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Granular Ophthalmia—Treatment of. By D. MCGILLIVRAY, M. D.,
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Granular conjunctivitis is a very troublesome and frequent disease, and often very obstinate to treatment. It is found more prevalent in some districts than in others. But why it so prevails in certain places is not well defined. I cannot say that it is peculiarly prevalent in this section of the country, as most of the cases that have come under my notice were immigrants from foreign countries or from other parts of Canada, excepting that portion of our floating population formed by the lumbermen, who frequently seek medical advice for conjunctival diseases. The disease consists in a roughened state of the mucus lining membrane of the lids, and more especially of the upper lids. The granular elevations are simply the conjunctival papillae in a hypertrophied condition from inflammation, and vary in degree and extent in different cases. In some they are very minute and scarcely appear to the naked eye, while in others they are as large as pinheads and cover the greater part of the conjunctiva or appear only in patches. They are most frequently found on the internal surface of the tarsi, while other parts of the membrane appear healthy or sometimes swollen and injected. On closely examining the everted lid, small greyish white bodies like sago grains appear on the palpebral conjunctiva. They appear in greater number at the retrotarsal fold; these are termed simple granulations, or according to Stelwagg, "granular trachoma," and are met with in the acute and chronic forms of the disease. This state of the eye is accompanied by a mucopurulent discharge which is very troublesome to the patient, vision is also frequently impaired from opacity and thickening of the cornea, the result of friction by the granulations; and if the disease is allowed to go on, especially in the acute form, loss of vision may follow