

A CASE OF TRAUMATIC ASPHYXIA WITH RECOVERY.

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The following is the history of the case which I am able to report through the kindness of Mr. I. H. Cameron:

N. B., male, aged 5 years, was admitted to the Hospital for Sick Children on May 9th, 1906, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, for injuries which he had received about an hour previously while riding on the back of a G.T.R. lorry. In some way he was caught between the hind wheel and the spring, stopping the wheel and making it skid along the ground for some feet, thus attracting the attention of the driver, who immediately stopped the horses. When picked up he was unconscious, black in the face, and breathed with difficulty. He was immediately taken to the hospital in the ambulance.

Examination on Admittance.—Family and personal history are unimportant. Patient is a fairly well developed and nourished boy, but is in a somewhat neglected condition, his hands and face being begrimed with dirt. Symptoms of marked shock, cold and shivering, teeth chattering, extremities cold, pulse weak and rapid, face and lips pallid, are present. Consciousness is dulled, but patient rouses if asked questions or is subjected to pain. Eyes are held tightly closed as though the light was painful.

Abrasions and contusions are found: (1) Behind the right ear; (2) on the forehead, the blood from which ran into the left ear, making a careful examination necessary to exclude the possibility of hemorrhage being intra-cranial in origin; there was no cerebro-spinal fluid present, nor was the tympanum ruptured; (3) down the outer side of the left leg and thigh; (4) on the right side of the abdomen just above the iliac crest; (5) on the inner side of the right thigh just below the perineum, and (6) on the left side of the lower jaw.

The face and neck present a deep blue mottled appearance, which shades off and disappears over upper part of thorax, both anteriorly and posteriorly. The pallor of the face due to shock can be seen through the blue discoloration. The dark spots are small, circular and dark blue in color; they are not influenced by pressure and are separated from one another by narrow bands of normal skin. Over the face and neck they are placed