

been previous to having the eczema. At the same time another instance was quoted, where a case of long standing eczema of the hand was cured, and where four years after the patient was in excellent health. This man, too, could have been easily identified, being a signal man at the Shoreditch station of the Great Eastern Railway. I could easily add to the list.

No doubt, if a patient suffering under eczema be attacked by some malady assailing the surface of the skin and the internal organization at the same time, as one of the ex-anthemata for instance, the eczema *may* be removed or suspended (for I trust I have shown that this does not certainly happen) as would many complaints, such as gonorrhoea; but I presume it would scarcely be considered the proceeding of a rational being to leave a gonorrhoea to take its own course, lest the removal of it might cause the development of some internal malady.

In all the cases I have seen, where eczema was complicated by an internal disorder such as bronchitis, an exacerbation of this, so far from relieving the eczema, either had no effect or made it worse; while in no case did the increased discharge, when the eczema was worse, in any way mitigate the internal affection. Thus, a poor weaver, suffering from eczema of the leg, came under my care. The disease of the skin was cured, and the patient remained well till an attack of bronchitis, at the beginning of the ensuing winter, prostrated him. In a very short time the eczema returned as bad as before, but without in the least relieving the bronchitis. A few years ago an old man came under my care for eczema of the leg. He was cured, and after an interval of quite four years, he again applied with the same complaint in both legs. I questioned him closely and learned that he had fallen into bad health, that then the eczema came on, and that the worse it grew the worse he became in other respects—a statement quite borne out by the results of treatment, for the eczema disappeared as he improved in health. A poor woman was recently in attendance at St. John's Hospital who had been four times the subject of a bad attack of bronchitis; each time she was laid up in this way an old eczema of the ankle relapsed and passed into a state of ulceration. There is a middle-aged woman attending now at the same institution for eczema, she has twice suffered from bronchitis, and twice eczema has followed the coming on of the chest affection.

I could have added many more cases, but I need no longer note them down, as I have found no evidence on the other side of the question, and to heap together facts, merely to swell the bulk of testimony without adding to its real value, seems to me sheer waste of time. My experience is, that *if two or three cases will not*