

told that something had gathered and broken in his belly. On examination I found that an abscess had formed in the site of the operation scar of the hernia and had burst externally in one spot, and that another spot was necrotic. The worst pain he complained of during my first four visits was not over the site of the operation, but on the left side of the abdomen, close to the linea alba. I cleansed the abscess cavity with carbolic acid solution and packed it with iodoform gauze. Next day the necrosed spot had completely sloughed away and there were two large ragged openings into the abscess cavity. I kept syringing out the cavity for several days and packing with iodoform gauze. I was somewhat afraid of an opening into the bowel from the character of the discharge, which had no fæcal odor however, but the abscess healed up kindly. I passed a probe about 4 inches directly downwards into the abdominal cavity. I thereupon armed a probe with Nitrate of Silver and passed it to set up adhesive inflammation if there were any such opening into the bowel. My last visit was made Aug. 6th, 1896, when he was practically well, with the abscess completely healed, and only a little granulating surface left at the level of the skin about the size of a nickel. Curiously enough the patient's wife told me subsequently, that on the very day of my last visit, but after my departure, when she took off the dressing from the granulating surface at night, she found two raspberry seeds on the cloth. He had partaken quite freely of raspberries, which his mother had sent him the day before. She was quite alarmed at this, but wisely said nothing to the patient and awaited developments, which by the way never developed. She showed me the little piece of cloth with two raspberry seeds on it, which she declared were just as she removed them from the wound. He has made a good recovery since and is now strong and well, though not able to do work of any account. I omitted to say that his last attack was brought on by his running against a projecting board in a hay-mow and striking himself directly over the site of the original injury. I think it is very evident, that if he had submitted to operation at the time of his first attack, he would have escaped all his subsequent trouble. As I write McQ., has just come into my office and says he is well and strong, and feels as good as ever.