

teats and udder, as well as the hands of the milkman, had been previously purified by carbolic acid.

I saw the milk which had been lying in a wine glass, secured and treated as I have said, exhibited before the Royal Society of Edinburgh, by Lister. Although eighteen months had elapsed since its introduction into the wine glass, on removal of the shade and cap, it was found to be as sweet and pure as the day it came from the cow. Watched by the audience with keen interest, Lister tasted it, handed it to Tait, the learned Professor of Physics, who agreed as to its quality. How many more of the venerable fellows tasted it I have forgotten, but I know at the time it seemed to impress strongly that learned Society.

In 1870 Lister gave me a dressership. My application had been backed up by an old house surgeon of Syme's, Edward Lawrie, whom I knew at that time. Later on Lawrie joined the Indian army, and presided over the Hyderabad Commission investigating the administration of chloroform. The first cases I was allowed to dress were unimportant, chronic ulcers and the like, cases in which I could do no harm. I scrupulously washed them in 1-40 carbolic acid, dressed them with lac plaster, a stump towel on the outside, and bandaged them as carefully and evenly as if much depended upon it. The lac plaster had not long displaced the putty, which he had used in Glasgow, and very proud he was of his new dressing, frequently describing the gradual improvements in its manufacture until the perfect stage was reached.

This was replaced by the gauze. To-day we use a gauze very similar to that first made. I remember well the day Lister dressed the first case with gauze. He had finally, after being up nearly all night, perfected to his satisfaction a small piece. He came to the infirmary, and with his staff went to the laboratory and made a larger portion. He went straight back to the theatre and with it dressed a compound fracture of both bones of the forearm, then made by himself to correct a badly united fracture. This showed his confidence in dressing. It was made of cheese cloth impregnated with carbolic acid, held in resin, the resin having the property of holding carbolic acid with great tenacity, but on account of its stickiness, required to be diluted with paraffin—the most satisfactory portion being Acid 1, Resin 5, Paraffin 7. By degrees the accessories to the dressing were dispensed with as greater knowledge came, as the Mackintosh between the seventh and eighth layers, the syringe to destroy the germs, the spray—at first a hand one and then a steam spray. As one by one was discarded, much to the relief of the surgeons, Lister contended that if the