

Cutaneous horn.—This is not a rare condition of the lip and is prone to undergo malignant degeneration. When the base of the lesion is degenerating into an epithelioma there is evidence of thickening and infiltration of the horn around the border. In many cases it is difficult without microscopical examination to determine whether or not malignancy is present.

The treatment of cutaneous horn which I have found most successful is irradiation of the base with radium after removing the horny matter. Thorough cauterization of the base with the actual cautery or with a strong caustic would likely prove effective.

26 Gerrard St. E.

NOTE ON THE WOUNDS OF THE SOFT PARTS PRODUCED BY THE MODERN BULLET*

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The time seems to have arrived when an opinion may reasonably be expressed as to the so-called "humane" character of the pointed bullets employed in the present war. Before proceeding to this consideration the protest may be reiterated against the "pure sentiment" which has given rise to the employment of the word "humane" and led to international recrimination between parties who, while advocating the employment of a "humane bullet," do not hesitate to place their main hopes on the use of projectiles portions of which may cut off a head, an arm, or a leg, or lay open the major part of one or more of the great body cavities.

CHARACTERS OF THE WOUNDS.

The main characteristics of the wound produced by the modern pointed bullet depend on two factors—initial velocity of flight and instability of flight in the long axis of the projectile. Of these two factors the former is of comparatively small importance except in the increased capacity of the bullet to produce extensive comminution of the bones when they are struck at a right angle.

* The Lancet, Dec. 12th, 1914.