

eye, for which he had been recommended by that gentleman to go through an alterative course of mercury in the form of the compound calomel pill and to pay strict attention to his diet and regimen. From that period, Dr. N. had only seen him occasionally until within a few days of our visiting him together in consultation. From his symptoms on seeing him in his last illness, he was led to the conclusion, that from cold taken on his journey into this city, congestion of the liver had ensued, followed by obstruction of the biliary secretions. He prescribed for him calomel and jalap, with saline diaphoretics and laxatives—for these he soon substituted calomel and elaterium with beverages containing the tartrate and bitartrate of potash; and the blister which I had noticed.

Having ascertained that the heart was not implicated, it was determined in consultation to continue the mercurials night and morning—to have the blistered surface covered over with the mercurial ointment—to have this also well rubbed into the inside of the thighs, and to cause him to take the ioduret of potash in repeated doses during the day. There being the same sluggish state of the absorbents on the 11th, and without relief of the principal symptoms, 18 leeches were scattered over the abdomen and the same remedies and drinks continued; this plan was persevered in until the 14th, when the lower half of the abdomen was rubbed well over with croton oil liniment. This caused some irritation of the intestinal mucous membrane. On the 15th Dr. Bruneau joined in the consultation and although it was the unanimous opinion of us all, that the case must terminate fatally, yet it was judged advisable as œdema had begun to show itself in the legs and feet, to try an infusion of digitalis. This had the effect of slightly increasing the secretion of

urine, and of allaying the irritable state of the intestines induced by the croton oil, and for which also demulcent enemata had previously been administered. From the morning of the 16th he evinced evident marks of sinking and he expired on the 17th perfectly sensible.

With great difficulty a post mortem examination was obtained on the 18th, but owing to circumstances much to be regretted, this required to be made altogether too hastily and cursorily.

The division of the abdominal integuments shewed a remarkable absence of cellular tissue and fat. On laying aside the flaps, the gigantic but smooth surfaced liver, studded with immense patches of black, and intermediate smaller ones of whitish matter, immediately came into view, occupying the whole of the upper and middle portions of the abdomen; the intestines, great and small, being forced down into the lower and back part of this cavity and the pelvis. The colon was enormously distended with flatus and it, as well as the small intestines, were almost purple from congestion—there was not the slightest trace of inflammation in the peritoneum, evidenced by unusual deposits, false membranes, or softening—the lungs were driven up against the upper and back part of the thoracic cavity, but with the heart were perfectly healthy, the substance of the latter was rather flabby. The liver was removed entire and weighed by means of a stilliard belonging to the house; (this instrument however did not happen to be in perfect order and was not therefore very delicate in its results,) 18 pounds and a little more were marked on the scale as the weight of the mass, but all the gentlemen in the room decided against this being the true weight; some thinking that it weighed 25 and others 30 lbs. My own opinion was, that it weighed