

Post-mortem Examination.—A large tumour, with an open wound having a red mass protruding from its most prominent part, occupied the situation of the right clavicle; it overlapped the shoulder-joint, reached nearly up to the chin and the middle of the left clavicle, and down to the nipple; it measured ten inches and a half by eight inches, and projected five inches and a half. Numerous veins ramified on its now ulcerated surface, also upon the right side of the thorax and abdomen. The fore part of the tumour was broken down and infiltrated with blood; the lower portion of the sterno-cleido mastoid was blended with and expanded over it, the pectoral muscles being pushed downwards. The external jugular vein passed into the tumour, but was not much enlarged, as also did the internal jugular and right subclavian vein. The subclavian artery lay in the back part; the carotid and innominate arteries were adherent, but did not enter the tumour, nor did the nerves. The superficialis colli nerve ramified on its upper part. The trachea was much pressed to the left side; its triangular shape and ordinary calibre being diminished. The whole of the right clavicle, except its outer end, was surrounded by the mass; a portion of the tumour passed down behind the first rib, beside the trachea, to the root of the right lung, and pressed on its bronchus. The whole tumour weighed six pounds two ounces and a half. Its structure was cribriform, and under the microscope exhibited small cells filled with granular matters, unaffected by acetic acid. The upper and inner part of the right lung was compressed, and a large patch of its lower lobe presented the appearance of atelectasis of children, which was removed by inflation. Right lung healthy; a few old pleuritic adhesions. Left kidney large and sound; the right merely rudimentary, with the supra-renal capsule weighing only half an ounce. Stomach much distended; other organs healthy.

Being on the subject of encephaloid tumours springing up in young subjects, we are reminded of another melancholy case, in which the patient was remarkable for regularity of features and softness of expression, every part of his countenance bearing the imprint of gracefulness and delicacy. It may be easily imagined that the observer must have been very painfully moved when ascertaining the fearful character of the affection, which could not but speedily destroy the young sufferer. It is perhaps worth noting that malignant disease pretty often becomes developed in subjects highly gifted with personal attraction; of this we have seen several examples; of course these may be, in some instances, but mere coincidences, but our remarks will gain some value if confirmed in other cases.

The patient was for a little while under the care of the late Mr. Bransby Cooper, who examined the tumour with great care, and came to the conclusion that its malignant nature altogether precluded any surgical interference. We subjoin a few details, as the case bears considerable analogy to Mr. Coulson's.

GUY'S HOSPITAL.

Encephaloid Tumour on the Side of the Neck; Fatal Results.

(Under the care of the late Mr. BRANSBY COOPER.)

CHARLES L—, aged thirteen years, a boy of fair complexion and interesting features, was admitted in January, 1853. The patient was born in London, his father is a porter at Covent-garden Market, and his brothers and sisters are in a tolerable state of health, but the parents live in a very narrow court opening on the south side of the Strand, the room, inhabited by a numerous family, being of wretched dimensions. Six months before admission, the boy noticed a tumour, about the size of a walnut, situated just over the centre of the right clavicle. The growth was not hard at the beginning, and grew very slowly for the five following months, when it attained the size noticed on admission. The patient did not, for the whole six months which preceded his reception into the hospital, suffer any pain in the growth; and the latter, though of large size, did not interfere with respiration, deglutition, or the tone of the voice.

On admission, a tumour was observed on the right side of the neck, lobulated, elastic, and of the size of a large, elongated Dutch cheese. It was bounded in front by the trachea and larynx, at the back by the spinous processes of the vertebrae, above by a line drawn from the chin to the lobe of the ear, and below by another imaginary line running from the upper part of the sternum to the second dorsal vertebra. The tumour rested on the clavicle, and the former must be raised to allow the latter to be felt. Large veins run up from the right side

of the chest, and coursed over the tumour, which latter formed a large mass projecting from the right side of the neck, reaching the shoulder, and covering the collar-bone. The base was perfectly immovable; the skin glided over the growth, which yielded on pressure a kind of fluctuation in various places. The stethoscope being applied did not reveal any bruit or murmur in the tumour.

Mr. Cooper, as we stated above, examined this tumour with great care, and after taking the opinion of his colleagues, pronounced it of a malignant character, and the boy was soon afterwards sent home.

A rather striking contrast was at that period offered by another young patient, a little older than this poor boy. The former also presented a large tumour on the side of the neck, which was judged by Mr. Cock, under whose care he had been placed, to be an enlargement of the cervical glands. The tumour was removed, and the patient did well; the two cases presenting some analogy as to the size of the tumours, the locality in which they had sprung up, and a most striking contrast as to their intimate nature.

The patient suffering from malignant disease returned to his parents, and was seen several times at his house by Mr. Avery, of Charing-cross Hospital. This gentleman afforded us the opportunity of watching the progress of the case, and it was melancholy to observe how rapidly the tumour increased in size, and how fearfully the disease was withering the patient's system. The growth soon extended under the axilla and on the parietes of the chest, and the poor boy died in a melancholy condition a few months after his discharge from Guy's Hospital. When the tumour was examined by Mr. Avery it presented the usual character of encephaloid cancer.

It is now clearly ascertained that the latter affection will attack very young subjects; of this we saw an instance a few days ago at St. George's Hospital, in the person of a little boy three years old, who decidedly presents the most pitiable aspect which we have ever seen.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL.

Encephaloid Growth from the Left Orbit in a Child Three Years old.

(Under the care of Mr. HENRY CHARLES JOHNSON.)

THE little sufferer was admitted Oct. 5th, 1853, and belongs to very poor parents; they have a great many children besides, who, however, are not suffering from any malignant disease. The right eye was lost two years before admission, probably from purulent ophthalmia. From the left eye a large fungus is protruding, which has quite destroyed the organ, and which, of a perfectly cylindrical form, is about the size of an infant's fist. The posterior half forms a congested, thick, and hard cutaneous ring; the anterior is soft, fungating, and bleeds very frequently. The tumour had taken only a twelvemonth to reach its present size, and looks exactly like a horny growth from the left orbit. The poor child is of course quite blind, and is kept in the house principally from charitable motives.

This patient has been placed in the ward which has lately been devoted to children, both for medical and surgical cases. This is an improvement of an important nature which, with the ward for uterine affections shortly to be opened, will materially and usefully increase the field of clinical teaching.

Mr. Johnson has another patient affected with a tumour by the side of the face, the nature of which admits of removal, and which is especially remarkable for its size and the length of time it has been allowed to grow.

Large Fibro-Cystic Tumour on the Right Side of the Face, of Thirty-two Years' Growth.

(Under the care of Mr. HENRY CHARLES JOHNSON.)

Sarah T—, aged fifty-three years, was admitted Oct. 19th, 1853. The patient is a tall, well-made woman, with regular features, who has always lived in the country. Thirty-two years before admission, a small tumour formed a little below the lobe of the ear; no pain was connected with it, and it was allowed to grow for a great number of years, during which its increase was very gradual. It had taken a more rapid development these last five or six years, and was found on admission to have reached an enormous size.

The tumour now presents a strongly-lobulated character, and is of the size of a foetus's head. It raises the lobe of the ear, and is bounded above by the zygoma, below by the margin of the inferior maxilla, anteriorly by the ala nasi, and posteriorly by the spine. On the upper part, the lobules yield a kind of fluctuation, but the lower part is pretty firm. The