

digression from the pathological specimen forming the subject of this paper, will be pardoned.

This specimen had stood upon the shelves of the Pathological Museum for many years without a reference and its interesting history seemed to have passed beyond the ken of the present generation. Dr. Osler, however, in reply to an enquiry on the subject, stated that he remembered it perfectly, having often demonstrated it, and directed me to the Edinburgh Medical Journal in which he told me it had been reported by Dr. Holmes.

I take the liberty of republishing Dr. Holmes' article in toto, both because in itself it presents many points of interest to us of modern times and because it is so classically written that scarcely a word can be omitted without loss.

### CASE OF MALFORMATION OF THE HEART.\*

BY

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The following case of malformation of the heart, is, I believe unique, as far as the appearances extend, though several, in which similar effects on the circulation must have been produced, are to be found recorded. Many of the cases collected by Dr. Farre in his Essay on Malformations of the Heart, resemble this in one or more particulars, but no one exactly. Though, from the existence of all the parts that are found in the natural state, it might be classed among cases of imperfect double heart, yet it may perhaps be more correctly considered intermediate between them and those of single heart, as from the relations and small capacity of the right ventricle, it can be looked upon only as the commencement of the pulmonary artery. The effects on the constitution of the blood would evidently be the same as if only one auricle and ventricle existed.

Isaac N., æt. 22, of a delicate habit, had been affected from infancy with a palpitation of the heart, attended by a peculiar blueness of the cheeks and lips, more remarkable at one time than another. The palpitation was much increased by quick motion, and subject to aggravation after any irregularity, which a turn for dissipation frequently presented. At these times the difficulty of respiration was great, and attended by pain in the region of the heart. For a few years past he had had a more severe attack every winter, apparently originating in

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