

ART. VII.—Case of Punctured Wound of Anterior Lobe of Brain—through the Orbital Plate of Frontal Bone—Successfully treated.
By JAMES ALEX. GRANT, M.D., Ottawa City.

J. H. æt 22, laborer, came under my charge on the 15th April, in consequence of the following injury:—While viewing the circular saws in operation in the Mill of Messrs. Currier & Dickinson, Ottawa, an edging was suddenly thrown from one of the circular saws which struck him midway between the internal angular process of frontal bone and the inner side of the globe of eye, penetrating a distance of three inches, obliquely upwards and outwards.

On inspection of the wound, a few moments after the receipt of injury, found a small portion of brain in the orifice of entrance; conclusive evidence that the wound extended through the orbital plate of frontal bone, and membranes of brain into the cerebral substance. After probing the wound carefully, three small pieces of wood, each an inch in length and several lines in thickness, were removed; slight hemorrhage from wound. All foreign bodies being extracted, applied cold water dressing.

State of Eye.—Globe protruded several lines more than opposite eye, extensive ecchymosis of the conjunctival surface of eye, effusion of a small quantity of blood into the anterior chamber, and amaurotic condition of the organ. Here the amaurosis may have resulted either from the concussion of the retina or injury of supra orbital branch of fifth pair of cranial nerves, as both had evidently taken place. Reaction being established, ordered four leeches to right temple, head shaved, and ice water continuously applied, also R Ol Ricini ʒj., Oil Tigllii gtt., to be taken immediately.

16th.—Has passed a very restless night, pulse 100 full; had a copious evacuation from the bowels; tongue slightly furred, skin hot; distressing pain in head, particularly over right orbit. Leeches repeated to temple, and twenty ounces of blood were taken from the arm; these rendered him faint, and somewhat relieved the pain in head. Ordered two grains of calomel every four hours.

17th.—Has slept little during the night; slight delirium, and a disposition to walk about; tongue dry, pulse 96 full and more compressible; passes his urine freely. Continue the calomel every six hours; cold to head and eye as formerly, and low diet.

18th.—Has passed a quiet, though sleepless night; has a constant desire for cold drinks.