

He believes in the doctrine of Incubation, that is to say, that the virus may remain for some time a cause without effect, at least without any appreciable effect; it is substantiated by analogy and well observed facts. One instance, seen by himself, was that of a young man who had intercourse with a prostitute, a friend to whom he told his adventure so frightened him by telling him that she was diseased, that he immediately after applied to M. V. "For four days, during which I attended him, I observed nothing. On the fifth day a chancre appeared."

He dissents from those who maintain the opinion of the localization of chancre, there being no certain period wherein the effects of the virus are limited to the narrow sphere of the chancre, and a recently developed chancre which already secretes pus capable of inoculation, being at the same time able to produce that which is capable of absorption. M. Reynaud reports a case where two suspicious pustules on the penis were immediately cauterized, yet secondary accidents were not prevented, although after the cauterization the patient abstained from sexual intercourse. As there is no reason for denying the efficiency of the cauterization this instance must be admitted to be one remarkably illustrating the rapidity of absorption after infection, and the short time necessary for the contamination of the system. The diseased action in the part itself is not limited to the seat of ulceration, the textures around and beyond it are all implicated, although to outward appearance they look healthy. "I have sometimes excised almost an inch below chancres on the edge of the prepuce; I have found the skin, mucous membrane and cellular tissue, entirely sound, and yet the wound became transformed into a vast chancre."

He considers induration as a character of all chancres occurring in varying degrees and being variously seated in the different varieties, and therefore that it is not pathognomonic of the kind commonly styled Hunterian. He observes "I will not with Babington, assert that induration precedes ulceration; nor will I admit with others that induration is consecutive; I believe that both these conditions may occur simultaneously; whilst nature effects a diæresis, it also produces a synthesis, it condenses the tissues, or creates a fibroplastic tissue beneath and around the ulceration." Such views tend materially to simplify the relations of chancres to the constitutional affections. Induration is merely a result of the virus and not its agency, hence "*it does not produce the pox.*" It becomes, however, an important indication as when present it is to be inferred that "*general infection has already taken place.*" Hence it is a sign of confirmed Syphilis and may be the only one.

In extension of these principles he differs from those who hold that constitutional disease alone, or for the most part follows the (Hunterian) chancre as well as from those who conceive that induration is the start-