

A CASE OF ADVANCED ARTERIO SCLEROSIS IN A CHILD.*

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The rarity of this condition in early life caused me to bring this case before the Society and to report it as fully as possible. I can find only the cases published by Holt, seven in number, and the case of Brill and Libman† which made me feel that the presentation of this one with specimens and slides would be of interest to the Fellows.

In none of the cases which I have read, can I find that the sclerotic condition existed so generally as in this. In them only certain vessels had undergone change whilst in my case, with the exception of the cerebral vessels, everywhere in the body the changes were found to have taken place. During life in tracing the various superficial arteries, all gave the pipe stem touch and resistance which one generally associates with the calcareous condition of vessels frequently found in old age, and this will be seen to be verified by the specimens.

The etiology of the subject I do not purpose touching on. It is fairly well known and agreed upon, syphilis being probably the most frequent cause of its production amongst the young. Heredity, nephritis, scarlet fever, diphtheria, rheumatism, gout, alcoholic and lead poisoning are the chief factors other than syphilis.

Willie F., aged ten years and six months, born in Toronto, admitted to the Sick Children's Hospital, December 10, 1900.

FAMILY HISTORY.—Father living, healthy mechanic, always strong and healthy, says he was never ill, absolutely denies ever having had any specific disease.

Mother, living and healthy; no illness beyond child bearing; no miscarriages, nor any manifestation of syphilis. Brothers, three, living and healthy. Sisters, two, living and healthy. No signs of vessel change in any of them, or any sign of hereditary syphilis or struma.

PAST HISTORY.—Had measles at seven years of age. For past two years had suffered from chorea on and off; attacks lasting from two weeks to ten weeks. For several months he has suffered from nocturnal enuresis, always wetting the bed unless he got up to pass urine during the night. Drank water in large quantities, and if he should awake, would get up to take a couple of glasses of water. No history of scarlet fever nor diphtheria. Always been strong and healthy, capable of outdoing most boys of his age at running and games requiring physical activity and endurance. Could get no history of snuffles or rash, his mother reporting him, with the exception of the chorea, as particularly healthy, never having had a suspicion of rheumatism.

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