

A CASE OF DOUBLE CONGENITAL TALIPES VARUS.

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E. R., aged 4 years and 7 months, son of a corporal in the Royal Garrison Artillery, was seen at the Military Hospital, Gibraltar, in June, 1918. His mother stated that both feet had been deformed since birth, and that they were bandaged for forty days after birth without any change being noticed in them. His mother also said that about three years ago tendons had been cut, and plaster of Paris splints had been applied to both feet. These were removed at the end of three months, but deformity was not materially altered. Arrangements were made for the mother and child to live near the hospital, so that the child could attend regularly for treatment after the operation.

Figs. 1 and 2 show the condition of the feet before operation.

On July 2, 1918, the left foot was operated on. The tendon of the tibialis posticus was divided through a vertical incision just above the internal malleolus, the plantar fascia and ligaments beneath the medio-tarsal joint were divided with tenotomes. An elliptical incision was then made on the front and outer side of the foot, commencing just below and internal to the middle of the front of the ankle and passing downwards, forwards, and outwards to the outer border of the foot. The head of the astragalus was exposed and removed with bone forceps, the section being made obliquely from without inwards and forwards. The os calcis and cuboid were exposed through a longitudinal incision on the outer side of the foot, the calcaneo-cuboid joint was opened, and the posterior part of the cuboid was removed. The foot was held in the corrected position, whilst the tibialis anticus was sewn to the ligaments and periosteum on the dorsal aspect of the cuboid, and the ligaments on the dorsum of the astragalus and scaphoid were shortened by means of catgut sutures. The wound was closed, dressings were applied, and the leg and foot fixed in a back-splint and foot-piece, with a side-piece fixed to the inner side of the leg and foot. The wound healed primarily.

On July 30, 1918, the right foot was operated on. The operation was similar to that done on the left foot, except that a wedge-shaped piece of the os calcis was removed instead of the posterior part of the cuboid, and that the tibialis posticus was not sutured to the dorsal aspect of the cuboid. The wound healed primarily.

Massage and exercises were commenced as soon as the wounds had healed.

On November 19, 1918, the boy walked in a pair of Salt's patent varus boots. Figs. 3 and 4 show the condition of the feet after operation.

I am indebted to Sapper Lefts, R.E., for the photographs.

A CASE OF STRANGULATED HERNIA WITH VOLVULUS.

BY MAJOR BASIL HUGHES, D.S.O.

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W.R./275483 Spr. S. was admitted to 39 Stationary Hospital January 14, 1919, suffering from a left-sided strangulated inguinal hernia.

He gave the following history: He had suffered from a small left-sided hernia for some months. The day before admission to hospital, after a bout of coughing, the hernia came right down into the scrotum, causing pain and vomiting.