

EXCERPTS FROM RUECKERT'S CLINICAL EXPERIENCES—PARALYSES

(Translated by the late S. W. S.)

Aluminum Metallicum

Carpenter of 35 has been sick for nine years beginning with pain in lower left abdomen, constipation and cough which latter made the pain intolerable. Gradually a paralysis of lower extremities developed. The legs were always hot and swollen evenings; later patient had urinary retention. The first urine voided looked like butter-milk. Patient has taken many allopathic remedies.

He was now given *Pulsatilla* and *Sulphur* 200c every ten days in alternation. Two months later the urinary trouble was worse. Patient had frequent shooting pains in legs. *Sulphur* 200c was given. The characteristic symptoms of tabes were present, also peculiar softness and loss of sensation in soles of feet; loss of control over lower extremities developed, which was manifested especially in the dark so patient does not know where and how the legs were lying. This paralysis was unchanged. Burning in thighs and calves. All symptoms worse from warmth and rest. Constipation, urine and general condition somewhat improved.

Rhus 200c was given repeatedly without result. A month later *Lycopodium* was chosen, and after another month *Pulsatilla* 200c, all in vain.

Three weeks later *Aluminum metallicum* 200c was chosen and patient given several doses. Three weeks later patient could walk with the aid of a cane and was full of hope. If he moves legs fast while sitting, they turn crooked. When rising from sitting they seem too long. Lower legs are swollen evenings. *Aluminum* was repeated. After a month patient had improved so much that he could work standing at the bench for hours—*Boenninghausen*.

Woman of 19, scrofulous, had taken much cod liver oil during childhood and was then treated homœopathically with

reappearance of eruptions. Menstruation unusually profuse, and during one period patient had severe abdominal pains for which she was given *Zincum* with quick result. Seven days later patient suffered from extremely severe backache and many other complaints for which she was given *Nux vomica*, *Causticum*, *Sepia*, *Sulphur* and *Belladonna*. Then she had the following symptoms :

Loss of voice, can only whisper. For some time increasing weakness of lower extremities with burning pain as if a red-hot iron rod were poked into spine, at first only an ascending formication. Soles of feet felt soft as if cushioned, but this gradually left, and patient could not feel the floor under feet, did not know when her feet were on the floor unless she could see them. Has not been able to walk for weeks, while before that she could only walk in bright light with eyes open ; in the dark she stumbled and fell unless holding on to something. Now even in daylight she must have something to steady her. When lying she has no conception as to position of legs and no sensation in them.

In the beginning of these symptoms she involuntarily turned to the left when walking and missed her goal. Frequent sensation of contraction in abdomen as if laced tightly, especially when beginning to move after longer resting. She tires easily from talking.

Patient is well nourished and of florid complexion ; not worried about her condition. Digestion good ; stool a little hard ; menses regular but rather profuse. Feels worse evenings.

Aluminum metallicum 200c was given daily in solution, three doses. Two days later she was distinctly improved which lasted with undisturbed appearance of menses. *Aluminum* was repeated. Now patient can be out of bed all day, can walk all over in daylight, even climbing stairs, but still turns to the left when eyes are closed.

After a week *Aluminum* was repeated. The legs respond well, but speaking is still difficult ; evenings the voice gives out. *Natrum muriaticum* 200c was given as an intercurrent remedy without much effect ; but now patient can walk on street.

In a week a higher potency of *Aluminum* was given with

decidedly better improvement ; only the pain in spine was worse. A week later *Causticum* 200c relieved that also, and voice and speaking became much better. However, the sensation of softness of the soles of feet was worse. In two weeks *Aluminum* was again given, and repeated in another week, after which the rest of the symptoms were cured with added help of *Pulsatilla* and *Sulphur* each a week apart—*Boenninghausen*.

Anacardium

In paralyzes following apoplexy, especially of the legs, I have several times seen good results, though no complete recovery, from *Anacardium*—*Hartmann*.

Woman of 70, slender, who had two children as inmates in an asylum for the insane, suffered from leg ulcers and severe vertigo. A year ago she had a kind of apoplectic stroke, and now had a new attack.

Symptoms : For some days she experienced a peculiar loss of memory, and today has incomplete paralysis of voluntary muscles. While drinking coffee the cup slipped from her hand, and the coffee she had drunk trickled from the mouth ; head sank on chest, she could not hold it up without much effort. Facial muscles distorted, gaze fixed, and physiognomy without expression. Patient did not recognize her surroundings, could not speak, uttered unintelligible sounds. She arose from the couch laboriously, but did not move the feet, and with a foolish grin sank back on the couch. Respiration normal, no fever, skin rather cool ; pulse slow, full, 60. The paralysis seemed to be due to absence of volition.

Anacardium 1c, one drop, was given, and 20 drops in water for inhaling. Patient then slept five hours with perspiration, from which she awoke as from a dream. Now she can hold the cup while drinking. In a few days she was cured. After about a year she had premonitory symptoms of another attack, which were quickly cured by *Anacardium*—*Segin*.

Arnica

Boy, 12 days old, had been circumcised, was weeping, and right hand and foot were paralyzed, while the left side remained unaffected ; the right extremities remained in the position in

which they had been placed, but I could move them unopposed in any direction, turning, flexing or extending. No cause for the condition could be detected.

Arnica 2c was given in six doses daily, later less often, then a dose every other day for three months. *Arnica* tincture in an equal amount of water was used externally for massaging. The paralysis was cured completely—*Teller*.

Woman 71, of sanguine temperament, had suffered from gastric fever, icterus and tertian fever, suddenly had an apoplectic stroke paralyzing the right side, later also her speech was not synchronous with her thoughts, had to repeat often what she wanted to say, expressed everything wrongly. The right side was paralyzed, hand and foot hang limply and are not moved. Pulse full and slow.

Arnica 4c, a drop in solution, was given of which she had a tablespoonful three times daily. On the third day sensation returned in hand and tingling; the face regained the normal expression and her speech became more intelligible. *Arnica* 10c in solution was prescribed. On the sixth day hand and foot were much better. Patient was completely cured—*Rupprich*.

Girl of 11 has been paralyzed for ten days following a severe scare; one side is affected, voice lost, swallowing difficult, stool and urine retarded and diminished in quantity; patient is pale, body emaciated and flabby; pulse small and weak; has been treated in a hospital without result.

She now was given an infusion of *Arnica* flowers (one dram of flowers boiled in a pint of water), and four days later she commenced to talk; swallowing better, and patient could move fingers; stool and urination improved. A week later she began to move her limbs, and speaking became normal. In another week she raised herself up in bed without assistance, could feed herself and walk a little with some help. She recovered fully.

From the eight to the twelfth day she had quick, painful shakings with momentary motions of legs; lancinating pains from shoulders over sacrum to toes and back to shoulders, lasting less than a minute, and these attacks lasted for five days—*Frank*.

Man of 60, following a swelling on right side of neck (treated by violent manipulations), had a stroke of apoplexy with swelling on the left side of neck. He was treated allopathically but, in spite of six-weeks' care, a paraplegia remained, and head could not be moved. Aside from the paraplegia and paralysis of neck muscles, patient also was constipated. He was given *Arnica* 4c. On the second day of this medication patient complained of severe lancinating pains in all limbs, and also in neck. *Arnica* was continued and patient had lancinating pains five times daily in all limbs and also in back with momentary trembling of entire body. His appetite returned and the constipation was better.

In a week, he could again move the head freely and soon also the hands and fingers, began to lift arms and legs. Following the lancinating pains, formication in back and limbs set in for a week and then disappeared. Now patient could use arms without difficulty, began to stand and walk with the aid of a male nurse. In three weeks patient was cured entirely—*Frank*.

Woman of 20, delicate, has menstruated for four years, is otherwise healthy, had a bad scare five days ago causing her to faint, after which both arms were totally paralyzed. Two drops of *Arnica* flowers in tincture were given.

Two weeks later she suddenly felt sever lancinating pain from lower cervical vertebrae through arms to all fingertips several times day and night for three weeks without disturbing the function of the parts.

Motion gradually returned, first in right arm which patient could use fairly well after six months, but not so the left arm due to pain in shoulder, worse from motion, but in course of time, in spite of the allopathic doses of *Arnica* infusion, patient was completely cured—*Frank*.

Woman of 35, weak, menstruates normally, has suffered often from intermittent fevers. Had severe bilateral sciatica followed by paralysis.

Symptoms : Sciatic pains prevent sleeping day or night. Pulse small, soft, at normal rate. No other symptoms. For two weeks she had allopathic treatment without result. Now she was given *Arnica* two drops of the *Arnica* flower infusion.

For three days there had been no change, but then she had lancinating pains from sacrum to all toes, followed by some general improvement with better night rest. These pains returned daily for another week, lasting only a moment, like electric shocks. Soon patient could use the lower extremities—*Frank*.

Mrs. F., 40, got drenched in rain, but felt well. Yet the next morning awoke finding legs and arms paralyzed, only the fingers of the right hand could be moved a little; also the trunk was paralyzed.

Symptoms : Patient can move head freely; pulse soft and full. Constipation. In ten days she had edematous swelling of left hand and right foot.

She was now given *Arnica* infusion made with two drams of flowers. The next day patient complained of sensation as of hot water running in lower extremities with sudden shock, which reappeared up to five times daily. In right arm, from shoulder to fingertips, frequent sensation of formation for one to two minutes. In left arm, frequent attacks of severe lancinating pains. In four days patient could use right arm freely, moved legs slightly in bed. Edema of right foot is disappearing, the left hand and fingers obeyed the will in spite of still being edematous. Now sudden concussions with momentary pain go through extremities day and night.

In four days patient began to be up, and with aid from nurse could walk a little. She can move left arm slightly forward and backward, but not upward on account of pain in acromion, which she has felt for some days.

During the entire treatment patient has perspired slightly; diuresis was profuse the first week—*Frank*.

Arsenicum

Christison states that it is suitable for complete paralyzes as well as where only single limbs are afflicted similar to the result of lead poisoning. De Haen relates a convincing case which had convulsions, weakness and sensitiveness of feet, legs and arms, all symptoms finally led to almost total paralysis of all limbs. By the use of *Arsenicum* motion returned first in hands, then in arms, and finally patient could again use the legs. Dr. Aldord mentions four cases, all of which suffered

from paralysis-like muscle weakness, in two cases partial paralysis. Professor Bernd writes of a case in which sensation and motion in feet were lost, knees contracted, etc. Dr. Falconer had a case in which only the hands were affected. In two other cases the paralysis began in fingers and extended gradually to the whole arm—*North American Journal of Homœopathy*.

Woman, 63, of pasty constitution and phlegmatic temperament, suffered from an apoplectic attack following a sever cold; paralysis of speech and left extremities set in. *Opium, Veratrum, Nux vomica, Rhus, Causticum* and *Phosphorus* did not help. I decided to give *Arsenicum* 30c on account of the severe exhaustion, and since the speech defect got worse. This remedy decided the entire dangerous case. Soon her speech was much improved, patient regained strength and slight motion in affected parts, while digestion and elimination became normal. *Arsenicum* was continued at longer intervals, patient got out of bed and convalescence was steady. A few doses of *China* 3c completed the cure—*Thorer*.

Baryta carbonica

It surely is one of the most often indicated remedies in paralysis following apoplexy in old people when preceded by physical weakness, giving out of knees, with lumbar pains. Paralysis of tongue is hardly ever cured without *Baryta carbonica*—*Hartmann*.

Belladonna

Man, 32, of sanguine-choleric temperament, had for a long time suffered from headache, constipation and rheumatic pains, suddenly had an apoplectic stroke after midnight with intense headache, which left him without motion and sensation on right side.

Symptoms : All sensory organs much weakened, is speechless, and mouth is crooked. At times convulsive muscle action in unaffected side. Saliva is dripping from mouth; deglutition difficult. Pulse full and hard. Eyes red and bulging; face bloated. Much thirst. Constipation for four days. Mentality unaffected, realizes bitterly his present and future predicament, feeling sorry for the family's future after this affliction.

Belladonna 30c was given. In 15 minutes the headache increased, as also the redness of face and jerking of facial muscles, all followed by sleep for two hours while perspiring slightly. When patient awoke he could talk, and in 24 hours sensation and motion in affected half of body returned completely—*Bethmann*.

Man, 55, could not quite orient himself after a siesta, consciousness somewhat dimmed; tongue not forming words; mouth crooked; face red. The entire left side of body feels paralyzed; could not easily lift left arm, and left hand would not squeeze. *Belladonna* 6c, ten drops in solution, was given; later *Belladonna* 5c improved the entire condition very much—*Elvert*.

Causticum

It is indicated where afflicted parts tremble severely when patient rises from sitting, and leaves him only when sitting down again—*Hartmann*.

It acted most satisfactorily in partial paralysis following cold drafts; it also was valuable in hemiplegia after suppression of scabies and other skin diseases where parts became numb and cold, especially on head and foot. In hemiplegia of face (from forehead to chin) following colds, I have repeatedly found it helpful. In paralysis of tongue it alone did not help, I also had to employ *Stramonium*, *Dulcamara* and *Muriatic acid*—*Hartmann*.

Man suppressed his scabies, and four years later began to suffer from paralysis of right side, and gradually was totally paralyzed on right side, could only walk laboriously with cane by bending body far over to right side. After drinking a mineral water for 40 days, his fingers were so flexed that hands became useless. After three years he had the following *symptoms*:

Could only walk with difficulty using crutches, bending fully to right side as if right hip were dislocated and thigh shortened. The right foot dragged and was twisted so that the toes only touched the ground. He had vertigo and his face was without expression. He had no sensation in his hands, could not hold objects, they dropped from his trembling hands without patient knowing it. The bladder was semi-paralyzed, and urinating was

only possible with great exertion, as also bowel movements. While sitting he could not sit straight, always bending to right side. Cramps in right foot. Face pale, body very emaciated.

Causticum 30c was given. In a week improvement was noticed, could move fingers, and hold objects without trembling, and felt when they commenced to slip. Urination was now normal without effort; feels stronger in feet and can walk better. Stool daily. *Causticum* 3c was given and the improvement continued. The paralysis of right leg is better. In a month *Nux vomica* was given on account of vertigo which was cured. Patient has normal sensation in right leg and can use it properly in walking. He was cured entirely after continued doses of *Causticum*, and remained well—G. Mauro.

Woman, 69, physically weak, became paralyzed on right side following taking cold. *Nux vomica* and *Cocculus* were given minus result. Arm and leg are swollen, edematous.

Symptoms : At the beginning, right arm and leg could still be slightly moved, but soon they were totally paralyzed with very little sensation in them. Speech halting, can not articulate nor find the right words. She is tearful and hopeless, expects to die. No appetite, is sleepless and constipated. Face feels furry.

Causticum 30c was given, one dose daily. After a week speech was better and patient made in uneventful total recovery—Thorer.

Woman of 50 was suddenly attacked by glossoplegia and paralysis of right arm without known cause. She could not speak a word; tongue much swollen without inflammation; can not swallow, food runs out of mouth unless placed far back in mouth to get it into esophagus.

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(Translated by S. W. Staads, M.D.)

(Continued from page 133)

H. had for a week the sensation as if he could not close the right eye without effort; pressing pain in inner canthus with lachrymation, all following exposure to cold east wind. Gradually the face on right side became flaccid, as also the right cheek which lost all sensation. Right corner of mouth could not be closed; mouth drawn to right side especially when speaking; speech was not disturbed. At times drawing pain in right maxillary joint and zygomatic bone and right tonsil. Vision in right eye diminished. Otherwise patient felt well, aside from general weakness.

Causticum 30c was given every two days, and cured completely in ten days—*Thorer*.

Mrs. F., 60, rheumatic (?) paralysis, has been treated allopathically. Aggravation from cold east wind with rheumatic pains in diverse parts of head; her mouth is drawn to right side; speech difficult; salivation; tears run from left eye which she can not close nor open when fingers have closed lid.

Causticum 30c was given every second day. After a week patient had much pain in paralyzed parts, but the paralysis itself is somewhat better. In four weeks she was able to open and close lids, sensation in cheek is returning, speech much improved; lachrymation has stopped; mouth still somewhat crooked. *Causticum* was continued and cured completely—*Thorer*.

Mrs. F., well nourished, choleric, plethoric, inclined to rheumatism and constipation, had taken many medicines, developed a catarrh following by these *symptoms*:

She could only stammer and lisp with great effort, mouth drawn to right side though tongue was moved normally and patient had no pain. Speech was indistinct and so difficult that it tired her to fainting when she forgets herself talking too long.

Arm was semi-paralyzed and was painful from shoulder to fingertips, making it useless.

Causticum 30c was given every six days, and cured in three weeks—*Ehrhardt*.

Boy of 16 had always been well, contracted an attack of coryza with stiffness of facial muscles on right side, developing into paralysis.

Symptoms : In spite of exertion, patient could not move any facial muscle; left eye remained constantly open with lachrymation; could hardly swallow food or drink, which latter trickles out of right corner of mouth. His speech was distorted because the right side of tongue was as if dead, and when extended turned to left side, as also the mouth when speaking or laughing. In a word, the paralysis extended from middle of forehead over middle of nose, right half of tongue and through middle of lips ending in chin.

He was given *Stannum*, *Zincum* and *Conium* over three weeks. Then *Rhus* was given four times daily for four days with slight improvement. Then *Causticum* was chosen, repeated in ten days. Soon after the first dose improvement set in, and repeated doses soon cured entirely—*Hartmann*.

Man of 30. Three weeks after suppression of dysentery, he was severely constipated and had partial paralysis of right hand, especially as to sensation on outer side, which perspires continually while arm is cold into axilla. Fingers are half-flexed like a half-closed hand; can not fully close hand or straighten fingers without help from the other hand; only the thumb can he move very slightly, but not the fingers. Patient has frequent, sudden attacks of vertigo with inclination to fall, worse at noon.

Causticum 200c was given, after which the stool became normal, the vertigo less; in two weeks the arm was warm and the paralysis of hand cured, so he again could work—*Lippe*.

Man, 23, typesetter, short, strong, dark hair, dirty-pale color of face, suddenly took sick while working at his trade, felt trembly, faint, weak. To get fresh air he left the shop, but soon returned because of vertigo, and was scared when he found he could not speak at all, tongue was paralyzed. He was taken home and put to bed where I saw him $\frac{1}{2}$ hour later. I found

the tongue paralyzed, and patient could not make an articulated sound, face and mouth distorted; saliva drips from mouth; halitosis; pupils dilated. No other symptoms were present, except, as he told me later, much fear, which, of course, was natural under the circumstances.

Causticum 3c was given several times. Already that evening patient could speak, tongue could be moved, though with some difficulty. Causative was perhaps his habit of holding the types between lips while setting them. (Buerkner, who was the attending physician, does not give *Causticum* credit for the quick cure.)

Young man, strong, took baths one hot day in the river without first cooling off, and after a few days developed proso-palgia.

Symptoms: Can not close right eye or open lid which stays half closed. When frowning the right side stays smooth, mouth drawn to left side, and when opened the right corner remained unchanged; jaws can be moved only with difficulty and with stitching pain in right angle of mandible. During mastication the right side is not used; the right nostril is immobile. Due to non-closure of right eye, it became very irritated, almost inflamed.

Graphites 30c did not help. Six days later *Causticum* 30c was given; on the third days patient could close eyelids fully, and in a few days all paralyzed muscles functioned normally. Patient was cured in a week—*Vehsen*.

Girl of 12 has always been well, not scrofulous, had scarlatina, and exposed herself to open air on ninth day, but desquamation proceeded normally. After a new cold, edema developed. *Sulphur* and *Arsenicum* were given, but oppression, rattling breathing and short cough increased. Hydrothorax developed. *Senega* 12c was chosen with good result.

Four weeks later, patient awoke with paralysis of entire right side, inclusive of tongue, could not move extremities on right side at all, but still had some sensation in them; speech was lost entirely, could swallow very little. Questions she could comprehend only after several repetitions. There were no pains.

Causticum 12c in solution was given twice daily. The next

day the paralyzed arm was again edematous. By the fourth day the tongue could be moved, and patient could speak some, though imperfectly, while the edema had vanished. *Causticum* 30c was given, and later the 400c potency. Since improvement stopped, *Cuprum aceticum* was given in low potency, later in the 18c which acted favorably only for a short time. Then *Causticum* 30c was again employed, later in the 400c potency.

Five months after the onset of the condition her memory was again normal as well as speech and motion of lower extremities, but the arm paralysis was unchanged. *Rhus*, *Dulcamara*, *Stannum* and *Sulphur* did not help. The arm later improved to the extent that only paralysis of the finger extensors and loss of sensation in hand remained—*Lorbacher*.

Cocculus

It seems to have decided action on the spinal cord, and hence is often indicated in paralysis of lower extremities—*Franz*.

For chronic conditions it is of great value in extreme nervous states with hysteria, fainting, palpitation, and in such total or partial paralyzes which are paired with or caused by increasing sensibility and thus have poor muscle strength, like spastic paralyzes in erethistic patients, who have a disposition to spastic conditions of all kinds. Here *Cocculus* is more often indicated than *Nux vomica*, *Causticum* and other remedies.

It has been valuable in mild hemiplegias and paralysis of single muscular parts, especially in lower extremities and the tongue. Yet, the cure of any paralysis is still very questionable even for Homœopathy—*Lobeth*.

With *Cocculus* many paralytic conditions have been cured, especially such as stemmed from the lumbar spinal cord portion, involving the lower extremities, and were perhaps the result of colds, often accompanied by edematous swelling of feet with great mental excitement. It is also valuable in left-sided hemiplegia with sensation of cold in the affected parts, in loss of motion in the right arm or right leg with sensation of numbness, as if asleep—*Hartmann*.

Cuprum

It is indicated in paralysis after cholera or typhus, and where paralysis remains after apoplexy, especially with the following symptoms : Sensation of congestion to chest with palpitation, or slow, small and weak pulse ; often the eyelids close again and flicker, and when opened, the eyeballs are unsteady as after severe apoplexy. Ability to open eyes returns later than consciousness—*Hartmann*.

Dulcanara

It is often overlooked by physicians beginning the practice of Homœopathy. It is especially indicated in paralysis after taking cold and after suppression of herpes. Can suitably be alternated with *Sulphur*, especially where paralyzed arms are icy cold, as after apoplexy of extremities and tongue—*Hartmann*.

It is often indicated in paralysis of tongue and extremities—*Trinks*.

Hepar Sulphur

Man of 37, tall, strong, was always well, had been treated allopathically for syphilis, suffered from severe bursting headache and spreading eruption on forehead (Mercucial symptoms ?), corners of mouth and popliteals, which was treated allopathically with ointments. Soon afterward he had following symptoms :

Cramps in left hand doubling it up, formication up arm to neck with sensation as if something had got stuck in throat choking him ; face purple ; mouth drawn to left side. Patient is fully conscious. After half an hour he had another less severe attack with tingling in arm and left side. Allopathic treatment did not help. Four weeks later patient had another more severe attack with complete paralysis of extremities and partial paralysis of tongue.

Tincture of *Hepar* was given, 6 drops daily. In ten days patient could stand up and move the leg slightly, but had severe pain in paralyzed arm. Eruption showed on neck and corners of mouth. *Hepar* was continued.

Three weeks later patient could extend fingers and close hand, but upper arm is still paralyzed ; can walk a little. The erup-

tion appears also in other places. *Hepar* was continued. After another week patient could use arm. Eruption became extensive. *Mercurius 3c* was prescribed. In another three weeks the paralysis was cured, but the eruption was worse; it was finally cured by *Arsenicum—Koch*.

Ignatia

Mrs. F., 30, nervous constitution, excitable temperament, lively, sympathetic, after sickbed vigils and mental shock felt as if right shoulder had received a hard blow with lightning-like paralysis through arm to tips of thumb, index and middle fingers, depriving her of use of arm and hand, which felt as if they "did not belong to her," could hardly lift arm; whatever she touched seemed furry.

Rubbing parts with spirits of camphor, cold and aromatic water at first seemed to relieve, but only for a short time. *Ignatia 1c*, a drop daily, soon improved, and in a few days the disturbance in the radial nerve vanished completely—*Kapper*.

Mercurius Solubilis

Man of 40 had lain in bed stiff and lame without known cause, probably after taking cold. During one cold night he suddenly felt painful stiffness in all joints, which, during all kinds of allopathic medication including mercurials, was so much aggravated that patient could not move, had to remain in bed, partly on account of the paralysis or weakness, and had to be helped in physical functions. Except for the right arm the extremities were painfully paralyzed, including the neck. Face sallow, shrunken, the body much emaciated; loss of appetite; sleep disturbed by pain, worse when weather changed. Constipation with backache seemed to have connection with the paralysis and previous hemorrhoidal trouble.

Three doses of *Nux vomica* were given with slight improvement after the first dose, but the following doses were minus result.

Mercurius was then chosen, a daily dose for five days. After a few days patient could sit up in bed, and also move left arm a little. *Nux vomica* was again given, but did not help. For another five days *Mercurius* was again administered. Soon

patient could walk outside, even during bad weather, and did not need assistance when attending to his physical functions.—*Bernstein*.

Nux Vomica

Partial paralysis of arms and hands were cured by it, even in some drinkers—*Knorre*.

Incomplete paralysis of extremities with numb sensation which feel as heavy as lead, I have repeatedly cured with *Nux vomica* alone. The lower extremities recovered first; they usually are less well nourished. When disturbed nutrition is improved by *Nux vomica*, then the paralysis is favourably influenced—*Hartmann*.

After pneumonia a lady developed the following *symptoms*:

Patient feels fairly well when sitting, but complains of cold feet and legs as if they were dead and numb which was not relieved by warming them. When she wished to stand she needed help; she could only stand when leaning on something. Patient could not walk, but when trying to put one foot forward she fell. Constipation; appetite good; sleep fair before midnight, but restless later with anxious dreams. Two doses of *Nux vomica* 24c and 30c cured all in two weeks—*Hartmann*.

Girl of 16, tall, always healthy, has not yet menstruated, developed a paralysis of left side of face without known cause.

Symptoms: Lachrymation from left eye with dilated pupil and flickering before this eye and indistinct vision. Ringing in left ear. Face distorted, left side flabby. When speaking or laughing corner of mouth is drawn to right side. Speaking and mastication are difficult, food and drink trickle from left side of mouth. The left side of tongue and face are minus sensation. When tongue is protruded the tips turns to the right side. The left arm is periodically weak and numb. Vertigo; head heavy. Her memory is weak, as well as her thinking ability, especially mornings.

Nux vomica tincture, two drops in a dram of alcohol, was given, five drops daily and cured completely in two weeks—*Knorre*.

Man of 40, dark complexion, of very choleric temperament,

has been treated allopathically for a year on account of leg paralysis.

Symptoms : Can not stand without a cane, great effort to walk a few steps dragging the cold paralyzed foot. Vertigo. Frequent spells of dark before eyes, ear noises ; thirst ; heat and chills alternate. Eructation ; vomiting after eating or drinking ; burning in epigastrium, coming up from below. Itching of glans. Tearing neck pains evenings. Weakness ; hates to move. Aversion to all food.

Nux vomica 15c was given. In three days paralysis and pains disappeared, and patient could walk again—*Sonnenberg*.

A peculiar sensation of feeling double, with pain in fourth and fifth fingers of right hand, caused by paralysis happening during sleep, was cured in three days by a salve of *Nux vomica* rubbed in a spot behind wrist where a useless vesicant had denuded the epidermis—*Arnold*.

Phosphorus

Miss F., 36, has paralysis of lower extremities. Allopathic treatment did not help. She could not at all move the lower extremities ; warmth and sensation in them were very minimal. Her back was very stiff, and she had no sensation over sacrum. Frequent attacks of tearing pain and formication from back into thighs. The other functions were normal.

After a few doses of *Sulphur* 12c she was given *Phosphorus* 2c, every two days ten drops. In two weeks she could walk with aid of a cane, and was finally cured entirely—*Engelhard*.

(To be Continued)

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(Continued from page 179)

Rhus Toxicodendron

In two cases which unquestionably suffered from precursors of paralysis *Rhus* acted well—*Schroen*.

Paralysis of upper extremities in a soldier following a rheumatic condition, a few doses of *Rhus* cured.

Alderson cured four cases of paralysis with *Rhus*. In each case the precursor was a peculiar sensation of prickling, jerking and pinching. If the remedy is given in too low a potency these unpleasant sensations may be aggravated to the extent that the remedy may have to be repeated [*sic*] for a time. In spite of intestinal torpidity in this disease, *Rhus* acts as a mild laxative. It even cured cases in which there was more or less general marasmus and a paralytic condition of the bladder. In one case of general paralysis the patient after 25 days again could use the arms and could stand. In another case, a woman of 21, who could hardly walk, was unable to write, and had great difficulty in speaking, *Rhus* cured in six weeks—*North American Journal of Homœopathy*.

Rhus acted well in several mild cases of paralysis in which no cause could be found—*C. Mueller*.

Bolle reports that in paralytic conditions of the lower extremities which bordered on complete paralysis no remedy gave such splendid, quick and surprising results as *Rhus*. His indications were :

1. Almost exclusively in men of great muscular development.
2. In all men only where causative moments were colds from getting soaking wet while body was hot and perspiring from severe exertion (but also without physical over-exertion and perspiring), over-exertion when body was in uncomfortable position as in lifting, false steps, swinging of arms,

3. After such causes symptoms developed like : Paralytic stiffness, pains of tearing, drawing character as if bruised or dislocated especially in shoulders, wrists, back, vastus muscles, hips and extending into thighs and even to feet, often with numbness.

4. These symptoms are worse evenings, exertion, beginning motion of affected parts, after rest (e.g. rising from sitting), in a cold room, dipping into cold water as from washing, in wind, in featherbeds, when weather changes, while sitting, stretching affected parts, stooping, turning over in bed.

5. Better from dry heat of stove, from mild but continued motion of affected parts and flexing them.

The above references to the action of *Rhus* in rheumatism of the back muscles are also my experiences, especially among farmers. Usually they get some kind of liniment from the apothecary, and when it did not help, and the affliction took a turn for the worse, then a physician was consulted. Allopathic physicians are unfortunate in the treatment of this condition which brought many rheumatic patients to me. I used *Rhus* where indicated, usually in the 1c or 2c potency, in globules only in sensible patients. Thus I fared well with my patients even in cases where paralysis of lower extremities was present, when I gave *Rhus* tincture to begin with, six to ten drops daily, and later potencies. When paralysis has already developed the higher potencies will hardly suffice—A. R.

Girl of 13 had been stretched for scoliosis, and suddenly her lower extremities were paralyzed for which she had been treated allopathically for two months without result. She complained only about severe constipation and total paralysis of lower extremities which were numb, emaciated and cold, and felt as not belonging to her. *Bryonia* in lower potency gave short relief. *Rhus* 3c cured in six weeks, and the temporarily removed apparatus for scoliosis was again applied—Rau.

Woman of 44 suffered sudden paralysis of left arm during wet, cold weather ; arms cold without sensation and motion, pulse in this hand very small, almost a tremble only ; dull headache, ear noises, eyes water much and feel as if sand in them ; gums dry ; bad taste, though tongue is clean and dark-red ;

diarrhœa with tenesmus and frequent urging to urinate; sleep is restless; constantly chilly, shivers; melancholic disposition.

Rhus 3c was given. In 24 hours she had formication in arm and alternating sensation of warmth and cold. *Rhus* was repeated in four days. In a week patient was cured entirely.—*Rau.*

Man of 45, nurse short, thin, of choleric temperament, has been well until previous year when he contracted typhus fever and was treated allopathically in hospital; when dismissed he was still very weak and soon had these *symptoms* :

Sits on wooden chair and is constantly moving on it or with it; head and rump lean forward; head oscillates constantly; extremities tremble severely; patient can not straighten up nor hold still a second; can not hold anything in hands, must therefore be fed. If trying to walk he is unsteady, legs give out, can walk only a few steps if steadied, while legs cross each other and patient falls without being able to rise. Tremors are less when lying horizontally; starting in sleep of which he is not conscious. Muscles very flabby and wasted. Appetite undisturbed; tongue clean; constipation; urine colorless like water; pulse small, soft, 70. Cold baths and inunction with strychnine and phosphorlime were without result. Diagnosis: Paralysis agitans.

Rhus 3d., three drops morning and night, was given which improved the condition much in two weeks. First the lower extremities improved, and trembling was absent when standing for a time; can walk through hall with aid; trembling and restlessness of arms better. *Rhus 10c* was now given two times daily. In two months he could walk 2½ hours. All paralytic symptoms were cured except that he could not hold head straight. Has gained weight. Two years later patient worked as well as before—*Payr.*

Boy of six fell down a long flight of stairs after which he developed these *symptoms* :

Lying on abdomen with head bent back almost touching the spine; face pale, distorted, covered with cold perspiration. Swelling of neck resembling goiter. Spinal vertebrae displaced; bending of lumbar vertebrae produces a crackling sound. Pain-

ful bony swelling over sacrum. Lower extremities totally paralyzed. Frequent strangury with urine escaping in drops only. Constipation; loss of appetite; great thirst. Fever with evening exacerbation. Little sleep very restless with fearful dreams; patient is often awakened by strong jerks. Allopathic physicians had pronounced the case hopeless and used only opium.

Rhus 30c was now given. After six days patient sat up in bed with head in normal position. Face less pale; goiter-like swelling less, as also swelling over sacrum; elimination normal. Only twisting motion of body causes pain; spinal vertebrae still much dislocated, and paralysis of lower extremities unchanged. A dose of *Rhus* every week cured completely in six weeks with straight spine and normal usefulness of lower extremities—*Aegedi*.

A man, robust, and rarely complaining, while working in his vineyard, felt suddenly pain in middle finger of right hand which left while he was still working. This was followed by formication in the same finger and gradually extended along median nerve to elbow, getting more and more severe from day to day with total loss of strength in hand, especially in middle finger, and pain in hand disturbed his sleep.

Rhus, internally and externally, cured in ten day—*Schelling*.

Secale Cornutum

Paralyses remaining after spasms of limbs are especially amenable to the action of *Secale* in paralysis of lower extremities; involuntary passing of stool and urine, and where the paralyzed parts emaciate quickly—*Hartmann*.

In two cases of paralysis of lower extremities following apoplexy *Secale* gave brilliant results—*Clotar Mueller*.

Forester of 50, robust, fell without losing consciousness.

Symptoms: When trying to walk limbs give out, especially the right. When sitting he can bend neither forward nor backward without losing equilibrium; his arms were weak but less affected. Sensation is not involved. General dullness; speech difficult; is inclined to weeping. Patient complains of lumbar pain and headache. Insomnia. Stool and urine pass involuntarily; constipation; oppressed breathing. Pulse normal. Digestion satisfactory.

Arnica, *Aloe*, *Nux vomica*, stimulating inunctions, etc., were minus result. Six months after the onset of the affliction, *Secale* was given, at first one grain three times daily, later $1\frac{1}{2}$ grains. After three days patient could control bladder, and in 16 days was cured and remained so—*Saucerotte*.

Sulphur

Woman of 32 has had scabies. After a mental upset she suffered from epileptiform attacks followed by pleuritic pains. *Aconitum*, *Squilla* were given, after which a paralytic condition in hips was felt, mostly in left hip, preventing walking; dragging legs over floor without lifting feet. Severe pain in back and hips when trying to walk; tearing pains downward in left leg.

Sulphur tincture cured in four weeks except remaining weakness in leg and some rheumatic pain, which were cured by *Calcarea carb.* 30c—*Hartlaub*.

Boy of $2\frac{1}{2}$, well developed, had scarlatina, and six months later suffered from measles, both of which ran a normal course. Six weeks later a pustular eruption resembling scabies appeared which was suppressed by alkaline baths. Two weeks later patient complained of backache, had trembling of feet, and he looked bad. The use of leeches, cerate of tartar emetic, strychnine, etc., were minus result.

Symptoms: Feet completely paralyzed as to motion and sensation; atrophy of the parts; involuntary bowel movements with hard stool; urination involuntary with painful retention at times for 24 hours; color of urine red. Skin very hot and swollen. Patient's body seems to shrink: head as if without neck, as if sunken into rump; face red, almost purple; chest as if pressed together from the sides, not convex. Kyphosis of 10th, 11th and 12th dorsal vertebrae, spinous processes extending about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and painful upon pressure. Rattling respiration with severe, almost suffocating cough as in hydrothorax. Heart beats broad. Heart displaced to right side. Pulse frequent and hard. Fever evenings. Much thirst. Appetite poor.

Sulphur tincture given repeatedly. After two doses sensation returned to foot, and urination was controlled. On account of catarrh and measles-like eruption *Aconitum* and *Pulsatilla*

were given. After two weeks *Sulphur* was given repeatedly and in two days severe suppurating head-eczema developed. Now patient could move feet. In a week he could stand, and with help walk a few steps. Improvement continued. A week later the head-eczema was worse. *Aconitum* and *Pulsatilla* were given. Later *Sulphur* was again chosen. The dorsal kyphosis was less prominent and not painful to pressure. In three months patient was completely cured—*Koch*.

—*Jourl. of the Am. Inst. of Homœopathy, June, '57*

THE REAL, ABSOLUTE SIMILLIMUM

(Continued from page 199)

sweep the country. Such results cannot be explained away by the stale old comments of their psychological, or due to faith in the medicine etc.

This article began with a *LACHESIS* case and will finish with one. Before the war, a patient from abroad consulted me about the serious state of his health, which was going to necessitate his resigning his post. Like many patients, he came to homœopathy as a last resort. I remember putting a dose of *LACHESIS* 30 on his tongue and the miracle began at once. In two days, he was transformed, and certainly looked it. The healing process started at the crown of his head and went right down to his toes.

He passed out of my ken and in due course I sent him a modest account for services rendered. Instead of the fee, I got a withering letter telling me that the nations were at war, a much more important matter than money . . . and more in the same strain. However, as another patient of mine remarked with the air of Euclid throwing off an axiom "It takes a war to show people in their true feathers"!

—*Homœopathy, Dec., '57*