## Riddell: Early View of Venereal Disease.

tules of several kinds upon the privates, the head, the face, the neck, the breast, the arms and generally the whole body. Some also it disfigured after the rate of a leprosy; others had a kind of scurf, which scaling off discovered the skin underneath to be black or blue. Upon some, foul ichorous sores were contintally running. And besides all these they had in the inward parts great tormenting exulcerations, as in the mouth, the throat, the nostrils, the urinary and spermatic passages which did eat off the penis, the palate, the lips, the nose in despite of all medicines, so that men being affected with the disease, their friends were frightened from looking upon them and spurned them as if they had been visited with the pestilence. These things being considered with the terrible pains that racked them it was rightly termed by a certain author Miserabile scortatorum flagellum."

But Fracastorius, who he observes was born before the introduction of syphilis into Europe, says that in twenty years it altered much and that there was after this another imitation within six years' time, the disease not raging as before in the external parts. This agrees with the account of Fernelius "who was born almost twenty years before it was discovered in Europe and lived to seventy-two years of age, saw it much changed in the space of thirty or forty years, in so much as he tells us in his time it was much altered, not defacing the bodies of men with pustules, scurfs, and virulent ulcers but tormenting them more with intolerable pains which though they might be increased by the ignorant and preposterous ways of curing them used, yet the disease itself also changed continually and seemed to decline and grow old-adeo ut lues qua nunc grassatur, vix illius generis esse putetur" (8).

Two or three generations later Sennertus (9) observed that, whereas in earlier times nearly all if not all infections took place in coition, now "where one person.gets this disease by the beastliness of

