

be deplored. We are only now recovering some of the lost skill of our ancestors."—*St. Louis Med. Reporter.*

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## Medicine.

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### ABSTRACT OF A CLINICAL LECTURE ON PYÆMIA AS A RESULT OF ENDOCARDITIS.

By Samuel Wilks, M.D., Physician to Guy's Hospital.

The following is an abstract of a very full report of the case taken by Mr. J. R. Stocker.

Alfred F—, aged 25, was admitted on January 1, 1868, for heart disease. He stated that he had rheumatic fever in 1851; and that the doctor then informed him that his heart was affected, but he had no symptoms referable to it until four months ago. He then became very ill, with shortness of breath, palpitation, etc., followed by some swelling and pains of the joints. On admission, he was seen to be very ill, having sallow countenance, and suffering great distress from shortness of breath and palpitation. The heart was most irregular and rapid in its action, with a loud systolic murmur, heard loudest over the apex. The urine had a good specific gravity, and was slightly albuminous. The legs were somewhat œdematous. He was ordered a saline mixture, with a pill of digitalis, squill, and mercury.

In four days he was much better; the breathing being less oppressed, and heart's action checked. He was then ordered to take ferrum tartaratum.

On January 14, he suddenly felt giddy, and afterward had intense headache.

On the 24th, there was an aggravation of the original symptoms, and great irregularity of the heart's action, with dyspnœa.

On the 31st, he found his right arm and leg very weak and numb. After four days this weakness had increased; and at the same time there was some hesitation in his speech and forgetfulness of words. He had also pain and swelling of the joints.

On February 14, he lay in a most precarious state. There was great irregularity of the heart's action. He had complete right hemiplegia, with partial aphasia; that is, a forgetfulness of many words. Thus, being told the name of a key, he would use the word "key" for every other object presented to him; and being shewn his grapes, and various names for them suggested to him, and among them the correct appella-