

*Singular Case of Loss of the Hair.*

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rather with 'stinking boots' than 'fœtid foot-sweat,' the absurd ideas which are in circulation as to the evil effects of suppressing, or too quickly checking the sweating of the feet, must be entirely given up. On other parts of the body also, where the secretion has an opportunity to remain some time in contact with the surface of the skin, *e. g.* in the arm-pits, on the scrotum, perinæum, &c., a similar decomposition of the sweat takes place, and a very disagreeable odor is created. The treatment of this 'fœtid sweating of the feet,' is therefore reduced to ordering greater attention to the cleanliness of the skin, and a more frequent changing of the covering of the feet."

## SINGULAR CASE OF LOSS OF THE HAIR.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

— COREY, a boy aged about 10 years, presented himself in my office. Struck with his singular appearance, I requested him to remove his hat, which he did with some reluctance. Not a hair was to be seen—neither had he eyebrows or eyelashes; and upon a critical inspection, not a vestige of down or even the rudiment of a hair could be detected upon any part of the body. The lad seemed unusually intelligent for one of his years. He stated that he had enjoyed sound health, having had scarcely a sick day in his life; that when an infant, he had hair like other children; but when 4 or 5 years of age, and while in perfect health, it began to fall off, and in a few weeks left him completely hairless. He also stated that though he exercised much, he never perspired. He said, jocosely, that his mother thought "there were no pores in his skin for the sweat to come out;" and indeed his appearance seemed to justify the old lady's novel conclusion. The scalp and some parts of the body exhibited the glossy, polished aspect presented by the heads of old men who have been bald many years. Nothing like capillary follicles was observable upon any part of the surface; yet the skin was otherwise normal and healthy.

Cortlandville, N. Y., May 14th, 1860.

H. O. JEWETT.

**Reports of Medical Societies.**

EXTRACTS FROM THE RECORDS OF THE BOSTON SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL IMPROVEMENT. BY FRANCIS MINOT, M.D., SECRETARY.

MARCH 26th.—*Dilatation of Bronchia.* Dr. PUTNAM reported the case.

The patient was a man of spare habit, 70 years old. He had had cough, with muco-purulent expectoration, for fifteen years. Once during this time he kept his bed for a week under an attack of acute bronchitis, but with this exception he was never confined to the house.