

BLACKADER: *A Case of Congenital Hypertrophy.*

side. The road was narrow, and a carelessly driven heavy cart came up from behind and was driven alongside them for some distance. She said she expected every moment her foot would be crushed. While these impressions may be mere coincidences, until we can prove them so, it were better that facts of this kind should be noted.

The extent of the part hypertrophied varies from a single digit to the entire half of the body. The hypertrophy always increases towards the distal end, thus the phalanges will be more hypertrophied than the metatarsal or -carpal bones, and they more in proportion than the bones of the fore-arm or leg. The hypertrophy, however, seldom includes the whole of the digits. The localization of the affection does not appear to be related to any special vascular or nervous territories. Its course is generally progressive; sometimes, for a time, the growth appears uniform with the rest of the body, but generally sooner or later the hypertrophy becomes more marked, and its nutrition evidently excessive. The rate of increase may vary from time to time; periods of slow development, or even apparent arrest, may be followed by new and rapid growth. In most cases the process does not extend beyond the seat of the original hypertrophy, but in a few we notice extension towards the trunk. As a rule, the growth goes on without pain, inflammation, or much interference with function.

As to the classification of these cases, Anderson sets aside as unsatisfactory, and I think justly, that of v. Fischer, which is founded in great part on the extent of the hypertrophy, and prefers the division into true and false. The first class forms a very small one, yet there are a few cases sufficiently well-marked where all the structures of one side are hypertrophied, the vascular supply on that side enlarged, the temperature elevated, and the power of the limb increased. Into the other division is placed all those where the size of the part is augmented by an unequally distributed hyperplasia of the skeleton and soft parts. This forms by far the larger division. In these the arterial supply is proportionate