

clot of pus, which clogged the needle and prevented any matter escaping. I then reintroduced it, with the above result. Again the fluid accumulated; she became very irritable, appetite failed, refused both nourishment and medicine, objected to another operation, and said she would die in peace; and now, for the first time, a fistulous opening into the bronchi was established, and mouthfuls of greenish purulent matter were coughed up, which was very fetid.

*April 18th, or 15 days after the last operation.*—I was summoned with the announcement that she was dying. When I reached the house she was in a state of furious delirium. Shortly after my arrival she calmed down, and I took her temperature, which was 105°F., pulse 140. In a few moments she again became furious, when I put her under the influence of chloroform and aspirated, this time drawing off over three quarts of purulent, greenish, very fetid matter—in fact so much so that the odor was almost intolerable. I found great difficulty in administering the anæsthetic on this occasion, as it seemed to induce coughing, and she would gulp up mouthfuls of matter that had entered the bronchi, and as I was alone, I had to attend to everything unaided. Having previously determined on introducing a drainage tube, I now decided to wait the result of the fistulous opening, hoping that the matter might be expectorated and a cure thus effected; but in this I was disappointed, as the pleural cavity again began to fill up.

During this time I myself became unwell, and my friend Dr. Small kindly visited the patient for me, and aspirated, removing 45 ozs. of matter of a similar nature to the last removed. Not being satisfied with the general results of drainage in empyema by means of rubber-tubing, knowing that it easily becomes blocked up, and that if there was much retraction of the chest, resection of a rib would be a necessity in order to drain, I hesitated before resorting to it. Being still unwell, and needing a few days' recreation, I visited Montreal, and while there, called on Dr. Ross, to whom I gave a brief history of the case, and solicited his advice, which he freely gave, and for which I am deeply indebted. The substance of that advice was: that I