

## Society Reports.

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### THE NEW YORK NEUROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

*Stated Meeting, held at the New York Academy of Medicine,  
on Tuesday Evening, April 2, 1895.*

Dr. EDWARD D. FISHER, President, in the chair.

#### TUMOR OF THE BRAIN; SUCCESSFUL OPERATION.

Dr. C. L. DANA presented a young man, aged twenty years, who seven years ago received a blow on the left side of the head, in the neighborhood of the squamous suture. He was unconscious for a time, but soon recovered, and no immediate bad effects were noticed. Three years later he developed epileptic convulsions, which occurred about twice monthly and were general in character. About two years ago it was first noticed that the convulsions were preceded by a sensory aura, and commenced in the fingers of the left hand, then involving the arm, leg and face on the corresponding side, and finally becoming general. These attacks continued for over a year. He then came under Dr. Dana's observation, who found that he was suffering from a hemiplegia of the left side, involving especially the arm and to a lesser degree the leg and face. The paralysis was accompanied by various forms of anæsthesia, by intense headaches and by marked double optic neuritis. There was also severe pain in the left arm, and the patient's condition was very distressing. A diagnosis of tumor of the brain, affecting the left arm and finger centres was made, and Dr. Conway, on opening the skull in that locality, exposed a tumor lying just underneath the dura; it was flat and hard, and anteriorly it had infiltrated to some extent the cortical substance; posteriorly it was not attached to the cortex, but there were small whitish spots underneath the pia, denoting some infil

tration. It was found impossible to remove the growth in its entirety, and only about one-half was taken out. It proved to be a spindle-cell sarcoma. Since the operation, which was performed in May, 1894, (nearly a year ago), the improvement in the boy's condition has been very striking. For nearly six months after the operation he had no epileptic attacks at all; the pain and headache disappeared, as did also the optic neuritis. His left arm has regained considerable power, and he is able to move the fingers to some extent. During the past five months he has had about one epileptic attack each month, the movements being confined to the paralyzed side; they are not accompanied by loss of consciousness nor the severe pain he formerly had. Between the attacks he is perfectly well. Of course, the ultimate prognosis of the case is unfavorable, but the boy has had a year of comparative comfort and usefulness, and at present his condition is not growing worse. After the operation he was placed on arsenic, which was continued in moderate doses last summer. He has also taken some bromides. It appeared that the tumor developed from the dura.

In conclusion, Dr. Dana said that at a meeting of the Society last fall he referred to this case and gave the results of a careful study of the cutaneous disturbances. Immediately after the operation, the sensory disturbances seemed to be temporarily aggravated. At the present time there is only apparent a disturbance in the power of localization.

DR. SACHS—In regard to the patient shown by Dr. Dana, the speaker said he has seen several cases in which the excision of cortical substance for epilepsy, cyst or tumor resulted in sensory disturbances which were recovered from within a few days—much more rapidly than from the motor symptoms. The speaker also regarded Dr. Dana's case as one of the most successful among those reported after the removal of a cortical tumor.

Dr. W. H. THOMSON read a paper, entitled

#### RELATIONS OF THE CEREBRAL CORTEX TO SENSATION (see page 333).

Dr. B. SACHS said he was a little surprised at the turn which Dr. Thomson's paper had taken. From the title of the paper he was led to expect that it would deal