

disease. The lesions have not only been successfully diagnosed, but the brain and its membranes have been incised without resulting in fatal inflammation. It has been clearly shown that inflammatory conditions following operations are due to sepsis. If the wound be kept aseptic the case does well. Dr. Macewen of Glasgow, an old pupil and house-surgeon of Lister's, noticed that cases of severe injury to the skull, with extensive loss of cerebral substance, were quite amenable to treatment, and exhibited no tendency to inflammatory action as long as the tissues were kept aseptic; hence, he said, if such injuries can be recovered from, how much more likely is recovery from a carefully planned operation. His first case was in 1876 for abscess, which he diagnosed to be in the vicinity of Broca's convolution; operation having been refused during life, he was permitted to trephine over Broca's convolution after death; the abscess was found as diagnosed and easily evacuated. In 1879 Dr. Macewen successfully evacuated from beneath the dura mater of a boy, who had previously received an injury of the head, some fluid which had collected there and had given rise to convulsive seizure of arm and leg. In the same year a tumor of the brain was diagnosed and successfully removed from the frontal lobe of a woman, who lived for eight years after and then died of Bright's disease of the kidneys. Up to 1884 Macewen had operated on seven brain cases, with one death, a case of abscess of the temporo-sphenoidal lobe. In December, 1884, the first case of tumor of the brain was operated on in London, having been previously diagnosed by Dr. Hughes Bennet, and removed successfully by Mr. Rickman Godlee; the patient lived four weeks relieved of his previous symptoms, and then died from septic complications. The report of this case, at a meeting of the London Medico-Chirurgical Society in May, 1885, gave rise to a most interesting and important discussion, in which Drs. Macewen and Ferrier took part. Dr. Macewen related several cases on which he had successfully operated, and mentioned his method of reimplanting the removed disc of bone. Up to this time MacEwen had operated on seventeen cases for the relief of cerebral pressure and other brain lesions. At the Brighton