

# The Canadian Journal of Medicine and Surgery

A JOURNAL PUBLISHED MONTHLY IN THE INTERESTS OF  
MEDICINE AND SURGERY

---

Vol. XXVI. TORONTO, DECEMBER, 1909. No. 6

---

## *Original Contributions.*

### CLINICAL REPORT OF CASES

BY H. B. ANDERSON, M.D., L.R.C.P. (LOND.), M.R.C.S. (ENG.),  
Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, University of Toronto.

*A Case of Carcinoma of the Esophagus.*—Mrs. S., widow, age 42, Canadian, a woman of excellent physique, weight 160; nervous temperament. Had always enjoyed very good health. Several cases of malignant tumor had occurred among uncles and aunts or distant relations.

In April, 1907, she first complained of some difficulty in swallowing. Later she had some soreness and pain in the throat for which she was treated by Dr. Goldsmith. These symptoms improved at times for a day or so, but on the whole became more persistent and aggravated during the summer. By the autumn she could only swallow solids with great difficulty, the attempt producing pain in the throat and spasm of the pharyngeal muscles. The taking of food produced so much discomfort and occupied so much time that often she would not take her meals. Before Christmas she was finally compelled to take only fluids. Bland and sweetened foods were partaken of more readily, and produced much less spasm. She had lost over 30 lbs. in weight by this time. She was troubled during her waking hours by an almost continuous desire to clear the throat, and during December and January daily expectorated several pints of frothy fluid.

On November 4th an attempt to pass an ordinary stomach tube failed, as it became arrested at the upper part of the pharynx. About ten days later another attempt also failed and a small speck

---

\*Read before the Section of Medicine, Academy of Medicine, Toronto, March 10th, 1908.