

trate of mercury in similar cases, and am able to contrast the relative merits. Of its value in primitive chancre I am unable from experience to decide, but am certain that within the period of incubation it has equal powers to, if not greater than the nitrate of silver to destroy the specific character of the sore, and I am inclined to think that on trial, its powers will be found to extend beyond the ten days allotted by Ricord to the period of incubation. I could cite the approving testimony of medical men who have tried it at my suggestion, but I would recommend the members of the profession to try it for themselves.

As the way of preparing may not be generally known, it may be well to describe it.

Take a piece of bright zinc plate, place it over the mouth of a jar and sprinkle it with iodine, the brown liquid that runs into the jar is iodide of zinc.

ART. II.—*Diseases peculiar to the Sandwich Islands.* By JOHN RAE, M.D., Kaoli Hana, Mani, S. I.

Cutaneous diseases are very rife among the natives. These have been generally all classed by travellers under the head of scrofula; yet I do not think I have seen a case of the scrofula which is so frequent in Great Britain, and sometimes is seen in Canada. There are several diseases, however, having some analogy to it, and to which the natives give various names. One of these is the *psoriasis*, which, with some latitude of translation might be Englished, as a constant springing forth of fleshy knobs. The first cases of this disease that presented themselves to me had this appearance. Over the whole body, or over the lower limbs, there were sores, generally circular in form, and varying from a quarter of an inch to an inch and a half in diameter. The general skin was little affected. There was a slight ichorous discharge from the sores, and flabby granulations shot out from them all, so as to project a line, or a quarter of an inch from the surface. An intolerable itching beset some, partially covered with a scaly cuticle, and evidence of new ones coming out, was afforded by red looking boils appearing at various points. I conjectured that the malady was connected with some venereal taint, and applied an iodine wash externally, and gave mercury internally (blue pills.) Under the stimulus, the superfluous granulations subsided, the discharge became less and less thicker, and in a fortnight or three weeks the sores were covered with a pretty firm coating of new skin and cuticle.