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THE

SPECIAL THERAPEUTICS

OF

THE NEW REMEDIES.

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MATERIA MEDICA

AND

SPECIAL THERAPEUTICS

OF THE

NEW REMEDIES.

BY EDWIN M. HALE, M. D.,

PROFESSOR OF MATERIA MEDICA AND THERAPEUTICS OF THE NEW REMEDIES IN HAHNEMANN MEDICAL COLLEGE, CHICAGO: AUTHOR OF "LECTURES ON DISEASES OF THE HEART," "CHARACTERISTICS OF NEW REMEDIES," ETC.

FOURTH EDITION—REVISED AND ENLARGED.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

SPECIAL THERAPEUTICS,

WITH ILLUSTRATIVE CLINICAL CASES.

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TO

Dr. Richard Hughes,

OF ENGLAND,

AUTHOR OF THE MANUALS OF PHARMACODYNAMICS AND THERAPEUTICS,

This Volume

IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED BY

THE AUTHOR.

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* * "Touching the open questions of medical opinion and practice—while each of us proclaims the opinions he has espoused, and zealously puts them in practice, let us cultivate the catholic and noble spirit of Chillingworth: 'I will take no man's liberty of judgment from him, nor shall any man take mine from me, and what measure I mete out to others, I expect from them again.'"—CARROLL DUNHAM: *Address before the American Institute of Homœopathy*, 1870.

"Some people suppose that a physician, professing belief in the homœopathic law, is obliged to limit his practice strictly to the application of that law. He is not to administer a purgative, or to give an opiate, or to prescribe Quinine, or to recommend a mineral water, under any circumstances, without in some way incurring the suspicion of sailing under false colors, of having deserted his creed and betrayed his principles. To those who can not rise above the mere partisan spirit of cliques and schools, this may seem to be a righteous judgment. The man, however, who is loyal only to nature and to truth, regards such restrictions as sheer impertinence, and claims every thing which *cures*, be the process explainable or not, as inalienably his own. He is astonished at the blindness and bigotry of the old school, who permit the grandest treasures of the curative art to lie unrecognized before them. He sets them a nobler example. He cultivates assiduously his own special field of science, but if he finds any residuum of truth or usefulness in allopathy, or any other system, he asks no man's permission to use it; but acknowledging its source, appropriates it by divine right as the legitimate property of every healer of the sick."—WM. H. HOLCOMBE: *Address before the Hahnemann Medical Society of Cincinnati*, 1875.

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PREFACE.

This volume contains my own personal experience in the therapeutical use of the New Remedies, together with the clinical experience of physicians belonging to the homœopathic and other schools of medicine. With some remedies this experience extends over a period of more than twenty years; with others a briefer time; a few of the medicines I have not used. In quoting the clinical experience of others I have tried to give all the authorities as far as attainable. I have not intended to show any preferences, for I believe in tolerating the largest liberty of opinion and practice.

When the First Volume was in course of preparation, a few of my colleagues suggested that I should pursue the plan adopted in the first two editions, namely: giving the day-books of the provers, and the authority for each symptom. After due consideration and consultation it was decided that such a plan was not necessary or desirable. The scope and purpose of the volume did not require it, for it was not intended as a *general*, but a *special* Symptomatology. In this volume, in my mention of each remedy, I have generally given its pathogenetic history, names of provers, etc. Moreover, Allen's Encyclopædia of Materia Medica, now in course of publication, renders the citing of every authority altogether superfluous. Those who have any desire to ascertain the paternity, or investigate the original sources of my pathogenetic-characteristic symptoms, are respectfully referred to the above mentioned work, wherein they are generally given with much accuracy. The few instances where I have appended the names of physicians to symptoms in Vol. I were inadvertencies; for it was not my intention to give any authority, except for some peculiar curative symptom, or indication, or for some very recent proving. I trust this explanation will serve as sufficient apology for any apparent omission or neglect in acknowledging my indebtedness to the many authorities from whom I have drawn.

In this volume I have tried to explain the Law of Dose, based on the primary and secondary action of drugs, and have given some illustrations which appear to prove its truth. I expect it will meet with that persistent opposition and severe criticism, which greets every discovery or new principle; but my convictions are strong that when accepted and adopted it will prove of incalculable value in the advancement of our school of practice, and to the Art of Healing.

EDWIN M. HALE.

CHICAGO, July, 1875.

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HOW TO USE THESE VOLUMES.

It will be seen by the reader that these volumes complement each other. The student or practitioner should have them both before him, and in the study of any particular medicine or disease, constant reference from the Symptomatology of a remedy, to its Special Therapeutics, will be necessary. The copious Therapeutical Index to this volume, it is to be hoped, will prove a valuable aid.

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THERAPEUTICS

OF THE

NEW REMEDIES.

ABIES CANADENSIS.

The use of the Hemlock Spruce for *dyspepsia* is empirical, and originated in domestic practice. A tincture of the buds made by maceration in whisky is said to have cured the following symptoms:

A light-headed feeling, attended with a gnawing, hungry, faint feeling at the epigastrium, craving hunger, which if gratified was followed by distension of the stomach and hard beating of the heart.

The condition represented by the above symptoms resembles that observed in *catarrh of the stomach*. Drs. Gatchell and Beckwith claim to have cured many cases having the above symptoms, with the tincture. A tincture of the gum of the Abies Nigra has caused and cured somewhat similar symptoms: (see Allen's "Encyclopedia of Mat. Med." Vol. I.)

ACALYPHA INDICA.

Ainslie in his Mat. Med. Indica says the Indian (Tamool) name for this plant is *Koopamanie*, and observes that the *Hakeems* (native physicians) prescribe it in consumption.

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Dr. Tonnere, of Calcutta, claims to have cured some pulmonary symptoms, viz.:

Dry cough, followed by spitting of blood. He, as well as Drs. Thomas and Holcombe, asserts that it will arrest *hæmoptysis* after all other remedies fail. It is indicated in expectoration of pure blood in the morning, and dark lumps of clotted blood in the evening. It cures this kind of hæmorrhage, but not when caused by tuberculosis of the lungs.

ÆSCULUS HIPPOCASTANUM.

This is a veritable polycrest, having a wide range of action, but like some other polycrests, it has a central point of action from which radiate a series of reflex symptoms. This central point of action is the *liver and the portal system*, and nine out of every ten of its symptoms are due to this action. I have found it analagous in its effects to Aloes, Collinsonia, Nux vomica, Sulphur and Podophyllum. It is not as poisonous as the Buckeye, its indigenous relative, for the nut is used in Europe to fatten animals, and they are often eaten with impunity by children; the meat of the seeds is sweet when boiled, but the rind is bitter. I think the tincture should be prepared from equal parts of the nut-meat, rind of the nut, and the bark of the tree or its root. In this way we shall be sure to get all its active medicinal principles.

In my practice I have been most successful with it in the following disorders:

Congestion of the liver, when accompanied by *piles*. It is indicated by the symptoms—aching, pinching pains in the right hypochondrium, aggravated by walking. The pain extends up between the shoulders.

Constipation, when there is present a hard, knotty, dry condition of the stools, which are *white*. (If the stools are black or dark, or brown, knotty and hard, I prefer Nux vomica.)

Hæmorrhoids, if the following symptoms are present, are promptly removed by Æsculus. (It will not prove a suc-

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cessful routine remedy, but must be closely affiliated.) The tumors are protruding, or internal, are usually purple, hard, and very sore (not *raw* as in Aloes, but a *bruised feeling*), with aching, burning, *rarely bleeding*. The rectal symptoms are characteristic, and consist of very disagreeable sensations of dryness, soreness, constriction, fullness, and a feeling as if sticks, splinters, gravel or other foreign, irritating substances had become lodged in the rectum. We find also a feeling of fullness with protrusion, and a desire to strain (tenesmus). A characteristic condition is usually present, which differentiates between this medicine and other pile remedies, namely: the *absence of actual constipation*. In nearly every case the stools are too frequent, and soft, sometimes quite loose, pale or dark, and rarely, if ever, large, dry, or scybalous. In this respect it resembles *Aloes*. I do not agree with Dr. Hughes, when he says, "when the only connected symptoms or appreciable cause is constipation, Æsculus is indicated;" for I believe its action on the portal system is the primary cause of its hæmorrhoidal symptoms, but I *do* agree with him in his belief that "when there is much pain, but little bleeding, Æsculus seems pretty likely to cure."

My experience with Æsculus has been verified by the majority of physicians so that it may claim a high position as a remedy in diseases of the *rectum*. The *pains in the back* which attends its rectal symptoms are quite notable. They are sometimes shooting or cutting, but usually consist of a lameness as if strained, extending to the hips or legs, or an aching and weakness aggravated by walking, stooping, or any movement. Like Rhus, its pain and stiffness often goes off after continued motion.

Dr. Guernsey advises it for a *backache occurring during pregnancy* when the pain is in the sacro-iliac symphysis, and prevents walking, because "that part of her back gives out, compelling her to sit down." I have prescribed it with good results in slight cases of *fissure of the anus*, also in incipient *stricture of the rectum*. In *prolapsus ani* it compares favorably with Nitric acid, Podophyllum, and Mercury, which it

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resembles in its pathological action. Nux and Ignatia cause prolapsus in a different way, namely: as a secondary paralysis of the circular fibers of the intestinal and sphincter muscles. In some rare instances it will be found useful in *headache* when attended by constipation or piles. The pain is mostly confined to the occipital region, and is dull and pressing, or a bruised, stupefying aching with a sensation of heat. It has been recommended in *influenza*, and many of its symptoms bear a strong resemblance to those caused by a cold affecting the nose and throat.

Dr. Buchmann says he cured, with Æsculus, a *chronic cough with emaciation*. The symptoms point to a laryngeal origin of the cough, and it may be found useful in catarrhal laryngitis, and possibly in some cases of cough of hepatic origin.

Dr. Meyhoffer, in his "Chronic Diseases of the Organs of Respiration," says: "Æsculus hippocastanum rendered us last winter great service in a case of pharyngo-laryngitis follicularis with considerable catarrhal inflammation of the lining of the throat and larynx, complicated with piles and the most obstinate costiveness of long standing; it not only restored the muscular contraction of the intestinal tube, but also greatly relieved the laryngeal irritation; cough and expectoration diminished speedily, and the signs of congestion in the affected parts diminished rapidly."

In several cases of *pain about the heart* in hæmorrhoidal subjects, it seemed to be of decided benefit.

Dr. Neidhard says, "In a case of *curvature of the spine* the pains were entirely cured by Æsculus."

Its action on the venous system, and mucous membranes, is undoubted. If it acts on the spinal cord, it is but slightly, and not as intensely as the Buckeye. The lower attenuations have usually been prescribed. The triturations of the nut-meat (albumen) is generally used, but as before stated, I prefer a tincture of the various portions. Since writing the above, I observed a paper on this drug by Dr. Hart, of Wyoming, Ohio, who opposes Dr. Hughes' view of its action, and agrees with my opinion, namely: that the Æsculus h. is primarily homœopathic to portal and intra-abdominal conges-

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tions, and that the constipation is secondary. Dr. Hart claims to have discovered a key-note to the employment of this remedy in a symptom not found in its pathogenesis:

"*Throbbing in the abdominal and pelvic cavities;* especially the latter."

Hence, he says, it is specially indicated in all active intra-abdominal and pelvic congestions. I have prescribed it with invariable success in all cases of congestion and inflammation of the neck of the uterus, attended with the above mentioned symptoms. Nor is it necessary to use the remedy very low. One drop of Æsculus 6x, three or four times a day, has cured, in my hands, the most inveterate cases of inflamed cervix uteri, when not complicated with ulceration; and has greatly relieved, and sometimes cured similar cases attended with retroversion, prolapsus, ulceration, enlargement and induration, when characterized by great tenderness, heat and throbbing, as in the following cases:

Mrs. C., aged 22, a small, delicate blonde, had suffered during the last five years with congestive dysmenorrhœa. Eight months ago she was thrown from a carriage, since which time she has been under both allopathic and homœopathic treatment for retroversion and prolapsus of the uterus. Growing worse under the treatment to which she was subjected at Denver City, she was brought to me for advice with the following result:

Sept. 8. Semi-paralyzed condition of the right lower extremity; muscles sore and contracted; has to be carried, being totally unable to walk; great weakness and emaciation; pulse 110, irregular and very weak; face flushed and eyes sparkling; bowels obstinately constipated; occasional nausea and vomiting; skin hot and dry; patient complains of great weakness and pain in the back, cephalalgia, and constant throbbing behind the pubes. A digital vaginal examination shows retroversion and enlargement of the fundus, with great tenderness, heat and swelling of the cervix uteri, the vessels of which pulsate with great violence.

Ordered the patient to lie constantly on the face and left

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side; to use cold vaginal injections three times a day, and to take *Æsculus* Cx, one globule every two hours, until the throbbing ceases, after which it is to be taken only twice a day.

Sept. 12. Throbbing ceased. Continued treatment.

Oct. 1. Patient greatly improved, and able to walk.

Nov. 1. Patient dismissed cured.

ÆSCULUS GLABRA.

This relative of the horse-chestnut has been neglected. It is doubtless a more powerful medicine than the latter, for the Buckeye cannot be eaten with safety by animals or men. From the meagre provings we have, it would seem to resemble Cocculus and Nux vomica. It has been found curative by Drs. Hill, P. H. Hale, Douglas and myself, in *hæmorrhoids* with the following symptoms:

Very painful external tumors, dark purple, with constipation and vertigo; weakness of the sacrum and lower extremities.

It is said that carrying the nut in the pocket, or wearing it on the body, will cure piles. Many physicians assert this to be a fact. Why not? May not the curative principle be absorbed in sufficient quantity?

I would suggest its use in *cerebro-spinal meningitis*, when we have:

Wry neck, vertigo, vomiting, opisthotonus, tympanites, with stupor or coma.

It has usually been prescribed in the first three triturations of the pulp of the ripe nut.

AILANTUS GLANDULOSA.

A careful study of the pathogenetic and toxical effects of this drug, cannot fail to convince one that it is a powerful blood-poison. When we compare drug-effects with diseases,

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we observe not only a similarity in symptoms, but a marked similarity in pathological effects. For example: the results of poisoning by Arsenic and Veratrum alb. compare closely with the toxic effects of cholera asiatica. The ultimate effects of Ailantus correspond to that condition and type of disease known as *scarlatina maligna*. Belladonna does not correspond to this form of the malady, but to the ordinary scarlatina of Sydenham.

It is in the putrid, malignant and typhoid varieties of scarlet fever that Ailantus is indicated, not only by the symptoms, but the pathological state of the blood and secretions. Like the poison of the above disease, its morbific effects involve the brain and cerebro-spinal centers, and destroy life in the same manner. The *eruption* is peculiar; it is dark, almost livid, irregular, patchy, of a violet hue, even scaly, covering the whole body, or delayed and irregular in its appearance. In some cases there are large maculæ or bullæ filled with dark colored serum. It (the eruption) remains livid — it never takes on the genuine scarlet color. It sometimes takes the form of petechiæ. The *fever* is intense, with pungent heat, a rapid small pulse, hardly to be counted, great thirst, delirium or coma, and heavy, hurried, irregular breathing.

The *head* is burning hot, with great pain, *eyes* sparkling, with delirium, or inflamed (conjunctivitis.) The *nose* discharges a copious, thin sanious fluid, which irritates the skin, (Arum, Nit. ac., Ars.) or blood and pus; the *tongue* is of a livid hue, dry, parched and cracked; the *throat* livid and swollen; *tonsils* studded with numerous, deep, angry-looking ulcerations, exuding a scanty fœtid discharge; the pain when swallowing extends to the *ears*, and the teeth are covered with sordes. The *urine* is scanty, and voided unconsciously.

This is certainly a vivid picture of disease, but the Ailantus has in many instances, in my own practice, appeared to dissipate this malignant condition. Drs. P. P. Wells, Small, Chambers, and others, have testified in its favor. Other physicians, however, have failed to get curative effects.

Besides this disease the Ailantus has proved curative in

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congestion of the brain, purulent ophthalamia, conjunctivitis, ozœna, malignant ulcerated sore throat, tonsillitis with ulceration. and bronchitis, with asthmatic oppression, cough oppressed, deep and painful, with muco-purulent expectoration, free in the morning, sticky and scanty during the day, excessive tenderness all over the lungs; feeling as if the air-cells were stuck together; inability to completely expand the lungs, crepitant rales; *cough* constant, dry, with oppressive, burning and stitching-aching pains in the chest. As these conditions often occur during the progress of measles and small-pox, as well as scarlatina, this remedy will meet all the indications, not only in the latter disease, but all the *eruptive fevers*, when they are attended by the unfavorable symptoms above mentioned. In one case of *cerebro-spinal meningitis* I prescribed it with excellent results. The special symptom, in addition to the general condition, which led me to its selection, was "intolerable pain in the back of the neck, upper part of the back, and the right hip joint." Some of the symptoms indicate that we shall find it useful in *malignant dysentery* and some varieties of *enteritis*.

Dr. Robert, a French surgeon, communicates a paper to the Archives of Naval Medicine, relating to the use, by the Chinese and Japanese physicians, of the bark of the root of Ailantus in *dysentery*. They use an infusion of the fresh bark, allowing the patient to drink it until it causes vomiting and fœcal stools. Dr. Robert tested its value; he used a tincture of the dried roots and bark in small doses, and found it superior to Mercury, Ipecac, or any other drug. He states that the blood began to decrease in a few days, and improvement set in soon, and continued steadily to convalescence. When we remember that this disease was *tropical dysentery*, and that dysentery in that hot climate is a far more serious one than in ours, the value of the Ailantus must have been very decidedly shown or Dr. Robert would not have considered it worthy of mention.

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ALETRIS FARINOSA.

This is a remedy which has considerable reputation among western Homœopathists, but as yet no proving has been made of it. The clinical indications for its use were all obtained originally from eclectic practice.

It has been a favorite remedy with me for many years for the peculiar *anæmic debility* of chlorotic girls and pregnant women. Given in the lower dilutions, alone or alternated with Ferrum, it will soon restore appetite, strength and the waning vitality. If such cases are attended by

Dyspepsia, slow digestion and flatulence, the Aletris is very prominently indicated.

I believe that certain remedies have such a special affinity for the reproductive organs of women, and that the term "uterine tonic" is not inaptly applied. Among the old remedies we have Calcarea and Sepia, which act in such a manner.

Uterine atony, even to the extent of *suspension of the menses* or *sterility*, come under the curative sphere of this medicine. There are no characteristic symptoms yet known which specially indicate this remedy, but the general condition of the patient has been a sure guide to me in its selection. I have used it successfully for *scanty*, *pale menses*, where there was general debility, emaciation and impoverished blood. In the scanty menses of corpulent and plethoric women it is of no value.

Prolaspus uteri, *ante-* or *retroversion*, where the dislocations depend on weakness in general, or of the uterine ligaments, can be cured by the lower dilutions of Aletris.

Habitual abortion, or *sterility*, when caused by uterine irritability and weakness, is a condition for which the Aletris is almost a specific, if it is prescribed properly. It should be given during the few weeks before the expected miscarriage (three or four doses daily), and continued until the dreaded period has passed by several weeks, and its use

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resorted to, afterwards, upon the slightest appearance o: threatening symptoms. It has been asserted on good author· ity, that the fresh root has caused abortion; if so, like Sabina it is homœopathic to that accident. Several physician: have informed me that in cases even where *pains* and a show of blood had appeared, it has succeeded, aided by quiet and the recumbent posture, in warding off a miscarriage which seemed imminent. Dr. Silas Jones, of New York, says it is valuable during the first months of pregnancy, where there is *excessive nausea*, vomiting, faintness, giddiness, and pain in the hypogastrium. The tincture is intensely bitter and nauseous. In general, I prefer the 2x dil., although in some cases I like the action of the 1x dil. best.

ALNUS RUBRA.

Although a notice of this medicine appeared in all three editions of *New Remedies*, we know of no provings or clinical reports. I have had no experience with it, but have observed several cures in cases of obstinate *chronic eruptions* such as *impetigo*, *prurigo*, *herpes*, *etc.*

It is said to be particularly useful in cases where eruptions on the skin alternate with diseased conditions of mucous membranes.

Scrofulous enlargement of the glands, and even hæmaturia, have been, it is said, treated successfully with the Alnus. I am in doubt whether it is an "antipsoric" or not. The same may be said of the

AMPELOPSIS QUINQUEFOLIA,

which is said by Eclectics to affect the skin, mucous membranes and glandular system in nearly the same manner as the Alnus. Its continued use for a long time is said to cure obstinate cases of *dropsy*. Dr. Lee asserts that it is a stimulant to the glands, and it is said to have cured enlarge

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ments of the lymphatics. I have had no personal experience with it, but Dr. P. H. Hale believes that it restored the secretion of milk in a lying-in woman who was very weak, tearful and despondent. He gave it as a *dernier ressort* after Calcarea, Pulsatilla and other remedies had failed to affect the secretion.

AMYL NITRITE.

The Nitrite of Amyl is a singular and unique drug, having very little affinity for, and no close resemblance to, any other agent in our Materia Medica.

Its only similarity to *Glonoine* is in the *arterial relaxation* it causes, which simulates congestion. But the arterial turgescence of Glonoine is active and forcible, and always accompanied by *painful* sensations.

The congestion of Amyl is not due to any forcible rush of blood into the cerebral arteries, but a passive filling up, owing to relaxation of those vessels. *Pain in the head is rarely* present during the effects of Amyl, although it sometimes occurs at the height of its effect. It differs from Belladonna in the *transient* character of the cerebral fullness. Its action is of shorter duration than Glonoine, lasting but a minute or two in most cases. Its rapidity of action is another peculiarity of this drug. In thirty or forty seconds, whether inhaled, subcutaneously injected, or swallowed, its action begins, and shows itself by flushing the face, and starting the perspiration from the head, face and neck. This property makes it more valuable than Ether or Chloroform in cases of severe internal spasm with pain, such as angina pectoris, or in epilepsy and asthmatic sufferings.

The most prominent symptoms induced when it is inhaled by man in moderate quantities (a few drops), are a sense of fullness and distension of the head, amounting at last to severe pain, and accompanied at last by intense flushing of the face, a deep, labored breathing, and an exceedingly rapid, violent action of the heart. The succession of these

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phenomena is so rapid that often they seem to be simultaneous; but it is said that the cardiac disturbance is sometimes very distinctly manifest before the other symptoms.

Dr. H. C. Wood, in his Materia Medica and Toxicology, says of its method of action: "I have found, as the results of numerous experiments made in the ordinary methods, that the diminution of reflex activity and of voluntary motion which undoubtedly occurs in toxæmia from this agent, is chiefly *spinal* in its origin: since, after death, the nerves and muscles preserve, though in an impaired condition, their functional power. In the *motor* centers of the cord, the Nitrite is a direct and powerful depressant, at the same time that it exerts a similar but much less pronounced action on the nerves and muscles, decreasing but not destroying their functional life. The diminution of reflex activity is never preceded by a stage of functional excitement. In some animals convulsions do occur, especially when the drug is administered by inhalation; but they are in all probability cerebral, not *spinal*, and due to the asphyxiating influence of the poison. Over the sensory nerves and centers, Nitrite of Amyl has but little power. They are among the last portions of the body to be affected, sensation being intact until near death, so that the drug is *is in no sense an anæsthetic*. The cause of death appears to be due to the failure of power in the cord, or respiratory centers higher up."

The fact that it is not an anæsthetic does not militate against its power to relieve the pain of angina pectoris and similar painful affections. Angina is now supposed to be due to *cramp*, or a spasmodic contraction of the cardiac muscle. Cramp may cause the most agonizing pain known to man. A remedy that removes the cramp relieves the pain, not by any anæsthetic power, but by relaxing the spasmodically-contracted muscle.

Wood proves quite conclusively that its action on the arterial system is not that of a *motor-stimulant*. Its action is *peripheric*, not centric. In other words, its apparent stimulating action on the heart is *reflex*. It paralyzes the

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arterioles, dilating them to such an extent that the heart gathers up and exerts its force violently for a short time; but if the inhalation be persisted in, its impulse constantly grows weaker, until its power is become extinguished.

After this examination of its physiological and pathological action, the question arises, To what abnormal conditions and symptoms is the Amyl homœopathic? It is *primarily* homœopathic to those cases where there is *dilatation* of the arterioles, and a *redness* and *flushing* of the surface of the body, not due to any primary disturbance of cardiac power. The action of Amyl, according to eminent experimenters, is *peripheric*. It first exercises a paralyzing influence on the coats of the arterioles. This paralyzing influence spreads to the centers, and the heart itself is the last to feel its influence.

This singular and unique quality of Amyl makes it one of the very few remedies which in their action correspond with the *physical effects of the mental emotions*. If you study the effects of excessive joy, you will see a remarkable resemblance to the action of Amyl, namely: a sudden flushing of the face, a distension of the peripheral arteries, a quick, bounding pulse, and an increase in the number and frequency of the heart-beats. But during this period of increased action, there is really a diminution of arterial pressure at the surface of the body. Sometimes after this Amyl-flushing has lasted a few moments, the face changes to paleness and coldness, and a faintness supervenes, and the same occurs after the flushings of joy. Other mental emotions have a similar action. *Joy* is only one example. Amyl is homœopathic to all such symptoms.

It is a singular and suggestive fact, and makes us very hopeful of the final acception of the law of *Similia* by the best men of all schools, that the foremost man in the Allopathic ranks in England, Dr. Sidney Ringer, recommends, from his own actual experience, the Nitrite of Amyl for the very symptoms and conditions which it primarily causes. I quote from his "Therapeutics,"—a splendid work, which should be in the hands of every homœopathic physician. (The *italics* are my own.) He says:

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Dr. Brunton shows that it relaxes the whole arterial system, probably by partially paralyzing the sympathetic ganglia, and motor nerves. This paralyzing effect of the arterial system is well shown by the sphygmographic tracings, the flushing of the face, and the increase in the size of visible arteries like the temporal, which often becomes notably large, sometimes, indeed, being doubled in size, and branches previously invisible become plainly apparent; and by the interesting fact observed by Talfourd Jones, who while cupping a patient over the loins and finding that the blood would not flow, administered Nitrite of Amyl by inhalation, when the cuts immediately began to bleed freely. After an inhalation, the larger arteries are slower in recovering their normal size than the capillaries, a phenomena well observed in the temporal artery, which remains enlarged half a minute or longer after the blush has quite left the face.

Dr. Brunton first employed Nitrite of Amyl in *angina pectoris* with signal success, and found it more effective than any other remedy in this painful and dangerous disease. During an attack, his patient suffered from throbbing of the heart and carotids as high as the ears, with severe præcordial pain extending to the right arm. The usual characteristic "sense of impending death" was absent. The pulse was slightly quickened and the sphygmographic tracing became modified, for as Dr. Brunton states, "as the pain increased the curve became lower, both the ascent and descent more gradual, and dichrotism disappeared. This form of curve clearly indicates that the arterial tension is much increased, and can, I think, be due only to contraction of the small systemic vessels." The increased tension first led Dr. Brunton to employ Nitrite of Amyl. In the case in question he considers that the attack consisted of spasmodic contraction of some, if not all, of the small systemic and pulmonary vessels, which state of arterial tension gave way on inhaling the Nitrite, and the pain then disappeared. On the recurrence of an attack, the patient inhaled the Nitrite of Amyl, and always obtained instantaneous relief.

Dr. Anstie reports a well-marked case of *angina* greatly relieved by this treatment. He says, "the first sniff produced, after an interval of a few seconds, the characteristic flushing of the face, and sense of fullness of the head; the heart gave one strong beat, and then he passed from the state of agony to one of perfect repose and peace, and at his usual bed-time slept naturally. This experience has, I am happy to say, been repeated on several occasions, and with this fortunate result; that so confident now is the patient of being able to cut short the paroxysm that he has discarded all use of ether, and greatly reduced his allowance of stimulants." Dr. Talfourd Jones also finds it very useful in angina. Since the previous edition of this work, Nitrite of Amyl has been largely used in angina, and with considerable success. Indeed, in most cases no other remedy affords so much relief. As might be expected, it is not uniformly successful. Thus, in one case due, as we discovered after death, to aneurism of the heart immediately below the aortic valve, an inhalation always arrested the pain, but it returned after a few seconds or minutes, even if the administration were several times repeated, and was as severe and lasting as when no Amyl was used. In another case, whilst it gave great relief, always arresting the paroxysm, it took ten minutes to effect this, and was in no way superior to a full dose of Ether, which the patient preferred, as the Amyl produced so much giddiness and sensation of fullness in the head. In three other

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cases, however, it proved strikingly successful. In one desperate case, the slightest exertion brought on intense pain; but by the aid of Amyl, the patient could always at once cut short the attack, so that now he can walk several miles, though he is obliged during his journey to employ the Amyl several times. It has appeared to me that by at once checking the paroxysm the attacks come on less frequently and less severely, and after a time a much smaller quantity suffices to control the pain; so that Amyl really contributes to the prolonged relief of these unhappy patients.

Dr. Talfourd Jones found it remarkably successful in very severe attacks of *asthma*, removing the dyspnœa immediately and averting its return. Others have found it very useful in asthma. He found it useful also in a case of cardiac dyspnœa, accompanied by extreme anasarca, due to a dilated and hypertrophied heart.

Dr. Sanderson suggests that it may be a relaxer of spasm generally, and Dr. Anstie has used it with success in cases of *spasm of the stomach*.

Dr. Talfourd Jones advises inhalation of the Nitrite in *syncope*, and thinks it should be of service in the paroxysm of *whooping cough*. It is useful in *neuralgia*, at least in neuralgia affecting the fifth nerve. It often eases the pain at once, and in some cases a single administration has averted further attacks, but so signal a result as this is probably exceptional. Dr. Richardson finds that Nitrite of Amyl arrests in frogs the convulsions due to strychnia, and in this way he has saved their lives; and he advises a trial of the Nitrite, either by inhalation or subcutaneous injection, in *strychnia poisoning* and *tetanus*. In the foregoing diseases it is better to administer this remedy by inhalation, for, according to Brunton, it will not answer with anything like the same certainty when given by the stomach; for in the striking case of angina pectoris just cited, he gave ten minims in brandy by the stomach, with the effect of staying the pain for only a short time, but a single inhalation afforded perfect and permanent relief from the attack. It should be borne in mind that it affects some persons much more than others; one individual being able to inhale five or ten drops from a handkerchief, or to breathe the fumes from the bottle held close to the nose, while another on smelling a whiff from the bottle held at a distance, will become affected with great giddiness, much mental confusion, and general weakness. Jones directs five or ten drops poured on a handkerchief, or the fumes from the bottle held close to the nose, to be inhaled till the pulse quickens, when the inhalation should be discontinued; but this plan is far too potent for some persons, especially feeble and sensitive women, who in the first instance should inhale a much weaker dose. As Jones points out, patients become habituated to it so that after a while it must be inhaled several times before it affords relief. This habituation is well exemplified in the internal administration of the remedy. Jones also finds that by exposure it gets "flat" and loses its efficacy.

Nitrite of Amyl is generally considered a powerful and even dangerous remedy, whose administration must be watched with great care, and only a measured quantity employed. I am sure it is not nearly so dangerous as is generally imagined, though it is true that nervous, sensitive women are far more powerfully affected by it than men. No doubt its administration at first should be conducted by a doctor, in order to ascertain how far the patient is

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susceptible to its influence, and that the patient may learn when he ought to discontinue the inhalation. But after one or two inhalations, patients soon learn how to administer it to themselves. I have now five patients with angina pectoris, who always carry with them a small bottle of this medicine, and on the first warning of an attack they at once begin to sniff at the bottle, whether walking or standing. This they have done for months, and one patient for just a year, using the inhalation many times daily, so that he consumes about two drachms a fortnight with still unfailing relief. Except in relieving the angina, the Amyl seems to produce no other effect on the system.

Dr. Jones recommends a trial of it in *epilepsy*. To an epileptic patient, who, in addition to severe and repeated attacks, suffered from much mental confusion, and was haunted many times a day with an indescribable dread and sensation as of an oncoming fit, although it came on only once or twice a week, the author gave it in three-drop doses thrice daily, and an additional dose on the earliest warnings of a fit. Amyl lessened considerably the frequency of the fits, and entirely removed the harassing sensations. Dr. Crichton Browne has lately published some valuable observations on the use of Nitrite of Amyl in this disease. In two rabbits made artificially epileptic, he prevented the oncoming of the convulsions which otherwise follow the application of the electrodes to the brain, by making them inhale Nitrite of Amyl. By the same means he has likewise arrested epileptic attacks on the occurrence of the aura before the onset of the fit, and has even cut short the fit after its commencement. He has, too, obtained very satisfactory results in that form of epilepsy called status epilepticus, —a condition consisting essentially of a succession of fits, linked together by intervening unconsciousness, the fits recurring with greater frequency till at last no sooner is one fit ended, nay, before it has finished, another fit begins. Fits like these he has arrested, and has rescued several patients out of this desperate plight. Amongst other successful cases, Dr. Weir Mitchell reports one, where the remedy was used immediately the aura was perceived, and other cases where the spasms lasted for hours, one fit following another. These two gentlemen give it by inhalation. Since my last edition, I have given this remedy with considerable success to several epileptic out-patients, in whom the attacks have been very frequent. In some it has appeared to be more useful than full doses (20 to 30 gr.) of Bromide of Potassium thrice daily; in another case, whilst it decidedly lessened the frequency of the attacks, it was less serviceable than Bromide of Potassium. I have given it in two to five minim doses suspended in mucilage, every three hours or three times a day, and have not found these doses produce any unpleasant effects in these epileptics, nay, in some cases they have not even caused flushing, whilst in other cases patients have told me that they flush with each dose, but only whilst swallowing it.

The patient should take the medicine whilst lying down; and as some patients, especially women, are very readily affected by the drug, it is well in the first instance to give it in smaller doses. But until the remedy is pushed to two and in some cases to five minims every three hours, I have failed to obtain conspicuous results. Dr. Crichton Browne maintains that epileptics are more sensitive than others to inhalation of Amyl administered in this way. I imagine that this medicine will be useful only where the attacks are frequent, and that it cannot be given thus, where they occur only at comparatively long intervals, as three weeks or a month.

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Inhalation of Nitrite of Amyl has been recommended in *sick headache*, and one successful case is reported by O. Berger.

The author has used this remedy extensively with considerable success in cases of the following kind: A woman, perhaps from the sudden arrest of menstruation, depraved health, or nervous depression, or, more frequently, at the change of life, suffers from frequent attacks of *flushings* or "heats," starting from various parts, as the face, epigastrium, etc., thence spreading over the greater part of the body. The face, and even the backs of the hands, are often deeply reddened, the veins of the hands in some cases dilating to double the previous size. Sometimes, although the patient feels deeply flushed, the skin remains natural. The sensation of heat may be so urgent that the patient opens her clothes or removes the greater part of the bed-covering, and even throws open the window in the coldest weather. These heats may last a few minutes only, or an hour or more, and may be repeated may times a day. Sometimes they occur chiefly at night, greatly disturbing sleep. They are generally followed by perspiration, often very profuse, at other times the skin remains dry, the attacks are then commonly termed "dry heats," the "heats" are often accompanied by great throbbing throughout the whole body, and are followed by much prostration, the patient feeling scarcely able to rouse herself.

After the heats pass away, the skin becomes cold and clammy, and may turn very pale. The least exertion or excitement may bring on these heats, and such a patient generally complains of cold feet and sometimes of cold hands. The flushings are occasionally peculiarly and abruptly limited, reaching to the thighs, knees or elbows, and while all the parts above these feel burning hot, the parts below feel icy cold; sleep, too, is often much broken, the patient waking with frequent starts, and in the morning feeling unrefreshed. In many cases palpitation or "flutterings at the heart" occur on the slightest excitement, or even without apparent cause.

Nitrite of Amyl prevents or greatly lessens these flushings or "heats," and averts the profuse perspiration, throbbing of vessels and great prostration. Sometimes it warms the feet and hands, and controls the fluttering of the heart, but in most cases it leaves these symptoms unaffected, and for their cure other remedies, as iron, are required. Amyl removes also giddiness, confusion of mind, heaviness in the head, and even headache; it generally produces calm, refreshing sleep.

When the flushings and perspiration are slight, this remedy is scarcely needed; moreover, the perspirations are generally considered vicarious and beneficial at the change of life. These symptoms, in many cases, form only a minor part of the troubles of the patient, who may complain of great sinking at the epigastrium, or severe pains in different parts of the body, and other sufferings incident to this period, over which Nitrite of Amyl has little if any influence. But when flushings, etc., constitute the chief part of the patients' troubles, this medicine is most serviceable.

The Nitrite of Amyl in ten days completely cured the following singular case of a woman who had been horribly tormented, for three years, with attacks, repeated several times daily, of severe burning sensation over the loins, from whence a glow of heat spread over the whole body, followed by perspiration. The burning sensation was so unendurable that she was constrained to open the window at night even in Winter, and sometimes to rush out of doors.

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For the symptoms thus described, the author has generally administered this drug by the stomach, though inhalation answers as well. In respect of dose it must be borne in mind that, like Glonoine (Nitro-glycerine), its effects vary very greatly with different persons. One, two, or even three minims produce in some only flushing of the face and slight giddiness, while with others even a drop will induce various disagreeable symptoms. Thus one woman immediately after a drop dose turned deadly pale, felt very giddy, and then became partially unconscious, remaining so for ten minutes. In another patient the same dose produced a sensation as if "a vapor spread from the throat through her head," and rendered her quite powerless for one or two seconds. A third of a minim dose sometimes excites great nausea or a tickling in the throat; and one delicate woman after one-thirtieth of a drop passed for a few minutes after each dose into a trance-like state, everything to her seeming unreal, and the breathing becoming rather panting. The author began with a minim dose, but was obliged to reduce this quantity, and he ultimately found that, for the most part, those patients can bear one-third of a minim without any disagreeable symptoms, but that a tenth, nay, even a thirtieth of a minim will in some patients produce the desired effect on flushing. It may be dissolved in rectified spirits: two minims to the drachm, and of this three to five drops should be taken on sugar every three hours, with an additional dose as soon as a flush begins. Relief generally ensues immediately, but sometimes not till the medicine has been taken for a week. As the patient grows accustomed to the remedy, the dose must be increased.

Dr. H. L. Waldo, of Troy, N. Y., in a paper on the Nitrite of Amyl, takes a somewhat different view of its action than I have given. I quote his remarks, and also his clinical observations:

Its power over all forms of spasmodic diseases is exerted by virtue of its direct action on the ganglionic centers of the sympathetic system, and not by any stimulating or paralyzing action on the capillaries, or any direct sedative action on muscular tissue, as certain allopathic physicians would have us believe. The vaso-motor nerves, which are a part of the great sympathetic system, supply the muscular coat of the arteries, and thereby regulate the expansion and contraction of these tubes, and so determine the amount of blood that shall pass through them. It is well known that all spasmodic diseases, as asthma, chorea, epilepsy, etc., are due to a deficient innervation, and in turn this deficient innervation is due to a deficient supply of blood to the nerve centers; and this deficient supply is due to an irritation of the cerebral ganglia, which is transmitted by the vaso-motor nerves to the coats of the arteries, causing them to contract. Now, *Nitrite of Amyl* acts directly on the cerebral ganglia of the sympathetic, and produces a commotion in the circulatory system, similar to that which occurs in an epileptic fit. "When it is given rapidly, the lungs and brain are found blanched, and the left side of the heart empty, though the right cavities are gorged with blood. If given slowly, it leaves a congested state of the brain and lungs, and blood is found in both sides of the heart." (*U. S. Dispensatory.*)

We see that its action falls almost entirely on the nerves of the arteries,

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scarcely any at all upon those of the veins; thereby greatly modifying the supply of blood to the brain, but not greatly influencing its return to the heart, and this again is just the state of things found in epilepsy.

In chorea and spasmodic asthma, the spasm is due to the same cause, though it differs in extent. In syncope, too, we find the same condition of the cerebral circulation to which *Nitrite of Amyl* has just been proved to be so peculiarly homœopathic, and in this affection it has been found very useful by allopathic physicians. It is a powerful cardiac stimulant. The excitement which it produces is followed by diminished but not extinguished action of the heart. A reduction of the respiration and circulation so extreme as to resemble trance, may be induced and maintained for hours. Muscular action is at first "wildly excited" and then subdued by its use.

I fully believe that if administered just before an *epileptic fit* is to occur, it will prevent the spasm of vessels, and hence prevent the fit every time; and in several cases that have come to my knowledge, it has thus far proved permanently curative, preventing any recurrence of the fits. In a case of seven years' standing, brought on by masturbation, now under treatment, the patient carries a vial of it in his pocket, and when the aura occurs, takes a few inspirations from it, and thus far has not failed to throw off the fits, a good many of which would certainly have occurred but for this treatment. Two fits have occurred while he was asleep and could not use the remedy. I have used it in several severe cases of *eclampsia or fits* in children, produced by various causes, and with the invariable result of at once breaking the fit. In a case of meningitis caused by a fall, while the child was kept under its influence the fits were prevented or at once broken, but the child died in a few hours from the severity of the disease.

It may be inhaled directly from a small vial, or five or ten drops may be put on a sponge or small cloth, from which it may be inhaled. For children I make the first decimal dilution with alcohol, and put ten or fifteen drops on a handkerchief and hold it near the nose.—*Amer. Jour. Materia Medica.*

Dr. H. C. Wood, in speaking of its use in *Angina pectoris*, says: "There is now abundant evidence of its value in relieving, almost instantly, agony which has resisted all other treatment, whether valvular disease or merely functional disorder exists." He adds, however, that "in cases of advanced fatty degeneration, or of very great dilatation of the heart, I think its use would be attended with danger, owing to its effect upon the heart's muscle."

Here we have the opinion of one who only looks upon its apparent *antipathic action*, and the administration of large quantities by inhalation. But we can view it in another light. It is homœopathic to the very condition of debility alluded to by Wood, and in minute doses it may act promptly as a curative agent.

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It will be remembered that we were warned against using *Chloral* in cases of weakened heart, because in large or toxic doses it paralyzed the heart. But it has been demonstrated many times, by myself and others of our school, that in small doses it actually *strengthens failing cardaic power;* as witness the remarkable case reported by Drs. Swan and Helmuth, and quoted under "Chloral."

Pathogenesis.

The characteristic symptoms of Amyl, so far as we have gained the knowledge of them, have appeared in Allen's Encyc. of Mat. Med., Vol. I, from which I quote them, adding a few which I have gleaned from other sources.

Through an inadvertence they were omitted in Vol. I, "Special Symptomatology"—and are therefore appended hereunto.

Mind.

Anxiety, as if something might happen, *must have fresh air. Actual fright*, at the throbbing in the head, and a bursting out feeling in the ears.

Mental confusion and a dream-like state.

She passed for a few minutes, after each dose of one-thirieth of a drop, into a trance-like state, every thing seeming to her unreal.

Head.

Great confusion of the head, with vertigo.

Heat and throbbing in the head, with a feeling of intense fullness, with great heat and flushing of the face.

* *Beating, throbbing, bursting sensation in the head and ears, with constriction of the throat and heart.*

Visible pulsating throbbing in the temples, with sense of *tension* in the temples.

Sensation of something rushing upward; and throbbing in the vertex. Heavy, dull aching all through the head.

It causes no severe pain in the head, until the acme of its effects is reached.

Sensation as if a vapor spread from her, through her head, and rendered her powerless.

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Face.

Flushing of the face, a bright scarlet. It becomes intensely red and hot; on passing off the face became paler than usual.

A sensation as if the blood would start through the skin of the face, with lachrymation.

The flushing of the face is attended by heat and *perspiration* of the head, face and neck, while the hands and feet become *very cold*, and sometimes *continue so for hours*.

° *Flushing and perspirations of the face and neck of women at the change of life.*

° Neuralgia of fifth nerve.

Eyes.

Protruding, staring eyes, with bloodshot conjunctiva.

Pupils dilated.

Sight very hazy, the outline of objects indistinct.

A spot on the wall appears of a yellowish hue, surrounded by a yellowish circle, and this again surrounded by a violet-blue halo, with undulating edges.

Under the ophthalmoscope, *the veins of the disc* were *seen to become enlarged*, varicose, and tortuous; the arteries small but not abnormally so.

Urinary Organs.

It causes a very profuse flow of urine, which contains an abundance of *Sugar* (in animals).

Ears.

Much throbbing in ears.

Bursting sensation in ears, as if membrani tympani of each ear would be forced out with each beat of the heart.

Nose.

Pressure over the root of the nose.

Throat.

Choking feeling in the throat on each side of the trachea, along the carotids.

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Feeling of constriction. *The collar seemed too tight, with desire to loosen it.*

Tickling in the throat.

Stomach.

Slight nausea, with uncomfortable feeling of the stomach.

Constriction, and pressure over the region of the præcordia, as though he wants to rub it.

° Spasm of the stomach (Dr. Anstie.)

Chest and Respiration.

The feeling of constriction in the throat extended to the chest, and produced dyspnœa and asthmatic feeling in the larynx and trachea, with desire to eructate.

An indescribable feeling of fullness about the chest, with involuntary coughing, but the normal respirations are not altered in frequency.

It sometimes causes slight dyspnœa, or breathlessness, with inclination to cough.

A desire to sigh convulsively.

° Asthma, it removes the dyspnœa immediately, and prevents its return.

Heart and Circulation.

* *Præcordial anxiety.*

* *The beating of the heart and of the carotids is, in some persons, very marked.*

* *Accelerated heart action, with increased frequency of cardiac pulsations.*

* *Great cardiac oppression and tumultuous heart action.*

* *An aching pain and constriction around the heart.* (This sensation continued, more or less, for three weeks; was relieved by taking Cactus.)

It invariably quickens the *pulse*, but in a very variable degree; *sometimes doubling its pace.*

While the pulse is always increased in frequency, it is not in force.

Pulse irregular and jerking.

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It relaxes the whole arterial system, probably by partially paralyzing the sympathetic ganglia and motor nerves.

° *Angina pectoris*, with throbbing of the heart and carotids, as high as the ears. Very severe præcordial pain, extending to the right arm. (Dr. Sidney Ringer.)

* Angina pectoris, with great agony. (Drs. Brunton, Anstie and Talfourd Jones.)

Extremities.

Tired feeling of the limbs.

Tremulousness of the hand, and stiffness and slight numbness of the fingers.

Generalities.

General relaxed, weak feeling all over the whole body.

General sudden perspiration.

She turned deadly pale, felt very giddy, then became partially unconscious, remaining so for ten minutes.

A feeling of increased warmth and perspiration over the whole body, especially the head, face and neck, while the hands and feet may become very cold, and remain so for many hours.

° A severe burning sensation over the loins, from whence a glow of heat spreads over the whole body, followed by perspiration. This sensation was so unendurable that she would rush to open a window at night, even in the winter, and sometimes rush out-doors. (This symptom had lasted three years, with several attacks daily, and was cured in ten days.) (Dr. Ringer.)

APOCYNUM ANDROSEMIFOLIUM.

Although belonging to the same *genus* as the A. cannabinum, it certainly differs very much from it in its specific action. The sphere of action of the Dog's-bane includes the muscular and fibrous tissues, especially those of the smaller extremities.

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My experience with this remedy has been quite limited. I have used it successfully in two cases of "*rheumatic gout*," so called by an English surgeon of eminence. The symptoms corresponded so nearly that it was given in preference to Bryonia or Benzoic acid. Dr. Williams, of St. Paul, Minn., writes that he considers it the chief remedy for acute rheumatic affections in that region. When the acute pains in the joints are attended by *cramps*, bilious stools, and flying pains in the teeth, it will be well indicated, according to Dr. Henry's heroic provings.

Its curative power in *dropsy* is very much inferior to A. cannabinum, if it has any such power at all.

The tincture in drop doses has been known to expel ascarides and other worms. Its analogues are probably Bryonia, Iris, Colchicum, and a few others, but the drug needs further development to determine its true place.

APOCYNUM CANNABINUM.

This should not be confounded with the *India* Hemp (Cannabis indica), a drug which has little or no analogy to this plant, and belongs to another family.

This is one of those remedies whose sphere of action is very limited, but in that sphere it is of immense importance. Its pathogenetic and curative action appears to be confined almost wholly to the *kidneys* — all the other symptoms seem to be the result. This action on the kidneys does not seem to go beyond passive congestion, with some irritation of the urinary mucous membrane, for even in the most heroic provings no trace of blood, epithelium, or other abnormal sediment is observable in the urine. *Primarily* it causes profuse *discharges*, the secretion being very light colored. *Secondarily* it causes a peculiar torpid action of the kidneys, very scanty urine, but no pain, or renal tenderness. I do not doubt but it could cause vesical and urethral pain, for it has cured such conditions.

This medicine had a reputation for the cure of dropsy, in

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the early history of this country, and has retained that reputation in all systems of practice. Homœopathists have made many brilliant cures where they have used it rationally.

Dropsy, in its various forms, is the chief curative sphere of Apocynum c., but *renal dropsy* is strictly the proper sphere of its action, Other dropsies may be temporarily removed or palliated by its use, but not cured. It is this palliative power which gave it the name, among the early physicians, of the "vegetable trocar," meaning that its value was similar to that of tapping.

Anasarca, ascites, œdema of the legs, and even hydrothorax, may all proceed from suspended action of the kidneys, as an idiopathic affection. When this is the case the Indian hemp properly administered will rarely fail to cure, if no *structural* disease of the kidneys exists. I will here repeat the two rules, given by me in New Remedies, as a guide to its administration:

(1.) In cases of acute, idiopathic dropsies, use the dilutions, beginning with the high, and descending more or less rapidly, according to the progress of the disease.

(2.) In chronic, atonic, or secondary dropsies, use the tincture, or the decoction in one or two-drachm doses.

The most brilliant cures ever made with the Apoc. were made with the infusion or decoction ($\frac{ʒ}{ɜ}$j to one quart of hot water), in doses of half a drachm to four drachms. Even in acute dropsies the infusion acts more promptly than the tincture. This infusion can be "run up" to the third dilution, in water, if that strength is preferred. Like Digitalis, the Apoc. c. is often apparently inert if given in the alcoholic tincture.

There is no variety of dropsy but may be amenable to its palliative, if not its curative, action. Even in *dropsy from organic diseases of the heart*, it will keep down the effusion and allow the heart a chance to regain much of its former strength.

In *post-scarlatinal dropsy;* or simple, uncomplicated *albuminuria*, it will often prove promptly curative.

Bright's disease can not be cured by this medicine, and

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rarely by any other, but the dropsy may be kept in check so long as any considerable portion of the kidney is free from organic changes.

Hydrocephalus has doubtless been cured by Apoc. c., if we are to accept the statement of two eminent physicians, one of each school of medicine (see second Ed. New Remedies). The symptoms were: "(1) Sutures of the head opened; forehead projecting, sight of one eye lost, the other almost; child lying in a stupor with constant involuntary motion of one arm and leg;" and, (2) "Paralysis of left side, one eye motionless, the other rolling, bowels disturbed, pulse slow." In the first case drachm doses of a weaker infusion cured. In the second, drop doses of the tincture. I think I have cured two cases with it, while it has failed in a great many, but in this respect it is no worse than the Hellebore, which has been so highly praised, and so unsuccessful. In addition to its value in *dropsy*, the Apoc. c. has been used successfully in other disorders.

Nasal catarrh has been caused and cured by its use. The catarrhal symptoms are:

"Peculiar dryness of the mucous membrane of the nose, with a sensation of stiffness, followed by secretion of thick, yellow mucus, preceded in some cases by a thin, irritating discharge.

For this species of *coryza* the 2x trit. of the root is snuffed up the nose. The eyes, throat, and bronchia are affected with the same catarrh, which accounts for its popularity in *bronchial* and *asthmatic coughs*, for which it is certainly useful, as I have often proved.

Diabetes insipidus is one of the primary conditions caused by this drug, and the characteristic concomitant symptom is:

"A sense of *sinking at the pit of the stomach*, with great debility."

Like all powerful diuretics, the Apoc. c. sometimes proves powerfully emetic and cathartic. In dropsy, when the stomach is very irritable, and vomiting of all drinks is a troublesome symptom, the Apoc. often corrects it immediately. Dr. Paine recommends it in *diarrhœa*, *intestinal hæmorrhage* and

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cholera infantum, but I have never had any experience with it in such cases.

Uterine hæmorrhage has been cured by Apoc. c., according to Dr. Marsden, who gives us the only clinical experience we have of its use in that affection. In one case (*menorrhagia*) the flow was profuse, clotted, and attended by "great irritability of the stomach," fainting, etc. In another case the *hæmorrhage occurred at the change of life*, but was checked in a week, after lasting six. Several other cases of long continued hæmorrhage Dr. M. reports cured by the Apoc. in drop doses of the tincture. In my practice it has appeared to *restore the menses* when given for dropsical conditions, and Dr. Barnes, of California, reports that he often cures with it, *amenorrhœa* in young girls, when attended with bloating of the abdomen and extremities.

Dr. Lindsay reports his own case of severe *hæmoptysis*, which had resisted the use of Acon., Ham., China and Erig., but was promptly checked by Apoc. 1 x, repeated every few minutes. Another physician says he has checked pulmonary hæmorrhage in consumptives with it. It would seem from the cures of hæmorrhage reported that it acts very similarly to Ipecac in such cases, and is indicated by very nearly the same symptom, namely: the vomiting, or nausea.

APOMORPHIN.

This new alkaloid of Opium was discovered by Dr. Matthieson. It is a snow-white powder, which is permanent when dry, but when moist soon becomes green. A solution suffers this change in a few hours, and in a few weeks the green color turns to black. For homœopathic use, triturations should be made with pure, dry sugar of milk, and kept closely corked. I ought to say that Dr. Dyche Brown says the 3d centesimal dilution *does* keep its virtues a long time.

One of the most remarkable effects of this alkaloid is ***sudden vomiting. As small a quantity as one-twentieth or***

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one-fifteenth of a grain injected under the skin of an adult man, will cause copious vomiting in five or ten minutes.

Dr. Blackley (British Journal of Homœopathy, 1873), gives a graphic account of its action. He injected ten minims of a ten per cent. solution of Apomorphin under the skin of his left arm. During the first two minutes no effect was produced. After about ten minutes, the pulse began to rise slightly, and the respirations became slightly accelerated. At the end of four minutes he felt a sudden qualmishness, which was almost immediately followed by nausea and profuse vomiting. This continued for several minutes, and was followed, as soon as the contents of the stomach had been evacuated, by severe retching. On taking a draught of water with a little brandy in it, this was immediately rejected; the same occurred after drinking cold water. No bile, however, came up in the vomited matter. At the end of seven or eight minutes from the commencement of the experiment, he began to feel very faint, and was compelled to lie down, and almost immediately on doing so fainted entirely, and remained in a state of syncope for about five minutes. On awaking from this he felt giddy and chilly. He took a little brandy and water, which was retained. He then became drowsy, and slept an hour, during which he perspired profusely. On rising, he felt slight giddiness, but no desire to vomit; slept soundly all night; awoke pale and hungry.

Dr. B. made several experiments on animals, in which it developed more grave symptoms, convulsive and cerebral; but I doubt if they are useful to us.

The question arises, what use can we make of such a powerful drug? It will be noted that the vomiting is marked by *suddenness, completeness, and the absence of pain, or continued nausea.* It occurs to me that we shall find it the *safest and quickest emetic in cases of poisoning*, when the object is to evacuate the poison as soon as possible. In such cases inject hypodermically one-tenth or one-fifth of a grain in a few drops of a recent aqueous solution, or give internally, in solution, one-fifth to one-third grain of the

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pure drug. Next to the mustard-water emetic, it seems preferable to all others.

Dr. Blackley says it does not interfere with *digestion*, as a man to whom he gave it, vomiting at 8 P.M., at 9 P.M. ate a hearty supper, and digested it. "This," says Dr. D. Brown, "coincides with what I find to be its sphere of action on the stomach. The cases where I have used it with success are chiefly those where *sickness* or *vomiting* constitute *the disease* under which the patient is laboring. The tongue is clean, the bowels are regular, there are no headaches, the patient has a desire more or less for food, and has no pain after eating, but a feeling of nausea comes on at intervals, especially after taking food, which may or may not be omitted. In other cases, when there is marked dyspepsia, and when Nux or Pulsatilla is indicated, I find Apomorphin very valuable, given *at the time* of the onset of the sick feeling, and repeated every ten or fifteen minutes till it is relieved. In other cases still, when the *vomiting is sympathetic*, as in the case of neuralgic headache, gallstones, a cerebral affection, or uterine disease, Apomorphin is equally useful." Dr. Cooper states that he had seen it cause immediate cessation of vomiting in a distressing case where a tumor pressed on the brain.

Dr. Brown thinks it resembles *Ipecac.* I do not agree with him; for Ipecac is useless in vomiting from cerebral, and nearly all other remote irritations. Apomorphin will not cause vomiting in animals if the vagus is cut, or if the subject is chloroformed. Some authorities assert that so small a quantity as one five-hundredth of a grain causes vomiting. This seems to prove, with Dr. Cooper's case, that the action of Apomorphin is central. If such be the case, it ought to cure or palliate all cases of *vomiting from cerebral disease or irritation.* I do not see how this can agree with the statement of Brown that it removes vomiting from uterine and hepatic disorder, but such seems to be the case.

Dr. Brown reports thirteen cases of *nausea* or *vomiting* cured by Apomorphin (British Journal of Homœopathy, July, 1874), viz.:

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(1.) Case of nausea with disgust for food, white tongue.

(2.) Case of a child vomiting for three days, bowels slightly loose, stools whitish, tongue white.

(3.) A woman of sixty, vomits her food about an hour after taking it; nausea all the time.

(4.) Frequent vomiting, and almost constant nausea, in a woman.

(5.) A woman of fifty, constant nausea and vomiting, with pain and tenderness in the region of the liver, which was enlarged. He gave Bryonia and Apomorphin in alternation. He thinks the latter cured the sickness, as it was better after two doses.

(6.) A young lady with displacement of the uterus had almost constant feeling of sickness, with frequent attacks of violent retching, followed by intense prostration. This medicine relieved the vomiting after all others failed.

(7.) A lady of forty-two, with large ovarian tumor, had persistent vomiting; got immediate relief, after a fruitless trial of all other remedies.

(8.) Sickness and incessant vomiting in a sailor, tenderness over the liver, but no enlargement. Three doses cured.

(9, 10 & 12.) Vomiting of food in children.

(11 & 13.) Morning sickness and vomiting (the patients did not report, but he thinks they were cured or they would have returned.)

Dr. Brown further says: "I have found Apomorphin successful in removing nausea which frequently presented between attacks of gall-stones, and in a case of long-standing supraorbital neuralgia."

I have had no personal experience with this remedy, but would advise a trial of it in *seasickness*, and in the vomiting from riding in a carriage, or in railway cars. Some points of its action remind me of Cocculus. Dr. Brown used the 3d cent. dil. invariably.

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ARCTIUM LAPPA.

From time immemorial, this plant has been used as a "blood purifier" in domestic practice. It grows in nearly every country, and its popularity is almost universal.

Dr. Burt observed that its continued use in the form of decoction or syrup was quite successful in curing obstinate cutaneous eruptions, and it occurred to him to use it in practice. He claims to have cured several cases of *Tinea Capitis*, "when the head was completely covered with a grayish-white crust, and most of the hair gone; the eruption extended to the face." These cases were cured by the Burdock after Sulphur, Iris, Merc., Graph. and Lyc. had been tried faithfully without benefit.

Crusta lactea has also been cured by this remedy.

Chronic erysipelas is said to be removed permanently by its persistent use.

My observations have been mainly confined to its use in *furunculi*, when crops of boils persistently occur. In such instances I have known its use to be followed by an apparent removal of the furunculous tendency. *Hordeolum* and ulcerated eyelids are benefited by it, and Old Culpepper recommends it in *fœtid sweat* of the axillæ. *Abscesses of the axillary* glands has been cured by it. It appears to me to be an analogue of Hepar Sulphur, Graphites, Phytolacca, and Sulphur. A proving may show this affinity; also its real value in *dropsy*, *dysuria*, and other disorders of the urinary organs, for which it has been recommended.

ARALIA RACEMOSA.

Although attention was called to this plant, so extensively used by the people in domestic practice, in the first and second editions of "New Remedies," it attracted but little attention, until Dr. Samuel A. Jones, of New York, made

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his graphic and unique proving, which was published in the appendix to my third edition.

It always seemed to me that a remedy so popular with the masses as a curative agent in *coughs* of all kinds, ought to have some specific affinities for the respiratory organs.

Dr. Jones has, I think, discovered its true sphere of action. Prescribing it for the symptoms which he elicited in his provings, I have succeeded in curing some very severe cases of "*Hay-fever;*" *humid Asthma*, and some cases of *suffocating cough.*

As it may be interesting to the class, the most characteristic symptoms are here given:

Dry, wheezing respiration, with sense of impending suffocation, and rapidly increasing dyspnœa.

Very loud musical whistlings, during both inspiration and expiration, but *louder during inspiration.*

Could not possibly lie down; felt as if he would suffocate if he did not sit up.

The oppression first appeared to be all in the *right* lung; it then attacked the *left* lung, and the right became *entirely relieved.*

All the obstruction seemed to be in *inspiration.*

When the attack reached its acme, expectoration set in; at first scanty, then increased in quantity, warm and salt.

A constant desire to clear the chest of something, so that I could *inspire* better.

On making a forcible expiration, in the attempt to clear the chest, had a raw, burning, sore feeling behind the whole length of the sternum, and in each lung.

Although Dr. Jones was "inclined to asthma," as he says, this attack was very different from his usual attacks. The question arises — would the Aralia originate an attack in a person *not* inclined to asthma? When we consider that it is drank in large quantities of the decoction, without causing any such effects — so far as we know — its power of causing such attacks *sui generis*, is more than doubtful. But this will not prevent its being useful and homœopathic

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to asthma, especially in persons subject to attacks. Dr. Jones took ten drops of the mother tincture. I have greatly relieved asthmatics with the same doses, repeated every hour. For children the 2x dilution acts well. The tincture, to be potent, must be made from the *fresh* root.

Dr. Jones relates a case of *hay-asthma*, cured by Aralia, in which the characteristic symptoms were:

Yearly attacks of suffocative catarrh, with "extreme sensitiveness to a draught, the least *current* of air causing sneezing, with copious watery, acrid discharge from nostrils and posterior nares, of a salty, acrid taste, excoriating all the passages."

Waking at midnight, with suffocative breathing, inability to lie down, and the copious discharge above mentioned.

Relief of the asthma by bending forward, elbows on knees. *Inspiration* more difficult than expiration.

When the coryza ceased, the trouble went to the lungs, with dry, wheezing cough, ejecting yellow, thread-like pieces of tough mucus.

Aralia, 10 drops, three times a day; cured in three days.

It has been used with apparent benefit in *dysmenorrhœa*, *leucorrhœa and suppressed lochia*, but in these cases the home infusion was given.

ARANEA DIADEMA.

This remedy, heretofore rarely used except for hæmorrhages from punctured wounds, has lately been brought into notice by Grauvogl.

The pathogenesis, as will be seen by reference to Vol. I, is very meagre, being made up of fragmentary provings. But Grauvogl, like many of his countrymen, has the power, apparently, of evolving unfailing indications for a remedy out of his "inner consciousness," rather than from extended provings. Grauvogl (page 354) first mentions Aranea in the following way—after giving a clinical case illustrating the *hydrogenoid* constitution. He says:

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"As I had found in my practice that Aranea diadema, still more than Nux and Ipecac, diminishes the influence of hydrogen on the system, and since it was also indicated, according to the laws of similarity, by the constant chilliness, I directed," etc.

The case he narrates is of a woman subject to catalepsy, periodical headache, etc. Her sufferings were always aggravated by *damp weather*, the *use of baths*. She was constantly chilly, with cold hands and feet, even in a warm room. The Aranea cured this case in a short time.

In another case of *enlarged spleen*, in a man subject to ague, who was constantly *chilly*, who lived in a *damp location*, and was worse when it *rained*, the 2x of Aranea cured.

Grauvogl more than intimates that in certain cases this remedy would be specific for *chlorosis*. He narrates a case of protracted pneumonia — when the patient was "*one day better — the next decidedly worse, and then at* 8 P.M. *he was worse than* ever * * * he *felt chilly*, notwithstanding a constant sweat, and in spite of hot cloths to the abdomen." Nux and Ipecac ameliorated the symptoms, but "*after eight* days he still was *chilly in the upper parts of the body.*" Aranea 3x was given alternately with Nux, under which he soon recovered.

It does not matter, with Grauvogl, what the nature of the disease is, or where it is located, if the patient is constantly chilly, he cures him with *Aranea* or some hydrogenoid remedy. Thus, an old man had an abscess on his heel, due to "chronic inflammation of the periosteum of the os calcis." The ulcer was gangrenous, very painful. Aranea relieved the pains, but the ulcer deepened. Silica and Calc. carb. aggravated. Because the patient was *constantly chilly*, and the pains *increased and decreased perodically*, he gave Aranea, and says he effected a "rapid cure," although the time was *five months* before the "cure" was complete.

On page 205, he gives a graphic description of a case of ague, in which the chill came on at 7 P.M., and lasted till 8 A.M. (no fever or sweat was present). He gave this

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patient 80 grs. of Quinine, in three days, with no effect. Then he cured him with Aranea 2x, 5 drops every hour. An *immediate* improvement was observed.

Additional cases as follows are reported in the Allg. Hom. Zeit., 55, 166.

(1.) A case of *chronic headache*, preceded by flickering before the eyes and vertigo, which forces her to lie down. The headache is attended with dullness, great heat in the face, weariness, loss of strength, and lasts one day. Cured by Aranea 6th.

(2.) *Toothache;* pinching, pressing pain in upper incisors, regularly from 9 A.M. to 7 P.M., leaving a sensitiveness and cold feeling on drawing in air. Nux was taken without result. The patient was bitten by a spider (Aranea), and "from that instant the pains gradually went off." This physician says he has often cured such toothaches, with sensation as if the gum or cheek was swollen, by means of Aranea.

(3.) Pain in the temples, with vertigo on rising, and a disagreeable feeling, as if the hands and head were swollen. Cured by Aranea 6th.

Dr. Chapman, in the Annals of the British Hom. Soc. Vol. II., cured a similar case, in a very nervous woman who, for several years, was nightly distressed with the sensation that her *hands and arms were enormously swollen.* She was speedily cured by this remedy.

In Europe, ever since Dioscorides, the spider's web has been used for *ague*. In this country it is used in domestic practice for the same disease. Old physicians used it in epilepsy, palpitation from hypertrophy, spasms, neuralgia, sleeplessness, etc. It was given in pills about the size of a small pea.

I have never given Aranea but once, viz.: when I thought it decidedly *called for by Grauvogl's indication*, but I saw no benefit from its use.

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ARSENITE OF COPPER.

This heroic remedy has always been a favorite one with me. Many years before it was proven by Dr. Blakey, I had used it in many cases, and with uniformly good results. I selected it according to the indications afforded by the well known provings of both drugs, and from the recorded cases of poisoning found in the standard works on Toxicology. The reports of poisoning by sleeping in rooms which had paper colored with Scheele's green upon the walls, afforded me many excellent indications.

I first used it in some severe cases of *cholera* which occurred in the years 1866 and '7. These cases were marked by the usual intestinal disorder, to which was added severe and painful cramps in the abdomen and extremities. The alternation of Arsenicum and Cuprum did not prove as satisfactory as I expected, but the use of Cupric Arsenite, in the 6x trituration, in water, for children, and dry on the tongue, in adults, generally acted promptly. I can recommend it in *cholera infantum*, *spasmodic and neuralgic pains in the bowels*, *accompanied by screams*, *and cramps in the fingers and toes*, attended with great debility and threatened collapse. I have also used it with good effect in *chorea*, dependent on a profound affection of the nervous centers, and presenting the well known characteristic symptoms of Cuprum, united to the dyscrasia which always indicates Arsenic.

In the treatment of some anomalous *disorders of the heart*, which may be designated as *cardiac chorea*, it is eminently successful. These cardiac disorders have not until lately been sufficiently understood. They are marked by singular aberrations in the rhythm of the heart's action; at one time the beats are very irregular and *feeble*, at another *violent* and irregular. The attacks appear in paroxysms, with intermissions, during which neither auscultation or percussion reveals anything abnormal in the action of that organ. In some cases the irregular cardiac action is changed to choreic movements in other parts of the body.

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In several cases of this character which have come under my care, the 3x trituration several times a day, for weeks, has succeeded in permanently curing a malady which is very distressing, if not serious.

ARSENIATE OF IRON.

I do not know if this remedy has been used in our school by any one but myself. I came to use it in this wise: I had a case of *chorea* in a pale, anæmic girl. She had been dosed on the Tinc. Ferr. Mur., Citrate of Iron and Quinine, Fowler's Solution, and other drugs; but I felt that Ferrum was indicated. Arsenic was also indicated, and as a matter of convenience I had prepared the 2x trituration of the *Arseniate of Iron*. This patient, who had been dosed with massive doses of both medicines, without good effect, recovered rapidly under the use of minute doses of this compound drug.

We have no provings of this drug, nor do I know that any are necessary. If we take the well-known effects of both, as a basis, for our indications, we shall succeed very well, and avoid alternation. There are very few drugs, if we except the Bromide salts, which are changed by a true chemical union. I have used the Arseniate of Iron a good deal, and its effects have rarely disappointed me. My selection has been based on the Ferrum blood-impoverishment, and the well-known effects of Arsenicum on the nervous system.

I have never used it in any gastric or intestinal disease, because I have an idea that the Arsenicum alone, or the Arsenite of Copper, is a better remedy for such cases. But if I had to treat cutaneous diseases in which Arsenic was indicated, and the patient was decidedly chlorotic or anæmic, I should prescribe the Arseniate of Iron with a great amount of confidence.

ARSENIATE OF QUINIA.

This is another unproven drug, which I think ought to be used more than it is by our school. My experience with

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it in a certain class of malarious diseases has been quite satisfactory. While engaged in practice in a miasmatic district, I frequently had to treat mismanaged *intermittents* of an obstinate character. They were generally of a mixed type; sometimes *tertian*, then *quotidian*, and often changing to a *masked form*, such as *periodical neuralgia* and various *obscure neuroses*. To treat such cases was like chasing a "Will o' Wisp" through a dark swamp, especially if I tried to treat them symptomatically. In fact, I can assure you that it is useless to treat the *symptoms* of such cases, for you will have to change your remedy every day, and then fail to cure the disease, which will constantly elude you. You must strike at the root of the malady; you must select the remedy for the *genius of the disease*, FIRST; afterwards, characteristic symptoms may be taken into account.

In the majority of these obstinate and masked intermittents, both Arsenicum and Cinchona are indicated, and instead of using them in alternation, I hit upon the plan of prescribing this compound, or chemical union of the two drugs. Some cases required the 1x trituration, but rarely did I have to use it below the 2x. It was usually ordered in doses of one or two grains every two or four hours, and the patient was urged to persist in its use for several weeks. This plan, aided sometimes by a temporary removal to a non-malarious region, was generally very successful in eradicating the disorder.

The Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Children in this Institution, Dr. Geo. A. Hall, is enthusiastic in his praises of this remedy. He values it very highly in all diseases where Arsenic and China are indicated. In diseases of children, characterized by chronic intestinal derangements, combined with debility from loss of fluids and poor nutrition, he prescribes the 3x trituration, with good results.

I have never given it higher than the 6th dilution. Pellets saturated with this attenuation often act kindly in children of sensitive nervous systems. I believe it will prove a valuable addition to our Materia Medica.

Dr. W. H. Holcombe, in a clinical lecture on "Primary

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Chronic Malarial Poisoning," says: "It is only by prolonged treatment that we can effectually cure these insidious and complicated chronic diseases. If the remedy now chosen fails to make an impression in a fortnight, I shall probably remind you of two others, which I have found exceedingly valuable in these cases of chronic malarial poisoning. These are the Arseniate of Quinine and Arseniate of Iron. I use them in the first centesimal trituration, not the decimal, for there is too much arsenic in them for that. I prefer the former when the nervous system is more deeply implicated than the organic; and the latter when the anæmia seems to be the preponderating element in the pathological state."

ARUM TRIPHYLLUM.

This northern representative of a family which, in the tropics, attain great size and intense virulence, has been used in the *dried* state, ever since the settlement of the United States, for *coughs* of various kinds. The dry bulb is almost tasteless, the acrid volatile principle having escaped. The Homœopathists were the first to use any preparation of the fresh bulb. It is very difficult to procure a permanent tincture of the fresh root. Alcohol does not preserve it. Glycerine is some better, but not adapted to our use. A distilled water, to which sufficient alcohol is added, may be a successful method of preparation. The virtues of the drug doubtless reside in the acrid, volatile principle, and it is probably the minute quantity retained in the dry bulb which gives it some of its curative power.

Its sphere of action appears to include the mucous membrane of the mouth, fauces, larynx and bronchi, and it probably exerts some disorganizing effect on the blood. It has been used successfully in

Malignant scarlatina, with "delirium; nose discharges much watery, thin, ichorous fluid, making the nose, lips and corners of the mouth cracked, sore, and bleeding; excoriation of the inside of the mouth; tongue red, papillæ swollen

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and prominent; sore, moist places in the bends of the thighs and knees; sub-maxillary glands swollen; voice hoarse; pulse 140, full; urine very abundant and pale; eruptions all over the body, with much itching and restlessness." Another symptom which is an important "key note" for this remedy, is "the children pick the nose and lips and chin persistently, until they are raw and bleeding." In a few cases where this symptom was very prominent the *Arum* has appeared to act promptly. In its relation to scarlet fever, it is analogous to Arsenic, Nitric acid, Ailantus and Phosphorus. It is used from the 6th to the 200th.

Sudden hoarseness and loss of voice, in public speakers and others, is promptly cured by Arum.

Tonsillitis, sudden and painful; *œdema of the glottis; catarrhal angina; glossitis*, and similar inflammatory affections of the mouth and throat, should be cured by this remedy. In all these diseases the symptoms indicating the *Arum* are the pricking, stinging pains, and the *sudden* swelling of the tissues, as well as the subsequent burning, excoriating discharge.

The British species, Arum maculatum, is nearly identical and may be used for the same symptoms as the A. triphyllum. Its value in *coughs* and asthmatic affections has not been full tested; further experience and provings are needed.

ASARUM CANADENSE.

This plant only differs from the Asarum *Europeum* in degree. Its effects are similar to the foreign root, but less irritating and potent. The same qualities, however, have been ascribed to both. The indigenous species has the reputation of being an "emmenagogue and abortivant" in domestic practice. In Europe and England the foreign species has the same reputation, and is even credited with the power of causing miscarriage.

That the foreign plant possesses an irritant action on the uterus is proved by its pathogenesis and the testimony of the old physicians. Our species may have the same action,

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but in a minor degree. I have never used it but once, and then in a case of *pain in sacrum following miscarriage*. It seemed to relieve. It was prescribed as a substitute for the A. Europeum.

Theoretically I should place it as an analogue of such *new remedies* as Senecio and Trillium.

ASCLEPIAS INCARNATA.

When this remedy was mentioned in the second edition of New Remedies, I supposed it would be used and proven, but no clinical experience has been reported. I have tried it several times in *gonorrhœa*, on the recommendation of Dr. Hauser, but without good results. Dr. Fowler recommended it in *amenorrhœa*, but no verifications have been reported. Only a systematic proving will show its real value as a medicine.

We have a very good fragmentary proving of the

ASCLEPIAS SYRIACA *(Cornuti)*.

Which is really a potent plant, and one that ought to prove useful if prescribed with judgment. The proving by Dr. Clerborne was a singularly careful physiological experiment for a member of the allopathic school to make.

The head-symptoms were quite notable, and the following symptoms are especially valuable:

(1.) "When the drug did not cause *sweating* or *profuse urination*, it caused *violent headache with vertigo*, pulse quick, full, 92."

(2.) "A feeling as if some sharp instrument was thrust through from one temple to the other, with feeble pulse and cold skin."

(3). "Violent headache, between the eyes; a sense of constriction across the forehead."

I would particularly recommend it in

Congestive headaches from suppression of sweat or urine and fever. Also

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Nervous headaches, which are attended by dry skin, and scanty urine, cool skin and feeble pulse, and followed by sweating or profuse urination. In the latter cases it may rival Ignatia, Pulsatilla or Gelseminum.

Diarrhœa, brown or yellow, with nausea and vomiting, and the headache above described in the *second* symptom.

Constipation has been cured by the administration of 10 to 30 drops of the tincture three times a day.

I predict that its chief curative value will be confined to those cases in which the organic and inorganic solids which should be eliminated by the urine, are not excreted fully. Like Colchicum it causes the amount of solids excreted to greatly increase (from 565 grs. to 700 grs.), or an increase of 132 grs. in six days. This power would make it the best remedy in the *uræmia of pregnant women*, or from any cause ; also in *post-scarlatinal dropsy*, when it would rapidly eliminate the poison of the disease, and prevent the unpleasant sequelæ.

Dropsy, especially when caused by renal diseases of an obstructive character, ought to be cured as readily by Asclepias s. as by Apocynum, and perhaps more promptly. In the provings it caused the urine to increase from the normal quantity of 35 ounces to 135 ounces in six days. This shows its immense power over the secretory power of the kidneys, and that it is secondarily homœopathic to dropsy, for the secondary effect of such hyper-stimulation must be an almost complete arrest of secretion and excretion. It has cured many cases of *renal dropsy*, when given in the tincture and infusion. I have palliated many cases of *cardiac dropsy* by its use, and with many of my colleagues it has a high reputation in acute cases of *anasarca from sudden check of perspiration.*

Gonorrhœa and gleet have been cured by this drug, and even *syphilis.*

It is homœopathic to *dysmenorrhœa* and *threatened abortion*, when the pains are intermittent, and pressing from the sacrum to the hypogastrium, with scanty flow.

Rheumatism has been successfully treated by many physicians by the use of this species. Dr. Lee says it rivals Cim-

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icifuga. Dr. Pattee states that in six cases of acute rheumatism it caused the average duration to be confined to eight days. The inflammation was confined to the large joints, with considerable pain and swelling. It had a remarkable effect in relieving the pain. The lowest dilutions will probably be found most useful.

ASCLEPIAS TUBEROSA.

This plant, commonly called Pleurisy Root, is one of the oldest in use, and one of the most popular of all our indigenous remedies. The popular name given to the root indicates the estimation with which it is held. The early physicians incorporated it into the pharmacopœia, and its use by eclectic practitioners is varied and extensive. Their principal use of this Asclepias is in disorders of the respiratory organs, and in nearly the same conditions as we use Bryonia. We have only two provings of this remedy: one by Dr. Savery, of France, the other by Dr. Nichol, of Montreal. The former I consider untrustworthy in the main, because only *two* drops of the tincture were taken, and all the symptoms for *forty* days recorded! Dr. Nichol took every day twenty to forty drops of the 1x dil. and θ, and got symptoms which were characteristic.

I believe this Asclepias acts chiefly on the *mucous surfaces*, especially those of the respiratory organs; and the *serous tissues*, especially the pleura and synovial membranes.

It is common in the country for the people to treat *pleurisy* and *pleurodynia* with an infusion of the root. When sweating occurs, the pain subsides. *Bronchitis* is also treated successfully in the same manner. Our provings testify to the fact that it is homœopathic to these affections.

The *chest* symptoms of Nichol's provings are:

"*Cough* dry and spasmodic, with constriction of the throat; harsh, dry cough causing pain in the forehead and abdomen.

"Dull pain at base of both lungs, with a feeling of tightness.

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"Sharp pains shooting from left nipple downward.

"Sharp, cutting pain behind the sternum, aggravated by breathing, moving the arms, singing or loud talking.

"Acute, darting pains in left side, shooting over to the right, and up to left shoulder, with tenderness of the spaces between the ribs.

"The pains left the left side and attacked the right side, and extended to right shoulder.

"The pains were *relieved* by bending forward."

These symptoms give us a fair picture of a case of sub-acute pleuritis. The fever was slight (pulse 88).

I have used it successfully in mild cases of pleurisy and *intercostal rheumatism*, giving the 1x frequently repeated. Dr. Nichol had many rheumatic symptoms. The pains were stitching and aggravated by motion.

The Asclepias is especially adapted to the diseases of *children*, not only the thoracic but the intestinal. It resembles Ipecac in this respect. It is also useful in *asthmatic* complaints and catarrhal affections of old people. It is useful in the *coughs* and colds of children, in "snuffles," in catarrhal croupy coughs, and suffocative catarrh. The *fever* attendant is not very severe; the skin is hot, but at the same time moist. It is indicated in those cases of *catarrhal fever* in which the intestinal mucous membrane is affected simultaneously with the bronchial, and as having slimy, green alvine evacuations.

I have prescribed it with benefit in sub-acute rheumatic *pericarditis*, when there was "pinching pain in the region of the heart, extending to left shoulder; palpitation; feeling of contraction in the cardiac region; tenderness over that region; fever, with hot, moist skin.

Catarrhal dysentery, with rheumatic pains all over, yields readily to this medicine. I usually use the mother tincture or 1x, 20 drops in half a glass of water, a spoonful as often as seems necessary. If oftener used instead of Bryonia, I think it would gain in favor with our school.

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ATROPINE.

It may seem out of place to call this drug a *new* remedy, when Belladonna is so old; but Atropine was not used in homœopathic practice until about the year 1860, or about the time the new remedies began to appear in our school.

No complete provings of Atropine have been made; but the symptoms which have been obtained, both from provings and cases of poisoning, are identical with many of the symptoms of Belladonna.

Atropine cannot cause *all* the symptoms of Belladonna, any more than Quinia can cause all the symptoms belonging to China, for the reason that it does not contain all the medicinal forces residing in the plant. To the mere chemist, or the crude experimenter, there seems nothing of value left in the plant after the extraction of its active principle. But they do not appreciate the fact that there are intangible or atomic forces in plants which do not reside in any alkaloid or resinoid, and will escape the subtlest analysis of the chemist. These medicinal forces can only be evolved by careful physiological provings on the healthy.

Atropine, therefore, cannot represent the Belladonna in the treatment of disease, except in *its* own limited sphere.

I cannot advise the use of Atropine in the febrile diseases, in acute or chronic exanthemata, inflammations of organs and tissues, or certain cerebral disorders, for which we have in Belladonna such an admirable remedy.

Its sphere of action appears to me to include the *nervous system*, affecting alike the nerves of sensation, motion, and the sympathetic. In *functional disorders* of these nerves, especially when *hyperæsthesia* and *irritation* obtains, Atropine will prove a valuable remedial agent.

In *neuralgia*, certain acute congestions of a nervous origin, painful spasmodic affections, especially of the sphincters, and nervous jactitations, hyperæsthesia, spinal irritation, etc., Atropine will often do better service than Belladonna.

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Its action is analogous to Solanum, Strammonium, Agaricus, and many of the analogues of Belladonna.

I cannot accept the assertion of allopathic experimenters that Atropine *contracts* the blood-vessels of the brain and spinal cord. We have abundant evidence that it causes death by acute congestion of the brain. As to its action on the blood-vessels of the spinal cord, I am not prepared to dispute the statement of Brown-Séquard, who says that "it is a powerful excitant of blood-vessels, and especially those of the spinal cord and its membranes. In consequence of this influence, it diminishes the amount of blood in the vertebral canal, and in so doing produces a relative diminution of the vital properties of the spinal cord and its nerves."

But granted that this is its primary action in toxical doses, its *secondary* action is directly opposite. In death from poisonous doses, the surface of the body is pale and cold, and the internal organs all congested. But death must in such cases occur from its secondary action. Death rarely occurs from its primary action.

In homœopathic practice, we usually prescribe Atropine for symptoms similar to its secondary effects, for all the morbid conditions which I mentioned as indicating Atropine are due to such secondary action, or for symptoms of *irritation of the motor*, *sensitive*, and *vaso-motor* or nutritive nerve fibers of the spinal cord, or of the roots of its nerves; or, in other words, in cases of congestion, meningitis, myelitis, and cerebro-spinal meningitis.

Pain anywhere in the body is not properly a primary effect of Belladonna (Atropine), any more than of Opium (Morphine.)

Contraction of the blood-vessels of the spinal cord and brain correspond to painlessness in the parts supplied by the nerves having their origin in such locations.

Atropine causes *primarily* such conditions, but *secondarily* it causes congestion, and even inflammation, bringing with it pain, spasm, hyperæsthesia, etc.—all the consequences of *irritation* of nerve-tissue.

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In diseases of the brain I rarely find Atropine of service. If we use it at all, it must be used cautiously, and Belladonna is to be preferred in all but purely functional disturbances.

Certain it is that in *hemicrania*, *facial neuralgia*, *neuralgic cephalalgia*, and other very painful affections of the nerves of the head, the 2d c. trit. of Atropine is one of our most successful remedies.

In acute congestion, however, when the face is red, temples throbbing, eyes bloodshot, ears ringing, and wild delirium, who would dare to give any but the high attenuations of this drug or of Belladonna?

In *typhoid fever*, particularly typhus-cerebralis, when nightly delirium, spectral illusions, wild, uncontrolable laughter, obstinate insomnia, and often furious delirium and redness of the face occurs, the 6th of Atropine will often dissipate the troublesome symptoms, due in this case to *irritation of the brain from congestion.*

On the other hand, we meet with cases of advanced typhoid, where, with the general prostration, there is insomnia, with rambling, incoherent muttering, coma vigil, with picking at the clothes, very dry tongue, pale, cool face, etc., due to *cerebral anæmia with irritation.* Here we find Atropine 2d c. trit. an admirable remedy.

I will briefly enumerate the disorders in which Atropine has been found efficacious in our practice, when used in the 2d or 3d centesimal triturations.

Neuralgia, especially of the head, face and eyes.

Gastralgia, purely neuralgic.

Enteralgia, a neuralgia of the abdominal nerves.

Nephralgia, neuralgic, or owing to passage of calculi. Violent, irresistible and ineffectual urging to urinate, with agonizing tenesmus, both vesical and rectal.

Nocturnal emissions, from paralysis of the sphincter.

Ovarian neuralgia, and *uterine colic.*

Vaginismus, when purely spasmodic and neuralgic (internally in the 6x trit, and apply a cerate of gr. 1 to ℥ j of simple cerate.)

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Whooping cough, with violent paroxysms very frequent, and expectoration of very tough mucus.

Chorea, *tetanus*, and even *convulsions*.

I would advise you to carefully study not only the symptoms I have collected in New Remedies, but the careful experiments recorded in the best allopathic works on toxicology. In Wood and Stille you will find most of value.

BADIAGA FLUVIATALIS.

The provings of this medicine appeared in the Hahnemannian Monthly, and also in Hering's Mat. Med., but no clinical use of it has since been reported. I am not able, therefore, to give any additional information relative to its curative value. I have never used it myself. Many of its symptoms closely resemble those of the marine *sponge* which we use in practice.

The *head symptoms* would indicate its probable value in some cases of *headache*, and "tetter-like eruptions on the scalp."

It causes painfulness of the left eye-ball, especially the posterior portion, and Dr. Bedford says he has had very good results from its use in "*Scrofulous inflammation of the eyes*, with hardening and induration of the meibomian glands."

Hahnemann considered it an anti-psoric, but never published any account of it. It contains Carbonate of Lime, Silicea, Phosphate of Lime, and a trace of Alumina, which would make it an anti-psoric in the sense Hahnemann used the word. Hering says of it: "A comparison with Spongia, its nearest of kin in the animal kingdom, will show striking similarities and remarkable differences."

He also compares it with Silicea and Clematis. Rosenstein considers it complementary to Sulph., Iodine and Mercurius. This last writer reported a complete cure of a *chronic syphilitic bubo*, with Badiaga, after Sulph., Carbo., Clemat. Sil., Iod. and Ars. had been given in vain.

Among the new indigenous remedies, its analogues are Phytolacca, Corydalis and Stillingia.

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Hering thinks the Badiaga will be useful for the complaints of adults who had scrofulous complaints in childhood, and which showed again in after life. He adds that it had a reputation in Russia for the cure of *hæmorrhoids*. He thinks it follows well after Lachesis.

I doubt if it will be used much, for we have many similar and more active remedies. It may, however, meet special cases when its analogues fail.

Its *heart-symptoms* are peculiar, and are worthy of attention.

BALSAMUM PERUVIANUM.

The scientific name of this tree is *Myrospermum peruiferum;* the substance used is the resinous juice which exudes from the tree when cut. It is strange that this agent should be now nearly obsolete with the allopathic school, for when it was first introduced into Europe by the Spanish Jesuits it was lauded as highly for the cure of consumption and kindred complaints as is now the cod-liver oil. It remains for homœopathy to take up these neglected medicines and make of them valuable curative agents.

Although no systematic provings have been made of it, we know enough of it to assert that it is an analogue of Copaiva, Cubeba, Chimaphila, Stannum, Thuja and Uva ursi.

Its sphere of action is upon the *mucous membranes*, especially those of the respiratory tract. Its special indication is for *muco-purulent discharges—yellow, green and fœtid.* The pathological condition calling for its use is doubtless *torpid, indolent ulceration*, or *purulent catarrh.*

For many years I have made extensive use of this balsam, and have seen most gratifying results in the following affections:

Chronic, purulent, fœtid anterior or posterior nasal catarrh, with or without ulceration.

Coughs, with copious expectoration of thick, yellow, green and fœtid pus.

This condition occurs commonly in old people, and scrofu-

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lous subjects, and may arise from *laryngitis* or *bronchitis*, or neglected catarrh of those organs. It will not cure *tubercular* phthisis, but may act as a useful palliative.

My usual dose is the 1st or 2x dilution, or trituration of the crude balsam. (It seems to act best in trituration.) But I do not confine myself to its internal administration. The most brilliant results are obtained from its inhalation by means of the steam-atomizer. By this means the finely divided atoms come in direct contact with the diseased surface. If triturated with equal parts of Carbonate of Magnesia and sugar, or pulverized Glycyrrhiza, it will mix with water, otherwise it clogs the instrument. Make of the 1x trit., thus prepared, a solution representing in strength the 2x dil., and have its spray inhaled three times a day, each inhalation lasting for five minutes.

Dr. Hoffman, in some French Hom. Journal, reports as to his use of the balsam. He praises it highly in cases of

Cough after pneumonia, when it is loose, thick, yellow and fœtid, (one-tenth dil.); also in

Suppression of the accustomed expectoration in bronchial affections. (6th dil.)

(In very large doses the Bal. Peru. has been known to check copious expectoration, but with resulting fever, dry cough and oppression, a primary effect of the drug.)

Hoffman says: "I have seen persons laboring under perfectly formed *phthisis*, and seriously affected for several years, happily restored by the use of the balsam."

I doubt if these persons had tuberculous phthisis. They may have had *vomicæ*, for there are many authenticated cases of *vomicæ, with offensive* expectoration, cured by this balsam.

It formerly had a high reputation for

Hectic fever, which it doubtless cured, by removing the suppuration upon which it depended.

Not only in purulent discharges from the bronchia is it useful, but I have cured cases of *gastric catarrh with obstinate vomiting of food mixed with mucus: chronic mucous catarrh of the bowels* (sometimes called chronic dysentery); *catarrh of the bladder* and even obstinate *leucorrhœa*, uterine and vag-

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