

cured, the fibrin existing in layers like the coats of an onion; there was a granular disease of both kidneys; the pelvis and infundibulum of the left were filled with small yellow calculi; and the tubuli uriniferi were filled by yellow deposit, which gave them the appearance injected by yellow matter; there were no calculi in the right kidney. The other viscera were healthy.

***Injury to the femoral vein, followed by gangrene and death***

Mr. H. Jackson exhibited a portion of femoral artery of a boy, aged 15, who had been admitted into the infirmary on the 12th of November.

While arranging some of the machinery in a rolling mill, a bar of heated metal was passed through the rollers at which he worked, and not being prepared for it, it penetrated the right thigh, about two inches below Poupert's ligament, inflicting a wound of about an inch in length, by two-thirds in breadth, rather to the outer side of the vessels. There was very considerable hæmorrhage, and when admitted the boy was in a greatly exhausted state, the circulation was generally feeble, but pulsation of the femoral artery was distinct. There was very little extravasation. He rallied a little, but not sufficiently to establish the reparative power.

November 17th.—the wound presented a gangrenous appearance.

18th.—He lost about eight ounces of venous blood. The thigh became swollen, and a quantity of offensive serum was discharged. He died early on the morning of the 20th.

***Post-mortem.***—On examination the metal was found to have penetrated about three inches and a half upwards, outwards and backwards towards the dorsum ilii, and the dissecting process had separated the abductor muscles to some extent; a portion of the inner edge of the sartorius muscle had been destroyed by the passage of the heated metal; the femoral artery presented on its outer side a discoloured appearance, but did not appear to have been touched by the metal, although it had apparently suffered from the heat, so that is questionable how far it would have preserved its integrity in case any great reaction had been set up in the system.

***Mortification of the lower extremity, arising from disease of the heart, with the post-mortem appearances.***

Mr. RAY detailed the particulars of the following case:—

Mrs. ———, aged 49, the mother of three children, the youngest of which was eight years of age. The labours easy. Had not suffered from phlegmasia dolens. Came under the care of Mr. Ray on the 14th of July 1849. She was suffering from general pain in the extremities, but more especially in the large joints, and as she had suffered from repeated attacks of acute rheumatism from the age of 16, it was supposed to be an attack of that complaint. There was an irregular and increased action of the heart, which continued for

several days, when she suffered from agonising pain in the left foot, on which appeared a livid hue. From the laboured action of the heart it was suspected that arteritis existed; and no pulsation could be detected in left femoral artery. In few days there were all the symptoms of **Gangrena senilis**, and in the course of three weeks Mortification extended to the knee; the pain was unmitigated, except by repeated large doses of morphia, and in about three weeks more death terminated the sufferings of the patient.

***Post-mortem.***—With some difficulty, and when the corpse was in the coffin, an inspection was obtained. The left femoral artery exhibited evidence of inflammation commencing at the origin of the profunda and extending: downwards about, three inches in the inner coat, to which a fibrinous substance firmly adhered. The same substance existed in the profunda. The calibre of the artery was only about half its usual size. The right artery exhibited the same appearance, but not to the same extent. The right limb suffered only a few days before death. The iliacs and the abdominal aorta were not examined. The heart was somewhat larger than natural, but there was no adipose deposit; the coronary arteries were normal; the right auricle was dilated; in the right ventricle the tricuspid valve was found to be thickened, the fibrous ring feeling like cartilage, but there was no contraction; semilunar valves healthy; the left auricle dilated; the mitral valve thickened, and made firm and inelastic by a considerable osseous deposit and the orifice was contracted to such an extent that the little finger would not pass; the walls of the left ventricle were enlarged.

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## General Retrospect.

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### PRACTICE OF MEDICINE AND PATHOLOGY *Pneumonia from Cod-liver Oil.*

The value of cod-liver oil as a remedial agent, and its many characteristics, are well understood at present by the profession, and so generally recognised, that it appears a little superfluous to allude to them at any length. A point not long since mooted, however, by Dr. Benson, with respect to its exhibition, and not suspected very generally, is of considerable interest. The oil has long been a favourite medicine in Dublin, so that ample opportunities have been afforded of comparing the experience of the different practitioners who have used it. As early as the year '44. Dr. Graves tried it, with the most marked benefit, in some cases of cachexia; and Mr. Wilde, who had seen it used previously in Germany, tried it extensively, too, in cases of pannus, long-continued ophthalmia, granular lids, and analogous eye-cases. The other chief medical men, too have had reason to be satisfied with it; and the indefatigable Donovan has given us its history and various properties and modes of preparation, with which every one now is quite familiar.

Nearly a year ago, it seems, Dr. Benson prepared a