

His complexion was rather waxy-looking, features anxious, and his general appearance suggested failing health.

On enquiry, I learned that over 30 years before he had had a cough, attended with other symptoms of such import, that his physician had ordered a sea voyage, which he took, and returned in a few months quite recovered; that with that exception he had never had any serious illness, and, especially, had not had rheumatic fever; that about 8 years ago, after walking half-a-mile up a slight incline to the St. Anne's station, he experienced for the first time great dyspnoea, with distress at the precordia, and from that time felt it necessary to take his time in walking, so that he occasionally missed the train, although he had arranged his breakfast hour so as to secure sufficient time for his morning walk to the station. Upon another occasion, two years later, when walking up Beaver Hall Hill, he was obliged to stop for some time from dyspnoea and precordial distress. His then medical attendant advised him to avoid going up hills and fast walking, advice which he has since then observed.

On careful examination of the heart at the time of his first visit, I found the impulse and sounds feeble, and a faint systolic murmur confined to the region of the left apex; made a record of "weak heart," and prescribed treatment in accordance with that view. The sudden attacks of dyspnoea above described recurred several times during '75 and '76, and he had on two or three occasions attacks of what seemed to be mild bronchitis. His breathing continued to be somewhat short in walking, and he used a lift in going to the upper rooms of the building in which his office was.

Re-examined in October, '75; the signs of "weak heart" were observed. In March, '76, the nitrite of amy^l was prescribed to relieve short attacks of dyspnoea and cardiac distress; and quinine, with nux vomica, were given. In May, '76, he consulted me for a cough which had recently supervened, and took with benefit the hypophosphite of soda, ammonia and lactucarium. He had been free from the sudden attacks of orthopnoea for a considerable time, but not in other respects as he had been, and I regarded him as the subject of fatty degeneration of the heart.