

I INDIVIDUAL DAMAGES.

Syphilis, I have said, in the first place, constitutes a social danger from the damages which it inflicts on the individual patient.

This first point is one of common notoriety. So I need not take much time to demonstrate that syphilis is, for the individual, a serious, important, and grave disease, at times indeed very grave. I limit myself to stating that which is not less known; namely, that it is a disease extremely fruitful in manifestations of every kind, and in manifestations capable of localizing themselves in all parts of the living body, and equally capable of results the most varied—results, immediate or remote, indeed at times immeasurably slow and knowing no end but the end of life itself.

To consider them only from the viewpoint of prognosis—the only one which ought to occupy us especially—the incredibly numerous and diverse manifestations of syphilis divide themselves naturally into two groups.

On the one hand are the manifestations which are mild, or relatively mild at least, superficial and transient. They may be hard to bear in various ways, painful in various degrees, exposing and vexatious; but altogether they do not constitute (with rare exceptions) serious dangers, and above all they do not menace the integrity of an organ or of life.

The other manifestations, on the contrary, are always more or less important. They deeply involve the tissues; they are parenchymatous, as we say in technical language; they are disorganizing, ulcerating,