

Fig. 1.³ This illustrates an angiomatous tumor on the forehead of a babe seven months old. It was soft, violet-red in color, full of blood. It could by pressure be reduced one-fifth in size, but pressure on the tumor caused pain, and when the child cried it took on a deeper color.

This tumor was treated by the "cross fire" method. The first treatment was made on 22nd March. On the 15th April a crust was forming at the periphery of the tumor, showing the result of inflammatory action. By the 3rd May the tumor had diminished to about one-half its size. Between the 6th and 30th of May nine further applications were made. During June and July radium was again used, and about the last of August the cure was completed.

Dr. Wickham writes:⁴ "Frequently we combined this 'cross fire' method with the 'filtering' method, and by these means were enabled to witness the dissolution of tumors, the disappearance of the throbbing as well as the loss of color of the angioma, which, after their giving way, have sometimes retained a surface contrasting only slightly in tint with the healthy tissues in the same region.

"But the specific action of radium is not limited to cancerous and angiomatous tumors. There is another variety of tumors, the Keloidan, which also derive benefit from it. In fact, without visible reaction, enormous cheloids may be made smooth, and the truly turgid appearance of certain complicated scars made by keloids disappear, to be replaced by a flat, scarred surface, much easier to conceal. Moreover, the specific action of radium has caused much of the pain which ordinarily accompanies cheloids to disappear.

"Our later observations have merely strengthened our first conclusions. In fact, it is without determining the secondary inflammatory reaction that these affections must be treated. By applications of very short length, from one to three minutes a sitting, with a large and powerful apparatus, we found ourselves able to cure, without irritation, localized pruritus and superficial neuralgias, especially that which follows the shingles. Here is an example:

"A baby a year old was suffering from a bad case of pruriginous eczema, which, to its parents' great despair, had spread over its whole face and scalp. For six months without any success I treated it vigorously by the ordinary means. The baby cried without ceasing, and slept badly. I decided to use radium. M. Degrais applied our powerful apparatus of exterior radio-activity, 580,000 and six centimetres in diameter, on each place,