

colorized red blood-corpuscles deposited in a number of adjoining capillaries would do, after giving up to the surrounding tissues the most or all the excess of water which they have absorbed from the diluted serum. Lehmann tells us on page 327, volume 1st, Physiological Chemistry, that *Globulin*, of which the corpuscles are almost wholly composed, is yellowish and partially transparent, when the hæmatin is separated from it, and this corresponds exactly, both with respect to color and partial transparency, no less with the description which both Lænnec and Louis gave long since of the second stage of tubercle, than it does with the description by the author quoted above.

[To be continued.]

INDICATIONS FOR DRUGS IN PULMONARY DISEASES.*

SEPLÆ SUCCUS.

This is the drug which, in our hands, has held about as important curative relations to tuberculous, and some other chronic diseased conditions, of the *central* third of the right lung, as Arsenicum has to the upper third of the same. Some of its more prominent special indications are: *Stitching* or *darting* pains through the central portions of the right lung. It will also sometimes cure dull, aching, and pressing pains in the same parts, but must not be

* In our last number, page 61, eighth line from the bottom, for trachea read larynx.

blindly relied upon for the cure of any of these pains, not even the stitching, unless the other prominent symptoms of the case, if there are such, call for this drug. The cough of *Sepia* may be dry, or attended with whitish and greenish mucus expectoration, or with purulent expectoration, which may be yellow or gray, and often fetid. When dry the cough is generally worse in the evening, both before and after going to bed; when attended by expectoration it may be in severe paroxysms at all hours of the day and night, but we think this more liable to be the case when the expectoration is purulent. Another feature of a *Sepia* cough is that it will frequently be *dry in the evening* and therefore severe, while there will be a free expectoration in the morning; again, the expectoration sometimes occurs only at night, none at all during the day. Dyspnœa may be an attending symptom of a *Sepia* case, but it is much less common and markedly different from the oppressed respiration in Arsenic cases. In the latter, dyspnœa frequently appears among the *first* symptoms, sometimes indeed before any other serious symptoms declare themselves, and seems to belong more to disturbance of the function of respiration itself, possibly of the nervous force which controls this, while in the *Sepia* case this symptom seldom occurs except as a result of great exhaustion from the advance of the disease; or a filling up of a portion of the lungs, so that there is not the capacity for admitting the full supply of air, and this want has to be made up by more frequent inspirations.

We will give two or three cases illustrating the action of this drug. In the summer of 1861, a night conductor upon the cars called upon us for relief from a *sharp darting* pain through the right side of the chest, rather below the centre of the right lung. It was at times very acute, preventing full respiration, then again more dull, but all the time more or less painful. Had been of some weeks duration, and was gradually getting worse. There were no other symptoms in the case; no cough, and no pain complained of anywhere else. The patient was of medium height, of very stout build, had black hair and eyes, and apparently had a very strong constitution. Being somewhat surprised at such a symptom, standing so entirely alone as it did, and so persistent as it had been, in a man of such a large and fully developed chest, we inquired if some diseased action had not preceded it. He then told us that some months previously he took a very severe cold, which developed the most violent cough he ever experienced. It was generally worse at night, he said, was without much expectoration, and the irritation which caused it seemed to be confined entirely to the throat. He took various medicines but could get no relief from its great severity until he took some kind of balsam. This soon gave great relief, and finally entirely subdued the cough. But shortly after, an uneasiness or slight pain began to manifest itself just below the centre of the right lung, and gradually developed into the pain we have described. For this we gave him *Sepia 12°*, which entirely cured

the pain in a week or ten days. No sooner had this been done, however, than the same identical kind of cough, that he had, before taking the balsam, returned, and for a few days was of nearly equal severity as at first; but we gave no other medicine, allowing *Sepia* to continue its action, and in some two weeks the cough disappeared, leaving no vestige of itself or of the pain remaining. We saw the man a year or more afterward, when he told us he had had no return of his trouble, and that his lungs were as strong as they ever were, notwithstanding he continued his night work. Can there be a doubt that the balsam suppressed the disease in this patient's throat and drove it down into the right lung, or that *Sepia* drove it back to the throat again and radically cured it? And must it not soon have developed into a very serious condition there, had it not been relieved?

A much more serious case of disease of the central portion of the right lung, which we cured in the winter of '61 and '62, was that of a young lady from the West, who was given up by her physician as beyond the reach of medical aid, from consumption, and sent to friends in this city, hoping the change might be beneficial. She had been declining a year or more with cough, etc. There was dullness upon percussion and auscultation in the right lung, posterior to third and fourth ribs, which must have been caused by some kind of deposit there, and there was complaint of much pain, both dull and sharp, in that region. She had a severe cough that was dry and

aggravated in the evening, but attended with expectoration in the morning. Had chills, fever and night-sweats, was considerably emaciated, etc., but was entirely cured in the course of that winter with *Sepia 12^c*.

As with the action of *Arsenicum* upon the upper part of the right lung, we claim for *Sepia* that it will cure some cases where actual tuberculous ulceration has resulted in the *central portions* of the same lung. A case in point we will give. October 14th, 1862, a most forlorn and exhausted looking man, of light sandy hair, and light blue eyes, called to consult us about his lungs. He was from Washington, had been several days getting here, and was so debilitated by his disease, and his lungs were so obstructed, that the effort of coming up a few front steps, to get into our office, made his respiration so labored, or, in common parlance, so put him out of breath, that he had to sit five minutes or more before he could speak more than a word or two at a time. After learning the main features of his case as it then stood, we gathered the following history of it up to that time. He was 53 years of age that fall, and had been a great sufferer all his life from dyspepsia and sick-headache, till the early part of the preceding spring, when the disease of the stomach began to subside. He had taken great quantities of medicine, of various kinds, for his dyspepsia, but without any relief until that spring. But no sooner had the stomach got better than he observed that he was beginning to suffer with un-

easiness and pain just below the centre of the right lung. He thought lightly of this at first, attributing it to a cold. The pain increased in severity, however, and he soon began to cough. With these symptoms gradually, but not rapidly, increasing, he passed along until sometime in July, when, during a very hot day, but without any unusual effort or exposure on his part, he was seized with such a sense of suffocation that it was only with the greatest difficulty that he could breathe; probably from congestion of the right lung. This continued several days without much relief, and then only partial, and was accompanied with much pressure and sharp pain through the central portion of right chest. In the meantime his cough had greatly increased and was now very troublesome night and day. In this state he said he continued for some weeks, when an abscess broke in the lung and he expectorated more than a pint of the most-fetid matter. At first the discharge was greenish, then bloody and yellow, and finally gray, all of it excessively fetid, and was so profuse that it came near strangling him. While the abscess was gathering, chills, fever and night-sweats set in, and continued to the time he called upon us. After the abscess broke he continued to cough very severely at all hours of the day and night, frequently preventing sleep most of the night. The cough was more or less annoying most of the time, but unattended with any unusual expectoration, excepting during severe paroxysms which occurred every half hour or hour, when he

would throw off very fetid gray expectoration. He continued in this condition up to his visit to this city. Two or three times when in our office he expectorated this gray fetid matter, which readily scented the whole room, and was very offensive. He complained of much pain, both sharp and dull, through the middle third of the right lung, sometimes extending to the lower part of the lung. Was much emaciated, very pale, pulse as high as 120 per minute, and was really one of the most feeble men in appearance that we ever saw able to be about. He had been examined by several physicians, and told by all that his disease was consumption, and incurable.

We prescribed *Sepia* 12^c, and will let him tell his own story of the effect. Oct. 25th, '62, he wrote:

"I am better, although I can see but little difference in my cough. I continue to raise a great deal both night and day; it is of the same ashy color, and is very offensive. My appetite and strength are fifty per cent better."

Nov. 7th, he again wrote:

"I think I am slowly improving. My cough at times is very severe, and the matter raised is still very offensive. Have coughed up some pieces of decayed flesh [probably coagulated blood] which are very dark. My appetite continues good. I have gained two or three pounds of flesh since my return home."

And Nov. 16th, he again wrote:

"I am in every respect a different man. Since I last wrote you my cough has all disappeared. I do not raise scarcely any, and there is no odor to it. I have every symptom of a healthy

person. I am gaining in flesh and in strength, and feel as though I could go to work."

After this date he never had the slightest return of any of these symptoms. We saw him a year ago, when he told us he did not believe there was a man living at his age that endured more hours of labor daily than he did.

Thus was wrought in thirty-three days, with a single remedy, and that in a high potency, one of the quickest and most remarkable cures, it seems to us, that it has ever been the fortune of medicine to record of so formidable a disease. Then, a few weeks succeeding the cure of the lungs, there were some most remarkable and interesting developments in the case, and these we now give.

As we have said, the disease of this patient's right lung commenced immediately subsequent to the relief of his stomach, in the early spring preceding the October that we saw him. Our explanation of the case to him was, that the same diseased action that had been going on in his stomach all his life was now acting in his lung; that he had driven it there from the stomach by the harsh medicines he had taken, which, by greatly irritating this organ, had finally caused so strong a reaction to come up in it that it had thrown the disease to the lung; or that in his advance in years and his long suffering, the vital action of that lung had become so exhausted that it was now the weakest organ in the body, and the disease had left the stomach and gone there, because of its being the weakest part. That

its cause was of the nature of a humor that had been acting upon the mucous coat of the stomach, causing his dyspepsia while there; but after the transfer, it seated upon the free surface of the mucous membrane of the bronchial tubes in the right lung, abrading that, and in that way had led him into consumption. We also told him that if his lungs were ever relieved the disease would all return to his stomach again, and be just as it was before it was transferred. He then said, "Well, if you drive it back to the stomach, can you remove it from there, for I don't care to suffer the balance of my life as I have done?" To this we replied, that we thought we could. "Where will it go then?" he inquired. It will come to the surface, we answered, and show itself in some kind of an eruption on the skin. To which he responded, "Why, Doctor, I never had even so much as a pimple on my skin in all my life, and my friends have always remarked how free I was from all kinds of humors." It is in your system, nevertheless, in profusion, we replied, and the only reason it has never shown itself upon the skin is because there has not been sufficient vital vigor internally to throw it to the surface. There was one peculiarity in his case that we had forgotten to give. He told us that never in his life had he been able to eat any kind of fruit whatever, on account of its throwing him into a severe attack of dyspepsia and sick-headache, until after his stomach was relieved that spring, when he could eat it freely; and at the time he was here, he said he could make an entire

meal of apples, without suffering the slightest inconvenience therefrom, or experiencing any feeling different from what he had in eating other food.

Now mark the result of treatment, and the fulfillment of Nature's law. After the receipt of his letter of Nov. 16th, we wrote immediately, telling him that he must not go to work, or run any risks whatever, and that he must remember what we told him about the return of the disease to his stomach, for his lungs were not safe from a renewal of the disease there until it reappeared in his stomach. After this we heard nothing from him until just after the first of January following, when he one day walked into our office. He looked worn, and not as well as we thought he should. Upon inquiry he told us the reason. He said that he had continued gaining rapidly in strength and flesh after his last letter, without any further symptoms of the lungs, and without any trouble whatever with his stomach, until on his way here, just before reaching Elmira, he bought some apples of a boy passing through the cars with them, and ate no more than a third to half of one, when he began to feel that he was going to have one of his old attacks of the stomach. He consequently ate no more of it, and by the time he reached Elmira was so sick that he had to leave the cars and go to a hotel, where he took a bed, and kept it two days with one of the most violent attacks of vomiting, pain in his stomach, and sick-headache, that he had ever suffered. After recovering sufficiently from this he came on here, but his stomach

was still very sensitive. From here he went West in a few days, was gone some two or three weeks, when he returned, suffering the worst torment, he said, that he had ever endured. But this time it was from a VERY EXTENSIVE ERUPTION UPON THE SKIN. Upon examination, we found it an eruption of very small vesicles at first, which soon became pustular, though none of them were larger than the head of a pin, and they stood so thick together that, as the points of them came off in the process of suppuration, the entire skin was abraded over large surfaces. His chest, back, shoulders and arms to the wrists, were almost one continuous raw surface, while the abdomen and legs were nearly half covered with the eruption, all itching, smarting and burning at times, he said, intolerably. Here, then, was the cause of all this man's sufferings for over half a century. When it was acting upon the mucous coat of his stomach which had been its seat for life, excepting the preceding nine or ten months, it caused dyspepsia primarily, and secondarily upon this, sick-headache; when it was transferred to the lung it seated upon and abraded the free surface of the mucous membrane of the bronchial tubes in that lung, which caused a waste of albumen from the blood, thereby leaving the blood-corpuscles in excess, and they congested the lung, resulting in an abscess which destroyed a portion of the lung, and then took on tuberculous action and became consumption. When it was driven out of the lung by curative treatment, it returned to the stomach and developed

the identical conditions there that it had before; and when, finally, it was driven out of here, by a continuance of the same curative means, it came upon the skin, and was there to all appearance radically cured in two or three months, with the same drug that had done all the rest, for from first to last we gave *nothing but Sepia, and this in no other potency but the 1200th*. Could anything show more clearly the terrible ravages of cutaneous diseases when they act internally? Could any case better illustrate the action of the law of Metastasis as we laid this down in our last number? Or, finally, could the results of medical treatment be more satisfactory than in this case?

If any of the details above narrated shall seem extreme, we can assure the reader that they have been prepared with care from a record made at the time, and that no error has been allowed a place among them.

DYSENTERY.

BY ROLLIN R. GREGG, M. D.

[This paper was prepared for, and read before the Erie County, New York, Homœopathic Medical Society, in the spring of 1866, and a copy requested for publication, but it has never before been published.]

(Continued from page 88.)

I now pass to the evidence of a transfer of the disease under consideration, from the rectum and colon, to other parts and organs, through the agency of what has been, and in fact is now, regarded by al-