

July 4th, 9:30 A.M.—There has been no pain in the limb, but during the night he suffered from pain in his bowels which have not been moved for five days. Tongue whitish. He, however, relished his breakfast. Pulse 60. Discharge upon the towel a minim or two. Dressings repeated in the same careful manner as yesterday. Ordered a dose of castor oil.

July 5th, 4:10 P. M.—Bowels acted with castor oil. Pulse 60. Tongue almost perfectly clean. He slept well and has eaten with his usual relish. Dressings changed as yesterday, the deeper layers being still undisturbed. The oily solution of carboic acid, strength one to ten, was, however, used to moisten the calico, in place of the one to forty watery solution, which was not at hand. The discharge during the twenty-four hours again amounted to two or three drops of serum. Dressings to be left unchanged for two days.

July 6th, 10:40 A. M.—He continues free from symptoms, either local or general.

July 7th, 3:35 P. M.—The discharge during the last forty-eight hours has been about six minims of a sanguineo-serous fluid. No disturbance in knee or of system. Pulse 70. Dressings repeated.

July 11th.—He complained of uneasiness in the wound, which was, therefore, at once exposed, and was found to be a granulating sore, its surface somewhat irregular, being almost on a level with the skin. The joint is quite free from tenderness, redness, or effusion. Pulse 70. A piece of lint dipped in one to ten oily solution of carbolic acid was applied to the wound, and this covered with one to ten plaster.

July 12th.—The joint has remained free from pain except when he moved it, when "he felt it a little." Has slept well and eaten his food with his usual relish. The wound is somewhat more open, and there is a good deal of effusion in the joint, but no redness. Dressings, as yesterday, repeated; pulse 70; tongue clean. It appears that since his bowels were moved, two days after the operation, he has walked each day to the water closet. This circumstance, which was quite contrary to orders, probably explains the slight irritation of the joint.

July 15th.—The 1 to 10 plaster, with lint was removed, and the wound, after being touched

with sulphate of copper, as the granulations were high, was dressed with 1 to 40 *emplastrum acid. carbolic*, which permits rapid cicatrization. The effusion has disappeared from the joint.

August 12.—The patient left the Infirmary, with the wound quite healed, and the movement of the knee perfect.

September 19th.—The patient states that he worked the day after leaving the Infirmary, and felt no pain in the joint; the following day however, it was much swelled, that he has worked everyday since, and has not suffered any pain. There is still a little effusion in the joint but no lameness.

In remarking upon the case clinically, Mr. Lister observed, that though a large incised wound of the knee joint may sometimes do well under ordinary treatment, if carefully stitched with a view to primary union, to leave such a wound as this wide open would, without antiseptic management necessarily involve suppuration of the articulation. Hence, this was a good example of the antiseptic system, enabling the surgeon to adopt, with perfect safety, a course which would otherwise be certainly disastrous.

## THE SPHYGMOGRAPH AND ITS TRACINGS.

*Read before the Medical Section of the Canadian Institute.*

By EDWARD M. HODDER, M.D.,

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE CANADA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, FELLOW OF THE OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, ETC., ETC.

The paper which I am about to read to the Society this evening is almost a literal translation from a French work, entitled, "The influence of Modern Physiology on Practical Medicine," by Drs. A. Berne and J. Delore, in which I have found a better description of the Sphygmographic tracings, and the conditions which give rise to them, than I have hitherto read elsewhere.

The use of the Sphygmograph, as an instrument of Pathological and Physiological research, is now universally admitted by all who have had an opportunity of testing its merits; but, as its application to the exploration of the movements