

I should depart, notwithstanding the interest I already felt in my patients. Mr. Routh at once acknowledged the superior claim, and immediately sent a telegraphic dispatch to Hamilton for Dr. Mullin to take my place. Before leaving I took every pains to make the men comfortable, and secured the willing promise of Dr. Brewster that he would see them every few hours until my successor arrived.

My short stay did not allow me to become fully acquainted with the course the balls had taken; but I left a note offering my opinion that in the case of private White, he ought to be very shortly put under the influence of chloroform and the fracture of the humerus thoroughly examined—that I believed the bone was badly shattered—that pieces would require removal—that very likely the fracture had extended into the shoulder joint and that amputation would be found necessary. According to the daily prints of Toronto this operation has subsequently been performed. By the same authority I have learned that the other patients are in a fair way of recovery.

I have to acknowledge the kindness of Mr. Spicer, of the Grand Trunk Company, in affording me facilities in going to and from the battle field. Belleville, 19th June, 1866.

Three Cases of Fracture of the Skull. BY THOMAS SIMPSON, M. D.
Sault Ste. Marie.

THE following abridged notes of three cases of fracture of the skull seriously complicated, occurring in my practice within eighteen months, are, I think, of sufficient interest to warrant their publication, as furnishing additional instances of grave injury to the skull, unaccompanied or followed—at least in two out of three—by constitutional disturbance of such consequence as to demand special consideration. Indeed in the last case in which the depression in the centre of the fracture considerably exceeded the thickness of the skull, and a circular portion of dura matter over an inch in diameter was completely destroyed and removed, there was not, from the commencement, any derangement of the functions of the nervous system, or any constitutional disorder. The danger to be apprehended in a case of this description is the supervention of diffuse menigitis, which generally proves fatal. Always imminent, it almost invariably follows a comminuted fracture in this situation, if by any chance the careful and complete removal of every detached fragment of bone, or sharp projecting spicula in contact with the dura mater, be neglected.

In the case of L——, I think from the time and manner of recovery, we