AN

INAUGURAL DISSERTATION,

ON

WRETITEX

SUBMITTED TO THE

PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AND MEDICAL FACULTY

OF THE

University of Nashville,

FOR THE DEGREE OF

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE.

BY

William O. Comer

of

Nashville, Tennessee.

1857

CHARLES W. SMITH,

BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER,

NASHVILLE, TENN.
To the Medical Faculty of the University of Nashville,

This Thesis

Respectfully presented

by the Author.
University of Nashville 1854

Gentlemen

As it is customary for a second course student or in other words a candidate for graduation to write what is termed a thesis I now proceed with my subject. The subject which I have chosen is a very difficult one indeed. Though I will endeavor to do my duty towards it. The main object in thesis writing is first to ascertain if the student writes good English in the next if he uses good orthography and thereby if he knows anything about the subject he is writing upon. I do not pretend to say that I know every thing about the subject which I design writing upon: I know that there are plenty of men...
Who could learn and me agreed! about
This disease: I know it think enough
about it to write a short thesis.
My subject is that of Rheumatic
or Gonorrhea, a very common
disease throughout the whole world.
go any where you will yon will find
Gonorrhea. As for the origin of
This disease there is but little known.
I have never read any author on this
disease who said much about its origin.
Though it was thought for a long time
in former days that Lues entered or
Syphilis originated from Gonorrhea.
It is in truth brought on in the same
way and received by the same organ.
No. I believe that John Hunter
has pointed out the difference between gonorrhea and syphilis more distinctly than any other writer on the subject. There is a very great difference between the two diseases. Gonorrhea is a discharge from the mucous membrane of the urethra or vagina and syphilis is a chancrous sore. That it is a different disease from syphilis is clear to everyone from the following facts: Its appearance did not commence for more than a hundred years after syphilis. It will continue for more. This with out any syphilitic symptom which are never met with in gonorrhea. The matter of chancere the pathognomonic symptom of syphilis
When introduced into the urethra has been found not to produce gonorrhea and the matter of clap inserted under the skin has been found not to produce syphilis. The common course of mercury which is the only specific sure for syphilis is very seldom if ever used in curing gonorrhea.

Dr. Bell says that it was thought that lice venerea originated from urethritis or gonorrhea by improper treatment. Whatever puts a sudden stop to a sever or copious discharge from the urethra is supposed by many to do harm hence all who condemn the use of injections in gonorrhea affirm that they
often covert a simple clap into Docks by throwing in to the blood that what otherwise would have been carried off. This however is by no means supported by experience: a stimulating injection thrown into the sin.thre will no doubt produce much pain and inflammation; and this will in some instances produce swollen testes and perhaps sympathetic swelling of the glands in the groin. But I have not known a single case of Syphilis induced in this manner and as I have long been in the daily use of Injections many cases of it must have occurred if the idea I have just stated be well grounded.
ill of late Iقد patient who was so unfortunate as to have a clap suddenly stopped on him was certainly considered as pocketed that he was immediately put under a very complete course of mercury by which he was made to undergo a very unnecessary and distressful confinement. He also stated that he was once called to see a patient who was laboring under Tomorhose attended with much pain and inflammation and who had been so foolish as to live greatly and ride much on horseback. This with the continued use of a very stimulating injection put a sudden stop to
The discharge and at the same time excited a good deal of pain and inflammation along the posterior part of the urethra towards the prostate gland and neck of the bladder attended with a painful and frequent desire to urinate on the idea of these symptoms of syphilis the patient was immediately put under a course of mercury and when I first saw him he had been on the use of mercury for six weeks. The surgeon in attendance acknowledged that no good had been derived from it and the patient himself said that his suffering was daily increasing.
was immediately reduced aside and by
free bleaching the perineum and warm
omentumations and dries to all the
pain. The inflammation in a
short time subsided without any
symptoms of syphilis. This I think
shows that there is a very great dif-
ference between gonorrhoea and
syphilis; gonorrhoea will often
terminate favourably without Any
Medicine at all by keeping the
parts well cleansed and by mod-
erate living the disease by this
alone will become much mil-
der till at last disappear en-
tirely. This is not the case in
syphilis even the mildest symp-
toms become worse and worse.
daily with Mercury be applied. No man ought to trust the cure of the slightest chancre to any other remedy than this. An other proof that Gonorrhoea and syphilis are different diseases. Medicines that are beneficial in one are of a disadvantage in the other. Medicines which are used in the cure of Gonorrhoea have no effect in cure of Syphilis; and on the other hand medicines which are used in curing Syphilis are but very little used in the cure of Gonorrhoea. Upon this method alone of the treatment of the two diseases we can clearly see that they are different diseases; different in their nature and
and proceed from different contagion, sure they of the same nature and proceed from the same causes do would of course treat them with the same remedies. Every man that has ever read any thing about the two diseases knows that mercury is the best remedy used in Syphilis and on the other hand is very seldom is ever used in in the cure of Gonorrhea. Gentlemen I have shown or pointed out the difference between Gonorrhea and Syphilis as distinctly as I can. I now proceed to its Symptoms diagnosis and treatment. Gonorrhea derived from the Greek word (Gone Reo) gone to sperm and Reo I teeo This disease
Is characterized by a mucous discharge from the urethra of man and vagina of a woman and sometimes from the urethra of a woman. Intermixed with with specific matter and accompanied with burning pain on micturition. It is thought on by a similar discharge during sexual coition. It is entirely a different disease from Syphilis and never produces it. Some writers say that there are three different stages of Gonorrhoea; and others say that there are more, but I think there is but three. Symptoms of the first stage in the first stage of this disease the patient merely notices an itching at the mouth of the urethra. The life of
The urethra are of a bright red color. There is very little or no pain in urinating in the first stage of this disease; if it is not arrested immediately it passes into the acute or inflammatory stage which is the second stage of this disease. The discharge from the urethra in the first stage is of a thin whitish color. Symptoms of the second acute or inflammatory stage. In the second stage of this disease the discharge becomes thick and purulent, and when the disease is at its worst the discharge is of a greenish color tinged with blood. The penis swells, the gland is of a deep red color, and the stream of water is small and forked, owing to the inflammatory state of the...
urethra: all the parts near the geni
tula become tender: the thighs, perine.
um groins and testicles become tender.
and ake the patient is very often
disturbed with what is termed Chordee.
It is painful erections of the penis
happens more frequently when the
patient is warm in bed of a
night: Dr. Druitt says that these are
two kinds of Chordee, the inflamm.
matory and spasmodic. The inflam-
matory Chordee arises from
the deposit of lymph in the surgical
spongiosa of the urethra: which
where together the cells and prevents
their distention: so that when the
penis is turged with blood it is not
at one part and very painful.
The irregular motion of the bladder comes and goes sometimes their may be an erection without much pain.

In the course stages of this disease or when the disease is at its worst there is frequently nausea and vomiting indicating much dilatation of the kidneys; a tenderness across the abdomen, sickness across the loins, the neck of the bladder becomes dilated there is frequent inclination to urinate also a contraction of the accelerator and other and other muscles during micturition so as sometimes to cause a complete retention. First jet water is another symptom in this disease. And there are other symptoms too numerous.
to mention. In the third stage of this disease the inflammatory formations and discharge are called flet.

Bartholomew: The udder of Gomorrhoea. Gomorrhoea is much more severe in first cases than ever afterwards, particularly if the patient be of a weak and delicate constitution. But after repeated attacks the urethra becomes insured to the disease and each attack is attended with fever of the acute symptoms.

Diagnosis. The question next arises whether there is any means of distinguishing simple Gomorrhoea from general Gomorrhoea. There is but very little —
difference between the simple and
general. The disease is the same as
regards the urethra. The same in its
symptoms and requires the same-
Treatment. But the best diagnostic
sign for distinguishing simple
gonorrhoea from general—
gonorrhoea is that in simple
gonorrhoea there is but very-
little inflammation compared
to that of general gonorrhoea.

Treatment: In the first stage of
this disease I would use (Kerosene)
Prescription inject the patient
with a weak solution of nitrate
of silver two grains to eight
ounces of distilled water once in
every four hours. repeated for twelve

minutes. Assisting sooner if the discharge becomes thin and bloody, which

is the effect of the Citrate. Then

Inject the citrara with a weak

dilution of Sulphate of Zinc and

Benz of Lead until the discharge

ceases. and at the same time—

Gentle purgatives should be given

followed by a dose of emulsion and

cubebs. The Patient should avoid all

kinds of Liquors and Stimulants of all Kinds: and take but very

little exercise. The Patient should

continue this Mode of living for—

several days after the discharge has

stopped. Prop. P. Dres Treatment

is a stronger dilution of Citrate
of silver thrown up the urethra once in three days, followed by diuretics and mild injections.

Treatment of the acute inflammatory stage which is the second stage. If the inflammation was very high second in the first place Leach the Perineum grey. The testicles should be supported by a suspensory bandage to prevent hernia hemorrhoids or orchitis. The bandage should be kept wet constantly with cold lotion. The glands penis should be bathed at least three times a day in cold water in order that balanitis may not occur.
The diet should be very light. Diminishing drinks of all kinds should be avoided. Liqueurs, especially. The should take little or no exercise and make use of flax seed tea or bruise tea or gum water and other mucilaginous drinks. But it is by far better not to increase the flow of urine or cause the patient to urinate often. For the act of urination is accompanied with much pain and suffering. Proceed with this mode of treatment until the inflammation has abated to a great degree. Then let the patient take with a weak solution of sulphate of bine and sugar of lead until the
The discharge has stopped. It would be better for the Patient to continue this injection for several days after the discharge has stopped. Wind and Keep the Bowels well open all of the time.

Treatment of the third stage of this disease is severe. Take tincture of zine or balsam of Peru. Twice an ounce, twice an ounce. Take twenty drops in one third of a glass of water three times a day until the stranguary is produced. Then cease, and recommence after it has disappeared. Use at the same time a solution of saline of zine, one grain to an ounce of water as an injection three times a day.
until the discharge has stopped
mind and keep the bowels well
open all of the time

Gentlemen allow until I meet
you in the Green Room. With
great respect I am yours most
truly,

Mrs. E. Demofy