

wound could no longer be delayed. The arm now left to itself, without any support, the bleeding soon again returned, and so furiously that the life of the man was despaired of. Mr. Stratford was again sent for. It was clear that the man could not spare any more blood, and having refused to submit to amputation, which, at the present moment, would have been of very questionable utility, for had he lost only a small quantity of blood during the operation, it would, in all probability, have deprived him of his life, Mr. Stratford pointed out to him that there was one more remedy left that might possibly permanently arrest the hæmorrhage, and that was the actual cautery. This the patient agreed too. Irons heated to a white heat were freely applied to the bleeding surface. To say that they were applied to the bleeding artery, was a fallacy; for when the small opening through which the blood issued had been slit up with a bistoury, the blood seemed to ooze from all parts of a small cavity. After the application of the heated irons, a graduated compress was applied to the part, and the hand bandaged from the extremities of the fingers. The bandage was removed on the second day, good healthy pus was present. No further hæmorrhage recurred, the wounds rapidly healed without any bad symptoms.

The ligature upon the brachial artery did not separate until the 24th day. None of that coldness incident to a ligature upon the main artery was to be observed in this case, depending, in all probability, upon the collateral circulation having been finally established in the lower part of the arm after the tying of the radial artery. The man bids fair to regain the use of the arm, which, although greatly debilitated, is clearly gaining strength.

It is scarcely possible to imagine a stronger case illustrating the danger of trusting to homœopathic remedies in wounded arteries. That the arnica may act as an astringent in the simple case of bleeding from minute vessels has been taught for ages, but if any individual in the present day should presume to trust to it in bleeding from a large blood vessel, it would argue a want of knowledge and indicate a rashness inconsistent with the safety of the patient.

In this instance the tincture of arnica was applied to the bandages and not to the wound; given internally in extremely minute doses, it was likewise valueless in so severe a case of hæmorrhage. The absurdity of these minute doses would be plain to any man who would condescend to think upon the subject. Ancient history and modern experience alike point to certain effects produced by a dose of the tincture of arnica. If, for example, a drachm dose of tincture of arnica be given and it produces certain effects, you can mathematically calculate the effects of 1.50th of a drop, which must amount almost to nothing; but says the