

## **Society Proceedings.**

### **MONTREAL MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.**

The fifth regular meeting of the Society was held Friday evening December 3rd, 1909, Dr. W. Grant Stewart, President, in the Chair.

#### **LIVING CASE: FRACTURE OF THE FEMUR.**

A. R. PENNOYER, M.D.—I show this case to-night because it represents fairly well the class of cases of fracture of the femur which we will be with increasing frequency operating on in the future, i.e., cases which we cannot reduce by ordinary means or hold in position. The man is 35 years of age and was brought to the hospital under the service of Dr. Shepherd on the 9th of June last. He was unconscious and in a rather seriously injured condition. While working on a platform which was covered with old iron, old stoves, etc., it fell and he was thrown some 20 or 25 feet to the ground, falling among the débris, some of which fell on top of him. Examination revealed a fracture of the base of the skull through the anterior fossa and a compound comminuted fracture of the right leg, at or about the junction of the middle and lower third. He had a crush of the left hand and a high fracture of the left femur. He was unconscious for two or three days, then partially conscious for a while and for nearly two weeks was quite irrational. We treated the fracture in the right leg with the ordinary plaster with a window. He was very restless and it was difficult to keep the parts in position. Repeated attempts at reducing the fracture of the femur were unavailing and after these failures we decided that it could not be done unless by the open method. I then operated, using the method of Lane, and fixed the limb after the operation in a splint, for something under three weeks, after which the splint was taken off and from that time on both active and passive movements and massage were given and on the 42nd day he left the hospital and is now able to work. He has a slight limp, but that is on account of the somewhat faulty result in the other leg which shows a little shortening. The X-ray plates submitted show nicely the high fracture of femur with very faulty position of fragments, and the second one shows how perfectly the fragments are held together and in what good alignment by the plating.

J. ALEX. HUTCHISON, M.D.—I only wish to express my appreciation of the satisfactory treatment in this case. There can be hardly any doubt as to the treatment here that the open method was the proper method, and it is just in these difficult cases that the excellent results of this form of treatment are manifest.