

SHOT WOUND OF THE HEAD.*

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The patient before you is twenty-three years of age, with a good family history. No member of the family, as far back as he can remember, has ever been the subject any disease of the nervous system. This young man, up to September a year ago, was in perfect health in every sense of the word. At that time he was in the South, and while sitting on the porch talking to a young lady, another one, who was about ten feet from him, called to him, saying that she was going to shoot, having a gun in her hands and fooling with it at the time. He turned his face toward her and

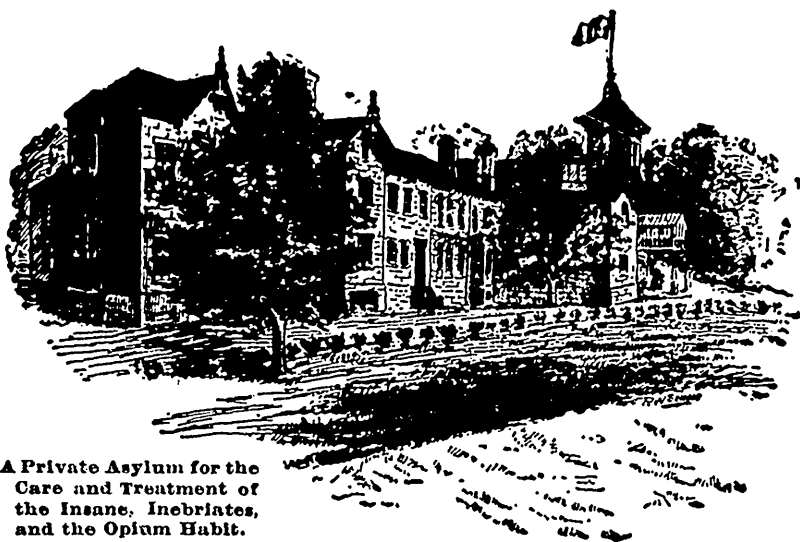
just then the gun was discharged, the bullet striking him just above the left eye. He became unconscious and remained so for something over a week. At the end of that time he came to himself partially, then relapsed into unconsciousness, and it was several weeks before he could be sufficiently aroused to know where he was, what had happened, etc. When he came to himself he was completely paralyzed in the right arm, but nowhere else excepting his tongue. The paralysis developed immediately.

The shooting occurred in the morning at eleven o'clock, and he was not seen by a physician until ten o'clock that night. The doctors trephined his skull, but did not find the bullet. Complete paralysis of the arm continued for several months, then gradually improved until he can now use his arm well, but it is not so strong as before the accident. At the time he was a clerk, and has only recently

* Reported to the Louisville Surgical Society.

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