

more than one-half the cases of rosacea occurring in the female have their origin either in functional or organic diseases of the ovaries or uterus. You have already learned of the intimate relation which exists between the generative organs and the circulation of the face.

When these organs are diseased, we find that the skin of the face very often makes it manifest by congestion during the time the uterine disease exists. If the uterine disorder is chronic, there is a tendency to continued congestion, and ultimately a rosaceal condition is developed.

As causes of acne rosacea, therefore, we may look to occupation, derangement of the stomach or liver, and derangement of some portion of the generative apparatus, more especially of the uterus and ovaries.

TREATMENT.

You can readily perceive, as we come to speak of the treatment of these skin affections, that, if the causes of a constant, or almost constant, congestion of the face can be removed, we have an opportunity to treat the case successfully. But if we cannot remove these causes, if they are in constant operation, all that we can do in the way of treatment is simply palliative. At the very outset, therefore, we should inquire regarding the general health of the patient, especially with regard to derangements of digestion, disorders of the liver, irregularities of the bowels, etc. In the female special inquiry should be made with reference to the uterine functions. We should never forget to make close inquiry with reference to the habitual use of alcoholic stimulants, and determine as nearly as possible the quantity consumed daily. In the case before us there is quite recently an accession of the rosaceal condition. He says he has been in the habit of using alcoholic stimulants in considerable quantities, but has given them up: he has not taken very much during the past two weeks. He has been in the habit of taking sometimes as many as *twenty* drinks a day, but not sufficient to get really drunk. His former drinking has probably affected his liver, and in consequence congestion of the face has been induced, and the two or three drinks which he now takes daily are sufficient to maintain this congestion. The damage done by a single potion is not overcome before another is taken, and in that manner there is kept up a constant tendency to congestion.

In our other case the patient doubtless has some uterine disorder, and this is to be suspected from the location of the eruption about the mouth.

The man has, in addition to the slight rosaceal condition, papules and pustules of acne. The two diseases, as I have already stated, are distinct, but in the rosacea we very frequently find acne in addition.

Both the acne and the rosacea are dependent

upon the same class of causes. The first thing this man must do, if he wishes to get rid of the eruption upon his face, is to stop using alcoholic drink. We should next examine with reference to hepatic congestion, and endeavor to correct all disorders to the stomach, liver, and bowels. When that is done, we should consider what is best to be done in the way of local treatment.

LOCAL TREATMENT OF ACNE.

We have here pustules, papules and a certain amount of redness. Our first effort should be to remove the congestion as quickly as possible. The pustules should all be punctured; and in opening them we should cut pretty wide and reasonably deep. The papules should be treated in the same manner, and in putting your knife through them, make the incision sufficiently deep, so that they will bleed quite freely. In other words, make local depletion.

Next in order, the best application to reduce the congestion would be a poultice. If more convenient, the face can be held in hot water. To do this, let him take a basin of hot water, immerse his face, withdraw it, breathe, immerse it again, and so go on bathing the parts for some time every evening. Another method is to cover the face with pieces of muslin kept constantly wet with water as hot as it can be borne. As means for relieving local congestion, therefore, use local depletion and a poultice, which induces resolution by stimulating the circulation.

In the course of a week, if this plan of treatment is followed out faithfully, a very decided bleaching of the parts will be produced. If there is very much congestion of the skin not invaded by the pustules and papules, little scarifications may be made wherever it is most marked. Although the color at the end of a week, perhaps, may be very much improved, still there will remain a certain amount of thickening of the skin. That infiltration must be reduced, as you have often been told, by the use of alkaline applications. The face should be thoroughly rubbed three or four times a week with green soap. The soap will cause an active inflammation that will soon subside, and leave the skin yet red, but with the thickening very much reduced. The skin then usually has a polished, shining appearance.

When the infiltration and thickening have been removed, and nothing remains but the red color and polished appearance of the skin, this is most readily removed by the application of sulphur. For this purpose a wash, prepared according to the following formula, may be employed.

R. Lac. sulphur,
Glycerine,
Rose-water,
Bay rum, a a,

This should be applied every night.