

In addition, if he wishes to conduct the treatment of his cases in a satisfactory manner, it is necessary that his knowledge of physiological chemistry should be considerable. In fact the general practitioner is the only man in the profession at the present who is truly fitted for this work.

The object of this letter is to give an account of the method pursued in the general hospital of this City in dealing with syphilis in its various stages. The treatment is essentially the same as that pursued by the late Prof. Sigmund. It differs in many points from that followed in England and America, which is that of the French school.

1st. *The Treatment of the Local Sore.*—The term *hard chancre* is now never applied to the local sore, for the simple reason that an infecting sore may be either hard or soft. These qualities do not depend on the nature of the poison, but on the anatomical structures of its seat. Where there is much connective tissue, as in the prepuce, the sore will be hard; but where there is little of this tissue, as in the glans, the sore is soft. The mineral acids, or the thermo-cautery are never used for the destruction of the local sore. The conclusion has been arrived at, that, after forty-eight hours from the time of infection, treatment of the local sore by escharotics is useless in preventing general infection. It can extremely seldom happen that an infecting sore will be seen by a physician as early as forty-eight hours. The treatment by removing, with the knife or scissors, infecting sores, has been given up here, for it was never found to be of any benefit in preventing the general infection.

The treatment of the chancre is always of the mildest kind. If it is an ulcerating surface iodoform is invariably used, and generally in the form of spray. One part of iodoform dissolved in six parts sulphuric ether sprayed on the surface of the ulcer, leaves a fine coating of the former intimately adherent to all parts of the surface. This method of applying iodoform is much better than simply dusting it on, on account of its adhering to the ulcerated surface better. After a few days use of iodoform, the sore takes on "healthy action," and when the