

evidently the sewing of a button escaped from the wound. There was no other abrasion or bruise ; affording additional evidence that the whole charge and perhaps more than the charge, had entered at this point.

The patient wore a heavy cloth double breasted vest ; a hole was blown through this vest of three inches in diameter, and a button, a composition perforated button—I mean without the old-fashioned metal shank—and which had occupied a position represented by a point not far from the centre of this hole—and which, moreover, Mr. McC. positively states was not wanting before the accident—has most mysteriously disappeared. I think therefore that in the absence of any opposing substance capable of diverting a charge at such a short range, and in the absence of any evidence of “ scattering ” on the person, or clothing of the unfortunate sufferer, that this button, and a portion of its surroundings, must have followed the line of fire ; and if I am correct in my proposition, this button and a quantity of shot still unaccounted for is now stowed away in some of the recesses of Mr. McConechy’s peculiarly unsusceptible abdomen.

About 2 p. m., Drs. Johnston, Jones and Tabb saw the patient with me, and we all thought it better not to interfere further with the wound ; not only as there were no indications for heroic interference, but as the patient looked as if he could not possibly survive more than a few hours. The wound was covered with a piece of lint, saturated with carbolic acid and linseed oil, and a double of lint enclosing a piece of ice, placed over this. Introduced a catheter and drew off a pint of normal urine. Before leaving gave 20 minims of Battley’s solution of opium in brandy and water, and left absolute orders that, under no circumstances, should anything be given by the mouth, but a very small piece of ice or a teaspoonful of brandy and water.

4 p. m.—Skin rather warmer. Pulse 78 and of better volume ; stomach continues very irritable, but has vomited