
Clinical Reports

CASES IN SKIN DISEASES.

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Lichen Planus.—Female domestic at St. Michael's Hospital; patient is deaf and dumb. Eruption began about the beginning of this year on the front of the forearms and slowly extended to the trunk and legs. The face and scalp have not been attacked, and as yet no lesions have appeared on the mucous membrane of her mouth. The primary lesions are always flat papules, which arise abruptly from the surface of the skin, and, as a rule, have a burnished appearance. This last character can be best seen when the papules are viewed obliquely. The lesions generally have a straight-lined polygonal contour. A few papules have a circular form, but these are usually larger than the polygonal-shaped lesions. Some of these appear somewhat umbilicated. When carefully examined with a lens the straight-lined margin of the papules can usually be shown to be the epidermic furrows which are normally found on the skin. The color of the lesions varies from white to violet. In addition to the discrete papules, small patches may be seen here and there over the body, but these are always formed by the coalescence of the primary lesions. The larger patches are covered with whitish scales. When the papules have disappeared pigmented spots frequently remain for some time. The patient suffered severely from itching and loss of sleep during the first month of the disease, but at the present time states that the rash does not give her any discomfort. The treatment consisted in the administration of a mixture of liquor arsenicalis and potassium bromide.

Scleroderma.—Case 1. William Davis, aged forty-nine, peddler; was admitted under my care to St. Michael's Hospital. His mother had died of old age and his father is still living and healthy. All his brothers and sisters are in good health. Patient was born in Poland and has travelled in England, Africa, Australia and Southern States. His business frequently compelled him to sleep out at nights, and he was exposed to cold and wet weather. When he was three years old he had cholera. When aged seven, an ulcer, one and a half inches in diameter, developed on posterior surface of left leg, about three inches above the heel. This persisted in spite of treatment, for seven years. It then healed, and from that date until he was thirty years of age he had good health. When thirty-two years old, and again two years later, he was attacked by rheumatism. He then had good health until he was forty years of age, when the first signs of the present disease showed themselves.