

in stopping the bleeding, and that when his attention was first directed to the tumour it was about the size of a hazelnut.

I was much struck in reading the relation of several cases of spontaneous aneurism successfully treated by pressure, and resolved to give the plan a trial. I had an arched tourniquet constructed so as to touch the arm, only at two opposite points. It was made of steel. At one end there were a couple of holes for screwing on a piece of board of three or four inches in diameter, which was well padded, and at the other end a long screw, which was attached to a similar board, on the back of which was a female screw. The boards were suited to the convexity of the arm. The apparatus was placed upon the most convenient part of the humerus to command the artery. By means of the screw I could regulate the pressure upon the artery so as instantly to stop the circulation in it, or merely weaken its force. The first application of the instrument, which was continued less than two hours, completely destroyed the *aneurismal bruit*; I could not detect it afterwards. The circulation through the artery was completely interrupted about one-third of the time in which the instrument was applied. *My principal object, however, was merely to weaken greatly the force of the circulation in the artery of the arm, and thus to produce a state favourable to the coagulation of blood in the aneurismal tumour, and consequent deposition of fibrine.* The instrument was applied again on the next day for the space of less than two hours. Upon the following morning I found that all pulsation had ceased in the tumour, and the most careful examination could detect it in no part thereof. It never returned. The instrument was applied on the six following days and on every alternate day until the 23d of the month, when it was laid aside, and the patient advised to keep his arm at rest in a sling. The tumour became harder; almost of a cartilaginous feel, but slowly decreased in size, and at the time of writing this, June 26, (3 mo. 22 days,) is about as large as a split pea, and in all probability at the end of a few months more there will be no vestige of disease remaining. He has the free and perfect use of his arm. The instrument was not left on the arm after the first two applications longer than one hour at a time, and in reflecting upon the case I am satisfied that it would have terminated favourably had the instrument been applied but twice. Coagulation of blood in the sac, and deposition of fibrine and interruption to the ingress of arterial blood were in all probability effected, and nothing was wanting but patience to wait the progress of absorption.

ART. XI.—*Wound of Abdomen, Expulsion of Intestines, and Cure.* By J. GIBBS, M. D., Claiborne, La.

A LABOURER, 25 years of age, in a rencounter, on 9th Feb. 1846, received, with a dirk knife, a cut commencing opposite and two inches to the right of the navel, extending outwards and upwards, to the length of one inch and a half. The struggle did not cease until the jejunum, ileum and colon, together with the omentum, were expelled with serious lacerations to the latter. An incision of half an inch through the peritoneal coat of the small intestine was the only observable injury to the gut.

Two or three hours had elapsed before medical aid could be obtained, and now the patient lay prostrate and exhausted. The skin cold and

moist, pulse feeble, nausea and ineffectual efforts to vomit, on the least motion. The gut was quite cold to the hand, and the large portion had assumed a dark purplish hue, and was badly swollen.

Two small mangled portions of epiploon were removed with the scalpel; then by patient manipulation, the small gut was returned, securing it with the ulnar fingers of the left, pressing inwards with the thumb and index of the same, assisted by the right hand and thus staying it, whilst the first hold was being renewed.

The strangulation and tenderness of the colon required the incision to be enlarged some five or six lines before its reduction.

During the reduction, hemorrhage was profuse, and the patient suffered intensely, yet as no artery was discoverable, and the parts being brought in apposition, the interrupted suture, including seven or eight lines on either side, and the entire abdominal wall, save the peritoneum, with a pledget of lint, straps of plaster and bandage completed the dressing.

Quietude, horizontal position and farinaceous diet, being strictly enjoined, together with directions for giving an occasional anodyne and the mildest aperients, the patient was left quite disposed to sleep.

On the 11th the patient had lost blood occasionally for the first twenty-four hours, from the wound, on turning or exerting the abdominal muscles. Stools small and in slugs. Had slept. Skin and appetite improved. Pulse 74 and full.

Vs. to extent of §xxv. —(pulse rose to 100;) hydrarg. chlo. m. gr. iij, and repeated, constituted additional treatment.

On 25th, patient walking about, without having had scarcely an unfavourable symptom. The sutures, which now formed the only apparent injury, were removed and patient discharged.

In the above case, we have additional evidence of the passiveness of the stomach in vomiting, and the fallacy of dispensing with sutures in similar cases.

It should be remarked that the sutures used were large, and barely brought the lips in contact, allowing liberally for swelling and the exit of blood, and that, instead of aggravating, they appeared to perform the office of a salutary revulsive, obviating the wonted tumefaction in the lips of the wound, and the irritation, in the adjacent peritoneum, consequent on so much handling.

ART. XII.—*Case of Death from Inhaling Chemical Fumes in a Sulphuric Acid Chamber.* By EDWARD A. MANS, M. D., of Baltimore, Md.

RICHARD FORD, negro, æt. 34, of good muscular development, healthy constitution and temperate habits, was at work, about two hours at noon, on Saturday, 2d inst., in a sulphuric acid chamber, at Chappell's factory. There was probably a large amount of nitrons acid gas in the chamber. While breathing it he did not complain of any ill effect, and neglected to go to the door for purer air, as often as his fellow-workmen, who were occupied in the chamber with him. In the evening he complained of feeling unwell, and had proceeded some twenty yards from home, on a visit to