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[NEW SERIES.]

Illustrations OF HOSPITAL PRACTICE: METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL.

SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1858.

We subjoin a classified index to our reports for the past year, according to a plan commenced with those of 1857; the index to which will be found at p. 21 of the present volume. The advantage of this plan over the general index at the end of the volume is, that it enables the reader to see at a single glance the subject treated of in this department of the JOURNAL, and to know what cases there may be in it bearing on the special subject of his inquiries. Much of the knowledge accumulated in the medical journals is wasted, from their readers not knowing what to look for or where to find it; unless they happen to know the particular way in which a given case is headed. This objection it is the object of these summaries to obviate.

I. DISEASES OF THE BRAIN AND SPINAL CORD.

Under this head will be found—

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Softening of the brain; p. 529.
Delirium tremens treated with chloroform; pp. 100, 447.
Delirium treated with stimulants; p. 221.
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Malignant disease of the dura mater; p. 882.
Cancer of the spine; p. 120.
Disease (probably malignant) of the spinal column; p. 199.

II. INJURIES OF THE HEAD AND SPINE.

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Fracture of the skull; p. 446.
Compound comminuted fracture of the skull; p. 201.
Case of fractured base of the skull; pp. 406, 737, 802.
Fractured base, by contrecoup, in a child; p. 738.
Traumatic effusion of blood in the arachnoid; p. 764, 882.
Trephining for epileptic convulsions following fractured skull; p. 405.
Trephining for pus beneath the skullcap; p. 941.
Sugar in the urine after a blow on the head; p. 328.
Case of fracture and other injuries of the spine; pp. 43, 512, 513.
Gunshot wound of the spine; p. 385.
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III. DISEASES AND INJURIES OF THE EYE.

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Operations for strabismus; pp. 63, 220, 345.
Subconjunctival operation for squint; pp. 530, 598.
Report of operations from the Midland Counties Eye Infirmary; p. 704.
The form of knife in the operation for cataract; p. 492.
Artificial pupil; p. 962.
Obstructed lacrymal duct; p. 220.
The ophthalmoscope; p. 531.
Vesicles or bullæ of the conjunctiva; p. 304.
Cases of opacity of the cornea; p. 303.
Cases of variolous corneitis; p. 784.
Onyx and hypopyon; p. 44.
Illustrations of the curable forms of amaurosis; pp. 283, 329, 445, 513.

Cases of single cataract; p. 38, 305.

Soft cataract; p. 962.

Cases of glistening appearance of the eye; p. 257.

Inflammation of the globe from suppressed menstruation; p. 1023.

Exostosis of the orbit; p. 219.

IV. INJURIES AND DISEASES OF THE TRACHEA, LUNGS, AND CHEST.

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Cut throat; p. 42.

Tracheotomy for syphilitic laryngitis; p. 346.

Tracheotomy for sloughing in fever; p. 763.

Tracheotomy for a foreign body in the trachea; p. 881.

Two cases of croup; p. 301.

Fractured ribs and wound of the lung; p. 41.

2. *Of the lungs:—*

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Paracentesis for empyema; p. 99.

Empyema, pulsating in the lumbar region; p. 703.

Spontaneous cure of empyema; p. 863.

Cases of rapid phthisis; pp. 182, 220.

Phthisis and diseased liver in an opium-eater; p. 162.

3. *Of the Heart:—*

Septum in the right auricle; p. 473.

Valvular lesion of the heart; p. 803.

V. INJURIES AND DISEASES OF THE MOUTH, ŒSOPHAGUS, STOMACH, AND LIVER.

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Hare-lip; p. 345.

Polypus nasi, absorbing the skull and producing obliteration of the internal carotid artery and abscess of the brain; p. 471.

Polypus of the pharynx, for which the carotid artery was tied to arrest hæmorrhage; p. 119.

Polypus of the pharynx, for which the upper jaw bone was excised; pp. 61, 83, 446.

Penetrating ulcer of the soft palate; p. 842.

Cases of sloughing sorethroat and diphtheria; pp. 529, 550, 623, 625.

Aneurism communicating with the œsophagus; p. 428.

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Malignant disease of the cardiac end of the stomach; p. 428.

Malignant disease in the lumbar glands pressing on the duodenum; p. 428.

Hæmatemesis from diseased liver; p. 428.

Cases of hydatid disease of the liver; pp. 139, 473.

Abscess of the liver after a blow; p. 1002.

Rupture of the liver; p. 549.

VI. AFFECTIONS OF THE INTESTINES.

In this class we have reported

A case of stricture of the sigmoid flexure of the colon, in which gastrotomy was performed, unsuccessfully; p. 1021.

Two cases of imperforate anus, in one of which the channel of the gut was successfully reestablished; p. 845.

Prolapsus ani remedied by operation; p. 801.

Cases of phrenic hernia; p. 285, 922.

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VII. INJURIES AND DISEASES OF THE URINARY ORGANS.

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The use of belladonna in incontinence of urine; p. 239.

A case of stone in the prostate gland and bladder; p. 179.

Three cases of diseased prostate; p. 365.

Ulceration of the neck of the bladder; p. 286.

Lithotripsy in a case of enlarged prostate; p. 199.

Lithotripsy for a bougie broken in the bladder; p. 405.

Lithotomy for the same cause; p. 530.

Lithotomy with a rectangular staff; p. 406.

Two cases of fistulous opening in the urethra in front of the scrotum: one of which was cured by repeated plastic operations; the other partially cured; p. 981.

VIII. INJURIES AND DISEASES OF THE ORGANS OF GENERATION, AND OF THE FEMALE BREAST.

In this class will be found—

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Hydrocele containing spermatozoa, and having an unusual relation to the testicle; p. 81.

Strumous disease of the testicle; p. 223.

A case of fibrous tumour of the uterus extirpated by gastro-tomy; p. 159.

Operation for prolapsus uteri, followed by symptoms of pyæmia; p. 643.

A case of ovarian disease in which tapping was followed by effusion of blood into the cyst and peritonitis; p. 140.

A case of ovarian dropsy in which the cyst was found closely adherent in the pelvis to the rectum and vagina; and had pressed on the ureters, causing absorption of the kidneys; p. 260.

A case of ovarian dropsy where the cyst communicated freely with the peritoneal cavity; p. 941.

Cases of successful ovariectomy; pp. 764, 1001.

Numerous cases of vesico-vaginal fistula, most of them operated on with success; pp. 901, 921, 942, 1041.

Vaginal cystocele; p. 575.

Case of epithelial cancer of the male generative organs and urethra, with stricture: perineal section: p. 301.

Warts of the labia; p. 492.

IX. AFFECTIONS OF THE BLOOD-VESSELS.

This head includes—

A series of numerous cases of aneurism; pp. 42, 61, 82, 142, 200, 260.

Two cases of aneurism of the aorta; p. 240.

A case of aneurism of the aorta, which burst into the pericardium; p. 100.

A case of ruptured popliteal aneurism, for which amputation was necessary; another aneurism formed in the femoral artery. The result was fatal; pp. 302, 447, 530.

A case of aneurism of the external iliac artery, presenting unusual difficulties of diagnosis; p. 724.

A case of vascular tumour; p. 201.

Aneurism by anastomosis on the scalp, treated by the galvanic cautery and other local measures, apparently with success; p. 491.

A case of varicose veins, treated with potassa fusa, followed by pyæmia; p. 921.

X. INJURIES AND DISEASES OF THE BONES AND JOINTS.

In this section will be found—

A case of compound comminuted fracture of the femur; p. 41.

Compound fracture of the leg; p. 222.

Forceful straightening of a badly set fracture; p. 902.

Dislocation and fracture of the carpus; p. 882.

Case of forcible extension of ankylosis; p. 62.

Congenital dislocation of the hip; p. 962.

Amputation on account of abscess in the head of the tibia; p. 161.

Amputation for ulceration of the cartilages; p. 222.

Case illustrating the possibility of mobility at the knee after excision with a useful limb; p. 1001.

Case of housemaid's knee; p. 677.

Hydrarthrosis of the knee-joint injected with iodine; p. 119.

Latent psoas abscess; p. 529.

XI. CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES.

The cases included in this section, besides those which will be found under the previous heads, are—

(a) *Cancer*:—

Cases illustrating the treatment of cancer with caustics; pp. 142, 180.

Cancer of the sole of the foot; p. 141.

Epithelial cancer of the face; p. 181.

Two cases of malignant tumour of the leg; p. 961.

(b) *Syphilis*:—

A series of cases, in which syphilis was treated by calomel fumigation, is found at pp. 284, 327, 595, 678.

(c) *Pyæmia*. The rare phenomenon of the occurrence of pyæmia in a child, and secondary deposit in the walls of the heart, is illustrated at p. 406.

(d) *Scrofula*. Extensive scrofulous deposits in various parts of the body are noticed at pp. 240, 347; and a case of abscess and unhealthy sores in various parts, which proceeded from some condition of the blood allied to scrofula, at p. 1041.

(e) *Tetanus*. The cases at pp. 328, 385, 406, 550, 882, illustrate various points in the pathology and treatment of this disease.

XII. OPERATIVE SURGERY.

This class consists of cases reported principally with a view to the operation, and is exclusive of numerous other cases in which operations were performed, but which are to be found in other classes.

Amputation at the knee-joint; p. 961.

Teale's amputation; p. 962.

Excision of the shoulder; p. 42.

Partial excision of the upper jaw; p. 101.

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Excision of the elbow; p. 179.

Excision of the head of the femur and tuber ischii; p. 239.

Excision of the knee; p. 285.

State of the knee-joint after excision; p. 1001.

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Partial amputation of the foot; p. 472.

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Syme's amputation; p. 784.

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Operation on the left colon (gastrostomy); p. 1021.

Ovariectomy; p. 1001.

A case showing the permanence of the operative cure of prolapsus uteri; p. 845.

XIII. NEW INVENTIONS: MISCELLANEOUS.

Under this head will be found the following cases:—

Use of plaster of Paris bandage; p. 161.

Use of ether as an anæsthetic; p. 575.

New splint for fractured jaw; p. 845.

Use of silver sutures; p. 942.

Chloroform as a narcotic; p. 328.

Cases of poisoning with stramonium; p. 823.

Cystic tumours of the neck; p. 863.

Hydrocele of the neck; p. 446.

Suppurating cyst of the neck; p. 222.

Sebaceous tumour absorbing the skull; p. 783.

Removal of glandular tumours pressing on the trachea; p. 677.

Cases of ganglion beneath the radial artery; p. 142.

Case of fibro-plastic tumour originating in a ganglion; pp. 239, 901.

Case of muscular atrophy; p. 346.

Treatment of hysterical contraction of the fingers by "firing"; p. 63.

Case of wound of the abdomen with a piece of wood; p. 120.

Original Communications.

ON NÆVUS.

By J. C. WORDSWORTH, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon to the London Hospital.

To the conscientious practitioner of our art, it is at all times a matter of anxious consideration to decide how much he may entrust to nature to accomplish in her own way the cure of disease, and when it becomes his duty to interrupt or supersede her processes, by the intervention of his own expedients.

As science progresses, I believe it may be said that we become less obtrusive as practitioners, and learn to confide more in nature's resources. Hence we see that surgeons, actuated by the accumulated experience of ages, are daily more disposed to limit their interference to the obvious necessities of treatment. Whoever reflects on the tendency of modern medicine, must be impressed by the growing indisposition to intrude the imperfect dictates of our art needlessly and rashly, when, on the one hand, nature does not need our aid, or on the other, she does not vouchsafe us her confidence.

It would prove a most interesting and instructive indication of the progress of science, to review and contrast the ideas of different ages of the world, on the treatment of disease. I believe that the comparison would show a gradually progressive