

Chronic Disease—Its Cause and Cure.*

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Let us recapitulate that Psora is always the most predominant factor, or in other words, it is an indispensable miasm, and it can be said that Psora is the only cause of all the various chronic diseases. Though Sycosis and Syphilis combine with Psora, yet it is the fact that there can be no Sycosis and Syphilis without Psora being there, so that Psora is the cause of Sycosis and Syphilis too. Thus, it is an unmistakable fact that, Psora is the only cause of all the so called chronic diseases,—no matter under whatever name those chronic diseases may be recognised by the ordinary people and by the Allopathic school.

If we say that Psora is the only cause of all the so called chronic diseases, and that all the chronic diseases are only manifestations of Psora, it comes to this that Psora is the only chronic disease. I am afraid, even most of the avowed Homœopaths of today, not to speak of Allopaths, will startle at this sweeping statement, and the reason is not far to seek. Most people are reluctant to make the exertion necessary for observation. If a patient comes to you and is suffering from skin eruptions, and if you advise him to refrain from using any ointment, and warn him that such suppression with ointment may bring in a serious disaster, you will be simply laughed at. If, however, measles are suppressed by bad treatment, or by exposure to cold, or for any other reason, everybody understands that the consequences are not very happy, and that such suppression of measles often brings in convulsion, paralysis, idiocy and even death. Everybody understands it, but everybody fails to understand that suppression of itches may cause similar disasters. Why? Because the effect of suppressed measles follows the suppression so

*Translation, by Dr. P. N. Banerjee, B. A., from Dr. N. Ghatak's Bengali on the subject.

quickly, while the effect of suppression of itches etc., develops very slowly. There is an excuse, if ordinary people have such failure in understanding, but there is absolutely no excuse for such want of observation and interpretation on the part of the avowed practitioners of the art,—absolutely none.

That Psora is the only cause of all chronic diseases, or in other words, that Psora is really the only chronic disease on earth, and that this apparently impossible fact cannot be more effectively brought home to you than by a dispassionate and critical analysis of cases in course of your own practice, have already been stated by me. But I will yet cite some more facts of reason and evidence, (than the fact of the case of a patient already cited), by way of elucidating the point further.

I. FACTS OF REASON.

It has been stated before that physical itching is the external expression of Psora. There was a disorder in mind first of all, which we have called mental itching, and this disorder of mind or mental itching was subsequently reflected in the physical body. But one might argue, "If there was a disorder in the mind, why was it not confined to the mind only? What was the necessity of its coming out on the body?" To this I would say that is according to a Law of Nature. When there is a disorder in the mind, the mind is burdened as it were, and its natural tendency in such a case is to free itself of this burdened condition. The mind wants to ease itself. If you are distressed with a bad news, you feel awfully wretched so long as you keep it in your own mind alone and do not share it with others. But as soon as a friend presses you for disclosing the facts to him, and as soon as you actually do this, you are certainly relieved to some extent. It is, therefore, correct that the mind naturally wants to ease itself by throwing out its burden. Now the disorder of the mind is thus naturally thrown on the body in the shape of itches. Not only does this process—which is the inevitable

process of nature—ease the mind, but it also helps the process of cure.

When the disease is coming to an end, it comes outward on the surface, but when the disease is increasing, its course is inward, into the interior. If the natural process of relief is a process from within outward, and if this is why external manifestations of itches etc., appear on the skin, what, other than disaster can be expected from manipulating those itches with ointment, thereby turning them inward? If there is to be any cure after such an inward turn to the itches, it cannot possibly be effected except by bringing them out. Observation will confirm this always. When however itches etc., are turned inward by external application of ointment, they naturally attack the internal organs, affecting, first of all, some change in their functions and then some change in their structures. (Of course, for structural degeneration of any organ, some more miasms than Psora alone, are necessary, and this will be dealt with later). Those who hold that diseases of the skin are only diseases of the skin; and they have no connection with the whole man, are hopelessly mistaken. The skin is also one of the organs of the body, and it has its functions, but are the functions of the different organs independent of each other? Are not all the different parts (organ) performing their functions for a common cause, for the man as a whole, mind and body? Are not all these parts tending to the health and well-being of the whole man (mind and body)?—Certainly, and their functions cannot, therefore, be independent. Any deviation in the function of any organ has always a proportionate deviation in the functions of all the others, no matter, whether you can find out this deviation in the latter or not. There is not a tissue, there is not a cell in the whole economy that does not feel the disorder in any other tissue or cell. The skin is therefore not an independent unit in the man, and any deviation in it must cast its reflection on the whole man (mind and body). And if by a process of

nature, the deviation, or disorder of the mind, has been thrown out on the skin, by way of relief to the whole man, and if that process is upset by the incorrect theory of brute force and the itch destroyed by ointment, there is not the least doubt that the whole man will be disordered. The skin, or any organ, is not much of a sufferer in the affair, but it is the whole man that has to bear the brunt of it. The skin or the different organs are no independent units. They are all functioning to the same common end, namely the health and well-being of the whole man (mind and body). It is a common fact that, when particular organ is diseased, it is not that particular organ alone that suffers. It is the whole man that suffers. If the organs, the skin, liver and kidney are independent, and if there is no oneness behind this plurality of organs, it is the independent organs that should suffer when diseased, and not the man. But, as it is the man that suffers and not his organs, it is never the fact that it is the organ that is diseased; it is never the fact that the itch on the skin has no relation to the internal—to the whole man. If, therefore, you only turn the itch inward by application of ointment, and not cure the whole man, the whole man continues to be affected—affected more than before, because the more important and more delicate organs than the skin are attacked this time. And as a result, various diseases of various names ensue.

2. FACTS IS THE EVIDENCE.

Where is the evidence that Psora in conjunction with Syphilitis or Syphilis or in conjunction with both, or Psora alone, is the cause, of all chronic disease? Some evidences are of course there, and I will enumerate them one by one.

(a) During the course of the treatment of a chronic disease, it happens that the old symptoms of the patient reappear (and then disappear) in the reverse order of their coming, that is to say in the order opposite to the order in

which they came. To make it more clear, let me cite a case.

A Lady was suffering from leucorrhœa and though she was over 20 or more, she had not been rid of the habit of wetting the bed at night, a habit which she had in childhood. She was a lovely little lady, and her husband had spent a lot of money for her treatment. He then applied to me. In Hahnemann's language, it was an one-sided case, as I found on recording the history. It was ascertained that when a child of three years of age, she had suffered from Eczema. It had severe itching, and a sticky exudation, so sticky that in the morning the bed sheet used to be found stuck to the body. She had a swarthy complexion, and was rather fat. Had constipation too. There was no difficulty in selecting Graphites and I gave her a dose in the C. M. potency and instructed the husband to report after a fortnight, or earlier, if there was any change. There was no change after a fortnight, but after 18 or 19 days it was reported that the patient was having a burning discharge. It was not in the patient's history, as given to me, that the husband had Gonorrhœa and that the wife had acquired it from him. However, I hastened to see the patient and found she had fever too. On a thorough examination I could understand that the discharge was Gonorrhœal, but as I had not the impertinence to say so openly, I enquired, "What could be the cause of such a discharge?" The husband frankly admitted to me that he had Gonorrhœa and said all about it. I at once understood the action of my medicine and with a view to allowing it to act on, I gave a few doses of Sac. Lac. and returned. After another 8 or 10 days, that is to say, after about a month of the use of the medicine, (Graphites C. M.) the Gonorrhœal discharge disappeared, and with it the leucorrhœa but instead all the body was covered with Eczema. The patient was feeling better now, and my instruction for not using any ointment was not disregarded. Gradually, the exudation of the Eczema ceased and it assumed a dry character

I had then to give Sepia 50 M, and last of all Sulphur, but I need not enter into details, as my object in citing this case is simply to show the reverse way of appearance of old symptoms and their gradual disappearance and cure. This case clearly shows the immediately preceding symptom "Gonorrhœa" came after the use of the medicine, and how that disappeared gradually, and how after that reappeared the old Eczema in all its old character, and how this Eczema also disappeared, and how with the disappearance of the Eczema, disappeared the habit of wetting the bed. This case clearly shows that a Homœopathic medicine in high potency correctly prescribed on the Law of Similars, brings back the old symptoms (that had not been cured but suppressed by unscientific treatment) in the reverse order of their coming—the itching eruption, which is the manifestation of Psora coming last of all. Does not this prove that Psora is the cause of all the so called diseases, or better still, that Psora is the only chronic disease?

Though in the above case Gonorrhœa was also latent in the system, yet Gonorrhœa too had to reappear and disappear on the action of the potentised medicine. This small case furnishes an unmistakable evidence of the fact that it is Psora only that is all and that the so called diseases are only out-bursts of Psora.

I have given above some broad facts of reason and evidence to show that Psora is the sole cause of all the various diseases and I invite you to confirm your conviction by an analysis of the cases of cure in your own practice.

It must have been clear to you by now, what chronic disease is, its cause and nature, and before I take up considering the mode of curing it, it is necessary to tell you something about suppression. The primary manifestation of Psora is on the skin, in the shape of itching eruptions, and to consider them as independent of the whole man, to consider them as mere local affections without having any relation to the rest of the economy is a mistake. To treat

them with such an idea, and that in a manner that is short of permanent annihilation, is no cure, but suppression and giving the said manifestations an inward turn. What, besides application of ointment, give such an inward turn to the disease force, and how these can be avoided and remedied, are things that we must know, before we actually take up the treatment of chronic diseases.

(b) It often happens that a man is apparently quite healthy, but he falls ill suddenly on slight irregularity, say, for a little walk in the sun, a brief swimming, a little wetting in the rain or for some such slight cause. And he thinks that this slight illness is nothing, that it will pass off in a few days. But unfortunately he does not recover so quickly as expected. Beginning with that slight illness, he goes on having various illnesses one after another. His friends also think that there was not much of an irregularity in a simple wetting in the rains, and the man is suffering from one disease after another like this. In fact it appears to all that he suffers much in proportion to the apparent cause. A very close examination would reveal in such cases that the slight irregularity in question was not really the cause of his disease. The real cause was all hidden in him, and the slight irregularity only brought it to light. The cause was sleeping in him—as it were—and the irregularity, the apparent cause, has only waked it up. It cannot be that the slight irregularity was the cause of such a mighty effect, and the hidden cause must be Psora and nothing else.

(c) A close examination of a number of chronic cases will show that they have an inherent characteristic of continuing, of not leaving the patient, and of appearing repeatedly in various forms, and that regularity of habit, diet and change of climate etc., have no effect on this characteristic. This seems to suggest that the various forms of diseases which appear are not really the main thing, or, remedying them would have remedied the chronic disease, which, however, is never the case. It seems as if behind all

these diseases (manifestations), there is something that is producing them, and it is this something that is required to be removed, in order to effect a permanent annihilation of the chronic disease. It is like a show of the magic lantern. If you want to stop the show of the pictures you have to remove the operator, because, if the operator is there to do his work, the pictures will continue to appear on the screen.

(d) Even ordinary people—not to speak of trained doctors—have found certain patients suffering from various diseases to be relieved of their suffering suddenly enough, when some eruptions on the skin have appeared. This also shows that the eruptions latent in the system were the main thing in their cases.

(to be continued).

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