

THE
MONTREAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

VOL. XXXVI.

JUNE, 1907.

No. 6.

FUNCTIONAL SCOLIOSIS.

BY

AUBREY T. MUSSEN, M.D.

Assistant Clinical Neurologist, Montreal General Hospital.

This case was admitted into the Montreal General Hospital, January 15th, 1907, under the care of Dr. Shirres to whom I am indebted for permission to publish the following report.

E. B., a female, single, aged 22, complained of curvature of the spine with pain in the dorsal region, increased by movement. Prominence of the right hip was noticed with pain extending downwards through the hip, thigh, and calf. There was lameness in walking with stiffness in the right hip joint, and an apparent shortening of the right leg.

Personal History.—She was born in Manchester, England, in 1885. Throughout childhood she always enjoyed good health. In 1899, when she was 14 years old, while playing in a field she fell from the top of a load of hay, landing on her back with such force that she was stunned for some time. The same day she was able to run about again. During the following two years she did not notice any bad effects from her accident.

In 1901, she left the Old Country for Canada. One stormy day, while at sea, she slipped and fell down the companion-way from the saloon to the main deck. Her back was severely bruised and remained stiff for several days.

From this time up to the beginning of the present illness there was never any pain or soreness of the spine. During this time she worked as a general servant. One morning in 1903, she first felt a severe pain in the calf of the right leg. It was not of long duration and did not interfere with her duties. For the next two-and-a-half years the pain was frequently present but always limited to the calf of the right leg.