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## Original Communications.

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### SYRINGOMYELIA.\*

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Syringomyelia (*συριγγή*—a hollow pipe), or gliosis spinalis, is a peculiar condition of cavity formation in the spinal cord, first described as a pathological entity in 1824. It was not, however, till 1887, after the publishing of monographs by Schultze and Kahler, that we were able to diagnose the disease during life. Since then, although it is a comparatively rare condition, a good many cases have been observed, Schlesinger, in the year 1895, giving references to 526.

The following case is interesting because it presents some features of the disease in its early stages.

Albert L.—, age 23, born in England, the only child of healthy parents, who are both living. In childhood he had tuberculous adenitis on the left side of the neck, and one of the glands can still be felt slightly enlarged and hardened. About the same time, also, he had "trouble with his eyes," for which he was treated by Dr. Nettleship. This was probably a phlyctenule.

Six years ago he was unconscious for some minutes after a fall from a bicycle, his left ear being partly torn from the head.

Three years ago, while working in a deep excavation, a lump of clay fell about 18 feet and struck him between the shoulders. He was off work for three weeks after this accident, not confined at all to bed, and feeling, as he expressed it, "not quite up to the mark," but he noticed afterwards that his right hand,

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\* Read before the Academy of Medicine, Toronto, November 12th, 1907.