



AN

INAUGURAL DISSERTATION,

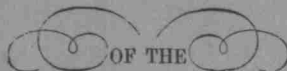
ON

*Surgical Cases*



SUBMITTED TO THE

PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AND MEDICAL FACULTY



OF THE

University of Nashville,



FOR THE DEGREE OF

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE.

BY

*Edward Peter Finney D.*

OF

*Providence R.I.  
March  
1867*

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Professor of Surgery  
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In  
admiration of his superior skill and  
unprecedented success in the department  
to which he has so assiduously devoted  
his time and energies,

*This Series*

is respectfully inscribed

By  
J. S. Timney & Co.

An  
Inaugural Dissertation  
on  
The Surgical Cases presented to  
The Class during the first Month  
of the present Session By  
Paul. F. Eve M.C.  
Professor of Surgery and  
Reported by his much  
obliged, and devoted Friend the  
Author

Edward Festus Dinney

Case the 1st

Amputation of the leg for compound comminuted fracture of both bones

Sam, The property of Dr Manlove, residing near this City, had his leg badly fractured near the ankle joint by being thrown from a buggy. Dr Cove having been sent for to perform amputation, got the omnibuses of the City to carry us (the Med. Class, to see the operation. Chloroform was administered by Dr Nichol. When insensibility was produced Dr Cove made a circular incision at the usual point of selection dividing the skin, cellular and adipose tissues, down to the muscles; Dr Briggs having made traction on the integuments, with both hands, encasing the leg; while at the same time, the knife

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divided the adhering parts to the muscles.  
The Muscles were now divided and the bones  
Tibia and Fibula sawed in two. After  
the Arteries were ligatured, the flap was brought  
together by approximating the edges with  
the hands, and kept so by adhesive strips,  
and the roller bandage. what is novel in  
the above (or at least was so to me) instead  
of turning up the flap as you would the cuff of  
a Coat, as most of authors direct, and as  
I have seen Surgeons who stand high, in the profession do  
was the retraction of the integuments by the hands  
of an assistant. This Operation was performed  
two weeks after the accident. The man had a  
slow but good recovery.

In examining the  
fracture, it was ascertained that both bones were  
crushed comminutely down into the ankle joint.

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The Tibia was most extensively broken into almost an innumerable number of pieces.

The Fibula had been thrust through the soft parts and extensively fractured about two inches above the external malleolus into several fragments. The specimens are prepared for the College museum, and exhibit quite an extensive to the bones of the leg.

Case the 2<sup>nd</sup>

Extraction of a piece of Metal  
from the Cornea.

Dr. Eve presented to the class a German who had a piece of metal stuck fast in the cornea, which he extracted by means of a couching needle. At the first effort the point of this instrument was thrust under the foreign body and it thus  
Removed

Case the 3<sup>rd</sup>

Large Tuberculous masses in the skin  
 A Servant man Tom, was presented to the Class  
 with Tubercles in the true skin at the internal  
 and external maleoli. He came from Kentucky  
 and had been afflicted for several years.

The disease resembled somewhat elephantiasis.  
 We learn from Dr Eve that he had not  
 improved under the treatment of Fowler's solution,  
 Iodine paint, and general hygienic directions.

Case the 4<sup>th</sup>

## Tumor in the Neck

A Mr Herne from the Tennessee State Hos-  
 pital was presented to the class with a Tumor in  
 the occipital region. It was laid open with a  
 bistoury but emitted no pus. The patient was  
 directed to have the parts poulticed, and the swelling has  
 disappeared.

Case the 5<sup>th</sup>

Amputation of the leg for compound  
Fracture, at the Tennessee General Hospital.

The Negro Man Ennis, property of Mr. Wilkinson  
was struck on the Tibia by a horse, by which  
the bone was fractured. A piece of it an inch  
and a half in length dropped out upon the ground  
at the time of the accident. Amputation was  
performed by Dr. Cove assisted by Drs Briggs,  
Wharton, McEwen, and Fair, in presence of the  
Medical Class. The patient was aged 55 Years.  
He was put under the influence of Chloroform,  
and what was remarkable in a man of this age,  
both the anterior and posterior tibial arteries  
were ossified; and hence very difficult to ligate.  
The ligatures cut through their coats very easily.  
Loose ligatures were applied around the vessels, just  
sufficiently tight to prevent bleeding. The stump has nearly healed.



Case the 6th

Prephining the Cranium for Fracture  
Recovery of the patient

Negro boy John the property of Mr A D Guette, was brought to this city on October the 10th in of Dr. S Bowling of Belbuckle, Bedford county, Tennessee, to be treated by Dr. Cox. The History of the case as far as we learned it from Dr. Bowling is as follows- The man received a blow from a rock on the side of the head or more particularly at the junction of the Temporal with the os frontal and Parietal bones, since which time he became very dull and stupid, and has had at times epileptic fits. There was also a tumor over the site of injury projecting considerably in the temporal region. This was supposed to be due to disease of the injured bone. The blow was received eight months ago. The habitude of this patient was so great that he

could not tell his master's name, nor in what place  
he then was. An operation was deemed necessary.  
An incision was made down to the bone through  
the tumor; some pus escaped, then another incision over  
the superciliary ridge, the diseased bone exposed, and  
a disk of it removed by the crown of the Trephine.  
There was a good deal of hemorrhage during the operation  
both from the branches of the temporal arteries and  
from the inside of the cranium. The opening into it  
was very near the great meningeal artery of the brain  
simple dressings were applied to the wound, the patient  
put upon absolute diet; bowels purged occasionally,  
slight Ictericism induced, and in three weeks was returned  
home some 50 miles by Rail Road. when he left his  
intellect had also greatly improved; and he had no epileptic  
paroxysm since the operation.

Case the 7th

Operation for the removal of Cataract

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Mrs Bowling of the Western district of Tennessee; aged 50 years, was presented to us with cataract in both eyes, that of the left was seven years standing; the right twelve. This lady had been brought to Nashville by a member of our class. The patient being prepared for the operation, and having the pupils dilated by the effect of the following application of the following solution over and around the eye, (viz)

℞ Atropine gr ii  
sulph. Acid gtt i  
Rose water ℥ i

The Cataract in each eye was broken up with the needle, and some of the fragments pushed into the anterior chamber. the patient at the end of three weeks returned home by stage, a distance of 150 miles. the after treatment was somewhat interrupted by the feeble state of her general health but during the first ten days after the operation, she could distinguish the

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ring on her finger. Considering the length of time she was blind, the result has proven very satisfactory.

Case the 8th

A case of spontaneous Mortification  
of both inferior Extremities

Dr. Eve at the St. John's Hospital, presented to us a case of spontaneous mortification in an Irishman, who had entered that institution ten days ago. He was in so low a condition that he could give no satisfactory account of the cause. The gangrene was probably due to dissipation and exposure. It commenced in both feet, the toes first, and had now extended up to near the middle of the legs. The parts attacked were cold, insensible, motionless, black and shivelled the man had also hamatarnesis. He died a week after we saw him.

Case the 9<sup>th</sup>

Fracture of the Clavicle -

Excellent cure by position alone.

This patient had been injured by a vicious pack which had bitten his arm, and fractured his collar bone.

He did not enter this hospital until after inflammation had set up in his arm, which suppurated freely. On account of this he was confined to his back for nearly six weeks. And when he recovered, it was found that the clavicle had united without deformity. With the kind permission of Drs. Cornwell and Drake, the P physicians of this hospital, the attention of the class was called to this important fact in connection with the <sup>treatment of this</sup> case.

Case the 10<sup>th</sup>

Immense ulcer of the leg

This was a case of indolent ulcer of the right leg.

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On its lower third in an old man from the western district of Tennessee. It was of immense size, covering the whole circumference of the lower third of the member, and involving the ankle joint. The patient was directed to the state hospital for treatment.

Case the 11<sup>th</sup> &

### Ulcer of the Fore-arm.

This patient was a young Jew-peddler, who had fallen into the hands of a quack that applied some active preparation to a common boil, in the fore-arm. The result was a large plug of slough thrown off. The Ulcer was subsequently healed by mild treatment.

Case the 12<sup>th</sup>

### Removal of a Lipoma.

Dr. Eve in presence of the Clap removed a lipoma from over the Trapezijus muscle of a

brother physician, who kindly consented to come before us that we might see the operation. The freezing mixture was applied (i.e.) ice and salt. This was held over the tumor for five minutes and produced insensibility in the parts. An incision was made over the tumor the skin dissected off a little to each side of the line of incision, and the tumor pulled out, it rolled out like a round ball, the patient suffering little, or no pain. From the movement of the angle of the scapula, (in all probability) there was some secondary hemorrhage; but this was soon arrested by pressure, and the patient left the City in four days.

Case the 13<sup>th</sup>

Operation for Cataract.

Mr C. S. Wilson, aged 20 years, of good Constitution and temperate habits, was presented to us with

cataract in the right eye. The operation of depression was performed with a very fine couching needle. The Capsule was the part apparently opaque, it was found very hard and difficult of displacement. This case has not done well there was an unusual quantity of blood effused into the eye, by the operation; but it was being absorbed when the patient returned home. It was said to have been caused by exposure to intense cold while out gunning.

Case the 14th

Scrofulous disease of the Foot and Hand

This was a young negro girl, who for months had been laboring under tumors in the left hand, and left foot. They were sub-cutaneous in the hand, but affected the skin in the foot. They were supposed to be scrofulous in their character



The patient was put upon the Iodide of Potash, Sarsaparilla and cod-liver oil treatment and a stimulating liniment to the tumors. A solution of per chloride of Iron is now applied with good effect.

Case the 15th

Hydrocele of the Neck -  
Excision of the Cyst.

Mr Lane was presented with a tumor of the neck, now about the size of a pigeon's egg, over the thyroid body and which had been opened by several times. The cyst emptied by an incision was now excised, and the wound closed with adhesive strips. He was doing well next day when he left the City.

Case the 16th

Extensive Corneitis

Dr Eve presented to the class a case of Corneitis. The cornea was studded with enlarged bloodvessels, these were divided;

and the per chloride of iron in solution recommended to be occasionally applied to the eye.

Case the 17

Removal of a Testicle.

Dr Eve assisted by Drs Jennings, and Briggs, and in presence of a portion of the present class removed the right testicle from a Gentleman.

The testicle was very much swollen, had a tortuous sinus, through which the patient could (as he remarked to the Drs) at any time by pressure cause an exudation of exceedingly offensive pus. The patient was put under the influence of Chloroform, but as he had been affected with a pulmonary disease, the anæsthesia agent was not carried to that extent, which patients are generally subjected.

The Dr made an incision down to the spermatic cord, when it was now divided, and the organ

dissected out of the patient; as also to satisfy us that it was a decomposed mass, made an incision into it, when out spited a fluid resembling pus; and although we have been frequently in dissecting rooms, we have never smelled such an offensive stench as that given off by this putrid mass, just taken from the living body. the patient recovered rapidly, and is now at home attending to his domestic affairs. —"

Case the 18th

Chronic ophthalmia. a Seton applied  
 An aged lady was presented to the class, who has been afflicted with ophthalmia for a long time Dr. Eve in presence of the class introduced a seton as follows - An assistant Dr. McEwen, held up a portion of the skin on the nape of the neck directly on the median line, and about an inch and a half lower the surgeon elevated

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Between the forefinger and thumb a portion also;  
then with a small bistoury the folded integuments  
are transpierced and an eye probe armed with the  
seton is passed. The Surgeon explained to the class  
the advantage of this, to the employment of the  
seton needle, as he thinks it less painful and  
more expeditious. " ————— " ————— "

Case the 19th

Lithotomy - bilateral Operation.

Dr Cro being applied to by a Gentleman from the  
Western district of Tennessee, for the relief of his  
little brother aged 10 years. After detailing the  
symptoms the Dr suspected stone in the bladder.

The patient was put upon the Table, and the Oper-  
ation of sounding performed in presence of  
Drs Bowling, Jennings Watson and the Med.  
Class. After a few turns of the Catheter, the fact  
of the presence of a calculus was announced.

The case having been prepared, the bilateral operation was performed in the college amphitheatre, Chloroform was used. A V incision was made through the soft parts, down to the grooved staff in the Urethra, the double lithotome introduced into the bladder, the blades of it opened and the parts divided in withdrawing the instrument. After several forceps were introduced, it was found necessary to employ a large pair, when a Calculus weighing five drams was extracted. In three days the urine resumed its natural course, and the patient has had a speedy recovery.

Case the 20th

Trephining the sub-orbital Foramen for Neuralgia.

Drs Eve and Bunting introduced a lady aged 50 years who had been afflicted with Neuralgia of the face for eleven years. Having exhausted

medicine surgery) was applied to. She was placed on the table and put under the influence of Chloroform, by Dr. Bouting Dr. Eve made a curved incision commencing three quarters of an inch beyond the external angle of the right eye, carrying it downwards nearly as low as the ala of the nose; it was turned upwards to the internal angle of the same eye. The soft parts were separated from over the sub orbital foramen, and the small crown of the Trephine applied to it.

The Canal was thus exposed and the nerve divided far back in it. About three quarters of an inch was cut out. During the operation the Antrum highmerianum was opened.

The Wound was closed with sutures and plasters. This Case did well. (the wound had nearly healed, altho there was some secondary hemorrhage the evening after the

Operation which was arrested by the actual  
 cautery), until the patient took an over  
 dose of medicine (tincture of colchicum,  
 which prostrated her. She never recovered from  
 the excessive purging, but sank on the  
 24<sup>th</sup> thirteen days after the Operation.  
 During the last six days of her life,  
 she had no return of pain whatever of a  
 neuralgic character, the Operation was considered  
 to have relieved her entirely; and but for  
 her mistake in the medicine, it is believed  
 she would have recovered. —

Edw<sup>d</sup>, Fisher, Gimney

~~November~~ 1856  
 January 5<sup>th</sup> 1857