

William Corrigan, farmer, of Valcartier, ætatis 55, called on me on the 11th instant with a letter of introduction from his clergyman, begging of me, as a personal favour, to "examine his case, and tell him exactly (to use his own words) what he had better do." I found him labouring under an osteosarcomatous tumour which occupied a large portion of the right side and base of the inferior maxillary bone. A part of the lower lip was wanting, a large portion of the orbicularis oris having been destroyed, some time previously, by a quack, from the application of plasters for the cure of cancer, leaving an unseemly gap and cicatrix. He stated that the tumour was of recent growth (being only of eight or ten weeks standing at most,) and was rapidly increasing. I therefore informed him, that I feared the removal of the diseased part by the knife was inevitable, at which he expressed great fear and apprehension, stating his fears that he should either die under the operation, or be unable to bear it, and expressed a wish to try the effects of some remedial means. I therefore advised him not to be bound by any solitary opinion, but to consult other medical gentlemen, and recommended his calling on Drs. Douglas and Blanchet, to whom I offered him an introduction, whereupon he said, "I will tell you the truth Sir:—I went to Dr. Douglas a few days since, and he told me the same as you do, and told me to come back soon to have the operation performed, but I am afraid of it, I am afraid I cannot bear it, &c." Having called on Dr. Blanchet, he again saw Dr. Douglas, who stated that the growth of the tumour had been very rapid since he had last seen it, (only about ten days before) having nearly doubled its growth, which the patient himself admitted; and he consented to the performance of the

operation on the following day, on being assured that no danger would attend it. I now informed him, that as his dread of the operation was so great, I would place him under an influence* without medicine, and without depriving him either of sense or consciousness of what was doing, by which he would feel no pain during the operation, and desired him to come to me in the morning that I might impress him before-hand. He did so, and in a very short space of time, I had impressed him so completely as to controul sight, muscular motion, and feeling. I desired him to return on the following morning early—the 12th instant—as the operation was fixed for eleven o'clock. He did not however return until past ten, A.M., when I again impressed him with the additional result of controuling taste as well as the senses, and completely destroying sensation in *any isolated portion* of the body. I now *knew* that I had obtained my object, and immediately proceeded to inform Dr.

* He had never heard any thing about Biology, and could not, therefore, be influenced mentally from any thing he had seen or heard. Dr. Douglas expressed his astonishment and satisfaction at the result of the operation, and informed me that Corrigan had called on him on the morning before the operation to ask his opinion of Electro-Biology, and that he had told him, what he fully believed, that it could be of no use, as he had seen its seventh cousin—mesmerism—tried without the least positive or decided effect; but that if Dr. Marsden thought it would do any good let him try it, as if it did no good it would do no harm, but he was sure it could not destroy pain.—Now, seeing that the patient had the most unbounded confidence in Dr. Douglas, the result obtained is the more satisfactory, as Corrigan was actually impressed against his conviction, and with a feeling that it would fail; in addition to which, no one present but myself anticipated success. So confident, however, was I in the power I possessed, that I actually wrote and sent an answer to the Priest's letter on the 11th instant, informing him what I was *going to do*.