Pichian Sankaran Stories of Conversion to Homoeopathy

Reading excerpt

Stories of Conversion to Homoeopathy
of Pichian Sankaran
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THE TALE OF A CONVERT*

by Dr. Julius Aegidi, M.D.

In the autumn of 1830 I was thrown from a vehicle, severely injured my shoulder and also took a violent cold. By local bloodletting and the usual antiphlogistic treatment the most distressing of my symptoms were removed in the course of a few days; still a paralytic heaviness of the arm remained, and in the course of a few weeks very severe periodical pains set in; and gradually I lost the use of the arm; every pressure upon the diseased part caused the most insupportable pains; the suffering limb commenced to waste away, while the shoulder and elbow joints began to swell.

After exhausting my own medical knowledge, I placed my-self under the care of several of my most worthy colleagues; but after the lapse of a year the above mentioned symptoms still continued, with even more than their former severity; all motion of the arm was suspended; the elbow stood about four inches off from the body, and every attempt to approximate it to the side occasioned the most intense pains. In utter despair of my relief from the use of allopathic remedies I desisted from all medical treatment, and my condition grew worse from day to day.

At length I concluded to consult Hahnemann. I wrote him a statement of my case and begged for advice and assistance. He answered me, among other remarks: "Your disease is of far older date than- you have any idea of. You must have had the itch at some time, or some other eruptive disease which was improperly cured."

No words can express my astonishment at the positiveness with which, Hahnemann asserted that I must have been afflicted with some eruptive disease which had been suppressed, but not cured. Five years before, I had pricked my finger with a lancet with which I had just opened an abscess in the person of a

patient who was at the time affected with the itch. I thought nothing about it at the time, but on the following day a small pustule formed on the finger and occasioned an intense itching and burning. I applied caustic to it, and a small sore remained for several days, to which I applied an ointment. Soon after it had entirely healed, I was attacked with acute rheumatism on my left shoulder, that lasted for several weeks, but I did not dream that there was any connection between it and my former affection of the hand.

Convinced that Hahnemann had formed a correct opinion of my case, I commenced taking the powders he had sent me. During the course of the first week several new symptoms arose, but no amelioration of my suffering took place. Soon after, however, a slight improvement commenced and gradually progressed until towards the end of the fifth week, when I could lift my arm with comparative ease, and could bend and extend my elbow; the swelling of the joint had d'sappeared entirely and all pain had left me; and from that time to the present (eight years) I have never had the slightest return of my former complaint.

After so brilliant a confirmation in my own person of the value of Homoeopathy, I applied myself with zeal to the study and practice of it, and have been abundantly rewarded in frequently witnessing the most rapid and permanent cures of the most dangerous and deep-rooted diseases.

[—]Condensed from Dr. Aeigdi's article in a Leipzig homoeopathic journal, quoted in the *The Life and Letters of Dr. Samuel Hahnemann* by T. L. Bradford, M.D.



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