

PROVING OF ECHINACEA ANGUSIFOLIA

By C. M. BOGER, M.D., Parkersburg, W. Va.

I. Dec. 14, 1896. Tasting the tincture produced slight numbness of tongue, worse towards tip, later it was followed by a sense of roughness on same spot. After two hours upper incisive teeth became sensitive to draft of air, even exhaling through the mouth is almost unbearable. Sudden sensation of weakness in the knees in the evening while walking. Total extinction of sexual desire.

II Dec. 20, 1896. Mr. N, of a nervous, bilious temperament, took one drop mother tincture every two hours. After six hours sleepless, restless, with sense of weakness in stomach. Restless all night, awaking more tired than when he went to bed. Awakes with weakness in the stomach. Sense of weakness in knees in evening while lying down. Crabbed after twelve hours, don't want anyone to speak to him.

III. Dec. 20, 1896. Mr. J. took five drop doses every two hours. Dec. 21. Could not rest or sleep last night, awoke every two hours. Dreams tiresome, wearisome. Can't accomplish anything.

Sense of great weakness in stomach and abdomen.
Face looks bluish.

Dec. 22. Fifteen drops every two hours.

Can't fall asleep; thinks of sleep but can't sleep.

Can't sleep after once awaking.

No appetite, but eats a good meal; feels bad and weak all over afterwards.

Sense of pressure in stomach, worse at 11 A. M.

Mouth dry and sticky.

Attacks of weakness with vertigo.

Awakes at 12 and can't sleep until 4, is then restless during sleep, with many dreams of quarrels, or of being frightened, or of difficult work.

Dec. 24. Took five drops every two hours.

Distressing, quarreling dreams, during which he gets the worst of an encounter.

Numbness of the hands on awaking, first one, then the other. Dec. 30. Took five drops every two hours.

Weakness in stomach after breakfast.

Tickling in the larynx causes dry, hacking cough, worse in the evening.

Jan. 3, 1897. Took sac. lac. Numbness of hands on waking. Still many dreams of fights ending fatally.

Jan. 5. Took 12x every two hours. Canker sores at juncture of lower gum and mucous membrane.

Dreams are better.

Jan. 14. Took thirty drops mother tincture every two hours. After each dose constant need to swallow.

After four days steady, sharp pain, deep in brain; forehead feels hot and burns.

Eyes congested and red.

Burning in urethra during urination.

Jan. 18. Total loss of appetite.

Can't sleep; can't sleep after once waking.

Anterior urethra burns during urination.

Corona glandis very tender.

No headache.

No ambition; general dullness.

Clammy taste in mouth on waking.

Old haemorrhoids are again hurting and itching, waking him at night.
Hair of mustache has stopped falling out.
Sexual desire increased, formerly was almost absent, chronic condition.
Jan. 18. Took forty drops every three hours.
Dry, hacking cough provoked by inspiration, with soreness in lower part of middle third of chest.
Eruclatations burning the oesophagus, sometimes sour.
Feels nervous all over.
Urethra still burns some.
Jan. 22. Still taking forty drops every three hours.
Half asleep and dreaming continually.
Jan. 30. Same dose.
Is hacking dark, heavy mucus from throat in morning.
This morning at end of stool passed a teaspoonful of bright red blood without tenesmus.
Feb. 11. Uneasy nervousness.
Has vomited up a sour, excoriating, glairy fluid, mixed with blood, looking like coffee grounds.
Nausea is worse after vomiting, strained very hard while vomiting.
Dreams of difficulties, disappointments, wearisome, not able to accomplish journeys; worse after midnight.
Had an emission a few nights ago, a thing that had not happened for years.
Restless, strained feeling in hands on awaking.

DISCUSSION

Dr. H. C. Allen: Where did you get the tincture?

Dr. Boger: It is one of J. U. Lloyd's, Cincinnati, an Eclectic.

Dr. Allen: Do you know how it was made?

Dr. Boger: No, it is the tincture used by Eclectics.

Dr. Allen: What is the common name for the plant?

Dr. Boger: I don't know that. I tried to look it up and could find almost nothing about it.

Dr. Allen: We have no provings of it, consequently, in making our first provings we ought to be a little careful where we get the tinctures and how the tinctures are made.

Dr. Boger: The drug has been very much praised by Eclectics.

Dr. Allen: Did you make the potencies?

Dr. Boger: Yes, I ran them up to the twelfth.

Dr. Allen: What were the first marked symptoms in each proving?

Dr. Boger: The weakness in the knees, especially in the evening.

Dr. Allen: Was that the first symptom?

Dr. Boger: Yes, that was the first symptom that came on. I took some of it myself, and that was the first symptom that came.

Dr. Allen: Did you record your symptoms?

Dr. Boger: Yes.

Dr. Dillingham: In how many patients did you find the weakness of the knees on waking in the morning?

Dr. Boger: Only one.

Dr. Allen: Was that your first proving?

Dr. Boger: Yes.

Dr. Allen: Was that obliteration of the sexual desire a chronic trouble, or did that exist before?

Dr. Boger: He had had that more or less before, but it became totally extinct. He is about 24 years old.

Dr. Allen: It returned completely under the 30 and 40 drop doses?

Dr. Boger: Yes.

Dr. Allen: That is practically a teaspoonful every three hours?

Dr. Boger: Not quite a teaspoonful; two thirds of a teaspoonful of the tincture.

Dr. Allen: How long did he take the tincture before the symptoms of vomiting coffee grounds came on?

Dr. Boger: I have the exact record here. He had been taking the tincture from Dec. 14, 1896, to Feb. u, 1897, a period of seven weeks.

Dr. Allen: Was he a sickly man for weeks or months before he began this proving?

Dr. Boger: No; a very robust man, not very fleshy, but with a very active arterial system.

Dr. Allen: What was his business?

Dr. Boger: A fisherman.

Dr. Allen: Did he voluntarily undertake the proving?

Dr. Boger. No, he did not; it is an involuntary proving. I was treating him for an imaginary trouble. There was nothing the matter with the man.

Dr. Boger: Here is a proving of Polymnia uvedalia on the same man, which began April 16.

Dr. Allen: Had he completely recovered from the Echinacea?

Dr. Boger: Yes, there did not seem to be any symptoms.