

was unable to sleep more than one hour at a time owing to his mouth and throat getting so dry that he thought he would choke.

On examining his mouth I found the tongue swollen and covered with a thick white fur; at the junction of the lips with the gums might be seen a substance resembling the roe of a fish extending quite round and on both jaws. This I at first thought was a growth of a vegetable or fungoid character, it, however, on examination by the microscope, turned out to be composed of starch granules, &c., and was, in fact, simply the detritus of his food, which had collected there owing to the want of saliva to wash it away. On examining the ducts, Steno's and Wharton's, they were found open, and no obstruction existed in them to account for the singular phenomenon. The man's health otherwise was excellent. He, however, about the 20th of October, had been suffering from a severe cold, in an attack of tonsillitis, which yielded to the ordinary treatment.

The suppression of saliva lasted about three weeks, during which time I gave various stimulating gargles, together with pot. iod. and nux vomica and quinine and iron, with an occasional aperient, but to no avail.

*Nov. 28th.*—I passed a probe into Steno's duct, and connected it with the negative pole of a galvanic battery (zinc-carbon, 12 cells.) The positive pole I applied to the nape of the neck, this seance I kept up for about ten minutes frequently reversing the current. The battery hardly was in use for 3 minutes when he said, "Oh, my mouth is much moister." He returned next day and said he had slept all night, and his mouth felt better. I repeated the electricity, which was followed by a copious flow of saliva, since which time he has had no return of his previous symptoms.

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