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## ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ART. VII.—Cases of Psoriasis inveterata. By John King, M. D., Prof. Theory and Practice of Med., and of Clinical Medicine, University of Toronto.

Amongst the many destitute and chronic sick, seeking relief at the Toronto General Hospital, those affected with diseases of the skin are the most numerous; and from circumstances not necessary to be fully noticed, application for admission from those affected with different forms of scaly diseases are the most frequent.

After submitting for years to every mode of treatment which human skill and ingenuity could devise,—or not unfrequently, perhaps, having been previously made the dupes of unprincipled and avaricious empirics, driven from home, and visiting place after place, in the vain hope of getting cured of their loathsome and troublesome disease—sleeping nightly in the open air (for they obtain no shelter from families in general, when their unfortunate state is discovered), incapable of labour, broken down in constitution and spirits, having expended all their means, abandoned by the world at large, and even despised by themselves,—they at length make application for admission to a public institution.

This is truly a lamentable picture; yet such has been the history of many poor patients treated by me in the Toronto General Hospital; and feeling, as I do, that there is no class amongst the miserable and destitute more entitled to our sympathies and commiseration, I have never hesitated cheerfully to afford my humble