

pharynx, I adopted his valuable suggestion, and freely applied pure nitric acid to the base from which the tumor sprung. It is now five years since operation, and there has been no return.

PRE-COLUMBIAN LEPROSY—A CRITICAL ESSAY.*

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(Continued.)

We have explained before that "llaga," mentioned by Jimenez de la Espada, had attracted our attention, because it appeared to be the cause of the mutilations which occupy us. Upon reading the original text, which we reproduce literally, we asked the question: How is it possible that a physician could write it? Its description is inaccurate, and without any data of etiology.

The word "llaga" signifies, in Spanish, ulcer, wound. See, for example, *Diccionario Nacional de la lengua española* por Domínguez, Madrid, 1860,—“Llaga, s. f. v., ulcera.” Or the *Primer diccionario general etimológico de la lengua española*, por don Roque Barcia, Madrid, 1881—“Llaga,” disunion de la carne, causada por corrosión o por herida.”

They call "llagas" "heridas (wounds) o contusiones" in one word, all external contusions (Rivero y Tschudi, p. 123). To make it more exact, I shall describe now that which signifies the word llaga, in the Argentine Republic, based on data which persons who know well the country have given to me. There does not exist in the Argentine Republic any disease called "llaga": that which the word signifies is the effect of different diseases. When they speak of "llagas" (generally in the plural), it is understood especially that they mean an affection of the throat; for instance, "Has llagas in the throat," is a very common phrase. More precisely, they use the name "benign llagas, when the affections are light, and on the contrary, if they are severe, they call them "bad llagas," or "black llagas." Lastly, it is applied by physicians, speaking with their patients, to distinguish especially diphtheria, vegetations on the tongue and in the larynx; they speak of "llagas on the tongue, in the mouth, or in the throat." In the case of a great affection, they also say, "had the whole mouth in a live llaga," or "the mouth in live llaga." Once I have heard mentioned "internal llaga."

The effects produced by blisters are called "llagas," as well as

* Review of the Museum of La Plata (Argentina), Vol. IX., page 337, and following.