Fifty cases of Sciatica treated by Acupuncture.
with analysis and remarks.

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Birmingham.
Fifty cases of Sciatica treated by Acupuncture.

These are consecutive cases and are all primary in character. By primary I mean, that no condition could be found that might give rise to Sciatica as a secondary disease. Cases due to disease of the hip joint, one of the most frequent causes of secondary Sciatica, have been carefully excluded.

On analysis I find that 92 per cent occurred in males, and only 8 per cent in females. With regard to the distribution 60 per cent occurred on the right side, 22 per cent on the left side, and 18 per cent on both sides.

Dr. Gowers, in his work on Diseases of the Nervous System, 1892, Vol. 1, pp. 107, says: “Double true Sciatica is so rare that bilateral pain should always suggest disease of the nerve roots.”

The above statistics are at variance with this statement.

In quite a number of cases I have seen...
symptoms on both sides similar to those found in sciatic neuritis of one side. Of the nine cases of double sciatica six were cured and three much improved having only occasional pain. Of the seven written to at periods ranging from three to five months after discharge six replied and of this number three had had no return of the symptoms whatever, in one the pain returned four months after his discharge, and in two the pain returned soon after leaving the hospital. I see no way of accounting for the greater prevalence of the affection on the right side unless it is due to the right leg being subjected to more strain than the left, and so renders the sciatic nerve and sheath more liable to inflammation. I find that the percentage distribution of the fifty cases, as to the age when the affection first commenced is as follows: Ten to twenty, 2 per cent; twenty to thirty, 18 per cent; thirty to forty, 24 per cent; forty to fifty, 26 per cent; fifty to sixty, 20 per cent; sixty to
The results of the cases when discharged from the Hospital are as follows:

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symptoms returned soon after leaving the Hospital, 21 per cent.
These results, I consider, very satisfactory considering the chronic nature of the majority of the cases.
All of them were acupunctured, some of them on several occasions, and all but one, used the Buxton Thermal water which has a great and deserved reputation in the treatment of Gouty and Rheumatic conditions.
Acupuncture, I consider very valuable; in all the cases it relieved the pain, giving sleep, and in a great number permanent relief after a single application of from eight to fifteen needles, as the notes of the cases show.
Dr. Gowers states in his book on Diseases of the Nervous System (1892) Vol. IV, pp. 168:
"Temple acupuncture along the course of the nerve has been recommended; it gives temporary relief as does any superficial pain, but the cases are very few in which it has a permanent effect."

I presume he must allude to cutaneous acupuncture and not to acupuncture of the nerve itself, which is the form I have used.

The patient can always tell when the nerve has been pierced, this causing pain to shoot down the leg.

The needles I think ought not to be left in situ more than a few seconds, as it causes extreme pain, in some cases when they are taken out, and the results are no better than when they are left in a shorter period.

A single spear pointed needle two and a half inches long, fixed in a bone handle is all that is required for the operation, as one can regulate the depth of tissue to be pierced according to situation and development.

If the nerve is not pierced on the first introduction, it can be partially withdrawn and entered again at a different angle, and in this way the nerve may be pierced in several different places with but one cutaneous puncture.
The number of times the nerve is punctured within reasonable limits is immaterial, but I think that four times to an inch of nerve is quite sufficient in most cases. The main branches of the sciatic nerve may be punctured where they are accessible. The external popliteal nerve, at the inner side of the biceps tendon, can easily be punctured as it can be readily felt: this position is a frequent seat of pain. The musculo-cutaneous nerve is naturally more difficult to puncture, but even if the nerve is only occasionally pierced, the needle passing in close proximity to it must exert counter-irritation. Pain situated on the outer side of the leg is frequently referred pain, but in some cases it is due, I think, to a neuritis of the nerve, and acupuncture of it should be resorted to where the symptoms are very persistent.

Out of five hundred cases I have treated I have never known any complication follow the employment of acupuncture. The cases without exception, I consider, were due to an inflammation of the nerve sheath.
affecting primarily the adventitial tissue and in the more severe cases, spreading to the interstitial tissue, a "perineuritis" and an "interstitial neuritis" respectively. This condition would account for the various symptoms, sensory and trophic.

There are a few opportunities of post mortem examination in cases of sciatica, that this condition is difficult to prove, and unfortunately I have had no pathological experience, to support the theory, but Dr. Gowers in his book on Diseases of the Nervous System Vol. 1 pp. 103 (1892), "In most cases that have been examined, distinct evidence of neuritis has been found, chiefly involving the nerve sheath, but extending in some cases to the interstitial tissue. In recent cases there is swelling and redness of the sheath, sometimes there are small hemorrhages, and, in severe cases, similar but slighter alterations in the interstitial tissue with secondary damage to the fibro-fibres. The signs of inflammation are most severe at the sciatic notch, and opposite the middle of the thigh. They may be limited to one or both of these places, or they may be greatest there..."
and extend, in slighter degree, over a considerable tract of none."

Considering this to be the true pathology of sciatica, the treatment by acupuncture is a most rational one. The earlier the cases are subjected to this treatment, the more marked is the benefit received.

If the nerve is pierced in a number of places over the inflamed area, where there is congestion of the vessels, and consequently exudation of serum, and small celled infiltration, it must give an outlet, however small, to more or less of the exudation. Also dilated blood vessels must be pierced, it thus relieves tension in the ways, thus favours the subsidence of the inflammation, and the process of absorption.

Rest is necessarily a most essential condition as it in other diseases of an inflammatory nature. The Rheumatic and Gouty diatheses should be treated with appropriate remedies as they are often a predisposing cause of sciatica. True neuralgia of the sciatic nerve I hold to be very rare; in fact I do not remember whilst I have been here, but as we only get severe and chronic cases of disease
This is perhaps not surprising.
In all these cases there has been more or less marked disturbance of the function of the nerve sensory or motor.
The more chronic the case is, the more difficult is it to obtain a permanent good result, as organisation of the effused material must take place, and always be a source of irritation, and a nidus for subsequent relapses.
In every case of sciatica whether it began acutely or subacutely, were to be treated by absolute rest, obtained if necessary by the application of Lister's splint, and a water pillow placed under the buttocks, together with acupuncture, with 8 to 12 needles repeated at intervals of two days, for 8 days at the same time any Rheumatic or Gouty pain be combated by suitable remedies.
I do not think that we should have the numbers of chronic relapsing cases, that one so often see.
Case I.

T.C was 21 Nursery maid. Admitted July 3rd 1891. Had suffered from Sciatica for 8 years commencing with a severe attack which confined her to bed for three weeks. She has never been entirely free from pain since, occasionally suffering from exacerbations.

Had a slight attack of Rheumatic fever last March. Father suffers from Lumbago.

On admission pains in most of joints of a neuralgic character, but without any swelling. Pain in left hip extending down the course of Sciatic nerve to knee.

Baths temperature 98° ordered each other day. After a fortnight’s baths pain in the joints almost entirely gone.

August 26th. Pains in limbs quite gone but she still has pain in her left buttock.

August 27th. Confined to bed on account of pain in her left buttock extending down leg. The slightest movement of her causing great pain. Pain on pressure over Sciatic notch. Acupuncture with 15 needles down the course of Sciatic nerve - from Sciatic notch to the middle of the thigh.
needles being left in a few seconds. Pain much
relieved immediately.
July 28th Entirely free from pain
Sept. 4th Discharged having had no return of
the pain
March 26th 1892 Saw her again and she in-
forms me that she has been entirely free
from pain since except for one day at
Christmas, but which occasioned her only
slight discomfort.

Case II
M. M. aged 58 Carpenter Admitted Sept. 7th 1891.
For the last four years has suffered from a dull
pain, more acute at times, in both buttocks and
thighs. For the last year the pain has presented
him from working, as movement rendered it more
severe. No history of Rheumatism or Gout either in
his near relatives or himself.
On admission walks lame. Pain on pressure
over both teakie notches. Cannot flex his
thighs or bend his back without pain in
the region of his buttocks.
Is frequently kept awake at night.
Walks with the help of crutches
Sept 18th 94 698° presented together with the
spray douche 10 minutes every other day
Sept 14th As he felt no better, I acupunctured
him, using 9 needles over sciatic notch
on both sides
Sept 15th Pain less severe. Has been able to sleep
all night
Sept 21st Can walk without his crutches
Pain entirely gone. Now uses a couple of
sticks.
Sept 23rd Pain returned in his buttocks
Acupunctured again over both sciatic
notches, + down the middle of the back
of thigh as far as the middle third,
using 12 needles.
Sept 25th Can walk without his sticks, has
slept well + has had no pain since
Oct 12th Has had no pain.
Oct 17th Discharged with no pain -
able to walk better than he has been
able to do - as he says - for two years
March 26th 95. He until February, symptoms returned
Case III 18th 39. Senator Admitted Sep 9th 91
Had suffered from pains in his joints five
years ago, but not so severe as to confine him
to bed. These disappeared in a few weeks, but left a dull pain in his left buttock, which has been more or less severe since. Six weeks ago it confined him to bed for a month as the pains were greatly aggravated on movement.

On admission complains of pain on the outer side of his left thigh extending to his ankle, and of pins and needles and numbness of the leg occasionally. Sleeps badly. No wasting of muscles. No tender spots. Pains on bending back.

Baths at 69°–91° with 7 min clouche to hip prescribed.

Sept. 24th Feeling no better, he was acupunctured with eight needles over left sciatic notch, leaving them in a few seconds.

Sept. 26th Much improved. Pain gone from thigh, but still remains in the outer side of the leg. Acupunctured eight times in the line of the musculo-cutaneous nerve, twice on the inner side of the tibias tendon, where the external popliteal nerve can be readily felt, and
punctured.
Sept. 30 Discharged much improved.
There is still a little pain on outside of leg.
March 24th Had a letter from him saying that he had been at work ever since leaving here & that he could run a mile, but there was still a little pain from the knee to the ankle occasionally.

Case IV
7. Elias Carter Admitted Sept. 17th
For twelve months has had, dull heavy pains in right buttock extending down the back of the thigh, but was able to continue work, until last April when he had to keep his bed, the pains being so severe as to prevent him from walking. Had had “pins and needles” in his leg which frequently becomes numb. Has been blistered and leeched, but with only slight relief. Has prevented him from working.
On admission movements of hip joint
normal. Pains from buttock to middle of back of thigh. Tender spot over Sciatic notch only able to walk 50 yds without resting. Bath 692° 7 min douche to buttock each other day, prescribed. Sept 20th As he was no better, I acupunctured him over Sciatic notch using seven needles & leaving them in 30 seconds. Sept 21st Able to stoop without pain, was unable to do this before. Oct 1st A little pain now behind knee. Acupunctured again over Sciatic notch with 7 needles. Oct 4th Pain gone from knee, but a little in his groin. Oct 17 Discharged. A little pain in his groin but can walk well. Has been able to sleep soundly at night - before he was acupunctured the pain frequently kept him awake.

March 24th 92 Had a letter from him saying, he had kept much better, but that he still had a little pain in his leg at times.
Case V


Has suffered more or less since November last, when he had a severe attack of pain in the bottom of the back & right buttock, which confined him to bed for a fortnight. Pain has never left him entirely since. Attributes the commencement of the attack to getting wet through Father suffered from a form of Chronic Rheumatism.

On admission he complains of a dull pain at the bottom of his back, extending down to the middle of right thigh. Keeps him awake at night. Walks a little lame. No tender spots.

Baths 1/2 0.98 each other day. Presented Sept 24th. As he could not sleep was acupunctured over Sciatic notch + along course of Sciatic Nerve to middle of thigh. Fifteen needles used. Sept 25th Pains almost gone.
Oct 3rd Can walk + sleep well. No pain Discharged.
Case VI

J. P., aged 47. Miner. Admitted Sept. 23rd 1891.
Has suffered from pains in his left thigh since February last, when he had an attack of Influenza.
Has not worked since.

On admission he complains of pain from left buttock to ankle, so that he cannot walk any distance, as the pain becomes worse & obliges him to rest.

Pain increased by stooping. Muscles wasted.

Baths 3/4 95°, + 12 minutes spray douche presented.

Sept. 26th: As the pain was only a little improved, he was acupunctured with 12 needles over sciatic notch & down the middle of back of thigh.

Sept. 30th: Pains much less severe. Can walk better.

Oct. 3rd: Pain has disappeared from buttock but there is still a good deal in the inner half of thigh and ankle.

Acupunctured over the middle third of back of thigh with 10 needles, along the course of sciatic nerve.
Oct. 10th: Has had no pain since the 3rd.
Oct. 13th: Discharged free from pain. Able to walk without difficulty.

March 24th. 92: Wrote to say that he had been entirely free from pain since leaving the hospital.

Case VII
Has had severe pains in his right buttock & thigh since Christmas last, where he was in bed 14 days, with pains in his back & thigh. Since then the pains the person have been more or less severe in his right buttock & back of thigh.

On admission he complains of pain from the buttock to the toes, on the right side. No painful spots.
Feels the pain more severely on walking. Is frequently kept awake at night by it. Sensation of pins and needles occasionally.

Baths 1/2 l. 100 every other day prescribed.

Sept. 28th. Acupuncture as he was not improving much. 10 needles being used from the buttock to the middle of
Thigh
Sept. 29th Has slept better. Pains much less severe
March 24th 92 Wrote to say that he was much better, & that he only felt the pains at all severely with change of weather

Case VIII
Mrs. S. 37, Housewife. Admitted Sept 6th
Suffered from pains extending from right buttock to ankle since last March. Has been getting worse, causing her to walk lame.
Father suffers from Rheumatism.
On admission she complains of pain from buttock to toes, on the right side. She cannot walk far. Has a decided limp. No painful spots. Muscles wasted.
The right leg appears longer than the left, but on measurement, legs found to be of equal length, the pelvis
being tilted downwards on the affected side. Bath 34° 98′ together with the spray douche to left buttock for 15 minutes, each other day, prescribed.

Sept. 24th: Acupunctured over the sciatic notch with 15 needles.

Sept. 25th: Pain less severe. Can walk much better.


March 26th 1892. Wrote to say, that she has been free from pain until January 30th 1892, when it started again, and it is now as bad as ever.

Case IX

J. T. aged 47 Labourer. Admitted Sept. 3rd 1891.

Had Pneumonic fever when ten years old. Sciatica on both sides 10 years ago, lasting several months, but has been free since until April last, when the pains returned into right buttock and leg.
On admission complains of pain from buttock to ankle on right side.

Pins + needles sensation occasionally
Leg frequently becomes numb.
No wasting of muscles of thigh. No tender
spots. Cannot walk far. Sleeps badly.
Bath 12 8 94; together with 12 minims claret,
each other day, prescribed.
Sept. 26th Acupuncture, over sciatic notch
+ down the middle of back of thigh, with
12 needles.
Sept. 28th Pains less severe, has slept well.
Sept. 30th Acupuncture again with 10
needles.
Oct. 1st Pains nearly gone. Can walk
better.
Oct. 10th Pains have entirely left him.
Can walk any distance without pain.
Discharged.
D.D. alias J.E. Gardener Admitted Sept. 21st, 1899

Has suffered from pain in right buttock to toes for three months, but has never had to keep his bed with it.

On admission pain from right buttock to toes. Slight wasting of muscles of thigh.

Pain aggravated by flexing thigh & bending back. Sleeps badly.

Bath of 0° 100. Douche buttock 10 minutes. each other day. prescribed.

Acupunctured with 10 needles over sciatic notch & down the thigh.

Sept. 22nd Less pain. Slept better.

Sept. 28th Acupunctured again with ten needles.

Oct. 6th Discharged Able to walk better.

Still a little pain in thigh.

March 26th Wrote to say that pain started as bad as ever soon after leaving the hospital. Has been unable to work since.

Case XI

H.J. alias 60 Malster Admitted Sept. 21st, 1899.

Pains in right shoulder & in right buttock and thigh, since March last, when he
had an attack of Influenza
On admission limited movement of right shoulder, which is very painful on my attempting passive motion. No roupitation Pain in right buttock. No painful spot. Unable to walk far, as the pain is aggravated by doing so. Keeps him awake at night. Movements of hip joint normal.
Baths 94.097 together with douche to affected parts, each other day prescribed. Salicylate of Soda, gr. tv. Twice daily.
Sept. 27th Pain in arm better. Less pain on movement. Pain in buttock no better.
Sept. 28th Acupuncture with twelve needles over sciatic notch.
March 26th 1893. Wrote to say that the pain in hip returned in December again, but has been able to get about.

Case xii
J. Ht. 39 Labourer Admitted Sept. 28th.
Pain in right buttock & thigh 18 months
ago, which lasted for some time. 
Pain returned six weeks ago, causing him to walk lame, & keeping him awake at night. Has been unable to rest. 
On admission, complains of pain from right buttock to knee. Keeps him awake at night. Pain on flexing thigh and on bending back. Muscles of buttock raised. 
Sept. 28th Acupuncture over sciatic notch & down the thigh with twelve needles. 
Sept. 29th Slept better. Less pain. 
Oct. 5th Sleeps well now. No pains. Can walk well. 
Oct. 17 Discharged. A slight stiffness on rising in the morning, but which disappears after being up a few minutes. Pains have entirely gone. 
March 29th Writes to say that he has worked ever since leaving the hospital & has had no return of the symptoms whatever.

Case X111

Pains in right buttock & thigh four months
ago. Has prevented him from working for the last month. Cannot walk far. Pains now in bed. Leg frequently becomes numb.
Mother had Rheumatoid Arthritis
On admission pain from right buttock to calf. Muscles not wasted. Very tender spot over sciatic notch. Cannot flex thigh or bend back without great pain.
Movements of hip joint normal.
Walks lame, with the help of a stick.
Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> Baths 3/4 0/100 for 10 minutes each other day, prescribed.
Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> Acupuncture with 12 needles over sciatic notch & thigh.
Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> Slept much better. Much less pain
Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> Pains quite gone. Walks well and without stick.
Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> Discharged. Has had no return of the pain. A little stiffness in the morning after getting out of bed, but it very soon disappears.
March 26<sup>th</sup>, 1893. Wrote saying pain returned, a fortnight after getting home, and has been very severe since.
Case XIV
J.C. a man 37 Painter Admitted Sept. 15th 91
Last Easter pains in right buttock got well in a few weeks.
Pains in both buttocks and thighs since camping out, four weeks ago.
No history of Rheumatic fever.
On admission pain in both buttocks and down the thighs. Muscles not wasted.
Keeps him awake at night. Cannot walk far without pain. No tender spots. No "pins and needles sensation" but occasional numbness.
Presystolic mitral murmur.
Bath 1/2 6 98° 7 minute douche, each other day, prescribed.
Sept 27th Pains rather worse.
Sept 29th As he felt no better, he was acupunctured over each sciatic & thigh with 15 needles.
Oct 1st Pain entirely gone.
Oct 6th Discharged. No pain. Can walk as well as ever.
March 28th 1893 Wrote to say that he has had no return of symptoms, that he has been at work ever since.
Case XV

W. S. aged 43. Minor. Admitted Sept. 23rd 1891.

Pain in left buttock and thigh last February, disappeared in a few weeks, but returned last March. Has kept him away from work since.

On admission complains of pain from his buttock to his toes on right side.

Can walk fairly well. Muscles wasted.

Very little pain when resting, but when he gets up feels very stiff. Sleeps badly.

Pain worse in hot weather.

Bath 34.0°F together with 10 minutes douche prescribed.

Sept. 26th Feels a little better.

Sept. 29th Acupunctured over sciatic notch down to the middle of the thigh with 14 needles.

Sept. 30th Pains much less slept well.

Oct. 2nd Very little pain, but is slightly stiff.

Oct. 7th Pain felt only occasionally now.

Oct. 8th Acupunctured again with ten needles.

Oct. 13th Has had no pain since the 8th.

Discharged.
Case XVI

W.B. aged 63, Labourer. Admitted Sept. 25th 1891. Has had pain in back, and on the outer side of the right leg, for the last twelve months. Has prevented him from working for the last five months.

Sciatica on the right side, five years ago. On admission complains of pain at the bottom of his back, right buttock, and over the inner part of outer side of right leg, a little to the inner side of fibula. Walks a little lame. Leg occasionally numb.

Bath 112 & 97°, together with 7 minutes douche, each other day, prescribed Sept. 29th. As he felt no better, was acupuncture over right sciatic notch, with 7 needles, and also over the musculo-cutaneous nerve in leg, with 10 needles.

The bottom of back "wheelled." This consists in wearing a cylinder, covered with needles, projecting about an eighth of an inch, up and down the affected part.

Oct. 2 Pains in back quite gone. Pain in buttock has gone, but still pain in leg.
Oct 3rd Acupunctured with six needles over muscle cutaneous nerve.
Oct 5th Discharged. No pain in back but felt occasionally over fletida.
March 25th 1892. Writes to say the pain has returned in his back, but that he has only a very slight pain in his leg at times.

Case XVII
J. T. aged 20 Collier Admitted Sept 28th 1892
Pains in both buttocks and thighs for the last six months. Has prevented him from working for a few days, occasionally.
He refers the origin of the pain to having a tub in the mine.
On admission complains of pain in both buttocks and down the thighs. Occasionally "pins & needles" sensation in legs. Sometimes legs become numbn.
Can only walk a short distance without resting.
No painful spots.
Bath 3/4 o 98 together with 10 minutes douche, each other day, presented.
Acupunctured with 10 needles over each sciatic notch
Oct. 14th No pain in right buttock, but still some in the left one.  
Oct. 3rd Acupuncture with ten needles over each sciatic notch of thigh, as the pain had returned in the right buttock again slightly.  
Oct. 5th Pains entirely gone.  
Oct. 20th Discharged having had no return of pain.

Case XVIII

J.S. was 46 Gardener Admitted Sept. 29th, 1891  
Pain in left buttock to calf for 14 weeks.  
Has been unable to follow his employment.  
Has improved slightly.  
On admission complains of pain from buttock to calf on left side.  
Muscles slightly wasted. Tender spot over the sciatic notch. Can walk fairly well.  
Bath 92.095°, together with 10 minutes douche, each other day prescribed.  
Acupuncture ten times over sciatic notch and a short distance down the thigh.  
Oct. 1st Very little pain now.
Oct. 7th. No pain at all now.
Oct. 13th. Discharged, having had no return of the pain.
March 23rd. 1892. Writes to say that he has been at work ever since leaving the Hospital & that he has had no return of the symptoms whatever.

Case XIX
Acute Rheumatism 13 weeks ago, which left him with pains in both buttocks and thighs.
Father suffered from Rheumatism.
On admission complains of pain in both buttocks and thighs. Great difficulty in walking, on account of pain.
Keeps him awake at night.
Bath 3½ ° 98°, together with ten minutes each other day prescribed.
Oct. 2nd. About the same. Acupuncture with twelve needles over each sciatic notch and thigh.
Oct. 5th. Has slept well since the 2nd.
Pain entirely gone. Can walk without pain now.

Oct. 21st Discharged having had no return of pain. Can walk any distance without pain or discomfort.

March 24th, 1892. Writes to say that he has had no return of the symptoms whatever.

Case XX

J. B. aged 51 Army pensioner Admit: Sept 30th 1891.

He had pain in left buttock and thigh since June last.

Has kept him awake at night.

Had Lumbargia five years ago.

On admission complains of pain from left buttocks to toes, and occasional numbness.

Pain increased on walking.

Keeps him awake at night frequently.

Tender spot over Sciatic notch.

Oct. 1st Bath 3/4 69° together with spray douche for ten minutes, each other day, prescribed.
Acupunctured with 15 needles, over sciatic notch and down thigh.
Oct. 3rd Pains only occasionally in buttock now.
Oct. 11th Pains quite gone.
March 25th Writes to say he has had no pain since leaving the hospital.
Has had no return of symptoms whatever.

Case XXI
R.G. age 52 Carpenter Admitted Sept. 23rd 91
Has had pain from left buttock to toes, more or less severely, since July.
On admission complains of pain from left buttock to ankle. Tender spot over sciatic notch. Walks with a limp. Sleeps very badly.
Bath 94.8°, together with spray douche, for 10 minutes, each other day, prescribed.
Oct. 3rd Feels a little better.
Oct. 6th Acupunctured with ten needles, over sciatic notch and thigh.
Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> Pain gone from buttock, but remains in his leg.
Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> As there is still pain in the thigh, was acupuncture, with 10 needles over sciatic notch.
Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> No pain now.
Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> Discharged. No pain. Sleeps very well.

March 29<sup>th</sup> 1892 Writes to say, that he had a return of the symptoms, soon after leaving the Hospital, it has never been quite free from pain since, occasionally having exacerbations.

Case XXII
Mr. O. aged 33. Collier. Admitted Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> 1891
Had pain in right buttock, 12 months ago. which disappeared in a few weeks but returned four months since.
Has prevented him from working. Has improved a little.
On admission complains of pain in right buttock and on the outer side of his leg. Prevents him from walking far.
Keeps him awake at night. Pain in buttock, on bending back.
Bath 34° 69° together with spray douche for 10 minutes, prescribed.
Acupunctured over sciatic notch, and down the thigh with 10 needles.
Oct. 8th Pain has disappeared from the buttock but remains on outer side of leg.
Acupunctured with 12 needles over the line of the muscle-cutaneous nerve.
Oct. 10th A little pain in the foot now, none in the leg.
Oct. 17th Acupunctured again with ten needles over muscle-cutaneous nerve.
Oct. 19th There is still a little pain in the foot.
Oct. 27th Discharged. Can walk & sleep well. There is still a little pain in foot but nowhere else.

March 26th 1899. Writes to say that he has been able to follow his employment since leaving the hospital, but that he occasionally feels a little pain in his buttock.
Case XXIII


Pain in both buttocks and thighs came on at the end of August last, when he got up after being in bed with a severe attack of Rheumatic fever. Has been getting worse since.

On admission complains of pain in both buttocks and thighs. Walks with great difficulty and pain with the help of crutches. Keeps him awake at night. Very tender over sciatic notches. Cannot bend back without great pain.

Looks very pale and veins muscles wasted. Has a systolic sophsystolic mitral murmur.

Bath 34.6 78°, together with spray douche for ten minutes, each other day prescribed.

Acupuncture with 15 needles over each sciatic notch and thigh.

Feels greatly relieved.

Oct. 7th. Slept soundly last night. Pain has entirely gone. Walks without his crutches.

Oct. 17th. Discharged. Can walk as well as ever he could. There has not been any return.
of the pain whatever
March 26th 1893 Writes to say, that he has worked ever since returning home, and has had not the slightest pain whatever.

Case XXIV
Mrs. Pates 56 House wife Admitted Sept 21st
Pain in right buttock and thigh five years ago, which lasted a month, Pain returned into right buttock after an attack of Influenza last Whitsuntide. Has improved a little since
Has pains in her joints occasionally.
On admission complains of pain in right buttock and thigh,
Cannot lie on the right side at night, frequently keeps her awake. Slight pain on pressure over sciatic notch. Muscles not wasted. Occasional numbness in leg
Bath 34.09°, together with douche for ten minutes, each other day, and Salicylate of Soda, gr X, twice daily, persisted
Oct. 7th: Pain still severe.
Acupuncture with twelve needles over the right sciatic notch and thigh.

Oct. 9th Pain much less severe. Has slept well.
Oct. 11th Discharged. No pain now.
March 26th 1892 Writes to say that she had a slight return of pain, after leaving the hospital, but it soon disappeared, & she has been entirely free since.

Case XXV


Pain in right buttock and thigh, for 8 months, but has never had to keep his bed with it.

On admission complains of pain from buttock to toes. Keeps turning awake at night.

Pain is aggravated by walking.

No tender spot. Pain on bending back.

Bath 34 & 98° together with 10 minutes douche, each other day presented.
Oct. 10th Pain rather worse.

Acupuncture with 15 needles over sciatic notch and thigh.

Oct. 12th Much better. Sleeps well now.

Oct. 17th Discharged. There is still a little en
buttock, which is very slightly increased by walking.
March 24th, 1892. Wrote to say that he has only slight pain occasionally in his buttock.

Case xxvi
J. S. was 47. Labourer. Admitted Sept. 23rd. 91. Had Sciatica on both sides 10 years ago, but it disappeared in a few weeks. Pain returned on both sides last April, but after a few weeks, disappeared from the right, but remained in the left. Rheumatism when 10 years old. On admission complains of pain in right buttock and leg. Pins and needles sensation occasionally. No tender spots. Pain aggravated by walking. Bath 34 0 98° together with spray douche, for 10 minutes, each other day, prescribed. Sept. 25th. Acupuncture with twelve needles over sciatic notch and thigh. Sept. 26th. Has felt no pain since he was acupuncture. Oct 5th. Has had no return of pain. Can
walk any distance without pain
Oct. 13th Discharged. Has had no return of pain
April 6th 1893 Wries to say that he has had
no return of the symptoms whatever

Case XXVII
W.C. alas 58 Stone mason. Admitted Oct 12th
Sciatica on left side, six years ago lasted a few
weeks. Has had several severe attacks since
the present one has lasted two months.
On admission complains of pain in left
buttock and leg. Keeps him awake at night.
Muscles not wasted. Pain aggravated by walking
Bath 34 090° together with the minutes douche
to left buttock. Each other day, prescribed
Sodium Salicylate of Soda gr x three daily
Oct. 22nd Feels a little better.
Acupuncture 10 times over Sciatic notch + thigh.
Oct. 24th Has slight nell. Can walk with less
pain.
Nov. 5th Acupuncture twice times over
Sciatic notch + thigh.
Nov. 10th Discharged. Still has a little pain
In buttock

March 23rd. Wrote to say he has had no pain to speak about.

Case xxviii

L.G. at 33. Waver. Admitted Oct 11th 1891

Pain in right buttock and thigh for 14 weeks. Has not been improving.
On admission complains of pain from buttock to ankle on right side.
Great pain on walking. Thigh muscles wasted.

Bath 94° 6 98° together with douche for ten minutes to affected part each other day.

Acupuncture, with ten needles, over Sciatic notch and thigh.

Oct 14th. Much better
Oct 19th. Very little pain on walking now.
Oct 22nd. Pain entirely gone

Oct 24th. Discharged. No pain now either on walking or resting.
Case XIX

W. F., aged 58. Labourer. Admitted October 12th, 1892.
Pain in both buttocks and thighs 12 months ago, which has prevented him from working since.
On admission complained of both buttocks and thighs. Keeps him awake at night.
Muscles of thighs slightly wasted.
Pain on bending back.
Tender spot over right sciatic notch.
Bath 34 C. 160° together with douche to buttocks for ten minutes, each other day, and 
Salicylate of Soda grt. twice daily prescribed.
Acupuncture with twelve needles over both sciatic notches and thighs.
Oct. 17th. Can walk much better now.

March 26th, 1893. Writes to say that the pain returned shortly after leaving the Hospital. 
That it is now as bad as ever.
Case XXX
J.C. male 45 Menor Admitted October 13th. 91
Pain in right buttock and thigh last Christmas
prevented him from working for four weeks
and has never left him since, and he has
occasionally had exacerbations
For the last 7 weeks it has kept him away
from work.
Has had Rheumatic fever five times, the
first attack when he was 18 years old +
the last, three years ago.
On admission complains of pain from right
buttock to toes. Keeps him awake at night and
prevents him walking far. Heart is normal.
Bath 92.098° together with the douche over
the buttock for ten minutes, each other day
prescribed.
Acupunctured over Sciatic notch and
down the thigh with twelve needles.
Oct. 13th Has slept better, only slight pain now.
Oct. 20th Pain has returned. Acupunctured with
twelve needles over Sciatic notch.
Oct. 27th Fells considerably better.
Oct. 30th Discharged. There is still some pain
in the buttock, but is much improved.
March 26th 1892. Wrote to say that after being at home for 7 weeks, the pain returned as bad as ever.

Case xxxi

Mr B, aged 68. Labourer. Admitted Nov 24th 1891.
Pain in right foot spreading up the leg to the buttock 22 years ago.
Pain in right buttock began in June last & got so bad that he could not follow his employment.
On admission complains of pain from right buttock to knee. Keeps him awake at night. Cannot lie on right side. Muscles not wasted. Cutaneous sensibility on the front of foot & outer side of leg deficient. Says he has noticed this since the attack he had 22 years ago.

Bath 34° 69° together with douche to last for 10 minutes, each other day, presented Nov 4th. Acupuncture on sciatic notch and thigh twelve times.
Nov 5th. Feels less pain. Slept much better.
Nov 13th. Still a slight pain in thigh.
Acupunctured twelve times over the right sciatic notch and thigh.
Nov. 15th  No pain at all now.
Nov. 19th  Discharged. Having had no return of pain.
March 28th 1892  Wishes to say, that he has been quite free from pain since.

Case xxxii

W.S. ahs 32 Collier Admitted November 24th 93
Has had pain in left buttock for last seven weeks. Has been prevented from working for the last five weeks by it.
Mother suffers from Rheumatism.
On admission complains of pain from left buttock to knee. Occasionally keeps him awake at night. Pain aggravated on walking.
Both 94 & 98. Together with 30 minutes douche, each other day, prescribed.
Acupunctured with 12 needles over the sciatic notch and thigh
Nov. 6th  Much better.
Nov. 11th  Pain has quite gone.
Nov. 18th  Discharged. No pain now.
March 26th: Writes to say that he had a slight return of pain at the end of January last, but not so severe as to prevent him from working.

*Case XXXIII*

J. T., aged 68. Labourer. Admitted November 14th, 91. Sciatica 30 years ago which lasted for several months. Returned a year ago, and has gradually got worse, preventing him from working for the last two months.

On admission complains of pain in right buttock. Pain increased by bending back. Occasionally "pins and needles" sensation.

Movements of hip joint normal.

Path 34.8°, together with the douche to affected part for ten minutes each other day prescribed.

Acupunctured, with 14 needles over sciatic notch and thigh.

Nov. 17th: A little improved.

Dec. 1st: As he was very little better, I acupunctured turn over sciatic notch and thigh again.

Dec. 2nd: Much improved.
Dec 30th Discharged. No pain in buttck, but there
is a slight pain on the outer side of the leg.
March 26th 1892. Writes to say, that the pain
returned soon after leaving the Hospital, and
that he, not been able to work.

Case XXXIV

J.J. atlas, Bootmaker. Admitted December 7th 1891
Four years ago, pain from buttck to knee on
each side. Had to keep his bed a month.
Got quite well in 7 weeks. Last August the
pain returned in right buttck and thigh.
has not been improving at all since.
On admission complains of pain from
right buttck to knee. Keeps him awake
at night. Pain greatly apporated on walking
Movements of the hip joint normal.
Both 94.698° together with the douche for ten
minutes, each other day presented.
Dec 11th As he felt very little better, Iacupuncture
him, with 10 needles over sciatic notch of
thigh.
Dec 14th Has slept well. Pain much less severe.
Dec 17th Pain very slight now.
Dec. 26th Discharged. There is still a slight pain in his buttock, but he can walk well.

Case XXXV


Three months ago, pain commenced in right buttock. This has gradually got worse, extending down the thigh.

Father has Rheumatism

Pain in right buttock & thigh. Worse at night. Keeps him awake. Pins & needles sensation in foot, which frequently goes to sleep.

Walks with difficulty with the help of two sticks. Body inclined towards affected side.

Bath 34.698° together with the douche on the affected part for 12 minutes, each other day, prescribed.

Acupuncture with 12 needles over Sciatic notch and thigh.

Dec. 19th Sleeps much better. Pain is less severe.

Dec. 22nd Acupuncture with 12 needles over the Sciatic notch and thigh.

Jan 1st. Acupunctured with 15 needles over sciatic notch and thigh, as the pain still continues, although less severe.
Jan 3rd. Can walk without his sticks.
Jan 12th. Acupunctured with 12 needles over sciatic notch and thigh.
Jan 26th. Discharged. Had no return of pain. Able to walk well.

March 28th 1893. Writes to say that he has had no return of the symptoms whatever.

Case XXXVI

W.S. Clothmaker, aged 33. Admitted Dec 16th.

Pain came on gradually last Whitsunweek in left buttock & thigh after getting wet through.

On admission complains of pain on left buttock & thigh. Walks very lame.

No tender spots. Sleeps badly.

Pain aggravated on bending back.

Bath 3 4 6 9 8 together with 10 minutes douche.
to affected part, each other day, prescribed.
Acupuncture with 12 needles over sciatic
notch and thigh.
Dec. 18th Walks much better with only a
slight limp. Pain much less. Has slept
well.
Dec. 26th Acupuncture with 12 needles,
as there is still a slight pain in buttock.
Dec. 28th Can walk without limping limp-
ing at all.
Jan. 1st:93 There is still a slight pain in
buttock.
March 26th 1893 Writes to say that the
pain entirely left him, soon after leaving
the Hospital, so that he has had no return
of the symptoms whatever.

Case XXXVII
J.J. 13 atas 25 Warehouseman Admitted Dec.24
Has suffered from pain in right buttock &
thigh since October last.
Has frequently had severe attacks of
neuralgia.
On admission complains of pain from
right buttock to knee
Prevents him from walking far.
Painful spot over sciatic notch.
Slight wasting of the muscles of the thigh.
Bath 34° 69° together with douche to the
affected part for 10 minutes each other
day, prescribed.
Jan. 1st. 92 As he is not improved acu-
punctured with 12 needles.
Jan. 4th. Pain not nearly so severe.
Jan. 10th Has continued a great deal better.
Acupunctured with 12 needles over
Sciatic notch and thigh.
Jan. 12th. Very little pain now.
Jan. 17th Can walk very well. No pain in
buttock. Discharged.
March 23rd 1892. His brother writes to
say that JF 13 died on March 11th from
Pneumonia fever, but that he had had
no return of the sciatica.

Case XXXVIII
W. H. et as 58 Labourer Admitted Dec 28th 92
Had pains in both buttocks and thighs 3
years ago. Has had several attacks since.
Has had present attack for several months
and has prevented him working.
On admission complains of pain in
both buttocks and thighs.
"Pins & needles" sensations in feet at times.
Pain on walking htmls badly.
Bath 3½ g in together with 10 minutes
douche to affected parts each other day,
prescribed.
Jan. 1st 1892 Accupuncture over each
Sciatic notch and thigh with 15
needles.
Jan. 4th Pain much less severe. Slept better.
Jan. 6th Still improving.
Jan. 13th Can walk much better now.
Jan. 19th Discharged. Only a slight pain in
buttocks now.
Tel. 23rd Writes to say, that he had a severe
attack of Sciatica, causing him to help
his bed for three weeks soon after
getting home, & that he still suffers
occasionally with pain.
Case xxxix

J.B. aged 38 Labourer. Admitted December 28th. Had sciatica four years ago in right leg, and has had it occasionally since, but the present attack has been very severe, it has already lasted 3 months.

On admission complains of pain in right buttock and thigh.

Tender spot over sciatic notch.

Walks lame. Pies and numbness sensation occasionally.

Rect. 34 89°, together with 10 minutes douche each other day, prescribed.

Jan. 1st 1899 Acupuncture 15 times, over sciatic notch and thigh.

Jan. 8th: Less pain. Can walk better.

Jan. 10th. Pain has entirely gone from lower buttock and thigh.


Can walk without pain, and without limping.

March 24th 1899. Writes to say that he has had no return of the symptoms whatever, but that both his toes have become painful and swollen.
Case XL

W.C. aged 23 Coal miner Admitted February 23rd 92
Pain in both buttocks and thighs, after getting
net through 3 years ago. Was in bed a week.
Has had several attacks since, the present one
has already lasted 7 weeks.
On admission complains of pain in both
buttocks and thighs. Pins and needles sensation
occasionally in his legs. Pain aggravated by
walking. No painful spots.
 Breast 34º098º together with the douche to
affected parts for ten minutes, each other
day, prescribed.
Feb. 26th Acupuncture with 10 needles over each
Sciatic notch and thigh.
Feb. 27th Much improved.
March 2nd No pain now.
March 14th Discharged. Only occasionally
a slight pain in his right buttock.

Case XII

Lily H. aged 27 Thread weaver Admitted March 8th 92
Four months ago pain in left buttock which
has spread down the back of her thigh.
Has been getting worse.
Father has had Sciatica.
On admission complains of pain from left buttock to knee. Muscles of buttock slightly flattened.
Keeps her awake at night.
A very tender spot over Sciatic notch.
Pain aggravated by bending back.
Temperature 98°. Bath with douchet to affected side, each other day, prescribed.
March 10th. Acupunctured with 15 needles over Sciatic notch and thigh.
March 11th. Slept well. No pain now.
March 15th. A slight pain occasionally in buttock. Acupunctured with 12 needles over Sciatic notch and thigh.
March 18th. Has had no pain whatever since the 15th.
March 24th. Discharged. Has had no return of the pain whatever.

Case XLII
P. H. at 50. Tile filler. Admitted March 9th 1892.
Six months ago pain in both buttocks and thighs.
The symptoms in the left side disappeared in a fortnight, but the pain in the other side got worse until Christmas. He has been a little better since, but is still unable to work. On admission complains of pain from buttock to foot, but which is most severe from buttock to knee. "Pins and needles" sensation occasionally keeps him awake at night at times. Pain on pressure over sciatic notch.

Walks with a limp.

Bath 34° 098 together with spray douche for ten minutes each other day, presented.

March 16th Acupuncture with 15 needles over sciatic notch and thigh.

March 17th Walks much better. He says that he has not been able to walk so well for four months. Slight much better. Pain not nearly so severe.

Acupuncture with 12 needles over sciatic notch and thigh.

March 16th There is still a feeling of tightness in the thigh, hardly amounting to pain.

Acupuncture with 10 needles, over sciatic notch and thigh.

March 23rd An occasional numbness in
Acupuncture over muscular cutaneous nerve with 10 needles.

March 25th. There is a slight pain in his buttock now. Acupuncture with twelve needles over sciatic notch and thigh.

March 30th. Feels no pain now, or any other symptom whatever. Discharged.

Case XLIII


Pain in left buttock and thigh 8 months ago has been getting worse.

Has had Rheumatic fever twice, 12 and 18 months ago.


Bath 3/4 89° together with 10 minutes douche, each other day, prescribed.

March 10th. Acupuncture with 15 needles over sciatic notch and thigh.
March 11th. Pain less severe.
Acupunctured with 12 needles over sacroiliac notch and thigh.

March 16th. Can walk without increasing the pain. Acupunctured with twelve needles over sciatic notch and thigh.

March 19th. Pain has been less severe.
Acupunctured with 15 needles over sciatic notch and thigh.

March 23rd. Pain on outside of thigh.
Subcutaneous injection of morphia into region of sciatic nerve, a quarter of a grain.

March 24th. Relieved the pain for a few hours, but it then returned again.

March 25th. As the pain is only relieved by acupuncture for a few days, and never entirely disappears, I thought I would try electrolysis. Passing an electrolysis needle, insulated almost to the point, into the sciatic nerve, evidenced by the pain shooting down the leg at the fold of the buttock. Connecting the needle with the positive pole of a galvanic battery, and placing the negative electrode over the sacrum, I passed a real current for ten
March 27th. Has felt less pain since the 25th.
Continuous current applied again for five minutes.
March 28th. Discharged. Still has pain, but not so severe.

Case XLIV

B. F. 55 Labourer. Admitted March 16th 1892.

After recovering from influenza last September
his right shoulder and buttock became painful.
He could not move his shoulder, so this condition has lasted since.

On admission complains of pain in right
buttock and thigh. Pins and needles sensation
occasionally. Pain aggravated by walking.

Keeps turn awake at night.

The right shoulder is painful on passive movement.
Movements at hip joint normal.

Path 94°.69° together with demote to affected
parts. Each other day, preserved.

Acupuncture over sciatic notch and thigh
with indoe needles.
March 12th. No pain now at all.
March 26th. Has had no return of pain in his
buttock. Can move his right shoulder without pain and as freely as the other.
March 31st. Discharged. No return of the symptoms whatever.

Case XLV

J.B aged 60 Labourer    Admitted March 12th 1892
Pain in both buttocks and thighs two years ago which returned last Christmas.
Has prevented him from working.
Has not been getting better.
On admission complains of pain from buttock to knee on each side. Painful spot over each sciatic notch. Occasionally pins and needles sensation around his ankles.
Keeps him awake at night.
Bath 34° 0.98° together with douche to buttocks for ten minutes each other day, prescribed.
Acupuncture over each sciatic notch and thigh with 15 needles.
March 14th. Helps better. Less pain.
Acupuncture with 12 needles over sciatic notch and thigh on each side.
March 17th. No pain at all now except
behind the line, where there is a painful spot.
Acupunctured over external femoral nerve with
six needles.
March 26th. Pain has disappeared
April 2nd. Discharged. Has had no return of the
symptoms.

Case XLVI
Pain from left buttock to ankle for the last 9
weeks, which has gradually become more severe.
Has had pain in shoulder and arm for several
months.
On admission complains of pain from buttock
to ankle. Occasionally keeps him awake at
night. Pain on pressure over sacro-iliac notch.
Right shoulder arthrotomy. Thigh muscles wasted.
Movements at hip joint normal.
Bath 34° 69° together with douche for ten
minutes, each other day prescribed.
Acupunctured with 12 needles over sacro-
iliac notch and thigh.
March 17th. Pain almost disappeared from leg.
March 18th. Pain has entirely disappeared from
buttock and leg. Shoulder still painful.
March 26th. No return of symptoms. Very little pain in shoulder now. Discharged.

Case XLVII

Ten years ago, Sciatica on right side, in 6 weeks Pain came on gradually again four weeks before Christmas. It became so severe that he had to keep his bed with it for several weeks, after being up a week, he had a relapse. Had to return to bed. He has been able to walk with sticks for a week now.

On admission complains of pain from right buttock to knee. No tender spots.

Walks lame and with the help of sticks.

Movements of hip joint normal. Thigh muscles wasted. Both 94. 0.98° together with cloths for ten minutes each other day. prescribed.

Acupuncture with 15 needles over sciatic notch and thigh.

March 26th. Can walk without his sticks. Does not limp. Very little pain now.

April 2nd. No pain now.
April 8th. Discharged. No return of symptoms.

Case XLVIII

D.J. aged 41. Labourer. Admitted March 16th 1892.

Nine years ago, had sciatica on left side.

In bed five weeks with a similar attack four years ago.

Eighteen weeks ago, pain from right buttock to toes. In bed five weeks. Has not been improving much since.

Mother suffered from Gout.

On admission pain from right buttock to toes. Walks a little lame. No painful spot. Muscles not wasted. His leg always feels cold.

Movement at hip joint normal.

Bath 34.8.98° taken with douche to affected part, each other day, prescribed.

Acupunctured with 15 needles over sciatic notch and thigh.

March 12th. Much less pain. The sensation of coldness in his leg has disappeared.

March 14th. No pain now. Can walk well.

March 18th. Occasionally has had a slight pain in buttock. Acupunctured with 12 needles over
Sciatic notch and thigh.
March 24th Discharged. No return of any symptom whatever, since the 18th.

Case XLIX
A. B. et al. 56 Labourer. Admitted March 11th 1892. In bed four weeks, 3 years ago, with pain in right buttock and thigh. Had a similar attack five years ago.
Last September pain returned. Was confined to bed for 12 weeks. Has been improving very little since getting up.
On admission complains of pain from right buttock to knee. Frequently kept him awake at night. Pain on pressure over sciatic notch and on back of knee, internal to insertion of teeps. Walks very lame and with great difficulty and pain, with the help of two sticks.
Body 34 0 98°. together with douche to affected parts, for 10 minutes, each other day prescribed. Acupuncture over sciatic notch and thigh with 10 needles, and over the external popliteal nerve at knee with 5 needles.
He can walk better & with less pain in-
mediately after being acupunctured.
March 15th Walks with less pain and difficulty.
Acupunctured again in the same places as on previous occasion.
March 18th Walks without his sticks, without pain, and without limping.
March 23rd No pain at all now. Feels a little stiff.
March 26th Discharged. No return of symptoms whatever.

Case 5.
J.W etas 61 Miner Admitted March 11 1893.
Pain from right buttock to toes for last three months
has kept him from work for the last month.
On admission complains of pain in buttock & over outer side of leg. Occasionally keeps him awake at night.
Numbness of leg at times
Both 94.98 together with dewche each other day, prescribed
Acupunctured over sciatic notch & in the line of cause of the Musculo cutaneous nerve.
March 13th Only a slight pain in buttock now.
Acupunctured over sciatic with 8 needles.
March 17th Pain entirely disappeared.
March 28th Discharged. No return of symptoms.