

simulate a definite organic disease so closely. Hysteria in a man of this patient's age is certainly rare in this country.

FOREIGN BODY BETWEEN THE INNER AND OUTER TABLES OF THE SKULL TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.

A. R. PENNOYER, M.D. The patient before you to-night is a young man 28 years of age, who came to me last June with a little nodule over his right eye, which felt very much to me like a sebaceous cyst. The history was that for seven or eight years this had bothered him a good deal at different times. During the early part of this period it would disappear for some little time only to reappear again. Since last winter, however, the lump has enlarged in size and has not subsided. On excision of this little lump I found that it ran down apparently into the bone. I ruptured it and there was an escape of a thick, yellow purulent matter much like that from sebaceous cysts and I concluded that it must be of the nature of a dermoid. I cauterised this, but a sinus persisted resisting all methods of cure for about two and half months. Having failed to close the wound I gave him a general anæsthetic, exposed the bone and found in the frontal bone a punched out opening which would readily admit a large sized probe. On exploring this I found it led into a cavity between the outer and inner tables of the skull and contained dark gritty material which we thought to be sand or gravel, at least this was the conclusion which we came to after going further into the history. It seems that 25 years ago when a child three years old he was run over by a heavy loaded wagon and sustained an extensive scalp wound, the scar of which can still be seen, hence the conclusion that for 25 years this road gravel had lain here, causing this abscess which had communicated with the parts underlying the skin. In a week's time the wound was entirely healed. An interesting thing, however, is that there is a little nodule forming a short distance from the former one just as this one did seven or eight years ago and it will be interesting to find if this turns out to be a similar abscess to the one just cleared out. He has a slight anæsthesia in the area of the supra-orbital nerve as the result of the operation.

C. W. DUVAL, M. D. The sand-like material was sent to the pathological laboratory for diagnosis, and at the time I thought it might be a psammoma. However, on subsequent study, together with the fact that the granules were found between the outer and inner tables of the skull, I decided that it was not such a new growth. Still it must be borne in mind that another small swelling similar to the first one has recently appeared, which would argue in favour of its neoplastic nature, instead of sand-inclusions the result of accident received many years ago.