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VENOUS THROMBOSIS IN HEART-DISEASE.¹

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WELCH, in his recent paper on venous thrombosis in heart-disease, read before the Association of American Physicians in Washington, has called attention to this complication in cardiac disorders. In his paper he has given abstracts of all of the cases which he could find recorded in the literature. He states, moreover, that he considers the thrombus to be microbic in origin, and has referred briefly to a number of cultures which have been taken from thrombi in the pathological laboratory of the Johns Hopkins Hospital.

The following case, which occurred in the wards of the Royal Victoria Hospital, represents this condition, but unfortunately no cultures were taken from the thrombus at autopsy :

D. Bonnar, aged 56, blacksmith, was admitted to the hospital December 18, 1899, and died February 18, 1900, under the charge of Prof. Stewart. The patient gave a history of acute rheumatism when a young man, involving ankles and wrists and knees, and 12 years ago an attack of pleurisy with lumbago and phlebitis. For the past two months has had increasing dyspnea, anorexia and edema of the legs, attacks similar to which he has had since onset of his first trouble.

On admission the patient was in labored respiration, quite cyanotic, pulse irregular in volume and rhythm; heart-dulness increased with definite signs of mitral insufficiency; numerous moist rales throughout chest. Five days after admission a hard, tender mass about the size of a half-dollar was felt about the saphenous opening on the right side of the right thigh, and extending from this point round to the inner side of the thigh was felt a small tense vessel. There was, as well, a tender point felt in the popliteal space along its inner side to about the middle of the calf, where there was decided tenderness and pain on pressure.

¹ Read before the Montreal Medico-Chirurgical Society, May 25, 1900.