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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ART. XXI.—*On the application of Tincture of Iodine as an Ectrotic Remedy in Small Pox.* By J. CRAWFORD, M.D., Professor of Clinical Medicine, McGill College, and Physician to the Montreal General Hospital.

It is now upwards of nine years since I first recommended the application of tincture of iodine as an ectrotic remedy in small pox, and although I observe that the suggestion has been noticed by Dr. Copland, in his Dictionary of Medicine, and by Dr. Dunglison, in his work on Therapeutics, and also by some others in the United States, I would nevertheless desire again to draw the attention of the medical profession to the benefit that a more extended experience has convinced me would follow a general application of the remedy.

Epidemics of the dangerous malady of small pox, have been fortunately rare amongst us, and therefore the opportunity of further testing this remedy had not been afforded me, till the latter end of the last year, and earlier months of the present, during which period I have had occasion to treat, both in hospital and private practice, several cases of very grave variolous disease, and would desire to lay my further experience before the profession, anxious that a fair trial and just estimate of the application should be made, while I feel fully confident that it will maintain the reputation I have deemed it deserving of. I would here appeal to those who have seen much of the natural small pox, or its effects, how few cases escape pitting and unseemly scars, when the disease is allowed to run its course without interference, and I would also ask, how many attempts have been made in consequence, to supply an ectrotic remedy, and how difficult of application, or disagreeable, and even inefficacious, are any that have been hitherto recommended. The Herculean undertaking of cauterizing the several individual pustules, in severe cases, quite precludes its application. I have reason to think the compound tincture of iodine, a very powerful and efficacious remedy, which has been tried with very satisfactory results in the Montreal General Hos-