

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### THE USE OF THE LA FORCE ADENOTOME.

TO THE EDITOR,

*The Journal of Laryngology and Otology.*

SIR,—If Mr A. J. M. Wright had used the La Force adenotome in the case he reports in the *Journal of Laryngology and Otology* for November 1928, p. 779, he would not have had to perform tracheotomy in order to extract a large mass of adenoids from the bifurcation of the trachea. The adenoid mass would have been in the box of the adenotome.

The respiratory tonsil is not a mass of granulation tissue which calls for curettage, but a definite anatomical structure which should be removed complete in one piece, just as the alimentary tonsils are removed by enucleation. The only instrument capable of accomplishing this is the La Force adenotome. No surgeon who has used it is likely ever again to apply the dangerous and inefficient curette. Nor is he likely to encounter suppurative nasopharyngitis of traumatic origin, with its not infrequent tubo-tympanic extension. I never curette the nasopharynx of a child, nor permit it to be done by any assistant in my department, for I regard it as a surgical outrage. I have incontrovertible evidence that it is the cause of much chronic nasopharyngeal sepsis and tubo-tympanitis in children.—I am, etc.,

F. PEARCE STURM, M.D.

LEIGH, November 1928.

## GENERAL NOTES

### ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE.

1 Wimpole Street, London, W. 1.

*Section of Otology.*—*President*, Mr Somerville Hastings, M.S. *Hon. Secretaries*, Mr Nicol Rankin, M.C., M.B., 56 Harley Street, London, W.1, and Dr F. C. Ormerod, M.D., 13 Welbeck Street, London, W.1.

The next Meeting of the Section will be held on Friday, 1st February, at 10.30 A.M. Members desirous of showing patients or specimens should communicate with the Senior Hon. Secretary at least twelve days before the meeting.

*Section of Laryngology.*—*President*, Mr H. Bell-Tawse, F.R.C.S. *Hon. Secretaries*, Mr Lionel Colledge, F.R.C.S., 2 Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.1, and Mr M. E. Vlasto, F.R.C.S., 26 Wimpole Street, London, W.1.

The next Meeting of the Section will be held on Friday, 1st February, at 5 P.M. Members desirous of showing patients or specimens should communicate with the Senior Hon. Secretary at least twelve days before the meeting.