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ORIGINAL ARTICLES.

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A CASE OF MULTIPLE NEURITIS.*

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Thinking the following case might prove of some interest to the members of the Association, I take the opportunity of laying it before you. The history is briefly as follows:

Roderick K.—Irish; stoker; age, 44; married; no children. Father and mother died of old age. Two brothers and one sister; all healthy. No insanity, consumption or nervous disease in family. No history of intemperate habits could be obtained. Eleven years ago he injured left knee, which has been discharging more or less ever since, healing for a couple of months and then breaking out again; but he has been able, notwithstanding, to steadily continue his work. A year ago last October he had an attack of paralysis, like the present one, which came on after exposure to cold, and was accompanied by a creeping sensation over the entire body. From this he recovered in ten weeks sufficiently to resume his work, but never completely regained the power in his feet. His present illness began on July 4th last, after catching cold. He at first noticed a stiffness in his right foot, which soon extended to the left and then to both hands. After two or three days this stiffness changed to paralysis, the legs and forearms becoming involved, and the patient was at once confined to bed. He had no pains or any abnormal sensations in the skin.

The physical examination shows a complete paralysis of the flexors of the ankles and extensors of the toes. He is wholly unable to move the toes of either foot, and both feet lie in an extended position. There is also marked weakness of the posterior tibial muscles and of the extensors of the thighs. The muscles of the forearm and hand are all materially affected, the extensors being more paralyzed than the flexors. The muscles of the arm are in fairly good condition. He was quite unable to feed himself at first. There is a slight wasting of all the affected muscles, the loss of bulk

* Read at a meeting of the Canadian Medical Association, London, September, 1893.