

I shall make a few remarks, but will chiefly leave the case to the consideration of the profession. Can hysteria be safely excluded as an element entering into a consideration of this case? I decidedly think so. I confess I never saw a case of reflex paraplegia, either in private practice or in the wards of an hospital, but occasionally witnessed this and similar grave affections simulated by the victim of hysteria. None of the usual remedies for hysteria were used in this case. The irritation produced by the carbolic acid, the trembling of the limbs, and their subsequent impotence, seem to form an unbroken link in the chain of evidence connecting the first-named procedure with the last result.

That it was a decided case of paraplegia no one would think of doubting. If not caused by the ulcer, by what then? There neither was nor is any diagnostic symptom of spinal disease. I might thus proceed, by the method exclusion, and shew that the evidence inevitably points to the conclusion I have already been led to. It, therefore, remains for others who may doubt those I have arrived at, to account in a rational manner for the phenomenon in question.

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*The use of Amalgam of Mercury and other Metals in filling Carious Teeth.* BY H. M. BOWKER, Surgeon Dentist, Montreal.

In the January number of the Canada Medical Journal, an article of mine appeared on the dangerous practice of filling teeth with amalgam. I am impelled to write again on the subject to rebut statements and comments which have appeared in other journals.

First:—In the February number of the American Journal of *Dental Science*, published at Baltimore, the editor copied my article in full, and, in his criticisms thereon, admits the general truth of my argument, but thinks I have taken an extreme view, and believes that amalgam can be safely used in teeth which are mere shells, but never in teeth which can be saved, even with tinfoil.

Admitting, which I do not, that nothing but amalgam could save such frail teeth, it would, in my opinion, be much better to have them extracted than incur the risk of permanently injuring the constitution by the use of any kind of mercurial paste, but that is unnecessary; as it has been incontestably proved that a tooth which can be saved by such "paste" can be saved by the use of gold or tin-foil, both innocuous materials. In corroboration, the American Society of Dental Surgeons, at their Convention, 1841, declared that there is no tooth affected by caries in which gold-foil cannot be employed to render the organ serviceable. Again, the American Journal of *Dental Science* has always,