

drawn over the tube. The free end was then placed in a basin of water, and about two pints of thick, yellowish white, inoffensive pus were discharged. When it ceased to flow, the end of the tube was securely tied while it was in the water; plasters were then applied to keep the tube in its place, and the whole secured by a broad flannel bandage.

April 1. The end of the tube was placed in a full basin of water and then untied; the *overflow*, as the fluid ran out of the chest, amounted to four pints of sero-purulent matter.

April 5. The secretion has been drawn off daily, and has gradually diminished to about one pint per day.

May 19. The secretion has averaged for some time half a pint daily. He has suffered for a week past from constant nausea and frequent vomiting. As the tube had not been graduated, nor its exact length ascertained, it was thought that it might have slipped into the chest, and by its pressure on the diaphragm be producing the vomiting. The tube was therefore carefully withdrawn until it was judged that it was nearly out, and it was found that nearly six inches had been lying in the pleural cavity. The vomiting persisted, however, and then it was noticed that some fetid air had escaped from the wound; then it became evident that some means would have to be employed to cleanse the cavity. This was accomplished in the following simple manner:—

After the fluid had been drawn off as usual, the end of the tube was pinched and transferred to a tumbler of clear water, of blood heat. Upon elevating the tumbler the water ran into the chest; upon depressing the tumbler, the water ran out, mixed with decomposed pus, and horribly offensive, shreddy fibrin. The water was changed and the process repeated until the water came out nearly as clear as it went in. A great deal of difficulty was experienced in completely cleansing the cavity, as the tube was often blocked up by the shreds of decayed fibrin, but when this occurred, the current was reversed for a time, and by perseverance the cavity was completely cleansed, but not until three hours had been occupied in the process.

The matter evacuated was most putrid. A mixture of half an ounce of carbolic acid, half an ounce of glycerine, and eight ounces of water, was then passed into the chest, allowed to remain a few minutes, and then run off. After this the constitutional disturbance gradually diminished.