

RARE TUMOUR OF NECK.

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[Read in the Section of Pathology, May 8, 1891].

THE interest of the tumour of the neck, which was removed by Mr. Wheeler, in the City of Dublin Hospital, seems to me to lie in its histological structure. I am unable to give the tumour a name, and hope some of the members of the Academy will be able to throw some light on the subject.

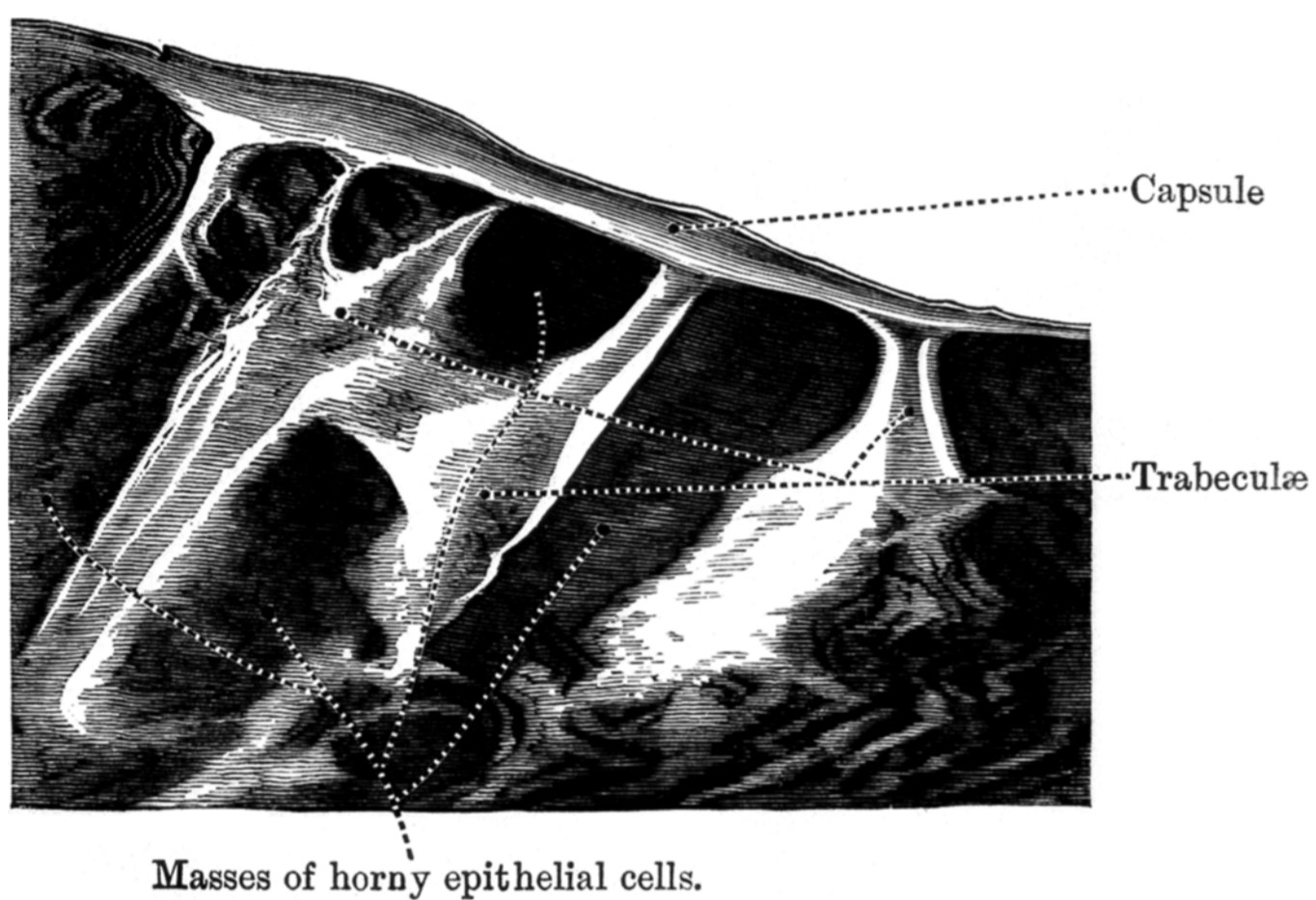
When the tumour was fresh it was just as hard as it now is, after having been for some weeks in spirit. It was separable from the skin which covered it externally, and it did not spring from any of the structures of the skin. It measures 7 by 3 centimetres.

The tumour is invested by a firm fibrous capsule, which sends trabeculæ between the masses of horny epithelium of which the tumour is composed. This capsule and the trabeculæ are well shown in the photograph which I hand round.

It is much easier to say what the tumour is not than what it is. If it were a sebaceous tumour it would have a different epithelial structure, and would show a tendency towards softening; if it had started in a hair follicle it would have been firmly adherent to the skin; if it had been a dermoid, it would have had some of the structures usually found in a dermoid tumour.

The tumour gradually grew from birth, and I am forced to think that it must have started in a foetal enclosure of epithelium in the cleft of the neck; and that it went on growing until it became too large to be convenient to the patient, who is now twelve years of age. The tumour became very painful for some months before it was removed.

MR. WHEELER, at the request of the President, stated that he had removed the tumour referred to by Dr. Graves last Thursday week from a boy aged twelve years. The tumour was situated in the posterior-superior triangle of the neck on the left side, was very painful, and the history of the case revealed that it was present at birth. It appeared before removal to be an atheromatous tumour, or rather three tumours, for there was a distinct separation, and the skin was invaginated into the divisions. After removal the specimen was handed to Dr. Graves, the pathologist of the hospital.



DR. W. R. GRAVES ON RARE TUMOUR OF NECK.