

The left leg was amputated a little above the middle third; the posterior flap was found to be the seat of a dissecting abscess, which had extended upwards from the foot, so that a portion of the muscles of the flap had to be removed, but notwithstanding this delay, the despatch with which the limb was amputated, was almost incredible; putting one in mind of the days when chloroform was not known—when speedy manipulations gave the surgeon his prestige.

The right leg was amputated one and a half inches lower down; two dissecting abscesses were found burrowing in the muscles of the calf of the leg, and extending into the lower flap. Very great interest was shown by the members of the Clinical Class, in watching the results of these two operations.

The arteries being ligatured, the wounds were washed with carbolic acid lotion 1 to 40, and their edges brought together by metallic sutures, and dressed with carbolic lotion 1 to 40.

7th—Did not sleep well last night, although a draught was given at 10 P.M. Pulse 130. Resp. 28. Temperature 102. Profuse perspiration.

8th—Feels better, slept last night. Pulse 116. Temperature 101 2-5ths.

9th—Stumps dressed to-day. Small slough appearing on the left stump, about the centre of the lower flap. Right stump looks well; but the skin over the upper portion of the end of the bone is very white, as if it had been on the stretch for some time. The lower flap was supported by a piece of plaster to remove this tension.

10th—Left stump, slough extending, sutures removed, and a poultice applied. Right stump looks well, but the white spot looks as if it had lost its vitality. Looks more lively to-day. Ordered—Wine 6 ozs., and Mist. Ferri et Quinae.

12th—Pulse 88. Temp. 88½. Shooting pains in both stumps, appetite improving. Right stump is uniting well, small slough in the place of the white spot. Left stump,—slough is extending.

20th—Upper part of the bone is protruding in the right leg, the small slough having separated. The edges of the wound almost completely united. The whole of the posterior flap of the left leg has sloughed away. Instead of the poultice, carbolic lotion 1 to 40.

25th—Left stump is granulating. The small piece of bone that protrudes in the right leg is turning black, but the edges of the flaps have firmly united.

January 6th, 1872.—Left stump granulating nicely. In other respects the patient is well.