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TABES DORSALIS, PROGRESSIVE LOCO-MOTOR  
• ATAXIA, OR, POSTERIOR SPINAL SCLEROSIS.

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This malady was first described by Dr. Todd, in 1847. In contradistinction to paraplegia, he said, "that two kinds of paralysis might be noticed in the lower extremities: the one consisting simply in the impairment or loss of voluntary motion; the other distinguished by a diminution or total absence of the power of co-ordinating movements. In the latter form, while considerable muscular power remained, the patient found great difficulty in walking, and his gait was so tottering and uncertain that his centre of gravity was easily displaced." The latter he called "Tabes Dorsalis."

About the year 1858, M. Duchenne commenced to publish a series of articles on this disease, which he thought to be entirely new, and he called it "Ataxie Locomotrice Progressive," en Anglais, "Progressive Loco-motor Ataxia." He named it Loco-motor Ataxia (a, primitive, and *laxis*, order) on account of the deficiency in proper co-ordinating power in locomotion, and progressive, because at that time the disease almost invariably progressed "from bad to worse," until the patient "shuffled off this mortal coil."