

# CANADA

## MEDICAL & SURGICAL JOURNAL

DECEMBER, 1880.

Original Communications.

### ON DISEASE OF THE MASTOID CELLS.

By F. BULLER, M.D., M.R.C.S. Eng.

Lecturer on Ophthalmology in McGill University; Attending Physician to the Ophthalmic and Aural Department Montreal General Hospital.

*(Read before the Canada Medical Association, at Ottawa, September, 1880.)*

Mastoid disease has attracted so much attention within the last few years, that I feel no small amount of diffidence in offering my own experience in a field of labor so thoroughly cultivated as this has been. Indeed I should decline to take up the time of the Association with this subject, but for the fact that I believe most of the work recently done with a view to increasing our knowledge concerning the morbid conditions so commonly met with in the mastoid region has not yet found its way into general medical literature, and is therefore hardly accessible to the profession. I purpose giving a brief account of my own observations during the past eighteen months, derived from a total of about 550 cases of ear disease. I am not prepared to say whether the twenty cases of mastoid disease met with in this total represents the usual proportion as compared with other ear affections, but I must admit that if they do, mastoid disease is of far more frequent occurrence than I had ever supposed it to be. The first series of cases may be classed as external secondary inflammation of the mastoid.

CASE I.—A pale, worn-looking woman, 39 years of age, suffering from purulent otitis media of four months duration, with large perforation of each drum-head. The ear disease came on