, have expected to enjoy, for it must be remembered that the defect of her vision commenced soon after her birth, and had persisted, in spite of good medical treatment, till she became the subject of operation.