

A CASE OF MELANOTIC SARCOMA OF THE COMMON BILE DUCT AND THE AMPULLA OF VATER.

BY FRANCIS J. SHEPHERD, M.D., LL.D., F.R.C.S.E. (HON.),
SURGEON TO MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL, MONTREAL, CANADA.

THE rarity and obscurity of this case constitutes my apology for reporting it.

Mr. A. S., aged forty-four years, bridge engineer, consulted Dr. A. E. Morphy, of Lachine, P. Q., in June, 1907, for severe itching all over the body, but especially about the chest and back. On examination a very faint tinge of yellow was observed on the skin and conjunctivæ. There were no digestive disturbances, but distinct loss of appetite. A few days later the jaundice deepened and the itchiness increased. There was no pain, but the patient complained of loss of strength, great lassitude, and much depression of spirits. There was also constipation. On physical examination, when first seen by Dr. Morphy, no abnormal condition about the liver was discovered; everything seemed normal.

About the middle of July a smooth, rounded, painless swelling was made out in the region of the gall-bladder. This was looked upon as a distended gall-bladder. All this time there was abundant bile in the urine and the stools were colorless and very fetid, except occasionally when they had a chocolate hue.

Mr. S. was admitted under my care as a patient in the Montreal General Hospital on July 26, 1907, the following being his history: A tall, spare man, of very fair complexion; had never been ill before in his life, and had always been most athletic, being very fond of outdoor sports. He was in his usual health until May 15, 1907, when his feet began to itch at night. This itching spread all over his body, and very soon (early in June) his conjunctivæ

