

these as unnecessary, that he believes them compatible with a final consent on the part of the female. One case among many of the same nature, is related, where, in consequence of an inflamed state of the genitals in a young girl, which terminated in death, and who complained of having been much hurt by a young man with whom she had slept, Mr. Ward, Surgeon, then attending the Manchester Infirmary, gave a verdict of murder against the young man. From the subsequent admission into the Infirmary of several youths similarly affected, and in which it was absolutely certain that no injury or violence whatever had been inflicted, M. Ward hastened to rescue from an impending fate, the victim of a scientific error. Capuron has observed similar cases which he ascribed to an epidemic catarrhal affection then prevalent in Paris.

But, as Dr. Duncan says, we must take care not to run into the opposite error, "*for it is extremely improbable that diseases which occur so rarely, should happen to appear in a child to whom violence was offered, unless that violence had some effect in producing it.*" Marks of external injury, however, continues Dr. Beck, are only *corroborating*, and cannot operate as *certain* proofs, except when the age, strength, and state of mind of the respective parties are properly considered. On the question of the possibility of a woman being involuntarily deprived of her chastity, Mahon says: "*D'après l'impossibilité presque entière où est un homme seul de forcer une femme,—on doit rarement ajouter foi à l'existence du viol ; je crois même qu'il serait prudent de ne l'admettre que lorsque plusieurs hommes armés se sont réunis pour commettre ce crime.*" Farr is also of opinion that it is impossible, for a woman always possesses sufficient power to resist the attempt. Fodéré, Capuron and Brandelius assert the same. Metzger only allows of three cases in which the crime can be consummated: where narcotics have been administered, where many are engaged against the female—and where a strong