

FRACTURE OF THE SKULL FROM THE DISCHARGE OF A SHOT-GUN INTO THE LEFT ORBIT.

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Owing to the meagre amount of medical literature about the above-mentioned injury, which must be fairly common, and which is of considerable importance from a medico-legal point of view, I have given the results of the autopsy in some detail.

The leading points of the case in point are briefly as follows : George Clay, a colored man, aged 39, Pullman car porter, in easy circumstances and with no known enemies, left his house at 11 A.M. on Wednesday, April 20th, 1891, to go shooting muskrats and pike in the creeks near Lachine, P.Q. He was thought to have about \$60 in his purse, and carried a revolver in addition to an old double-barreled, muzzle-loading shotgun. Having expressed the intention of returning for supper the same evening his friends were alarmed when he did not appear. Two days later his body was found, face downwards, in a creek near Lachine, at a point where it passed into a railway culvert, and where a rough bridge was formed by a telegraph pole and a plank lying obliquely upon it. A substance resembling blood and brains was found on the upper surface of this plank and the body lay beneath it in the water. His hat lay in a bush close at hand. A suspicious feature of the case was that the gun was