

cure, came as a *dernier resort*, without much hope and very little faith. I will give an outline of two or three, as instances of what the treatment is capable of performing if faithfully carried out. Nettie H., aged 16, had mumps, followed by typhoid fever, in January, 1886. Convalescence was prolonged, with the result I described in the early part of this paper. Produced by the tender-hearted mother and too loving sisters, neurasthenia with hysteria were developed in their worst degrees, the acutely tender spine, intolerance of light, loss of voice, extreme emaciation, thighs tightly contracted on the abdomen and legs on thighs, knees almost touching the mouth; had been in this condition for one year. Was at the St. Catharines hospital for the eleven weeks previous to her coming under my care where she received applications of massage, but without improving her condition. I found her a most pitiable sight to behold—a wizened little skeleton, unlike a human being, and must acknowledge felt great hesitation in undertaking the case. For the first three weeks after admission she absolutely refused all nourishment, even water. I tried the administration by the bowel, but she would strain until it was all voided; I then then applied it by the nostril through a rubber tube, but she would retch until it all came up. And she became so exhausted from resisting, that I felt I was doing more harm than good; day and night she kept up a constant whine, except during snatches of sleep. At the end of two and a half weeks exhaustion became so marked, I ordered the nurse to rub in cod-liver oil three times daily, using the most stinking oil I could procure, with the result that on the third day she whispered to the nurse that she would take her milk if I would stop rubbing on that stinking stuff; from that day the victory was gained, and recovery gradual but steady. Two or three physicians who saw her at the time advised cutting the tendons, to straighten the legs, but the massage gradually did the work and developed the muscles at the same time, the voice returned, eyes became tolerant of light, appetite hearty, sleep sound, and perfect health was the reward for the unceasing care on the part of the nurses.

Another typical case was L. B., aged 19, had been confined to her bed for fifteen months for

supposed incurable disease of the spine, and her life despaired of by many physicians who saw her. It was her case I referred in the body of the paper, giving a synopsis of two years of her school-life, resulting in a complete break down, night after night her friends were called to say the long good-bye. And although sent to me on the advice of a physician who was called in consultation, the relations, as well as the patient, had little or no faith in the result, but in two weeks the masseuse could rub the spine as hard as she liked, and in six the patient was sitting up; and last week, being nine weeks after admission, she was out in the grounds walking about, and will shortly return to her home fully restored to health again. No medicines whatever are administered during the treatment; the bowels, which are invariable extremely constipated, become quite regular from the electricity and massage in about two weeks after admission. The above are extreme cases, but in pure neurasthenia the results are equally brilliant, and the treatment is of shorter duration.

In cases of acute functional mania, I am strongly of the opinion that this treatment is more rational, and will produce better results than any other in vogue at the present time. I am only judging by the result in two cases I had under observation, but it was so marked and satisfactory that I would suggest a trial of it in one of our asylums. The services of a thoroughly efficient masseur must be obtained; one whose disposition has firmness, blended with kindness and tact to a superlative degree. I feel confident the results will be so marked, *if faithfully carried out*, that ultimately this mode of treatment will be adopted in every asylum in our country for the above special form of mania.

Multiple births seem to be the order of the day; but the wife of a workingman living at St. Julien de Varaville (Manche) probably beats the record with a delivery comprising four male and one female children. Three were born on the 4th and the two others twenty-four hours later. In four confinements this productive female has borne eleven children. A subscription is being set on foot for the unfortunate husband.—*Medical Press and Circular.*