

many have attempted, no one has succeeded in explaining satisfactorily this frequently observed occurrence, the passage of pus from the pleural cavity to the external air without the existence of a bronchial fistula. No doubt it is an attempt at a cure on the part of nature, and in the case of the left lung she seems to have succeeded. The diminution in the quantity of pus expectorated after the aspiration is noteworthy, but it has been observed long ago. In this case the temperature was remarkably low, and fell after the expectoration became copious, so that I felt inclined to await events and not advise surgical interference. The man seemed very weak, however, and having the means of relieving him at hand, it seemed cruel to delay. The effect of the operation in reducing the quantity of pus expectorated was very remarkable. In these days of early removal of pus by thoracotomy we do not often see the remote results of empyema as they were observed by a former generation. Perforations of the chest wall, bronchial fistulæ, and pulsating pleurisy have become very rare.* 3. The diminution in the size of the liver as the dyspnoea was relieved. The liver was noted on admission as extending from the 6th rib to a point 1 inch below the costal margin in the right mammary line. On his discharge, the limits of hepatic dulness were normal. Enlargement of the liver in empyema was noted some forty years ago by my late father in a paper in which this very subject of copious purulent effusion was dealt with. It would seem that in this case there was a real hepatic enlargement and not a displacement, inasmuch as the upper limit of the hepatic dulness remained stationary throughout.

CASES UNDER THE CARE OF DR. RODDICK.

(Reported by Dr. W. E. INKERTER.)

CASE I.—*Tubercular knee joint; Extensive necrosis of lower end of femur; Amputation; Recovery.*

C. E., æt. 15, admitted February 8th, 1890, complaining of

* Vide MacDonnell, Robert Lea—On Contributions to the Diagnosis of Empyema. Dublin Journal of the Medical Sciences, March, 1844.

Truiz, Ges: Abhandlungen, vol. iii, p. 44, 1572.

Coker, Canada Medical and Surgical Journal, vol. xi, p. 744.