

But here are two points which we ought to insist upon being known: first, the worth of the tissues used in reaction, and, secondly, the absolutely painless nature of the treatment. As for the value of reparation of the tissues, histology is in accordance with clinical observation. Dr. Dominici, my colleague in the Biological Laboratory for the study of Radium, has shown that the cells under the influence of the rays of radium take on again their embryonic condition, but without being subject to the changes which accompany habitual inflammations. Then follows a simple embryonic process freed of all which could hinder reparation. And, in fact, the clinic shows tissues made in reparation which do not deserve the name of scars. These are pliant, united, smooth, without indentation nor fibrous stroma, and they do not pull on the neighboring tissues. They differ from the normal skin only by the absence of granules, and by a color clearer, whiter, and sprinkled here and there with some rare elements of "telangiectasie." It is, moreover, this property of esthetic reparation so peculiar to radium that we have used with profit in the treatment of bad, disfiguring scars, especially those which accompany scrofula.

The second point, the absence of pain, is important to be remembered. This circumstance not only permits larger surfaces to be acted upon, but it renders the treatment very easy for pusillanimous individuals, for children, even for infants. Applications can, in fact, be made during their sleep, and the subsequent reaction excites nothing more than a slight transitory smart that is very easily borne. This quality of the radium treatment was easily foreseen, since plainly the rays have the quality of being painless. We see, for example, their action in pruriginous diseases of the skin, neuralgia, and the excessive sensitiveness of the skin which follows shingles. We believe ourselves, therefore, able to conclude that in the treatment of vascular birth-spots radium is superior to all other means, even to electrolysis. In fact, what hinders the use of electrolysis is the pain and the number of operations necessary. It is also almost impossible to use it on children, or on very large spots. But there is more. Even theoretically, treatment by electrolysis cannot claim to act on certain deep birth-spots. Here is, for example, the photograph of a young girl with a vascular birth-spot on her face, crossing the entire breadth of her cheek, and even coloring the mucous buccal layer. My master and my friend, Dr. Brocq, on directing this young girl to me, told me that he considered this form absolutely incurable. So, also, was perhaps then my own conviction. A single spot in the