lotion of chlorate of potash. Velpeau has a high opinion of the sulphuric acid, but could not succeed in making a paste with it to limit its action. This new combination of manganic acid and potassa will, I hope, attract his attention, and supply him, as well as my own countrymen, with an efficacious caustic, convenient for application, less painful than all others, and free from injurious effects upon the constitution. The well-known antiseptic effects of manganic acid suggests its use in all foul and phagedænic ulcers, and I have no doubt that large crops of warts may be conveniently removed by its agency."

17. *Corrosive Sublimate and Collodion as an Escharotic.*—Dr. MACKE states (*Medicinische Cent. Zeitung*), that he has used with advantage an escharotic composed of one ounce of collodion to one drachm of corrosive sublimate. He has used it principally in nævi, and small excrescences which patients wish to get rid of without the use of the knife. It is applied with a camel's hair pencil, dries rapidly, and cannot be rubbed off easily. Applications of cold water may be made in cases where the inflammation runs high, without interfering with the action of the caustic. The eschar is thin, and falls off after three or mostly six days; pain is very slight, and the author has not found that any absorption of the bichloride takes place.—*Brit. Med. Journal*, Aug. 1, 1857.

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18. *Etiology of Diabetes. Diabetic Sugar not the same as the Sugar produced in the Liver in Health.*—Dr. G. OWEN REES, in his valuable Croonian lectures, recently delivered before the Royal College of Physicians, makes the following interesting remarks on this subject:—

"According to M. Bernard, we have not now to determine how a substance, foreign to the healthy constitution of the blood, becomes engendered in the system, but merely to inquire into the causes producing, on the one hand, an over-activity in the sugar-forming action of the liver, or, on the other, the diminution of the destructive power apparently possessed by the blood in health over that sugar when it has mingled with the circulating fluid.

Now, all this is clear enough were the sugar secreted by the liver, and that produced by injuring the base of the fourth ventricle, identical with that existing in the urine of true diabetes. This, however, is not the case, and we are not, therefore, so nearly about to unravel the difficulty as we might, at first, be inclined to believe.

About two years ago, I took the opportunity of obtaining blood from the hepatic veins of a dog, in order to determine the presence of sugar; for, like many others, I was, at first, a little incredulous. By the assistance of my friend, Mr. Hilton, this was effected without much difficulty.

On examining the blood obtained in this way, I found, it is true, that it yielded me sugar; but there was a peculiarity in the reaction of the tests, which led me to suspect I was not dealing with the same sugar as that contained in the urine of diabetes. It was quite impossible for me at the time to undertake a chemical investigation of the subject, and I was not sufficiently satisfied with my results to venture on publication. Some months ago, I mentioned my suspicions to my friend, Dr. Pavy, who has thrown much light on this interesting subject, and he told me that the same doubt had occurred to him some time since, and he immediately showed me from his note-books that he had worked the question out very satisfactorily, though he had not published on the point. Having Dr. Pavy's permission to do so, I will now detail the results of his investigations. It appears that the principal point of difference between these sugars consists in the greater facility possessed by the hepatic sugar, and by the sugar of *artificial* diabetes, of undergoing destruction by contact with animal tissue. This has been shown by an experiment made on