

a yellow thrush. Bowels obstinately constipated, œdematous swelling of the inferior extremities, and many other symptoms rendering it beyond question in my own mind that he had but few days to live.

Suffice it to say that he died on the 10th of Nov., 1850, and on the day following, by request of his friends and attending physician, I performed a post mortem examination, some of the developments of which I now propose to notice, without minuteness of detail, presuming that they may be somewhat interesting to others as they have been highly instructive to me.—Upon exposing to view the viscera of the chest, no departure from a usually healthy appearance could be discovered in the left lung, but the inferior lobe of the right was tuberculated and slightly inflamed. There had as yet been no softening or purulent discharge from the part—no adhesions to adjoining tissues ; considerable serous effusion in the cavity of the thorax, and deposits of adipose matter upon the exterior surface of the heart. Examination of the liver exhibited no organic lesions of that organ—no appearances of inflammation or congestion ; but examination of the first passages developed complete destruction of the Pylorus, involving a large portion of the Duodenum by ulceration. Besides this, there appeared nothing unusual in the appearance of the stomach after death.

Such are the facts elicited in this case, and as facts I leave them for the candid consideration of abler heads than my own.

There exists yet one point, of which I have not spoken, and which I now propose briefly to notice. Early in the reign of Thompsonian Science, this gentleman became a convert to the faith, and upon himself and his own family, proved his faith by his practice. He believed in a thorough course of lobelia emetics and their usual perquisites under nearly if not quite all circumstances ; and this opinion he had of course a perfect right to enjoy. We may be led to infer from his own statement that he considered in the application of these agents, he had found a "panacea for all ills that flesh is heir to," for he told me a few days before he died, that he had many times risen in the morning, prepared and taken an emetic, and then partaken of a hearty breakfast with the remainder of the family. These facts I have here stated in a spirit of enquiry which may be summed up in these words : Might not the injudicious and frequent use of these agents have operated to destroy the vitality of the stomach, and ultimately to produce the condition in which the Pylorus and Duodenum were found after death ?