Captain Browse informs me that he has, on several occasions when doing post-mortem examinations, found enlarged spleens bearing marked scars, some of which, in all probability, were the result of previous ruptures.

A CASE OF ANEURYSM OF AORTA.

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PRIVATE G. was admitted into the Cambridge Hospital, Aldershot, on June 14, complaining of more or less constant pain involving the whole chest, but more marked over the cardiac area. On examination the heart was found to be enlarged and dilated, the apex-beat being diffuse, and about 1 in. outside the nipple line. On admission the pulse was feeble, compressible and rapid, the heart sounds were faint but normal, no bruit being audible. On the evening (9.15 p.m.) of the 14th, patient was attacked with a severe and typical seizure of angina pectoris, necessitating the injection of strychnine, the inhalation of oxygen, amyl nitrite and digitalis. The attack was followed by much restlessness and frequent coughing attended by the expectoration of much blood-stained mucus. On the 15th, the patient's condition remained unaltered, and coarse rales were audible all over the chest in front; as the day went on the pulse became more rapid and feeble, 116 per minute, and the respirations 46. During the night, the patient became very faint and collapsed, brandy and strychnine were administered, and he rallied. The cardiac distress was relieved by propping up the patient. A second attack occurred at 4 a.m., which was again relieved by the administration of stimulants. On the morning of the 16th his condition was very grave; during the day he gradually became worse, temperature remaining at 96°, pulse 108 to 124, respirations 48 to 52; cough and moderately profuse blood-stained mucous expectoration continued, together with vomiting, which had appeared on the 15th. Patient remained in this condition, and died suddenly of cardiac failure at 8.5 p.m. June 16.

Post-mortem, thirty-eight hours after death. The body was fairly well nourished, rigor mortis present. Estimated weight about 10 st. On opening the thorax the lungs were found to be oedematous, the right weighing 29 oz. and the left 25 oz. The heart was enlarged and the ventricles dilated. The cardiac walls generally were thinner than normal, and there was a fatty deposit on the surface of the organ. The valves were all normal.

In the wall of the aorta, immediately above the left posterior cusp of the aortic valve, an aneurysm the size of a small hen's egg had formed; it was conical in shape, and involved the left coronary artery, the orifice of which was found blocked by a recent small clot. The aortic walls in the neighbourhood of the aneurysmal opening presented appearances of atheroma.