

CANADA

MEDICAL JOURNAL.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Case of Epithelioma of the Tongue. Complete extirpation of the Organ. Return of the disease. By GEO. E. FENWICK, M.D., Professor of Clinical Surgery, McGill University. Reported by GEO. ROSS, A.M., M.D., House Surgeon Montreal General Hospital.

Siméon Gauthier, aged 45, was admitted into the Montreal General Hospital on the 15th of February, 1869, suffering from epithelioma of the tongue. He is a man of good build, but sallow and unhealthy aspect: he has, however, always enjoyed fair average health. The ulcer occupies the left side of the tongue, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the tip, and is about as large as a quarter dollar—it has the characteristic hard, raised edges and a foul sloughy base. The floor of the mouth and under surface of the tongue are quite healthy in appearance. It has existed for only one month, and consequently its growth has been exceedingly rapid. It began as a very small ulcer which was irritable and troublesome, and latterly he has suffered from severe lancinating pains through the tongue and below the lower jaw. The teeth corresponding to the ulcer are smooth and even, and could not possibly have abraded the edge of the tongue. He has been a smoker for many years, always using a clay pipe, and sometimes was conscious of a slight scorched feeling of the tongue after smoking heavily. His family history gives no sign of cancerous taint: his father died at an advanced age, he thinks of some pulmonary complaint, and his mother is still living and well: he knows of no instance of cancer of any kind amongst his other relatives. The sublingual and submaxillary glands are quite unaffected.

On Tuesday the 16th February, Dr. Fenwick assisted by Dr. Geo. W. Campbell, Professor of Surgery, McGill University, proceeded to the operation of ablation of the entire organ in the following manner (which is more minutely described in another similar case reported at page 292 of vol.