

CASE OF THE MONTH

FROM ONE OF OUR HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITALS.

When reading these notes it must always be remembered that Homœopathy is essentially an individualistic treatment. It therefore never makes use of nor seeks for specifics for disease. So it must not be thought that any remedy mentioned in these notes will necessarily be the remedy for other cases of the same illness.

THE REMEDY DEPENDS UPON THE INDIVIDUAL PATIENT'S REACTIONS AND NOT ON THE NAME OF THE DISEASE.

The DRUG was THUJA. The complaint DIARRHŒA.

Male aet 31, for two years has had bouts of diarrhœa every few weeks lasting for some days. He had been examined and investigated at a teaching hospital with negative results but without any amelioration of the condition. He comes here as a last resource.

He was a poor witness and very few good mental symptoms were elicited. When the attack comes on he is usually wakened with urging then he goes, it maybe every hour. There is not much tenesmus nor any sudden call. Between the attacks the bowels are perfectly normal.

He has moods of irritability. Is a poor sleeper, doesn't know why. Has a very very shiny greasy skin.

On the early morning call for stool he was given Sulphur. 200 one dose but there was no improvement at all.

After three months the only fresh symptom elicited was that his restless sleep was due often to troublesome dreams. These were regularly dreams of falling. This led to a search of the repertory when Thuja was found to be the most prominent remedy with such dreams. The only other prominent sign noted was the greasy face and forehead. This also was covered by Thuja so Thuja rom, one dose was given. That was two years ago and there has been no more trouble. He has just written for a

certificate that he attended here and a confirmation that he was cured as he was applying for a new job and the fact of having attended various hospitals for two years before coming here had made the new employer suspicious of his health. On his own affirmation that he had no return of the symptoms one was able to satisfy his request.

The Repertory list of drugs with dreams of falling p. 1239 Kent, is as follows: Am-m Bell cact dig guaj kreos merc puls sars sulph THUJA.

Greasy face and forehead, p. 375, Kent, showed that, of the above drugs, only merc and thuja are represented.

For professional readers it may be of interest to note that in cases where the picture is poor or limited one must take what one has and, if sufficiently peculiar, the scanty symptoms may often lead to the choice of a remedy which is similar as in this case. Thuja has chronic diarrhoea, worse before breakfast, like Sulphur which had been tried in the first instance.

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