

GUN-SHOT WOUND OF ABDOMEN—BULLET PASSED PER ANUM—RECOVERY.

UNDER THE CARE OF DRs. BETHUNE & FULTON, TORONTO.

(Reported by L. F. Lennox, Medical Student.)

M—L, æt 34, native of Newfoundland, and a carpenter by trade, was wounded on the 29th day of July by the accidental discharge of a "Smith & Weston" revolver. He and his brother were sitting on the edge of the bed early in the evening after they had quit work and were handling the revolver, which he was showing his brother, under the impression that all the cylinders were empty. The brother who had the weapon in his hand raised the hammer, and in letting it down the contents of one of the cylinders exploded, severely wounding the unfortunate patient, the bullet passing through the fleshy part of the fore-arm near the elbow joint, and just external to the neck of the radius, and then entering the abdomen a little below and to the right of the umbilicus. He immediately got up and walked down stairs and laid down upon a sofa, and Drs. Fulton & Bethune were sent for. There was very little shock with the exception of slight pallor of the countenance and considerable excitement. Pulse about 86, full and regular. Dr. Fulton was the first to arrive. He made some inquiries regarding the nature of the injury, the time at which it occurred, and the position of the patient when the accident happened. He then proceeded with a probe to search for the bullet. The wound was very carefully examined, but no trace of the bullet could be found, not even an opening into the abdomen. The conclusion was therefore arrived at, taking the condition of the patient into consideration and other circumstances of the case, that the bullet was lodged in the right rectus muscle, and would probably become encysted. Dr. Bethune arrived shortly after. He also examined the wound, but could not find any opening. The wound was then slightly enlarged and further search made, but with similar results. The wounds were dressed with cold water dressing, the patient ordered to be kept perfectly quiet, and about twenty minims of Liq. Opii Sed. were administered.

30th,—morning.—Patient tolerably comfortable, but slept very little during the night, considerable anxiety, pulse about 90, com-