

Cornwell (H. G.)

An Analytical Report

INDEX  
MEDICUS.

—OF—

407 CASES

—OF—

EYE <sup>and</sup> EAR DISEASE,

*Occurring in Private Practice during the year ending  
July 31st, 1879.*

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HENRY G. CORNWELL, M. D., Youngstown, O.

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Reprinted from "THE TRANSACTIONS," September, 1879.

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**AN ANALYTICAL REPORT OF 407 CASES OF EYE AND EAR DISEASE, OCCURRING IN PRIVATE PRACTICE, DURING THE YEAR ENDING JULY 31st, 1879.**

HENRY G. CORNWELL, M. D., YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO.

[Reprinted from "THE TRANSACTIONS" for September, 1879.]

During the last twelve months the writer has kept a careful record of all cases occurring in private practice, from which the following analytical report is taken :

**DISEASES OF THE EYE.**

CONJUNCTIVA.		
Conjunctivitis	Catarrhal.....	24
"	Chronic.....	7
"	Blenorrhœal.....	3
"	Granular and Trachoma.....	9
"	Lachrymal (Galezowski).....	11
"	Neonatorum.....	2
"	Phlyctenular.....	5
"	Purulent.....	1
Symblepharon.....		1
Sub-conjunctival Ecchymosis.....		1
Foreign body in Conjunctiva.....		4
Burn from Lime.....		1
"	Iron.....	2
		71

All of these cases yielded readily to simple treatment. On four patients having granular lids a canthoplasty was performed with good effect. Nine of the lachrymal cases were quickly relieved after Bowman's operation on the lower canaliculi by weak astringent baths.

CORNEA AND SCLERA.		
Keratitis.....		8
"	Phlyctenular.....	3
"	Fascicular.....	1
"	Traumatic.....	1
Ulcer of Cornea.....		11
Opacity of Cornea.....		6
Leucoma Adherens.....		2
Abrasion of Cornea.....		1
Wound of Cornea with Prolapse of Iris.....		2
Staphyloma Anterior.....		4
Foreign Bodies in Cornea.....		16
Burn from Potash.....		1
"	Iron.....	1
Conical Cornea.....		1
		58

The last case in the above table was one of special interest. Mr. J. C. H., aet. 38; puddler. Sight has failed rapidly within the last four years; examination reveals conical cornea, both eyes; refraction M. 1-4 right eye, vision 2-5 of normal; M. 1-3 left eye, vision 1-2 of normal. A large iridectomy was done upwards on both eyes. The lens becoming cataractus subsequently in the right eye, this body was removed through a linear incision. As a result of this latter operation the eye has become normal in refraction. Vision 2-3 of normal; some cortical substance remains. The refraction in the left eye remains unchanged. No farther advance in the corneal disease.

## IRIS AND CILIARY BODY.

Iritis.....	6
“ Syphilitic.....	2
“ Purulent.....	1
“ Serous.....	1
Posterior Synechia.....	4
Cyclitis.....	1
Irideremia.....	1
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The history in brief of the case of serous iritis recorded above is as follows: Mrs. H., aet. 34, mother of three children, the youngest two months old. Eyes have been failing for two weeks, she states at the time of her first visit, May 6th, 1879. Vision right eye 1-10, left eye 1-2. Inspection reveals serous iritis both; pupils dilated, delicate opacities assuming a pyramidal shape in the aqueous chamber and on membrane of Descemet; tension of globes plus. Treatment, atropia sol. grs. iv., jaborandi, without effect. Paracentesis of the anterior chamber has been urged without avail. May 29th, all treatment discontinued except the atropia which has now been used alone for the last two months. Eyes examined at time of this writing and found to be almost entirely well.

## RETINA.

Retinitis.....	2
Retinitis Albuminurica.....	1
Retinitis Pigmentosa.....	3
Detachment.....	1
Glioma.....	1
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	8

In one of the cases recorded as retinitis the disease was brought about by long exposure to the light and heat of a puddling furnace. The one case of detachment of the retina was the result of a blow upon the eye with a stick of wood. Retinitis Pigmentosa with night blindness, was found in three members of a family; no cause discoverable. Bright's retinitis occurred in the case of a lady residing in Sharon, Pa. I am indebted to my friend Dr. Heilman, of that city, for this history. Mrs. H. aged 25, married, suffered from dropsy of feet and face, sickness at stomach, neuralgic pains and headache about the sixth month of her first pregnancy. Found urine on examination loaded with albumen; sight began to fail at seventh month; at the eighth month she miscarried, since this time she has shown no signs of renal trouble; no albumen in urine. Examination V. 1-10, both eyes. Ophthalmoscope reveals changes peculiar to nephretic retinitis. In the right eye the optic nerve was slightly swollen and in the region of the macula lutea found a large number of stellate spots and indications of recent retinal hemorrhage.

In the left eye the broad zone of fatty degeneration of the retina further typical of this form of disease was found surrounding the optic disk above, with hemorrhagic spots scattered over the fundus. Prognosis unfavorable. Treatment, July 29th, Huerteloup's artificial leech applied and an ounce of blood taken from each temple; iron quinia and strychnia, the latter in rapidly increasing doses; warm baths and good diet; ten days later patient very much improved V. 1-2 of normal. The case of Glioma the patient, a female child twenty months old, has been already reported. The enucleated eye-ball after hardening in a solution of bichromate of potash was subjected to a microscopic examination. The cells were of large size and the inter-cellular tissue abundant. The growth has not yet returned, after eight months, due doubtless to the early excision of the globe and the semi-malignant character of the tumor.

OPTIC NERVE.

Neuritis .....	1
Neuro-Retinitis.....	1
Atrophy.....	2
	—
	4

In the case of neuro-retinitis the nerve passed on to atrophy; the vision remained unchanged (2-3 of normal). The patient was an adult male long subject to malarial effects. No benefit obtained from treatment. Of the two cases of atrophy, the first was in a boy nine years old totally blind having "blue atrophy" from cerebro-spinal meningitis. In the second the trouble was of long standing dependant upon the excessive use of tobacco and whisky. Vision 1-3 right eye, 2-5 left eye.

CHOROID AND VITREOUS.

Irido-Choroiditis.....	1
Choroiditis.....	5
Glaucoma, Chronic.....	2
Musæ Volitantes.....	1
Sclerotic-Choroiditis Posterior.....	2
Intra-Ocular Hæmorrhage.....	1
	—
	12

Both cases of glaucoma were subjected to operation (iridectomy) and the disease remained thereafter stationary.

LENS.

Cataract, Hard and Soft.....	16
"    Traumatic.....	4
"    Posterior Polar.....	1
Capsular, from Anterior Synechia.....	1
Foreign Body in Lens.....	1
Dislocation.....	2
"    under Conjunctiva.....	1
	—
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Three of the subjects of hard cataract were operated upon by Graefe's modified linear method with V. 1-2 in two cases, 1-20 in one case, as the result. Upon two of the subjects of traumatic cataract an iridectomy was made on account of the swelling of the lens. The patient having a foreign body in the lens submitted to an operation for the removal of the lens through a linear incision; a good result followed.

Mr. D. aet. 60, was struck in the left eye by a projecting board on entering his barn after night fall. Vision upon examination three weeks

later 1-20; no inflammatory condition present. The globe was ruptured and the crystalline lens which has escaped through the rent was lying on the sclera underneath the conjunctiva between the external and superior recti muscles. It was removed through an opening made in the conjunctiva over its convexity. No undue reaction followed.

## MUSCULAR AFFECTIONS.

Strabismus Convergent.....	6
“ Divergent.....	2
Insufficiency of Internal Recti.....	16
“ “ External Recti.....	2
“ “ Sup. Rectus of Right Eye and Inf. Rectus of the Left....	1
Paralysis of Lev. Palpebrae.....	1
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The patient with insufficiency of the superior rectus (right eye) and inferior rectus (left eye) was relieved of the annoyance occasioned by the double images by wearing prisms of two degrees, base upwards before the right eye, base downwards before the left. The patient could not overcome a prism of one degree by means of the weakened muscles.

## LESIONS OF GLOBE.

Phthisis of Globe.....	4
Sympathetic Ophthalmia.....	1
	<hr/>
	5

## ACCOMMODATION AND REFRACTION.

Presbyopia.....	15
Hypermetropia.....	19
Myopia.....	16
Astigmatism, Ah. 6, Am. 14, Ahm. 1.....	21
Asthenopia, Muscular.....	2
“ Accommodative.....	1
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In a case of myopia of 1-5 both eyes, (the patient a seamstress about 30 years of age) hemorrhage into the vitreous occurred in the left eye after sewing until late in the night upon black goods by gas light.

## ORBIT AND LIDS.

Symblepharon.....	1
Hordeolum.....	1
Chalazion and other Tumors.....	1
Blepharitis.....	10
Trichiasis.....	3
Distichiasis.....	1
Abscess of Lids.....	1
Wound.....	1
Blepharospasm.....	1
	<hr/>
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On one patient having trichiasis, Arlt's operation was performed. In the case of symblepharon the band uniting the lid to the globe was divided by means of curved scissors, and probes daily passed between the freshened surfaces.

## LACHRYMAL APPARATUS.

Obstruction of Puncta.....	3
Stricture of Canaliculus.....	1
Obstruction of Lachrymal Duct.....	1

Dacryocystitis.....	5
Lachrymal Fistula.....	1
Abscess of Lachrymal Sac.....	2
	—
	13
Total.....	346

Stilling's operation was performed on four cases, and Bowman's operation on seven cases of diseases of the lachrymal apparatus.

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**DISEASES OF THE EAR.**

Auricle, Eczema of.....	1
External Meatus, Acute Inflammation of.....	1
“ “ Eczema of.....	1
Impacted Wax.....	5
Foreign Bodies in Auditory Canal.....	2
Membrana Tympana, Inflammation of.....	2
Middle Ear, Acute Inflammation of, with Perforation.....	1
“ “ Subacute Inflammation of.....	1
“ “ Chronic Inflammation of, without Perforation.....	14
“ “ Chronic Proliferous Inflammation of.....	11
“ “ “ Inflammation of, with Perforation.....	9
“ “ “ “ Polypi.....	4
“ “ “ “ Inflammation of Mastoid.....	1
Labarynth, Diseases of, and Nervous Deafness.....	2
Eustachian Tubes, Catarrh of.....	5
Tinnitus.....	1
	—
Total.....	61

One of the above cases of chronic suppurative inflammation of the drum died from cerebral abscess, the disease extending to the brain. The history in brief is as follows: J. J., aet. 27, puddler, visited me June 11, 1879. Both ears had discharged for a number of years; the right one had pained him very much within the past three days. Examination revealed total loss of the drum heads on both sides. The canal leading to the right tympanum was red and swollen, and a large polypus protruded, having its pedicle attached to the upper wall. Hearing, voice, right side, 15 inches, left side, 4 inches. Prognosis, grave. The danger in the case was carefully explained to the parents. Treatment, four leeches were applied to the tragus. Meatus carefully douched with hot water which relieved the pain. Squibb's liq. opii and saline cathartics. Three days later removed polypus by means of Wilde's snare. Much better for two days. Seventh day, acute pharyngeal catarrh, severe pain in the ear and some headache were complained of. Applied Hurlteloup's artificial leech to tragus, and abstracted two ounces of blood, and hop formations to side of head; prescribed anodynes and quiet. Next (eighth) day, was sent for and found patient suffering from severe cephalalgia, fever and prostration. Respirations lowered, slight stertor, pulse hard and wirey, numbering 54 a minute, skin hot and dry. Ordered douche and anodynes. Told the parents of the young man that death would ensue, and since the case had strictly passed out of my domain, the trouble having localized itself in the brain, the case was given into the hands of Dr. Floor, the family physician, with whom I saw the case several times in consultation. The patient died comatose after four days; no autopsy.

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HENRY G. CORNWELL, M. D., *Editor.*

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YOUNGSTOWN, - - OHIO.

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