

family history of insanity in this case, as she had no relatives on this side of the Atlantic.

CASE V.—In January, 1886, Dr. George Ross asked me to see a case of abscess, following typhoid fever, in a boy aged twelve. The abscess was deeply seated in the lumbar region. The boy was placed under ether, and a deep dissection made to evacuate the abscess, which seemed to be in connection with the sheath of the psoas muscle. The boy, in a day or two after the operation, became quite demented—in fact, was quite silly. This lasted for several weeks, when he slowly recovered. The abscess did well; healed completely in two weeks. In this case the demented condition may have been induced by the typhoid fever; but still it did not come on until after the operation, which it closely followed. The boy was an epileptic, and several of the family were likewise affected.

CASE VI.—This case I saw in consultation with Dr. Gauthier, of Montreal. The patient was a woman, æt. forty-five, and the mother of several children. She had had a cellulitis of the arm, which had been freely incised. Chloroform had been administered three times. She was somewhat strange after each administration of the anæsthetic; after the last, during which several deep incisions were made, she became quite insane. When I saw her, she was in good general condition—pulse and temperature normal, and arm doing well. She nursed her arm under the firm conviction that it was a baby. Although ordinarily a person of the most retiring disposition, she now continually laughed, sang, and danced, and kept asking us if we thought her crazy. Several of her near relatives had been very peculiar, and there were several drunkards in the family, but, as far as I could learn, no distinct insanity. She completely recovered her sanity some two weeks after I saw her.

In this case it is possible that the anæsthetic had more to do with the mania than the operation.

