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Ulceration. \*

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( Continued from page 399 ).

*Cundurango*.—Varicose ulcers, with granulating hypertrophy, with a syphilitic dyscrasia. Also some improvement in lupus. Lorbacher, of Leipzig.

*Cuprum met?*—Old ulcers, with a feeling of contraction in the surrounding skin; flat ulcers; hard and inflamed ulcers, with a jerking pain; sensitive ulcers, with redness of the areola. *Pus* scanty and corroding. Left side.

*Dulcamara*.—Insensible, painless ulcers; hard, sensitive and swollen ulcers? *Pus* scanty and yellowish. *Worse* in the night; also from cold or wet, and when the weather changes. *Better* from motion, and movement of the part. Left side chiefly.

*Drosera rotund.*—Bleeding, burning ulcers; cutting pain; *Pus* bloody, thin and watery, and ichorous. *Worse* in the morning and during the latter part of the night; also when lying on the sore side, when sitting, and when getting warm in bed. *Better* from cold, from rubbing, and while walking. Right side.

*Euphorbium off.*—Old, torpid ulcers; lancinating and lacerating pains; ulcers turning black; insensible ulcers; biting in the ulcer; gangrenous ulcers. *Worse* in the morning; also on getting heated near the fire, lying down, when changing the position, on beginning to move, while sitting, and when touching them. *Better* from motion and walking. Left side; though may be either side.

\* Reprinted from the Surgical Diseases and their Therapeutics.

*Graphites*.—Unhealthy ulcers ; proud flesh in the ulcer ; tearing ; crusty or scabby ulcers ; hard itching ulcer, difficult to heal ; sensitive, sore, spongy ulcers, that emit a salty flux. *Pus* bloody, watery, acrid and corroding ; putrid pus, or smelling like herring-brine. *Worse* at night, before midnight ; also during and after menstruation, and on moving. *Better* when lying down, and from pressure. Right side.

*Hepar sulph.*—Mercurial ulcers ; burning in the ulcers ; burning in the night only ; pains resembling recent excoriation ; throbbing and shooting ; ulcers with jagged edges, and surrounded by pustules ; bluish, bleeding ulcers, with a burning pain in them, and surrounded by blisters. *Pus* may be laudable, acrid, or sanguineous ; smells like old cheese ; or it may be fetid and ichorous. *Worse* at night, and in the morning ; also on first waking up, from cold, when lying on the sore side, from pressure, on touching them ; in clear, dry weather, and in a north or east wind. *Better* when lying on the sound side, and in damp weather. Left side chiefly.

*Hyoseyamus nig.*—Inflamed ulcers, the surrounding skin being of a bright vermillion redness ; large pustules around the ulcers. *Worse* in the evening ; also during menstruation, and on touching it. *Better* when getting warm. Left side.

*Iodium.*—Bleeding ulcers ; destitue of feeling ; hard, spongy and sensitive ulcers ; swollen ulcers, with a feeling of tenseness or soreness. *Pus* copious, bloody and corroding ; or thin, watery and yellow. *Worse* at night ; also when lying down on the sore side, from pressure, on getting warm in the open air, from bodily exertion, and from rapid walking. *Better* from cold, and when lying on the sound side. Either side may be affected.

*Kali bich.*—Ulcers dry, form oval ; have overhanging edges, a bright red inflamed areola, hard base ; movable on the subjacent tissues, dark spot in the centre ; after healing, the cicatrix remains depressed ; the ulcers corrode and become deeper, but without spreading in the circumference ; ulcers on the previously inflamed feet ; ulcers on the fingers, with

carious affections of the bones. *Worse* in the morning ; also from cold, and during the summer. Better from heat. Either side. (Lippe).

*Kali carb.*—Gnawing in the ulcer ; bleeding, burning, boring, corroding ulcers. *Pus* copious, bloody, and ichorous ; or thin and watery. *Worse* at night, after midnight, and in the morning ; also from cold, on getting heated, during menstruation and after moving. *Better* from getting warm. Either side.

*Kreosote.*—Burning, or pain as if burnt in the ulcers ; putrid ulcers ; sensitive ulcers ; spongy ulcers. *Pus* acrid or ichorous, fetid or yellow. *Worse* in the morning ; also after menstruation. Left side chiefly.

*Lachesis.*—The ulcer is large, and has a tendency to extend rapidly ; surrounded by smaller ulcerations or pustules ; considerable swelling, with a mottled, dark-blue or purple color of the surrounding skin ; burning pain only when touching the sore ; ulcers which are smooth, but have jagged edges, are surrounded by papillæ, and are bluish or livid in appearance. *Pus* scanty. *Worse* in the evening, and at night before midnight ; also in windy weather, in the open air, on changing the position, from, pressure, while sitting, and in wet weather. *Better* when lying down, on rising from the seat, and in wet weather. Right side usually.

*Lycopodium.*—Fistulous ulcers, with hard, red, shining and inverted edges ; inflammatory swelling of the affected part ; itching in them only or chiefly at night ; also when touching them ; gnawing, shooting or tearing pain ; tumid ulcers, with elevated and indurated edges ; surrounded by papillæ. *Pus* copious and albuminous ; or sanious, gray, yellow, or acrid. *Worse* in the afternoon and in the evening ; also while lying down on the sore side, before menstruation, on beginning to move, from pressure, while sitting, on being touched, and on beginning to walk. *Better* from cold, on motion, and on getting warm in bed. Right side chiefly.

*Mercurius sol.*—Spreading ulcers; spongy, readily-bleeding ulcers; ulcers are exceedingly painful, and sensitive to the slightest touch; unequal elevations and depressions; (neither hot nor cold applications allay the intolerable darting, lancinating pain, G.); gnawing or throbbing pain; ulcers of a bluish or livid appearance, with hard, elevated and jagged edges; superficial ulcers, of a whitish appearance. *Pus* may be scanty or copious, and of almost any appearance, (save laudable G.). *Worse* in the evening, and at night; also in the evening air, from or during walking or motion, from the slightest touch, on getting warm in bed, and in wet weather. *Better* from cold (?), while lying down, and while sitting. Left side mostly.

*Mexereum.*—Pain of a burning character, or feeling as if from a recent excoriation; shooting pains; biting pains; pricking in the ulcer, or soreness; feeling of tenseness in the ulcer. *Pus* scanty or totally suppressed. *Worse* in the evening, and in the night before midnight; also from rubbing, from scratching, and from being touched. *Better* in the open air. Left side.

*Natrum carb.*—Burning ulcers; pricking and pulsating in the ulcers. *Pus* corroding, acrid, putrid and yellow. *Worse* in the forenoon; also when lying down. *Better* from pressure, on getting up after sitting, and from rubbing or scratching. Left side principally.

*Natrum mur.*—Superficial ulcers; red, angry-looking, smarting ulcers, surrounded by vesicles. No suppuration. *Worse* in the morning, and in the forenoon; also from bodily exertion, before and after menstruation, from motion, and on making pressure. *Better* while and after lying down. Right side.

*Nux vomica.*—Raised ulcers with pale red edges; pain as if being beaten to pieces; burning pain, as if burnt; jerking pain; prurient itching; sensitive sore ulcers, with a feeling of tenseness. *Pus* greenish and corroding. *Worse* in the morning, and at night; also in the open air, after menstruation,

while lying on the back, on moving the part, when touching the ulcer, when drinking liquor or coffee, when walking, in clear, dry windy weather, and in winter. *Better* when lying on the sound side when sitting, and in damp weather. The right side chiefly.

*Petroleum.*—Fistulous ulcers ; rapidly spreading ; shooting pain, with elevated indurated edges ; deep or flat ulcers that are difficult to heal ; pricking in the ulcer's edges, or areola ; proud flesh in them ; redness of the areola ; painful, sensitive and spongy ulcers. *Pus* scanty, acrid and corroding ; sanious and watery. *Worse* in the morning ; also in the open air, from cold in general, and in winter. Right side.

*Phosphorus.*—Fistulous ulcers, with callous edges ; gnawing pain ; hectic fever. *Pus* fetid and badly colored ; scanty, and again is easily secreted. *Worse* in the evening, and at night before midnight ; also before falling asleep, on awakening, when the weather changes, and in the wind. *Better* on awakening. Right side generally.

*Pulsatilla.*—Flat, putrid, carious ulcers ; fistulous ulcers ; itching, burning, or excoriated feeling in the ulcers ; smarting and shooting pains ; the surrounding parts are discolored ; indurated and elevated edges ; ulcers surrounded by papillæ. *Pus* copious albuminous and yellow ; also bloody, or green. *Worse* in the evening, in the afternoon, and at night before midnight ; also on changing the position, while lying on the sound side, after lying down, during menstruation, on beginning to move ; also after moving, on pressure, on the side of the limb opposite to the ulcer, on rubbing or scratching, while sitting, and in windy or wintry weather. *Better* in the open air, from cold in general, motion, on walking, and on wetting the affected part. Right side.

*Ranunculus bulb.*—Itching or burning in the ulcer ; shooting pains ; smooth ulcers ; boring in the ulcers ; flat, superficial ulcers, with pricking in them. *Pus* sanious and acrid. *Worse* in the morning, afternoon, and evening, and at night

before midnight ; also from cold in general, and on being touched. *Better* while standing. Either side.

*Rhus red.*—Hard red edges, and itching of the ulcers ; sore, inflamed ulcers ; itching-smarting, or itching-biting in the ulcer ; feeling as if salt were in the ulcer ; erysipelatous inflammation and swelling of the surrounding skin ; the skin in the neighborhood was covered with itching, burning vesicles. Smarting on scratching them. *Worse* in the evening, and at night ; also from cold, on beginning to move, from drinking cold water, and when the weather changes. *Better* from motion. Either side.

*Rhus tox.*—Small vesicles, turning to putrid, gangrenous and spreading ulcers ; violent fever ; tingling and smarting as if from salt in the ulcers ; burning, creeping or crawling sensation with a pain resembling a recent excoriation ; smarting and soreness ; ulcers surrounded by papillæ. *Pus* sanious and acrid. *Worse* in the morning, evening, and at night after midnight ; also before falling asleep, in the autumn and spring from bathing in cold water ; also from exertion of the body, when lying down, from poultices, when the weather changes and in wet weather. *Better* from motion, and motion of the affected part, while walking, and in dry weather. Either side may be affected ; chiefly, however, the left.

*Ruta grav.*—Gnawing, jerking pains, *Pus* sanious. *Worse* in the afternoon ; also in damp weather, and while he is sitting or lying still. *Better* on motion. Left side chiefly.

*Sabina.*—Deep ulcers ; pricking feeling of tenseness in the ulcer. *Worse* in the morning, and in the evening ; also from exertion of the body, from being touched, and on getting warm in bed. *Better* in the open air, from cold, and on raising or elevating the limb. Left side.

*Secale cor.*—Bleeding ulcers ; ulcers becoming black ; feeling as if burnt ; painless ulcers ; pricking, producing a prurient sensation. *Pus* putrid. *Worse* at night ; also from

being touched, and on getting warm in bed. *Better* from cold. Right side.

*Sempervivum tect.*—Immense jelly-like granulations; *pus* thin, scanty, colorless.

*Sepia.*—Ulcers with blisters around them; pain as if burnt; deep, crusty (scabby) ulcers; flat ulcers with digging pain; destitute of feeling; fistulous, hard ulcers; high elevated edges; hard to heal; jerking, itching or pricking; proud flesh in them; pustules around the ulcer, with redness of the areola; sensitive, sore, spongy or swollen ulcers: swelling of the edges, with tearing in the ulcer. *Pus* is copious, corroding, gelatinous, greenish or ichorous; or it may be scanty, putrid, viscid, sour-smelling, and whitish or yellow; thin, salty ichor. *Worse* in the morning, forenoon and evening; also before falling asleep, and on awaking, while sitting, and from being touched. *Better* on awaking, and when rising from the seat. Right side.

*Silicea.*—Aching pain in the ulcer; it becomes black at the base, or on the edges; bleeding from the base or edges; boring or burning in the edges, or in the areola; sensation of coldness in the ulcer; deep or flat, crusty ulcers; destitute of feeling; hard, fistulous or gangrenous ulcers; ulcers with high, hard edges; difficult to heal: jerking and itching in or round about the ulcers; pricking in the edges and areola; proud flesh in the ulcer: pulsating, putrid ulcers, with redness of the areola; sensitive edges; spongy ulcers, or only spongy on the edges; swollen ulcers with white spots and tearing pain. *Pus* copious, brownish, corroding, gelatinous, or grayish, bloody, or ichorous; scanty, putrid thin, and watery and yellow. *Worse* in the forenoon, afternoon, in the evening, and at night; also in the open air, when lying on the painful side, from pressure, and when the weather changes. *Better* when lying on the sound side. Either side.

*Staphysagria.*—Itching or burning in the ulcer; gnawing, jerking, shooting or tearing pains; smarting in the ulcer.



*Pus* excessive, acrid, ichorous and fetid ; or scanty. *Worse* in the morning, forenoon, in the afternoon, and at night ; also on moving, from pressure, and on being touched. *Better* in the evening and when lying down in bed. Principally the right side.

*Sulphur*.—Readily-bleeding ulcers ; ulcers with raised and swollen edges ; surrounded by pimples : fistulous ulcers ; stinging and lacerating in the ulcers ; proud flesh in them ; violent bleeding of old ulcers ; irregular jagged edges ; cedematous swelling, and reddish-brown discoloration of the skin. *Pus* thick, yellow, and foetid ; or thin and foetid. *Worse* in the evening, and at night ; also on awaking, from bodily exertion, while lying down in bed, before menstruation in bed. *Better* from cold, on rubbing or scratching, and in dry weather. Left side.

*Thuja*.—Ulcers with indurated edges ; elevated jagged edges ; surrounded by blisters containing pus ; deep, burning and fistulous ulcers ; itching, pricking and proud flesh in the ulcers ; pulsating, spongy ulcers, or only spongy on the edges ; feeling of tenseness in the ulcers ; ulcers with serrated edges. *Pus* yellow. *Worse* in the afternoon ; also on rising from the bed. *Better* from rubbing or scratching. Either side.

*Tartar emet.*—Deeply-penetrating, malignant ulcers ; broad and deep sloughing ulcers ; gangrenous ulcers, with hectic fever ; ulcers are surrounded by black pustules, which break down into deep ulcers. *Pus* absent ; merely an oozing of foetid humor. *Worse* in the morning. Either side.

*Veratrum album*.—Bluish ulcers ; hard, indurated ulcers ; itching, painless ulcers, but with redness of the areola. *Pus* scanty. *Worse* in the morning ; also in the autumn or winter, when standing, and on getting warm in bed. *Better* on rising from the bed, and in dry weather. Either side may be affected, though the right side is usually so.

*Zincum met.*—Herpetic ulcers ; bleeding and burning ulcers ; destitute of feeling ; itching ; redness of the

surrounding skin ; sore ulcers ; tearing, and feeling of tenseness of the ulcer, and the surrounding parts. *Pus*, bloody and corroding. *Worse* in the afternoon and evening ; also on getting heated near the fire. *Better* from rubbing or scratching. Left side.

In the last few years, a number of "new remedies" have been introduced to the profession, that are as yet, however, hardly verified enough to warrant their insertion here. The mass of them have not been tested by myself in these cases, those only that I have *used* will be noticed and among them, only such as have proved curative.

*Apis mel.*—This remedy has been used in perhaps five cases, and cured promptly the following symptoms and conditions ; small ulcers ; large, spreading ulcers, that are surrounded by pimples ; redness and heat in the areola ; pricking in the ulcer ; stinging in the ulcer and in the areola ; high florid granulations. *Pus* thick, white, acrid, and corroding. *Worse* in the morning ; also from heat. *Better* from cold water applications, and from pressure. Left side.

*Hydrastis can.*—This remedy has been used but once by me, and acted very satisfactorily, though the result could not be properly called a cure. It seems to be closely analogous to *Mercury*. I plead guilty, however, to having departed from my usual practice and teaching in this case, by using it as a topical application. The reason for this was, that there was no opportunity at the time of getting a tincture or dilution, and a preparation of the dried root steeped in water was only available. The symptoms were as follows : They were all cured except the pain—ulcer closed and all—and this was removed by one dose of *Cham.* 6. Ulcers on the legs ; dry, superficial, and angry-looking ; covered by a yellow scab ; pain was stinging, or stinging-burning ; areola inflamed, and covered by pimples, which frequently degenerate into ulcers ; faint-fetid odor : circular shape, with flat edges ; one of the ulcers had high and thick edges. No *pus*.

Worse at night ; also from the warmth of the bed, on motion, or on touching them. Left side.

*Hamamelis virg.*—This is one of the best remedies in our whole Materia Medica for the treatment of varicose ulcers. I am almost tempted, in spite of Homœopathy, to call it a specific. It has cured in my hands probably the ulcers of that description. The symptoms are : Deep, circular, flat ulcers ; ulcers that are very dark, almost black at the base ; the surrounding skin is bluish-black ; oozing of blood ; burning and stinging, or biting in the ulcer ; the edges are on a level with the surrounding skin, and are sharp out. *Pus* very thin and watery, bad smelling ; more an ichor than pus.

Should the carefully selected remedy fail to induce a cure, we will be compelled to have recourse to cell-grafting, dry, earth, or the constant, weak, galvanic current, as recommended by HAMMOAD. A piece of silver foil is cut to exact size of the ulcer, and connected by a copper wire, six inches long, with a piece of zinc plate about the same size as the silver foil. The silver is applied to the ulcer, and the zinc to integument, a piece of kid or buckskin, wet with diluted vinegar, between it and the skin. This is a capital aid, at least, and in the treatment of indolent ulcers, has done me good service. In the *American Homœopathic Observer* (Vol. IX., p. 315), is an account of an operation of NUSSBAUM, of Bavaria, which has proved successful in my hands, twice, but does not belong to the therapeutics of ulcers.

CASE I. A woman, aged thirty-five, had a small, deep, circular ulcer on the right leg, immediately between the knee, on the spine of the tibia. It was dark in color, very sensitive to pressure or touch ; the seat of a burning pain, as if a "coal of fire were laying there ;" had been "healed" over but soon broke again, and secreted a bloody, ichorous serum. The integument surrounding it was dark brown, but edges flat. She was subject to frequent epistaxis ; had suffered very much from dyspeptic symptoms, particularly flatulency ; and was quite restless and thirsty at night. Made no local

applications whatever, no strapping of bandaging even— simply advised as little use of the limb as possible, and gave *Carbo veg.* 30, a dose a day. In four weeks time the ulcer was completely closed, and in three months, the cicatrix had faded to a white healthy-looking patch.

CASE II. A young man, aged thirty, had been salivated, and in addition to many painful symptoms had a large ulcer, on the right leg, surrounding the ankle, as large as the band, invading nearly the whole circumference of part, and extending down through the fascia almost to the bone. The superficial veins were much enlarged, and there was some œdema of the foot. The pain was a constant aching-gnawing; the parts excessively sensitive to pressure; and he had been in the habit of taking *Morphia* nightly to secure sleep. The ulcer was exceedingly irregular in form, ragged edges; dark areola; edges high and rounded; the floor of the ulcer flat, but uneven; pus profuse, horribly offensive, and dark colored; would frequently partially granulate, then break down again, the granulations becoming back and coming away in masses. On the left leg he had a similar sore, not quite as large, but in other particulars the same. A similar ulcer was on the left arm, midway between the wrist and elbow, but not quite as deep as the others. His health was poor; appetite deficient; sleepless, and generally worn out. For five months he was treated with various remedies, the pain being much mitigated by *Staph.*, at one time, and *Allium cepa* at another; the pus improved, and some progress made in closing the ulcer with *Hepar s.*, and at another time *Sarsap.* Finally, no permanent improvement having been secured, elastic bandages were used, and in conjunction with *Sarsap.*, the sores almost closed. They did not after this treatment—break down again, but would not entirely close, while the pain was much diminished and the pus improved in quality and lessened in amount. He then commenced taking “mineral spring” baths, at Wyandotte, Mich., and is rapidly improving.

CASE III. A case of what might be considered a typical ulcer of the simple variety, will be of interest here, as exhibiting the value and efficacy of the appropriate remedy, even when not of that class usually considered applicable to ulceration. Furthermore it will illustrate the value of securing a "totality of the symptoms." A strong vigorous man, about thirty-five years of age, had been wounded at the battle of Gettysburgh in the ankle, with a fragment of shell. One year afterwards, when he came to me, he had an ulcer at the seat of the injury, the wound never having closed—circular in form, as large as the palm of the hand; regular outline; flattened edges filled with firm, florid granulations; discharging profusely, a thick, greenish-yellow pus; red, shining areola; much stinging and itching in the ulcer and surrounding parts; pain, of varying characters, in the evening and before midnight; better, in all respects, in the open air, and from cold applications; worse from warm applications, and in warm weather. Prescribed *Puls.* 12, a dose a day, with no topical applications, and the ulcer was healed in a month. Without multiplying cases, of which my case-book would furnish a great many varieties, let me recall one more in closing this clinical review.

CASE IV. A woman from whose shoulder I had removed a large lipomatous tumor, presented an ulcer at the site of the wound which had never closed. The sore was circular, raised pale edges, no areola, no pain, and no particular sensitiveness. It was completely filled with immense flabby, pale, jelly-like granulations, hanging out over the edges. The discharge was thin, gelatinous, light colored, and odorless. While not complaining of ill-health, she was pale and anæmic, but all the bodily functions seemed to be well performed. After using a number of remedies, at the suggestion of Dr. G. R. Starkey, I gave *Sempervivum tect.* *lx* internally, three times a day, and applied the bruised plant to the sore. In a few weeks, five, I believe—the ulcer was completely cured.