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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ART. XXXIX.—*Scraps from my Note Book.* By S. C. SEWELL, M.D.,
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1. *A remarkable case of Secondary Syphilis, proving its occasional contagiousness.*

As the question of the contagiousness of Secondary Syphilis is being discussed with much acrimony in Paris at present, and is beginning to engage the attention of the Profession elsewhere, I deem the publication of the following to be very opportune. The circumstances were these:—A young woman was seduced in 1840, and infected with Syphilis by her seducer. The primary disease was cured in five weeks, and no secondary symptoms made their appearance. In the middle of May, 1841, a male child was born. The father, a man of means, placed the child with Mrs. B., about the 20th June. On Mrs. B. remarking that the child was covered with an ill-looking eruption, the father, in explanation, said the child was born with it. Mrs. B. was a stout healthy looking woman, of thirty-five, of most respectable character, her husband was a mechanic, and she had taken this child to nurse because she had lost her own; she felt lonely, and she was offered a good price. I saw her first on the 7th July. The child, puny and emaciated, was covered with lepra syphilitica, and about three dozen of smaccolating pustules. On the lips were three ichorous ill-conditioned ulcers; the tongue was also ulcerated. The child was so afflicted when brought to Mrs. B. On Mrs. B.'s nipples, and surrounding breasts, were several ulcers, identical in character with those on the child's lips. I announced to Mrs. B. that I considered that the child had communicated the "*bad disorder*" to her. From enquiries now set on foot by Mrs. B., it turned out that the nurse who had suckled the child from its birth to the 20th June, had been infected in the same manner, in consequence of which, she had refused to nurse it any longer. The child died six or