

given some brandy the wound was enlarged and the gut replaced in the sac, and the edges brought together with a silver wire. Cold water dressing was applied and 30 minims of Tr. opii given. The next day she had greatly improved in condition. The wound healed by first intention, and she made a rapid recovery without a bad symptom."

Mr. James Brown Hargreaves, F.R.C.S., Edin., records a case of ovariectomy. The tumor filled the whole of the abdominal cavity. The operation was performed without antiseptic precautions. The tumor was multilocular, and was adherent to the abdominal parietes and to the omentum, which adhesions were broken down with the finger. The pelvis was sponged out, and the edges brought together by thick silk sutures passed through the whole thickness of the abdominal walls, including the peritoneum. Patient was wrapped in hot blankets. On third day, note says, "Wound dressed; no pus, and appeared to be uniting by first intention in the greater part of its length." The next day a pad of lint wrung out of solution of carbolic acid lotion was applied. But this could not be called Listerism. In 24 days she was dressed and sat up, and in 32 days after the operation she was able to go about her household duties.

Dr. Walshe, of Edin., gives an account of a case of ligature of the femoral artery for aneurism with catgut ligature. He says it was not applied under the spray, but carbolic lotion was applied in the dressing. "Complete union by first intention followed, and the patient was completely cured on the tenth day after the operation." A second case is also given of the same kind of operation, and he remarks, "The material used in this case was carbolized catgut, without any other antiseptic treatment. The wound healed by the first intention."

Dr. Geo. Elder, Surgeon to the Nottingham Hospital, gives a case of herniotomy. The wound was washed out with carbolized water; but there was no spray or antiseptic gauze. Silk sutures and a compress with strips of plaster and an arnica bandage constituted the treatment. On the fourth day union by first intention had taken place.

Dr. Morton, of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, tied the external iliac artery for aneurism of the femoral and popliteal. An ordinary silk ligature was used and cut short; silver sutures were used,

and a pad of lint applied. "The wound healed completely by first intention, and at the end of a week was quite sound, no pus formed, and the slight serous discharge was odorless." He concludes the account by saying, "It may interest many to notice that the ligature remains enclosed, and that no antiseptic of any kind was used except the blood."

From Paris comes an account of a case of a young man who from a long walk and sleeping in the snow, and from exhaustion, had gangrene of both legs. Amputation of both limbs was performed at the thigh at the same period. "A great quantity of reddish-brown liquid escaped upon section of the tissues. The two stumps were dressed with lint dipped in camphorated alcohol." On the eighth day "union had taken place to a great extent."

Dr. Jonathan Hutchinson, F.R.C.S., records two cases of compound fracture of the femur treated by lead and spirit lotion, which healed without suppuration. One was a very severe injury, the bone being comminuted just above the knee joint, and a considerable fragment requiring removal. Also a case of "compound fracture of the humerus just above the elbow, the lower fragment being split vertically. The joint was opened and synovia escaped. The wound closed without the slightest suppuration." He further speaks of "two other cases of compound fracture of the femur, one of them attended by large effusion of blood into the limb, have done equally well under the same treatment."

Many other cases might be adduced to show that the most successful treatment of wounds of all kinds can be secured without the aid of Lister's antiseptic paraphernalia; but I will content myself by bringing before you the teachings of one of the most eminent surgeons of England.

Mr. Samson Gamgee, surgeon to the Birmingham Hospital, is one of the most devoted surgeons of our times; a careful observer, a candid and unprejudiced investigator, and ready to recognize scientific truths wherever found. Allow me then to read to you some extracts which have a most important bearing upon the subject of Listerism. In a clinical lecture on wound treatment by dry and infrequent dressing, rest and pressure, he commenced by saying—"The majority of wounds heal rapidly and painlessly under dry and infrequent