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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ARTICLE XXVII.—*Excision of the Shoulder Joint.* By ROBERT L. MACDONNELL, M.D., Surgeon to St. Patrick's Hospital, Montreal.

Ambrose C., a delicate, scrofulous lad was admitted under my care, into St. Patrick's Hospital, April, 1858, labouring under a chronic disease of the right shoulder joint.

He stated that he had received several severe injuries on that shoulder two years before, from having been thrown on the ice frequently whilst playing with other lads, in the amusement of *sleighing*. The next day he experienced severe pain in the joint, which soon became swollen, and eventually, abscesses formed, and burst externally, and matter continued to flow freely for several months from twelve sinuses, which on being examined, were found to lead down to diseased bone. Some of the sinuses were connected with the anatomical, some with the surgical, head of the humerus, whilst others ran towards the coracoid and acromion processes. None of them took a direction towards the ribs.

The shoulder was much swollen, of a deep red hue, and of semi-cartilaginous consistence. The redness and alteration of structure extended to the insertion of the deltoid, and the axilla was filled up with a similar hard and resisting substance. The motions of the joint were lost. When an attempt was made to move the arm, the scapula moved with it, and the arm could not be moved from the side, to which it appeared firmly attached by the condensed structure occupying the axilla.