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STRICTURE OF THE MALE URETHRA
ITS RADICAL CURE

BY

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REMARKS PREFATORY TO THE SECOND EDITION.

THE demand for a second edition of this work, within two years from the publication of the first, may well be a matter both of surprise and gratification to the author. The call for an English edition, (from Smith, Elder & Co., prominent medical publishers of London) may be accepted in proof that the interest in the alleged advances in urethral science, contained in this volume, has not been confined to this side of the Atlantic. From the fact that the views and teachings of this book, at the time of their first publication, were, in the main, opposed to the prevailing practice in cases of urethral stricture, and that, for several years before its publication, the claims of its author had been vigorously contested, in public personal discussion, and in the current medical journals, any expectation that it would meet with prompt or unqualified acceptance at the hands of the reviewers would have been unreasonable. The great questions in regard to normal urethral calibre; the definite proportionate relation between the circumference of the urethra and the organ in which it is situated; the importance of recognizing the possibility of stricture of a calibre above the then usually accepted normal standard size of the urethra; the common dependence of gleet, and often of troublesome reflex irritations, upon such strictures; the greater frequency of stricture in the anterior part of the canal; the possibility of a *radical cure of stricture by dilating urethrotomy*; the great advantages of such operation over the *dilating* procedures, both in regard to safety, comfort, time, and permanence of results; these questions were not only unsettled, but were in the midst of sharp discussion when this