

THE  
MONTREAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

---

VOL. XXXI.

JANUARY, 1902.

No. 1.

---

Original Communications.

---

A CASE OF SUBCORTICAL GLIOMA OF THE LOWER PART OF  
THE LEFT ASCENDING FRONTAL CONVOLUTION SUCCESSFULLY  
REMOVED: A CONTRIBUTION TO THE  
NATURE OF THE SPEECH DISTURBANCE ARISING FROM  
LESIONS IN THIS SITUATION.

BY

JAMES STEWART, M.D., of Montreal,

Professor of Medicine and Clinical Medicine, McGill University; Physician to the  
Royal Victoria Hospital.

L. P., aged 37, a painter, first came under observation on the 6th of December, 1900. His complaints were of temporary attacks of complete loss of speech. He was, with the exception of occasional slight frontal headaches, as far as he could judge, in perfect health up to the 2nd of August, 1900, when he was suddenly seized with an attack solely characterized by absolute loss of speech, being unable to utter a word or sound of any kind—a condition of perfect mutism. This state lasted about 30 minutes. It was not attended or followed by any other symptoms of any kind. About the middle of September, or six weeks later, he had a precisely similar attack, lasting about the same length of time. Up to the time of his admission, he had in all ten such seizures, the last one occurring on the morning of his admission to the hospital. He arrived at the railway station, and after getting into a cab, he was unable to direct the cabman where to drive him. Like the previous attacks it passed off in the course of about half an hour. During the attacks he understood perfectly what was said to him, and knew what he desired to utter. He has frequently tested whether he was able to read and write during the attacks, and is confident that he was able to accomplish both acts as well as he ever could.