

ammonia, and other stimulants, the patients are now so far recovered as to sit up, though one is still very feeble, and with bed-sores upon her back.

Dr. T. H. Bache stated that the number of cases of yellow fever admitted into the Pennsylvania Hospital had been *twenty-three*; of these, *fourteen* had died, *seven* recovered, and *two* still remain. These cases were placed in the common wards, without any attempt to separate them from, or to prevent intercourse between them and the other patients, but in no instance had the disease been communicated to the latter.

#### STRANGULATED UMBILICAL HERNIA—OPERATION.

*To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.*

DEAR SIR,—Mrs. W., of Portsmouth, aged 72 years, has had a reducible *umbilical* hernia for the last six years. Friday, Oct. 21, while reaching, in washing windows, a larger fold of intestine than usual protruded and became strangulated. She attempted, as usual, to reduce it, until Sunday evening. From that time until Monday morning, Dr. Oliver and myself made three attempts to reduce it by taxis, without succeeding, notwithstanding we kept ice on the tumor, gave a tobacco injection, and gave half-grain morphine powders every two hours, from half past nine in the evening until six Monday morning.

We then advised an operation as the only remedy that would save her life, but could not get her consent to it until Wednesday morning. Having at this time given up all hopes of relieving her, she said we might do with her what we pleased. With the kind and valuable assistance of Drs. Oliver and Curtis, and Mr. C. Kimball, I operated with entire success, without her feeling the least pain, she being under the influence of sulph. ether. We found in the sac both omentum and intestine, which were immediately returned, after severing the stricture, and the incision was brought together and fastened with stitches and adhesive plasters. A bandage was put around her, over a compress wet in cold water, and another cloth wet in cold water put on outside of the bandage, to be changed as often as it became warm. Immediately gave forty drops of M'Munn's elixir of opium, and continued to give from thirty to fifty drops of same every three hours until the grave symptoms had subsided and she was able to do with less. We kept the temperature of the room at 75° Fah. constantly through the case. From the hour of the operation the vomiting and other severe symptoms began to subside. Two small operations on the bowels took place same night. Gave a tablespoonful of castor oil Thursday evening, which operated kindly that night. We have given no other medicine except the above-named drops, with a little sweet spirits of nitre, and yet the bowels have been free.

The swelling and inflammation of the bowels gradually subsided, so that, at this time, the eighth day after the operation, the pulse is slow, regular and soft, skin cool, bowels free, with very little soreness, and she in a fair way to recover. Sits up a little each day. We are now giving her wine, and no other medicine. Respectfully, N. L. FOLSOM.

*Portsmouth, N. H., Nov. 2, 1853.*

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