

2d. The favorable progress of the wound, after the symptoms pointed to absorption of pus, is a rather noticeable feature in the case. Thus the operation was performed on the 20th September, and the symptoms of phlebitis set in on the 25th. Then an interval of apparent immunity from unfavorable symptoms is succeeded by evidences of insidious disease in the lung tissue and pleura, the ulcer meanwhile advancing most satisfactorily.

Not until Oct. 11th were distinct rigors observable, but yet the ulcer continued to heal as favorably as could be desired, up to the 16th. Thus only a few days before the poor fellow's death did the ulcer show evidence of the *diseased* state of the blood.

3. The healthy state of the tongue, absence of thirst, and even at the last, little tendency to diarrhoea were rather unusual features in the case; the characteristic, dry, red state of the former organ being absent throughout.

4. Lastly, may we not derive some practical lesson as to the mode of treatment in such cases? The description of the catastrophe, the profuse hemorrhage, and subsequent syncope, would point indubitably at the time of occurrence to a lesion of either the femoral or profunda artery, but the bleeding had ceased; and was entirely controlled before the man was seen by my colleague.

Under such circumstances should the dressing be removed, the vessel sought for and secured by ligature above and below the wound; or should the curative process of nature, so far advancing favorably, be afforded further trial?

No one, I presume, would assert that this latter course is at variance with the recognised rules and principles of surgery relative to wounded vessels, and, as I have remarked, cases, some of recent occurrence, give weight to such practice. My own views, however, are decidedly in favor of the first named mode of proceeding, and that, as a general rule, the employment of pressure as a curative means should be limited to vessels of no larger capacity than the radial and ulnar arteries.

The subject of this case was evidently of vigorous constitution, and the length of the interval elapsing after the secondary operation, and the almost entire cicatrization of the large wound, before decease, showed the reparative efforts his system was capable of putting forth, during the long protracted struggle between life and death.