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1891 - Clinical Notes

TELA ARANEA (SPIDER'S WEB), ARANEA PELUDA

CASE I. - Mrs. B., age forty-two, has chronic endometritis. Health otherwise not much impaired. Had received remedies indicated for uterine trouble, getting relief therefrom. Had been without for some time; came for medicine, complaining of sleeplessness the greater part of the night - afraid her old troubles would come back. She had some palpitation. I gave Tela cm., one dose, in the evening before going to bed; she slept well, palpitation gone; uterine symptoms also disappeared.

CASE II. - Mrs. W., seven months pregnant; much perspiration, especially at night; this occurs with her when ill, as after confinement. She is corpulent and has a weak heart, and not a good sleeper. A few doses of Tela cm. relieved her sweating, and she slept well.

After her confinement the same symptom appeared again. Both the sweat and sleeplessness were pleasantly controlled. The sweating in this patient had been helped with Calcarea 200, formerly, but at this time was of no use.

Leading symptom so far observed: uterine irritation with heart sympathy, profuse night sweats, sleeplessness. Profuse sweats after miasmatic fever; excellent.

VIPERA ACONTICA CARINATA

Of use in climacteric haemorrhages, flow red with dark clots, excessive flowing to prostration and faintness. There exists a small fibroid in uterus. A few doses of the remedy changed matters for the better, and the excessive haemorrhages did not return.

Same remedy in case of a lady nursing her child one year old; much prostrated from flowing for several week, not profusely but continuously; nearly everyday nosebleed; weaning brought no relief. A prescription of China 200 did not good. Gave Vipera cm; three doses cured.

PYROGEN

This remedy has been of good service in La Grippe during the past winter. Consider La Grippe a miasm, and Pyrogen an antidote for many miasmatic conditions. Many cases of La Grippe have been relieved, requiring no other remedy except for the peculiar cough, calling for Phos, Rumex, or other well indicated remedies. Leading indications: Great depression, great pains all over body, even to the bones.

CASE I. - Mr. C., came from Arkansas, a malarial district. He had fever; dry, red tongue; aching pain all over, especially in back and limbs. "Knew he was going to have typho-malarial fever," which he had two years previous, after a malarious exposure on a foreign mission field. Had every other day what he called "dumb ague." The case looked promising for what he anticipated - a long sickness. Gave him Pyrogen high, every half hour, in water. Was to continue it until sweating was finally established, when the time should be extended to two hours. Saw him after twenty-four hours. A great change had taken place; perspiration had set in after six hours, which was profuse when seen at second visit. The remedy was continued, at lengthened intervals, for two days, when he was well.

CASE II. - Mr. N., hard student and overworked; had, for several weeks, what he thought was La Grippe, and was undoubtedly correct; but hoped to get well on domestic treatment. Found him with a well marked enteric fever (typhoid), much prostration, diarrhoea profuse, of

terrible odor, pain in occipital region, dry tongue, with red center. Sleepless or disturbed; very talkative in sleep; dry, hacking cough. Considered the case a serious one. Gave at once Pyrogen. It soon modified the symptoms, except the diarrhoea, especially the odor, which was terrible, permeating all parts of house but for thorough ventilation and disinfectants. Tried to correct the odor with Kali phos., with no success. Gave two or three doses Psorinum, which changed matters. Pyrogen was principal remedy, except Phos., for cough. Complete recovery.

CASE III. - Mr. M., was much broken in health during late war, being a prisoner in Libby for many months. Had pneumonia eighteen years ago, which was a close call for him. However, judicious treatment gave him a fair condition of health, but he was left with a weak lung. One year ago this May, 1889, he had an attack of what was called congestion of this weak lung. Saw him after the attack and found an unsatisfactory condition. The lower half of it useless. Gave a dose of Sulphur high. He continued to improve and went to California for the winter; came back last May, 1890; found him confined to bed with little use of this lung; hard cough, asthmatic spells at night with great suffocation; difficult expectoration of heavy sputa, dark yellowish green; chill every other day, showing the miasmatic character, anticipating one or two hours. Every night before midnight he would be very nervous, which with his asthmatic attacks made the night almost intolerable, but towards morning would get some sleep. Gave him two or three doses of Pyrogen high, in the evening. At once he commenced to improve; less cough and expectoration, but the nervous spells would come in the morning at 6 o'clock. In three days he had no chill or fever. He begged for less medicine as he dreaded the morning nervousness. After three days he took only one dose in the evening, all symptoms continuing to improve.

This case may be considered as miasmatic in its origin, hence the relief obtained by the dose of Pyrogen. How long the effect may remain is yet to be seen.

ARGENTUM NITRICUM

Lady, 49, passing through the climacteric, has a small fibroid causing excessive menses for years. Flow usually comes in gushes with clots; now much less in quantity but continuous; been flowing for 5 weeks; had used several remedies with no satisfactory results. In May number of *Journal of Obstetrics*, read Dr Choate's case of Argentum nit. cure. At once looked over my case to find the similar in this remedy, - found she had this drug used topically several years ago and as result was confined to house for 5 months following its application.

"Nervous symptoms always present" - "Nervous erethism after each haemorrhage" - "Menses profuse and long lasting" - "Always clotted, but never controlled by any of the remedies."
With these symptoms, concluded I had a case for the remedy.

1st day gave a dose of Argentum nit. 200.

2nd day a change of color - another dose.

In three days 2 doses were taken.

4th day in the morning sick headache, pain through pelvic region; flow started up and within an hour passed a large clot when she felt better; flow gradually diminished until it ceased after 6th day; patient realized presence of each dose by a decided taste of the remedy which she knew by its use locally years before on "canker sores" in her mouth."

(W. H. Leonard, M. D., Minneapolis, Minn., Clinical Notes, The Medical Advance vol. 26 (1891), p. 102-105)