

the fluorescein dye. The solution should be made of fluorescein, gra. xv, Bicarbonate of soda, gra. x, to half an ounce of distilled water. This makes a reddish brown fluid which keeps indefinitely. One drop of this is placed on the conjunctiva and the latter may then be washed with water. The normal cornea is never colored, but if it is anywhere denuded of epithelium these spots are stained a green color which gradually disappears in the course of an hour. This is most valuable for the diagnosis of superficial injuries which are often difficult to recognize. Every ulcer is colored and may be outlined for the purpose of making applications, curetting or cauterizing. It also indicates, when used from day to day, the change that is taking place, and enables one to know with certainty when an ulcer is healed over. Particles of foreign bodies and rust, which often remains after the removal of a foreign body, are plainly distinguished from the green base. Its use also may be extended to the conjunctiva where any loss of substance is made known by a yellow color. Injuries thus becomes visible which otherwise could not be discovered. In conjunctivitis, phlyctenulæ become colored and are by this means diagnosed from other nodular prominences. It is also to be noted that the stain is not easily seen by artificial light.

Most of the standard text-books on the eye either make no mention of this preparation, or give a very inadequate estimate of its value.

#### XEROSIS OF THE CONJUNCTIVA.

Xerosis of the conjunctiva as a result of cicatricial degeneration following a burn is extremely rare.

T. B., aet. 25, machinist, of Watertown, N. Y., consulted me, June 3rd, 1891. About five months previously he was struck in the eye with a piece of molten metal which burnt the conjunctiva between the cornea and caruncle. He stated that it healed rapidly, but there was always the sensation of a foreign body in the eye. He had advice from two physicians and used collyria; caustic applications were made without relief. On examination there was found an area between the cornea and caruncle, almost circular, about 3-8 of an inch in diameter, superficially dry, not being moistened with the lachrymal secretion. It was not adherent to the sclerotic and of a dull white color. Solutions placed upon this area rolled from it in drops as from an oily surface. The friction between this and the upper lid, in winking, produced the sensation of a foreign body. Under cocaine anæsthesia the xerotic area was removed and two stitches introduced to bring the normal conjunctiva together. These were removed in forty-eight hours and there was no further Xerosis.

J. C. CONNELL.