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THOMAS LANG,  
General Secretary for India and the East,  
CALCUTTA.

## Original Communications.

PRECIS OF OPERATIONS PERFORMED IN THE  
WARDS OF THE FIRST SURGEON, MEDICAL  
COLLEGE HOSPITAL, DURING THE YEAR  
1889.

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### AMPUTATIONS FOR INJURY.

#### V. 1. *Primary amputation of the forearm.*—

i. Hindu male, *æt.* 35. Right hand and forearm smashed in an oilmill. Amputation by oval flaps at middle of forearm same day. Flaps healed by first intention. Track of tube suppurated and healed by granulation. Remained five weeks in hospital. (Dr. Raye.)

ii. Hindu male, *æt.* 18. Right hand and wrist smashed in an oil-machine. Amputation by oval flaps at lower third. Discharged in 67 days.

iii. Mahomedan male, *æt.* 16. Gun accident causing destruction of hand and wrist. Amputation at lower third by oval flaps. Healed in 29 days. (Dr. Raye.)

iv. Hindu female, *æt.* 30. Machine accident, hand and wrist crushed. Amputation of lower third by oval flaps. Healed in 29 days. (Dr. Raye.)

2. *Primary amputation of wrist.*—Hindu male, *æt.* 13. Machine accident. Disarticulation at wrist. Healed aseptically. Recovered in 19 days.

#### 3. *Amputation of fingers.*—

i. Hindu male, *æt.* 27. Right index finger smashed and hand badly lacerated by machine. Finger removed, and wound stitched. Healed aseptically in 10 days.

ii. Hindu male, *æt.* 45. Similar case; healed in 21 days.

iii. Hindu male, *æt.* 25. Right index finger smashed in a mill. Lacerated wound of thumb. Finger removed, and wound stitched. Recovered in 21 days.

#### 4. *Primary amputation of leg.*—

i. Hindu male, *æt.* 25. Right leg caught in the rope of an anchor. Ankle joint dislocated, and soft parts badly lacerated. Amputation at the seat of election. Recovered in 43 days. (Dr. Jameson.)

ii. Hindu female, *æt.* 60. Bad compound comminuted fracture of leg in a feeble old woman. Amputation by modified circular method at middle of leg. Wound remained aseptic and healed by first intention in 12 days. The track of the drainage tube closed in 27 days.

5. *Amputation of toes.*—In both these cases the great toe was smashed, and removed at the metatarso-phalangeal joint. The wounds healed kindly.

6. *Secondary amputation of the arm for gangrene.*—Hindu male, *æt.* 8. The gangrene in this boy's case was due to tight bandaging for fracture. The arm was removed by oval flaps at the upper third. The wound healed by first intention in 13 days, and the lad left hospital in 19 days. (Dr. Raye.)

7. *Secondary amputation of the leg for gangrene.*—Hindu male, *æt.* 50. Fell from a tree and broke his right leg close to the ankle seven days before admission. The parts were gangrenous, and amputation at the seat of election was found necessary. The wound healed by first intention, and he was discharged in twenty days. (Dr. Jameson.)

8. *Secondary amputation of great toe for gangrene.*—Mahomedan male, *æt.* 36. Injury sustained three weeks ago. Gangrenous toe removed at metatarso-phalangeal joint. Healed by granulation in 40 days. (Dr. Raye.)

### AMPUTATIONS FOR DISEASE.

9. *Amputation of the arm for sloughing ulcer.*—Hindu female, *æt.* 45. Sustained a wound of left forearm a fortnight before admission, which took on unhealthy action, and has resulted in a large sloughing cavity exposing muscles and tendons and full of maggots. Amputation of the arm at its upper third became necessary. The wound healed by first intention, and patient was discharged in 14 days. (Dr. Raye.)

10. *Amputation of the arm for myeloid sarcoma.*—Hindu male, *æt.* 30. Large tumour of elbow 18 inches in circumference, of two years' growth. Arm removed at upper third by circular method. Wound healed in 15 days, and patient left hospital 26 days after operation. The tumour was soft and extensively hollowed out by cystic cavities containing sanguineous serum.

11. *Amputation of finger for whitlow.*—Hindu male, *æt.* 35. Whitlow of the periosteal variety causing necrosis of phalanges.

12. *Amputation of thigh for disorganized knee-joint.*—Hindu male, *æt.* 40. His left knee-joint had been resected four years ago. During the last year or so he has had abscesses of the joint and lower part of the thigh, followed by extensive disorganization of the soft parts and necrosis of the femur. Amputation was performed at the lower third of the thigh by long

anterior and short posterior flaps. The wound healed mostly by first intention. Some constitutional disturbance occurred from the fourth to the seventh day and some bagging took place about the eighteenth day, requiring reinser-tion of drainage tubes. He was detained in hospital for 90 days. (Dr. Raye.)

13. *Amputation of the leg for mycetoma.*—  
i. Hindu male, *æt.* 50. Disease of two years' duration. Foot and ankle riddled with sinuses reaching the softened bone. No discharge of white or black particles. Amputation of lower third of leg by Teal's method. The wound was progressing favorably, but the patient, a feeble old man, got despondent, and refused his food. He died of marasmus and exhaustion fourteen days after the operation.

ii. Hindu male, *æt.* 35. Disease of three years' duration implicating foot and ankle. Both white and dark particles had been observed to issue out of the sinuses. Amputation by modified circular method at lower third of leg. Flaps united by first intention. Discharged in 49 days. (Dr. Raye.)

14. *Amputation of leg for epithelioma of foot.*—Hindu male, *æt.* 40. Had gangrene of both feet 15 years ago resulting in spontaneous ampu-tation. Epithelioma appeared in the stump of the left foot necessitating amputation three years ago, and about four months ago the right stump became similarly affected. The foot was removed above the ankle. Part of the posterior flap sloughed and the wound healed by granulation in 40 days.

15. *Syme's amputation for caries of the ankle.*—Hindu female, *æt.* 11. Sustained an injury of the foot six months ago, which has resulted in caries of the tarsus and extensive ulceration. Foot removed by Syme's method above the ankle. The lips of the wound healed by first intention, but the track of the drainage tube remained long open. Discharged about 80 days after operation. (Dr. Raye.)

16. *Chopart's operation for sarcoma.*—Hindu female, *æt.* 30. The tumour was of five months' growth, and attached to the dorsum of the foot at its outer aspect. Disarticulation was effected between the first and second rows of tarsal bones

by Chopart's method. The wound healed by first intention, and patient was discharged in 44 days. (Dr. Raye.)

17. *Amputation of the great toe for necrosis.*—This amputation was performed by a lady student (Miss Perry). The necrosis had resulted from an injury by broken glass.

\* \* \* The most noteworthy circumstance connected with these amputations is the trifling mortality, which contrasts so strikingly with the early history of the hospital (4 against 66 per cent.) It is true that none of the cases belonged to those categories which offer faint hope of recovery, *e. g.*, large amputations for severe and multiple injuries, amputations for spreading traumatic gangrene, osteomyelitis and other septic conditions, amputations for secondary hæmorrhage in which much blood has been already lost, &c., &c. On the other hand, no selection was made, and many of the subjects were in feeble health. The absence of constitu-tional disturbance and surgical accidents attest the success of antiseptic measures, which may be said to have robbed amputations *per se* of all danger to life.

EDEN HOSPITAL, CALCUTTA.

ABDOMINAL SURGERY DURING THE YEAR 1888-89.

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THE following is a brief account of all the cases in which abdominal section was performed by me during the period I officiated as Obstetric Physician at the Calcutta Medical College, from April 1888 to December 1889.

*Ovariotomy.*—Eight completed operations, of which seven were successful and one fatal. One other operation had to be abandoned on account of the universal nature of the adhesions. The patient was temporarily relieved, but left hospital subsequently in a moribund condition. The following table gives the chief points in connection with these nine cases, and includes one case of removal of a parovarian cyst which terminated fatally:—

OVARIOTOMY CASES, Eden Hospital, Calcutta, from April 1888 to December 1889.

No.	Date of operation.	Age.	Condition and num-ber of Children.	Length of incision.	Adhesions.	Ovary removed.	Amount of fluid con-tents and weight of sac.	Highest temper-ature.	Result.	Name.	Race.	Duration of disease.
1	27-4-88..	23	M. 3	4'	Numerous posteriorly ..	L .. ..	14oz. ..	100°	Recovery ..	Horee ..	Hindoo ..	3 or 4 months.
2	4-8-88..	35	M. 0	6'	Numerous .. ..	Notes .. ..	lost in hos	fatal.	Death 6 hours after oper-ation.	Bholiu ..	" ..	9 months.
3	21-12-88..	35	M. 4	..	Adhesions universal, oper-ation abandoned.	.. ..	.. ..	....	Left hospital Moribund 3 weeks later.	Rhabutty	" ..	9 months