

## Selected Article.

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### GUN SHOT WOUNDS OF THE CHEST WITH REPORT OF A CASE.\*

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On the evening of December 26th, 1899, just as the sun went down, there left Oryden station, on the Southern Pacific railroad, two men on an errand of mercy bound.

The night was dark and cold with a chilling wind blowing from the north-west. Well, they knew that their destination lay seventy-five long weary miles away. But the hope that a life, now trembling in the balance, might, as the result of their efforts, be saved, seemed to spur on alike, both horses and riders to do their very best.

For nine hours, from 6 p.m. to 3 a.m., they pressed steadily onward, having in this time travelled fifty miles or more. Rested at a ranch Home Camp until about 6 a.m., then climbed into the saddle and started on the still remaining twenty-five-mile journey, across a very broken rough country.

Reached patient's side about noon, on December 27th, after having ridden seventy-five miles in fifteen hours, using the same horses clear through. Patient had been deliberately shot at a dance, about midnight of December 25th. Weapon used was a thirty-thirty calibre Winchester rifle, held within a few inches of his body. Patient had lost blood by mouth profusely immediately after shooting. He had lain thirty-six hours before I saw him, absolutely without assistance. There was more or less constant hemorrhage from the wounds during this time. He had been shot at anterior part of right shoulder. When shot he was in a stooping position, leaning forward and to right side. Found one quite small opening where rifle ball had entered. Found fracture at outer end of right clavicle. There was a fracture at the anatomical neck of the humerus, and the head of the humerus was very much shattered indeed. Whether these several injuries of the bones at the right shoulder joint were caused solely by the explosive force of the rifle ball, or partly by that and partly by his fall immediately after being shot, I am unable to say. The wound track ranged downward, inward and backward. Found a large, gashing, ugly-looking, irregular wound in the back on the right side. This was evidently the point of exit of part of the rifle ball,

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