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Original Communications.

A CASE OF DEXTRO-CARDIA.

Read at a meeting of the St. John Medical Society,

BY P. R. INCHES, M. D.

A YOUNG MAN, 23 years of age, was seen at the office on Jan. 23rd last, complaining of cough, some shortness of breath, and slight pain in the chest. On examination there was flattening under the right clavicle and dullness on percussion over the apex of right lung, extending downwards over the whole lung, but not so marked towards the base, both front and back. On auscultation, tubular breathing and absence of vesicular respiration were found at apex, front and back, but marked in the supra and infra claviclar, and the supra scapular region of the right side. Also tubular breathing towards base in front, but not so marked as at apex. In the region of the right side, corresponding to the cardiac region of the left side, were found the proper sounds of the heart. The apex beat was a little nearer the nipple than usual. The sounds, rhythm, and dimensions of the heart, were normal and healthy.

On the left side there was healthy vesicular respiration without any dullness, over the whole front and back. Over the proper

cardiac region there was clear resonance and normal respiration. There was entire absence of any sign of effusion on the left side. There was no intercostal bulging nor fullness on either side, nor any falling in of the wall of the chest on either side, but except the infra-clavicular flattening on the right side, mentioned, the sides were symmetrical. There was no transposition of the other organs.

Pulse, 72 ; respiration, 20 ; no rise of temperature when seen. The patient is thin and weakly looking, but well able to walk about, although not employed in any business.

The signs seemed to indicate consolidation from phthisis at the apex of the right lung, with transposition of the heart to the right side.

The former history of the patient was an attack described as congestion of the right lung, nearly five years before, with hæmoptysis once, which confined him to the house for one year, and he has never been well since. Was told he had pleurisy also on the right side, with water in the chest. Two years ago he was confined to the house with pulmonary symptoms, since then he has always been able to be out, and gained a little in weight. His father died at about 50 of pneumonia, and his sister at about 20, of consumption. He was never told before that his heart beat on the right side.

He has reported himself twice since January, last time on March 18th, when the physical signs were the same. There is