

previously discovered the obstruction in the lower portion of the sigmoid flexure by passing the button down through the descending colon and attempting to expel it per anum. The site of the previous resection could only be located by the irregularity in the mesentery, and the bowel was of uniform size above and below it. The mass overhanging the brim of the pelvis was apparently smaller and was certainly much more movable than at the previous operation. The site of the obstruction having been located in the lowermost portion of the sigmoid flexure, I proceeded to remove it, together with the tumour overhanging the brim of the pelvis, with which it was continuous. This was finally accomplished after some difficulty owing to the depth in the pelvis at which the manipulations had to be carried on. The mass, which was dense and hard, surrounded the bowel as a narrow band, (about an inch in width externally), and nearly closed its lumen, leaving only a narrow slit about as large as a waistcoat button hole. It was infiltrating and was evidently either cicatricial tissue or scirrhus cancer. It has since been demonstrated to be the latter. During the operation the bowel was occluded on either side by a piece of hollow rubber tubing. About three inches of the bowel was removed, and the ends united by the largest sized Murphy button. The operation lasted about two hours and was well borne. There was little loss of blood and no fouling of the peritoneal cavity. A glass drainage tube was carried down to the bottom of the pelvis and exhausted from time to time. A small quantity only of odourless fluid—at first blood-stained and afterwards colorless—was all that was withdrawn from the tube for forty-eight hours, during which the patient did typically well in every respect. Several copious evacuations of dark liquid faeces occurred, the first about three hours after the completion of the operation. There was no vomiting, the pulse ran from 88 to 94, and the temperature from 98.5° to 99.5°F., and with the exception of the thirst and restlessness usually observed after