

## TUMOR OF THE CHEST—OPERATION—RECOVERY.

UNDER THE CARE OF DR. CASSIDY, TORONTO  
GENERAL HOSPITAL.

(Reported by Dr. Sylvester, Galt, Ont.)

The following case which occurred in the Toronto General Hospital under Dr. Cassidy's charge, is rather a rare one, only few being mentioned in our text books, and at the Dr's. request I furnish you the facts of the case.

Wm. Hilder, æt. 29, laborer, came to the Hospital January, 25th as an extern, complaining of pain and a hard tumor on the right side, situated on the sixth and seventh ribs, midway between the spine and sternum. A casual examination was made by the Dr. that day, but he thought it better not to operate until a consultation could be had, which was on the following Friday. About 6 years ago he noticed a small hard tumor, about the size of a pea which was at first moveable; this kept on growing until about six weeks ago when it became painful and sore. Previous to this it caused no inconvenience; it had reached the size of a man's fist, and was quite hard and immovably attached to the sixth and seventh ribs. On the day of consultation it was diagnosed as an enchondroma, and an operation was deemed advisable. In performing this the Dr. made a horizontal incision over the tumor, dissected back over the margin on each side and got well down; he then introduced his fingers into the wound to feel for the pedicle and separate the surrounding tissues, and in doing this his finger accidentally entered the right pleural cavity. The external air at once rushed in and completely filled that space, compressing the lung. This did not interfere with the operation, but with the bone pliers the tumor was nearly all removed, and it was found to be quite hollow, the centre having undergone fatty degeneration. The hemorrhage was very slight so that the wound was soon closed up and brought in apposition by plaster covering the whole surface.

On the following day the respirations were 40 and the pulse 120, right side tympanitic and also the abdomen. Poultices were applied to the wound; appetite good, but complains of considerable dyspnoea; vesicular murmur lost on the right side and puerile breathing on the left; this continued for a

week or more when the pulse gradually lowered and respirations became less frequent. The right side became less resonant and the vesicular breathing returned gradually, being at first bronchial in character, and finally he was discharged in the course of about six weeks—wound completely closed and respiration on both sides normal. The treatment he received throughout was at first antiphlogistic and then tonic, with good nourishing diet; milk, beef tea &c. The case is a rare one and if you see fit you may give it room in the columns of the Lancet.

## Correspondence.

### GROSS VIOLATION OF ETHICS.

To the Editor of the CANADA LANCET.

SIR,—On the 16th of April, 1875, J. N. of Garatraxa, aged about 55, received a comminuted fracture of the tibia (below the middle) which I adjusted the same evening, dressing it in the usual way, he being three or four miles from home. On the 27th, having applied a starched bandage, I allowed him to be removed home where I visited him again on the 29th, removed the bandage, and finding the bone in its proper position and the swelling reduced I again dressed it with a starched bandage, interlarding the latter with paste-board, since which time the patient has continued to do well, being now able to go about on crutches. On the 11th inst., 26 days after the limb was set (union having taken place) Dr. —, who, by the way, is a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, of three years experience, met with the wife of the patient and enquired of her with regard to the treatment her husband was receiving, telling her "if the bandage did not extend above the knee the leg could not be right, and that he would be lame for life," whereupon she asked him to go in and see the leg, (as they were only a short distance from the patient's house at the time). He went in and very sagely opened up the limb, when he found all was right in the interior, union having taken place. He then reapplied the bandage, paste-board, &c., just as he found it, only extending it above the knee (which had to be removed in an hour or two on account of the pain it caused) and after pocketing the small sum of \$10 as a reasonable remuneration for his