

Whether the paralysis precedes the mental degeneration or is preceded by it must, at present, be considered as *sub judice*; but I am inclined to believe that, in the great majority of cases, want of motor co-ordination is secondary to the nervous lesion. This supposition is based upon a knowledge of the intimate and dependent relationship of the sensory-motor and higher nervous centres. A disease of one centre, by a process of vicarious emigration, may convey its contaminating influence to a very remote cell, whose functions in the processes of life and thought may be of an entirely different nature, thus developing a complex irregularity out of the original simple lesion. Who shall limit the extent of power in the higher centres? or who can measure the dependence of the physical upon the psychical? The minutest polar change in the molecular arrangement of the vesicular neurine of these supreme centres is felt, sometimes inappreciably, throughout the human organism. A prick of a pin conveys to a special department its sense of pain, and immediately a reflex action ensues in the member thus abused; but if disease interrupt the action of this nervous centre, anæsthesia of the parts supplied by it necessarily results, so soon as the primary residual force shall have spent itself. In those cases of general paresis in which it is asserted that the paralysis manifested itself primarily it is more than probable that the mental lesion did exist, but manifested itself by such slight external symptoms as to have been overlooked.

Notes of a Case of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis. By JOHN BELL, A.M. Ex., M.D.; Physician to the Infants' Home, Montreal.
(Read before the Medico-Chirurgical Society.)

On Wednesday, April 9th, 1873, I was called to see a girl, A. R., aged 13, who had been attending one of the public schools, for the spring examinations in which she had been reading hard. During the summer she lives in the country, and she has always been an unusually strong, well formed, but quiet girl, fond of out-door exercise. Her parents are strong and healthy, as well as all the rest of the children of their family.

For five days before I was called in she had been drowsy in the evenings, and had not felt so well as usual, which was put down to biliousness and hard study. When I saw her she had been vomiting more or less for two or three days, and complained of pain and an uncomfortable feeling in the head, with weakness and loss of appetite. There was, also, some pain in the back which, she thought, was due to her having been in bed since the day before. From the season and extremely dirty surroundings of the