

relief, that I flattered myself that the disease was subdued. I also gave a dose of calomel, and paid attention to secure a comfortable warmth of body. Next day, pain having returned during the night, I bled him a second time to the extent of sixteen ounces, with immediate relief; however in a few hours pain was again felt, but in a very mitigated degree, and for this a sinapism was applied. On the third day he was better, though not free from pain; on the fourth he was so well that, on entering the house, I found him its only inmate, his wife having gone out for a short time, thinking that he now required little attention. Previously to this day, his breathing during sleep was always oppressed, but it had now become easy, and as a consequence he slept much longer. On the next day, the fifth, to my astonishment I found him greatly worse, his pulse frequent, and his manner abstracted, like that of a patient in typhus fever, to which the symptoms now bore a strong resemblance. In the evening he began to be incoherent. Next afternoon he was quite insensible, and unconscious of being in existence. Bewildered with symptoms which I did not anticipate or comprehend, I knew not what to do, and in twenty-four hours he died.

On the 2nd of August, 1836, I was sent for in haste to visit a farmer 58 years of age, who had gone that evening to visit a neighbour; after tea while walking in the fields with his friends, he was seized with pain in the left side of the chest so severe that he required to be taken home in a carriage. I caused him to be made warm in bed, opened his bowels by an enema, and gave a purgative. For a short time there was considerable remission of pain, followed however by great aggravation, which rendered inspiration or the slightest movement of the body very painful, and prevented him from lying on the affected side. There was no cough. I now opened a vein, but the result of the last case having made me timid, I abstracted scarcely a soup-plateful of blood with very little mitigation of the pain; to remove the remainder a dose of opium was given, which was repeated during the night, but without benefit. Next day I requested the advice of another medical gentleman, who recommended sinapisms and a blister. Death occurred about 84 hours from the commencement of the illness. During the last day of his life the pain was lessened, but the breathing

was more frequent, and the oppression greater; at his own request he had six or eight ounces of wine. Incoherence was at no time present. During the whole illness, though slumbering occasionally from opium, he could not be said to sleep.

In June, 1837, I visited a farmer, 41 years of age; he felt himself unwell, his body generally pained, and his appetite bad; these he attributed to cold caught two days previously. I caused him to take a purgative, and go to bed. Next morning a message was sent that severe pain in the lower part of the left side of the chest had come on during the night. I forwarded one grain of opium, directed the application of a sinapism, and in two hours visited him. He was not in any measure relieved, the pain was severe, preventing free respiration, and obliging him to lie on the opposite side; cough was frequent, and caused great aggravation of pain. Suspecting that in the last case the inflammation had not been subdued, owing to timidity in not taking away the requisite quantity of blood, and that in the first case, I had possibly taken too much, I began to be of opinion that the fatal sinking, which so unexpectedly followed the abstraction of blood, might perhaps have been remedied, had stimulants been given freely whenever the change of symptoms appeared. I therefore determined in the present instance to put a stop, if possible, to the inflammation in as short a time, and with as little loss of blood as possible, and to give wine liberally, as soon as any degree of delirium should appear. Accordingly I opened a vein, and abstracted nearly a soup-plateful of blood. Finding at the end of an hour that the pain was mitigated, but not removed, I re-opened the wound, and allowed more blood to flow till he had lost altogether 24 ounces. This gave great relief, and after having waited for several hours, satisfied with the result of the treatment I left him. Next day the pain was very slight, and he was evidently much better. On the succeeding day, the third of my attendance, pain not being wholly gone, tartar emetic was given in small doses, but having sickened him he refused to persevere in its use. Since his illness commenced he had slept ill, and therefore this night one grain of opium was given. Next morning, the fourth, his bowels were freely opened by a purgative, and feeling himself, as he imagined much better, notice was sent, at his request, that I might dispense with visiting him that day.