

The other skin affections, the acne, impetigo, ecthyma, or hæmorrhages are not so pathognomonic, but, taken with other conditions, may aid in the diagnosis.

X. THE EYES AND EARS.

The eyes are frequently affected at an early stage of the disease with choroiditis, or choroido-retinitis. The eyes may be seriously damaged as the result of these inflammations. Iritis is much less common, but may appear during the eruptive stage. Keratitis seldom appears under the sixth year, but from this age to that of puberty, or later, it is not uncommon. It is the most characteristic eye disease met with in inherited syphilis. It begins as a diffuse haziness in the centre of one cornea. There is dimness of vision and irritability of the eye. This haziness is made up of a number of minute punctate deposits, and in a few weeks the whole cornea is involved, giving it a cloudy, milky, whitish, or ground glass appearance. The ciliary region is congested. There is fear of light. The second eye soon passes through the same changes. Eye symptoms appear in some form in about 25 per cent. of all cases.

The ears are subject to certain syphilitic inflammations. Otitis media may result from an extension of disease from the naso-pharynx. Later in life, or during the second dentition, there may come on a steadily progressive deafness of labyrinthine origin which may end in complete loss of hearing.

XI. THE NERVOUS SYSTEM COMPLICATIONS.

In no part of the body does inherited syphilis work such ravages as in the nervous system. The disease attacks this system in several ways and the consequences are far-reaching and disastrous. Epilepsy, convulsions, tabes dorsalis, paresis, arrested mental development, and meningitis are among the progeny of inherited syphilis.

As pathology becomes clarified by better knowledge of morbid changes and the various infections, it becomes established that syphilis is not often a cause of pia-arachnoid meningitis; but there are cases on record with attached autopsies which confirm the belief in the possibility of its occurrence. Thickening and adhesions of the pia have been found that point clearly to a meningitis as the cause. Then, also, there are some known cases of hydrocephalus due to syphilis. Such cases depend upon a prior meningitis. Sir Thomas Barlow has recorded a typical case of syphilitic meningitis.

The brain may suffer in inherited syphilis in several ways. The cortex may undergo sclerosis, there may be hydrocephalus, or vascular