

## Hospital Reports.

MEDICAL AND SURGICAL CASES OCCURRING IN THE PRACTICE OF THE  
MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL.

*Case of Progressive Muscular Atrophy. Treated without result by pure Phosphorus*—Under the care of DR. ROSS.  
Reported by Mr. G. E. ARMSTRONG.

T. P., æt 54, unmarried, was admitted into the Montreal General Hospital on the 17th October, 1876, suffering from complete loss of power and wasting of the muscles of both arms, and great debility, with wasting of the lower extremities.

When a young man, was tolerably healthy. Has had attacks of ague several times, and has taken a good deal of quinine. Has always been of steady habits, drank but little liquor and smoked very moderately. Never indulged in venereal excesses. About 12 years ago had necrosis of the right femur, and several pieces of bone came away through fistulous openings. At this time he took a good deal of calomel, and also contracted the habit of taking laudanum pretty freely for the relief of his pains.

Four years ago he first felt pain and weakness in his left thumb. This kept on increasing, and shortly extended to the forefinger of the same hand. The loss of power then successively invaded the remaining fingers and passed up the arm, until he completely lost the use of it. Three years ago (or one year after the thumb of the left hand was first involved), he noticed pain in the right shoulder, and afterwards in the same forearm; and this was followed by general wasting and loss of power in the arm. He is certain that in this limb the weakness began in the shoulder and not in the thumb, and that the wasting appeared to him to be general throughout the arm. Sixteen months ago in his right leg, and eight months ago in his left leg, he felt what he describes as rheumatic pains, especially about the knees.

His family history is good, father and mother having both been long-lived. No nervous disorder could be traced in his antecedents.

*Present Condition.*—The muscles of both hands and arms are atrophied to an excessive degree, being most marked and abso-