

from characteristic and are not extensive enough to explain the profound and often very complicated disturbances of the nervous function found clinically. The fact that in one case a profound condition of shock may accompany a relatively slight injury while in a severer injury little or no shock may exist, also that in some cases the shock may be late in appearing points on the whole to the central rather than the peripheral nervous system being chiefly affected. It is in the ganglion cells of the brain cortex and the spinal cord, but especially the former, that changes have been sought for.

Virchow found nearly thirty years ago, in examining bodies where severe cerebral concussion had occurred years before, that the same ganglion cells, or as they are now called, neurons, were frequently found to be calcified, and hence it appeared probable that anatomical changes had existed in them at the time of the accident. This point was not established experimentally, however, and for many years no further anatomical observations of importance were made on the subject. In 1890, Schmaus of Munich made a number of observations and experiments as to the connection between myelitis and compression or other injuries of the cord. By striking upon a board placed along the back of a rabbit he was able to produce a series of paralytic and paretic