

evidence of his power over disease, than when he is able to recognize the symptoms which indicate the exhibition of these remedies, and can watch their marvellous effects from day to day. Unfortunately the iodides possess greater power to subdue tertiary symptoms for a time than to cause their permanent removal. The disease rapidly declines and disappears under their use, but in most cases returns in a few weeks or months after their suspension; and thus the patient becomes the slave of medicine, or is obliged to resort to mercury for an effectual cure.

But these preparations are none the less of very great value. Mercury alone is too slow in its action to meet the urgent requirements of a threatening perforation of the soft palate and like dangerous manifestations of the tertiary stage. By the use of the iodides the patient finds almost immediate, though temporary relief from suffering; his appetite improves, he gains flesh and strength, and his system is brought into a proper condition for the administration of remedies which will prove of more lasting benefit.

The ground above taken with regard to the therapeutic effect of iodine and its compounds is at variance with that assumed by some most eminent authorities, and especially by Ricord, who considers the iodide of potassium as much a specific for tertiary as mercury is for secondary symptoms. In our own practice, however, we have rarely been able to secure permanent relief for our patients unless the former agent was accompanied or followed by the latter, and this experience coincides with that of the most eminent authorities of the present day.

Persons are frequently met with who have taken the potassium iodide for years and years, and who are still obliged to continue it if they would keep their symptoms in check. They generally become familiar with its use, purchase and mix it for themselves, and take it as regularly as their daily meals, even in doses amounting to one ounce (30.00) per diem.

The observations of MM. Melsens and Guillot have proved that iodide of potassium is capable of rendering soluble mercury or any of its compounds retained within the tissues of the body and of causing their elimination through the urinary secretion, in which they may be detected by chemical analysis. In this manner, mercury which has been retained in the system is again rendered soluble, and before elimination may exercise any of its therapeutic or morbid effects. Thus iodide of potassium administered subsequently to a mercurial course has frequently been known to excite profuse salivation.

The question has been raised whether iodide of potassium by itself has any power over syphilis, and whether its therapeutic action may not be entirely explained by the facts above stated. According to this view, it is only curative because it has the power of rendering active mercurial preparations which have been accumulated in the system by previous treatment; while others who believe that tertiary

syphilis is an effect of mercury, have ascribed the action of iodide of potassium to the elimination of this mineral and the consequent removal of the supposed cause of the disease. Neither of these suppositions will bear the test of examination. Cases of tertiary syphilis in which mercury has not previously been given, and in which, therefore, the independent action of iodide of potassium may be tested, are not common; but a sufficient number have been met with to prove that this agent does not play so secondary and insignificant a part as has been attributed to it. Of 195 cases of syphilis successfully treated with iodide of potassium by Hassing of Copenhagen, in 70 no mercurial treatment whatever had been employed.¹ The independent action of the iodide is now too well established to admit of a question.

The solubility of iodide of potassium enables it to be administered in any aqueous or alcoholic mixture, while its deliquescent properties poorly adapt it for the pilular form. It may, however, be obtained, put up in sugar-coated pills or in compressed tablets, each containing either three or five grains (0.20–0.30), but these should always be dissolved in water or other fluid before swallowing.

From five to fifteen grains of the iodide three times a day is the usual dose with which to commence treatment in an adult, and, if the case be properly selected, marked improvement will generally take place within a week. In old cases of syphilis, however, this quantity is often insufficient, and it may be necessary to increase the dose to one, two, or even six drachms *per diem*. Symptoms will often yield to fifty, sixty, or one or more hundred grains a day, which have remained stationary under a less amount, and we hold that the following rule should never be forgotten: *When the symptoms appear to indicate the use of the iodide, the case should not be pronounced intractable to this remedy unless a trial has been made of full doses and these have been found to be without effect.*

The following are convenient formulæ:

R. Potassii Iodidi, ℥ss 15
Aque Cinnamomi, ℥ss 15
M.

Fifteen drops (1.00) of this solution measure ten minims (0.65) and contain seven and a half grains (0.50) of the iodide.

R. Potassii Iodidi, ℥ij 6
Aque, ℥iv 120
M.

Two teaspoonfuls (10.00) three times a day.

The action of the iodide of potassium is supposed to be increased by combination with the muriate or carbonate of ammonia.

R. Potassii Iodidi,
Ammoniae Muriatis, āā ℥j 4
Tinct. Cinchonæ Comp., ℥iv 120
M.

A tablespoonful (15.00) three times a day.

¹ British and Foreign Medical Rev., Oct., 1845, p. 482.

R. Ammoniae Carbonatis, ℥iiss	6
Potassii Iodidi, ℥iij	12
Syrupi Sarzæ Comp.,	
Aquæ, āā ℥iiss	80

M.

Dose.—One drachm (4.00) three or four times a day.

Experience shows that the most favorable time for the administration of the iodide of potassium is half an hour or an hour after eating. It not unfrequently excites griping pains in the bowels, which may be avoided by the addition of a syrup containing tannic acid, as the syrup of cinchona or of orange-peel.¹ The addition of a small quantity of tannic acid to solutions of the iodide in a syrup which does not contain tannin answers the same purpose. The following formula is employed by Ricord and Nélaton:²

R. Potassii Iodidi, ℥j	4
Syrupi Corticis Aurantii, ℥vj	200

M.

Dose.—A tablespoonful (15.00).

Should it still disagree with the stomach, relief may often be obtained by drinking one or two gobletfuls of warm water.

The iodide of sodium and the iodide of ammonium have been recommended as substitutes for the potassium iodide. They are less agreeable to the taste than the latter, and, we think, less efficient, but they serve for a change and are better borne by some patients.

The iodide of iron cannot be said to possess any special antisyphilitic power, but is a valuable tonic in cachectic or chlorotic subjects, either with or without the iodide of potassium. We often employ it, especially towards the close of treatment and after the use of mercury. Blancard's pills are the most convenient form of administration, or the liquor ferri iodidi may be used.

The contraindications to the use of iodide of potassium are acute or chronic inflammation of the digestive organs, plethora, and a predisposition to hæmorrhages. Some patients cannot, or believe they cannot, tolerate it even in the smallest doses. These are difficult cases to deal with in the presence of a tertiary lesion. Sometimes the evil is merely an imaginary one on the part of the patient, and we have succeeded, by first administering, surreptitiously, small doses until we were in a position to convince him of his error, in carrying the remedy up to the usual quantity given. In other instances, however, the smallest dose acts as a poison, and cannot be tolerated. In such cases, it has been proposed to soak the underclothes in a solution of the iodide before drying them, and have it absorbed by the skin, but this does not prevent its deleterious influence. The skin, moreover, is only capable of absorbing it after imbibition of the epidermic layers, and even then in a merely infinitesimal quantity. A better way is to mix it with vaseline or simple cerate and apply it by inunction.

¹ Boinet: *Traité d'iodothérapie*, Paris, 1855, p. 102, and *L'Union méd.*, 1858, p. 874; also same journal for March 6, 1860.

² Richelot: *L'Union méd.*, Feb. 28, 1860.

Van Buren and Keyes state that, in certain cases where it has been impossible to administer iodides by the stomach, they have obtained favorable results by injecting daily into the rectum half-drachm (2.00) doses dissolved in an ounce or more of beef-tea, but that the rectum usually revolts after a time, especially if the solution of the iodide be too concentrated.

In obstinate cases, the other iodides may be tried, but in intractable cases we are obliged to forego the use of this remedy and resort to mercury alone, preferably by inunction. Even in the severest forms of tertiary syphilis, as serpiginous ulcerations of the skin, gummata of the palate, the nasal and other bones, etc., in which the usual treatment consists of very large doses of the iodide of potassium, mercurial inunctions alone will often be found successful.¹

Gilles de la Tourette² advises the use of hypodermic injections of iodide of potassium in cases of intolerance of the drug by the mouth, in the cerebral coma of syphilis, or when from any cause there is inability to swallow medicines. The injections cause a slight burning pain, but rarely an abscess; given in about eighth of a gram doses, it could be detected in the urine within the twenty-four hours.

Iodide of potassium rarely occasions such unpleasant effects as to demand more than a mere temporary suspension of its employment. Its morbid action is chiefly manifest upon the various mucous membranes. Some patients, shortly after commencing its use, are seized with coryza, which is sometimes quite severe, and accompanied with acute pain in the frontal sinuses; others are attacked with œdema of the conjunctiva oculi and swelling of the lids; irritation about the fauces and bronchitis are occasionally met with, and œdema of the glottis and larynx. Dr. Fenwick³ reports a most remarkable instance of this kind, occurring after only four doses of ten grains each had been taken, and in which the life of the patient was saved, after breathing had already ceased, by tracheotomy.

Gastro-intestinal irritation is a frequent symptom, which has already been adverted to. Loss of vision, apparently dependent upon subretinal effusion, has been observed in a few rare instances. Salivation sometimes occurs, but is never as severe as that occasioned by mercury, nor is it ever attended by ulceration like the latter. Strange to say, many of these unpleasant effects will soon cease if the remedy be persisted in, the system apparently becoming habituated to it. It has been falsely asserted that iodide of potassium produces atrophy of the breast and of the testicles.

Ricord states that he has accurately measured the scrotal organs before and after treatment, and has never found any diminution in their volume, unless they were affected with syphilitic orchitis, which generally terminates in atrophy. Iodide of potassium may hasten this result, when it would inevitably have taken place without it,

¹ Consult Sigmund, *Neuere Behandlungsweisen der Syphilis*, Wien, 1876, S. 27.

² *Le Progrès Medical*, Jan., 1883.

³ *Lancet*, Lond., Nov. 13, 1875.

but cannot produce it in healthy organs. In general, patients taking the iodide increase in weight. Zeissl states that sleeplessness is produced in many persons by the iodide of potassium.

One of the most frequent morbid effects of this remedy consists of various eruptions upon the integument, generally in the form of papules or acne-pustules, and often of furuncles or boils. They are quite common about the neck and face, where they present an unsightly appearance and are the source of much annoyance to patients who frequent society, and also upon the trunk and upper extremities.

Adamkiewicz,¹ in a very severe case of acne produced by the administration of iodine, was able to demonstrate the presence of iodine in the pus of the acne-pustules. The latter are simply inflamed sebaceous glands, and he therefore infers that they act as true excretory organs and eliminate the iodine. This disagreeable effect of the iodine may be altogether prevented or greatly alleviated by adding to each dose of the remedy from five to ten minims (0.32–0.65) of the liquor potassæ arsenitis (Fowleri).

An erythematous and an eczematous eruption have also been noticed to be produced by the compounds of iodine.²

In the erythematous form, the skin, and especially that covering the forearm, assumes an intense red color, which is sometimes isolated in points, and at other times covers the whole surface; the temperature of the part is also heightened. This erythema disappears if the treatment be suspended, or, if the latter be continued, runs into a papular form.

The eczematous variety, which closely resembles ordinary eczema, is very rare. It most frequently affects the hairy scalp and the neighborhood of the scrotum, and soon disappears on stopping the iodide. M. Mercier³ describes a case in which moderate doses of iodide of potassium, upon two occasions in the same person, brought out an eruption of eczema rubrum over the whole body, attended by severe fever and dyspnoea, and so copious an exudation of fluid that the bed on which the patient lay was completely wet through.

In 1871, the writer published what he supposed to be the first case on record of a bullous eruption produced by iodide of potassium.⁴ The eruption appeared suddenly, after taking only three doses of the iodide of twenty grains each, and occupied the back of the neck, forehead, face, and backs of the hands—in other words, those parts which were most exposed to the air. Within thirty-six hours after taking the first dose, the bullæ were very large, some of them one and a half inches in diameter. Some were filled with a clear serum; others

¹ Charité-Ann., Berl., iii., 1878, p. 381.

² These eruptions have been carefully studied by Dr. H. E. Fischer, of Vienna, Union méd., Par., 31 Jan., 1860, from Wien. med. Wehnschr.

³ Observations nouvelles sur le traitement des valvules du col de la vessie, Paris, 1847, and Union méd. Par., 11 Fév., 1860.

⁴ Pemphigus produced by the administration of Iodide of Potassium, by F. J. Bumstead, M.D., Am. J. M. Sc., Phila., July, 1871, p. 99.

were turbid or of a reddish or purplish color. The surrounding skin was reddened and œdematous. The patient complained of heat and a burning sensation in the parts. It was ascertained that on three previous occasions he had been affected in the same way upon taking the iodide. To Dr. John O'Reilly, of New York, is, however, due the precedence of recognizing the dependence of bullæ upon the potassium iodide.¹

This eruption has in later years been studied by a number of dermatologists, and especially by Hutchinson² and Tilbury Fox,³ under the name of Hydroa. In rare instances it occurs over the whole body and is always symmetrical. In its earliest stage, the bullæ are quite small, not larger than a shot, and closely resemble those of small-pox, but their rapid development into vesications of larger size and without umbilical depression soon settles the differential diagnosis. The eruption dries up and disappears in a few days if the iodide be stopped. The microscopical appearances of the skin in this affection have been studied by Dr. George Thin.⁴

Purpura is another cutaneous effect of the iodide of potassium, and is sometimes of a very serious character. It does not appear to be dependent upon the patient's general condition nor upon the severity of his syphilitic lesions, but upon his individual idiosyncrasy. It usually appears within a short time after commencing the iodide, perhaps after taking only a very few doses. In most cases it completes its course in a few days, even if the medicine be continued, but is liable to recur if the dose be increased. The discoloration of the skin may be seen for several weeks.

The parts most liable to be affected are the legs below the knees and the neck and face, though other portions of the integument may be attacked. The purpuric spots, which cannot be effaced by pressure with the finger, are sometimes small and seated around the hair follicles. Fournier⁵ describes a miliary form, consisting of small, non-pruriginous, sanguineous spots, of which he has met with fifteen instances, all of them except one confined to the legs. In other cases the spots attain the large size of ordinary purpura hæmorrhagica, and may be an inch or an inch and a half in diameter. Mackenzie⁶ reports a case of death in a syphilitic infant, aged five months, following the administration of two grains and a half of the iodide of potassium. In this case, the whole of the face, eyelids, and lips became swollen and of a purplish-black hue; there were a few hæmorrhagic spots on the arm; none elsewhere.

Mr. Langston Parker described a hard, tubercular condition of the

¹ N. Y. M. Gaz., Jan., 1854.

² The causes of some of the eruptions which have been classed as Hydroa; Clinical Soc. Trans. Lond., vol. viii., 1875, p. 151.

³ Trans. Clinical Soc. of London, 1878.

⁴ Lancet, London, Nov. 16, 1878.

⁵ Rev. mens. de méd. et de chir., Paris, Sept., 1877; also Med. Times and Gaz., Lond., Oct., 1877, p. 445.

⁶ Med. Times and Gaz., Lond., Feb., 1879.

tongue, which is sometimes cracked and fissured, consequent upon the long-continued use of iodine.¹ This affection, which we have never seen, is said to closely resemble syphilitic tubercles, from which it may be distinguished by its disappearance soon after the discontinuance of the iodine.

In addition to the morbid effects already mentioned, iodide of potassium in large doses sometimes gives rise to a combination of symptoms known under the name of "iodism," and consisting of a sensation of oppression in the head, tinnitus aurium, neuralgia, spasmodic action of the muscles, impaired voluntary motion, and sluggishness of the intellect.

ODOFORM.—The internal administration of iodoform as a substitute for the potassium iodide is favorably mentioned by some authorities. Berkeley Hill² has given it in pills of one and a half grains (0.09) with the extract of gentian, commencing with three pills a day and increasing to eight or ten, and with, he thinks, good effect. Our own experience in a number of cases has been against it. It has had little, if any influence upon the syphilitic lesions; its odor, rising from the stomach and passing from the bowels in the flatus, renders the patient disgusting to himself and his friends; and, if long-continued or given in considerable doses, it produces intestinal catarrh and even iodism.

NITRIC ACID AND GOLD.—Nitric acid³ was formerly recommended by Alyon and others for the treatment of syphilis, and is still a favorite remedy with the "homœopaths," whose leader, Hahnemann, in 1825, also revived the use of gold, which is said to have been employed by the Arabians in the treatment of venereal diseases, and which was recommended by Chretien, of Paris, in 1811. According to the "homœopaths," gold is of great value in many tertiary lesions, especially sarcocele, affections of the bones, and syphilitic cachexia.⁴ Our experience with these agents has been limited, but has led us to assign to them but little value.

Dr. J. E. Güntz,⁵ the eminent syphilographer of Dresden, has recently advocated again the value of bichromate of potassium in the treatment of syphilis, and claims that, if properly administered, this agent is efficacious in cases in which mercury fails. Güntz uses the following prescription:

R. Potassii Bichromät.,
Potassii Nitrat., āā gr. xv 90
Miccæ panis, gr. xc 6

M. ft. pil. No. cc. Sīg.—One pill three times a day.

¹ Prov. M. and S. J., Lond., No. 3, 1852; also Parker on Syphilitic Dis., p. 211.

² Brit. M. J., Lond., Jan 26, 1878.

³ See an article by Dr. Budd on the "Influence of a Long Course of Nitric Acid in Reducing the Enlargement of the Liver and Spleen that sometimes results from the Syphilitic Cachexy."—Sydenham Soc.'s Year Book, 1863, from the Brit. Med. Journ.

⁴ Hughes, Manual of Pharmacodynamics, 3d ed., p. 154.

⁵ Der Syphilis Behandlung ohne Quecksilber, Berlin, 1882.

This same dose can also be given, with good effects, dissolved in a carbonated mineral water. My experience with this drug has been disappointing, since it has invariably failed in urgent cases.

VEGETABLE DECOCTIONS AND INFUSIONS.—Decoctions and infusions of sarsaparilla, saponaria, water-dock, stillingia, and other vegetable substances, have at times enjoyed considerable reputation with the profession for the cure of syphilis, and are still held in high repute by the public. When used alone, they are found to be entirely destitute of antisiphilitic properties, and when given in combination with mercurials and iodide of potassium, do not appear to add to the effect of the latter. This statement coincides with the opinion of most surgeons¹ who have had the largest experience in their use, and has been confirmed, so far as regards sarsaparilla, the reputation of which has exceeded that of all the others, by a series of careful experiments conducted by Sigmund, of Vienna, who concludes that this substance does not exercise the slightest perceptible influence on the course or termination of syphilitic diseases.² Whatever virtues are possessed by these substances can only be ascribed to their influence as tonics, stomachics, diuretics, or diaphoretics, to which the ordinary mode of their administration in a large amount of fluid greatly contributes. When employed with these purposes in view, they may prove useful adjuvants of mercury and iodide of potassium, but alone are unworthy of confidence.

Clifford Allbutt,³ however, believes that the inefficacy of sarsaparilla is due to the small doses in which it is given, and recommends from a pint to a pint and a half of the decoction to be taken.

Dr. J. Marion Sims⁴ has lately made an eloquent and urgent claim in favor of a decoction of herbs which was used by the Indians and negroes of the South with much benefit in syphilis. In the hands of Dr. Sims's friend, Dr. McDade, the following modification of this compound is said to have produced marvellous cures:

R. Fl. ext. Smilacis Sarsaparillæ,
Fl. ext. Stillingiæ Sylvat.,
Fl. ext. Kappæ Minor,
Fl. ext. Phytolacæ Decand., āā ʒij . . . 60
Tinct. Xanthoxylon Carolin., ʒi . . . 30
M.

Take a teaspoonful in water three times a day before meals, and gradually increase to tablespoonful doses.

Dr. S. F. Coyner,⁵ of Baltimore, thinks that in three cases of syphilis he produced cures by the use of cascara amarga, and Dr. F. R. Boyd,⁶ of Coloma, Mich., recommends berberis aquifolium in the treatment of the syphilides.

¹ See Stillé's Materia Medica, ii., p. 948.

² British and For. Med.-Chir. Rev., Am. ed., July, 1860, p. 183.

³ Practitioner, Lond., May, 1870.

⁴ The Treatment of Syphilis, British Med. Journal, March 10th, 1883.

⁵ Therapeutic Gazette, June, 1881.

⁶ Ibid., Feb., 1882.

Zitman's Decoction, a favorite remedy with the Germans, contains an appreciable amount of mercury, but acts chiefly as a cathartic and diaphoretic. The large doses in which it has been recommended, a pint of the stronger preparation in the morning, and a quart of the weaker at night, can rarely be borne without producing violent purging. We have employed it with good results in some inveterate cases of syphilis, giving from eight ounces to a pint of the strong preparation in the course of the day, and aiming to produce from three to five discharges from the bowels. In some instances it has had a very marked effect in increasing the appetite and improving the general condition of the patient.

Tayuya.—Within the last few years, a new remedy has been proposed for the treatment of syphilis and of scrofula, viz., the tincture of the root of *Tayuya*. The botanical name of this plant, indigenous to South America, is *Dermophylla pendulina*, or, according to Bentham and Hooker,¹ it does not appear to differ from *Trianosperma*, one of the *Cucurbitaceæ*, but it is not entirely known.

The tincture is given at first in doses of from fifteen to twenty drops, diluted with water, and it has also been injected hypodermically.¹ It seems to have excited some little interest in Italy, but the reported cases in which it has been tried are not conclusive as to its value. It is said to have acted well in three cases, occurring in the wards of Professor Gamberini, of Bologna (Galassi). Professor Pellizzari, of Florence, and other recent writers, state that it has completely failed in their hands.² Dr. J. Nevins Hyde, of Chicago, imported a number of bottles of this article, which he tried in his own practice, and distributed to some friends for trial. They failed to find in it any antisyphilitic power (oral com.).

Tayuya is a proprietary medicine of the Messrs. Ubicini Bros., of Pavia, who carefully conceal its origin. So far as present appearances go, it is likely to share the fate of the many nostrums that have preceded it. A partial bibliography upon the subject is appended.³

BALNEOTHERAPIA.—At the time when, under the teachings of Priessnitz, hydropathy was believed to cure all diseases, syphilis was included in the category. It is now known that the use of baths,

¹ Genera Plantarum, vol. i., p. 835, Lond., 1867.

² Gazz. med. ital. lomb., Sept., 1878.

³ Faraoni, *Tayuya*, Relazione al Congresso medico di Torino, 18 Settembre, 1876.

Galassi, Gior. ital. d. mal. ven., Milano, Nov. 25, 1876.

Longhi, Gazz. med. ital. feder. lomb., Milano, Nov. 25, 1876.

Bettelli, Principii attivi del *Tayuya*, Bologna, 1877.

Tanturri, Morgagni, Napoli, Oct. 8, 1877.

Faraoni, Seconda relazione, Milano, 1878.

Castiglioni, Ann. di med. pubb., Roma, Aug. 15, 1878.

Veladini, Gazz. med. ital. lomb., Milano, July 6, 1878.

Torregrosso, same journal, July 6, 1878.

Longhi, same journal, Dec. 21, 1878; Jan. 4, 1879; Jan. 11, 1879; and Jan., 18, 1879.

Ronus, Cor. Bl. f. Schweiz. Aerzte, Basel, Sept. 15, 1878.

Geber, Vrtljschr. f. Dermat., 1879, p. 285.

and even the systematic "water-cure," has no direct influence upon this disease, and this fact is frankly acknowledged by many of the best known medical men in charge of bathing establishments in Europe.¹ All that is claimed for this course of treatment is, that it is especially adapted to patients suffering not only from syphilis, but also from the (supposed) excessive or injudicious use of mercury; and again, Hofmeister² thinks that, during the cold-water treatment, aliments and medicines are more completely digested and assimilated, and that by this means favorable results are produced by means of a reduced quantity of medicine. Less mercury may, therefore, be employed, and if a cumulative effect is produced, it is readily cast off in consequence of the increased excretion and secretion. Furthermore, the regimen to which patients are subjected in the cold-water treatment materially facilitates metamorphosis. There is reason to believe that the frequent use of baths hastens the appearance of secondary lesions.

In America the Hot Springs of Arkansas have acquired great notoriety in the treatment of syphilis, and thousands upon thousands flock to them every year. It is not claimed that the water of these springs has any virtue discoverable by chemical analysis, but the foolish pretence has been set forth that, owing to the fact that it is heated in the bowels of the earth, it possesses an occult power far surpassing water heated in a tea-kettle over the fire, or in the boiler of a kitchen range. It is a notorious fact, however, that the water is not relied upon to effect a cure, but that mercury, generally by inunction, and the iodide of potassium are employed by the resident physicians in doses carried to the utmost extreme. Under this energetic but spasmodic treatment, the existing lesions disappear for a time, only to return again, as we have frequent occasion to observe, soon after the patient's return home. We cannot believe that even this temporary benefit is due to the water, but we ascribe it to the change of air and scene, to the relaxation from business cares, and, above all, to the specific remedies employed. For the sake of the first two of these three desiderata, the rich patient may be counselled to visit the Hot Springs, but the man of moderate means, who would sacrifice his all by going, had better be told that he can do as well at home under proper treatment.

Sulphur springs have also acquired considerable reputation, especially in Europe, not so much as a curative agent in syphilis, as a means of bringing to the surface any latent remains of the diathesis; and patients are told that if, after taking the baths and drinking the water for a certain number of weeks, no new lesions appear, they may regard themselves as cured. Whether this is true or not, is a difficult point to decide, since the natural course of syphilis is to appear in successive outbreaks, and whether these are hastened any more by

¹ Our space will not allow us to give their evidence in detail, but it may be found in Zeissl's admirable work, vol. ii., p. 403.

² Med.-Chir. Rundschau, Wien, Dec., 1876.