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A CASE OF CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS ASSOCIATED  
WITH THE MENINGOCOCCUS OF WEICHELBAUM.

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It is just a quarter of a century ago since the late Dr. Palmer Howard published the first record of observations on Cerebro-Spinal Fever in Montreal. This was in 1873, and during that period a small epidemic occurred, the cases breaking out in various parts of the city, as well as in the outlying districts. The published observations, however, are purely of a clinical character, and only one autopsy is recorded, that by Drs. Roddick and John Bell, in which it is noted that pus existed at the base of the brain and along the spinal cord. The majority of cases recorded at that time had affected boys from eight to ten years of age, some of the cases recovering, though, in the majority, a fatal issue supervened.

It is interesting to observe at this time, a time when bacteriology as a science had scarcely been created, the insistence which Dr. Howard laid upon the specific poison which he asserted must be associated with the malady. The early appearance of the purpuric condition, the general course of the disease, and its tendency to assume an epidemic character, all strongly favored the view that the disease was of a zymotic nature.

Since that time a few sporadic cases have been recorded, the observations for the most part being again of a purely clinical nature. Dr. Osler, in 1882, records in the *Canada Medical and Surgical Journal*,