

which was due to neuralgia of the trifacial nerves of the same side. Brown Séquard mentions a case of anæsthesia of part of the forehead and face, in consequence of the irritation of a branch of the fifth pair on the cheek bone, by a bruise. I might continue to enumerate instances of morbid reflex action and sensation, in connection with the fifth pair of nerves, such as amaurosis, where there is diminution or complete loss of sight, without any external mark thereof, the optic nerve or retina, being affected. This is a not uncommon result by reflex action, of diseases of the supra-orbital or infra-orbital nerve, especially neuralgia; also, after injuries of those nerves. Many cases are recorded in which amaurosis was cured by curing the neuralgia. Indeed, there is no nerve which possesses so much power to cause reflex morbid function, as the fifth pair. This is, of course, due to the extensive nature of the distribution of this pair, as well as its numerous anastomoses.

Neuralgia, or *tic douloureux* is a term often used, without, perhaps, any specific idea as to its purport. We are prepared, however, to understand why such, should be the case. Neuralgia is characterized principally by acute pain, sudden in its onset and disappearance. It is due to pathological irritation of the nerve, by which the component elements of a nerve trunk are disturbed, and thereby incapacitated to carefully discharge their duty. It is akin to inflammatory action. Now, the primary irritation, we have seen may exist in the trunk of the nerve, or at the periphery of one of its branches. One of the most common sources of neuralgia is in connection with the fifth nerve, and it is very frequently seen arising in a small dental nerve where the tooth is decayed. Consequently, neuralgia of the face is by far the most ordinarily met with by the surgeon and the dentist. But neuralgia of the fifth nerve may be produced by other causes.—It may be the result of irritation in other nerves, while, also, an irritation of the nerves of the jaws may cause a neuralgia elsewhere than in the face. A few instances may be given:—Tumours on the head, pressing upon a nerve have caused neuralgia, and the removal of the tumour effectually cured the disease. An injury to a nerve in one side of the body has produced neuralgia upon the other side. Neuralgia of the left temple has resulted from a severe cut over the right parietal bone. Cases are recorded in which there was neuralgia of the arm, caused by an irritation of the dental nerve, from a decayed tooth. These were always cured by the extraction of the