

strange that it was not in their power to save the individual's life. Had they known of this simple method his life unquestionably might have been saved. It is to be hoped that this brief article will prove a benefit to some individual similarly afflicted, through the medium of "*The Canada Journal of Dental Science.*"

PATHOLOGY OF INFLAMMATION.

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Inflammation, from its frequency, and the widely differing circumstances under which it appears to rise, has been the subject of more investigation and discussion than the sum of all other diseases. By Celsus it was used to denote redness, pain, heat, and swelling, which form the sum and substance of our present definition, although they are nothing more than the symptoms resulting from a nervous disturbance, consequently, according to the present definition derived from *in* in, and *fiammo* a flame, it cannot be regarded as an elementary form of disease; but it is as such I am disposed to regard it, therefore I shall define the term according to my understanding of the mechanism of the disease, viz: Inflammation is a disease beginning as a vital lesion permitting congestion of the capillary blood vessels, producing exudation, and terminating either by resolution, organization, suppuration, or gangrene.

That we ever have inflammation without primary irritation there seems ground to doubt, but that we do have congestion from obstruction, aside from inflammation is also true, which congestion may produce a vital disturbance so that what commenced as a simple congestion may terminate in a destructive inflammation.

Bernard's experiment of dividing the sympathetic nerve, producing inflammation, tends to prove nerve force prevents this pathological condition, while on the other hand its absence permits its development; but experiments have not been carried far enough to determine the seat of the nervous force presiding over the circulation, though physiologists seem to agree in ascribing this function to the ganglionic nervous system, if so, any interference will cause more or less vascular disturbance. Inflammation frequently exists without materially interfering with the functions of the Cerebro-spinal nervous