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CASE 2007-8

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This 12-year-old left-handed boy had a history of medically intractable symptomatic seizures since 11 months of age. Magnetic resonance imaging revealed an area of encephalomalacia in the left occipital lobe and mild left hippocampal atrophy. Video-electroencephalogram monitoring also appeared to have an onset of localization to the left occipital/left temporal regions. His mother described his first seizure type as a loss of right-sided control with his eyes rolling to the left. Urinary incontinence and emesis were sometimes noted with these events. She stated that in the postictal state he was usually tired for a very short time and then he was back to his baseline. These events occurred on average one time per week and lasted one to two minutes. His second seizure type was described as inattentive spells which occurred once a week and lasted about a minute.

His physical examination was remarkable for a long-standing right homonymous hemianopsia, slow language and mildly impaired concentration. No birthmarks or rashes were noted.

A left occipital pole brain resection was performed.

Material submitted: 1 H&E-stained section of the left occipital neocortex.

Questions for consideration: Diagnosis?