

seen that improvement was fallacious; no amendment had taken place in John, and I had resolved to perform the operation of thoracentesis immediately. I accordingly introduced a trochar between the ninth and tenth ribs, midway betwixt the ensiform cartilage and the vertebræ. A gush of pus instantly took place, and after having removed twenty two ounces I withdrew the canula, as the boy appeared very faint. I again introduced the canula in two hours, and did not remove it until it ceased running, another twenty-two ounces having been discharged—altogether forty-four ounces. The child was much relieved, and did not make use of his arm in respiration, and ceased to make the moaning sound; his pulse fell to 95—strong and regular.

On the morning of the 20th I again visited the boys, and introduced the canula, as John's breathing seemed to be more laborious. Only half an ounce came away; his appetite was very voracious, and had to be restrained; heart still beats on the right side. William seemed much the same, and I intended tapping him soon. I reached the house that morning before breakfast, and the two boys insisted on breakfasting with me. William ate some custard greedily, and drank some of the liquid part which remained. He also partook of tea. Before I had finished breakfast he asked to be put into his cradle, and then into his bed, and to be raised up. In about five minutes after finishing his breakfast I observed him suddenly become pale and his head droppod on his breast. I ran to him, lifted him in my arms and laid him on the bed. A dark flush shot rapidly over his face, and he expired.

Next day I examined the chest and removed a little over fifty ounces of matter. The lung was entirely absorbed, scarcely a vestige remaining; pleura slightly thickened; the heart laying on the right side, and the pericardium full of serous fluid; stomach was much distended, the pressure of which was probably the cause of his death, he having eaten so heartily a few minutes before.

May 6th.—I again tapped John, and this time removed fifty-two ounces. I left the canula in the chest with a plug in it; pulse, 130; countenance flushed; strength improving—can now walk; circumference of chest the same; heart still beating on the right side.

On the 8th I drew off sixteen ounces; on the 10th eight and a half; for the next four days four ounces each day—making, altogether, from the 20th April, one hundred and thirty-six ounces in twenty-four days.

13th.—Visited him; general health much improved; pulse, 100—of good strength; heart beating in mediastinum; slight respiratory