

over the aperture of exit, and these were so forcible as to indicate that the interior of the brain was in direct contact with the ecchymosis. It is certain that the part of the hemispheres that was damaged was the anterior frontal portion just above the orbits. Has this part any functional center? If so, where is the evidence of its being necessary, seeing that both frontal lobes were injured seriously, without any immediate results in proportion to the lesion inflicted? Is this an organization put in more to fill up, than to be of use to its neighbors? I had the impression nature had no garret filled with useless furniture. Some functional centers must have been badly broken up by this destructive intruder.

About seventeen years ago I was called to visit a boy, aged thirteen, who had been kicked by a horse. A section of the skull was crushed in on the right side, near the median line, in the upper part of the frontal and parietal bones. One of the nine pieces fractured and detached from the surrounding bone, had been driven into the substance of the brain, over an inch in a perpendicular direction. The membranes were lacerated very much, and brain substance, within a few grains of an ounce in weight, protruded through the wound much broken up, some of it hanging down upon his cheek. At the time I first saw him he was comatose. I extracted the bones; cut away the ragged edges of the membranes, and the lacerated brain substance. Consciousness returned immediately. His temperature remained normal; his pulse did not rise at any time above 96; he did not lose a night's sleep nor a meal after the evening of the accident. No febrile symptoms intervened; there was no paralysis, nor perversion of any of the organs of special sense; there was no difficulty in speaking. A large cavity remained.