

OSLER'S

Scleroderma produces a mummy.
The hands [in scleroderma] are converted into rigid, immobile organs. In severe cases the unfortunate victim is as though he had been put in the fabled shirt of Nessus [the bloody shirt of a centaur killed by Hercules for trying to carry off his wife], which had gradually contracted upon him. The back is rigid, the neck is fixed, and he may resemble a frozen corpse or a mummy, without the power of motion, save in eyes and tongue, which alone gives witness to remaining life.

(Source: Diffuse Scleroderma; Erythromelalgia. In Modern Medicine: Its Theory and Practice, 3rd Ed. Philadelphia: Lea & Febiger, 1913-15: 1019.)

NOTES

Concentrating narrows the mind.
The incessant concentration of thought upon one subject, however interesting, tethers a man's mind in a narrow field.

(Source: Chauvinism in Medicine, In Aequanimitas, 285.)

The relationship of spider nevi and hepatic cirrhosis.

The most interesting association of the spider naevus is with cirrhosis of the liver. In no other condition may we watch the development of such remarkable telangiectases.

(Source: On Multiple Hereditary Telangiectases with Recurring Hemorrhages. Quart J Med 1907-08; 1:53-8.)