

done. The answer is, through a median arthro-
tomy, splitting the patella longitudinally, the knee
being flexed to expose the structures at the back
of the joint. There is no need to wire the patella
after this operation; the split rectus femoris and
ligamentum patellæ are sutured.

And what is the time to operate? As soon as the
post-traumatic bleeding has ceased and before any
post-traumatic inflammation has begun—that is to
say, if circumstances allow, operate a few hours
after the injury. Professor Murphy, of Chicago,
likes to wait a few days after the injury. During
this period he injects some formalin solution into
the joint which “coffer-dams” the subsynovial
lymphatics and so prevents any infection spreading
from the joint.

Harley-street, W.

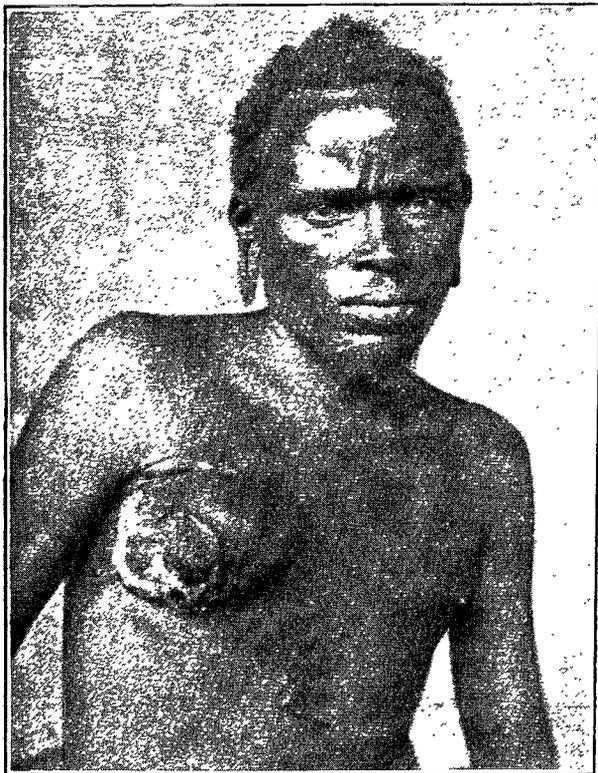
A CASE OF CARCINOMA OF THE BREAST IN A MALE.

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THE appended reproductions of photographs of a
case of carcinoma of the breast in a male may prove
of interest to readers of THE LANCET.

The patient, a Kikuyu, aged 42, first came up to
the native hospital at Nairobi, complaining of the
pain caused by the growth. The surface of the
tumour was very foul and ulcerated. (Fig. 1.) The

FIG. 1.



Reproduction of photograph of patient showing growth
before removal.

axillary and supraclavicular glands were hard and
enlarged. The patient dated the history back only
two months, but I imagine that that was when pain
was first troublesome.

Operation was recommended to ease the pain
rather than in hope of cure. Owing to the extent
of the growth it was only possible to remove the

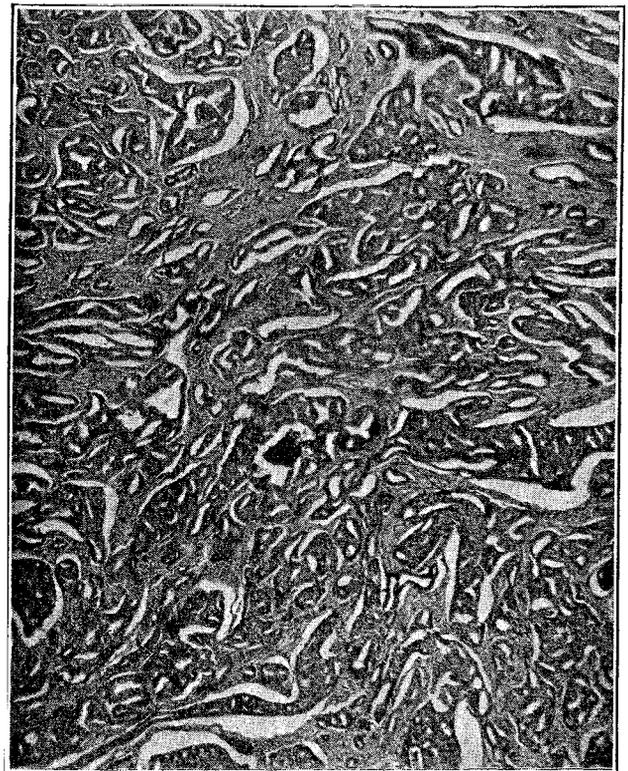
tumour as widely as possible, and not attempt to
clear the axilla. On section the growth showed the
typical appearance of adeno-carcinoma. (Figs. 2
and 3.)

FIG. 2.



Microscopical appearance of growth under low power.

FIG. 3.



Microscopical appearance, high power.

Quite apart from the infrequency of breast cancer
in a male, malignant disease amongst the natives
in this country is extraordinarily rare.

I am indebted to Dr. J. H. H. Pirie for the
sections, and to Mr. Crichton for the photo-
graphs.