

CLINICAL NOTES.

TWO CASES OF VARIOLA.

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MARY H., aged 4 months, was brought to the hospital on the 29th August as an out-patient under Dr. Morley Fletcher, to whom I owe the preliminary notes of the case. She was then suffering from bronchitis; some semi-healed sores were at the same time noted on the body and arm. On the 10th September a pustular eruption was noticed on the feet on the dorsal and plantar surfaces, and the diagnosis of congenital syphilis was made. Half-grain doses of grey powder were prescribed thrice daily, and the treatment for the bronchitis continued. On the 28th September a generalised vesicular eruption was noted. This was said to have begun on September 11th on the left shoulder, and then to have appeared on the face; thus the new positions would appear to have become implicated the day following her visit to the hospital, when the lesions recorded on the feet were alone present. Her temperature does not seem to have been raised up to this time. She was sent to my special department on October 2nd for an opinion. There were then very numerous pustules, many of them umbilicated; the face, the arms, the hands, the thighs, the legs, the feet and the buttocks were thickly covered with these pustules; there were also a few pustules on the scalp. The mouth was free. The temperature was 103° F. A diagnosis of variola was made, and the case was accepted as such by the Asylums Board authorities.

It seems to me probable that the diagnosis of an earlier pustular syphilide was correct, and that the variola supervened upon that, a combination which rendered the case exceedingly puzzling.

2. I was asked to see a child in the casualty department who presented the curious appearance of an eruption of variola, simultaneously with four exceedingly well-developed pustules of vaccinia. The case at first sight seemed to offer an argument against the efficacy of vaccination as a prophylactic of small-pox, but inquiry

established these facts : The child, a girl of twelve, had been exposed to the infection of variola fourteen days previously, when a younger brother had died of that disease. The girl had been vaccinated eight days before coming to the hospital. The small-pox had, therefore, had a week's start of the vaccinia. The variolous eruption was considerably modified, the pustules being much less numerous and smaller than usual. The temperature, however, was high, being 104° F, and the child was acutely ill, with very severe sore throat; this case also was accepted by the Asylums Board without demur, so that the diagnosis may be considered as established.

CASE OF SCURVY WITH WELL-MARKED PURPURA.

By J. CLARK WILSON, M.D.

CASES of scurvy are now fortunately sufficiently rare in this country to be worthy of interest. The following case is especially interesting from the unusually severe purpuric symptoms with which it was associated, and from the apparent failure at first of lemons to ward off the condition.

W. P., a boy aged 13, the son of a coachman, and living in a mews, was first seen on January 14th, suffering from scurvy. He had had rheumatism at the age of 5, but not since, and had never previously to the onset of the scurvy had a skin-eruption of any kind. At Christmas the boy had become suddenly feverish and out of sorts, and felt very ill. He was kept in bed for three days. On getting up he complained that his teeth all felt loose ; his breath was offensive, and his gums bled at the slightest touch, and his clothes were always marked with blood. His mother noticed that there were slight gaps between the gums and several of the teeth. At the same time he was paler than usual, and the least exertion tired him ; his appetite was poor, and he was generally out of sorts.

On January 2nd there was first noticed an eruption of purple scattered spots, most marked on the arms and hands, but also, though to a less extent, on the legs. Three large lesions like bruises—though there had been no injury to cause them—appeared at the same time on the forearms.

When first seen on January 14th, scattered patechiæ, about the