

Dominion Medical Monthly (Toronto).

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1. Duties of a Nurse in Abdominal Surgery. Herbert A. Bruce.
2. Vomiting in Infancy and Childhood. B. E. Hawke.
3. The Anatomical Factor in the Production of Baldness. G. Elliott.

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4. Differential Diagnosis of Smallpox. James Patterson.
5. The Ethics of the Medical Profession. H. P. Elliott.

3. ELLIOTT points out that baldness occurs on the top of the head, and rarely if ever extends below the temporal ridges laterally, or even down to the superior curved lines of the occipital bones, posteriorly. Baldness extends lower in the middle line behind than it does an inch or so on either side of the middle line, posteriorly. This corresponds to the fact that there are no muscular fibres in the middle line of the occipito-frontalis muscle at its attachment to the external occipital protuberance, and the adjacent parts of the superior curved lines. The skin of the scalp, therefore, overlying the epicranial aponeurosis, has no underlying muscle to exercise it, and has only to depend upon the action of the occipito-frontalis muscle, to which it is closely adherent, and only moves when that muscle is put into action. In no other region of the body is there such an extensive area of skin which does not receive adequate exercise either through underlying or adjacent muscles. Although the scalp is very vascular, the function of the hair papillæ may be stunted by the slow return flow through the veins and lymphatics. There is no active muscular exercise in the part whatever, to hurry along the waste products and deoxygenized blood in the vessels. These structures being superficial and easily compressible, their compression by the rim of the hat will further retard their flow.

Baldness does not occur in the female sex to anything like the extent that it does in the male, and this may be due to the scalp being well exercised by the combing, plaiting, and the throwing from side to side. Women suffer from dandruff equally with men. Massage, therefore, the writer thinks is the essential treatment for baldness, and that it should be begun in early life. If the scalps of men received as much exercise as the scalps of women, there would be on the vaults of their craniums a luxuriant tonsure.