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## Original Communications.

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### TIC DOULOUREUX (TRIGEMINAL NEURALGIA). REMOVAL OF THE GASSERIAN GANGLION. RECOVERY.\*

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Mr. M. C., Cayuga, aged 63, consulted me in January last (1902), when he gave the following history:—

About two years ago the trouble commenced in his lower lip, on the right side, as a sort of itching, followed by darting pains. This was accompanied by numbness. There was soreness of the right side of his mouth, gums, teeth, and of the right side of his tongue. After about a year the pain spread upwards and downwards, until the whole side of his face, above and around the eye and ear and down under the jaw bone, was affected. The pain was present almost constantly. He had taken a great deal of medicine from a number of doctors, without getting relief. I diagnosed the trouble as tic douloureux, and told him that as he had no doubt been given all the remedies that were generally used for this trouble, I did not look for any benefit from further medication, but would give him a prescription which he might try for a month or so, and if he did not obtain relief, I would advise a neurectomy of the superior maxillary nerve. I accordingly gave him strychnia, 1/20 gr. three times a day, and he used this for about a month without relief.

He then decided to have an operation performed, and returned about the middle of March. As the pain seemed to be chiefly confined to the distribution of the superior maxillary nerve, I decided to perform Carnochan's operation, *i.e.*, to remove the superior maxillary nerve, together with Meckel's ganglion by

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\* Read, and patient presented, before Ontario Medical Association in June, 1902.