

respectively in diameter (caused probably by contact with the ground on falling).

HEAD.—The dura mater at the vertex was apparently normal, the sinuses containing some black fluid and clotted blood.

On removing the brain an hæmorrhage about the size of a half crown was noticed over the 2nd left frontal convolution, and some smaller superficial hæmorrhages over the crura cerebri and pons varolii. The substance of the brain was superficially injured, but beyond that the substance was apparently healthy. The lateral ventricles contained some blood-stained serum.

On examination of the base of the skull, two linear fractures were discovered, one in each middle fossa, running diagonally from the centre of the anterior surface of the petrous bone to the body of the sphenoid. Each cavernous sinus was opened, and blood had also escaped into the internal ear and external auditory meatus on either side. The glenoid fossa is immediately below the centre of the fracture, which ran backwards through the pétrous bone and forwards through the great wing of the sphenoid. There was also fracture of the basilar portion of the sphenoid.

HEART.—There was old pericarditis and some thickening of the mitral valve. The walls flaccid, and the cavities contained some black fluid blood.

THE LUNGS.—The larynx and trachea and bronchi showed some softening and swelling of the mucous membrane, and the lungs were markedly congested and oedematous; otherwise normal.

THE STOMACH contained about one pint of black coagulated blood. This had evidently drained into the pharynx through the basilar portion of the sphenoid from the cavernous sinus and pterygoid plexuses, and had been swallowed. The other organs were somewhat congested, but the substance was in each case apparently normal. All the organs gave the characteristic odour of alcohol.

The case ended fatally about 12 hours after admission to the hospital, the man never completely recovering consciousness.