

# THE HAHNEMANNIAN GLEANINGS

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## LAC CANINUM

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This remedy was used by the ancients: Dioscorides, Rhasis, Pliny; and Sextus recommended it for the removal of the dead foetus. Sammonicus and Sextus praise it in photophobia and otitis. Pliny claims that it cures ulceration of the internal os. "It was considered an antidote to deadly poisons." (Hering). Reising of New York revived its use in the successful treatment of diphtheria.

Bayard and Swan gave much time and energy in preparing and proving it in the potencies, and these provings confirmed many of the claims of the ancients. All the milks are valuable and deep acting remedies each with a unique pathogenesis.

*Lac caninum*, however, stands out distinctive in peculiar characteristic symptoms. It affects deeply the mental and emotional spheres of life and produces many strange illusions and hallucinations and perversions of the imagination, especially about snakes, such as awaking at night with a sensation as if she was lying on a large snake. After menses imagines all sorts of things about snakes. Awoke at daylight feeling that she was a loathsome, horrible mass of disease. Cannot bear to have any one part of her body touch another. Feels as if she could not get out of her body in some way, she will soon become

crazy. Unable to think of anything but her own condition. Nerves so out of order that she cannot bear one finger to touch the other. Weakness with nervous states.

Is impressed that all she says is a lie, that all her symptoms are unreal, and the result of a diseased imagination; it seems very difficult to speak the truth, constantly distrusts things; suspicious, when reading anything she rapidly changes the meaning, omitting or adding things. Difficult concentration of mind, difficult to read understandingly anything requiring mental effort to follow it, confused and full of imaginings. Very restless, wants to leave things as soon as they are commenced.

Changeable, erratic, weak, fearful and confused. When speaking, wants to substitute the name of the object seen for that which is thought. Cannot remember what she reads but can remember other things. In writing, uses too many words or not the right ones. Absentminded. Cannot be left alone for an instant (in diphtheria).

Full of fears: of disease, of consumption, of heart disease, of going crazy, of falling downstairs. Fits of weeping, depressed, thinks she is looked down upon by everyone, and feels insulted.

Anxious, easily excited, easily startled, cross and irritable while the headache lasted.

Attacks of rage, cursing and swearing at the slightest provocation.

Numerous illusions concerning the body and its functions: Imagines that he wears someone else's nose. Feels very short while walking. When walking, seems to be walking on air; when lying down does not seem to touch the bed. Floating sensation.

Dizzy sensation with slight nausea, constant noise in the head very confusing, worse at night, and much worse at menses. Sick headache beginning at the nape, the pain settling gradually in right or left forehead. Occipital pains worse left extending upward on moving the head; headaches over eyes when sewing, frontal and occipital, worse

turning the eyes. Sharp lancinating pains coming suddenly, recurring, lies down at once because of an indefinite dread of its return. Pains often shift from side to side. This is very characteristic of the nature of the remedy. Complaints, pains and inflammatory conditions, shift from side to side.

A rheumatism or neuritis may attack one side of the body and suddenly leave to go to the opposite side, and then repeat the process and go back to the original side. Sometimes a diphtheria or a tonsillitis will manifest in the same peculiar way.

Many of the head pains are intense and even unbearable; they are aggravated by noise or talking, and relieved by keeping quiet and often by cold applications.

This relief from cold often may be found in the inflamed joints and nerves elsewhere in the body sufferings.

Excessive dandruff, pimples on scalp discharging serum and forming scabs, scalp extremely painful when touched or when combing the hair. Constant itching with soreness of scalp. Sharp darting intense pains in and around the eyes with disturbance of vision, these conditions are worse from reading or using the eyes. Tendency of the retina to retain the impression of objects especially of colours. Dimness of vision, when reading the page seems covered with various spots of red, yellow, green. Illusions of sight. Small objects like a rat or a bird appear transiently either on the floor or in the air.

sharp severe pain in ear (right) while walking in the wind. Covering with the hand gave entire relief. Sore aching pains in middle ear at night while lying on ear, relieved when pressure was removed. Ringing and buzzing in ears, noises in ears, feels as if the ears were full.

Clarke says: More than any other remedy, this has relieved the deafness from hereditary syphilis. Green odourless ear discharge. Tendency of the septum of nose to ulcerate, the ulcers and scabs very sensitive to touch.

Fluent coryza, thin, excoriating to nostrils. Or fluent catarrhal discharge from both nostrils with stuffed feeling in nose and throat. This is one remedy where the diphtheritic membrane may extend to the nose, membrane grey and sometimes silvery in colour. Profuse nightly nasal discharge, like gonorrhoea staining pillow greenish yellow, offensive odour from nose especially in diphtheria. One nostril stopped up, the other free. Cannot bear the smell of flowers. They send a chill over her. All drinks return by the nose, nothing can be swallowed (in diphtheria).

The face is red and burns like fire, especially the right cheek, on coming in from the cold. Knifelike pain from under left zygoma up to vertex. There may be marked pallor of the face, lips dry and peeling, jaw cracks while eating. Teeth sensitive to cold water, gums swollen, ulcerated, retracted, bleeding, teeth loose from defective nutrition and exposure.

Tongue coated brown or dirty, deeply coated. Taste, putrid, of lead in the afternoon, coated on back and centers with edges bright red. At 9 p.m. the tongue looks patched. Glands of neck, throat and face swollen. Mouth and throat covered with aphthous yellowish white ulcerations easily bleeding. Roof of mouth very sore with blisters that break and leave loose skin, any seasoned food causes great pain; mouth may be very dry or saliva may be increased filling the mouth constantly with mucus. Talking very difficult with a tendency to talk through nose.

The throat is one of the main centers wherein this medicine acts profoundly. Patients with follicular tonsillitis and diphtheria may require this remedy to recover from very serious illness.

Ulcers form readily in the throat, often in patches which may spread over the buccal cavity and upward into the nose or the diphtheritic process may go downward into the larynx.

The sore throats are accompanied by chills and high fever with pain in head, neck, back and limbs, also with great restlessness and prostration.

The diphtheric patch may appear on one side and soon leave it to appear on the opposite side and then recur on the side first affected with swelling of the glands of throat and neck alternating sides with sore throat. Quinsy alternating sides, thick tough pieces of diphtheric membrane coming away and new membrane constantly reforming. The diphtheritic deposits look as if varnished; exudations migratory, now here, now there. Pain in throat at times extending down to larynx and chest. Sore throat with each menstrual period. Great sense of constriction in throat with dry tickling cough.

Appetite may be increased but in acute rheumatism and diphtheria, it is lost or wanting.

Desires highly seasoned foods, which is unusual. Uses pepper, mustard and salt freely. Averse to sweets. Craves milk and drinks much of it. Considerable thirst for water.

Pain, nausea and weakness frequently referred to the stomach with sense of weight there.

The abdomen has much pain with sensitiveness to the weight of the clothing. Intermittent pains. Pains over one or both ovarian regions, bursting sensation while walking. Frequent desire to stool all through the provings. When having a soft passage, great tenseness. Rectum seems unable to expel the soft stools because they adhere to the parts like clay. Constipation with urgent desire for stool, but passes only wind, or one or two small pieces like sheep dung. Diarrhoea, watery, profuse and coming with great force, with colic, and pain. Severe constipation before and after menses, bowels very loose, no diarrhoea during the flow.

Urination causes intense pain in urethra soon passing off. Sensation after urinating as if the bladder was still full. Frequent desire to urinate which if not promptly

attended to causes pain in the bladder. A numb, dull sensation, if not relieved by urination. It spreads over abdomen and left side to the ends of the fingers. Constant desire to urinate passing large amounts frequently. At night she dreams of urinating and wakes to find an immediate necessity. Specific for nocturnal enuresis according to Clarke.

In the male, sexual desire is marked. Right spermatic cord is sore to touch. This remedy is a powerful antisyphilitic, as it has cured chancre on the prepuce, penis greatly swollen, chancre like a cauliflower excrescence, red, smooth and glistening. Small sore at entrance of urethra; glands around urethra an open ulcer exhaling a most foetid smell, and with most excruciating pain with a red glistening appearance. Gonorrhœal pains all around the urethra. When the gonorrhœa is relieved catarrh sets in. From these symptoms it is clear that *Lac caninum* is also related to sycosis.

In the female, this remedy produces and cures many sufferings. At the menses, the nervous symptoms as well as most of the physical conditions are aggravated.

Cross and irritable the first day of period; on the second day severe paroxysmal pains in the uterine region causing nausea, pain in ovarian regions causing nausea; pain in ovarian regions, more left side extending down thighs, these pains relieved bending backwards; pain and aching in right lumbar region when leaning forward as in sewing even for a short time, entirely relieved when bending back. Membranous dysmenorrhœa with the characteristic nervous and mental symptoms. Leucorrhœa all day but none at night. Severe pain in right ovarian region completely relieved by a flow of bright red blood. Pains like labour pains accompanied by great restlessness of legs and arms and severe aching in the lumbar region. Great aching in lumbar region after premature labour, sensation as if everything were coming out of the vulva relieved by sitting; acid leucorrhœa excoriating severely.

Great swelling of labia and terrible pain while urinating from gonorrhœa. Intense painful soreness of vulva extending to rectum, could not walk, stand, or sit, relieved by lying on back and separating the knees as far apart as possible. Raw bad smelling sores between the labia and thighs in folds of the skin worse when walking, would rather keep still at the time; these sores are covered with a disgusting white exudation; sexual organs extremely excited, very much worse from the slightest touch.

Breasts very sore and painful with sharp darting pain in right ovarian region. Many lumps and growths in the breasts have been cured, even after a breast was removed and the lump returned in the remaining breast. The fullness and soreness of the breast is worse at the period. Breasts heavy as lead, must support them. Loss of milk while nursing has been restored. Galactorrhœa, many cases; dries up the milk.

The respiratory organs are the seat of many symptoms and troubles; there are coughs, and hoarseness and aphonia, marked soreness on touching the larynx. Cough with pain and oppression of the chest. Sensation as if the breath would leave her when lying down and trying to sleep. Has to jump up and stir around for an hour or so every night.

Terrible dyspnœa immediately after sleep (*Lach.*), first on left side of chest, the dyspnœa compelled her to be lifted upright with violent exertion to get breath. There was a sharp pain in region of heart with each of these attacks; after the medicine had but one attack of dyspnœa, and all the pain was referred to right side of chest. (Acute rheumatism). Lungs feel as though fast to the chest, worse while walking. Feeling of oppression and tightness behind the sternum with desire to draw a deep breath. Sharp pain in right breast at four p.m.

Palpitation of heart, irregular action causing shortness of breath.

In the back and limbs are innumerable complaints, inflammatory and nervous. Many cases of rheumatism with the shifting pains especially from side to side, often relieved by cold applications and made worse from hot ones. Paralysis and weakness following acute attacks of disease especially after diphtheria.

The sleep and dream symptoms are marked and full of suffering. Crying out during sleep, unable to find any comfortable position in bed; there is no way that she can put her hands that they do not bother her. Falls asleep at last upon her face. Dreams of snakes, of urinating and on awaking must hurry to prevent an accident; profuse perspiration during sleep. Great desire to sleep and symptoms are worse after sleep especially in diphtheria.

In diphtheria, *Lach.* and *Diphtherinum* need be compared, but the mass of highly nervous symptoms and the unusual and unique modalities of *Lac caninum* should enable the prescriber to make the correct selection in any given case of sickness.

#### DISCUSSION

DR. RUST: I want to thank Dr. Grimmer for bringing out something I didn't know before merely because I hadn't studied it carefully as he had. I knew the alternation of sides but I didn't before know the alternation of the diseased condition. I was glad to get that.

DR. MORGAN: I was thinking, as I was listening to the paper—and it is a very splendid paper—I was thinking, though, that if one patient had all those symptoms at one time what a picture he would be.

It reminded me of the coloured pastor who met one of his parishioners and reproved him for some misdeed and told him he would go plumb to hell in the burning fire and he would be there eternally.

Moses looked at the pastor and said, "I don't believe in any such thing as that."

He said, "Well, why don't you?"



"Well," he said, "there ain't no constitution that could stand it."

That is the reason—there isn't any constitution that could stand all those things.

I have used *Lac caninum* in alternating throat trouble with success.

DR. GRIMMER: Just a few words in answer to Dr. Morgan. As he knows and we all know, of course, no one person has all these provings. This is the sum total of the symptoms gathered by the provers, but when you meet even a part of the symptoms in a patient, *Lac caninum* may be called to your attention and may prove valuable in many cases. It isn't generally given in cases of gonorrhœa or syphilis, but it is, as we see by the study and by the confirmations of Dr. Clarke and others, highly valuable in both these conditions, and we shouldn't forget it.

—*The Homœopathic Recorder*, June, 1947.

## RHEUMATISM AND RHEUMATIC ARTHRITIS

By DR. W. KARO

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—The aim of my lecture is to draw your attention to one of the most common and crippling diseases of our time, namely, to Rheumatism.

There are seven cases of rheumatism to every one of cancer, and ten cases to every one of tuberculosis.

The frequency of rheumatism and its seriousness for human welfare may be illustrated by a few figures.

Dr. Kemsley's statistics of the year 1927 show that of 1,000 insured people unfit for work over a period of more than three months, over 14 per cent. were rheumatic cases. Moreover, 16 per cent. of all rheumatic patients are gradually developing diseases of the heart.