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A test of Wilson's cystometer.

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A TEST OF WILSON'S CYRTOMETER.

By H. J. MULFORD, M.D.

Extract from a Thesis, to which honorable mention was accorded, presented to the faculty of the medical department of the University of Buffalo, January, 1889.

The cyrtometer was designed for the purpose of locating the position of the fissure of Rolando on the living head. It is described as follows:

"The instrument consists of three strips of flexible metal and a tape (*D*, Fig. 1) for securing it *in situ*. The broadest transverse strip (Figs. 1 and 2) passes coronally around the forehead, corresponding with the glabella and the external angular process (*C* and *e a p*, Fig. 2); the narrower longitudinal strip (*B*, Figs. 1 and 2) passes backwards from the glabella in the middle line to the occiput. This strip is marked with two scales of letters: capitals in its posterior fourth, and small letters about the middle of the strip (*E*, *e*, Fig. 1).

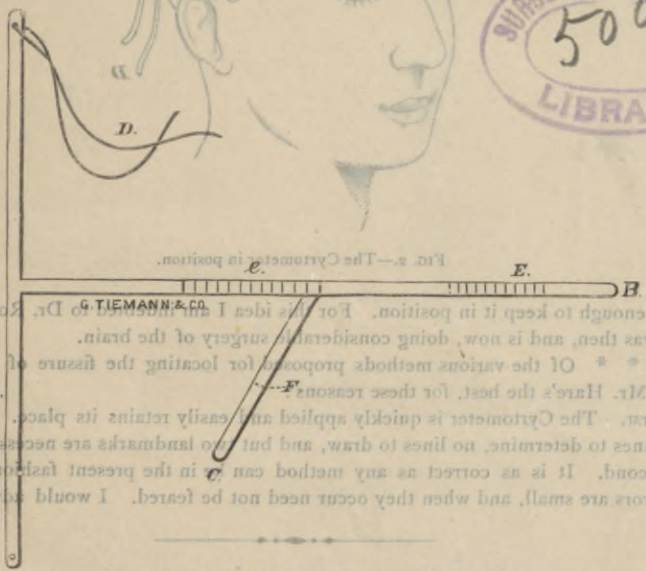

FIG. 1.—The Cyrtometer.

"Measured from the glabella backwards, the distance to any given small letter is 55.7 per cent. of the distance from the glabella to the corresponding capital letter; thus, when any capital letter falls directly over the inion, the corresponding small letter will coincide with the top of the fissure. A third narrow reversible strip (*C*, Figs. 1 and 2) slides on the longitudinal slip, making an angle of 67°, opening forwards, and marked at 3¼ inches from its attached end (*F*, Fig. 1), thus giving the length and direction of the fissure on the surface of the head."

The following are the scales:

CAPITALS. *Inches from glabella.*		SMALL LETTERS. *Inches from glabella.*	
A	(11.5)	*a*	(6.4)
B	(12)	*b*	(6.6)
C	(12.5)	*c*	(6.9)
D	(13)	*d*	(7.2)
E	(13.5)	*e*	(7.5)
F	(14)	*f*	(7.7)
G	(14.5)	*g*	(8)

The cyrtometer used by me differed a little from the above. It was made of elastic metal ribbon, such as is used for clock-springs, without a tape, its own elasticity

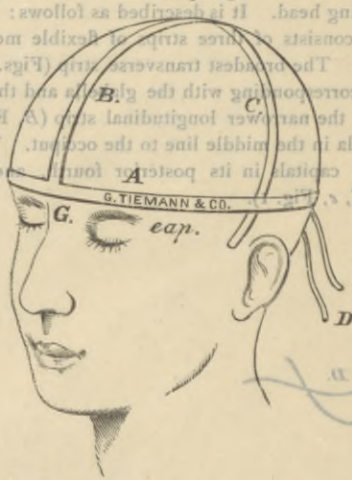

FIG. 2.—The Cyrtometer in position.

being enough to keep it in position. For this idea I am indebted to Dr. Roswell Park, who was then, and is now, doing considerable surgery of the brain.

* * * Of the various methods proposed for locating the fissure of Rolando, I think Mr. Hare's the best, for these reasons:

First. The Cyrtometer is quickly applied and easily retains its place. There are no planes to determine, no lines to draw, and but two landmarks are necessary.

Second. It is as correct as any method can be in the present fashion of heads. Its errors are small, and when they occur need not be feared. I would advise its use.