

mass. Remedies do not strike and pass off at once as the late lamented Krichbaum stated; the drug cells remain as they become a part of the line of communication and help to keep the flow of vital force constant. Therefore, "if I am right your grace impart, still in the right to stay; if I am wrong please teach my heart to find that better way!"

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CONIUM

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This drug has been in use since 399 B.C. when Socrates was put to death by drinking it. About 79 A.D. Pliny claimed it as a cure for breast tumours. In 1760 Storck claimed it as a cure for cancer but not knowing how to prescribe it according to the law of *similia, similibus, curentur* it soon went out of use.

In this paper I shall report a number of cases in which there is no doubt of Conium's ability to cure so called "incurable diseases".

In Sept. 1942 a woman 55 yrs. old came to me with a gland in her left breast. It was very hard and firmly attached to the surrounding tissue. She had sharp shooting pains at that point. I at once decided it was cancerous and advised her to have the breast removed. She refused. Then I asked that I might remove the gland for examination. Before operation I gave her one dose of Conium 1m.

The first of October, 1942 I removed the gland and sent it to our Boston pathologist. He at once reported it one of the fastest growing cancers and advised that the breast be entirely amputated. Both she and her brother refused. About once in two weeks I gave her Conium 1m. for a year. It is now over four years and there are no objective or subjective symptoms of a cancer about the patient. Conium was prescribed on the hardening of the gland and the sharp shooting pains. I might say that I have many times prescribed Conium in similar conditions and with no return; but I did not have the backing up of the pathologist that they were cancerous.

In August, 1944 a woman 57 yrs. old came to me with a stony and painful gland in her left breast. She was willing to have the breast removed. A Boston surgeon did a very thorough dissection, finding many enlarged glands. Before the operation I gave her two doses of Conium 1m. The pathologist report was, as anticipated, a rapid growing, extensive cancer. During her convalescence I gave her a few doses of Conium, but for a year she was so well I did not see her.

About a year ago she came to me with the arm badly swollen from the shoulder down and including the hand. The axilla was swollen and lumpy. She felt a great oppression of the left side of the chest and complained that she felt stifled on trying to take a long breath.

I at once took her to the surgeon who had operated. He gave me his opinion and believed that the growth was rapidly advancing. I asked him

if he thought x-ray would do any good and where two years ago he had advised it, he now did not feel that it would do any good. Isn't it funny how scientific medicine changes? He did advise an x-ray to find how extensive was the involvement of the lung with the growth. This I did and our interpreter said there was a mass at the root of the lung, which no doubt was cancerous.

I began on Conium again, giving the 10m. about every ten days. There was some relief but not enough to satisfy myself or the patient. I then noticed that the arm was very tight, purple from the shoulder to hand and she said she could not bear the weight of clothing on it. What better indication for Lachesis? The 10m. was given and within a week the swelling had decreased one half and she was better in every way. She had one more dose of the 50m. But the lumps in the axilla were still large and there was pain through the left chest. After a time I returned to Conium and gave the 10, 20 and 50m. The 50m. seemed to do the trick, the swelling in axilla and the pain and oppression in lung disappeared. She gained back about 10 lbs.

Now, to my mind, comes a proving of Conium. About six weeks ago I had been giving the patient Conium 50m. She said to me, "If I had that oftener than every two weeks, don't you think I would improve faster?" In order to please the patient I gave her one paper and told her to take it five days after the last one. She did and had quite a reaction. The thing that bothered her the most was the terrible

vertigo when she rose up or turned in bed. This persisted for about a week and then passed away. She got no more Conium for three weeks. For the last month she has been fine. The swelling in the arm is very slight, in fact subjective and objective symptoms are nihil. Perhaps it is not a cure, but before I knew so much about homœopathic prescribing I have seen many cases similar to that die within one to four months.

Text books and writers have little to say about Conium in circulatory conditions and high blood pressure. It has been my good fortune to have some startling and lasting results in a number of cases when there was a general hardening of the arteries. I will relate some of them.

Woman 72 yrs. old. For two years had vertigo turning head or turning in bed. Pain and bewildered feeling in head. Had paralysis of the face two years ago, and six months later had paralysis of the whole left side. She ran a pressure from 180 to 220 systolic. About a year ago fell down the lower three steps in her home, badly bruising her face and side. There was a partial paralysis of arm and face. As her son is a physician in another state, he was called and on arriving asked consultation with a heart man. This was done and the usual electrocardiogram, x-ray, etc., etc. When his report came back it was as expected, in short, there was an extensive arteriosclerosis and badly diseased heart. This would be progressive and the patient would be an invalid from then on. A great help, as most of the specialists

are! The most these fellows lack is good common sense.

While this patient was still in bed, she developed a set of very uncomfortable symptoms. A sharp shooting pain from about the left nipple through to the back. For some time there had been a sclerotic mitral and aortic leak. On looking up in the repertory a drug that would meet these symptoms the best choice was Conium. I should add that the patient had not been able to lie down in bed for four days and nights.

I gave her Conium 1m. and within two days the pain was gone and she was able to lie down and sleep comfortably. Now here are two developments in her case which are worth laying special emphasis on, as I gave her conium from time to time the rough, sclerotic sound in the valves became less, her blood pressure dropped to 130 to 140 and in a year has seldom been above that figure. Best of all there have been no more paralytic conditions and the patient can go into Boston and spend the day shopping without any ill effects. Truly Conium seems to be a softener of many tissue conditions not appreciated by the profession in general.

A man 85 years old came to me complaining of vertigo in its worst form, especially, when looking down or turning his head from side to side. His mental condition was very cloudy. He felt weak and very discouraged. He had been treating with a homœopath for two years for high blood pressure,

and had been taking different large coated tablets. One of them was the same that has been on my shelf for the last ten years containing Fl. Ext. Apocynum, Cratægus, Gold and Sodium Cl., Nitroglycerin, Sod. Nit., but his pressure had remained above 200 Syst. I found it 220 systolic. He was an ideal Conium case, for after the first dose of the 1m. his pressure went to 140 and has remained around that for the last one and one-half years. During this time he has had about five doses of Conium 1 to 10m. and says he is as fit as a young man. He has a wife 25 years younger and she testifies to his fitness.

A man 60 years old, with high blood pressure and a general sclerotic condition of the radial and other palpable arteries. He suddenly began to have spells of hemiplegia. Would suddenly fall and be paralyzed. This happened many times. His physicians were all of the old school; they said nothing could be done, and that he would finally pass out in one of the attacks. Being a friend of the family, but living in another state, I was consulted by mail. I sent them Conium 30x. He never had another attack and died at 80 years old of an acute angina.

The next case that I shall report, is one that every text book or writer claims has no cure, but is progressive, fatal disease. The disease is Paralysis Agitans.

When I first saw this man, a retired preacher, 74 years old, he had been under the care of a very

skillfull old school physician for two years who had explained to the family that his trouble was an incurable disease; that the patient would gradually grow worse and finally be unable to help himself. In addition, he had a very large prostate gland which if not removed at once, would soon close up the urinary passage. He painted such a poor picture, that the son, who was a patient of mine decided that they could do no worse by changing doctors.

I found the patient a very heavy man, bent forward, with his head on his chest. Head shaking, hands and feet in the usual tremor. The patient's whole body was quite rigid. When he walked he was bent forward, in a trotting attitude. His face was expressionless. I told the family that the disease was considered incurable.

Wilson says, "In some cases improvement has followed the administration of remedies. But the possibility of a cure is denied by those of wide experience and judicial temper of mind that entitles them to speak with authority." Isn't it strange how the proper application of remedies upset these very wise prognoses?

I first gave Conium in the 6th. dilution t.i.d. After about a week the family noticed a change for the better. I was quite sure there was. I then went to the 30 dilution, later I changed to the 200x and as time went on I went up to the 1m. giving it at the last once in two to four weeks. Inside of a year his tremors had entirely ceased. He was able to move his head normally. His gait was normal. He

read very profound books. He wrote articles for religious papers and had a large correspondence. His prostate gland never bothered him, he could start and finish in a normal way and sleep all night. He lived for ten years and died this summer, from what I do not know. He just went to sleep.

No author seems to know the ætiology or the exact changes that takes place in the tissues of those having Paralysis Agitans. One of the greatest talking points and the reason we are able to cure our patients is, because we do not have to wait until a diagnosis is made in order to begin treatment.

The main thing we must know, is our materia medica ; especially modalities and aggravations ; then when we meet these, decreed, incurable disease, we will find some drug in our materia medica, that if it does not cure, will give great relief.

Many of our homœopathic brethren are worrying because we, as a homœopathic school or body have made no new advances in the system, so that students or doctors of the other schools would be attracted. Better they did some worrying about finding teachers who have the ability of presenting materia medica so that those who study it cannot help seeing that it is a wonderful system.

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