

better, and with the gaining strength the improvement in his limbs was quite remarkable. Every second day a moderate electrical treatment was given and every day a treatment of salt massage (which consists in the usual massage technique modified by the masseuse having on the palm of the hand some dry common salt.) The patient soon got so he could get up himself, and even while in bed could raise the foot with the bed clothes a foot or more from the bed. A week or so ago (about three months from date of commencing extension treatment) he took two or three steps with his sister holding his hand merely to balance him. On Tuesday, July 15th, he with his sister steadying him, walked from his bedroom out into the hall. I may say that since the extension treatment at the hospital a jacket has been kept on all the time, and we are now having a light spinal brace (a modification of Taylor's spinal apparatus) made for him.

I think the progress in this case so far is very encouraging, and it seems that one would not be too sanguine to hope for a fairly complete restoration of power in the limbs.

Recent authorities are of the opinion that in such cases of spinal disease complicated by paralysis—that the defective innervation is not due to active pressure on the spinal cord by the diseased and displaced vertebrae. They hold that the trouble results from a pachymeningitis set up (*a*) by surrounding disease in the vertebrae and (*b*) aggravated by the disturbance to the parts by reason of the muscular contractions. It is easy to understand how such a condition of affairs would first of all set up an acute inflammation of the spinal membranes, and on account of the constant irritation—later a subacute, and finally inflammation of a chronic nature would take place, resulting in a permanent thickening and thus irreparable injury to cord. This fact, it seems to me, emphasizes chiefly two points in the treatment of these cases. 1st. When paralysis has developed treatment along above lines should be begun without delay. 2nd. In carrying out the treatment great effort should be made toward counteracting undue activity of the muscles.

G. W. MYLKS.