

CANADA MEDICAL JOURNAL.

VOL. I.

MONTREAL: AUGUST, 1852.

No. 6.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ART. XXVIII.—*Successful Removal of a Parotid Tumour.* By ROBERT L. MACDONNELL, M.D., Surgeon to St. Patrick's Hospital, Lecturer on Surgery, St. Lawrence School of Medicine, &c., &c.,

ABOUT the middle of June, 1851, my friend, Dr. Mount, requested me to examine a young man from the country. The patient's face and head were concealed from view, by a large piece of linen, which, on being removed, disclosed a frightful phagedenic looking ulcer, which had almost completely removed the left cheek, exposing the teeth of the upper and lower jaws, the side of the tongue, &c. From this ulcer exuded a foul fœted discharge, mixed with saliva and particles of half masticated food.

The edges of the ulcer were irregular and sloughy, but not indurated, and the parotid gland appeared to be implicated in the disease, for it was enlarged and prominent, and advanced down for nearly an inch below the level of the angle of the lower jaw. At this examination, the patient being in the street near my own house, I concluded that the ulceration had been caused by malignant disease, and advised that palliatives should be employed, and no attempt at eradication should be resorted to. Being at the time on my way to an urgent case, I paid no further attention to that now under consideration. Some time after, Dr. Mount mentioned to me as a very curious fact, that he had learned from a friend of the patient's, that the ulcerated aperture had become closed, and that the disease had been arrested without any application whatever being employed. The patient entered St. Patrick's Hospital under my care in the month of February, 1852, when the following particulars were ascertained, of which we had hitherto been ignorant:—The disease commenced about two years previous to our first examination, in the form of a small, hard tumour, situated in the region of the *socia paroti-*