

ART. XXXVII.—*Iodic Purpura*. By GEORGE F. DUFFY, M.D., etc.
Reprinted from the *Dublin Journal of Medical Science*, April, 1880.
Pamphlet, pp. 21.

DR. DUFFY'S paper, originally read before a Dublin medical society, is based upon an interesting case, observed by himself, in which a man twenty-five years of age, under treatment for articular rheumatism, was ordered iodide of potassium. This the patient took for a month, first in doses of ten grains thrice daily, later in twenty-grain doses, the total amount taken being two and a half ounces. At the end of this time a copious eruption of small purpuric spots appeared on the anterior surface of the legs and feet. The iodide having been discontinued, the eruption disappeared at the end of ten days, but showed itself once more a week later, within twenty-four hours after beginning the medicine again, in fifteen-grain doses thrice daily, only forty-five grains having been taken. Dr. Duffy then substituted iodide of sodium in ten-grain doses thrice daily. No eruption appeared even after half an ounce had been taken. Iodide of ammonium was then given instead of the sodium salt in the same dose, but, before twenty grains had been taken, the purpuric eruption again appeared.

In connection with this case, Dr. Duffy gives some account of other papers on iodic purpura previously published, and also discusses the iodine eruptions in general, giving the views of various authors as to the physiological action of the iodine salts in these cases. The weight of testimony thus far seems to point to a greater or less disorganization of the capillary walls, permitting diapedesis of the cellular constituents of the blood. To the action of the free iodine liberated from the alkaline iodides in the blood is probably due the effects of these drugs on the system. Dr. Duffy's observation coincides with that of Ringer in going to show the greater activity of the ammonium salt, possibly due to its containing a larger percentage of iodine (87 per cent.) than the other salts.

In the discussion which followed the reading of Dr. Duffy's paper, and which is given in his pamphlet, other cases were mentioned in which the external use of iodine had produced urticarial and erythematous eruptions in other parts of the skin. It was also suggested that, when the iodides were likely to disagree, iodine could be administered to advantage either in connection with tannic acid or in light claret.

A. V. II.

ART. XXXVIII.—*Notes on Diseases of the Testis*. By SAMUEL OSBORN, F.R.C.S., late Surgical Registrar to St. Thomas's Hospital.
12mo. pp. 117. London: J. & A. Churchill.

THIS little book discusses diseases of the testicle alone, without entering upon the subject of scrotal affections. Hence no mention is made, except indirectly, of hydrocele. It is difficult to see any mission for the volume to fill, since it is much too concise and elementary to occupy the place of a true monograph, and scarcely contains any information that cannot be found in the chapter on diseases of the testicle in any work on general surgery. This fact suggests the impropriety of its being published in book form. The author has retained the word *sarcocele*, and describes