

ture and beneath the periosteum, with, as it were, two compartments, one on either side of the spine, communicating through the fracture. The left compartment, the larger of the two, had effected a perforation into the left pleural cavity. Besides this, disintegrations of bone, cartilage, and adjacent structures in general occupied the affected locality.

The other patient was a middle-aged man, a music teacher, of German extraction. When under the temporary influence of liquor, he fell from an elevation of about five feet, and struck violently the internal circumference of his right knee joint. The intense pain that set in forthwith, soon sobered him, and impressed him strongly with the apprehension of grave injury to the articulation. A physician was immediately called but failed to discover any injury. I saw the patient the third day after the accident. There were no superficial traces left by the fall. The articulation was hot, swelled, flexed, and extremely tender to the touch. From time to time, spastic oscillations appeared, and terrified the patient, who was pale and dejected from want of food and rest. I placed him under chloroform, extended the extremity, and secured the position by appropriate appliances. The trouble yielded without any further treatment; and, for aught I know, the patient recovered from an attack that might have permanently affected the articulation.

The interval of time between cause and effect, is, after all, more apparent than real. Many cases, especially those of affections of the spine, commence in so insidious a manner, and the initiatory symptoms are so general and indefinite, as to be excusably misinterpreted not only by the parents, but even by the professional attendant. Among other cases of the kind, I remember one in particular, which had puzzled the physicians for a number of months, until a correct diagnosis was obtained.

The patient is a little boy of fine organization, of a most impressible and active nervous system. His agility and daring even to this day are extraordinary, notwithstanding the conspicuous posterior curvature which has gradually become established. He may have been five years old, or thereabouts, when he sustained a fall from a fence six feet high, causing at the time considerable alarm to him and his parents. But no perceptible disturbance of his health immediately following, all fears were dismissed and forgotten. A few weeks after the occurrence, the patient exhibited signs of general ailment, decrease of appetite, pallor, weakness, disturbed rest, irritable temper, and indisposition to join in the frolics of his playfellows. Occasionally the pulse became accelerated, with contemporaneous thirst and increase of temperature. He complained of a transient pain in the stomach. His alvine evacua-