

SOME MASTOID CASES WITH COMPLICATIONS*

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Mr. President and Members of the Hamilton Medical Society:

In presenting short notes of several cases of mastoid disease which I have operated on and which have presented to me unusual phases of the disease, I only wish to contribute, if possible, to our general knowledge of the disease, and think that discussion will elicit new knowledge of how to treat them so as to lessen the mortality of this, one of the most important diseases of to-day. In selecting these cases to report I have done so because they have been unusual in some way or ways, and the fatal cases have been reported as well as the recovered. The other cases of mastoid disease I have operated on have all been ordinary and have all recovered.

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CASE 1.—G.B., female, aged 30. First seen Sept. 6th, 1904. History good; well nourished; always has been well with exception of several attacks of ear-ache which she has had during the past few years. Recovered from each attack after some discharge. This attack started with pain about the ear and all over head about a week before I saw her, but the constant pain over the top of head was the worst. I found her suffering a great deal from this head-ache over top of head (not localized), some slight tenderness over the situation of the right antrum, but very little local pain in that region. Temp. was 103 deg., external canal was swollen on all sides, and I could not get a satisfactory view of tympanum. I incised tympanum and canal wall and got a very little pus discharge, and relief of tenderness. Next day local pain less, but head pain the same, temp. 102 deg. Incised tympanum again with more discharge and relief of local symptoms. Patient and friends very averse to any operation, although I told them of the probability of it. Next day, Sept. 9th, temp. 101 deg., patient sitting up, most pain and tenderness gone, and feeling much better. This seemed to show that the otitis media was all the trouble, and she was instructed as to the treatment to be pursued, and to come to office. She did not come or send any word. Oct. 22nd, her family physician had been called in the day before and finding I had the case before he notified me and I saw her again. She had had a severe

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