

amounting to actual insanity. In the particular case which I have mentioned, the man's irritation was fearful, and he said that it was then worse than on the day when the attack was at its height. That was treated for weeks with all kinds of local applications, but nothing whatever did him the slightest good. Applications of weak tar and many other remedies were applied, but he did not get any relief from his itching until he went to Schinznach in Switzerland, where he had a course of baths for three weeks. He returned free from irritation.

Perhaps this is the place to emphasize the importance of the mineral water treatment in certain forms of this disease. It is not appropriate to send persons to a mineral water cure during the acute stage, nor is it appropriate to send them during the subacute stage which may follow; but it is appropriate to send them when they are left with only a neurosis as the result of it. I do not say that that is the only form of eczema which is benefited by mineral water treatment, but I think that is one of the most important.

*Eczema and Alcohol.*—In connection with general attacks I think a word should be said about eczema and alcohol. I have recently had a case under my care which has brought this prominently before my mind. A man in active business had been in the habit of taking a very fair quantity of alcohol every day for a great number of years, though never in excess. He was suddenly laid up with an acute attack of eczema. He was treating himself for a length of time before he called in his medical attendant, and during that time he was continuing his alcohol. Afterwards the alcohol was stopped, and under simple treatment he got well. When he went back to his work he began to take his alcohol as before, and he had a second attack of eczema. It was then suggested to him that he should leave off taking alcohol altogether. He did so, and has not had a return since. I think the relation of alcohol to these attacks is a very important one.

*Intertrigo.*—The next form, which is very common, is the form known as intertrigo, the attacks of eczema which occur round the scrotum and on the inner side of the thighs and about the anus. It usually commences with a circular red patch at the upper and inner side of the thigh, and from the pressure of the scrotum against that patch a corresponding patch will come upon the scrotum. After a little time the patches will spread, and will extend backwards, and will very likely come upon the other side, until at last a red irritable patch will be formed more or less corresponding to the bathing drawers area, spreading up over the abdomen as high as the umbilicus, and then up the buttocks