AN
INAUGURAL DISSERTATION,
ON
Gonorrhœa

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Gonorrhoea has been noticed as a leathome disease by successive authors, from the earliest periods in which we have any medical records; therefore it cannot be expected that I will add any intelligence to the profession, but in as concise a manner as possible, I will think together some of the most told symptoms and treatment of this disease. Gonorrhoea consists in an acute inflammation of the mucous lining membrane of the urethra, commencing in the anterior part. It generally comes on in four or five days after impure coition, but very frequently it appears in the first forty-eight hours, and in some instances not until the expiration of two or twelve days after this impure coition. At first it is very disagreeable itching sensation is felt in the urethra, causing a small distance up from the orifice, which on examination will be found a little reddened and slightly tender. After
This has continued for a short time. The mouth of
the urethra becomes very much inflamed and
swollen. There is a tumid or yellowish matter oozes
from it. The disagreeable clinging and itchy irritation
and the discharge of pus causes a considerable
swelling and burning pain in the anterior part
of the urethra. The pain now extends very rapidly
inwards along the urethra; the gland's penis becomes
more or less swollen; assumes a dark red color,
and very tender to the touch, and the discharge
now assumes a yellow granulose color, resembling
very much dilated pus. The patient now has
frequent and painful erections which keep
him very much especially after he has been
for some considerable time in bed; and
on passing or voiding urine in a great many
cases the pain is exceedingly burning. In so
many instances the inflammation continues
from the mucous membrane of the urethra to the corpus spongiosum, causing great tenderness and much hardness of part, and particularly a very severe and painful affection known as disorders which consist in very strong and continued erections, while from the inflamed and peeling condition of the corpus spongiosum, the penis is forced into rather a curved line or form, with the end of the penis drawn down and the body drawn up. At this period of the disease, small portions of blood are frequently mixed with the discharges, and very often the prepuce becomes very much inflamed, swollen, and a little erect, stuck about the edges and in spots on the internal part. It is not infrequently the case that one or more of the inguinal glands become very much inflamed and pain or lep swollen, and a distinctly cord of inflamed lymphatic vessels can be felt along at the bottom of the penis. A number of
patient complains of a constant, and aching pain in the body, and pain in the penis, and in a few instances one or both of the testicles become tender more or less inflamed, and very much swollen, attended very frequently with severe pain all along the course of the spermatic cord. Considerable symptomatic fever always attends, when the inflammation is thus extended from the prepuce to the adjoining structures. Very frequently the whole canal of the prepuce becomes inflamed, causing a burning sensation of heat and burning about the prepuce of the bladder and urethra, and cutting pains in the prepuce whilst micturating water. Under these circumstances, the patient has a continual desire to make water, but owing to a very great tenderness of the neck of the bladder and prepuce, the patient can only void a few seeping drops at a time. Whenever the testicles are much inflamed, the discharge from the
urine is always very much diminished, and in a great number of cases entirely supressed. Frequently the engorged vessels of the mucous membrane of the uretha burst, and a quantity of pure blood issues out. It is sometimes the case after an indefinite period of time, the inflammatory symptoms begin to subside. The burning pain in voiding urine begins gradually to subside; the crepitus are less frequent and painful; and the matter discharged acquires more consistence and is white and tenacious. The specific inflammation of this diseased case is first seated in the mucous membrane of the urethra, a very short distance above its orifice. From this point it frequently extends (as above stated) higher up the urethra to the neck of the bladder. It is not unfrequently the case that hemorrhoidal veins in the first instance, does not always penetrate the canal of the urethra during impure condition.
but very often is applied directly to the glands, then it causes irritation and a discharge of a very thin purulent matter from the sebaceous glands which are situated about the corneal glands. However, it is more commonly the case that the matter that is discharged comes in contact with the inner surface of the prepuce, from which it is discharged as thin white or yellowish fluid. These discharges not infrequently appear in the form of irregular patches, leaving spaces of sound skin between them. At this particular stage of the disease there is more or less phimosis. In females this disease is rarely if ever attended with the painful symptoms that attend the disease in males. In fact, in a great many cases there is so very little pain experienced by women from genitocrania, that the discharges are often regarded as mild flux, album.
It is to be observed that the inflammation in females
very seldom occurs external to the pudenda. The orifice
of the pudenda is, however, more or less irritated, and
in a few instances it becomes so sensible that when
urine is passed off it gives much pain. The disease
is most usually seated either in the clitoris about
the mouth of the vestibule, and on the mons pubis within
the cavity of the vagina, or at the inferior commissure
of the labia. Females who are affected with this dis-
 ease, frequently feel a very disagreeable itching about
the orifice of the vagina, and at the raphe. In very
severe cases the labia and clitoris often become
evry much swollen and tender. The trouble, and fre-
quently there is more or less severe burning pain
felt when the urine is voided. In more severe
instances of the disease, there is a continuous and
aching pain, felt in the bladder and womb,
both of which in a few instances become much
inflamed. These symptoms constitute an ordinary period of

Treatment. In the first stage of the disease, the colic or abortive treatment may be followed, if the discharge has not become supplicative. A very strong solution of the subbute of silver, say from the eighth to the one of distilled water made with a glass syringe, will not infrequently cut short the disease. It should not be used more than twice or three times. The remedy acts by neutralizing the venous, and also cools the surface with a film that protects the ulcerated

face. It is my opinion that this remedy should be used with great caution, and indeed never applied to a patient that is of a irritable habit. In no such patients it is often followed by an aggravation of all the symptoms. It is after the case that the disease appears to have a tendency
within itself to terminate spontaneously. But however, there are but few individuals who are willing to delay the use of remedies, or who are prudent enough to abstain from the use of stimulating articles of diet, and other causes that is calculated to keep up the irritable habit of the system, to gain such a favorable result, and in almost all cases either from erroneous efforts to arrest the discharge, or from an irritable habit augmented by stimulating articles of diet, the disease is not arrested by judicious treatment will degenerate into a chronic discharge from the urethra, generally called gleet. The inflammatory stage of the disease should be treated as a local inflammatory affection, with but very little attention to the discharge from the urethra. If the patient be plethoric, and the pulse hard and active, blood should be freely taken.
from the arm, and the inflammatory and irritable state of the parts attended with the use of antiphlogistic remedies. For this we may use saline substances, sulphuric salts not very much for this purpose. To relieve the burning pain produced by the urine, we may use niter dissolved in some medicinal fluid, such as a solution of gun salute or plastered tea, the patient should use this freely.

For the painful crepitations and chordee, that frequently harass the patient when he is in bed, receiving pressure great relief from the application of warm fomentations or moist calamine, which is of more service than cold application. That is often recommended. Also camphor combined with opium is an excellent remedy taken just before going to bed, for relieving these painful affections, say two grains of the former and two of the latter. The camphor seems
In cold water as a expectorant, and its beneficial effects may be attributed to that. The roller
bandage is recommended by our eminent Professor of surgery to be a very excellent remedy for the
painful affection of choree, and I have no
doubt of its excellence as a remedy. If bleeding
should take place from the urethra, it should
not be arrested, not unless it should be so frequent
which is very seldom the case. When it is desired
to stop the hemorrhage, it can be very promptly
done by pressure on the urethra with the hand
for twenty or thirty minutes. Red and copper
diuretics will act very beneficially in reducing the
inflammatory symptoms. There is nothing
more common than the use of astrangent
injections in the inflammatory stage of the
disease, and in some cases the discharge may
be arrested in this way, but very frequently
The consequences are extremely injurious. This is a practice I think cannot be too strongly deprecated. After the local and general symptoms have been reduced, and the discharge becomes thick and more prevalent, balsam copaivoa for some of its mixtures should be resorted to. All others I believe you to give balsam copaivoa the preference over all other remedies in this affection. I have frequently given it after the bowels has been freely evacuated by a saline purgative with decided success. The eminent Dr. Lee of Rochester recommends the following as a excellent mode of administering it: Take balsam copaivoa full, cubeb, pul. gum arabica, syrup of birches, and cinnamon water each 32 oz. mix and give from 1/2 to 3/4 three times daily. Cubeb alone is also a very excellent remedy for this disease. They ar
much more stimulating than the preceding remedy, and should be used with much caution. I almost always use this article in combination with balsam copaiva according to following: Take balsam copaiva, mixture of cabobs, spirits nitre, each 31. Take opium, pul. gum arabic each 31. Divide water q. mi. and take a spoon full three times daily. The use of these remedies should be continued for five or six days after the discharge has ceased; yet it is sometimes the case that when they are discontinued as soon as the discharge is arrested, it often returns in the course of six or eight days, and when this is the case, the same medicines rarely if ever have the same beneficial effect. Should the discharge continue after the use of the above medicines, recourse should be had to astringent injections, such as the sulphate of zinc commencing with a grain
to the ounce of water, but in proportion as the disease becomes chronic the quantity of fires may be increased to eight or ten grains to the ounce. In very absolute cases of gout the use of the tincture of cantharides along with astringent injections, particularly the nitrate of silver in solution will sometimes better than any other remedy. The quantity of this article should be two grains to the ounce of water, at the commencement and gradually increased to six or six grains to the ounce. This solution should be applied by means of a glass sponge every night just before going to bed. A gouty discharge is very often dependent on the irritation of a stone in the bladder, and when this is the case, there is nothing but the removal of this stone that will effect a cure. This can be done by the proper use of leeches, and we may suspect the presence of a stone when the gouty discharge
continues the discharge of all the above
named means. It is proper to remark that
in using injections particular care should
be taken to prevent the fluid from spill-
ing into the mouth of the bladder, which can
be very promptly done by means of pressure
over the posterior part of the prethra,
over the margin of the anus at the time
of using the injection. It is sometimes the
case, in sufferers who are anaemic, the dischage
from the mucous membrane of the prethra appears
as gushing from the mere sound of tone,
and when this is the case, I have succeeded
in arresting the discharge with the use
of the medicated tincture of iron; one
from two to six drops three times daily
in water. The treatment of gonorrhoea in
females should be conducted in the same way.
and as the same principles, it is to be observed that the use of injections can be carried to much greater extent than in males. The diet of the patient during the whole course of the disease, should be pride and unirritating.