

cough. Both pulmonary bases are dull for a limited extent, and from the spines of the scapulæ downwards fine crepitating râles can be heard. There is therefore a moderate degree of pulmonary œdema. The lung changes are not as advanced as you might expect when you take into consideration the generally deranged condition of the circulation. The reason for this lies in the fact that the occurrence of tricuspid regurgitation tends to relieve pulmonary congestion, inasmuch as it weakens the force with which the right ventricle contracts. Consequently less blood is pumped into the lungs, because we see the veins in the neck receiving at each beat of the right ventricle some of the blood which ought to go to the lungs.

The appetite is poor; the bowels fairly regular. He complains of pain in the epigastrium and right hypochondrium. There is no vomiting, and he has never brought up blood. The abdomen is distended and measures at its widest part 37 inches. Fluctuation is present. There is dulness on percussion in both flanks, which is moveable on the right side, but not so on the left, owing probably to enlargement of the spleen. There is no fluctuation. Note the rapid onset of this abdominal dropsy, which is the immediate result of the regurgitation through the tricuspid. The abdomen suffers first, or nearly first, when this takes place because of the absence of valves in its veins, and this damming up in time acts on the portal circulation, producing symptoms due to the inability of organs to clear themselves of their blood. Congestions ensue, function is interfered with, and symptoms result. The pain and distress at the stomach of which this poor man complains is probably the result of the damming back of the blood in the gastric veins. The liver is large. Hepatic dulness in right mammary line extends fully three inches below the margin of ribs. The smooth surface of the organ can be readily felt separated from the abdominal wall by a thin layer of fluid. The spleen is large, possibly as the result of the old standing malarial disease, possibly as the result of the congestion from which it is evident all the viscera are suffering.

The quantity of urine passed is less than the normal. Since