

treated wrongly this is often, or commonly a local, trivial affair, often easily cured in many ways, and only seldom, or when aggravated by injudicious treatment, does it manifest a destructive nature, and then it is owing to the same internal conditions which induce cancerous lesions elsewhere, as already intimated. We know how rarely metastases occur in basal-cell epithelioma, and very seldom in internal organs, but spinocellular epithelioma metastasizes freely, even in distant parts, as in the liver and bone marrow.

Applying now our simile of a mutiny of soldiers, to the action of the cells forming the lesion which we call cancer, we can readily see how a local irritation may act as the exciting cause of rebellion, by soldiers or cells, against existing conditions of life, while perhaps the latter alone would not suffice to produce a mutiny or the malignant growth: even as a spark suffices to start a great fire in combustible materials.

The soldiers may have endured their increasing discomforts and distress without resistance or mutiny, until some unjust or unkind treatment, or a blow, from a corporal or a sergeant, led them to open rebellion. In the way the cells of a part may have long suffered nutritive and neurotic, or other grievances, and yet have striven to perform their functions faithfully, secreting milk, gastric juice, bile, urine, etc., until some external agency gave them a shock of unusual or unjust treatment. Some local injury precipitates matters and leads them to throw off their allegiance to physiological control and action, and

starts them on their abnormal and riotous career. Ceasing to functionate as before in their proper glandular or other action, they still have the power of growth and reproduction, and a useless malignant neoplasm is formed.

We all know that after the surgical excision of an innocent adenoma, which had been pronounced non-malignant microscopically, true cancer may develop, metastasize, and destroy the patient; and the surgical removal of a true carcinoma will often seem to light up a much more severe and distressing trouble. It is quite logical to believe that, if the nutritional and other errors of system persist, these wild and riotous cells will continue their mad and destructive career, and that they will metastasize, as already mentioned. All this accounts well for the wrong theory of the purely local nature of cancer, which has gained such a wide acceptance.

All surgeons and pathologists claim that we know nothing of the true cause of cancer; but everything has a cause, and careful clinical study and experience now show abundantly the correctness of the doctrine of a constitutional origin and cause of carcinosis, and that when taken early the local lesions called cancer disappear and remain absent as long as the casual elements are kept under control. Diet, of course is the basic element, in order that the cells may receive the proper pabulum with which to perform their duties. But perfect nutrition depends also upon the correct action of the various organs of the body, including the endocrinous glands, and hygienic and proper medicinal