

NEW OPTICAL INSTRUMENT TO FACILITATE THE EMPLOYMENT OF THE SPECULUM UTERI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

SIR,

Having frequently felt the want of an optical instrument, which would accurately show the state of the parts, in examinations of the os and cervix uteri, by means of the speculum, the plan of looking *through* a reflector suggested itself to me, and on this principle I had an instrument made by Messrs. Abraham and Dancer, of Manchester, which I have used for some time past, and have found to answer the purpose exceedingly well. It is also well adapted for examining the ear or throat, and can be used in either hand as may be needed.

Fig. 1.

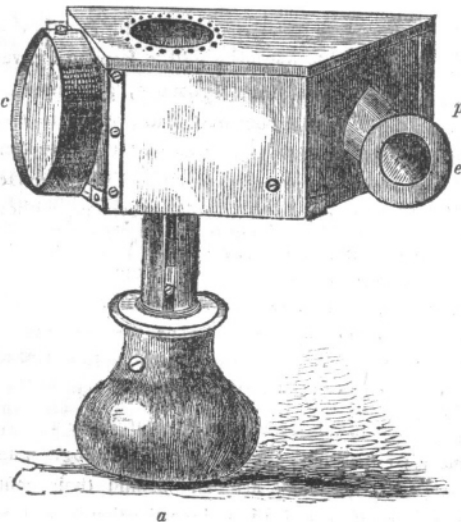


Figure 1 is a drawing of this instrument. It consists of a hollow body, bevelled off at one end, and perforated at the top and bottom. The handle (a) fits into the lower perforation, and is so constructed as to hold a wax taper, which may be elevated and depressed by means of a screw, so as to adjust it to the focus of the internal concave mirror (c). When a lighted taper, thus adjusted, is introduced into the body of

the instrument, the rays of light falling on the mirror (c), are thence reflected towards the opposite or bevelled end (p), which is lined with a plane mirror, so placed as to again reflect the rays of light, and to throw them directly, through the tube of the speculum, to which the instrument is connected, upon the parts to be examined. The bevelled end of the instrument, together with the plane mirror, is perforated, and an eye-piece (e) inserted, which is thus continuous with the speculum, and enables the observer to see the parts upon which the light is thrown. The eye-piece has a loose cap, into which may be fitted any lens or lenses, of various focal lengths, as may be required.

Fig. 2.

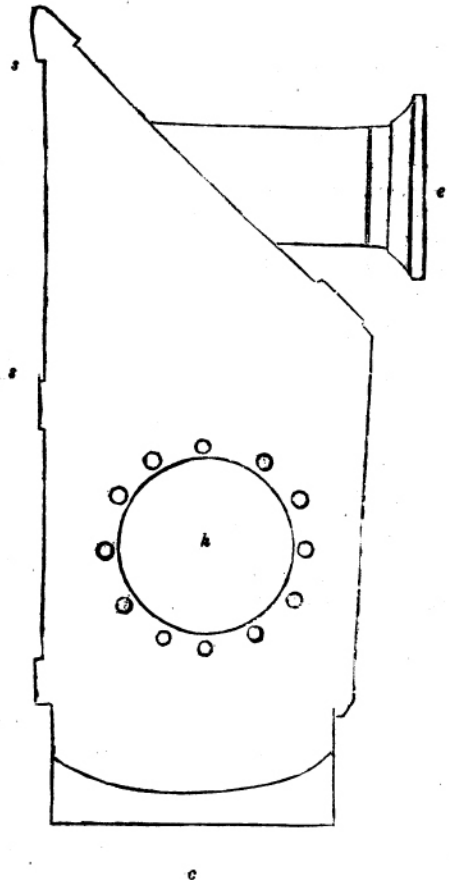


Figure 2 is a diagram of the instrument:—c. The concave mirror.

e. The eye-piece inserted into the bevelled end of the instrument, and perforating the plane reflector.

a. The perforation through the body of the instrument, where the handle fitted with the wax-tapers, is introduced.

s. . . s. The part by which the instrument is connected with the speculum.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. HUTCHINSON, M.R.C.S.

Cheetham Hill, Manchester, Feb. 6, 1845.