

## **A memoir of the late Philip Meadows Martineau, surgeon.**

### **Contributors**

Taylor, William.  
Elwin, Fountain Hastings, 1784?-1869.  
Dalrymple, William, 1772-1848.  
Martineau, Philip Meadows, 1752-1829.  
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14.

A MEMOIR

OF THE LATE

PHILIP MEADOWS MARTINEAU,

SURGEON.

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NORWICH:

BACON AND KINNEBROOK, MERCURY OFFICE.

1831.

A. B. C. D. E.

THE UNIVERSITY OF

PHILIP ALBERTS M. A. B. C. D. E.

The University of Philip Alberts M. A. B. C. D. E. is a leading institution of higher learning, offering a wide range of courses and programs. It is committed to providing a high quality education and to fostering a spirit of inquiry and discovery among its students.

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## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE.

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**THE MARTINEAU FAMILY** is believed to have originated in Dauphiné; and the earliest member of it, who leaves historic traces, was named Louis Martineau, and was apprenticed to some one of the original printers of Germany. He afterwards went to Paris, and established there, at the Sorbonne, if not the first, yet the most conspicuous and learned of the primitive printing-presses of France. This eminent typographer married a German woman, through whom probably his descendants became Protestants.

Of the lineal descent of the Norwich Martineaus from this celebrated printer no thoroughly satisfactory documents remain. The family annals reach no further back than to David Martineau, a surgeon at Dieppe, who, on the revocation of the edict of Nantes, embarked, with several of his brethren in the faith, for this country, where he landed in 1685.

In the same ship with David Martineau had sailed Elizabeth Pierre, whom he married in England, and to whom apparently he was previously betrothed. They came to settle in Norwich; where she had three daughters, one of whom married a Leneave, one a Colombine, and one a Willement; and two sons, of whom David, the elder, married a Miss Finch, and Gaston, the younger, married a Miss Hoyle; both these ladies being related to the then ministers of a Presbyterian chapel, at which their husbands attended, when there was no French service at the Walloon church.

David Martineau, the second, had by Elizabeth Finch two daughters and one son, who was the third child, and who again inherited the family name of David. He, like his father and grandfather, was bred to the surgical profession, practised in Norwich, and married there. His wife, named Sarah Meadows, was the sister of Philip Meadows, Esq. a distinguished solicitor, afterwards of Diss, and a descendant of Sir Philip Meadowes.

David Martineau the third had by this wife five sons and two daughters. Of these children the eldest, and the subject of the present professional memoir, was born the ninth of November, 1752, and was named after his uncle, who was married but had no family, Philip Meadows Martineau.

Dr. John Taylor, the learned author of a Hebrew Concordance, and the popular author of many anti-Calvinistic tracts, had been

invited to Norwich during the year 1733; and the Presbyterian congregation there had rebuilt for him, with much splendor, their meeting-house, which henceforth acquired, from its form, the name of the Octagon Chapel. A son of this eminent divine, by name Richard, had married the other sister of Mr. Philip Meadows; and thus the Doctor was become a sort of great-uncle to Philip Meadows Martineau; whom, to borrow his own expression, he received into the "covenant of grace," in the double capacity of pastor and kinsman. This baptism was administered on the twenty-eighth of November, 1752; and from the Doctor's register it appears, that Mr. and Mrs. David Martineau then resided in Saint Saviour's, in which parish consequently Mr. Martineau was born.

The education of Mr. Martineau was natural, not solicitous. He spent his early years at home, and attended a day school, where he acquired the elements of English, writing and ciphering it is believed, under Mr. Pagan, a schoolmaster of the neighbourhood, and an Anglo-Saxon scholar; for many rare books in that language preserve his signature, and must formerly have been in his possession.

At what period young Martineau began French is not exactly certain: probably about 1763, as his father was anxious that he should cultivate a language so long hereditary in the family, and placed him for that purpose under the tuition of the

Rev. John Bruckner, who gave public as well as private lessons of French.

Mr. Bruckner was a very accomplished as well as clever man : he has preached with approbation in four languages, Latin, French, Dutch, and English. His society was courted to the last, as his conversation was always distinguished for good sense, for argument and for humour ; and no where was he more willingly received throughout life than at the house of Mr. Martineau.

Dr. John Taylor in 1757 had migrated to Warrington ; but even there his influence was still felt over the education of his young kinsman, who in 1768 was sent to the boarding school of Mr. John Palmer (a dissenting minister in favour with Dr. Taylor) then of Warrington, and soon after of Macclesfield, whither Mr. Martineau accompanied him. Mr. Palmer published some theological tracts, and eventually settled at Newington.

At Macclesfield Mr. Martineau learnt the decease of his father, which took place on the nineteenth of November, 1768. In a letter dated the seventeenth of January, 1769, the Widow Martineau informs her son, that it was her late husband's wish to place him as an apprentice with Mr. Donne, an eminent surgeon of Norwich ; that she had had an interview with Mr. Donne on the subject, who had no immediate vacancy ; and that he recommended placing the young man for a twelvemonth

at Dereham with his former partner, Mr. Webster. This arrangement was acquiesced in, and executed during the following spring, or rather summer ; for a letter in Mrs. Martineau's hand-writing is still extant, dated the seventh of June, 1769, whence it appears that her son was already then resident at Dereham, but not yet articled to Mr. Webster.

In 1770 Mr. Martineau left Dereham, and came to attend at Mr. Donne's surgery in Norwich, in whose family he boarded, and with whom he completed an apprenticeship, which expired in 1773.

During Mr. Martineau's sojourn with Mr. Donne, was constructed by public subscription the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, which relieves about eight hundred patients annually, and which became so important a pedestal of his celebrity.

Mr. Donne was a man of cold manners but warm heart. An eminent anatomist, and particularly skilful in lithotomy, he was well adapted to prepare his pupil for the forms of excellence which were eventually evolved ; and his high sense of Mr. Martineau's merit and good conduct was marked by the early offer of a partnership.

In 1773 Mr. Martineau went during the month of October to Edinburgh, to pursue his professional studies, and early in



the following year was elected a member of the medical society there.

An undated letter, probably written in November, 1775, contains the following particulars of his studies:

“As I have now commenced another winter, I shall give a short sketch of the manner in which I hope to spend it. At eight in the morning I must be at class, from which time to nine I am with the Professor of the theory of medicine. From nine to ten with Dr. Cullen, for his lectures on the practice of physic. From eleven to twelve with Dr. Home, on the materia medica. The clinical lectures, which you remember I spoke so highly of last winter, I cannot regard this, as they are given by a man who it is feared will lose the reputation which his predecessor had gained in the chair: our great man, Cullen, has declined doing it from his increasing infirmities. Happy am I that I was so fortunate as to be with him last year; his resignation is universally regretted.”

In another part of this letter he says: “What say you, Ma’am; suppose I dignify myself with the title of doctor? It has a pleasing sound; but while the seeds of surgery are so deeply rooted in me, it would be difficult to think of any thing else.”

In the summer of 1774 Mr. Martineau undertook a tour in

the Highlands, accompanied by two fellow students, named Jacobson and Baker. He left Edinburgh on the second of August, proceeded through Queensferry to Falkirk, passed the canal then in the progress of construction, which unites the Forth and the Clyde; visited the iron-works at Carron, which even at that time employed twelve hundred men, and proceeded to Stirling. Through Dumblain the fellow travellers proceeded to Crief, which is the proper commencement of the Highlands, and thence to Taybridge, Taymouth, and Loch Tay, whence they rode northwards to Blair, saw the York cascade, visited Dunkeld and Perth, and taking an easterly direction, stopped at Brechin in Angus-shire.

In the autumn of 1775, after visiting his relations in Norwich, Mr. Martineau went to London to attend the lectures and hospitals there, and remained in London until late in the spring of 1776.

At the close of the lectures Mr. Martineau determined on a tour to Paris and Geneva, and left England for that purpose in July, 1766. A memorandum book exists, in which a journal of this peregrination was commenced. But the avocations inseparable from travelling caused it to be discontinued at Geneva.

Soon after Mr. Martineau's return to Norwich, the partnership proposed by Mr. Donne during the preceding spring was realized; it continued for ten years, after which Mr. M. practised on his own separate account.

In February, 1777, he was unanimously elected assistant surgeon to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, in the room of Mr. James Alderson, who was then promoted to the office of a principal surgeon.

On the twentieth of October, 1778, Mr. Martineau married Miss Elizabeth Humfrey, daughter of the Rev. Richard Humfrey, Rector of Thorpe near Norwich. He resided at this time in the parish of St. George's Colegate.

In 1784 he conceived the plan of founding a public library at Norwich, and having consulted the leading persons of the city, he called a meeting in St. Andrew's Hall, at which Robert Partridge, Esq. the Mayor, presided, and the result of which was the establishment of the present library. The Rev. John Peele, his fellow labourer in this excellent work, was the first president, and Mr. Martineau the first vice-president. There are at this time six hundred permanent subscribers to the library, which contains (including the city library) upwards of nine thousand volumes, and its annual expenditure in the purchase of books amounts to between four and five hundred pounds.

In 1793 Mr. Martineau was elected a principal surgeon to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, in the place of Mr. Alderson, who had graduated and had become one of the physicians to the establishment.

During this year, he appears first to have contemplated the indulgence of a retreat from the cares and anxieties of a profession which left him little time for relaxation; and his love of the beauties of natural scenery, led him to the purchase of an estate at Bracondale. Here he built a small house, to which he frequently resorted with his friends, during the summer months, after the fatigues of the day. His practice at this time had become very extensive, his hospitalities were various and elegant, and he lived in frequent intercourse with the best society of the county and city.

In the early part of the year 1810, Mr. Martineau suffered a severe affliction in the loss of his wife, who died without previous illness on the first of February. Mrs. Martineau was a woman of pleasing appearance, amiable disposition, and polished manners. She had been the object of Mr. Martineau's earliest affections, and they had lived together in uninterrupted harmony for thirty-two years. Mrs. Martineau died without leaving issue; and in the following year Mr. Martineau married Anne Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Elwin, Esq. and widow of Somers Clarke, Esq. by whom he had one daughter, born on the fifteenth of August, 1812.

With this addition to his domestic happiness, he was stimulated to erect a mansion suited to his improved fortunes and the rank which he held in society; and in 1813 was laid the first stone of

the present house at Bracondale. To this beautiful spot Mr. Martineau was enthusiastically attached, and never did he appear so happy as when diffusing the stores of his mind amidst his friends at the social board, or pointing out to them the varied beauties of the prospect in the pleasure grounds. The difficulty of guarding the privacy of such a retreat, in the suburbs of a large manufacturing town, with a rapidly increasing population, must be obvious to every one; and Mr. Martineau's ready judgment suggested to him, that the only method to effect this desirable object, was to purchase whatever surrounding land was offered for sale, without reference to its abstract value; a practice which he continued to the last year of his life, and which has secured to Bracondale the repose and quiet of a country house, within the immediate reach of the society and conveniences of a large city. After the completion of the house at Bracondale, Mr. Martineau constantly resided there during the summer months, passing the winter in a house built by Mr. Ivory in King-street, to which he had removed from St. George's Colegate in the year 1798.

In 1824 the attention of the public mind was directed by the joint efforts of Mr. Bacon the Editor of the Norwich Mercury, and Mr. Edward Taylor, to the establishment of a triennial Musical Festival in aid of the funds of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. To the forwarding this desirable object Mr. Martineau lent his most strenuous efforts. He undertook to develop the

plan to the board of Governors, aided in the formation of a Committee of management, and became a constant attendant upon its meetings; where the absence of his directing mind and polished manners will be long felt and regretted.

Mr. Martineau from his earliest years had been a member of the sect of Unitarian dissenters assembling for public worship in the Octagon chapel in St. George's Colegate; and in 1828 he had the satisfaction of assisting, as one of the stewards, at the celebration of the repeal of the Test and Corporation Act, over which Lord Holland presided.

In the summer of this year, when resident at his loved retreat at Bracondale, reared by his taste and fostered by his care, in the rare possession of happiness acknowledged while experienced, he was in the midst of apparent health and strength attacked with a painful disease, which in the course of a few months, by protracted severity, terminated his valued life on the evening of the first of January, 1829.

His funeral took place on Friday, January the ninth, in Thorpe Church, and was attended by all the Medical Officers of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.

A short memorial in Thorpe church records the dates of his birth, marriages, and death; and a mural monument, bearing the

following inscription, has been erected to his memory in the Octagon chapel.

TO THE MEMORY OF

PHILIP MEADOWS MARTINEAU, SURGEON,

Who was born in this City, November IX<sup>th</sup> MDCCLII,

Where, after a severe and protracted illness,

He expired in Christian hope, January 1<sup>st</sup> MDCCCXXIX.

In the exercise of his profession,

He was distinguished by the soundness of his judgment,

And the eminent felicity of his practical skill;

The strict performance of every religious and moral duty,

During his long and useful life,

Was regulated by Christian principles and honorable feelings.

He married 1<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth, Daughter of the Reverend Richard Humfrey,

Rector of Thorpe, in this County; and 2<sup>d</sup> Anne Dorothy, Daughter

Of Thomas Elwin, Esq. and Widow of Somers Clarke, Esq.

By whom he left one Daughter.

He was educated, and continued a faithful member of the Congregation of Unitarian Dissenters; his Widow has therefore

Here recorded his name, among those whose memory will

Be ever cherished by their brethren, for the practice of those

Virtues which best exemplify the purity of their doctrine and

The sincerity of their belief.

From his early years, the energy of a powerful and ambitious mind was directed to one, and that an arduous study. Industry

and skill were completely rewarded by widely extended private and public testimony ; his pre-eminence as a surgeon, his prompt judgment in discerning the nature and cause of disease, will be appreciated by those best able to decide on attainments so difficult and important ; while the numbers who were daily looking to him for relief, will acknowledge the valuable result of his ability and experience.

In the different relations of life, he was a faithful, affectionate, and confiding husband, a tender father, a true friend, a kind and considerate master. To the pleasures of social intercourse his animated spirits gave a peculiar zest ; and although the duties and cares of the profession he had chosen, limited his path among the wide and varied ways of mankind, he contrived by a store of local anecdote and information to render familiar conversation interesting and amusing : the common topics of the day often produced wise reflections, and were qualified by remarks springing from just feeling, sound judgment, and good taste. That he was too prone to impetuosity of temper must be allowed. Ardent and irritable, he sometimes put forth a severe rebuke ; but whenever this drew from the reproved party a fair reply, he at once stood self corrected, and never, by rejoinder, provoked or prolonged an angry debate.

His unremitting love of society, has been censured as partaking of vanity, but it should be remembered that in one exposed



continually to the chambers of misery and pain, the mind becomes unfitted for thoughtful pursuits, and that in order to revive exhausted powers, it is almost necessary to turn to scenes of cheerfulness and ease. But what in him has been represented as ostentation, was more truly a gladness of heart flowing from the happy experience of a successful, honest, and useful life. "He went on his way rejoicing," and also rejoicing in this—the testimony of his conscience.

The sick and the dispirited eagerly coveted his help and sympathy; and years will pass away, before his common acquaintance will cease to miss, either as they walk the street, or join the domestic circle, his lively greeting, courteous address, ready hospitality, and kind welcome. Whether to counsel, to cheer, or to relieve, he seemed to call all ranks around him, in the spirit of a command given in concerns of a higher nature: "Freely ye have received, freely give."

The public institutions, and general welfare of his native city were benefitted by his guidance. Petty disputes subsided under his able decision and prevailing authority.

In politics he may be considered as belonging to what is called the Whig party, but habitually and intimately associated with contending opinions, he became free from the fetters of prejudice, and although liberal, he was moderate.

In religion he was a consistent member of the sect of Unitarian dissenters, but on this important subject may be applied the words of Dr. Parr, "that the wise and good cherish within their bosoms a religion more pure and perfect than any formulary of speculation they externally profess; that their agreement upon points of supreme and indisputable moment, is greater perhaps than they may themselves suspect; and that upon subjects the evidence of which is doubtful, and the importance of which is secondary, their difference is nominal rather than real."

He endured a long and suffering illness with dignified patience, and met the approaches of death with manly fortitude and Christian hope; it is therefore both unnecessary and unwise to define the speculative distinctions of a faith, which at the last and undisguised hour of trial proved its divine influence.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMOIR.

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**T**HE Professional Character of Mr. Martineau was early formed and strongly marked ; it was essentially, eminently *practical*. He inherited as it were, professional power, and may in truth be said to have been born to his occupation. He was literally cradled in the art, which he loved and laboured to adorn.

He was the son of a professional father, exercising with much distinction in the birth-place of his forefathers, the several branches of the healing art, known to the public and to the profession under the significant denomination of "general practice."

To the many and various merits of this excellent parent, who terminated his short and active life at the early age of forty-two years, in consequence of fever acquired in the performance of professional duties, the deep and solemn interest which the public is remembered to have felt in the fortunes of his surviving

family, offers the fullest as it is also the most delightful kind of proof.

In the exercise of his professional functions, the elder Mr. Martineau is acknowledged, at all sides, to have combined a large variety of bright and estimable qualities.

He possessed good natural parts, excellent sense, and solid judgment, with an unusually large store of sound practical knowledge. To properties such as these, and so appropriate to his occupation; he superadded firmness of purpose, with self possession, and a singular suavity of manners.

He was indeed a kind hearted, mild mannered, sensible, and prudent person; and in reference to his very busy mode of life, he occasionally though rarely indulged in literary pursuits, and has left behind him an enduring proof that the father of Philip Meadows Martineau, was himself something more and greater than a mere practitioner in medicine.

In the eighth volume of "the Philosophical Transactions, from the year 1719 to the year 1733, abridged and disposed under general heads," there is a paper communicated to the Royal Society "by Mr. David Martineau, surgeon in Norwich;" containing a history of a medical case that fell under the

observation and treatment of this excellent man, and is related with admirable modesty, simplicity, propriety, and effect.

“Fortes creantur fortibus, et boni bonis.”

This golden maxim, true in moral, as in physiological science, was strikingly exemplified in the general history of Mr. Martineau's family.

In the particular instance of the distinguished subject of this memoir, it was demonstratively conspicuous, and the racy qualities of the parent were transmitted whole and perfect to the son. The master faculty of Mr. Martineau's mind, and a master faculty it always is, was strong native sense. Rich indeed he was in other forms and kinds of mental power, for nature had been bountiful to him, and given to him a mind replete with faculties peculiarly suited to the course of life he was destined to pursue.

These faculties, early observed by the equal sagacity of both his parents, and diligently trained in the best schools and under the greatest masters of the age, could not fail to confer on the gifted person in possession of them, that powerful, yet chastened force of character, so admirably sustained through the extended line of Mr. Martineau's busy and most useful life.

This property was in point of fact the real source of Mr. Martineau's great strength; on this firm rock he rested, and he wisely rested, his claims to superior power; and tempered and qualified as his manner of asserting these claims was, by a full sense of what was just and generous towards the claims of others, it was refreshing and delightful even to behold him, either in council, or on the field of action in the full and free exercise of it.

Of the more minute details relating to the professional portion of Mr. Martineau's education, the formal documents and proofs are both few and scanty.

The main parts and passages are however firmly fixed, the leading features and positive characters are strongly marked; and it is most certain that nothing of solid and substantial, nothing of absolutely useful, nor even of reasonably ornamental, was excluded from it.

It began in very early life, it proceeded slowly, and finally it concluded in the accumulation of great professional power, of the best and most effective kind.

Having left Warrington in the year 1768, Mr. Martineau went to Macclesfield, where he resided during several months under the kindly roof and useful teaching of the Rev. J. Palmer; hence he

was summoned to begin his professional education, strictly so called.

In this year it is distinctly ascertained that he was apprenticed with Mr. Webster, a respectable surgeon-apothecary, engaged in extensive practice, and settled in the market town of East Dereham, distant about sixteen miles from Norwich. With this gentleman Mr. Martineau remained, until a vacancy occurred in the establishment of Mr. Donne at Norwich, when in obedience to the expressed wishes of his father, and in conformity with his pre-engagements with Mr. Webster, he was placed under the tutelage of Mr. Donne, a man of strong sense, of eminent rank in his profession generally, one of the surgeons of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, and during a long portion of his life a lithotomist of high celebrity.

In the year 1773 Mr. Martineau proceeded to Edinburgh, where he remained during almost three entire years, and appears to have lived in free and frequent intercourse with all the leading men, as well professors as students, of that celebrated school of medicine. Be it remembered, that these were the days of Black and Cullen, of the great Monro, and of Home and Hope.

In the year 1776 our student removed to London, and had the good fortune to be placed as house pupil in the family of Dr. Denman, a congenerous spirit; of whom both living and

dying it was equally the habit and the pride of the scholar, to praise and celebrate the master. Here also Mr. Martineau entered for hospital practice, at one of the larger hospitals of the metropolis. The particular hospital is not ascertained ; probably it was St. George's, because it is in proof that he took his courses of anatomy, and physiology, and of surgery, in the great schools of Hunter, and of Baillie, and of Cruickshank. With these, the brightest lights of their enlightened age, he lived in daily and delightful intercourse and conversation ; and was it possible to live in higher company ? Could he who at no distant day was destined to become the pride and ornament of provincial surgery and surgeons—could such a student either pursue his great purposes in a higher school, or associate elsewhere with equal power ?

In the course of the ensuing summer, Mr. Martineau having quitted London, proceeded to Paris, and remaining some time in that city, always in the society of his accomplished friend, Dr. Caleb Hillier Parry, the great pathologist and practitioner of Bath, he daily visited and closely observed the practice and the arrangements of the Paris hospitals, where he received the marked attentions of certain of the more distinguished of the professors.

At the close of the current year 1777; our active traveller returned hastily to his native city, called suddenly from Paris by an invitation from his early master and constant friend Mr. Donne,



who offered to his former pupil, and in very flattering terms, a portion of his ample practice.

In this connection, always prospering and daily rising in public estimation, Mr. Martineau continued until the year 1786, when he commenced a separate and independent establishment that eventually left him nothing either to regret or to desire.

In the following year, 1787, Mr. Martineau was unanimously elected one of the Assistant Surgeons of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, in succession to Mr. Alderson, recently elected to a vacant Surgeoncy, and finally in the year 1793 he was chosen one of the Surgeons of the same excellent charity.

On the morning of Tuesday, the fourth of October, 1828, a verbal communication, authorized by Mr. Martineau, was made to the Physicians and Surgeons of the hospital, by the Surgeon next in seniority, that in consequence of continued and increasing weakness, and bad health, Mr. Martineau intended at the next coming weekly board, to retire from the eminent station he had so long occupied in the hospital.

As a testimony of his regard and respect for his professional friends and colleagues, he had seized the earliest opportunity in his power of communicating his intention to them, accompanied with expressions of kindly feelings and recollections.

A resolution (a copy of which will be found in the subsequent proceedings of the board of Governors of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital) was instantly and unanimously adopted. Having been communicated verbally and without delay to Mr. Martineau, it was formally and by letter transmitted to the weekly board on the eighth of November.

The following extracts from the minutes of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, will exhibit the proceedings consequent upon Mr. Martineau's message.

“At a weekly board of the Governors of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, held on the eighth day of November, 1828—

## PRESENT:

EDMOND WODEHOUSE, ESQ. M. P. IN THE CHAIR.

WM. DALRYMPLE, ESQ.

THOMAS COBBOLD, ESQ.

THE REV. DR. SUTTON

JOHN CROSSE, ESQ.

THE REV. S. TITLOW

HENRY CARTER, ESQ.

THE REV. W. F. DRAKE

MR. KITSON

DR. YELLOLY

DR. EVANS

DR. WRIGHT

THE REV. C. N. WODEHOUSE.

Papers of which the following are copies, were this day laid before the board and read:

To the Governors of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.

Nov. 6th, 1828.

GENTLEMEN,

Having been Surgeon and Assistant Surgeon to the Hospital more than half a century, and having been prevented attending for many weeks, by a very painful illness, I beg leave to resign an office the duties of which I am not able to perform. Allow me to add, I shall always feel a deep interest in the prosperity and reputation of the institution, for which I have felt an almost paternal affection from its earliest dawn.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen,

Your obliged and obedient servant,

P. M. MARTINEAU.

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Norfolk and Norwich Hospital,

4th October, 1828.

The Physicians and Surgeons of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital have this morning received from their respected colleague, Mr. Martineau, a formal communication of his intention to relinquish without delay that appointment, which during a period of more than half a century has connected him with the charity.

The event is doubtless of great interest to all the friends of the

establishment—it is eminently so to those professional persons, who, officially attached to the hospital, have consequently enjoyed abundant opportunities of observing the calm and solid judgment, the general intelligence and power, and the consistent firmness, that mark the conduct and the character of their distinguished senior surgeon.

The colleagues of Mr. Martineau cannot therefore contemplate his secession from their circle, without feelings of deep regret. These feelings, they desire to express in a public and emphatic manner. In this view, with perfect unanimity, and with the warmest cordiality, they venture to indulge the hope, that in retiring from the more active labours of his long and useful public life, Mr. Martineau will continue to associate himself with his professional friends of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, in the quality and under the designation of

“HONORARY CONSULTING SURGEON.”

By an arrangement such as this, the authors of it do conceive that an object of much value will be obtained, in the expression of a strong feeling of personal regard and respect, manifested in an act of voluntary justice to the long services and acknowledged merits, of a distinguished fellow labourer.

To give effect to this expression of their feelings, the physicians

and surgeons of the hospital, request to be favoured with the assent and co-operation of the weekly board.

| PHYSICIANS.                                 | SURGEONS.                        |
|---|----------------------------------|
| W. WRIGHT (by the hand of<br>Mr. Dalrymple) | WILLIAM DALRYMPLE                |
| L. EVANS                                    | JOHN CROSSE                      |
| J. YELLOLY                                  | HENRY CARTER, Assistant Surgeon. |

Resolved unanimously—That the suggestion of the medical gentlemen be adopted, and that Mr. Martineau be appointed honorary consulting surgeon to this hospital; and that Edmond Wodehouse, Esq. M. P. the chairman of the board, the Rev. Dr. Sutton, Dr. Wright, and Wm. Dalrymple, Esq. be a committee for the purpose of communicating this resolution to Mr. Martineau.

Norwich, Nov. 29, 1828.

At a special general board of the Governors of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, held Nov. 29th, 1828—

PRESENT.

THE REV. R. C. LONG in the Chair,

THE HON. COLONEL WODEHOUSE, Lieutenant of the County,

SIR M. B. FOLKES, BART. High Sheriff of the County,

|                      |                           |                      |
|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| LORD VISC. NEVILL    | THE REV. JAS. BROWN       | THE REV. DR. SUTTON  |
| SIR T. BEEVOR, BART. | SIR W. BEAUCHAMP PROCTOR, | THE REV. W. F. DRAKE |
| SIR R. J. HARVEY     | BART.                     | THE REV. J. H. FISK  |
| THE REV. S. TITLOW   | SIR E. K. LACON, BART.    | DR. EVANS            |
| THE REV. JOS. CARTER | WM. DALRYMPLE, ESQ.       | H. CARTER. ESQ.      |

It was moved by Dr. Yelloly, and seconded by the Rev. R. C. Long, and resolved unanimously—

That the most cordial thanks of the board, be given to Philip Meadows Martineau, Esq. for the able, humane, and successful exercise of his official duties, as surgeon to this charity during a period of half a century; and for the zeal and talents, which he has uniformly displayed in promoting the interests of the institution.

That this board learns with great pleasure, the proceeding of the medical officers, and of the weekly board, relative to the nomination of Mr. Martineau as honorary consulting surgeon; that this appointment has its most cordial approbation and sanction; and that in affording to it an unanimous confirmation, this board has the satisfaction of giving official effect to an honourable expression of regard from Mr. Martineau's colleagues, and to a respectful mark of attachment from the weekly board, which had such ample opportunities of becoming acquainted with Mr. Martineau's continued and important services to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, during a long and useful life.

That these resolutions be copied on vellum, signed by the Chairman, and transmitted to Mr. Martineau.

Thus terminated, on the twenty-eighth day of November, 1828,

after a length and weight of services, seldom equalled, and never surpassed, the personal connection of Mr. Martineau with the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.

Henceforward it was not permitted to him to return within our walls, but more than half a hundred years of anxious labour and of signal services, had covered him with honours, and when he bade us farewell for ever, he left behind him a name and reminiscences that shall surely never die!

The life of Mr. Martineau, though prolonged beyond the average duration of the life of man, was much too busily employed, and his intellectual faculties were far too positive and practical, to permit him, in any part of his career, to acquire the habits, or to assume the attitude of a literary man.

In this point also the resemblance of the father and of the son is full and perfect. They are both, and almost equally unfrequent, though most instructive authors.

Mr. David Martineau bequeathed to his successors a single history. Mr. Philip Martineau has left two published papers behind him, the sum total, as it is believed, of his literary efforts. Of these, one (after the example of his honoured parent) he caused to be transmitted to the Royal Society. It was presented to the learned body by the fostering hand of his venerable friend, the illustrious

John Hunter. This paper is inserted in "The Philosophical Transactions for 1784." It is intitled "An extraordinary Case of a Dropsy of the Ovarium, with some remarks by Mr. Philip Martineau, senior surgeon to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, communicated by John Hunter, Esq. F. R. S."

The case is indeed an extraordinary history, exhibiting a prodigious instance of the extent to which this form of dropsical deposit may proceed, without producing serious injury to the parts in which it occurs, or a fatal derangement of the general health of the sufferer, whilst controuled by the application of well regulated treatment. In this respect the case in question is also replete with interest and instruction, as demonstrating the ease and safety with which, under favourable circumstances, the operation for the release of the contained fluid, may be almost indefinitely repeated. This case is admirably stated, and may be offered as a model of fine writing, on a subject of pure pathological science.

The second paper was published in the second part of the eleventh volume of the "Transactions of the Medical and Chirurgical Society of London." It is intitled, "On Lithotomy, by Philip Meadows Martineau, Esq. senior surgeon of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, and member of the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh;" and made its appearance in the year 1821.



It is in all respects a most interesting and important communication, whether as relating to the great subject of the "Lateral Operation for the Stone," or as describing with equal felicity and force, the manner in which the operation is usually performed in the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital—a manner so peculiar as to have obtained for it the descriptive title of "the Norwich Operation for the Stone." It is also closely connected with the personal part of the present subject, and the especial power and the particular merit of our great artist; relating, in his own simple and modest manner, the brilliant and uncommon result of his own experience and practice.

The subject in question is stated in detail, and bears the form, and has all the force of documentary proof. It is composed with characteristic simplicity and strength, and presents a circumstantial report of the writer's success in eighty-four instances of lithotomy by the lateral method of cutting, not necessarily Mr. Cheselden's method, but unquestionably the line of Mr. Martineau's highest efforts and ambition.

It is true indeed that this paper does not present the entire results. It includes only the results of practice comprehended within two given and selected periods of the Surgeon's life, but the facts are very numerous.

They occupied a space of time equal to seventeen years. The

cases occurred almost entirely in public practice. The operations were principally performed in the theatre of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, where the final issue of the cases is registered in the lithotomy catalogue, in the series and order in which they presented themselves.

The statement is consequently susceptible of rigorous and exact investigation.

The direct products also of each operation, are collected and preserved in the lithotomy cabinet of the hospital, where a most interesting, and perhaps the most numerous collection of human urinary calculi, exclusively the produce of a single establishment, amounting to six hundred and sixty-seven specimens, are freely shewn to all desirous of inspecting them.

This collection is indeed unrivalled and unique. It is the pride and honour of our provincial surgery, and in all time to come it will assuredly be classed amongst the brightest trophies of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.

The value, the diffusive beneficial influence of practical professional communications, such as the paper in question affords, no one ever felt more deeply than the distinguished Author himself. He was accustomed ever to consider facts the true elements, the never perishing materials of science. These

in his clear view of the subject, constitute experience ; and furnish at once, both the foundations and the superstructure of true knowledge.

To promote this great cause not less in truth, but infinitely more, than with a view to personal praise and panegyric ; it has been determined by the individual, a humble labourer in the same vineyard, who holds the pen on this occasion, to republish entire and perfect, from the "Transactions of the Medical and Chirurgical Society," Mr. Martineau's own simple, modest, and perspicuous narrative of the results of eighty-four operations of lithotomy, as performed by him in public and private practice, during a period of seventeen years, dating from the third of May, 1804, to the 19th of September, 1820, inclusive.

There is perhaps no branch of surgical art or science, for here both art and science are equally concerned, that possesses a higher interest, for either the profession or the public, than the "operation for the stone."

Certainly to Mr. Martineau this operation presented irresistible attractions and charms. To excel in this, the most anxious and the most responsible, perhaps also the most difficult department of his art, seems from the commencement to the conclusion of his long career, to have been a leading object of professional effort and ambition. To accomplish this, he willingly gave up his days

and nights ; to this he applied all the powers of his strong mind. By the stimulus of this great power, throughout the lengthened course of his whole life, his efforts were eminently successful ; his triumph was complete, and when he finally retired from the favorite scene of his many and hard-earned honours, he retired in full possession of that perfect command of head and hand which had long placed him at the head of our provincial surgery, and which entitled the senior Surgeon to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital to a distinguished rank amongst the most eminent Lithotomists of his age and country.

ON

**LITHOTOMY,**

BY PHILIP M. MARTINEAU, ESQ.

*(Published in the Second Part of the Eleventh Volume of "The Transaction of the Medical and Chirurgical Society of London),*

SENIOR SURGEON TO THE NORFOLK AND NORWICH HOSPITAL AND  
MEMBER OF THE ROYAL MEDICAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH.

READ MAY 1st, 1821.

**T**HE subject of Calculous Disorders having of late excited considerable attention, and a return to the high operation recommended in preference to the lateral, at present in use, it may not be without some advantage to consider the success which has attended the lateral, and that which is likely to follow the high operation.

Mr. Carpue has lately given a very useful history of the various operations of lithotomy, and recommended the high operation as performed by Dr. Souberbielle at Paris; but unless the success be greater, or the operation less difficult than the lateral, it may not be found prudent to resort to it. It must be confessed, that in Dr. Souberbielle's operation, many of the former dangerous consequences of the high operation are avoided by the use of the sonde-de-dard; still the reasons

which Mr. Carpue gives for preferring the high operation are by no means conclusive.

His first. "That it is generally performed in less time than the lateral operation."—This is not at all probable, as it is much more complicated, and the lateral seldom occupies more than two or three minutes.

Second. "There is less pain."—Being a double operation, it *cannot* be less painful, unless in the case of a very large stone, and where it breaks.

Third. "There is no fear of a fatal hæmorrhage."—Neither is there much from the lateral, as not one has occurred in the five hundred and seventy-four patients cut in the Norwich Hospital, nor have I witnessed a fatal case in private practice.

Fourth. "There is no division of the prostate, nor of the inferior part of the bladder, nor is there any danger of wounding the rectum."—So seldom does inconvenience arise from any of those occurrences, that they should not be regarded as militating against the lateral operation.

Fifth. "The stone, if of a certain size, cannot be extracted by the lateral, but may be extracted by this method."—This is scarcely to be considered as a superiority, as it seldom occurs

that a stone is so large as not to be taken away by the lateral operation. Only one such case has occurred in forty-seven years, out of the five hundred and seventy-four operations in the Norwich Hospital; and from a very large stone, much danger may arise, even in the high operation.

Sixth. "A small stone is more readily discovered by this method, than by the lateral."—But when did it happen that a stone was so small as not to be discovered in the lateral operation? or, that it was not found to have come away with the rush of urine which follows the opening into the bladder?

Seventh. "If the stone break, the particles can be extracted with more certainty, than in the lateral operation."—In both operations, a stone breaking must occasion great distress, and a small portion may be left; but for the most part, such particles come away afterwards with the urine; and it is not impossible that in the high operation some fragments may escape the finger, and then *they never can* be discharged.

Eighth. "If the stone is concealed in the cist, the cist can be destroyed, and the stone extracted."—If a cyst envelope a stone, it will not be felt by the sound, and no operation would then be attempted; but stones in cysts are *rare* occurrences, if *ever*; and *never*, that I knew, were the cause of failure in the operation.

Ninth. "In case there should be any disease in the bladder, it can be examined, and proper means prescribed for the cure."—The discovery of the exact condition must be very uncertain, and the *cure* of a *diseased* bladder extremely precarious.

It were to be wished that Mr. Carpue had favoured us with an account of the success of Dr. Souberbielle's practice in his new operation, but of this we are left in ignorance. To Mr. Smith, of Bristol, we are much indebted for his laborious statistical inquiry into the frequency of stone in the bladder, given in the *Medico-Chirurgical Transactions*, in which he has related the result of practice in every part of the kingdom, and in no district has the success of operations been equal to that of Cheselden. Dr. Marcet, in his excellent treatise on calculous disorders, has given an average proportion of deaths through England from the lateral operation of stone, which he finds to be one in five; and mentioning the result of those performed in the Norwich Hospital as one in seven and a quarter, he on the whole is accurate, but in an error when he ascribes the same success to *all* the surgeons who have succeeded each other, for they vary from one in five and a quarter to one in ten. In the first years of my practice I was not very successful; and often witnessing many untoward circumstances in myself and others, which appeared to arise from the use of the cutting gorget, I determined to lay that instrument aside, and employ the knife only, and the *blunt* gorget as a conductor for the forceps; and as I have now so operated from the year 1804 to



1820 inclusive, a period of seventeen years, I shall subjoin the name, age, and event of each operation, with the weight of every stone; and it will be seen that in the seventeen years, eighty-four patients have been cut, ten of whom were private cases, and of this number only *two* died.

| No. |                      | Age.            | When cut. | Cured.    | Wt. of Stones.  |
|-----|----------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|---|
|     | 1804.                |                 |           |           |   |
| 1   | James Bennett        | 54              | May 3     | 1 month   | 1 oz. 2 drs.  |
| 2   | Martin Bennington    | 24              | Sept. 22  | 1 month   | $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.                                       |
| 3   | Richard Bond         | 7               | Nov. 1    | 3 weeks   | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ drs.                                    |
|     | 1805.                |                 |           |           |   |
| 4   | James Banyard        | 60              | Mar. 14   | 1 month   | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.                                     |
| 5   | John Hipkins         | 53              | June 13   | 5 weeks   | 5 scruples  |
| 6   | William Neave        | 66              | June ---  | 5 weeks   | 1 oz.   |
| 7   | Thomas Curson        | 66              | June ---  | 8 weeks   | 2 oz.   |
| 8   | Edward Williamson    | 42              | June 27   | 8 weeks   | 6 drs.  |
| 9   | James Woods          | 4               | Aug. 1    | 3 weeks   | 2 drs.  |
| 10  | Frederick Smith      | 4               | Aug. 15   | 3 weeks   | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ dr.                                     |
| 11  | William Osborn       | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ | Oct. 18   | 2 weeks   | 22 grs.   |
| 12  | Samuel Hawes         | 17              | Nov. 28   | 5 weeks   | $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.                                       |
|     | 1806.                |                 |           |           |   |
| 13  | Rebecca Miller       | 56              | May 28    | 3 weeks   | 2 oz. 2 drs.  |
| 14  | William Wright       | 6               | Oct. 2    | 2 weeks   | 2 drs. 10 grs.  |
| 15  | John Stebbings       | 5               | Oct. 23   | 3 weeks   | 2 drs.  |
| 16  | <i>Master Smith*</i> | 10              | Dec. 10   | 3 weeks   | not weighed   |
| 17  | Abraham Nunn         | 5               | Dec. 18   | 4 weeks   | $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.                                       |
|     | 1807.                |                 |           |           |   |
| 18  | <i>Mr. Bell</i>      | 58              | June 28   | 5 weeks   | not weighed   |
| 19  | John Craske          | 11              | Nov. 5    | 6 weeks   | 2 scruples  |
| 20  | John Belyard         | 13              | Dec. 24   | 6 weeks   | 10 grs.   |
|     | 1808.                |                 |           |           |   |
| 21  | John Fell            | 60              | Mar. 24   | 6 weeks   | $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.                                       |
| 22  | Thomas Spanton       | 30              | Apr. 26   | 1 month   | 2 oz.   |
| 23  | Samuel Dybale        | 33              | May 12    | 5 weeks   | Incrusted Bougie,<br>2 drs. 30 weeks<br>in the bladder. |
| 24  | William Rackham      | 32              | July 21   | 9 weeks   | 1 oz. 1 dr.   |
| 25  | Peter Payne          | 3               | Aug. 4    | 2 weeks   | 2 drs. 1 scr.   |
| 26  | <i>Mrs. P.</i>       | 45              | Sept. 10  | not noted |   |
| 27  | John Mace            | 4               | Oct. 6    | 4 weeks   | 2 drs,  |
| 28  | <i>Master Postle</i> | 9               | Nov. 12   | not noted |   |
|     | 1809.                |                 |           |           |   |
| 29  | Robert Goss          | 30              | Jan. 19   | 6 weeks   | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.                                     |
| 30  | Robert Newrick       | 11              | Mar. 30   | 1 month   | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ drs.                                    |

\* The names printed in italics are those of private patients, amounting to ten in number.

| No. |                   | Age. | When cut. | Cured.    | Wt. of Stones. |
|-----|-------------------|------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
|     | 1809.             |      |           |           |                |
| 31  | Samuel Todd       | 9    | Mar. --   | 5 weeks   | 1½ dr.         |
| 32  | Thomas Day        | 20   | Nov. 30   | 9 weeks   | 1 oz.          |
|     | 1810.             |      |           |           |                |
| 33  | William Beverly   | 7    | Mar. 1    | 5 weeks   | 2½ drs.        |
| 34  | Hannah Greyton    | 19   | Mar. 29   | 2 weeks   | 1 dr.          |
| 35  | Christopher Press | 5    | May 17    | 2 weeks   | ½ dr.          |
| 36  | Samuel Farrow     | 12   | June 7    | 2 weeks   | 2½ drs.        |
| 37  | George Yallop     | 2    | June --   | 1 week    | 1 dr.          |
| 38  | Henry Howlett     | 2½   | June 28   | 2 weeks   | 1 dr.          |
| 39  | Thomas Smith      | 70   | July 19   | 7 weeks   | 1 oz.          |
| 40  | John Rawling      | 6    | Aug. 9    | 3 weeks   | 1½ dr.         |
| 41  | Mr. Page          | 36   | Oct. 20   | cured*    |                |
| 42  | James Roe         | 60   | Nov. 1    | 7 weeks   | 1 oz. 5 drs.   |
| 43  | William Payment   | 13   | Dec. 20   | 6 weeks   | ½ oz.          |
|     | 1811.             |      |           |           |                |
| 44  | Mrs. ---          | 48   | Apr. 12   | cured†    |                |
| 45  | William Cann      | 16   | May. 8    | 3 weeks   | few grains     |
| 46  | John Mann         | 29   | Aug. 22   | 6 weeks   | 5½ oz.         |
| 47  | Jemima Lands      | 23   | Oct. 23   | 2 weeks   | 3 drs.         |
| 48  | Henry Howlett     | 3½   | Sept. 12  | 2 weeks   | 1 dr.--2d time |
|     | 1812.             |      |           |           |                |
| 49  | William Howell    | 50   | Jan 24    | 1 month   | 1 oz. 1 dr.    |
| 50  | William Sallows   | 67   | June 11   | died 26   | 1½ dr.         |
| 51  | James Crane       | 36   | June --   | 2 weeks   | ½ dr.          |
| 52  | William Moss      | 8    | Dec. 31   | 3 weeks   | 1½ dr.         |
|     | 1813.             |      |           |           |                |
| 53  | William Baxter    | 5    | Feb. 4    | 5 weeks   | 1 dr.          |
| 54  | John Day          | 57   | Sept. 9   | 7 weeks   | ½ oz.          |
|     | 1814.             |      |           |           |                |
| 55  | Elizabeth Burgess | 4    | May 5     | 2 weeks   | 3 drs.         |
| 56  | Abraham Byless    | 9    | May --    | 2 weeks   | 5½ drs.        |
| 57  | John Brett        | 54   | June 16   | died 18th | 4 oz.          |
| 58  | James Douglass    | 68   | Oct. 5    | 5 weeks   | 1½ oz.         |
|     | 1815.             |      |           |           |                |
| 59  | Joel Isaac        | 41   | June 8    | 1 month   | 2 drs.         |
| 60  | Nathaniel Miller  | 24   | Oct. 5    | 1 month   | 2 oz. 5 drs.   |
| 61  | Edward Rosier     | 65   | Oct. 26   | 9 weeks   | ½ dr.          |
|     | 1816.             |      |           |           |                |
| 62  | John Mitchell     | 23   | Jan. 4    | 5 weeks   | a few grains   |
| 63  | William Notley    | 6    | Mar. 14   | 3 weeks   | 2 drs.         |
| 64  | Charles Hurrell   | 10   | Apr. 18   | 2 weeks   | 1 oz. 1 dr.    |
| 65  | John Jackson      | 60   | May 9     | 9 weeks   | 2 drs. 10 grs. |
|     | 1817.             |      |           |           |                |
| 66  | Thomas Rivett     | 65   | Mar. 20   | 1 month   | ½ oz.          |
| 67  | Robert Harrison   | 9    | Mar. --   | 5 weeks   | 2½ drs.        |
| 68  | Richard Brereton  | 11   | June 12   | 1 month   | 2 drs.         |
| 69  | Edward Aldridge   | 26   | July 3    | 6 weeks   | ½ oz.          |

\* But not noted, being at a distance.

† But not noted.

| No. |                     | Age. | When cut. | Cured.  | Wt. of Stones. |
|-----|---------------------|------|-----------|---------|----------------|
|     | 1817.               |      |           |         |                |
| 70  | Charles Laton, Esq. | 74   | Sept. 1   | 5 weeks | 1 oz.          |
| 71  | James Moore         | 4    | Oct. 23   | 3 weeks | 1 dr. 10 grs.  |
|     | 1818.               |      |           |         |                |
| 72  | William Chapman     | 24   | Mar. 12   | 3 weeks | 2 drs. 10 grs. |
| 73  | John Rush           | 56   | June 11   | 5 weeks | 1 oz.          |
| 74  | Joseph Everett      | 19   | Nov. 26   | 4 weeks | 1½ oz.         |
|     | 1819.               |      |           |         |                |
| 75  | William Barnaby     | 80   | Nov. 11   | 4 weeks | 4 oz.          |
| 76  | James Bowman        | 39   | Nov. ---  | 5 weeks | 5 drs.         |
| 77  | Thomas Ford         | 23   | Nov. ---  | 4 weeks | 1 oz. 2 drs.   |
| 78  | -- Welham, Esq.     | 70   | Nov. 5    | 5 weeks | not noted      |
| 79  | B. Walker, Esq.     | 60   | Oct. ---  | 4 weeks | 6 drs.         |
| 80  | Samuel Lawns        | 60   | Dec. 23   | 4 weeks | 1 dr.          |
|     | 1820.               |      |           |         |                |
| 81  | James Mackley       | 2½   | June 22   | 1 month | 1½ dr.         |
| 82  | William Parish      | 6    | Oct. 26   | 1 month | ½ dr.          |
| 83  | William Nightman    | 15   | Dec. 7    | 2 weeks | ½ oz.          |
| 84  | Mr. Stebbing        | 65   | Jan. 19   | 8 weeks | not noted.     |

In this number no selection of patients was made, as I never rejected any one who was brought for operation. The patients were always kept a week or two in the house before operating, which familiarized them to the objects around them, and I believe contributed greatly to remove fear, and that depression of spirits so unfavourable to their recovery. The diet has been regulated, and perhaps a dose or two of opening medicine given, but no other preparation.

In performing the operation, I have deviated very little from the directions given by Cheselden. The table on which the patient is placed is about two feet ten inches from the ground. I use a staff, in which the groove is *much wider* and deeper than

usual, and therefore more easily felt ; and having passed it, and found the situation of the stone, I give it the assistant in nearly an upright and straight direction, and make my first incision long, deep, and nearly in a *line* with the raphe, which I think facilitates the re-union and cure. After the first incision, I look if the staff is not altered in its situation, and then feeling for the groove, I introduce the point of the knife into it, as low down as I can, and cut the membranous part of the urethra, continuing my knife through the prostrate into the bladder ; when, instead of enlarging the wound downwards, and thus endangering the rectum, *I turn the edge of the blade towards the ischium*, and make a lateral enlargement of the wound in withdrawing the knife. I thus avoid cutting over and over again, which often does mischief, but can give no advantage over the two incisions, which I generally depend on, unless in very large subjects, where a little further dissecting may be required.

I now take the staff in my left hand, while I introduce the blunt gorget with my right, and by thus taking the management of the staff and gorget into my own hands, I can better direct the latter, and discover at once if it be slipping from the groove ; but this will be prevented by depressing the gorget, while it is pushing on towards the bladder. On this depends very often the ease and success of the operation, for I have often seen it slip from the groove, and the operator has been baffled in getting into the bladder ; when this occurs with the cutting gorget, still more

danger follows. To perform this part of the operation with dexterity, I would recommend every young operator to practice the directing of the gorget in the groove of his staff, when he holds them in his hand, and he will perceive how easily the beak may slip out, if the convex part of the staff be not familiar to his observation. It is of the greatest importance to observe, whether the assistant holding the staff, changes its direction; for I have often known an assistant so attentive to the operation, as to forget his own appointment, and draw the end of the staff out of the bladder.

After the gorget is in the bladder, I introduce my finger, and endeavour to feel the situation of the stone, which, if found, is a great advantage in the direction of the forceps to laying hold of it. I have never used any other than straight forceps, and it will be found more easy to extract a stone whole, by rather large forceps, than with flat or small ones.

Should the stone be large, or there be any difficulty in the extraction, rather than use much force, while the forceps have a firm hold of the stone, I give the handles to an assistant, who is to draw them outwards, and upwards, while the part forming the stricture is cut, which is easily done, as the broad part of the blade becomes a director to the knife; and rather than lacerate, I have often repeated this enlargement of the inner wound, two or three times.

After the operation, the slightest dressings are used, being nothing more than a piece of lint *over* the wound, and a pledget of tow, to exclude as much as possible the admission of air, at all times aiming to heal the wound by the first intention, unless where any coagulūm may be suspected, which may obstruct the flow of urine; which, if it occur, should be at once removed by passing the finger through it into the bladder, or introducing a female catheter. When much pain follows the operation, an opiate is given, and if tension should come on in the abdomen, fomentations, blisters, and opening the bowels will be useful; but I *never* found it requisite to bleed, and have known great mischief to succeed copious bleedings, as they have been followed by a debility never to be overcome. The effect of leeches I consider altogether useless; and I cannot help adding, that notwithstanding their almost universal employment, they are seldom in *any case* of benefit, and always trifling, when substituted for general bleeding. For the first two or three days after the operation, I limit the patient to a mild diet, but if after that period no symptom of fever or inflammation appear, I allow a little meat and mild beer. In general, I believe it will be found in adults, that death follows oftener from exhaustion, after a tedious operation, or from despondency, in which the powers of life gradually decline, than from acute disease.

From Mr. Smith's statistical history of the disease, it is evident that it occurs more frequently in the district of Norfolk and

Suffolk than in any other in the united kingdom ; and while it is curious to speculate on the cause of this frequency, hitherto all research has been met by disappointment. The disease is almost exclusively confined to the poor ; and it appears frequently in infants, before diet can have much influence. The food of our poor is by no means bad, or sparing, and the people are generally remarkable for cleanliness. Whatever may be the diathesis giving rise to the formation of calculi, it is a remarkable fact, that after the extraction of a stone, scarcely a case occurs in which that condition of the constitution is not so changed, as to prevent the recurrence of the complaint ; for a second operation is a rare occurrence, and I believe generally may be traced to a stone, being broken in a first operation, and some fragment remaining as a future nucleus. I would conclude with Dr. Marcet, and Dr. Prout, " that none of the circumstances commonly suspected to influence this disorder, can satisfactorily account for the variety of results, and that it arises from some general causes, independent of any peculiarities of food, or beverage, to which it has been usually ascribed."

NORWICH, JANUARY 3, 1821.

BACON AND KINNEBROOK,

PRINTERS, NORWICH.