

Improvement was temporary only. The patient died two weeks after the operation.

Wilson, of Nashville, Tennessee, operated on one case of serous effusion in the right fifth intercostal space.

R. Siewers, of Finland, in 1894 reported nine cases; four successful.

*Medical Press and Circular*, January 27th, 1893, Koerte mentions the removal of a litre of pus from the pericardium from a girl of seven years; the patient died.

Ferier, in 1890, had collected 22 cases with 20 deaths, in 16 of purulent effusion, 11 aspirated died; the remaining 5 were incised, 3 recovering.

Musser, in his work on medical diagnosis, reports a case of tuberculous pericarditis, where 64 ounces of fluid was found in the pericardium at the autopsy; he had previously been tapped.

The most recent case was one by Drs. Shattuck and C. B. Porter (*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, May 6th, 1897) in a man 26 years of age. Purulent pericarditis followed pneumonia, aspiration was followed by rapid reaccumulation, incision and drainage led to complete recovery.

From this brief *résumé* of the literature, it will be seen that it is not very extensive, and one cannot very readily separate the cases of simple serous effusion where the treatment was by paracentesis or incision, from those of purulent pericarditis. If Bohm's statistics are correct, then the case will be the nineteenth on record where pericardiotomy has been resorted to in purulent pericarditis, with seven recoveries.

The points of interest in this case are first, the causation by contiguity of an active pneumococcus growth in the lung, with the comparative absence of symptoms of sepsis; not only did the heart accommodate itself to this large accumulation but gave slight evidence of distress, and there was but little constitutional disturbance in the way of fever; the derangements resulting were apparently only mechanical.

The quantity is the largest for an accumulation of pus yet recorded; larger amounts of serous and seropurulent collections have been described.

Louis, in 36 cases, found 9 serous, 5 sero-sanguinolent