

possible, and wait and see if the obstruction would in time yield itself. Morphia pills of $\frac{1}{4}$ -grain strength were ordered, one to be given twice a day ; and having found that the inunction of sweet oil freely over the distended abdomen gave relief and lessened the tension, I directed to have it done every day.

July 27th.—The condition of the patient for the past week has been much the same—lying quiet, talking in a bright manner to those about her, yet becoming wearied with the long-continued distension. There is a deranged condition of the stomach, a dislike for food, and, in fact, refusing to take almost any form of liquid food prepared for her. For the first ten days after I had seen her, beef tea and milk were taken fairly well, after which time to the present she has gradually grown to refuse to take the food prepared for her. When this dislike for food was increasing, I ordered her wine ; but taking a dislike to this, and asking that she might have Scotch whiskey, she took it regularly, and it has proved in part beneficial.

July 28th.—The patient has had vomiting of feculant matter to-day.

From July 28th to August 21st the symptoms remained the same, the body, however, becoming much emaciated, the pulse grew somewhat faster and feebler, and intermittent. At this date, August 21st, the patient said that she had a feeling as if the bowels would act, and a small injection being administered, she had a large natural motion. The patient had thus existed for 67 days without the bowels moving, and possibly for a longer period still, as the only statement of their acting after the obstruction occurring in the latter part of April is her own, and being advanced in life, her idea of things in general was very mixed.

Aug. 22nd.—The bowels moved several times to-day, the motions being free, fully formed, and devoid of any specially unpleasant odor. The action of the bowels, however, has weakened her more and more, and she has now very little strength left. Wyeth's beef and wine had been ordered, but she has now much difficulty in swallowing, and objects to taking anything but a sip of the whiskey now and then.