

or four weeks, and any irregularity in eating or drinking would immediately bring them on; but when cautious, living sparingly, and taking some laxative, he was often free from them for four or five months.

The fits always came on with convulsive motions in the right arm and leg, which, in a few minutes, were succeeded by stupor, in which he continued above half an hour. In November 1775, he received a stroke on his head, which brought him to the ground; was instantly seized with one of the fits; and in twenty-four hours, had ten or twelve of them, in all of which the only parts convulsed were the right arm and leg; the fits became more frequent, a total stupor came on, and he died fourteen days after,

On opening his head, on the left hemisphere, immediately under the coronal suture, and an inch from the falx, the dura mater adhered to the brain, for about the size of a shilling, and was so much thickened and hardened as to be in a cartilaginous state; the brain, for the size of a large walnut, was much hardened, and the under part of it adhered slightly to the falx; on the outer side of this hardness, on that side furthest from the falx, and in the middle of the substance of the cerebrum, there was about an ounce and a half of extravasated blood, which was soft, and of a black colour.

*Case 3.* Robert H. a sailor, about forty, when on board of ship, stooping down, received a violent stroke on the back part of the parietal bones by the falling of a boom; there was no wound, but the parts were much bruised. Some months after, he complained of a pain immediately under the part on which he received the stroke, which gradually grew worse, and in a year and a half the pain was most excruciating, and brought on violent convulsions in both upper and lower extremities of both sides, the violence of which, in some months, put an end to his life.

On opening the head, the posterior part of both hemispheres of the brain was found greatly inflamed and much hardened; and adhered firmly to the dura mater and the falx; the left side was more diseased than the right, and the dura mater, in some places where it adhered firmly, was much thickened, and almost cartilaginous.

*Case 4.* Mr. L. by a fall down a stair, fractured the left parietal bone. I saw him in half an hour, when he was in a stupor. He was immediately bled very plentifully, and then carried home. The fracture extended from the middle of the bone downwards and backwards, and was traced near to the mastoid process; but I could not carry the incision any further. A piece of the bone was taken out by the trepan; a considerable quantity of extravasated serum and blood was found pressing on the dura mater, which was got out; the wound was dressed, and he was bled very plentifully a second time; after which he became sensible, and answered distinctly when spoken to, and, after sleeping some hours, was greatly relieved, but at times the right leg and arm were attacked with convulsive tremors, which continued for three days, and, on the fourth day, every symptom appeared very favourable, and he had the appearance of doing well; but he frequently complained of a pain in his head. On the twentieth day, he was seized with rigor, which was succeeded by a feverish paroxysm, that frequently returned for three days; his pulse became constantly quick, and he died the twenty-eighth day. His friends would not consent to his head being opened.

*Case 5.* Alexander H. a lad of eighteen, fell into the hold of a ship about