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MALIGNANT DISEASE OF THE OESOPHAGUS.*

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It is not my intention to-night to take up exhaustively the whole subject of malignant disease of the œsophagus, but to show you specimens of special interest and of some rarity in connection with this disease.

The specimens are from a man, J. D., aged 36, who died on October 7th, 1898. He felt perfectly well until January last, when he first experienced difficulty in swallowing solid food. He vomited the first mouthful of food before a second could be taken; had pain at lower end of sternum and in the back. In May he was able to swallow liquid food only, and he was getting progressively weaker and losing flesh rapidly. I first saw him on August 7th, when his condition was as follows: Much emaciation, anxious expression, complaining of pain at lower end of sternum and in back over eighth and ninth D. V. Liver was enlarged and painful on palpation. Liver dulness (absolute) from sixth rib to one inch below costal margin in mammary line. No nodules felt. Nothing bearing specially on the case in the respiratory, circulatory or urinary systems.

An œsophageal bougie was passed (No. 22), and an obstruction was met with $16\frac{1}{4}$ inches from the teeth. There was no blood on the bougie after removal, nor in the mucus afterwards expectorated. On listening with a stethoscope over ninth D. V. while patient swallowed water, the water could

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