

THE TREATMENT OF CANCER.

Many have been the methods of treatment proposed and that have led to disappointment. It must be confessed that we have not as yet a cure for this disease. We all know the end to which the Doyen serum, the radium treatment, and the use of the x-rays have come. In some instances of favorable type there may be amelioration—or even a cure—but the goal is far from being reached by any or all of these methods.

In 1907, Dr. de Keating-Hart, of Marseilles, introduced a treatment which has been called fulguration. This method of treatment has been in the lime light of the German and French societies for some time. This method of treatment was urged by men of much influence, but it has completely collapsed. The air is now cleared.

Keating-Hart's method is to remove the tumor as thoroughly as possible and keep as well away from diseased tissue as the conditions will permit of. The field of the operation is then thoroughly sparked with an alternating current of high frequency and tension. This is very painful and the patient must be well under an anaesthetic.

When the fulguration has been about the head, neck, or chest there is much distress in breathing; the pulse becomes very rapid and weak, and the patient very weak. Many deaths have resulted from this state of shock. In cases where they recover from this state the after results do not appear to be any better than those following a carefully performed peace.

Opinion, however, is still divided and there are some of high standing who believe in fulguration. It may be said, however, that it has seen its day. Let this lightning method, as the Germans call it, depart in operation by the knife.

SANITARY WORK IN THE TROPICS.

Dr. W. C. Gorgas, Assistant Surgeon General in the United States Army, read a paper at the recent meeting of the American Medical Association on "The Conquest of the Tropics for the White Race." In speaking on malaria in the canal zone, he pointed out that the mosquito likes fresh, clean water to breed in. There must be plenty of grass and algae to shelter the young mosquito. In addition to this, the mature mosquito will not fly far, and is afraid of the wind, and must have the protection of foliage.

Drainage and the cutting away of the grass and foliage will soon rid a district of the anopheles and the malaria they spread. The following quotation from his address is interesting and encouraging :