

Appetite and other conditions fairly good. The only suggestion I could offer in the way of treatment was to place him at complete rest in a double extension apparatus. After gaining the consent of his friends he was sent to the hospital.

First of all he was suspended by means of Sayres apparatus and a light but firm plaster of paris jacket applied. After this had thoroughly hardened he was placed on his back on an adjustable bed, fitted with a fairly hard and level mattress. Weights of 8 lbs. were then attached to each foot in the usual way of applying extension by adhesive strips fastened to each leg and connected to weight by means of a cord passing through a pulley at the foot of the bed. A counter weight of seven pounds was attached to head. The mode of attaching weight to head was by means of two padded straps joined over the vertex, one fitting around the chin, and the other about the occiput, thus providing as far as possible traction in the line of the vertebral column.

In addition to this apparatus large sand-bags three feet long were placed on each side of the body, the object being to control the injurious muscular contractions. The patient defaecated without moving—the bed being constructed so as to allow of this. He was not allowed out of the apparatus even to take food, the nurse in charge attending to the feeding.

After a week the muscular contractions lessened in frequency and amplitude, and in about ten days the first signs of returning motility were noticed in that the patient was able to move his ankles slightly. He continued to improve though very slowly—sensation began to return—a pin prick could soon be felt fairly well. The muscular contractions finally ceased altogether.

After the patient had been in the apparatus for nine weeks the extension was taken off and a fresh light jacket applied. At this time the patient could bend his knees four or five inches from the bed, and could flex and extend the ankle quite readily. Sensation had largely returned and the patient was now allowed to get up and soon after returned home. After his return home progress was more rapid. His appetite was