

**THE ELECTRO-MAGNET AND ITS
EMPLOYMENT IN OPHTHALMIC
SURGERY. WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO
THE DETECTION AND REMOVAL OF
FRAGMENTS OF STEEL OR IRON FROM
THE INTERIOR OF THE EYE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649427314

The Electro-Magnet and Its Employment in Ophthalmic Surgery. With Special Reference to the Detection and Removal of Fragments of Steel or Iron from the Interior of the Eye by Simeon Snell

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OPHTHAEMIC SURGERY

WITH

SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE DETECTION AND REMOVAL OF FRAGMENTS
OF STEEL OR IRON FROM THE INTERIOR OF THE EYE

BY

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SHEFFIELD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



LONDON

J. & A. CHURCHILL

11, NEW BURLINGTON STREET

1883

160. f. 102.



P R E F A C E

THIS little volume was commenced with a view to its publication in one of the medical periodicals, and to form, as it were, a continuation of the Author's previous experience, recorded in the 'British Medical Journal,' vol. i, 1881. The full details of the cases, with the remarks they called forth, as well as those upon the use of the electro-magnet generally, extended, however, to greater length than could be conveniently published in such a manner. It was decided, therefore, to issue this monograph.

In addition to the writer's personal experience, towards the end of the volume have been added brief summaries of all the recorded cases which, after a diligent search in many British and Foreign periodicals, the author has been able to find. It is possible that others, in journals inaccessible, have escaped notice, but the published cases have been materially added to by those which various operators have been good enough to mention in private letters. To these gentlemen thanks are due for their courteous communications.

It is hoped that the experience collected in this little work may prove of assistance and value to some, may tend to encourage the wider adoption of the electro-magnet in ophthalmology, and may aid also in pointing out the mode of its employment and the class of cases in which its use is applicable.

Much information has been afforded, especially as to the early employment of the magnet, by the papers of Professor Hirschberg, of Berlin (which he has been good enough from time to time to send to the author), particularly the one "On the Extraction of Chips of Iron or Steel from the Interior of the Eye," in Knapp's 'Archives,' 1831.

The writer's thanks are due to Messrs. Cubley and Preston, the makers of the instrument described in the succeeding pages, for the manner in which they have at all times carried out his directions, and he would express his appreciation also of their many services, so courteously and willingly rendered.

SIMEON SNELL.

SHEFFIELD:
June 1st, 1883.

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THE ELECTRO-MAGNET

AND ITS

EMPLOYMENT IN OPHTHALMIC SURGERY

ACCIDENTS to the eye, from the unfortunate results frequently occasioned, always deserve consideration at the hands of the surgeon. Among these injuries none are more dangerous than those associated with the presence of a foreign body in the interior of the eye-ball; for if not immediately destructive to vision, by reason of the extent of the damage inflicted, it is not long, as a rule, before inflammatory changes ensue and impair the functions of the globe. Moreover, if to the injury to one organ is added the great danger in which its fellow is plac'd by the possibility of sympathetic ophthalmia, and this even in the class of cases where the foreign body has lain for some time inside the eye and perhaps become encapsuled, nothing need be further said as to the importance the treatment of these injuries acquires, nor of the attention which the subject merits, and, in fact, requires at our hands.

In the large industrial centres of England, with the extensive works of different kinds and the number of men employed in the various branches of trade, it is