

Caso II.—About four years since a similar case occurred in the hands of a medical man—a Licentiate of the College of Surgeons, London,—whose patient had all the well marked symptoms of Lumbar Abscess, with sympathetic inflammation of one testicle which proved troublesome to subdue, and he proposed castration. Now how foolish a medical man must appear who makes such glaring mistakes to be afterwards rectified by another. It shows that the necessity of thorough diagnosis cannot be too forcibly impressed on the students by their teachers, and then when enabled to practice, the necessity of storing knowledge by reading and observation rather than grasping at practice dishonourably as many do, degrading the profession by depreciating the abilities of others and trying to exalt themselves. Such are the means adopted by many country practitioners.

Caso III.—A young man, *æt.* 30, was attacked with excruciating pain in the Lumbar region and a medical man was called in. He prescribed remedies to allay pain, but no good results followed. I happened to enquire more fully into the history of the case, and followed up the treatment as inflammatory disease of the membranes of the spinal cord. The symptoms continued, with diminished pain, occasionally in great torture; rather discouraging. The friends also became discouraged after a few weeks, and decided to send for a medical man (a Professor of Surgery in Toronto). He attempted to prove, and remained impressed with the belief (until afterwards informed) that it was a case of Lumbar Abscess. My treatment was followed up strictly, *viz.*: valerianate of zinc, sulph. zinc, tonics, nitro muriatic acid, &c. In four weeks the patient got well and has remained well since, occasionally when exposed to wet he complains of pain, but a cathartic and diaphoretic sets him all right again. So much for a wrong diagnosis.

Yours &c.,

THOS. HENRY, M.D.

Sand Hill, Dec. 1871.