## · CANADA

## MEDICAL JOURNAL.

## ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Case of Progressive Paralysis. By James A. Sewell, M.D., Dean of the Medical Faculty of Laval University, Quebec.

I was called on the morning of the 20th December, 1869, to see a young lady, at. 27. I found her cheerful but with a languid expression, as though she were sleepy, which was caused by a drooping of both upper eyelids. She complained of a numbness and tingling in both feet and legs, abdomen, and in both arms and hands. Had no headache, no sensation of weight in the head, neither was she at all giddy. The tongue was covered with a white fur; the pulse was 85, natural in force and rhythm. The bowels had been regular. Catemenia were regular and recently over, and the urine was pale and very abundant. Not attaching much importance to the symptoms, and believing that they partook very much of an hysterical character, I simply ordered a brisk cathartic of Cal. and Jalap.

21st.—The bowels have been freely acted upon, without any alteration in the other symptoms, with the exception that the urine is very much diminished in quantity and turbid in character, which I attributed partly to the free action of the purgative and partly to a profuse perspiration which covered the whole body and which had lasted all night. She now complained of tingling and stiffness of the chin, drooping of the eyelids, much as yesterday, though with an effort she could raise them partially; the fingers of both hands were slightly stiffened; intellect bright and clear. She was quite cheerful, but asked several times in a jaunty manner if she were going to die. She has to use her own expression "neither ache nor pain."

22nd.—The symptoms are exactly the same as yesterday, except that she now complains of not being able to see distinctly. The pupils are considerably dilated and the tongue somewhat more loaded. To repeat purgation

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