

covered through the structure, with their opened up and patulous extremities. These were very numerous, and evidently the source from which the blood issued in such quantities. The patulous condition of the arteries, as well as the veins, I ascribe to the matting of the coats of the vessels with the surrounding tissues, and thus neutralizing their contractile power. The softer parts of the tumour, on section, exactly resembled the brain in a state of decomposition.

*Case 6.*—The late Mr. Palmer, of this city, had a case very analogous to the one just particularized, a short time before under his care, in Mercer's Hospital. The patient was a young woman only 24 years of age; she had a flat painful wart on the inner side of the knee; it was there for years, but having become very irritable and ulcerated, and bleeding from the least injury, she solicited for its removal; it was taken away by the knife, and the part healed favourably. She returned to the hospital in five months after; the glands in the groin of the same side being enormously enlarged, and all the structures in the inguinal region participating in the encephaloid degeneration. This creature died before the end of the seventh month after the operation, of repeated and profuse hæmorrhages.

Now the cases which I have given are examples of only one condition of the skin preparatory to ulceration and malignancy; that is, when there exists an indurated warty tumour, and this I conceive to have a cancerous tendency, *ab initio*. The small growth may be unproductive of inconvenience for years, until irritated, as illustrated in many of the cases which I have adduced; then the characteristic pain, sharp and lancinating, never entirely deserts it; ulceration sets in, making breaches round its base, and proceeds to the detachment of the warty surface. During this time, a thin fluid exudes from underneath; hard firm granulations are thrown up from an indurated base, not rising very high, yet presenting a mammillated surface, far denser than the interior of the projecting nodules. The destructive process which I have endeavoured to describe and elucidate by the foregoing cases, presents to the inquirer two very striking characteristics, and essentially belonging to it—1st, that when once the ulcerative process is set up, there is never any amelioration, ever so temporary, no attempt at cicatrization; and 2nd, the great liability of the appearance of encephaloid disease, either in the site of the original tumour or in the line of the absorbents, returning from its position. Here, then, are two marked differences as to the results between it and the condition to which the term *noli me tangere* is applied, and to the *destructive ulceration* most accurately described by Dr. Jacob. Of this latter disease, I present to the Society this highly painted cast to