

apex anteriorly, and over the upper third posteriorly, with blowing breathing and crepitation, and friction sounds were heard over the left scapula. No evidence of disease was detected in the right lung. On June 22nd, after severe and prolonged coughing, he was seized with acute pain in the lower part of the left chest, passing from the front to the back, and accompanied by headache, sickness, sweating, and great prostration. The temperature was  $104^{\circ}$ , pulse 120, and respiration 32. The decubitus was right-sided. The cardiac sounds were inaudible to the left of the sternum, but louder than normal to the right of it. Expansion was very slight on the left side of the chest, and vocal fremitus was entirely absent. The percussion note over the front of the left lung, from the clavicle downwards, and including the cardiac area, was hyper-resonant, and this condition existed also in the axilla, and posteriorly from the middle of the scapula to the base. Over this area the breath sounds were almost inaudible, and the vocal resonance was very much diminished. The breath sounds were more inaudible along the left side of the spine. The expectoration was muco-purulent, blood-stained, and contained many tubercle bacilli. The treatment adopted was nourishing fluid diet, alcohol, and morphia in full doses, both hypodermically and by the mouth, which soon checked the troublesome cough and retching, and the severe chest pain which these caused. He had occasional attacks of dyspnoea with cyanosis. The decubitus became left-sided, any other position causing him acute pain. The strength was well maintained until the third day, when the temperature again rose to  $104^{\circ}$ , and there seemed to be an increase of pressure in the chest, followed by progressive weakness. On the eighth day of the attack he became much weaker, and at midnight his condition was critical. There was muttering delirium, the respiration was 36 per minute and very labored, and the pulse was so weak and irregular that it could not be counted. There was a uniform distension of the left side of the chest, with complete absence of expansion, and vocal fremitus. The area of hyper-resonance extended one inch and a half to the right of the sternum, and the cardiac apex was felt one inch internal to the right nipple. The breath-

ing over the hyper-resonant area was distant amphoric, with occasional tinkling rales, and the "coin sound" was well marked. The heart sounds were faintly audible to the left of the sternum. It was resolved to puncture the chest for relief of pressure. The needle of an aspirator was inserted into the left pleura in the axillary region, but no air passed out. The aspirator was then attached, and the air in the receiving bottle was partially exhausted. On opening the connection, air was at once heard to pass into the bottle, and by means of slow and interrupted aspiration a considerable quantity of air was removed from the pleural cavity. The process occupied about an hour, and the patient's condition was manifestly improved. The respiration fell to 24, and the pulse to 108, becoming at the same time fuller and stronger, while the heart sounds could be heard much more distinctly to the left of the sternum. On the following evening there was a recurrence of the cardiac weakness, and an area of dullness at the base of the left lung posteriorly was noted. Aspiration was again performed. At first air only was withdrawn, then air mixed with fluid, and finally nine ounces of clear fluid were evacuated. A friend who was present noted the change in the position of the cardiac apex during the process, and found that it moved three-quarters of an inch to the left, while the pulse again showed marked improvement. There was no cough on either occasion. A few days later expansion became evident on the left side, with sinking in of the intercostal spaces during inspiration, and the breath sounds became louder, blowing in character, and in parts amphoric, with tinkling accompaniments. At the end of a month, progress being delayed by a slow formation of fluid in the left pleura, with displacement of the heart to the right, the chest was again aspirated and thirty-four ounces of clear fluid withdrawn. He then improved rapidly, and in September he was found to have gained eleven pounds and a half in weight, and could walk four miles without fatigue. There remained impaired resonance over the left side of the chest, but the expansion was fairly good, and the breath sounds, although weak, were audible all over. He sailed for the Cape on Oct. 8th, 1891, and has continued in good health.