

as to completely destroy its continuity. A series of fractures is found which involve not only the vault, but the base and face also. Even the lower jaw has suffered. We publish with this number a complete technical description of the various lines of fracture, as also photographs of the skull; but it has been thought not unadvisable to state in a more general and rough way what damage was actually found. The case is still *sub judice*, but a bare statement of facts is allowable.

The damages to the head may be put into three divisions: (1) Damage to the vault of the skull; (2) damage to the base of the skull; (3) damage to the face. It must be understood that the bones only will be referred to. The difficulty of treating of injuries to soft parts at such a length of time after infliction is great, and so much uncertainty as to their location and appearance has been proven to exist that we dismiss them altogether, and look only to those injuries of which the record is before us.

(1) *Damage to the vault of the skull.* For purposes of description, we speak of lines of fracture as *starting at* certain points and *running to* certain other points, not intending to assert that these are really the points of origin, etc., or that the order followed in description is that actually followed in production.

The vault of the skull is divided into two lateral portions by a line of fracture which, starting at the root of the nose and separating the frontal bone nearly evenly in the midline, then opens up the sagittal suture for about three inches, then jogs to the right side at right angles for about one inch, and finally runs backwards, outwards, and downwards through the occiput, and terminates in the foramen magnum to the right of the midline. (Unless otherwise specified, all lines of fracture spoken of pass completely through the thickness of bones.) Another line of fracture, which is a very striking one, runs through the frontal bone from side to side, parallel to the supraorbital ridges, and crossing that already spoken of at right angles. It begins in the right temporal fossa, and terminates in the coronary suture of the left side, an attempt, as it were, to divide the skull into an upper and lower half. The chief remaining fractures of the vault appear to radiate from the parietal protuberance on the right side, and, if certain of them be followed through their course, we make a third line of division of the skull as a whole into an anterior and posterior part. This line runs from ear to ear over the top just behind the vertex, passing through the right parietal protuberance on its way. Behind and below this transverse line of fracture we find another line, which runs from the right parietal protuberance straight to the tip of the occipital bone, and then upwards and outwards, to terminate in the transverse line spoken of above. Thus we have broken out from the back of the head a