

lying in the position of the leaf of the mesentery. Upwards it extended to the under surface of the right lobe of the liver and appeared to have pushed it to the left, since the gall-bladder was lying to the left of the middle line. Below, it extended to the brim of the pelvis on the right side. To the left it did not extend much beyond the vertebral column after it was empty. The intestines were pressed down. The cyst appeared to be in connection with the mesentery. The cyst was closed by two layers of sutures and the abdomen closed by through and through silk sutures. The temperature showed a rise, now and then, a week after operation. No malarial parasites were found in the blood, but after big doses of quinine the temperature did not show any rise. Soon after the operation she had diarrhoea, and about seventeen days after operation she passed blood and mucus in the stools for a couple of days. About three weeks after the operation the patient suddenly had diarrhoea and passed big motions which seemed to have the same sort of colour and appearance as the fluid withdrawn from the cyst at the time of the operation. It was curious to notice that the abdomen, which had been slowly filling up and was distended, became emptied out and no distension could be seen. The patient died a fortnight later as a result of parotitis and exhaustion. The abdomen did not show any signs of distension.

AN INTERESTING CASE OF FRACTURE OF THE SKULL AND INJURY TO THE BRAIN, ENDING IN COMPLETE RECOVERY.

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A WELL-BUILT man aged about 30 was brought to this dispensary by the police on 3rd June 1926, for treatment of injuries he had received in a scuffle on 2nd June 1926. The injuries were said to have been caused by a *farsi* (hatchet) and sticks.

There were about eight wounds on his body. Of them the injury over the right parietal bone was serious. It was an incised wound measuring about $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, which had chipped the bone and caused damage to the brain. On examination of this wound three pieces of bone and about one drachm in weight of brain matter were found at its bottom. The cut was a slanting one. No wound of the dura mater, whence the brain matter might have escaped, could be detected. Owing to the sloping nature of the cut, the dura mater, I believe, might have been slit open underneath the bone and consequently the wound of the dura mater might have escaped detection.

Condition on admission.—The patient was conscious and remained so throughout his stay in the dispensary. His pupils were normal, pulse 90 per minute and regular, respiration 24 per minute and regular. There was no bleeding either from the nose or ears, and no paralysis. The temperature was 98°F.

Treatment.—The scalp was shaved round about the injuries, cleansed with 90 per cent. alcohol and then painted with tincture of iodine. After having removed the pieces of bone from the wound, it was gently irrigated with tincture of iodine (1 drachm to a pint), swabbed with B. I. P. P. and sutured, leaving in a piece of iodoform gauze as a drain. The remaining wounds, except two on the left side of the head, were similarly treated but closed without drainage. The usual dressings were applied, and the head bandaged. The patient was put on to the following mixture.—

Hexamine	..	10 grs.
Aqua	..	1 oz.

Sig.—Every 4th hour in a half-cupful of water.

This mixture was ordered with a view to preventing sepsis of the brain and meninges.

4th June 1926, 8 a.m. Temperature normal, pulse 80 per minute, no paralysis, no headache. Patient quite conscious, wounds clean. Gauze drain removed and the wounds redressed.

The subsequent history of the case was uneventful. The patient was discharged cured on 24th June 1926.

I wish to mention here that I have found B. I. P. P. very efficacious in the treatment of such wounds. I have observed no ill-effects from its use in very extensive injuries. The wounds, if treated by it within twelve hours or so after their infliction and suture, heal up by first intention. The usual strength of B. I. P. P. is:—

Bismuth Subnitras	..	1 oz.
Iodoform	..	2 ozs.
Paraffin Liquid	..	1 oz.

but I always use it in the following strength:—

Bismuth Subnitras	..	3 drs.
Iodoform	..	3 drs.
Liquid Paraffin	..	1 oz.

This is stirred up well in a pot and boiled over the spirit lamp. On boiling it assumes a reddish brown colour. It is then ready for use.

The interesting points in this case were the following:—

(1) The remarkable absence of cerebral symptoms, even after fracture of the skull and injury to the brain.

(2) The absence of sepsis, in spite of the fact that the wounds were tied up by the patient with a dirty cloth and that more than twelve hours had elapsed since their infliction.