

sore itself alone. If the dressing is changed with sufficient frequency, the ulcer will not require any extra cleansing.

With chancroids upon the external integument we must use some lotion to keep the lint moist; but this object is attained with much greater ease in some situations than in others. If the sore is on the body of the penis, it is easily covered with a fragment of lint soaked with whatever lotion is employed; a narrow strip of rag moistened with water is then wound around the organ, a similar strip of oiled silk is added, and the whole retained in place by a double-tailed bandage. With chancroids upon the margin of the prepuce the dressing is apt to slip off, but may be kept in place by means of an ordinary condom. With sores upon the external surface of the labia majora, upon the perinæum in both sexes, etc., the ingenuity of the surgeon may be taxed to keep them moist and clean.

As a local application to the surface of the ulcer, nothing has been found equal to iodoform. It acts as a sedative to relieve pain and irritation, and, of still greater importance, it clears off the sloughy surface of the sore and covers it with "healthy" granulations. It should be reduced to a fine powder by trituration, either with or without the addition of an equal quantity of sugar of milk, which facilitates its minute subdivision, and be sprinkled at each dressing over the surface of the sore, until the latter has assumed a granulating appearance, when it should be omitted. Still more convenient is a solution of iodoform in ether, one-half drachm or a drachm of iodoform to an ounce of ether (which partially removes the unpleasant odor). This is to be painted over the ulcer with a camel's hair brush. The ether evaporates and leaves a thin yellowish pellicle of iodoform on the surface. Dr. John Ashhurst, Jr., recommends it in the following form:

R. Iodoformi, ʒss . . . . .	2
Glycerinæ, ʒvj . . . . .	30
Spt. Vini Rect., ʒij . . . . .	8
M.	

The only objection to the use of iodoform is its bad odor, but this must be endured for the sake of the benefit it affords. I have tried it with the addition of an equal part of tannin, as recommended by Dr. Cole, of Hot Springs, Ark. This mixture is indeed much less odorous, but it cakes on the surface of the sore and does not act well. In the following preparation the smell of iodoform is almost entirely masked:

R. Iodoformi, ʒss . . . . .	2
Ung. Petrolei, ʒj . . . . .	30
Ol. Ment. Pip., gtt. vj . . . . .	40
M.	

When the objection to the smell of iodoform is insuperable, I order—

R. Hydrarg. Chloridi Mitis, ʒij . . . . .	8
Hydrarg. Protiodidi, ʒij . . . . .	260
Crete Precip., ʒj . . . . .	30
M.	

Whichever of these applications has been made, the subsequent dressing is to be applied according to the rules above given—dry lint to chancroids situated on moist mucous membranes; wet lint covered with oil-silk to those on external surfaces.

Next to iodoform, a solution of the nitrate of silver, about fifteen grains to the ounce, is probably the best application, the lint which is to be placed on the sore having first been soaked in it. Other formulæ are as follows:

R. Acidi Carbolic, ʒi-ij . . . . .	4-8
Aquæ, Oj . . . . .	500
M.	
R. Balsam. Peruvian., ʒss . . . . .	15
Argent. Nit. Cryst., vel	
Cupri Sulphat., gr. iij . . . . .	20
M.	(Zeissl.)
R. Ferri Potassio-tart., ʒss . . . . .	15
Aquæ, ʒvj . . . . .	180
M.	(Ricord.)
R. Acidi Tannici, ʒj . . . . .	130
Aquæ, ʒvj . . . . .	180
M.	
R. Liquoris Sodæ Chlorinatæ, ʒj . . . . .	4
Aquæ Puræ, ʒij . . . . .	60
M.	
R. Acidi Nitrici Diluti, ʒj . . . . .	4
Aquæ Puræ, ʒviiij . . . . .	250
M.	
R. Vini Aromatici, ʒj . . . . .	30
Aquæ, ʒiij . . . . .	90
M.	

A formula for a convenient substitute for the French aromatic wine may be found on page 227. The strength of these lotions must be adapted to the sensibility of the part, which varies in different cases. They should never be so strong as to excite pain or produce irritation.

The black wash, composed of from one to three scruples of calomel to four ounces of lime-water, is a favorite application with many surgeons. The dark-colored sediment in this mixture is an oxide of mercury, and is inert, unless it affords mechanical protection to the sore. In my opinion, black wash is a less clearly and less desirable lotion than those before mentioned. A solution of the disulphate of quinine (gr. j ad ʒj), with just enough dilute sulphuric acid to dissolve it, is recommended by Mr. Nunn (*London Lancet*).

A fact too little known, or too little appreciated by the profession, is that ointments of whatever kind are not only useless, but positively injurious, on account of their tendency to become rancid. They should never be employed unless, from the position of the sore, or from the necessarily long intervals between the dressings—as at night or during a journey—the evaporation of a water dressing cannot be prevented, even with the assistance of oiled silk and glycerine.

Mercurial ointment, although very commonly used in Sigmund's



wards in Vienna, is, in my opinion, especially objectionable. Zeissl also regards it with disfavor, and prefers the glycerite of starch. One of the following formulæ may be used in the rare instances in which an unctuous dressing is required:

R. Ung. Petrolei, ℥j . . . . .	30
Tincturæ Opii, ℥j . . . . .	4
Calomelanos, gr. xxxvj . . . . .	235
M.	
R. Balsami Peruviani.	
Olei Ricini, āā ℥j . . . . .	30
M.	
R. Ung. Petrolei, ℥j . . . . .	30
Pulv. Opii, ℥j . . . . .	4
M.	

Before one dressing is soaked with the discharge, another should be substituted. If the first adhere to the surface, it should be carefully moistened before attempting its removal, in order to avoid any abrasion, which, by subsequent inoculation, would increase the size of the sore. The dressing of most uncomplicated chancroids need be renewed only two or three times a day, but phagedenic ulcers require a much greater frequency.

During the progress of cicatrization, exuberant granulations may spring up and require repression by pencilling with a crayon of nitrate of silver. A superficial application of this agent is also beneficial in relieving the irritability and pain of some ulcers in the progressive and stationary periods.

Other applications than those now mentioned may be required. For instance, in chancroids attended by much inflammation, leeches to the groins or perinæum, and poultices or sedative lotions, may be of service. Pain should be relieved by the exhibition of opium in large doses internally, and by its application externally.

Within the past few years I have used with much success salicylic acid in the treatment of chancroids in their different stages. It may be used in a solution or in the form of a powder, and has the advantages of being odorless and of not staining the linen. For ordinary chancroids, as well as ulcerating herpes, a five-grain to the ounce watery solution has proved efficacious in my hands. According to the activity of the ulceration the strength may be graduated so that in mildly phagedenic cases a thirty-grain to the ounce solution may be employed. In several cases of severe phagedenic chancroids I have used with success a powder composed of salicylic acid one part and subnitrate of bismuth eight parts. This can be applied freely over the surface, which should be cleansed every twelve hours, and oftener if necessary, and then a new layer of it sprinkled on. In proportion as the ulcer loses its virulency, the quantity of salicylic acid may be reduced, and when a healthy sore is produced, the aforesaid watery solution may take the place of the powder. My experience with this agent warrants me in the opinion that its sphere of usefulness in ulcerations of the skin generally is very great. It per-

haps may be found useful hereafter in the treatment of phagedenic chancroidal buboes. Its value is much praised by Autier,<sup>1</sup> who, while he does not call it a specific, speaks highly in its praise.

Leblond and Fissiaux<sup>2</sup> claim success in the treatment of chancroids in females by the use of resorcin, a substance chemically allied to phenol, which it is said destroys microphytes, prevents putrefaction, and possesses the antiseptic properties of carbolic acid combined with the healing properties of iodoform, with none of the inconveniences peculiar to the latter. Andrien<sup>3</sup> speaks also of its antiseptic action. It is soluble in various degrees in ether, alcohol, water, animal fats and oils, and glycerine. In a watery solution of five grains to the ounce, it may be applied continuously, and in a saturated solution at intervals. Leblond and Fissiaux's results are certainly good, and my own experience in two cases gives me hopes of the agent.

Pyrogallie acid or pyrogallol, an agent first used by Jarisch for psoriasis, has also been employed by Vidal<sup>4</sup> and Andrien in the treatment of simple chancroids, and those complicated with phagedena. Vidal prefers its use in the form of an ointment to any other, and employs a mixture of pyrogallol one part to vaseline four parts. The action is slightly caustic and astringent, attended with moderate pain, and is rapid in destroying the virulent condition of these sores. Andrien goes as far as claiming a specific action. I have used the remedy in several cases in the form of a powder as follows: Pyrogallol, ten grains; subnitrate of bismuth, one ounce. For the ordinary small chancroid it seems to me to be an agent of much value, but its well-known toxic properties have prevented my using it in cases of large ulceration. In this connection, I may with advantage call attention to the experience of Besnier.<sup>5</sup> In one case of psoriasis death followed a single application to one-half of the body of a ten per cent. ointment. In a second case three frictions of a five per cent. ointment caused hæmaturia, pulmonary œdema, and violent intestinal disorder, but the man recovered. Of two other cases in which a ten per cent. ointment was used, violent symptoms were induced, while one patient died and the other recovered. In view of this experience, I think that we must be very cautious how we use so deadly a drug.

Bromine has lately been used, by Dr. J. L. Robinson,<sup>6</sup> as a local application to chancroids and syphilitic ulcers, the formula used being bromine, one part; water, three parts; bromide potassium, q. s. to make a solution. The solution is to be mopped on the surface, which is then to be covered with oakum and held by a bandage.

<sup>1</sup> Thèse de Paris, 1881.

<sup>2</sup> Annales de Gynécologie, Jan., 1883.

<sup>3</sup> Journal de Méd. et Chir., March, 1881.

<sup>4</sup> Traitement des Chancres Phag. par la pommade à l'acide pyrogallique. La France Méd., Jan. 6, 1881; de l'Emploi de l'Acide Pyrogallique dans le traitement des ulcères vénériens. Thèse de Paris, 1881.

<sup>5</sup> Annales de Dermatologie et de Syphilographie. Tome iii., 1882, page 694.

<sup>6</sup> Bromine Topically in Chancroids and Chronic Ulcers. Am. Prac., Nov., 1881.