ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Clinical Surgery. A Lecture on Fracture of the Lumbar Vertebræ, delivered at the Montreal General Hospital. By GEORGE E. FENWICK, M.D., Demonstrator of Anatomy, McGill University, &c. The patient stated to be shortened in stature one inch and one quarter. Recovery. Case reported by MR. WILLIAM GRANT.

GENTLEMEN,—The subject of our observations to-day will be fracture of the vertebræ, having special reference to the case in ward No. 16, still under observation. It is of deep interest in consequence of its unusually favourable termination. The man is at present able to walk about without fatigue, and although somewhat stiff in the back, we may regard him as convalescent.

He has been in Hospital for the past four months, and the bulging of the spinous processes and arching backwards of the vertebræ in the lumbar region are sufficiently obvious to attest the correctness of the diagnosis as regards the nature of the accident were the facts wanting of the early observation of the case. We are indebted to Mr. Grant, the clinical clerk, for the following notes of the case.

Gregory McIntosh, æt 26 years, employed as a teamster by the Grand Trunk Railway Company, a stout muscular well-built man, has always enjoyed good health, met with the following accident : On the 16th October last he was driving his waggon loaded with trusses of packed hops. He was seated on the top of the load, and while passing through an arched stone gateway, stooped forward, imagining that there was ample room without the necessity of his descending from the load. When about the centre of the arch his shoulders came in contact with the masonry above, as the horses moved forward, the space became narrower, and he was forcibly bent forward with his head between his knees. In this position he became wedged in so tight that the horses could proceed no further, and in this state he remained until some men about the premises came to his relief, and extricated him. When taken down from