

bone by the dura mater, which formed a sort of hinge upon which the fragment turned.

The injury having been inflicted by the sharp edge of a stone, the scalp was cleanly cut and detached from the fractured portion of bone. After exploring the wound with the points of my fingers (which passed in readily to the depth of half an inch or more), and ascertaining its nature, I laid hold of the outer edge of the fragment with a pair of dressing forceps and with very little difficulty removed it, the dura mater readily peeling off, several small splinters were removed from the wound afterwards. Nearly a tablespoonful of brain substance, I should judge, was lost previous to and during the operation. Pulsation in the brain was very distinct, but there was only slight oozing of blood from the wound, which was readily controlled by the application of cold water. When complete hæmorrhage had been obtained, the edges of the scalp—which had been previously denuded of hair—were approximated, a few strips of adhesive plaster applied, and over these a folded piece of cotton cloth, wetted with whisky and water, was retained by a loose bandage. The patient was then placed on a comfortable bed, his head considerably elevated on pillows, six grains of calomel placed upon his tongue, and night-watchers arranged to keep the cloth on his head wet, and to prevent his injuring himself by involuntary motion or otherwise. The patient was comatose during the whole operation.

17th. *Morning.* Patient considerably roused and restless, though still unconscious, vomiting occasionally, pulse quickened, and skin hot and dry; but the wound was looking well. By the aid of an enema the bowels and bladder were freely emptied, which seemed to somewhat allay the restlessness.

Quietness was enjoyed, and the wet cloth to the head ordered to be continued.

17th. *Evening.* Vomiting had continued, pulse quick and hard, skin hot and dry, and tongue covered with a white fur; there was moaning and jactitation, with convulsive efforts to pull the dressing from the wound, in fact, marked symptoms of phrenitis were manifesting themselves. I ordered the hair to be cut close, cold applications to the whole head, a jug of hot water to the feet, and a sinapism to the epigastrium, and gave small doses of calomel and potassium nitrate frequently.