

THE
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RHINOLOGY, AND OTOTOLOGY.

As we approach the Millennium I thought it would be interesting to see what our forebears were writing about 100 years ago. The Journal of Laryngology, Rhinology and Otology was then published by Rebman Publishing Company, Limited, 11 Adam Street, Strand, London, W.C.—Editor

**A CASE OF AGMINATION OF SECRETION ON THE VOCAL CORDS
AT THE SEAT OF ELECTION OF SINGERS' NODULES.¹**

By Dr. Dundas Grant

MISS K., aged twenty-one, student of singing, complains of want of timbre, and of hoarseness and discomfort in the upper part of the throat after singing for a short time. On first examination the cords were found to be very slightly congested, and to approximate to an abnormal degree at the junction of the anterior and middle thirds, where there was a frequent accumulation of a thick secretion of almost milky whiteness.

There was hypertrophy, or at least turgescence, of the inferior turbinated body, for which the galvano-cautery had been practised. The pharyngeal tonsil was hypertrophied, and this was removed by means of forceps. An unusual degree of haemorrhage resulted, although there was no suggestion of the haemorrhagic diathesis. Within the last few days the anterior extremities of both inferior turbinated bodies have been removed, the bleeding being again unusually copious, and only with difficulty checked by means of firm anterior plugging. It was probably fortunate that complete turbinectomy was not performed.

Since this operation the secretion in the larynx has very considerably diminished as compared with what it was when the notice of this communication was sent on to the Secretary, but there is now a scarcely perceptible acuminate projection on the vocal cord at the situation mentioned.

Such a minute departure from the normal seems a trivial condition, but the question arises as to whether or not it is the earliest stage of a singer's nodule, calling for absolute rest. In any case the treatment of the nose must be perseveringly attended to.

In view of the recent account of the structure of the vocal cords by Alexander ("Arch. für Laryngologie," Band VII, p. 254), and his observation as to the occasional, though not constant, existence of glands with openings in the neighbourhood affected by singers' nodules, the consideration of these slighter cases is interesting and important.

¹ Shown at the Laryngological Society of London.