

and side of his head and the back of his neck, with a fulness in the throat and difficulty of swallowing. At first he had no loss of power over his limbs, only slight pain over his right arm; some days after admission, however, he had partial loss of power in the right arm, which shortly recovered itself.

On admission he carries his head fixed, and has pain on slightest attempt to rotate, flex, or extend the head; his jaw is partially fixed, and he cannot open his mouth wide enough to admit of a finger being passed to the back of the pharynx; his voice is thick and guttural; deglutition not attended by any great uneasiness. Complains of all the symptoms before enumerated. Externally over the spine of the second cervical vertebra there is a tumour hard and resisting, but tender on pressure; this is evidently formed by the undue prominence of the spine of the axis itself; the tenderness is not general, but circumscribed; the parts all round are numb. He was put on his back on a hard bed, his head but slightly elevated; a small sand-bag was placed beneath the projecting spine, and the whole head maintained in a fixed position by larger sand bags. He was ordered pulv. Dov., gr. v.; hydr. cum. creta, gr. iij., bis die. This was continued for about ten days, when his gums became affected slightly, and it was then omitted. Marked improvement has taken place in his general appearance, and more particularly in his special symptoms. He continued thus till July 3rd, gradually and steadily improving. He then had acute rheumatic inflammation of the right knee and elbow-joint, followed in a day or two by a similar state in the left knee-joint. There was no evidence of a pyæmic state. The joints were blistered; he has been treated with pot. nitr. and lemon-juice, and is now fast recovering. The tenderness and all the symptoms have disappeared, the protection still remaining, and he expresses himself as much relieved by the continued rest in bed.

Mr. Hilton, in remarking on this case observed that it has been demonstrated that the area of the vertebral canal might be diminished by one-third, provided that the diminution was slowly affected, without giving rise to any alarming, or indeed marked, symptoms of compression of the cord.

PENETRATING WOUND OF THE HEART. AUTOPSY.

By WILLIAM H. HELM, M D.

The following statement of circumstances attending the killing of prisoner of war, private Benj Hurt, Co. A, Cobbs' Ga. Legion, with notes of an autopsy held May 8th, 1865, may prove of interest to some of the