EXTRACTION OF THORN FROM THE ORBITAL CAVITY

BY

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A MAN, a farmer by occupation, consulted me in my clinic on September 7, 1927. He said that while chopping a branch of a date-palm tree it suddenly struck against his face, and he felt that a thorn entered his upper lid. Subsequently a tumour of the size of a small nut was noticed on the inner side of the right upper lid.

He felt pain off and on in the upper part of the orbital cavity, and he was sure that the thorn had remained inside.

When he consulted me after ten days, a small tumour of the size of a berry, of fibrous consistency, was noticed on the inner side of the lid.

On examination it was found that the pupil was active, and no changes were seen in the fundus. Tension was normal, and there was no limitation of movement. The only thing that he complained of was that he felt pain on movements of the eyeball.

On incising the skin over the tumour, a fibrous capsule was noticed, and on opening the capsule a thorn suddenly came out. There was very little haemorrhage. The thorn was about an inch in length, and fairly stiff. The whole thorn was encapsuled, and the eyeball was not affected.

The photograph of the tumour on the eyelid and the actual size of the thorn are herewith attached.