

CONGESTION OF THE LUNGS AND ITS DANGERS.

No organ in the human body, with the single exception of the brain, is so frequently the seat of congestion as the lungs. In these all-important organs it occurs in various degrees, sometimes in the most insidious manner, sometimes developing itself with extrema rapidity, and, in the strong language of Rokitsky, it is "*the anatomical basis of most sudden deaths.*"

And yet, strange to say, this most serious morbid state is but little mentioned in medical text-books. It is wholly omitted in Russell Reynolds' *System of Medicine*, the choicest product of the British medical mind of our day; it is overlooked in Aitken's *Science and Practice of Medicine*, which is the text-book for the medical officers of the British army, though soldiers are notoriously prone to congestion of the lungs. Sir Thomas Watson—the Macaulay of British Medicine—does not mention it in his classic *Lectures on the Principles and Practice of Physic*; it is unnoted in Dr. George B. Wood's *Practice of Medicine*, for many years the leading text-book in the medical schools of the United States. It is omitted in Strümpell's *Text-book of Medicine*, now the text in the Medical Department of Harvard University; no mention of it is made in Dr. Charles Hilton Fagge's *Principles and Practice of Medicine*—the best medical work of our day written by one author. It is unnoticed by Graves, Copland, Eberle, Good, Hooper, Forbes, Tweedie, Da Costa.

Brief and unsatisfactory notices of this morbid state are given by Eichhorst, Roberts and Cammann, and the only really good articles on this important subject are the one by Dr. Hertz in Von Ziemssen's *Cyclopædia of the Practice of Medicine*, and