

value to us, not only in cases of slow recovery from anæsthesia, but in cases where death takes place from other causes, such as from fright, which sometimes occurs, or from pain caused by the extraction of a tooth, which also sometimes occurs. You can see, if this theory is correct, death might have been averted. The principal thing to do in all such cases is not to be too quick to believe that death has occurred. You may see all the signs of death. The heart may apparently stop acting, and the brain may cease to show any signs of life. Never mind that; they may only be in a dormant state, and if you do the proper thing you may force them back into activity.

The greatest stimulant to the brain, you must remember, is good blood, and your object must be to get good blood into it; and the greatest stimulant to the heart is the action of the lungs. Here you have your work marked out for you. All you have to do is to follow common-sense methods; and the best method, in fact the only method of the present time, is to continue artificial breathing—not half-hearted or intermittent, but thoroughly, and for a much longer time than has heretofore been done. I would say not to give it up for two hours. This may seem a long time, but we have cases to prove it. I cited a case for you, in my paper on anæsthetics, of a girl in a hospital who had died of a certain disease, and was dead for nearly two hours when the professor brought his class to show them how to restore breathing by drawing forward the tongue, when, lo! to his astonishment she started to breathe and the heart started to act, and the poor girl had to die a second time.

A case similar to this, although different in many respects, was brought to my notice by one of our practising physicians. The other day he was assisting another physician in a case of *accouchement*, and the child was apparently dead. They put it in warm water and tried to bring life to it, but it would not come; so he took it into another room, and by keeping up artificial respiration for an hour and a half succeeded in fanning the slight spark of life into a flame, and some day in the future that child will be able to look upon him as his deliverer from the exclusion of all earthly pleasures. Whether he will blame or praise the doctor, I know not; however, time will tell.

You probably all know how it was discovered that you could assist a patient back to life by standing him on his head. It came about in this way: A prominent man, experimenting with chloroform, poisoned some rats with the fumes of the drug, and a half hour or so afterwards his son tied the tails of the rats together, and was carrying them out when one of the rats, after being thus treated for a time, kicked, and the boy told his father, and the father then brought all the rats back to life. This gave him the idea that human beings could also be brought back to life, and