

wound is not of very large size, I have been in the habit of immediately putting up the leg in plaster-of-paris bandages, leaving a window opposite the wound, protecting it with an antiseptic towel whilst the plaster is being applied. The edges of the window I stuff with antiseptic jute to prevent the blood and serum getting under the plaster. After the plaster has been applied, the wound is dressed in the way I have described above. It is a very rare occurrence that the dressing has to be removed after the second day, when oozing generally ceases. In one case treated in ward 23 last summer, where there was a compound fracture of the ankle joint, with rupture of the posterior tibial artery, the wound was enlarged, the artery tied, and the parts dressed with iodoform and a large jute pad, and left undisturbed for a month, with the result of finding, at the end of that time, the wound completely healed. The temperature never rose above 99°F. In another case of compound fracture of the thigh, the same result followed the same course of treatment; and many fractures of the leg have healed in this way without the slightest febrile reaction. When the wound is large, sutures of catgut are used; but when not very large, no sutures at all are employed, the wound apparently, with the aid of iodoform, which forms a crust over it, healing as under a scab.

I take this opportunity of presenting to your notice the patient, Ed. N., aged 33, sailor, now before you, who has occupied a bed in ward No. 23 for the last nine months. His history is shortly as follows: On the 11th of August, 1885, he was brought to the hospital with severe compound fracture of both legs, consequent on falling some twenty feet into the hold of a ship. He had lost a considerable amount of blood, and there was a good deal of oozing when he was admitted. My house surgeon, Dr. Eberts, as it was near the visiting hour, merely put on an antiseptic towel and bandage. On my arrival, I found that patient had sustained a compound comminuted fracture of left leg, the wound in soft parts being some two inches long, and a compound fracture of right leg, with considerable riding of bones and a large amount of laceration of soft tissues. Both legs were much swollen. After cleansing the wounds in both legs thoroughly, the left was put