

reflexes and hypertonicity of the muscles, just the same as is seen when pressure is applied to the cord. This is due to the inhibitory influence of the upper motor neurone being prevented from controlling the output of the lower motor neurone, with the result that tone is increased, producing the symptoms above described. On removal of the pressure, the paralysis disappears, and shortly afterwards the reflexes become normal. We do not find in this latter case any alteration to faradic, to the fact that for the patient to survive a trauma the lesion will in all probability be situated on one side of the cerebral cortex, and more or less limited in extent. The upper motor neurones of the uninjured side not only supply stimuli to the cell bodies in the anterior horns of the opposite side, but also to the horns of the same side, and in this way sufficient stimuli reach the cell bodies to prevent isolation alteration in the cells.

Having now obtained an idea of the aetiology of the symptoms which appear when the peripheral nerves are pressed upon and also of the cord and brain, we can see how absolutely necessary it is to remove pressure at the earliest possible opportunity, so that secondary alteration will be prevented. Having removed the pressure, we must now treat the results produced. What must we do? Knowing the cause and conditions which follow, we have to set about treatment as early as possible. When the peripheral nerves are involved, it is necessary to keep up the tone of the muscles till such time as the stimuli can come down from the cell bodies in the lower motor neurones. This we do by constantly stimulating the muscles either by galvanic or faradic massage. Why do we use the faradic and galvanic battery? If the faradic battery obtains a response, strong current being used, the muscle is stimulated; that is, it causes contraction and increases the tone. If the muscles do not respond to strong faradic electricity, the galvanic form must be used, and this will cause contraction of the muscle so that the muscle is kept in a fairly healthy condition, and when the stimuli do begin to come down from above it will be in a fit state to receive them. Not only do we use the faradic and galvanic battery to keep the muscle as far as possible in a healthy condition, but through the pain occasioned, and also by the action of electricity in stimulating the nerve, impulse may travel up the lower sensory neurone, and by their momentum reach the posterior horns, and from there reach the anterior horn cells producing stimuli which they would not otherwise get, and in this way aid the early return of the normal action of the neurone.

I shall now cite a case:—J. C. C—, aged fifty-six, labourer, was brought into the hospital complaining of loss of power and sensation in the lower limbs. He had no serious illness, nor was he unable