

M0007780: Apparatus used in Joseph Lister's experiments on the coagulation of the blood

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EXPERIMENTS ON THE COAGULATION OF THE BLOOD. (III)

In his experiments on the coagulation of the blood, Lister constructed an apparatus consisting of a spiral of silver wire inside a small glass tube.

Having opened the carotid artery of a horse the tube was thrust in as far as the common carotid. It thus had a full current of arterial blood flowing through it.

The period it took arterial blood to shew first appearance of coagulation in a watch glass being known, the apparatus was removed soon after, and, on taking out the coil of silver wire, Lister found that it was already crusted over with coagulum.

From this experiment, in which there had been assuredly no opportunity for the escape of ammonia, Lister concluded that it was obvious that there was a very great difference between ordinary solid matter and the living vessels in their relation to the blood.

