

*To the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal,*

GENTLEMEN,

I Take the liberty to communicate the following remarkable case for your consideration; I do not know that it will throw any light on the healing art, its singularity only prompted me to the detail, which probably you may think worthy a place in your valuable publication. I am, &c.

*Stockton on Tees, Feb. 26, 1801.*

W. MILBURNE.

Joseph Rodgers, aged 50, about four miles from Stockton, on the 12th of December 1800, cut his throat with a razor in the most determined manner. He had first passed the razor over the larynx and pharynx, dividing those from the upper parts: he then made another incision about three inches below, through the trachea and œsophagus; not finding this effectual, he dissected out the divided parts, with the os hyoides, epiglottis, and attendant muscles and integuments, &c. The instrument had not been keen, as it appeared from the cartilaginous part of the trachea to have been cut through at repeated strokes. He was found soon after in a garden, sitting on his knees, his body leaning forward over a piece of timber, (the razor and parts dissected, with a quantity of blood, lying at his feet) to all appearance dead. Cloths were immediately applied round his neck to cover the frightful wound, and he was conveyed to a house; in a few minutes he began to shew signs of life, and in half an hour, walked up one pair of stairs unsupported to bed; I then was sent for, found him perfectly collected, and from signs, sorry for what he had done. On removing the cloth to examine the wound, the pressure of external air on the lungs threatened instant suffocation, which being immediately covered, he seemed perfectly at ease, in which state he continued to the eighth day, and expired completely exhausted.

P. S. If it is requested, I shall send the parts wounded, which are preserved in spirits.

*A Case of White Swelling cured by Electricity;*  
by JOSEPH LAMB, Surgeon.

A Middle aged woman being afflicted with a scrophulous affection in the right knee, (commonly termed a white swelling;) and being in low circumstances, was sent to the Northampton Infirmary,

Infirmary, where she was under the care of Dr. Carr for almost two years. The usual remedies were applied without effect: she had also lost her speech, for which she had seven caustics applied to her back, with blisters, &c.—These at first seemed to relieve her, but on taking the slightest cold, her speech would go again and leave her quite hoarse. After all the remedies had been tried without success, and being of a very weak constitution, she was thought to be an improper subject to undergo the operation of amputation, and was at length discharged, which took place a considerable time before I left London. She has been afflicted with this complaint about seven years altogether, and with great difficulty could she walk with crutches. The latter end of last summer she applied to me for advice, being in violent pain. It will readily be believed that I was at a loss to know in what manner to proceed, she having previously had such excellent advice. The only thing that appeared to me at all likely to give her the least relief was electricity, which I accordingly proposed to her, and she consented to suffer a trial. I gave a few gentle shocks in a variety of directions through the affected part, and also thro' the chest, which to my great surprise restored her voice immediately, and it continued several weeks; but by taking a violent cold, she lost it again; however, two or three shocks recovered it. The pain and hardness in the knee began to decrease, which had been so long contracted. I repeated the electricity three times a week until the present time, and am happy to say that she is quite recovered of her lameness, to the astonishment of all who knew her. The tumour is entirely dispersed, and she can walk without her crutches, either up stairs or down, which she had not been able to do for seven years past.

*Kings Sutton, near Banbury, March 14, 1801.*

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GENTLEMEN,

THE following is a Case of Epilepsy, cured by Electricity. Should it meet your approbation, so as to merit its insertion in your valuable publication, by so doing you will much oblige,

Your's, &c.

*Bishopwearmouth, Feb. 23, 1801.*

W. HODGSON.