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NEURECTOMY FOR TIC DOULEUREUX.

Bernays' "Report of a Surgical Clinic," complimentary to the Members of the Mississippi Valley Medical Association, contains the following, in reference to his patient's condition and treatment before neurectomy for tic-douleureux was decided upon:—

"Case V.—The patient, aet. 50, white, female. Family history: Has one sister who suffered from emotional insanity; otherwise the family history is good. Previous health excellent. The present trouble began with a severe neuralgic toothache, localized in the right lower molars. Paroxysms of pain were of daily occurrence, and most severe in the mornings about breakfast time. The pain subsided temporarily whenever the teeth were pressed firmly together or upon any substance held between them, but only to return when the pressure was withdrawn. The presence of anything cold in the mouth immediately produced the most exquisite pain; moderate heat produced a soothing effect. After two months the pain became continuous, and four molars were extracted without in any way relieving it. On the contrary, the pain increased in severity until October when it ceased entirely for a period of two weeks, and then returned as severely as before. Another tooth was sacrificed, but without relief; the pain became continuous until last June, when it again subsided for a period of six weeks. A recurrence then took place together with an involvement of the parts supplied by the second branch of the fifth nerve. Pain has been constant until the operation. She had strenuously avoided the use of narcotics, but during the more active periods of pain antikamnia in ten grain doses was found to be an efficacious obtunder." After describing the neurectomy, Prof. Bernays says: "Eight weeks have now elapsed since the operation and no recurrence of the trouble has taken place."