

could be obtained in this manner, the artificial opening might answer the purpose of a safety-valve, and enable us to repeat the experiment of inverting the body on the moveable platform, without the risk of causing suffocation. The operation was immediately performed by myself, with the assistance of Mr. Aston Key and Mr. Charles Hawkins; and on it being completed, some attempts were made, both by Mr. Key and by myself, to reach the coin with the forceps introduced through the opening. The contact of the instrument with the internal surface of the trachea, however, induced on any occasion the most violent convulsive coughing. The coin was not seized, nor even felt; and our apprehensions of producing some serious mischief were such that we did not deem it prudent, at that time, to persevere in our endeavours to remove it.

On the 2nd of May, we again made some trials with the forceps, but always with the same result. A violent convulsive action of the diaphragm and abdominal muscles ensued, on each introduction of the instrument; and the danger of groping in the bronchus, under such circumstances, surrounded as it is by the most remarkable assemblage of vital organs in the whole body, appeared to us to be so great, that we did not think ourselves justified in proceeding further. We were the more inclined to abandon the experiment with the forceps, as we had a strong expectation that a recurrence to the first experiment, now that the safety-valve was established, would prove successful.

On the 3rd of May, a consultation was held with Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Stanley. They entirely concurred in the views of Mr. Aston Key and myself, and it was agreed that nothing more should be attempted until Mr. B. had sufficiently recovered from the effects of what had been already done to admit of his being again inverted on the moveable platform.

A probe, or director, was occasionally introduced into the wound of the trachea, with a view to keep it in an open state; and, on the 13th of May, the patient having been placed on the platform, and brought into the same position as formerly, the back was struck with the hand; two or three efforts to cough followed, and presently he felt the coin quit the bronchus, striking almost immediately afterwards against the incisor teeth of the upper jaw, and then dropping out of the mouth; a small quantity of blood, drawn into the trachea from the granulations of the external wound, being ejected at the same time. No spasm took place in the muscles of the glottis, nor was there any of that inconvenience and distress which had caused no small degree of alarm on the former occasion.

It is unnecessary to describe the progress of the case afterwards. On the 20th of May, Mr. B. had sufficiently recovered to be able to go