

quence is, that no deep-seated abscesses, no exfoliations of bone, or tedious stumps, follow his operations.

Such results, it must, nevertheless, be admitted, have not uniformly attended the use of the bandage in the hands of other surgeons. Mortification and loss of the limb, and sometimes of life itself, have resulted from its application. I am apt, however, to believe that this has been in consequence of mismanagement. Those who have attended upon the operations of the gentleman whose cases have just been reported, and have seen how surely by means of it he controls swelling, subdues muscular contraction, promotes absorption, and favors the restoration of injured parts, will not easily be persuaded that mischief can ensue when it is skilfully used.—*Transylvania Journal of Medicine.*

SKETCH OF THE CASE OF DR. CROSBY.

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DIED at Hanover, N. H. Tuesday, April 12, 1836, Dr. Asa Crosby, æt. 70, of rupture of the gall-bladder.

This gentleman had been subject, for some years, to attacks of colic, with constipation. At 1 o'clock, on the morning of the Friday preceding his death, I was called to visit him, and found him laboring under pain of the abdomen, with costiveness. He told me that he had been feeble, with some pain in his bowels, for a few days, and that, in his opinion, a gall-stone was lodged in the bile duct;—he said that he had a similar attack last autumn, when, as he believed, a biliary concretion passed the bile tube after having been lodged there for some days. He had now taken, within a day or two, some cathartic pills, such as usually suited him well, but they had not operated. He was somewhat alarmed by a strong rigor, with but little sensation of cold, which had attacked him half an hour before I saw him, and which had not entirely subsided, although there was no sense of coldness remaining. There was tenderness of the epigastrium. I prescribed enemas, which gave him pretty clay-colored discharges, with considerable relief. On Thursday the family had observed a degree of yellowness of the skin and conjunctiva. This was more vivid on Friday. During this day, a diffused tenderness over the abdomen was manifest, and the bodily strength declined. On Saturday and Sabbath, these symptoms increased, notwithstanding the bowels were opened without much difficulty. A free bleeding brought temporary relief and exhibited buffy blood, but the strength gradually failed, until Tuesday morning at 6 o'clock, when he died. The yellowness of the skin slowly faded after Friday, and was very slight at the time of death.

Post-mortem appearances.—A portion of the abdominal peritoneum and that of a part of the small intestines were slightly adherent, with a thin layer of lymph interposed. Several coils of small intestine moderately reddened; half a pint or upwards of serum in the peritoneal cavity.

A deep yellow color was extensively diffused over the right side of the abdomen; the gall-bladder, covered with fat, was empty and shrunk, and on opening it, a perforation of its coats, upon its hepatic surface, was observed, one third of an inch in diameter. A great deal of fat surrounded the kidneys. On the right side of the abdomen this was colored with bile, and from the root of the liver to the lower part of the right iliac region a very large quantity of bile was deposited, entirely *behind* the peritoneum—this membrane not having been ruptured.

In the common biliary duct, a gall-stone, of the size of a large pea, was fixed at the distance of about an inch from the intestine. This duct was very small between the gall-stone and its outlet, but from the gall-stone to the gall-bladder it was dilated sufficiently to admit the little finger. No other gall-stone was found in any part of the biliary apparatus.

There was nothing worthy of remark in the chest, except, perhaps, a slight thickening and shortening of the mitral valve. In the brain nothing was observed, except the size of the medulla oblongata, which was smaller than I recollect ever to have seen it in the adult brain.

There can remain no doubt as to the cause of death in this case, viz. inflammation from affected bile; the effusion occasioned by rupture of the gall-bladder from an obstruction of the common duct. Did the rupture take place about the time of the accession of the rigor on Friday morning?

Dr. Crosby was an uncommon man. At the age of 21, he commenced practice in Strafford Co., N. H. and continued in full practice 46 years, i. e. until the age of 67. He was a distinguished member of the profession, both in physic and surgery; and in the latter branch, he performed some very important and difficult operations. Indeed, for many years he was the principal operator for an extensive district of country. He was one of those self-taught men, whose force of intellect breaks through the most appalling obstacles, and rises, unaided, to skill and reputation. Although deprived of a systematic course of professional instruction, having commenced practice before medical schools were established in New England, he furnished himself with a good library, and spent his leisure hours, and even moments, among his books. By his constant industry and exertion, he raised himself to a position in the profession so important as to draw around him, for some years, a number of young men as pupils—between twenty and thirty of whom may be reckoned as educated by him; and what is much to his credit, many of them are now distinguished men.

The medical profession in New Hampshire is not a little indebted to Dr. Crosby, inasmuch as he was one of the few who interested themselves in procuring the charter of the State Medical Society, of which Institution, as well as of a District Society, he was an active and zealous member for thirty years.

This gentleman reared a large and worthy family. Of seventeen children, *ten* remain. One of his sons established himself in the profession of the law; two have distinguished themselves as physicians; another is now a student of medicine, and another is a much valued professor of Latin and Greek in one of the New England colleges.

Dr. Crosby never brought reproach upon our profession by the avowal of infidel sentiments ; so far from this, he was for many years a member of the church of Christ, and died in the full hope of a better life.

May 17, 1836.

GRAHAMISM NOT A CAUSE OF INSANITY.

[Continued from page 108.]

THE manner in which Dr. Lee has presented the case of Haskett, the pedestrian, is such as almost compels even charity itself to regard it as wilfully disingenuous. "In the summer of 1833, I ventured to *predict*," says the Doctor, "that he would become insane." "In the spring of 1834 I met him. His bodily health was good—the muscles firm and his walk elastic. I must confess that *I was disappointed in finding so many indications of good health*." This statement fully discloses to us the state of Dr. Lee's mind in regard to the whole subject. He was perfectly predetermined to make a case of marasmus and insanity of Haskett ; and notwithstanding he was "disappointed in finding *so many indications of good health*," yet he was by no means disposed to give up his pre-conceived notion, and credit as a prophet—for he had "*predicted that Haskett would become insane*."

Turning, therefore, from these evidences of bodily health which could not be mistaken and misrepresented, the Dr. now attempts to explore the psychological field, which, to most minds, is covered with a dense fog ; and consequently, in which, evidence can far more easily be shaped to the wishes and prejudices of every adventurer. "I directed my inquiries," says the Dr., "to the state of his nervous system. He insisted that there had been a great increase of mental as well as bodily vigor since he entered upon this system of living." But poor Haskett was not to be admitted as a witness in his own case ; the Dr. was both adversary and judge ; "and," says he, "the result of my experience convinced me of his error. There was great excitability of his nervous system, and his mind *was active but not strong*," &c.

Let us examine this case accurately. Haskett was the son of a harness maker in the city of New York—a wayward boy from his earliest youth. While quite young, he was left to direct his own course through life—or rather, was left to be moved and directed by impulses and circumstances. He grew up with little or no systematic education, and without any severe discipline of mind. Wholly destitute of the talents and education to distinguish himself as a man of parts, he yet felt a continual craving for notoriety. Having failed in two or three experiments, he was at last, by a mere whim, induced to make a pedestrian experiment on a diet of bread and water. Be it remembered, however, that this man knew little or nothing of the principles which I teach—was totally ignorant of the science of physiology, and ordered his regimen without any reference to physiological principles. Having trained himself three months on a diet of bread and water, he succeeded in getting himself announced pretty extensively in the newspapers as COL