

GONOCOCCIC DACRYO-CYSTITIS.

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The ocular complications of gonorrhea have been described by numerous authors, some a long time ago, some others very recently; and among these we have described several cases of metastatic conjunctivitis having that origin, and which is by far more common than the variety of ectogenous origin. (*Archiv. de Oftalm. Hispano-Amér. v. 17 p. 320.*)

On the other hand, the germs liable to produce dacryocystitis are first the streptococci and staphylococci, it having been stated by Wakisaka that the Influenza Bacillus and the Pneumococcus are also common. Less so are the Bacillus Coli, Pyocaneus, Friedlanders, etc.; as well as some sarcinae, actinomicoccydes, and other unclassified bacteria. But the presence of gonococci in the purulent secretion of a case of dacryocystitis is, although not extremely rare, of infrequent occurrence, it being due either to an ectogenous origin, or a metastatic one.

This observation refers to a curious case in which the lacrimal sac was surely invaded by the gonococci, without any involvement of the conjunctiva, the case occurring in a young man suffering from urethritis.

CASE X. X., a young man employed as clerk in a store, went into the Benéfica Hospital on the 2d of January, 1919, to receive treatment for his urethritis, and some days after was sent to our ward in order to have his right eye treated, as there was some pain and inflammation around the sac.

We saw the case and there was a typical dacryocystitis, with obstruction of the duct, and much tenderness and redness. After incising the abscess, the purulent secretion was sent to the laboratory. We received a report stating that the case was one of gonococcic origin.

We had a perfect drainage established for the escape of the secretion and after being sure of the cause of the disease, and ordering the best ways to combat it, the patient made an uneventful recovery and was sent back to the venereal ward after eight days, without any ocular complications.

THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN DONDERS AND VON GRAEFE.

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This paper consists chiefly of personal letters preserved by Donders. It appeared in *Janus*, the International Journal of Medical History, the organ of the Dutch Historical Society of Medical Sciences, Twenty-second year, Parts five and six. Translated by Dr. William H. Crisp, Denver, Colorado.

"London seemed quite dead to me after you had left us, for in the first place there was no one from whom I had learned so much that was worth knowing as from you, and moreover my personal intercourse with you had been my very greatest pleasure. I know you too well to fear that you will receive this childishly frank confession of mine in bad part. You yourself must have observed from my entire behavior how inspiring and pleasing your personality was to me. To work with you or more correctly under your ægis

would be the fulfillment of a beautiful ideal; in zeal and love of truth at least I might be your equal, and the rest comes, as Shakespeare's Constable says, from God."

With these words the twenty-four year old Albrecht von Graefe reflected the impression which the young Dutch physiologist F. C. Donders had left with him during a joint stay in London in the year 1851. They form the beginning of an animated correspondence which took place between the two men of learning during the years 1852-1870.