

sions followed by infection, while phagedenic sores proved innocuous. Chancres which last for a long period are not more likely to terminate in secondary syphilis than those which cicatrize within a moderate or short space of time, as may also be seen from an examination of these 170 cases.

"On the other hand, induration is so frequent a symptom of these primary ulcers\* that it is impossible not to admit that it bears an intimate relation to the syphilitic erythema which ensued. But even if it could be shown that all infecting chancres are indurated, must we necessarily say that induration is the cause of infection? By no means; for this would only be avoiding the question instead of solving it, since the cause of the induration would still remain to be discovered.

"Finally, in my investigations I have endeavoured to ascertain if any relation existed between the symptoms presented by my patients and those of the persons from whom they contracted their disease. Such enquiry is often difficult, for men are frequently infected by women whom they never see but once and of whose name and address they are ignorant. Some have intercourse with several women within a short time preceding the appearance of the chancre, so that the source of the virus is doubtful; others refuse to give any information with regard to the persons with whom they have had connection. In some cases, however, we are able to compare the symptoms in the two sexes. Patients often bring to me the women who infected them, or else put me in the way of visiting them at their homes. Frequently, also, at the Hôpital des Vénériens, I have found two or three, or even a larger number of men who contracted their disease from the same woman, either on the same day or at a few days' interval. Finally, in several instances I have seen both a wife and husband, and even their children, all affected with syphilis which had been introduced into the family through one of its members.

"These repeated confrontations of persons infected by each other—undertaken at first to determine what syphilitic lesions are contagious and what are not; to show what symptoms may succeed others, and what modifications the same symptoms may undergo by transmission between individuals of different sex and temperament—have led to the discovery of that hitherto mysterious cause by virtue of which chancres sometimes limit their action to the part on which they are situated and the neighbouring ganglia, and at other times extend their effect to the system at large and are followed by constitutional syphilis. The following propositions embody the results obtained from the confrontation of patients affected not only with erythema, but also with other syphilitic eruptions and primary sores, with those persons from whom their disease was derived:—

"If we compare persons who have had chancres followed by constitutional symptoms with those persons who inoculated them, or with those whom they in turn have inoculated, we find that all, without exception, have had constitutional syphilis; never, in any case, has the action of the chancre been merely local.

"On the other hand, by the comparison of individuals who have had chancres which did not result in general manifestations with the individuals who infected them, or with those whom they have infected, we find without exception that the latter, equally with the former, have had chancres, the action of which was limited to the part first inoculated. Thus a chancre followed by constitutional syphilis never gives rise to a merely local chancre; and a purely local chancre cannot produce a chancre which will be followed by the general manifestations of syphilis. The uniformity of the facts which have come under my observation—none but apparent exceptions having ever been met with—fully justifies me in enunciating the following proposition as a law:—

*"Whenever a person has a chancre and afterwards constitutional syphilis, the generalization of the syphilitic phenomena is first of all due to the fact that the person from whom the contagion came had a chancre which was necessarily followed by constitutional symptoms."*

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\* Of the 170 chancres, 157 were known to be indurated; in 13 induration was doubtful.