

**The history of the case, and a descriptive account of the operation performed upon William Forder, at the Norwich Free Hospital for 'Incurables' : together with indisputable evidence of the accuracy of the casts presented to the Hunterian Museum / by Mr. Webber.**

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Royal College of Surgeons of England

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p.c.3.  
By Desire of The President of the Royal College of  
Surgeons of England.

(10)

THE HISTORY OF THE CASE,  
AND A  
DESCRIPTIVE ACCOUNT

(WITH WOOD-CUTS)

OF

THE OPERATION

PERFORMED UPON

WILLIAM FORDER,

AT

The Norwich Free Hospital for "Incurables;"

TOGETHER WITH

INDISPUTABLE EVIDENCE

OF THE

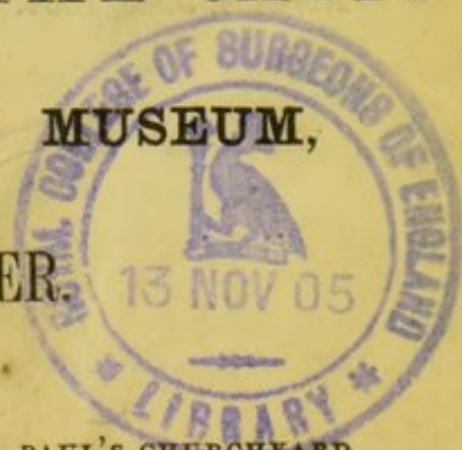
ACCURACY OF THE CASTS

PRESENTED TO

THE HUNTERIAN MUSEUM,

BY

MR. WEBBER.



LONDON: JARROLD AND SONS, 47, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD.

## PREFACE.

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IN compliance with the desire of the President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England is supplied the following History of the Case of Wm. Forder, and a Descriptive Account of the Operation I performed upon him; together with indisputable evidence of the ACCURACY of "The Casts" presented by me to the Hunterian Museum—the *alleged* "inaccuracy" of which, it appears, led to my being refused the Fellowship of the College!

The Council, the Profession, and the Public will thus have the opportunity of *equitably* weighing FACTS against STATEMENTS, and of awarding to TRUTH that *Verdict* which JUSTICE demands;—and to which I am fully entitled for the injury which has been *unjustly* inflicted upon me.

W. WEBBER.

Norwich, June, 1854.



## The History of the Case of Wm. Forder.

August 21st, 1853. In the presence of E. Newson, an old, highly respectable, and much valued servant, who felt and had taken a great interest in his well-doing; I received from his own lips, which but a short time before had been incapable of utterance, the following history of the case of—

WILLIAM FORDER, of Wellington Lane, St. Giles', Norwich, age 55 years, married, and the father of ten children; he had been an inveterate snuff-taker, and had indulged in the most dissipated and irregular habits; but had nevertheless enjoyed tolerably good health up to three years and a half ago, when he accidentally fell from a ladder, his shoulder became fractured; he was otherwise much bruised about his head, and other parts of his body—and five months elapsed ere he recovered.

In October, 1852, while engaged upon a job of carpentering in the country, he was attacked by bleeding from the nose, which recurred at intervals. In November, he felt a slight soreness in the left nostril, and a few days afterwards he perceived a small lump, about the size of a large pea, on the floor of it, just within the external opening, and close to the septum, or, "partition of the nostrils." It continued to grow gradually till Christmas time, when he returned home, and placed himself under the medical officers at one of the city institutions. Nothing was done for a few days, beyond giving him some medicine—at length, one of the surgeons, mistaking it for a polypus, and assisted by his colleague, attempted to remove it—it seemed somewhat firm, and a slight grating sensation, like the crumbling of soft bone, followed the gripe of the forceps—considerable bleeding ensued. A week afterwards, another like attempt was made by the surgeons to tear it away, but with no better result, a small portion only came away—the whole of the base of the growth remained, which after a day or two presented a red and gristly appearance. He returned into the country, about the latter end of January, to finish his job, when the nose-bleeding becoming more frequently troublesome, he consulted a surgeon there, who applied alum and caustic, which instead of checking it, occasioned a more rapid growth.



Unable to go on with his work, he came back to his wife and family in March. He again applied to the Surgeons at the Institution referred to, and they again tried to operate upon him, but only succeeded in extracting a few small pieces, "soft, like brains." No great deal of bleeding then followed; the nostril was left nearly full of the diseased growth.

No examination of the jaw or inside of the mouth was made; and the disease was left to take its course, as the surgeons told him "they could do no more for him, it being a bad kind of Polypus, what they called malignant; and that he had better not let *anybody* meddle with it again."

It continued to spread in every direction. About the middle of April he was obliged to take to his bed entirely, he having become much reduced and very weak from the recurrences of Hæmorrhage to a considerable extent. The whole nose at length became filled; and the growth, now bound down by the tightly distended integuments, forced its way under the upper lip, growing over and blocking up his mouth, except at the left angle of it, and where but a little opening was left him for breathing or taking food, which could only be administered to him in a liquid form through the spout of a teapot.

It was at this juncture, (about the third week in July), that I was requested "to see him for satisfaction;" he feeling persuaded, from what people had told him, that if he could but be admitted into "The Free Hospital for Incurables" he should get relief; a confidence which, despite my assuring him of the probability that he would die under any attempt to remove the disease, it was impossible to shake.

Before receiving him into the Hospital, I took two Members (Clergymen) of the Committee to see him. These gentlemen expressed it to be their opinion, that if there were the remotest chance of relieving the poor fellow by any operation it ought to be done, as it was evident he must die soon if left to contend with the disease. He was accordingly admitted into the Hospital on the 22nd of July. A diet of strong soups, with wine, brandy, &c. was ordered him, and for a week or ten days he was free from hæmorrhage, gained strength, and said he felt himself more comfortable than he had done for a month.

On Friday, July 29th, a cast of his face was carefully made by Mr. Harper, the *Subcurator* of the *Norfolk and Norwich Hospital Museum*. A correct drawing also was afterwards made by a talented artist, from which the woodcuts here shown were taken.

On Monday, August 1st, a slight Hæmorrhage took place, and he began to feel dispirited, and expressed a fear that I



*Representation of the Face before the Operation.*

**Fig. 1.—Full Face.**



**Fig. 2.—Side Face.**







would not operate upon him. Circulars, as is usual at this Hospital, were sent on the following day (Tuesday) to the Medical Subscribers, requesting them to attend on the Friday, (August 5th) when the operation was performed; a descriptive account of which, by Mr. Spencer Freeman, I shall subjoin.

I will only here add, that fortunate is the Surgeon who, at so anxious a time, has the co-operation of such able and practical Gentlemen, as the Surgeons who so kindly and efficiently assisted me in the case in question; and to whom I feel much indebted, as was the patient. Not a single thing had I to ask for during this most trying operation; with heads clear, eyes open, and hands as steady as ready, each instrument, sponge, or what not, was at my finger's end at the instant I required it.

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DESCRIPTIVE ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
OPERATION PERFORMED UPON WILLIAM FORDER,  
AT THE  
FREE HOSPITAL FOR "INCURABLES,"

*By which (humanly speaking,) his life was prolonged NINE months!*

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On the morning of the 5th of August, 1853, I attended at the Norwich Free Hospital for Incurables by special summons. I met there several other Surgeons, who, as well as myself, are Subscribers to the Institution. It is usual with the Medical Officer at that Hospital, to hold conferences prior to Operations, with all the other medical gentlemen who may be present, relative to the cases about to be operated upon. Every circumstance connected with the history, and the treatment which has been pursued, is then explained and discussed, and future measures determined on. On the occasion in question, we were introduced to the case of WILLIAM FORDER, one of the most horrible and pitiable objects imaginable, labouring under a malignant growth occupying the nose, upper lip, and inside of the mouth; the loathsome and frightful character of which beggars all description by the pen. Some idea, however, of its extent and appearance may be formed from the woodcuts (on the opposite page,) taken from drawings by a clever artist, and *casts* (modelled by the Subcurator of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital Museum,) which have lately been made the subject of so much notoriety.

Having carefully examined the case, and deliberately weighed



all the circumstances of it, we fully concurred with Mr. Webber in the propriety of making an attempt to afford the sufferer the only chance now left him, and which he, by significant looks and half articulate expressions, implored us to give him. It should be particularly borne in mind, that Forder was told by one and all of us, he might die under the operation; and even should it succeed, it was not likely that he would enjoy any long immunity from disease; but he still persisted in his previously expressed desire to be operated upon, saying, "that he came into the Hospital for that purpose."

It is impossible to conceive a more unpromising or more discouraging prospect than the condition of Forder held out.

There he lay, pale as death, his voice almost extinct, rendering utterance and comprehension of what he said difficult to a degree—his pulse feeble and labouring, the eye betokening rapidly approaching dissolution; in a word, nature seemed all but exhausted from the wearing effects of his dreadful and daily increasing malady, and from his now almost complete inability to take nourishment—which could only be administered by the spout of a tea-pot, introduced at the left corner of his mouth—and through which alone he had been able to breathe for many weeks. By a little manœuvring, with the aid of a candle and small silver speculum, we were enabled to ascertain that the growth did not extend inside the mouth beyond the hard palate.

The patient having been placed on a couch, constructed upon the principal of Earle's bedstead, the trying and anxious work was commenced; each had his post assigned him, and we were cheered on by the self-possession of the Operator and his unanswerable remark, of—"Remember, gentlemen, whatever may be the issue, it is *duty*, not *choice* which we have to consider."

The operator holding somewhat obliquely a double-edged scalpel, began by making an incision in the mesial line, about half an inch below the naso-frontal suture, carrying it down the nose to the lowest healthy point of integument—from that point another incision was made to traverse the boundary of the growth on the right side, and to terminate about three-quarters of an inch beyond the symphysis—this was met by another pursuing a similar course on the left side—the integuments were then freely dissected and reflected, and the whole mass of disease exposed—the portion connected with the sound bony septum was now set free, and a ligature composed of silk and silver wire was, as a precaution against hæmorrhage, made to include, as completely as possible, all the growth external to the



maxillary and malar bones, which was then swept off by one quick cut of the knife. The central third of the maxillary bone with the teeth and greater part of the hard palate were quickly excised with bone forceps—and every remaining visible portion of the disease cut away by a pair of strong curved scissors, leaving all the parts perfectly sound and healthy in appearance; the whole mouth and pharynx were thus displayed, presenting a most frightful and appalling spectacle—looking as if the front of the face had been scooped out from the head. Scarcely any blood was lost; the three or four small divided arteries, being quickly pinched by Mr. Webber's "anti-ligature forceps," immediately ceased to bleed, rendering the tying of the vessels unnecessary. All being now cleared and prepared, the work of restoration was proceeded with; the bony septum was in part cracked through by forceps, about the middle of it, and bent down, thus forming an arched line, and superseding the necessity of a wax bridge, for the support of the integuments in the formation of the future nose.

The obliquely divided edges were accurately lapped upon the corresponding ones, and secured by a stitch or two; the right portion of the upper lip hanging down like a large rat's tail, was now turned up to meet the apex of the nose, and to form a sseptum narium—the portion of its red or mucous edge at and from the angle of turning being first pared off. The left portion of the lip was brought to join it at that angle, so as to make an uninterrupted line of mouth, and a very perfect upper lip. The parts were then secured in their position by sutures and bandages of adhesive plaster, and thus was completed one of the neatest operations ever witnessed.

The operation which took up nearly three-quarters of an hour would have been all done in ten or twelve minutes, had not the patient (whom we did not, of course, attempt to chloroform,) three times, during the performance of it, been attacked by violent convulsions followed by syncope—the last seizure occupying a full quarter of an hour when he appeared to be quite gone; but the cheer of "Hold on Gentlemen" stimulated us to persevere in agitating a strong solution of ammonia close to the face of the patient, and pouring brandy and water down his throat, which resuscitated him. He was at length conveyed back to his bed with human features and a cheerful countenance, a *striking* contrast to the state in which he was taken from it. The wood-cuts (*see page 9*), taken from drawings and casts made by the artists already alluded to, show the appearance of the patient on the eighth day after the operation.

*Stowmarket, June 24th, 1854.*

S. FREEMAN.



I quite concur in every word Mr. Freeman has written. I shall ever look back with a feeling of much pride and satisfaction, upon the day when I had the opportunity of being present at and assisting Mr. Webber, in the terrific undertaking of the operation on Wm. Forder, which, beset with so much difficulty and danger, was crowned with so gratifying and glorious a result; and I trust I shall, in common with many other country practitioners, ever feel grateful to Mr. Webber for the noble example he has set, and the laudable efforts he has made, to secure for us those advantages which we feel to be so valuable and essential to us in our endeavours to benefit those of the public who come under our care; and long live "the benevolent founder of the Norwich Free Hospital," is the fervent wish of  
GEO. POTTER.

*Attleburgh, June 5th, 1854.*

We have read the graphic and very able description which Mr. Freeman has given of the case of William Forder, and of the splendid operation performed upon him by Mr. Webber, to which (it being, in every respect, so lucidly and correctly stated); we have nothing more to add, excepting that we shall ever think of it with much satisfaction; not only as regards our full concurrence in the propriety of the measure, but also as to the part we took in that very extraordinary and trying operation, and one which, we trust we may say, without being charged with presumption, reflects the utmost credit upon "*Surgery in the COUNTRY*;" where, to many of us, the opportunities, *allowed*, are few; a prejudiced surveillance presides; with (as Mr. Webber truly observed, at one of the Hospital meetings,) "a ready censoriousness at hand, to condemn the failure of effort, which was often replete with merit; opposing a serious obstacle to competency, where a judicious and timely encouragement, given to capability, would ensure it, and be the means of saving many a life."

HORACE HOWARD, M.R.C.S.E.—L.S.A.

H. F. HOWARD, M.R.C.S.E.—L.S.A.

*New Buckenham, June 1st, 1854.*

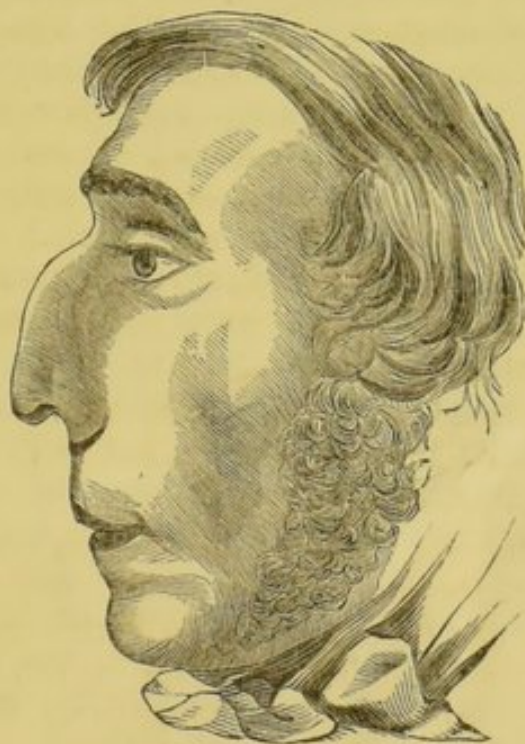
P.S.—I consider the casts to be well executed, being *quite* accurate; indeed, the patient presented, when I saw him on on the 12th day after the operation, a better appearance than is shewn by the second cast (taken on the eighth day after it), the redness upon the upper lip having entirely disappeared. He was looking wonderfully well; his health was astonishingly improved, and he expressed himself in terms of unbounded gratitude for the great relief afforded him. H. H.



Fig. 3.—Full Face.



Fig. 4.—Side Face.







*The deposition of Rachael Patterson, taken before the Committee of The Norwich Free Hospital for "Incurables," March 6th, 1854.*

I am nurse at "The Free Hospital for Incurables." William Forder was brought to the Hospital on a kind of litter, on the 22nd of July, 1853, and at once admitted. He had a most frightful disease growing on his face; he appeared to be in a dying state; he looked as white as death, and was so weak that he could scarcely raise his hand to his face; his mouth seemed to be quite blocked up by the disease. It was with great difficulty that I could understand what he wanted; he could mutter only a word or two now and then, and that not without great effort.

Mr. Webber ordered him strong broth, with wine; arrow root, with brandy; and porter, &c., which were supplied from Mr. Webber's own house; nothing at all solid could be got down; there was no passage through his nose; he breathed from the left corner of his mouth, where the liquids were also passed in, through the small spout of a feeder. He was a dreadful sufferer; he had great difficulty in breathing while he was taking his broth, &c. and was often nearly suffocated in consequence; it was very trying to have to do for him, he was in such a loathsome state.

For a week after he came into the Hospital he daily gained strength; after which he began to flag again, and expressed a fear that Mr. Webber would not operate upon him. I cheer'd him all I could, by telling him how many seemingly hopeless cases I had seen Mr. Webber operate upon with success, and that I was sure Mr. Webber would not pass over any chance of doing him good. Mr. Webber generally saw him twice a day, sometimes oftener. I had strict orders to attend closely to him.

On Friday, the 28th of July, Mr. Harper came and took a plaster of Paris cast of his face. Mr. Webber operated upon him on Friday, the 5th of August. The day before the operation Mr. Webber explained everything to Forder about his case, and the threatening state he was in, when Forder made Mr. Webber understand that he was aware how little chance there was for him; but that he put himself into his hands, and he hoped he would give him the only chance left him.

Before he was put on the operating couch, Mr. Webber, in the presence of the four Medical Gentlemen who came to see, and to assist in the operation, again reminded him of his position, by saying,—“Forder, there is no question that you are sinking, and that you cannot, under your present circumstances,



survive many hours, as you are now unable to take scarcely anything. We all deeply sympathize with you in your dreadful affliction : we are quite disposed to do anything for you, which can reasonably hold out a chance even of relief ; but as I told you yesterday, so I cannot honestly forbear to repeat to you now, that you not only must die as it is, but that it is more than probable that you will, if we attempt to operate upon you, die on the couch ; and even if we should succeed in removing the disease, there is every reason to expect that it will return, as we consider it to be of a bad kind, what we call malignant ; the operation will try you severely ; we cannot chloroform you, and the shock to your weak system will be very great, more probably, than it will bear. I have told you the truth. I, as a creature, am ready to do my best for you ; the result must be as it shall please Him "who ordereth all things." We can only do our best, as we are bound to do ; we cannot command success. Once more I ask you, after what I have sincerely stated to you, is it your desire to be operated upon?" Forder, grasping Mr. Webber's hand very earnestly, with a most imploring look, used all his energy, and muttered out, "Oh yes, Sir ; pray do it."

I heard one of the gentlemen say that he would not undertake such an operation if any one would give him £1000. Mr. Webber said, "Remember, as I told you just now, it is duty, not choice that I have to consider—I should be very glad if any one else would do it." Forder was then put on the couch, and the operation was proceeded with. It was a most trying business for all. Forder seemed to die three different times while it was being done ; not from loss of blood, for that was very slight, but from the effect of the operation upon his nerves. He was gone a full quarter of an hour at one time, before he could be rallied. One of the gentlemen said, "It is all over *now*, I am afraid." Mr. Webber, who was very firm, replied, "Let us hold on, gentlemen. Shake the ammonia in front of him, and more brandy if you please, which Mr. Webber, pressing back his tongue (the whole face being now laid open), poured down his throat. All right again, we shall pull through,—well done, gentlemen, you are all most excellent assistants. Thank you, it is all removed, I have done,—the pulse is returned in the wrist—we shall carry him through." Mr. Webber's feelings now overcame him—his heart seemed full, and he left the room for a few minutes ; he then returned and dressed the case. Great pains were taken during the operation, to contrive the nose and the lip—the parts were fitted very exactly—it was a wonderfully neat job. The patient was then taken back to his bed, and ordered to answer with his fingers, by holding one up, for "yes ;" two, for "no ;"



and his hand when he wanted anything, which he was to explain by signs. He was fed through the tube. He could now breathe freely by his nose, which he had not been able to do for some months. He was not allowed to speak or to move his lips, and which was pretty well guarded against by strappings of plaster. He soon fell into a sound sleep, and after an hour woke up much refreshed, his breathing free, and his eyes quite brisk. He soon made me understand how pleased he was that he had not an ache or a pain. He continued to go on well, almost as if nothing was the matter with him. He partook freely of nourishment, and gained strength very fast. On the third day he could raise himself up in the bed with ease; and he wished to be shaved, which Mr. Webber did for him, as far as could be done, as Mr. Webber was fearful that the barber might disturb the parts. On Monday, the fourth day, Mr. Webber removed the dressings, cut and took out the stitches, for all was healed except the small stitch holes. Mr. Webber also snipped away the piece of skin which divided the nostrils; there being nothing at the back of it; he told Forder one good nostril would be better than two small ones, and the point of his nose being brought low down, it would never be observed. After some more strappings had been put on to prevent the parts giving way, Mr. Webber said, "How do you feel now?" Forder answered, "In heaven, sir! Oh! if I had but known you before, how many months of misery you would have saved me, and I could have been at my work now! not that I wish to blame the other doctors, sir, they did to the best of their know, I have no doubt, but it was a bad job for me that I went to them." Fresh plasters were put on the next day (Tuesday). Mr. Taylor, the truss-maker, afterwards came in with Mr. Webber to see him, when Mr. Webber took off the plasters to show him how completely the parts were healed. Mr. Taylor enquired when the operation was done? "Only last Friday, sir," said Forder. "What! only last Friday," said Mr. Taylor—who, turning to Mr. Webber, said, "Sir, I can hardly believe my eyes—if I had not seen it, I could not have believed it—'tis the most wonderful case I have ever seen or heard of."—And then, turning back to Forder, (who told me that Mr. Taylor had almost supported him for many weeks before he came into the Hospital) he said "Forder, you ought to bless Mr. Webber as long as you live." "Yes, sir," said Forder, "and you too; for you kept me alive for Mr. Webber to cure; *Friday* was a *lucky* day for me, sir."

Mr. Crawford Bell came into the ward on Wednesday (the sixth day after the operation), while Mr. Webber was trimming the beard off the upper lip with a pair of scissors, before putting on



some small and narrow straps of plaster. He seemed very much surprised to see the parts all healed; and said to Mr. Webber, "How wonderfully quick it has united! why it is *all* healed!" Mr. Webber made some remarks to Mr. Bell which I did not quite hear, about "too quick for his liking," &c. When Mr. Webber visited Forder on the Thursday (seventh day), he sent for the barber and had him cleanly shaved. After this no more plaster was put on, but a piece of linen, wetted with cold water, was laid on the lip and nose; the inside of the mouth was quite healed, and Forder could now eat meat cut fine, and swallow anything without its escaping through the nostril, by holding his head a little back.

On Saturday (the 13th), which might be said to be only eight days after the operation (for it was not done till two o'clock on the 5th), I went out for an hour to see my daughter, who was ill; when I came back I found that Mr. Harper had been with Mr. Webber, and taken another cast of the face, which Forder said "didn't hurt him a bit!" On the 17th of August (twelfth day after the operation), Forder was taken out for an airing, in a chair lent by Mr. Taylor; he was gone half-an-hour. He told me, when he came back, he had been to Mr. Taylor's, to thank him for his great kindness to him. On Sunday, the 20th, (seventeenth day), he walked over to Mr. Webber's garden, and sat there in the sun; after this he walked out every day, and generally went home to see his family. He was allowed to remain in the Hospital for several weeks, in order that he might have better living than he could get at home. Mr. Webber frequently sent him a piece of fish, fowl, or meat from his own table, and some porter, called "Dent's porter," which Forder said seemed to nourish him more than anything; he had every thing allowed him which he wished for.

He was made an out-patient on the 22nd of September, which he seemed to be not pleased at. While in the Hospital he had often expressed a wish to have a wax cast of his face, as it was before the operation. He took one which stood in the closet in the ward away with him. He told me he had asked Mr. Webber for one, and that he told him that 8s. 6d. was Mr. Harper's charge for it; but that he would speak to the Committee, who, he dare say, would give him one. On the Monday after Forder was made an out-patient, he came to the Hospital to see Mr. Webber, who was then dressing some of the cases. He seemed very sulky; he walked into the ward where Mr. Webber and another gentleman were, with his hat on, which Mr. Webber told him "he had better take off, except he wished to be taken for a hat peg."



Forder then asked Mr. Webber to look at his mouth. Mr. Webber did so; and said, "yes, there is a small piece of fungus; you had better come into the Hospital and have it cut away, it can be done in a moment." Forder said "no, he should not; and that one of the Surgeons of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, (Mr. Firth I think was the name he mentioned), had been with the parish Surgeon to see him, and had told him that the operation ought never to have been done, and that he recommended that some Chloride of Zinc should be applied to it." Mr. Webber said, "you may do as you like; I advise you not to have it burnt, it will grow the quicker; there is a piece of a fang of a tooth, I see," which Mr. Webber took away with his dressing pincers. After this Forder went away, and never returned. About a fortnight afterwards the Committee met; after which I was ordered to go down to Forder, and to tell him that the Gentlemen considered he had behaved very ill, and most ungratefully towards Mr. Webber, and also themselves, and that they should not give him the cast he had taken away without leave; he could either return it, or pay the 8s. 6d. charged for it by Mr. Harper, but he refused to do either; and he and his wife both abused Mr. Webber for having done the operation.

While Forder remained in the hospital, he always spoke of Mr. Webber in the most grateful way; and his wife told me, that "when he was informed that he was to be admitted, he raised his two arms as well as he could above his head, and clasping his hands, made a strange humming sort of a noise; at first they thought he was going to swoon away, but found that he was attempting to sing some prayer, as he was so overjoyed at the idea of getting into the hospital; where, he made them understand, he was sure he should get well."

One evening, about a week before he left the hospital, he and his wife, when she came as usual to see him, had a quarrel about some money she had collected; he got into a very great passion; and Mary Holditch (a patient) and I heard him say very loudly to her, "I tell you it shall go to take my best trowsers out of pawn; you know I have no clothes to wear; and you only wished me to come here to be operated upon, because you thought it would kill me out of the way." When Mr. Harper came, on Monday (15th July), to color the second wax cast he had made, he said something to Forder's wife, who happened to be there, about the operation, and how well her husband had done; she made some reply, which led Mr. Harper to say, when he came into the kitchen to wash his hands, that "The woman seemed to be disappointed at his getting well." Forder told me, the day after the quarrel with his wife, that he was afraid his lip was injured, as his mouth bled.



*The deposition of Mr. I. O. Harper, taken before the Committee of the Norwich Free Hospital, March 6th, 1854.*

I am sub-curator of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital Museum. I was sent for by Mr. Webber on Friday July 29th, 1853, to take a cast of the face of Wm. Forder, a patient in the Norwich Free Hospital for "Incurables." It was a difficult cast to take and required great care, as the man was in such a dreadful condition, with so small an opening in his mouth, through which he was obliged to breathe, as well as take nourishment. Mr. Webber sent for me again on Saturday, August 13th, after he had operated upon him, to take another cast of his face, which I had no difficulty in doing, as the man was much stronger, the wounds all healed, and had now a good nostril through which he could breathe freely. The casts *are* in every respect *accurate*. I do not think anybody could have produced more faithful ones.

I, one day, said to Mr. Webber when he was up at my house, we ought, sir, to have a pair of the casts in the Museum? He said, well! I dare say you can if you think they would like them. I said, there were none in the Museum of any case at all like it, and that I had no doubt they would be very acceptable. Mr. Webber said I might make a set, and that he would speak to the Committee of the Free Hospital about it. After a time, Mr. Webber told me that the Committee had agreed to give them to the Museum, and that they should at all times have much pleasure in sending anything from the Hospital which might be acceptable to the Museum. The casts were made; I took them up to the Museum in a proper glass case, on Thursday, October 20th, 1853; they, till then, were never out of my hands. I sent my bill to the Committee of the Free Hospital, it was paid through Mr. Webber, and I handed him a proper receipt for it. I made several other sets of casts; they were all alike; the moulds being the same I *could not* err.

END OF FORDER'S CASE.

13.11.1853  
26/11/53  
T. H. H.

