

but the temperature is subnormal. In the annexed two-hourly chart, from a case of chronic tuberculosis of the lungs, it will be seen that from 10 P. M. to 8 or 12 A. M., the temperature continuously fell and reached as low as 95°. A slow rise then took place through the late morning and early afternoon hours and reached its maximum between 6 and 10 P. M. As shown in the chart there were in the three days about forty-three hours of pyrexia and twenty-nine hours of apyrexia. The rapid fall of

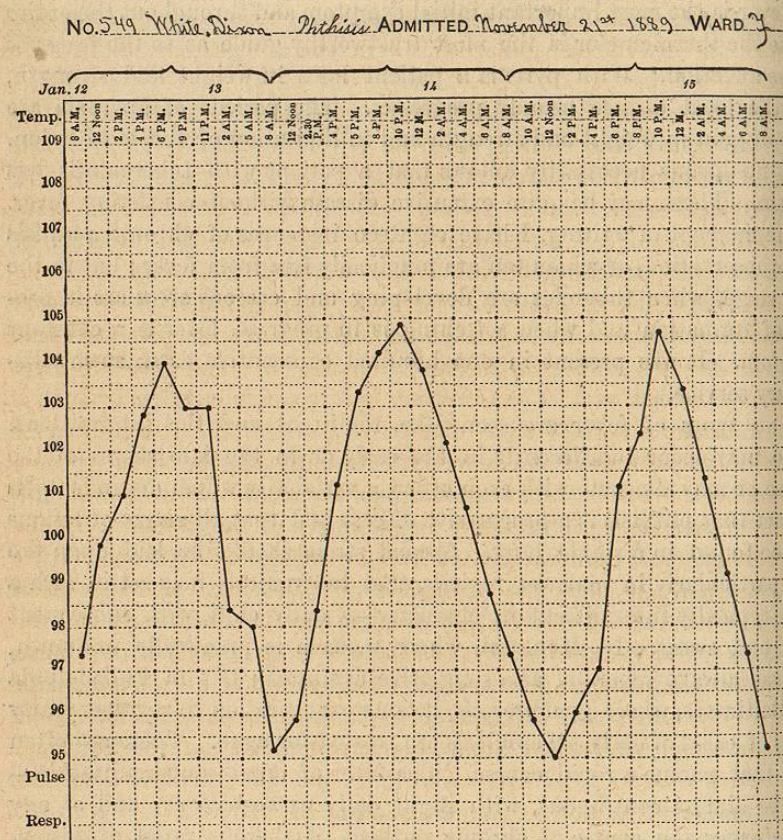


CHART XIII.—Three days. Chronic tuberculosis.

the temperature in the early morning hours is usually associated with sweating. This hectic, as it is called, which is a typical fever of septic infection, is met with when the process of cavity formation and softening is advanced and extending.

A continuous fever with remissions of not more than a degree, developing in the course of pulmonary tuberculosis, is suggestive of acute pneumonia. When a two-hourly chart is made, the remissions even in acute tuberculous pneumonia are usually well marked. A continued fever, such

as is seen in the first week of typhoid, or in some cases of inflammation of the lung, is rare in tuberculosis.

Sweating.—Drenching perspirations are common in phthisis and constitute one of the most distressing features of the disease. They occur usually at night, or at any time in the day when the patient sleeps. They may come on early in the disease, but are more persistent and frequent after cavities have formed. Some patients escape altogether.

The *pulse* is increased in frequency, especially when the fever is high. It is often remarkably full, though soft and compressible. Pulsation may sometimes be seen in the capillaries and in the veins on the back of the hand.

Emaciation is a pronounced feature. The loss of weight is gradual but, if the disease is extending, progressive. The scales give one of the best indications of the progress of the case.

3. *Physical Signs.*—(a) *Inspection.*—The shape of the chest is often suggestive, though it is to be remembered that pulmonary tuberculosis may be met with in chests of any build. Practically, however, in a considerable proportion of cases the thorax is long and narrow, with very wide intercostal spaces, the ribs more vertical in direction and the costal angle very narrow. The scapulæ are “winged,” a point noted by Hippocrates. Another type of chest which is very common is that which is flattened in the antero-posterior diameter. The costal cartilages may be prominent and the sternum depressed. Occasionally the lower sternum forms a deep concavity, the so-called funnel breast (*Trichter-Brust*). Inspection gives valuable information in all stages of the disease. Special examination should be made of the clavicular regions to see if one clavicle stands out more distinctly than the other, or if the spaces above or below it are more marked. Defective expansion at one apex is an early and important sign. The condition of expansion of the lower zone of the thorax may be well estimated by inspection. The condition of the præcordia should also be noted, as a wide area of impulse, particularly in the second, third, and fourth interspaces, often results from disease of the left apex. From a point behind the patient, looking over the shoulders, one can often better estimate the relative expansion of the apices.

(b) *Palpation.*—Deficiency in expansion at the apices or bases is perhaps best gauged by placing the hands in the subclavicular spaces and then in the lateral regions of the chest and asking the patient to draw slowly a full breath. Standing behind the patient and placing the thumbs in the supraclavicular and the fingers in the infraclavicular spaces one can judge accurately as to the relative mobility of the two sides. Disease at an apex, though early and before dulness is at all marked, may be indicated by deficient expansion. On asking the patient to count, the tactile fremitus is increased wherever there is local growth of tubercle or extensive caseation. In comparing the apices it is important to bear in mind that normally the fremitus is stronger at the right than

at the left. So too at the base, when there is consolidation of the lung, the fremitus is increased; whereas, if there is pleural effusion, it is diminished or absent. In the later stages, when cavities form, the tactile fremitus is usually much exaggerated over them. When the pleura is greatly thickened the fremitus may be somewhat diminished.

(c) *Percussion*.—Tubercles, inflammatory products, fibroid changes, and cavities produce important changes in the pulmonary resonance. There may be localized disease, even of some extent, without inducing much alteration; as when the tubercles are scattered and have air-containing tissue between them. One of the earliest and most valuable signs is defective resonance upon and above a clavicle. In a considerable proportion of all cases of phthisis the dulness is first noted in these regions. The comparison between the two sides should be made also when the breath is held after a full inspiration, as the defective resonance may then be more clearly marked. In the early stages the percussion note is usually higher in pitch and may require an experienced ear to detect the difference. In recent consolidation from caseous pneumonia the percussion note often has a tubular or tympanitic quality. A wooden dulness is rarely heard except in old cases with extensive fibroid change at the apex or base. Over large, thin-walled cavities at the apex the so-called cracked-pot sound may be obtained. In thin subjects the percussion should be carefully practised in the supraspinous fossæ and the interscapular space, as they correspond to very important areas early involved in the disease. In cases with numerous separated cavities at the apex, without much fibroid tissue or thickening of the pleura, the percussion note may show little change, and the contrast between the signs obtained on auscultation and percussion is most marked.

(d) *Auscultation*.—Feeble breath-sounds are among the most characteristic early signs, since not as much air enters the tubes and vesicles of the affected area. It is well at first always to compare carefully the corresponding points on the two sides of the chest without asking the patient either to draw a deep breath or to cough. With early apical disease the inspiration on quiet breathing may be scarcely audible. Expiration is usually prolonged. On the other hand there are cases in which the earliest sign is a harsh, rude, respiratory murmur. On deep breathing it is frequently to be noted that inspiration is jerking or wavy, the so-called "cog-wheel" rhythm; which, however, is by no means confined to tuberculosis. With extension of the disease the inspiratory murmur is harsh, and, when consolidation occurs, whiffing and bronchial. With these changes in the character of the murmur there are râles, due to the accompanying bronchitis. They may be heard only on deep inspiration or on coughing, and early in the disease are often crackling in character. When softening occurs they are louder and have a bubbling, sometimes a characteristic clicking quality. These "moist sounds," as they are called, when associated with change in the percussion resonance are extremely suggestive.

When cavities form, the râles are louder, more gurgling, and resonant in quality. When there is consolidation of any extent the breath-sounds are tubular, and in the large excavations loud and cavernous, or have an amphoric quality. In the unaffected portions of the lobe and in the opposite lung the breath-sounds may be harsh and even puerile. The vocal resonance is usually increased in all stages of the process, and bronchophony and pectoriloquy are met with in the regions of consolidation and over cavities. Pleuritic friction may be present at any stage and, as mentioned before, occurs very early. There are cases in which it is a marked feature throughout. When the lappet of lung over the heart is involved there may be a pleuro-pericardial friction, and when this area is consolidated there may be curious clicking râles synchronous with the heart-beat, due to the compression by the heart of, and the expulsion of air from, this portion. An interesting auscultatory sign, met most commonly in phthisis, is the so-called cardio-respiratory murmur, a whiffing systolic bruit due to the propulsion of air out of the tubes by the impulse of the heart. It is best heard during inspiration and in the antero-lateral regions of the chest.

A systolic murmur is frequently heard in the subclavian artery on either side, the pulsation of which may be very visible. The murmur is in all probability due to pressure on the vessels by the thickened pleura.

The signs of cavity may be here briefly enumerated.

(a) When there is not much thickening of the pleura or condensation of the surrounding lung-tissue, the percussion sound may be full and clear, resembling the normal note. More commonly there is defective resonance or a tympanitic quality which may at times be purely amphoric. The pitch of the percussion note changes over a cavity when the mouth is opened or closed (Wintrich's sign), or it may be brought out more clearly on change of position. The cracked-pot sound is only obtainable over tolerably large cavities with thin walls. It is best elicited by a firm, quick stroke, the patient at the time having the mouth open. In those rare instances of almost total excavation of one lung the percussion note may be amphoric in quality. (b) On auscultation the so-called cavernous sounds are heard: (1) Various grades of modified breathing—blowing or tubular, cavernous or amphoric. There may be a curiously sharp hissing sound, as if the air was passing from a narrow opening into a wide space. In very large cavities both inspiration and expiration may be typically amphoric. (2) There are coarse bubbling râles which have a resonant quality, and on coughing may have a metallic or ringing character. On coughing they are often loud and gurgling. In very large thin-walled cavities, and more rarely in medium-sized cavities, surrounded by recent consolidation, the râles may have a distinctly amphoric echo, simulating those of pneumothorax. There are dry cavities in which no râles are heard. (3) The vocal resonance is greatly intensified and whispered pectoriloquy is clearly heard. In large apical cavities the heart-sounds are well heard, and occasionally there may be an intense systolic murmur,

probably always transmitted to, and not produced, as has been supposed, in the cavity itself.

Pseudo-cavernous signs may be caused by an area of consolidation near a large bronchus. The condition may be most deceptive—the high-pitched or tympanic percussion note, the tubular or cavernous breathing, and the resonant râles, simulate closely those of cavity.

4. **Symptoms referable to other Organs.**—(a) *Cardio-vascular.*—The retraction of the left upper lobe exposes a large area of the heart. In thin-chested subjects there may be pulsation in the second, third, and fourth interspaces close to the sternum. Sometimes with much retraction of the left upper lobe the heart is drawn up. A systolic murmur over the pulmonary area is common in all stages of phthisis. Apical murmurs are also not infrequent and may be extremely rough and harsh without necessarily indicating that endocarditis is present. The association of heart-disease with phthisis is not, however, very uncommon. As already mentioned, there were twelve instances of endocarditis in 216 autopsies. The arterial tension is usually low in phthisis and the capillary resistance lessened so that the pulse is often full and soft even in the later stages of the disease. The capillary pulse is not infrequently met with, and pulsation of the veins in the back of the hand is occasionally to be seen.

(b) *Blood Glandular System.*—The early anæmia has already been noted. It is often more apparent than real, a chloro-anæmia, and the blood-count rarely sinks below two million per cubic millimetre.

The blood-plates are, as a rule, enormously increased and are seen in the withdrawn blood as the so-called Schultze's granule masses.

(c) *Gastro-intestinal System.*—The tongue is usually furred, but may be clean and red. Small aphthous ulcers are sometimes distressing. A red line on the gums, a symptom to which at one time much attention was paid as a special feature of phthisis, occurs in other cachectic states. Extensive tuberculous disease of the pharynx, associated with similar affection of the larynx, may interfere seriously with deglutition and prove a very distressing and intractable symptom.

Of late, special attention has been paid to the gastric symptoms of this affection. Tuberculous disease is rare. I have seen but one undoubted specimen from a case which Musser has reported.* Ulceration may occur as an accidental complication and multiple catarrhal ulcers are not uncommon. Interstitial and parenchymatous changes in the mucosa are common (possibly associated with the venous stasis) and lead to atrophy, but these cannot always be connoted with the symptoms, and they may be found when not expected. On the other hand, when the gastric symptoms have been most persistent, the mucosa may show very little change. It is impossible always to refer the anorexia, nausea, and vomiting of consumption to local conditions. The hectic fever and the neurotic influ-

* Philadelphia Hospital Reports, vol. i, 1890.

ences, upon which Immermann lays much stress, must be taken into account, as they play an important rôle. The organ is often dilated, and to muscular insufficiency alone may be due some of the cases of dyspepsia. The condition of the gastric secretion is not constant, and the reports are discordant. In the early stages there may be hyperacidity; later, a deficiency of acid.

Anorexia is often a marked symptom at the onset; there may be positive loathing of food, and even small quantities cause nausea. Sometimes without any nausea or distress after eating the feeding of the patient is a daily battle. When practicable, Debove's forced alimentation is of great benefit in such cases. Nausea and vomiting, though occasionally troublesome at an early period, are more marked in the later stages. The latter may be caused by the severe attacks of coughing. S. H. Habershon refers to four different causes the vomiting in phthisis: (1) central, as from tuberculous meningitis; (2) pressure on the vagi by caseous glands; (3) stimulation from the peripheral branches of the vagus, either pulmonary, pharyngeal, or gastric; and (4) mechanical causes.

Of the *intestinal* symptoms diarrhoea is the most serious. It may come on early, but is more usually a symptom of the later stages, and is associated with ulceration, particularly of the large bowel. Extensive ulceration of the ileum may exist without any diarrhoea. The associated catarrhal condition may account in part for it, and in some instances the amyloid degeneration of the mucous membrane.

(d) *Nervous System.*—(1) Focal lesions due to the development of coarse tubercles and areas of tuberculous meningo-encephalitis. Aphasia, for instance, may result from the growth of meningeal tubercles in the fissure of Sylvius, or even hemiplegia may develop. The solitary tubercles are more common in the chronic phthisis of children. (2) Basilar meningitis is an occasional complication. It may be confined to the brain, though more commonly it is a (3) cerebro-spinal meningitis, which may come on in persons without well-developed local signs in the chest. Twice have I known strong, robust men brought into hospital with signs of cerebro-spinal meningitis, in whom the existence of pulmonary disease was not discovered until the post-mortem. (4) Peripheral neuritis. This is not frequent, and has occurred but five times in the large number of consumptives who have come under my observation during the past seven years. It is nearly always an extensor paralysis of the arm or leg, more commonly the latter, causing foot-drop. It is usually a late manifestation. (5) Mental symptoms. It was noted, even by the older writers, that consumptives had a peculiarly hopeful temperament, and the *spes phthisica* forms a curious characteristic of the disease. Patients with extensive cavities, high fever, and too weak to move will often make plans for the future and confidently expect to recover.

Apart from tuberculosis of the brain, there is sometimes in chronic phthisis a form of insanity not unlike that which develops in the conva-

lescence from acute affections. The whole question of the mutual relations of insanity and phthisis is dealt with at length in Mickle's Gulstonian lectures.

(e) A remarkable hypertrophy of the mammary gland may occur in pulmonary tuberculosis,* most commonly in males. It may only be on the affected side. Two cases came under my notice at the University Hospital, Philadelphia, both in young males. It is a chronic interstitial, non-tuberculous mammitis (Allot).

(f) *Genito-urinary System*.—The urine presents no special peculiarities in amount or constituents. Fever, however, has a marked influence upon it. Albumen is met with frequently and may be associated with the fever, or is the result of definite changes in the kidneys. In the latter case it is more abundant and more curd-like. Amyloid disease of the kidneys is not uncommon. Its presence is shown by albumen and tubercasts in the urine, and sometimes by a great increase in the amount of urine. In other instances there is dropsy, and the patients have all the characteristic features of chronic Bright's disease.

Pus in the urine may be due to disease of the bladder or of the pelves of the kidneys. In some instances the entire urinary tract is involved. In pulmonary phthisis, however, extensive tuberculous disease is rarely found in the urinary organs. Bacilli may occasionally be detected in the pus. Hæmaturia is not a very common symptom. It may occur occasionally as a result of congestion of the kidneys, which passes off and leaves the urine albuminous. In other instances it results from disease of the pelvis or of the bladder, and is associated either with early tuberculosis of the mucous membranes or more commonly with ulceration.

(g) *Cutaneous System*.—The skin is often dry and harsh. Local tubercles occasionally develop on the hands. There may be pigmentary staining, the *chloasma phthisicorum*, which is more common when the peritonæum is involved. Upon the chest and back the brown stains of the *pityriasis versicolor* are very frequent. The hair of the head and beard may become dry and lanky. The terminal phalanges, in chronic cases, become clubbed and the nails incurvated—the Hippocratic fingers.† A remarkable and unusual complication is general emphysema, which may result from ulceration of an adherent lung or perforation of the larynx.

Diagnosis.—When well advanced there is rarely any doubt as to the existence of tuberculous phthisis, for the sputum gives positive information, and the physical signs of local disease are well marked. The bacilli give an infallible indication of the existence of tuberculosis and may be found in the sputum before the physical signs are at all definite. On the other hand, it must be remembered that there are cases in which, even

* Allot, Paris Thesis, 1887.

† "Morbo progrediente, corpus macrescit præter crura: hæc autem tument et pedes, et ungues contorquentur" (Hippocrates).

with tolerably well-defined physical signs, the sputum is extremely scanty and many examinations may be required to detect tubercle bacilli. So essential is the examination of the sputum in the early diagnosis of phthisis that I would earnestly insist upon the more frequent employment of this method. There is no excuse now for its omission, since, if the practitioner has not command of the necessary technique, there are laboratories in many parts of the country at which the examination can be made. *Early detection is of vital importance, as successful treatment depends upon the measures taken before the lung is extensively involved.*

The presence of elastic fibres in the sputum is an indication of destruction of the lung-tissue. In a large proportion of cases it is indicative, too, of tuberculous disease. It also may be found early, before the physical signs are well marked. Its detection is easy by the above-mentioned method, not requiring high powers of the microscope. In cases of early hæmoptysis, before there is marked constitutional disturbance, or even local signs, it is very important to make a thorough examination of the sputum, from which mucoid and purulent portions may be picked out for examination. With localized and persistent signs in one lung, cough, fever, and loss of flesh, the diagnosis is rarely dubious. It is remarkable, however, to what an extent the local process may sometimes proceed without disturbance of health sufficient to excite the alarm of the physician or friends. There are puzzling cases with localized physical signs at one apex, chiefly moist râles, rarely any percussion changes, perhaps slight fever, and a glairy expectoration containing numerous alveolar cells. I have seen several cases of this kind which have been for a time very obscure, and in which repeated examinations failed to detect either bacilli or elastic tissue. They seem to be instances of local catarrhal trouble in the smaller tubes, some of which clear in a few weeks.

3. Fibroid Phthisis.

In the section on diseases of the lungs we shall refer to the chronic interstitial pneumonia, or cirrhosis of the lung, which may be a sequence of acute lobar pneumonia, or follow a chronic pleurisy, or is due to inhalation of dust, as in anthracosis. From these causes a condition of sclerosis or induration of the lung may be produced with gradual shrinkage. An identical condition is present in certain cases of chronic pulmonary tuberculosis, and to this it is best perhaps to limit the term *fibroid phthisis*. This form may come on gradually as a sequence of a chronic tuberculous broncho-pneumonia, or follow a chronic tuberculous pleurisy. In other instances the process supervenes upon an ordinary ulcerative phthisis. The disease becomes limited to one apex, the cavity is surrounded by layers of dense fibrous tissue, the pleura is thickened, and the lower lobe is gradually invaded by the sclerotic change. Ultimately a picture is produced little if at all different from the other forms of cirrhosis of the