

CANADA

MEDICAL JOURNAL.

---

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

---

*Case of Excision of the Elbow Joint, for Caries, the result of an injury in a man 72 years of age.* By JOHN REDDY, M.D., L.R.C.S.I., &c. Physician to the Montreal General Hospital, &c., &c.

James Foley, aged 72, a native of Ireland, of healthy and youthful appearance for his age, was admitted into the Montreal General Hospital, on the 1st June, 1871.

He applied for relief on account of a running sore, swelling and stiffness of his right elbow-joint, which he stated was the result of an accident that had occurred two years previously, and from which time he had gradually lost the use of the joint, being unable to use his arm, it being at times most painful, especially whenever he used his hand, or follow his occupation, which was that of labourer. About thirteen months ago a swelling occurred on the upper and outer part of the joint, which was very painful, and after a few weeks burst, from which time to the present a thin matter flowed; a few weeks afterwards a second swelling occurred at the inner condyle, attended with similar consequences, the member became so swollen and painful that he sought admission into hospital.

*Present Appearance*—Joint swollen to nearly twice the natural size, of a reddish dark colour, hot and painful to the touch, can raise his arm from the shoulder, and move his fingers without producing pain, but the slightest flexion, extension, or lateral movement of the joint, always caused him much suffering and distress. The two apertures described above exist and discharge a thin sero-purulent non-offensive matter.

On passing a probe through the outer sinus into the joint, the roughened head of the ulna can readily be felt, also on exploring the inner one the bare and roughened end of humerus is easily detected, showing that little can be expected from palliative treatment.