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**ELECTROLYSIS IN THE TREATMENT OF NÆVUS.\***

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As the practitioner is very frequently called upon to treat cases of nævus, and electrolysis properly employed offers greater advantages than any other form of treatment in the majority of cases, I have chosen for the theme of my paper the use of electrolysis in the treatment of nævus. I shall not attempt to consider the matter in an exhaustive manner, but it is necessary to make some observations of a preliminary nature before proceeding to consider in an intelligent way the treatment advocated. Under the term "Nævus" are embraced many deviations from the normal condition, of dissimilar structure and characteristics; perhaps, the classification of Van Harlingen is as free from objection as any, and his definitions also are commendable. As regards the skin, Van Harlingen seems to recognize two chief divisions—nævus vasculosus, nævus flammeus, a congenital new-growth of the vessels of the skin; and nævus pigmentosus, nævus spilus, nævus verrucosus, nævus lipomatodes, and nævus pilosus, a group of hypertrophies of the pigment, with or without the involvement of other elements of the skin. He also alludes to nævus papillaris, nævus unius lateris, and nerve nævus, but these we shall not consider.

Of nævus pigmentosus, or pigmentary mole, Van Harlingen says it "may consist simply of a circumscribed pigmentary deposit in the skin, without hypertrophy of the connective-tissue elements or of the hairy system; or in addition to the excess of pigment there may be hypertrophy of all the cutaneous structures, especially the hair. When smooth on the surface and level, or nearly so, with the skin they have been called nævus spilus. When rough, uneven, and warty, they are called nævus verrucosus. Sometimes they are met with as thick, soft connective-tissue growths of variable dimensions, being then designated nævus lipomatodes. Sometimes pigmentary nævi are smooth and hairless, at other times they are more or less covered with hair. The smaller moles are often acquired, while larger hairy nævi are congenital." The same authority defines nævus vasculosus thus: "Vascular nævi are

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