

The extensors were quite paralytic, and the flexors nearly so—and he could not close the tips of the fingers within an inch of the palm, nor make any pressure, when trying to grasp any thing; when the hand was pronated it hung down. His health was apparently good, and he did not suffer from any headache or spinal pain, nor (from his report) did his debauches appear to be followed by any penalty; he generally enjoyed very good health, and had at the time of admission no other complaint, but the paralysis.

He was ordered to be galvanized daily, to have a stimulating liniment, rubbed occasionally on the paralysed parts, and to wear a bandage and splint. In a few days the sensibility began to return, and gradually the muscular power also, and before the end of January he had quite recovered from the paralysis, and was discharged from the hospital at that time. In this case, as well as that of Kelsic, the galvanopuncture was occasionally used, but as sensibility returned, the pain it caused prevented its continuance, its effects were most satisfactory.

Neither of these cases exhibited the depression of spirits remarked by Dr. Healy.

That pressure on a nerve for a short time will cause interruption to its function is familiar to all, and most persons must have experienced the disagreeable tingling sensation of the limb, (termed sleep) arising from this condition of the nerve,—on these occasions, however, we have but a very slight indication of a paralytic state of the limb, which soon passes off. If we are right in attributing paralysis to pressure on the brachial nerves, we may nevertheless hesitate to admit that pressure on the *hand* is as likely to be followed by the same evil consequence, as from the very common habit (especially in children) of sleeping with the hand under the head; we should expect a much more frequent occurrence of this affection if this be a sufficient cause. Although it is remarked that the patients so affected were all apparently in health, there may have existed some condition of the nervous system, predisposing it to be easily acted on by a pressure, which, on other occasions, might not be attended by an evil effect. The paralyzing influence of cold, on the peripheral nerves, is more frequently observed, and beautifully illustrates the ingenious reflex theory of Dr. Marshall Hall:

The following case arising from that cause, occurred to me at the time the foregoing were under treatment:—

Malcolm Morrison a stone mason, aged 42, a stout healthy muscular man of very temperate and steady habits, had been employed in building the piers of the Grand Trunk tubular bridge at St Ann's, in which occupation he was obliged to have his hands pretty constantly in the water, which at that season of the year (October) was very cold; he