

ances. The mucous membrane of the fauces is unusually red and injected; a viscid, tenacious, or cream coloured mucus hangs about the back of the pharynx and soft palate, exciting vomiting on rising in the morning; a sensation of rawness or heat is sometimes felt along the œsophagus, particularly on drinking warm or spirituous fluids; the stomach is irritable and vomiting is easily excited. A viscid and tenacious mucus collects during the night on the membrane of the bronchial tubes, causing more or less shortness of breath or oppression of the chest on waking in the morning, and exciting cough, which is frequently attended by vomiting. The skin has frequently a dirty yellow tint, although sometimes a remarkable clearness and freshness of colour is preserved, especially in fair persons. The conjunctivæ are often thick, injected, and dirty yellow.

Different individuals suffer from a variety of nervous symptoms—from giddiness; a sensation of being lifted from the ground, or “taken off their legs,” as I have heard them express the feeling; an alarming sensation of choking or suffocation on dropping off to sleep at nights; occasional numbness or “pins and needles” in the fingers and toes; or acute pains beneath the nails; a dull, aching pain across the loins, or an acute pain on bending or on rising from the sitting posture; a darting or lacerating pain in the lower extremities during the act of progression.

The muscular system is more or less affected by weakness, by spasm, or by the withdrawal of voluntary control. The hands and arms, and sometimes the whole body, are tremulous, with frequent fibrillar quivering of the muscles, particularly about the face. Voluntary movements are improperly or awkwardly performed. Even when there is no tremor of the hands, delicate operations—such as writing—are clumsily performed, and are irksome or distressing. The walk is more or less unsteady; and I have often noticed that in progression each foot is alternately carried inwards, and almost in front of the other. The articulation is sometimes peculiar and indistinct from partial loss of control over the muscles of the lips. The individual loses his accustomed energy, is careless of his own interest, and feels himself unfit for the performance of his ordinary duties, until he has resorted to his usual potation, or obtained from the druggist a “pick-me-up.” For this distressing state I have found nothing so useful as full doses of nitro-hydrochloric acid, with a little of Battley’s sedative solution; two or three doses, even, sometimes act like a charm. After relieving the bowels by saline aperients, I combine the acid with quinine, perchloride of iron, or small doses