

painting a boat, he could scarcely hold the brush. He could, however, row all summer, but in October he noticed that the index finger began to get weak, and this was immediately followed by weakness of the other three fingers of that hand, so that he was not able to row himself out to the lighthouse in stormy weather. In January he noticed that the arm became weaker, and in two weeks afterwards he noticed that the thumb on the other hand became also weak.

He has no lack of sensation, nor any peculiar sensations present in any part of the body. When electricity is applied, however, there are two spots very sensitive to its influence—one on each scapula. These spots are  $1 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in size, and vary slightly in position, but are always on the dorsum of the scapula, below the spine.

Patient does not complain of any pain. He sits up all the time, but thinks that it tires him to do so more than formerly. He is fairly nourished, but the muscles of the right arm are perceptibly wasting, the measurements being less than the other in all situations. His pulse is 72; respiration, 18; skin, normal. His appetite is fairly good, as is also his general health. He has noticed that within the last three months his eyes are easily tired by reading. His hearing is good. He has no headache or vertigo. His bowels are regular, and his urine is normal in appearance and quantity. There is a great deal of twitching of the fibres of the affected muscles, as well as those connected with the scapula. The vibratile movements of the muscular fibres are especially marked when the surface is struck by the hand, or when they are excited by electricity.

It is difficult to make the extensors of the right arm respond to the Faradaic current, and it has been found impossible to get any response from the muscles of the ball of the right thumb.

The treatment recommended was the use of the Faradaic current and the internal administration of phosphorus and strychnia.

After remaining a week or so in the hospital, the patient left. Since his return home, I have heard that the disease is rapidly spreading, no effect being produced by the electricity.

The history of the case has been published on account of its being typical of this rather uncommon disease. The cause was probably the exposure to wet and cold. There was no history of hereditary taint. According to some authorities, the disease runs a more rapid course when it is brought on by exposure. The history of this case would seem to confirm this opinion.

## SUPERFICIAL TUMOURS.

(FIBROMATA ?)

[Reported by DR. WATT.]

M. E., æt. 32, baker, came to the hospital during March, 1880. He is married, and has a family of three children, all healthy, and has been quite healthy during most of his life. He has never had any serious disease except typhoid fever about two years ago, and small-pox when a child. He has never had any venereal disease, and there is no evidence of his having any.

The tumours which now appear on his body have been coming on for the last ten years. The first one noticed was on the inner side of the left forearm, about three inches from the elbow. It is now about the size of a horse-chestnut. He has seven smaller tumours on the same arm. They appeared most on the right arm, then on the thighs, and afterwards on the abdomen. Those on the arm give him no inconvenience, but those on the thighs and abdomen cause some pain. There is a kind of numb feeling, as if after a cramp, which affects the region of the abdomen but not the thighs. The tumours on the thigh have been coming on for the last five or six years. He knows of no hereditary disease in his father's family.

The tumours, with two or three exceptions, are freely movable under the skin, apparently existing in the subcutaneous cellular tissue.

The patient is a strong, healthy-looking man. Body well nourished. Digestive and urinary systems are healthy. Pulse 76.

On the left forearm there are eight tumours, from the size of a horse-chestnut to the size of a small pea; on the inner side of the left arm, two; and on the right, four or five.