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MEDICAL JOURNAL.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Case of Ancurism of ascending portion of Arch of Aorta. By JOSEPH M. DRAKE, M.D., House-surgeon, Montreal General Hospital; Curator of the Museum of McGill College.

Paul St. Jean, aged 26, was admitted into the Montreal General Hospital on the 12th July, 1864, under Dr Reddy, complaining of a tumour on the front of the chest. He is of medium height, somewhat emaciated, and of a sallow anemic complexion. He states that about eight months since, while lifting he felt something "crack" in his chest. shortly after which he was conscious of a "lump" inside his chest: he did not feel any pulsation at the time nor since, nor was there any very noticeable swelling on the surface. He did not suffer from the slightest inconvenience in swallowing, neither had he difficulty of breathing at any time. He had occasional pain in the part of a pricking, burning, aching character, but not very severe. In this state he remained till about Christmas, last, when he observed the swelling externally to rapidly increase in size-within the past six weeks it has enlarged with yet greater rapidity, and he suffers at times exeruciating pain-he has slight cough, cannot continue in a reclining posture-great orthopnœa,-and cannot make the least exertion, but has still no difficulty connected with deglutition or respiration. His pulse is 108, weak but regular-tongue moist, slightly furred-bowels constipated-appetite gone. He complains much of want of rest, being obliged to remain in a sitting posture continually. The pupils are of equal size, and equally affected by light. There is nothing more in his family or personal history which throws any light on his case.

On examination an oblong tumour, soft, smooth and uniform, about six inches long by four and a half in width, the long axis directed trans-

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