


Aneurism of the Aorta; Singular Pulsation of the Arteries, Necessity of the Employment of the Stethoscope

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A trite objection frequently made to the stethoscope, and which those who put it would consider peculiarly applicable to this case, is the second.

Granting that the practical organic lesion were discovered by the stethoscope, the disease is inevitably fatal; what, then, is the use of the discovery? This is an objection that should never come from the lips of a man of science. In the pursuit of science every truth, every fact discovered, is of value. We may not, in every case, see its immediate application, or instant practical good result, but it is a step gained. We know not how soon it may become important, or whether, although yet unknown to us, it may but be the way to a hitherto unexplored field of knowledge. It is only for those of narrow minds to say, that facts, or means of attaining facts, should be disregarded, because there is not some immediate obvious practical result.—The Lancet 1:586, 1829.
times be made when the presence of ventricular myocardial infarction cannot be definitely established by electrocardiogram.

The treatment of atrial infarction is similar to that of ventricular infarction. Attention should be directed to the control of atrial arrhythmias and to the prevention of mural thrombi.

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References


CONGENITAL MITRAL INSUFFICIENCY


Sydenham was called "a man of many doubts" and therein lay the secret of his great strength.—Sir William Osler. Aphorisms from His Bedside Teachings and Writings. Edited by William Bennett Bean, M.D. New York, Henry Schuman, Inc., 1950, p. 112.
I made a bladder very supple by wetting of it, and then cut off so much of the neck as would make a hole wide enough for the biggest end of the largest fosset to enter, to which the bladder was bound fast. The bladder and fosset contained 74 cubic inches. Having blown up the bladder, I put the small end of the fosset into my mouth: and at the same time pinched my nostrils close, that no air might pass that way, so that I could only breathe to and fro the air contained in the bladder. In less than half a minute I found a considerable difficulty in breathing, and was forced after that to fetch my breath very fast; and at the end of the minute, the suffocating uneasiness was so great, that I was forced to take away the bladder from my mouth. Towards the end of the minute the bladder was become so flaccid, that I could now blow it above half full with the greatest expiration that I could make.—STEPHEN HALES, B.D., F.R.S. Vegetable Statics, 1727.
Murmurs are not, as is often supposed, louder, *caeteris paribus*, in proportion as the valvular contraction is greater. On the contrary, the loudest murmurs are produced by a moderate contraction, and they become weak when it is extreme. A contraction of the mitral or tricuspid valve to only two, three, or four lines (one line = 1/12 inch) in diameter, I have frequently known to occasion little or no murmur.—*J. Hope. A Treatise on the Diseases of the Heart and Great Vessels.* London, Kidd, 1832.
SYNTHESIS OF PHOSPHOLIPIDS IN ATEROMATA

References

The Teacher

I envy no man that knows more than my self, but pity them that know less. I instruct no man as an exercise of my knowledge, or with an intent rather to nourish and keep it alive in mine own head then beget and propagate it in his: and in the midst of all my endeavours there is but one thought that dejects me, that my acquired parts must perish with my self, nor can be Legacied among my honoured Friends.—SIR THOMAS BROWNE. Religio Medici. Edited by W. A. Greenhill, M.D. London, Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1950, p. 97

33. Council on Drugs: New and Non-official Drugs—


Quite as interesting as the advance in our control of disease, and perhaps as significant for the future, our interpretation of disease, and consequently our ways of reacting to it, have changed. In the past more than once they have changed, and usually in the direction of a less superstitious and more rational attitude. As the concept of disease has become more rational, it has involved, in one form or another, the recognition of how wise it is for the individual to be concerned with the health of others, as an aid to his own safety. Scientific knowledge of communicable disease demonstrated beyond any question the social aspects of individual illness, and the importance to one and all of a healthy common environment.—ALAN GREGG, M.D. Challenges to Contemporary Medicine. New York, Columbia University Press, 1956, p. 80.
References


Man Has Three Separate States of Existence

Some Divines count Adam thirty years old at his Creation, because they suppose him created in the perfect age and stature of man. And surely we are all out of the computation of our age, and every man is some months elder than he bethinks him; for we live, move, have a being, and are subject to the actions of the elements, and the malice of diseases, in that other World, the truest Microcosm, the Womb of our Mother.—SirTHOMASBROWNE. Religio Medici. Edited by W. A. Greenhill, M.D. London, Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1950, p. 63.


Belief begins where science leaves off and ends where science begins.—Virchow


I believe there shall never be an Anarchy in Heaven; but, as there are Hierarchies amongst the Angels, so shall there be degrees of priority amongst the Saints. Yet is it (I protest) beyond my ambition to aspire unto the first ranks; my desires only are (and I shall be happy therein) to be but the last man, and bring up the Rear in Heaven.