A CASE OF NEURALGIA OF BRACHIAL PLEXUS AS FIRST SECONDARY SYMPTOM OF SYPHILIS.

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In April, 1902, I was consulted by a well nourished young man who complained of pain in right shoulder radiating down the arm.

The pain set in the week before and had been gradually getting worse and was so severe at night as to prevent sleep. There was no history of injury. Examination of chest and urine was negative. There was no wasting of muscles, no restriction of movement, no definite points of tenderness. Temperature, normal.

I tried phenacetin and salicylates without giving any relief and had to resort to morphia hypodermically. A series of small blisters along the course of the various nerves gave but temporary relief.

I sent the patient to Dr. Weaver to have him try the effect of static electricity. This, also, gave no permanent relief. Several weeks afterwards, Dr. Weaver wrote to me that he had found a copper coloured rash on chest and back and a hard chancre on penis. The patient was then placed on specific treatment, and within a week all pain had disappeared and there has been no return.

[G. Gordon Campbell, of Montreal, reports a somewhat similar case—"Severe Facial Neuralgia as First Secondary Symptom of Syphilis," Montreal Medical Journal, Aug., 1901.]