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HARTMANN'S HOMEOP. REMED.

BY

A. H. OKIE, M.D.

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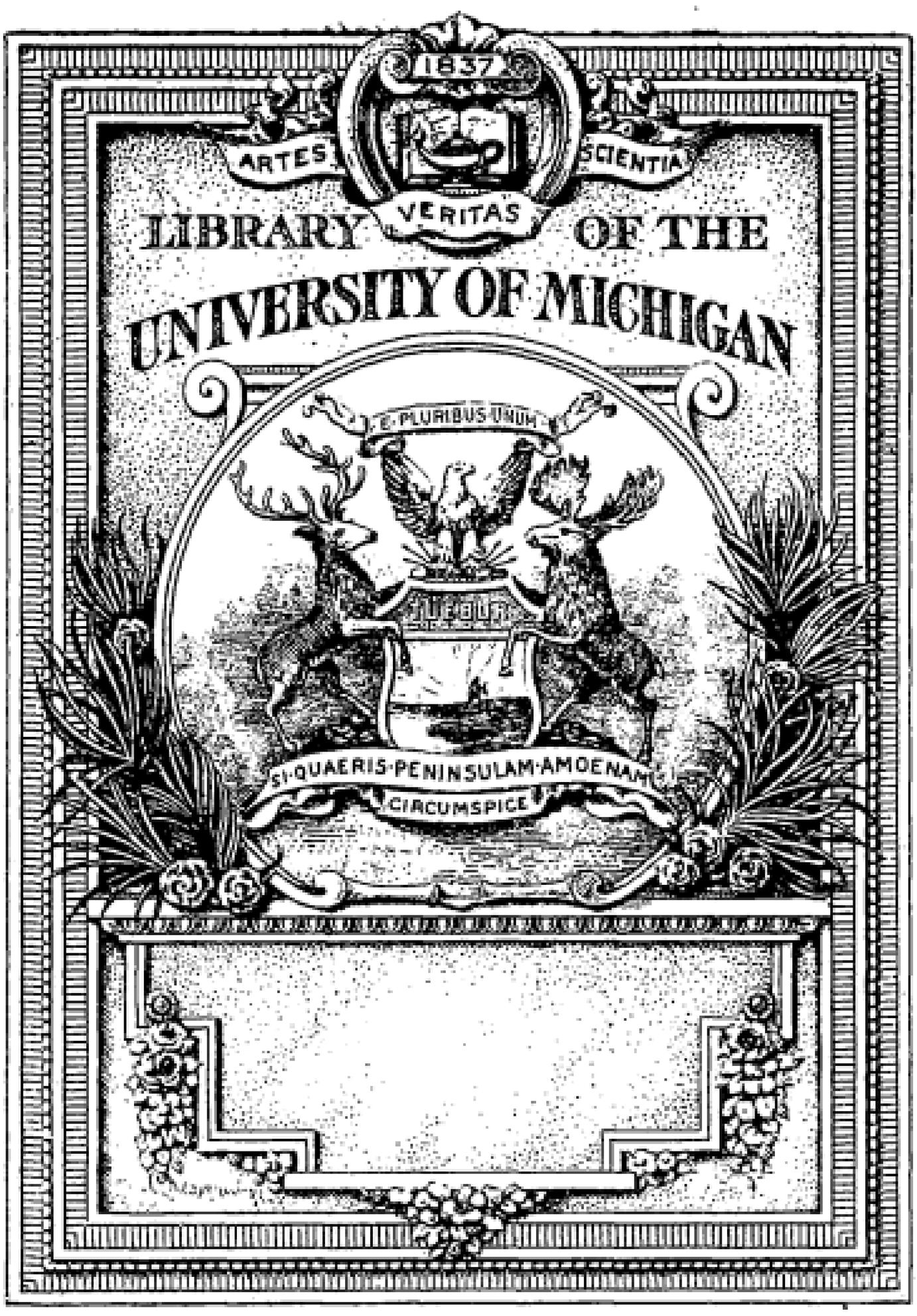

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RUOFF'S REPERTORY OF HOMŒOPATHIC PRACTICE. *Second Part.* By A. H. Okie, M. D.

Preparing for Press.

HARTMANN'S PRACTICAL REMARKS. Second Series. Containing *Nux Vomica, Belladonna, &c.* From the German, with Notes and Additions. By A. H. Okie, M. D.

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PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS

ON

SOME OF THE CHIEF

HOMŒOPATHIC REMEDIES.

96638

BY DR. FRANZ HARTMANN.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN, WITH NOTES.

BY A. HOWARD OKIE, M. D.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

First Series.

ACONITE, BRYONIA, MERCURIUS SOLUBILIS HAHNEMANNI, MERCURIUS SUBLIMATUS CORROSIVUS, MERCURIUS PRÆCIPITATUS RUBER, MERCURIUS DULCIS AND CHAMOMILLA.

PHILADELPHIA:

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J. B. BAILLIÈRE, 219 REGENT STREET.

1841.

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PREFACE

TO THE AMERICAN EDITION.

THE following work is one of a series which the talented Dr. Hartmann, of Leipsic, has delivered to the homœopathic profession in Germany, under the title of "*Beitraege zur Angewandten Pharmacodynamik.*"

In presenting it in an English dress, I deem no apology called for, as the want of practical homœopathic works has been, and is yet, experienced by every American homœopathic practitioner in this country. This little work is moreover strikingly adapted to the wants of such allopathic practitioners as feel desirous of prosecuting homœopathic experiments; that is, of witnessing personally the efficacy of remedies applied homœopathically in many forms of disease which are of daily occurrence. With Aconite, Bryonia, Mercury and Chamomilla, enough

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may be done, in many acute forms of disease, to shake the faith of the most sceptical; it is true Belladonna is wanting; but that, together with Nux Vomica, will be found in series No. 2, which shall be immediately forthcoming, if the reception of the present series will warrant its publication.

The indications for each of the remedies in this work, are plainly laid down, and all matter, save that of a *practical* nature, has been sedulously excluded. With the sincere desire that the progress of the reformed healing art in America, may be somewhat advanced by this humble effort, I commit it to the public.

A. H. Okie,
326 North Sixth Street.

Philadelphia, Sept. 1841.

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ACONITUM NAPELLUS.

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ACONITUM NAPELLUS.

THIS is a large and beautiful plant which grows in the mountainous parts of Switzerland, Tyrol and Bavaria, in Austria and in Sweden. The stalk is from two to three feet high, with alternated digitiform lobated leaves.

It blooms in July and August, and at this time the homœopathist collects the plant for the purpose of making a strong tincture, from the expressed juice, mixed with equal parts of alcohol, and then proceeds to raise this, secundum artem, to the thirtieth dilution.

This, according to Hahnemann, is the highest possible dilution, and in which he uses all remedies on account of uniformity.

Before I proceed farther to speak of this medicament, I must remark, relative to the size of the dose, that all homœopathic physicians do not adopt this opinion and view,* but consider themselves free to make use of any one of the scale of dilutions, in every possible case, and even to proceed beyond the circumscribed bounds. I cannot condemn this practice, as I have always entertained the opinion, that as the economy, age, sex, temperament, &c. of the

* That is, relative to the thirtieth dilution.—*Translator.*

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sick differ, there should also exist differences in the doses and in medicaments.*

In reference to different curatives in disease, apparently similar, homœopathic physicians are of one opinion, for they know that a disease is not identical with that which they had to treat in another subject: as regards the size of the doses, they however differ, in so far, that they follow more or less rigidly the views of Hahnemann, who, as already mentioned, prefers the administration of *potence* thirty, in all diseases.

Medicines differ with regard to their power of supporting attenuation without loss of medical virtue; it is not only probable, but even certain, that some medicaments of the vegetable kingdom, by the dilution being carried too far, must lose their active power.

Without dilating farther upon this subject, I refer to the sterling essay of Dr. Schrœn. "Einiges ueber die Grösse homœopathische Gaben und ihre wiederholung."† Another stumbling block is the recommendation to give the patient only a few pellets, moistened with the highest dilution *to smell.* Although I have fully tried this method in some cases, I nevertheless cannot state that I am perfectly satisfied with it, simply from the fact that I frequently saw no effect produced by it; which, however, did not prevent me administering the same remedy by

* Vid. Allgem. homœop. Zeit. Bd. II. No. 2: Bemerkungen zu dem Aufsatze des Herrn Dr. Kretschmar in No. 22 des 1 Bandes: von Herrn Dr. Trinks in Dresden.

† Vid. Algem. hom. Zeitung, B. III. S. 17.

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the mouth, after the smelling had proved ineffectual, if the *ensemble* of symptoms indicated it, and it then produced the desired effect.

The administration of the remedy by the mouth, appears to me to be at least the more certain method,* and is undoubtedly to be preferred to smelling, as a number of odours which the patient is obliged to inhale involuntarily, may readily destroy the effect of the remedy, or at least disturb its action; while the effect after *taking* the remedy is more permanent and less apt to be interfered with. But if we admit that the remedy acts equally well either way, and the smelling probably milder, and without exciting any exacerbation of the patient's disease, still the latter is so trifling after *taking* the remedy, that it is scarcely worth any attention. Were it, however, important, the patient would readily support this exacerbation, as from this he could more certainly count on a speedy improvement of his complaint.

With one word, I prefer from conviction, the taking of a remedy to smelling it, and this holds good, not only with aconite, but with all other curatives.

In regard to the dose of aconite, I have still to remark, that I have used not only the first, but all the succeeding dilutions up to thirty, and have found the criterion for the application of a higher or lower dilution in the violence of the disease, the constitution, age, &c. of the patient. Inflammatory diseases

* This practical remark of Hartmann is confirmed by the experience of most American homœopathists, with whom *smelling* is but little in vogue.—*Translator.*

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of adults, are generally cases for the eighteenth dilution of aconite, and similar cases in children require the twenty-fourth and thirtieth. It is occasionally necessary to increase the dose to a drop of one of these dilutions. In many diseases, particularly enteritis, the repetition of the dose every three, four, or six hours, is indispensable; and in these the administration of aconite in *the fluid form*, appears to me far preferable to globules.

The diminution of the pains when moving is worthy of notice in the administration of this remedy.

In using this curative, acids and fruits containing acids, but particularly *wine* and *coffee*, are to be rigidly prohibited, as they completely destroy its effects.

If coma, inordinate perspiration, and dilated pupils, result from the use of *aconite*, *opium* acts as an antidote; *arnica*, where there is wild obstinacy with redness of face, headache, &c. *Wine* is the best antidote when great fretfulness results from poisoning with it.

Aconite particularly indicates *a sanguine temperament and robust constitution.*

Experience, a thousand times repeated, sufficiently attests the distinguished efficacy of *aconitum napellus* in inflammatory affections; and we can, without contradiction, assert, that this remedy is the greatest antiphlogistic in homœopathy, as it indubitably diminishes the excitement of the vascular system, and lessens the rapidity of the circulation.

In inflammatory diseases, particularly when there is dry heat, it undoubtedly benefits more than vene-

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section, leeches, or the emulsio nitrosa of allopathy, which are always succeeded by loss of strength, and frequently produce termination in nervous diseases, and death. This is the everlasting contention of allopathic with homœopathic physicians; and no instance, however striking, can convince the former of the existence of a superior method: their principle is, and remains—no inflammation can be cured without drawing blood. It is impossible to make them understand that the blood drawn from the vein which has the buffy coat, is not the *causa proxima:* they do not recognise in it the second moment, the product of the disease: to them the change in the blood itself is the factor of the disease, although it is only the disturbed innervation which gives the impulse to the inflammation. I admit that inflammations may sometimes terminate fatally under homœopathic treatment, but in this case the fault does not lie in the inefficiency of homœopathy, or on the abstinence from venesection, but in the patient himself, in whom there must exist deficiency of vital power, dependent on various causes.

Let us once institute a comparison, and show the terminations of inflammatory affections treated by these conflicting methods—this would be the easiest way to determine which mode of treatment deserves preference. The truth of the matter might be thus arrived at, and it were well worth the labour for homœpathic and allopathic physicians, free from prejudice, to undertake such a comparison. The former ground their conviction of the superiority of

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their method, not on conjectures and favourable depositions, but on their own experience as well as that of other homœopathists. They, however, do not judge blindly of the result of the allopathic treatment of inflammatory affections—they do not deny their results,—(as the allopathists do those of the homœopathists,)—only they cannot praise the cito and jucunde, and must relate more unfortunate terminations than is in their power to accuse us of. It only requires a single step on the part of the allopathists—let them form statistics of cures of inflammatory affections made without the abstraction of blood, otherwise they must reject the whole treatment of Peschier in inflammations of the chest, and this they not only have not done, but have even made fortunate curative efforts by this means.

But let us leave this polemical discussion and come to facts.

Inflammatory Fever.—We often observe this disease unaccompanied by any apparent local inflammatory affection. We find it oftener in children than in adults; in the latter, however, there is an undiscernible inflammatory irritation in some of the organs, while in the former there is connected with it flying stitching pains, which, however, intermit. This form of febrile disease usually appears suddenly, without morbid premonitions, and then often becomes permanent because other complaints are superadded. The following symptoms are characteristic of this form of fever: Constant burning heat over the whole body, with redness of skin; distension and redness of

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the face; eyes glistening and prominent; respiration short and anxious; dry, red tongue, in rare cases it is somewhat coated with mucus; great thirst, constipation and even absence of dejections; inappetence; hot, red urine, which is passed in small quantities; sleeplessness, jactitation, restlessness, anxiety.—Slight delirium is present only when there is inflammatory irritation of the cerebrum connected.

In children the disease succumbs almost magically to a small dose of the highest dilution of *aconite*. If this does not occur within four hours it is necessary to repeat the dose.

Repeated experience has taught me that a drop of the eighteenth dilution is more effectual in adults than a small dose of the thirtieth. If this fever, namely in children, is united with a constant, short, spasmodic cough, it can seldom be allayed entirely by *aconite*, but requires the administration of repeated doses of *ipecacuanha* six, a dose every 2 or 3 hours.

Inflammatory fever may be also conjoined with other diseases. In this case the homœopathic physician, by accurately individualising the case at the sick-bed, can readily determine whether this affection requires the prior administration of a dose of aconite, or whether the fever can be allayed by the specific curative indicated by the *ensemble* of morbid phenomena.

Next to inflammatory fever we have aconite as the chief remedy against *inflammations* proper. If the inflammatory fever accompanying is of the character described, there can be no question that a dose of

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aconite is required in order to lessen the febrile affection, by which also a simultaneous diminution of the local affection is effected, even if aconite be not the specific for the inflammation itself.

Although some criterion for the exhibition of aconite in inflammations has been given by these specifications, I will nevertheless detail more specially those inflammations in which it is almost specific, or which at least without it cannot be readily allayed, they are:—

Pleurisy.—In this affection aconite is always indicated if violent stitching pains in one or the other sides of the chest appear on inspiring, with which, owing to the obstructed inspiration, a discouraged, anxious, fearful state is conjoined. We usually find connected with it a short dry cough, which is excited anew by every inspiration, and the sticking pain is each time experienced more vividly, which the patient endeavours to relieve by counter pressure with the hand on the affected spot. We here exhibit aconite twenty-four, and when very violent repeat it every 3 or 4 hours.

Pneumonia. Inflammation of the lungs.—When the disease appears with great violence; if the inflammation is preceded by severe chill and conjoined with oppression and stitches in the chest; if the hot stage succeeding this developes a plain picture of synochal fever, (as given above,) with quick, full pulse, which it is difficult to compress; if the patient complains of an oppressive, compressing, dull, sticking pain in the breast, which is increased on inspiration,

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and is united with anxious paroxysms; if the cough is violent, short, dry, only occasionally some little bloody, frothy expectoration; the face red, hot; the eyes shining vividly; then aconite twenty-four is again the chief remedy, which must be repeated as mentioned under pleurisy.

NERVOUS INFLAMMATIONS OF THE LUNGS.—The homœopathic physician must accurately note all of the morbid symptoms in order to make no mistake in the selection of a curative. When the pulse is still frequent, somewhat full; when there is dry heat and still some pain in the breast on respiring, which the patient plainly expresses by seizing the breast with his hands, or by the facial expression, a dose of aconite is always requisite in order to insure the favourable effects of the succeeding remedies; *bryonia, rhus, pulsat., arnica, conium, lycopod., &c.*

INFLAMMATION OF THE LARYNX AND BRONCHIA.—Although inflammations of mucous membranes do not properly belong to the cycle of diseases which are curable with aconite, still this disease forms an exception to the rule. Aconite plays an important part in these affections, and must at least at the commencement be administered several times when the symptoms are constituted as I shall mention immediately, and often suffices to remove the whole disease, or in some cases at least to overcome the greatest danger. In *inflammation of the larynx* the patient complains of a fixedb urning pain in the region of the larynx, which is much exacerbated by touch, speaking, swallowing and coughing, whereby

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the voice is much altered, is usually fine or painfully hoarse, suffocative symptoms very violent, and respiration easier when the head is thrown backwards. A similar, or at least an equally violent state we find in the first stage of *angina membranacea*, in which case aconite thirty is likewise indicated, which dose must be repeated in 3 or 4 hours in *laryngitis*, but in angina membranacea it must give way to a remedy better adapted to the then stage of the disease. Inflammation of the bronchia occurs in the same category with laryngitis, or at least it cannot be rigidly separated, and when they occur simultaneously there is no change in the treatment. The former is likewise known by the name angina pectoris. It might not be improper to speak of asthma thymicum or spasmus glottidis. I nevertheless omit mention of it here, as aconite is required but in the minimum of cases, and only then when the inflammatory state predominates in the premonitory stage. This asthmatic affection when developed indicates besides, *hepar sulph.*, *spongia*, and *tart. emet.*, *arsenic*, *sambucus*, *mercur.*, *moschus* and *ammon. carb.**

We often find it in children uncomplicated, or in connection with measles and hooping cough it often appears suddenly, and again is preceded by catarrh. Patient complains of a raw, burning sensation, diffused over the whole breast with constriction and

* An interesting experience of the cure of asthma thymicum Koppii, with *ammon. carb.*, has been made by Dr. G. Lingen of this city.—*Translator.*

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oppression, with which the respiration is hurried, painful, and laboured, and constantly becomes more anxious, and is united with suffocative paroxysms. It is generally accompanied by an extremely violent fever, precisely similar to that which indicates the exhibition of aconité, and which at first led me to the application of this remedy. I several times found a similar state existing during the course of influenza, and even the loose mucous cough which sometimes accompanies this malady did not prevent me exhibiting aconite. Hoarseness was never present, and remissions of the complaint seldom occurred. I administered two or three globules of the twenty-fourth dilution, but have also treated individual cases where I was obliged to exhibit a whole drop of this dilution, because no reaction of the organism followed the smaller dose. This disease—*angina pectoris*—belongs to those which, under allopathic treatment, very often terminates fatally; but treated homœopathically, as above described, is always fortunately overcome.

CARDITIS. INFLAMMATION OF THE HEART.—In this affection aconite is indispensable—it is here like blood-letting to the allopathist. In this inflammation it is not the pale altered countenance which is more a reflection of the internal anxiety and inquietude which determines the choice of the remedy, which, guided by this alone, would not readily fall upon *aconite;* but there are a number of other symptoms which cannot be so readily found in the symptomatic category of any other remedy as in that of

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aconite. This inflammation may come on gradually from repeated mental struggles, or suddenly, it is of the same importance, provided some or many of the symptoms to be mentioned are present: palpitation of the heart, accompanied by the utmost inquietude and anxiety, conjoined with an indescribable burning pain in the cardiac region, frequent paroxysms of syncope, and the utmost thoracic oppression: there is often superadded to this agonizing jactitation, sudden weakness and prostration: respiration is hurried and short, without being accompanied by painful sensation in the breast, and becomes more laboured and often sighing as the disease increases. The irregularity of the pulse so often present is no contra indication to the exhibition of aconite. Repetition, and frequent repetition of the remedy is here imperative, and the highest dilution is best adapted. The most proper method is to dissolve from two to three globules in two or three ounces of water, of which a teaspoonful is to be taken every quarter of an hour, and as the disease abates, the intervals of its exhibition must be prolonged. The symptoms which remain after the vascular excitement has been allayed, succumb to the remedies next adapted, *nux vom.*, *bryonia*, *pulsatilla*. When there is an obtuse painfulness of the whole chest, a kind of bruised-like feeling, *arnica* is the proper curative.

DIAPHRAGMITIS. INFLAMMATION OF THE DIAPHRAGM.—This disease is not of such rare occurrence as physicians generally suppose; it is usually, however, considered identical with pleurisy: in small

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which usually continues until early in the morning. If the application of globules, moistened with aconite, does not produce relief, aconite eighteen or twenty-four in a fluid state must be exhibited. A new dose is required as soon as the improvement which has began to take place retrogrades; that is, when the pains begin again to be more acute.

HEPATITIS. INFLAMMATION OF THE LIVER.—I will admit that another remedy might deserve preference to aconite in this affection, but this, however, is no cause why we should deny to it all sanative power in this disease. I certainly know, for I speak from my own experience, that aconite is a remedy not to be disparaged in hepatitis—it is often even an indispensable curative, particularly if the patient complains of a burning stinging pain in the hepatic region, below the false ribs, on the right side, which renders respiration oppressed, and is made worse by a short dry cough: the part affected is tense, swollen, and feels hot, and is accompanied by very violent synochal fever, with a somewhat hard, full, accelerated pulse and dry heat.

ANGINA TONSILLARIS. In this inflammatory affection, occurring in very robust individuals with considerable fever, but without suppurative symptoms, where there is great dryness of the mouth internally, aconite in frequently repeated doses always proves beneficial: the inflammation is often allayed by this remedy alone: in many cases, however, it leaves the disease in such a state, that then a dose of merc. solubilis suffices to completely remove it. I have

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much less frequently found *belladonna* adapted after aconite.

OPHTHALMIA OF VARIOUS KINDS.—The first variety is that which arises from the entrance of a foreign body between the eye-ball and the lids: the albuginea is frequently highly injected from this cause; a pressing, stitching pain diffuses itself over the whole eye; it weeps, and is usually very sensitive to light. When it is possible to remove the foreign body, it is imperative to attempt this and then administer aconite thirty, after which, in the couse of a few hours, every trace of the injury is effaced. If the foreign body cannot be removed, in consequence of the excessive sensibility of the eye, this may be allayed in the course of a few hours by a dose of aconite—and what was previously impracticable may now be performed with ease. If an inflammation of this nature has, through neglect, become chronic, it is nevertheless always advisable before exhibiting a remedy of more permanent effect to precede it by a small dose of aconite.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM. INFLAMMATION OF THE EYES OF NEW-BORN CHILDREN. It appears a few days after birth, and is most frequently excited by the impinging of dazzling rays of light on the eye yet unaccustomed to day light.*

Sensibility of the eye to light, is the primary symptom, soon after which a slight redness of the

* A not unfrequent cause of this ophthalmy is the acrid secretions in the vaginal passages of mothers labouring under blenorrhagic affections; in such cases aconite is of little service. *Sulphur* will usually be found specific.—*Translator.*

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palpebral conjunctiva appears, particularly in the internal canthus, and the lids secrete an adhesive mucus. In this stage of the disease, aconite in the smallest dose is always indicated, and always shows its sanative power. If the disease has continued longer, a second dose is sometimes requisite. But even in more aggravated forms of this disease the homœopathist does right to precede the administration of the curative adapted by a dose of aconite. *Ignatia*, according to the experience of some, proves specific in these cases.

Taraxis and Chemosis. I must suppose the homœopathic physician acquainted with ophthalmic affections, as I do not intend to give the characteristic distinctions of affections of both eyes, but merely to state the symptoms which undoubtedly require the exhibition of aconite. Both these affections occur very frequently and only differ in degree: they belong to the *uncomplicated inflammations of the external globe of the eye*, and their seat is in the conjunctiva of the ball, in the cornea and sclerotica, particularly in the anterior part. Ophthalmia arising from the entrance of a foreign body into the eye belongs to this section; but still we find it in inflammatory fevers, and as the result of congestion to the head. They must not be confounded with catarrhal ophthalmy in which there is always a far more confirmed blepharophthalmia glandulosa present, for which aconite is but seldom indicated.

At first the patient complains of a slight pressure, and the eye begins to redden, particularly in the in-

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ternal canthus: the greater the injection, the greater the sensibility of the eye to light—photophobia and weeping of the eyes supervene. (*Taraxis.*)

If the inflammation obtains more the upperhand, the pressing pains and the photophobia become more violent, and a sensitive tension in the eye itself supervenes,—(incipient *chemosis.*)

Repeated experience has taught me, that these inflammations succumb most rapidly to *aconite*, which in these cases, I have always exhibited in potence twenty-four, without any increase of the morbid phenomena.

Gouty Ophthalmia. Although aconite alone is but seldom capable of allaying this disease, it is, nevertheless, an indispensable preparatory remedy to the curatives indicated in such inflammation. If gout has been present, or if it still exists, and ophthalmy supervenes, it is evident that the latter must be influenced by the existing disease. In these cases I have exhibited aconite X, in order not entirely to destroy the effects of the remedy given for the general affection, for I have never had such an ophthalmy to treat without other gouty complaints being present, for which I had previously exhibited the proper curative.

Iritis. Infammation of the Iris. Iritis, when fully developed, does not succumb to the administration of aconite even if frequently repeated; other remedies which act more thoroughly are required for its cure; and it has not yet been sufficiently proven whether it is capable of retarding the super-

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vening disorganization in the second stage of the disease. It is applicable in the first stage alone when the patient complains of an obtuse, pressing pain in the depth of the eye, with concurrent contraction of the pupil, and gradual diminution of visual power, the motion of the iris is confined—the photophobia increases—the ring of the iris begins to become coloured, tumifies, and presses toward the cornea: the sclerotic coat is moderately injected: when these symptoms exist, aconite thirty-four, or six globules every four to six hours, is an admirable remedy to prevent the further developement of the disease, and to totally remove the morbid change which has already occurred. The chronic form of this ophthalmy, when the termination of an acute attack, or even if so disposed from its commencement, is allayed by several doses of this curative, if uncomplicated with morbid growth, in which case the cure will not be so readily completed with this remedy alone.

Acute Rheumatism and Acute Gout.—It is not necessary to mention that violent synochal fever, dry skin, conjoined with the morbid affection of the muscles and joints, always requires at first the exhibition of aconite. But still, when there is but slight febrile excitement, there may exist indications for the employment of aconite, and these we shall find in the following symptoms. The patients complain of twitching and bruise-like pain in the part affected, which is increased by motion and touch, and when it has ceased entirely is renewed again: a peculiarity of this is the great sensitiveness at night, and the

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torpid feeling in the morbid part: the painfulness of the whole body to the slightest touch, and feeling of the greatest debility immediately at the commencement of the rheumatic and arthritic attacks, so that the patient is not able to walk as is wont to be the case after a long sick spell, is completely characteristic for the exhibition of aconite. Dry burning heat, which produces inquietude when sleeping, is an additional criterion for its administration. In such cases, in delicate young children, we should use potence X, in adults twenty-four.

The homœopathic physician also acts consistently when he administers a dose of aconite in phlegmonous inflammation, or the so termed *inflammatio rheumatico-phlegmonosa*, where the inflammation affects the muscular parts very violently, with violent stinging, dragging pains, or sometimes shooting pains through the whole limb, accompanied with swelling, which threatens to terminate in suppuration. In such cases it almost always acts favourably, and leaves the disease in a milder state. In cases similar to these, I have convinced myself of the efficacy of the *extract of aconite*, one grain to four ounces of water, which I gave in teaspoonful doses every two or three hours, which usually produced a profuse offensive sweat, and therewith amelioration of all the symptoms.

An inflammation which frequently proves very harassing to patients, producing much pain, is that which occurs in individuals afflicted with *hæmorrhoids;* it does not succumb to remedies which appear

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to be indicated, and is readily excited by the passage of hardened fæces through the anus, by which the hæmorrhoidal tumours are extruded and bruised. When inflammation exists, the patient cannot obtain relief in any position; burning pains extend high up the rectum, the vascular system sympathises, excites palpitation of the heart, anxious paroxysms, in a word, regular synochal fever. This is, however, the fully developed form for which every homœopathic physician would exhibit no other remedy than aconite; at its commencement probably but few would think of its administration; it then, however, in doses frequently repeated, not only prevents its progress, but in a few hours removes the affection.

These are the principal inflammatory affections in which experience amply attests the great efficacy of aconite. That it may be applied in other inflammatory diseases is certain: but still I consider it unnecessary to specify these uses more in detail, as from what has already been mentioned, it will not be difficult for the homœopathist to decide whether it is advisable or not to precede other remedies with one or more doses of aconite. I would yet call attention in this place to *hydrocephalus acutus*, if it is conjoined with synochal fever from the commencement.

We come now to speak of *exanthematous diseases*, in the cure of which, likewise, aconite performs a prominent part, but still its effects are limited, even when applied to those eruptions in which its influence has been considered settled, as in scarlet rash, measles, &c. The observation is neither new nor strange

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to me that a remedy does not always prove specific in one and the same forms of disease, for I have been convinced by experience, a hundred times repeated, of the instability of this assumption. This view is entertained by several homœopathists besides myself, and has at divers times been made public. Homœopathy is a specific mode of cure, but only for each individual case; and even in epidemics, when the physician has found the specific, it will not answer for every individual case during its continuance, because every change in the constitution of the atmosphere, (which is appreciated even by the healthy organism,) effects a change in the morbid form prevailing; we may learn from this why we do not find a remedy indicated after the lapse of eight to fourteen days in a disease which appears with apparently the same symptoms, and are forced to select a different one. When cholera prevails, almost every disease partakes of the character of cholera, and still every disease requires its particular curative. The cholera itself, similar as one case appeared to the other, was not treated with the same remedies in all climates, or even provinces, in which it appeared. An epidemic hooping-cough, compared with a former one, appears to be almost the same, and we would suppose, from the great similarity between the symptoms of hooping-cough and those of *drosera rotundifolia*, that this latter must prove a specific in this disease, but still it is not so. Allopathy has recognised *sulphur* as a specific for the *itch*, but still this does not hold good generally, as every homœopath, in common with

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myself, will have experienced. Specifics which, unchanged, and under all circumstances, remove the same disease, we are yet in want of, and will be to all eternity; for the human organism is a changeable entity, and as long as it exists as a living thing, in no age or time, or under any circumstances, is it the same—it is always different. Why, then, should it astonish us, that aconite, which is known as a specific in some exanthematous affections, should not be so in all cases.

Aconite proves specific in *scarlet rash* (scharlach friesel) according to the statement of Hahnemann, and the numerous observations of the other homœopathic physicians confirm this claim. But still, aconite is not to be given in this exanthematous disease as such; but here, as in all other diseases, the symptoms must justify its application. It is undoubtedly applicable if a number of the following symptoms exist: violent excitement of the vascular system, which is vividly manifest in the whole head, by the redness of the face, distension and pulsation of the vessels of the head, eyes injected and shining, and even slight delirium; violent stinging, burning over the whole body, with general redness and great desire for internal and external coolness, the utmost excitability, inquietude and anxiety; pulse quick, full and hard, frequent evacuation of urine in small quantities and of a high colour. This orgasmus sanguinis, this congestion of blood to the head, usually the precursor of a dangerous inflammation of the brain, the stagnation of blood in other organs, for instance, the lungs,

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in the pharynx, &c., which very quickly terminate in inflammation of these parts, and all the other phenomena mentioned, which go hand in hand with the developement of an epidemic scarlet rash, or at least announce the irruption of the eruption, cannot be relieved by any remedy sooner than by aconite, which at the same time prevents a termination in a dangerous disease, and insures a mild course of the succeeding stages of the scarlet rash.

We but seldom accomplish our object in this disease with a single dose of this remedy—several doses are usually required, the repetition of which depends upon the greater or less violence of the morbid symptoms, and it must be repeated more frequently the more acute and rapid the progress of the disease; and it is possible that it may require repetition every two or three hours, while in other cases, where the disease appears less dangerous, a new dose is not required for from six to eight hours. In patients of strong constitution, I have used the eighteenth or twenty-fourth dilution; in young and sensitive individuals the thirtieth. I would here direct attention to the sterling treatise of *Dr. Trinks in Hartlaubs und Trinks Annalen IV. B. S.* 1.

I dare not omit mentioning that aconite has proved beneficial as a *prophylactic* in epidemic scarlet rash; but still this is not a confirmed effect, and it can be attested only by future true observations, whether something settled upon this point can be confirmed. With the view to its prophylactic effect, I have ad-

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ministered it alternately with belladonna, and of course let it act longer than the latter.

Measles. Aconite can be exhibited even in the *Stad. febrile* where the catarrhal state predominates with hoarseness, raw feeling and oppression of the breast, slight ophthalmia, &c.; it is, however, still better adapted to the eruptive stage, (stad. eruptionis,) particularly if the fever is of a synochal character, and is conjoined with great sensation of dulness, with heat in the head, vertigo, eyes much injected, photophobia, distension of the face, debility and prostration.

It is not less indispensable, if at this period some local affections terminate in inflammation; the latter is always allayed by this remedy, and the *ensemble* of the disease rendered much milder and shortened. The more or less frequent repetition of the doses, as in scarlet rash, depends upon the rapid course of the disease. If the excited vascular system has become tranquil, and all of the functions of the patient are in a normal state, neither aconite nor any other remedy is required, even if the eruption still remains; this latter soon disappears without the aid of art. But as long as there exists inflammatory excitement, even after the disappearance of the eruption, aconite must be repeated.

Rubeola. If it appears with violent fever of a synochal character the application of aconite is required.

Urticaria. This remedy is likewise to be recommended in this cutaneous eruption, when it does

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not appear as the consequence of other diseases, in which case it appears secondarily, and therefore does not always indicate the exhibition of aconite.

Nettle rash during confinement, which is often produced by keeping women inordinately warm while in child-bed, by lowering the temperature to a moderate grade, finds a speedy curative in aconite, while the eruption if left to itself continues for a long time, and frequently recurs, even when we have been sure of its disappearance. That aconite must be specifically indicated in this cutaneous eruption, is proved by the itching and burning which it excites in the healthy human body, which we likewise observe in parts affected with nettle rash. Therefore, too, its curative power in the nettle rash of new-born infants, in which cases the great restlessness is an additional criterion for the application of this remedy.

Intertrigo. Aconite is applicable in these cases, particularly at the beginning of the treatment, if the base of the eruption is much inflamed and the child very restless.

In congestions, ebullitions of blood and hæmorrhages of various kinds, aconite is a remedy whose place cannot be supplied. It is an undeniable fact, that in all cases where allopathy is accustomed to apply venesection, homœopathia produces the quickest and most permanent relief by the application of aconite. It is namely in those congestions and ebullitions of blood which are often produced by trifling causes and slight mental emotions, which, if not interfered with, frequently pass into acute inflam-

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mation of some important organ. How often do we see, after *simultaneous anger and fright*, those congestions to the head, breast, or uterus in the latter, usually followed by sudden suppression of the catamenia if then present; and it is only by a quick remission of these complaints that we prevent some graver pathological change, and this is by no means so rapidly and permanently effected by copious venesection as by a single dose of aconite thirty. The morbid symptoms after anger, are usually so constituted, that chamomilla indicates them most nearly: but still there are cases where this remedy effects but little, and aconite is much better adapted. I recollect a symptom which patients express by the phrase "it will press my heart out:" (es will mir das Herz abdruecken:) a true stagnation of blood in the heart and large vessels, conjoined with want of air, spasms of the chest, the utmost anxiety, and almost complete loss of pulse, &c. Attacks succeeding excessive joy, are often constituted in a like manner; and although coffea is best indicated in these cases, it nevertheless has often happened to me, that on account of the *excessive nervous irritability*, causing the remedy *to act too powerfully*, or else to produce no effect, I have exhibited aconite thirty, either to smell or take internally.

Paroxysms of grief, it is well known, find a remedy in ignatia. Aconite, on the other hand, is far superior to this remedy when excessive nervous irritability is produced from long continued grief, which then is often conjoined with congestion to the head,

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cerebral obstupefaction, excessive sensibility of the head, of the eyes to light, epistaxis, &c. Against the latter, when dependent on general plethora, aconite is of much service.

Who knows of a remedy better adapted than aconite to palpitation of the heart, often united with pain producing inquietude excited by mental affections, (for instance, anger and various passions,) which by frequent recurrence become carditis, and is frequently conjoined with a sensation of fulness, tension, oppression, with a feeling of rising warmth, or ebullition in the breast, general vascular fever and pains in the limbs: this remedy must be repeated when the disease recurs.

The sudden suppression of the catamenia while flowing, after mental emotions, often produces such an orgasm of blood in the womb, as to render the speediest aid desirable. The great inquietude of the whole body, the sensation of fulness in the abdomen, with inclination to syncope, the paleness of face and loss of pulse, require the quick application of aconite in the smallest dose, which should be supported by a positive magnetic stroke.

Congestions to the head are characterized by distension of the veins of the head, violent pulsation of the carotids and cephalic arteries, heat, redness, and puffiness of the face, vertigo, violent headache with delirium: under unfavourable circumstances these symptoms may become so aggravated that apoplexia sanguinea supervenes; before its complete developement the patient complains of myopia, roaring in

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the ears, heaviness, inertia and coldness of the limbs; the face is tumefied, appears of a violet colour, and the pulse is full and slow. I do not detail more minutely the symptoms of apoplexia sanguinea, as I take it for granted, that the readers of these essays are sufficiently conversant with them; I will, however, remark, that both for the symptoms specified, and those of confirmed apoplexy, aconite in the highest dilution proves very serviceable, and at first, must be repeated at short intervals.

In *hæmorrhagia pulmonum, (bleeding from the lungs,)* I have very often experienced the rapid curative powers of aconite, and, I do not proceed too far, when I place it at the head of the category of the remedies recommended in this disease. Aconite does much in those congestions which precede this hæmorrhage, by which the latter is frequently prevented, which of course, in such cases, I could only know certainly where they were usually succeeded by pulmonary hæmorrhage.

Aconite may with certainty be recommended in this form of hæmorrhage, when it is produced by slight hawking, accompanied by that anxious ebullition which precedes it, with sensation of fulness, burning, palpitation of the heart, anxiety and inquietude; the latter particularly becoming insupportable on lying down. A weak, thread-like, and scarcely perceptible pulse and pale face, expressive of anxiety, are inseparable concomitants: the blood appears at intervals, and is often expectorated in large quantities. The reader of course understands, without

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being reminded, that the smallest dose of aconite should be exhibited, as all medicinal aggravation must be avoided on account of the incalculable injury which might result. I have often seen, after the lapse of two or three minutes, remission of the most critical symptoms when the proper dose has been exhibited: (the patient must determine whether the twenty-fourth or thirtieth dilution is to be preferred:) the anxiety, inquietude, palpitation of the heart and ebullition in the breast subside, so that the momentary danger at least is allayed. On every slight recurrence of the morbid symptoms, a new dose of aconite should be exhibited; but if no relapse occur, still the repetition of the dose of aconite, after five or six hours, is generally advisable.

Whether aconite is able to effect anything in *hæmatemesis* I cannot decide certainly from want of sufficient experience: its curative power in this disease is certain and indisputable, when it is conjoined with that vehement vascular excitement, which is removed with most certainty by aconite; and by allaying this, much is already gained towards producing a remission of all the symptoms.

In *prosopalgia* I have often applied aconite with effect, chiefly when the pains are of an inflammatory nature, continuous, and appear chiefly in fleshy parts, with inflammatory swelling, throbbing, chill, &c. Aconite is a powerful intercurrent remedy or even curative in pure nervous prosopalgiæ, where the pains are of a crawling, burning nature, as if depending on ulceration, appearing paroxysmally and

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affecting the superior maxillary bone, the articulation of the jaw, and the cheeks.

In acute diseases, where all remedies which seem to be indicated are ineffectual, or affect too powerfully without improvement, aconite often removes very quickly this *hyper-excitation* of the nervous system; by this treatment the remedies which are then indicated act more favourably. When sudden debility and prostration supervenes in diseases, so that the patient is scarcely able to walk a few steps, I have likewise always applied this remedy with effect.

In apathic mania, aconite deserves attention among the remedies indicated, and is yet more worthy of note if we observe this affection in an individual of a sanguine, lymphatic temperament, and perceive that it arises from a direct effect upon the cerebrum, exciting its sensibility. I have had occasion to treat two cases of this nature in childbed, the patient vividly imagining that she would not survive her confinement, and that she was yet in the first stage of pregnancy, and had been dragged into child-bed; which, when the irritability and sensibility is most aggravated, produces that dangerous state which is recognised by violent fever, with deep redness of the cheeks and delirium, conjoined with almost complete suppression of the lochial discharge. During the day the patient was more quiet, reserved, apathic, not answering any questions, or looking fixedly at the inquirer, and then breaking out into laughing or crying, without partaking of food or drink, with dry lips,

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and full, frequent pulse; in the night, on the contrary, two nurses were amply employed to prevent her jumping from her bed, and gettting out of it, or in appeasing her. If the latter occurred and the patient fell asleep, scarce five minutes elapsed before she was aroused by a violent fright, and the former scene was repeated anew. The whole disease was completely allayed in eight hours, at the extent, by a single dose of this remedy, and the confinement passed quietly. When the symptoms appear thus characteristic of a remedy, the selection is not difficult, and in such cases the practice of medicine, to the homœopathist at least, is productive of the utmost satisfaction.

In some kinds of *paralysis* of particular parts, after being heated, followed by sudden cold, where there is great painfulness of the suffering part to the touch, and great excitation of the vascular system, I have always found aconite twenty-four, indicated, and serviceable without any necessity of repetition of the dose.

The frequent recurrence of *inflammation in the lungs of phthisical subjects*, which is announced by sticking pains in the part affected, increased cough with somewhat bloody sputa, great fever with deep circumscribed redness of the cheeks, is best met by one or more doses of aconite, without annihilating the effects of the antipsoric remedies previously administered.

In *odontalgia*, of a pulsating and sticking nature, with a feeling of congestion to the head, I several

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times gave aconite with good effect; when the pains were very violent I let the patient merely smell it.

Concussive, *nocturnal spasmodic* cough, (in great smokers,) kept up by a tickling sensation in the larynx, in individuals who otherwise did not complain much of cough, but always had a lively, ruddy complexion, I have frequently allayed by a single globule of aconite.

I have given a patient afflicted with *asthma humidum*, which was made known by shortness of breath, and was much increased by speaking, motion, &c., and scarce permitted any other than a sitting posture, aconite $\frac{6}{30}$ six doses, one every three hours. In this case there were febrile phenomena of very obscure character, the pulse was but slightly excited or accelerated, there was sleeplessness, languor, the urine dark, and depositing a reddish sediment, increased thirst. Without farther indications I gave this remedy in order to afford a wider sphere of action for the succeeding remedies, which had hitherto been fruitlessly employed according to similarity of symptoms; by this treatmeant not merely the collateral symptoms, but the asthma itself, was so much improved, that but few remedies were required in order to produce complete restoration, and among them *stannum* in particular proved efficient.

I must not omit that aconite has been, and still is, administered in doses frequently repeated in *intermittent fever*, on the principle that every particular intermittent attack should be considered as a synocha. In particular cases it has succeeded, in others this method was entirely fruitless.

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BRYONIA ALBA.

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BRYONIA ALBA.

The root of this plant, which alone is used for homœopathic purposes, is long, almost spindleform, very large and strong, frequently more than arm thick, blunt at the end, sometimes knotty; externally it is of a greyish-yellow colour, with somewhat elevated annular streaks; internally it is white, pulpy, containing a lactescent juice, particularly in the spring of the year, and when cut transversely, presents annular radii. When fresh it has an extremely unpleasant smell, and a nauseous, acrid, bitter, and somewhat astringent taste. When dry it is spongy, mealy, and of a pale yellow colour. As it grows almost all over Germany, and throughout Europe generally, we are always able to obtain it fresh for our purposes; with this view, however, it should be gathered before blooming; that is, previous to the beginning of June, in order to make a strong tincture from the fresh expressed juice, mixed with equal parts of alcohol, which should be raised to the thirtieth dilution.

The reader will find my views respecting the size of the dose in the treatise on aconite; I can, therefore, properly omit repetition of them in this place, and have merely occasion to remark, that I use this

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remedy also in the various dilutions, as I deem proper, according to my individual views; but still I seldom descend lower than dilution twelve, but am not on this account of the opinion that there could not be cases in which a lower dilution would be indicated.

Although morning is said to be the best time to apply this remedy, yet I have never had a case in which I was forced by circumstances to exhibit it at another time of the day in which I witnessed any material disadvantage result; on which account in urgent cases, I now have no compunctions in exhibiting it at any hour of the day or night. It is well known that the symptoms of bryonia are excited or increased by motion; and from this property it is very often applicable in disease where this peculiarity exists.

The effects of this remedy, according to Hahnemann, continue several weeks; indeed, I have myself witnessed the favourable operation of a small dose of this remedy continue for several weeks in chronic diseases, and have generally found the rapid repetition of it less necessary than that of many others, which, according to my opinion, is not to be looked upon as something peculiar to it; (for if the law of repetition of remedies be true, it must be confirmed throughout, and this remedy alone would then not form any exception to this rule;) but much more depends on the great coincidence of remedial symptoms with those of the disease.

Whether bryonia is indicated particularly by any

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temperament, I am unable to state with certainty, but believe, from numerous observations, that I am right in concluding that it best answers in the sanguine choleric, for it is adapted to external irritability, irascibility, &c.

Among the antidotes in addition to camphor and rhus toxicodendron, mentioned by Hahnemann, chamomilla, aconitum, nux and ignatia are to be noted.

Thus much in general. The special consideration of this remedy will show in what particular morbid states it clearly developes its curative powers, which accurate observations and experience ab uso in morbis has taught us. I follow here the same course which governed me in treating of aconite, and will likewise, with this remedy, commence with the febrile affections, in which it has proved beneficial.

INFLAMMATORY FEVERS. They differ essentially from those in which aconite is indicated; the internal heat is more developed than the external, and the patients complain much of violent thirst for cold liquids; conjoined, there is frequent alternations of chill and heat, or both exist simultaneously; the latter internally, the former perceptible externally. An inflammatory fever, in which bryonia is indicated, never appears isolated, it always affects another system, either the productive, the reproductive, or the sensitive sympathises: the phenomena at the beginning of the fever are versatile, seldom constant: the developement of heat, and the full bounding pulse, is so vehement, that it leads the physician to believe aconite indicated, which also produces an apparent

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alleviation of the affection. If all the symptoms which appear in these febrile affections, are accurately noticed, namely, the outward pressing cephalalgia in the forehead and temples, which is relieved by counter-pressure with the hands—the peculiar excited disposition of the patient, the forcible violence in speaking and acting, the physician would not readily waver between aconite and bryonia, in reference to which remedy was best indicated.

But still this is one of those errors inseparable from humanity, and from which the physician is not exempt. Who then would reproach him if he exhibited aconite where bryonia was indicated, which might indeed afford relief but is unable to prevent a relapse? New and violent exacerbation must naturally ensue, as the remedy given can afford palliative aid only. Reciprocal tolerance among medical brethren is a sterling virtue which should be carefully cultivated by every physician, but it nevertheless is of rare occurrence. On this account many young physicians, particularly incipient homœopathists, would condemn the practitioner who had committed the error above mentioned. For myself I would not, as it was, after many years experience, and the commission of many similar blunders, that I was first led to the distinguishing phenomena; which, however, cannot be learned by any statement, but by personal observation at the sick-bed.

I dare not, however, omit mentioning that the recurrence of this mistake favours the termination of this inflammatory in a

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Nervous fever, which character, however, it may assume from the first. I will here give, more in detail, the particular nervous state in which *bryonia* is indicated. Its chief curative effects are manifested in that variety generally known as *Febris nervosa versatilis*, or better *Febris nervosa cum erithismo*, the symptoms always denote a congestion to the brain, a state of excitement which, on the slightest occasioning cause, may terminate in inflammation of the organ of sensibility. The flightiness and delirium of the patient are vivid, but change rapidly; the objects which are taken cognizance of, do not long remain the same; the patient cries out or starts violently while in gentle slumber, and he then complains that something entirely unimportant prevents his sleeping, or has interrupted him, when just fallen asleep.

The congestions which exist are characterized by beating, darting, rending, sticking, dissevering pains, with heat in the head, the increasing violence of which is often sufficient to excite the delirium before mentioned. Heat of face is but seldom absent, although the turgescence, so characteristic of belladonna, does not exist, the great thirst which is conjoined is not united with universal heat and dryness of mouth, against which belladonna can almost always be applied with benefit, if no contra-indicatory cephalic symptoms predominate, but it is conjoined with alternate rigours and chills, producing shivering of the whole body. It is well to note the gastric complications with nervous fever to which bryonia is

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adapted, and which I shall immediately subject to close consideration, from whence the reader may direct himself to the application of this curative in *gastric-nervous fever*. I must not omit that in these fevers, I have seldom employed any dilution but the eighteenth, and have subsequently repeated the dose when symptoms indicatory of its application remained.

Gastric and gastric bilious fever.—If bryonia is the proper remedy, some of the following phenomena must present themselves to the notice of the physician. Before treating more specially, I will premise that chilliness and coldness of the whole body, conjoined with inordinate irritability, are characteristic symptoms in this state for the exhibition of bryonia. Besides this, foul, coated tongue, bitter taste in the mouth, nausea, retching without emesis, water flowing out of the mouth, inappetence, after every ingestion of food or drink great desire to vomit, which even terminates in absolute vomiting of food and afterwards of bile, succeeded by unquenchable thirst. After taking food, in addition to qualmishness, the patient complains of insupportable oppressive sensation of fulness in the epigastric and hepatic regions, with which there becomes united a troublesome, pressing head-ache, which increases the inquietude and anxiety of the patient. The face is unusually red and hot, but the patient complains of chilliness, and the pulse is full and accelerated; constipation, or at least difficult evacuation of stool, is a constant symptom. It is but seldom that overloading the stomach

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occasions this fever; we see it supervene much more frequently after mental disturbances, particularly after violent and long continued paroxysms of anger. We apply the remedy as before directed.

Similar morbid symptoms are developed in affections of the liver and gall bladder, as I have several times observed them in the same patient, whose previous medical attendant attributed the origin of her disease to *biliary calculi*, and for six weeks strove ineffectually to overcome it by remedial agents, until finally, the administration of an emetic, soon allayed the complaint. I undertook the patient when labouring under symptoms of cramp in the stomach, and treated it with the usual remedies: the disease was allayed for more than six months, when my patient became pregnant, and in about two months afterwards was suddenly afflicted with her old complaint, which was constituted as follows: very violent pains in the gastric region, which obliged her to bend forward—appearing without any known exciting cause. The patient describes her pains as a complication of tensive feeling, stinging and burning, which, after the lapse of one hour, were experienced less in the gastric than in the hepatic region, at which part there is tension, plainly visible externally. The point at which the gall-bladder is situated, is very sensitive to external pressure, even the slightest, producing a recurrence of the pain, which had hardly abated, and aggravates it to such a degree, that the patient throws herself about in bed, crying loudly "kill me;" and after enduring the pain from a quarter to half an

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hour, sinks into a state of syncope. The patient moreover, frequently vomited greenish-yellow bilious matter, mixed with mucus, which always occurred together with the pain after eating a mouth full or two, and after which she complained of unquenchable thirst. Her alvine dejections were tolerably regular: the pulse was small and contracted, but not too quick. The longer the pain continued, the more her skin assumed a jaundiced hue; and the more rapidly this latter symptom occurred, the sooner could the complete disappearance of pain be prognosticated. The appearance of jaundice, which I saw three times during these attacks, rendered the presence of gall stones not improbable. The disease recurred in spring and autumn. The effects of remedies administered, in consequence of the violence of the disease, were but transient: the proper curative had, therefore, to be repeated at short intervals. The first time that I was called to this patient, I believed I could relieve her by waiting for the effects of the remedies, and by changing them; but by this method I consumed fourteen days before a complete cure. The second time I applied large doses, but still the disease did not succumb until the eleventh day. The third time I removed it in seven days; at this time longer intervals of rest were obtained; and although the pains were still very violent, they were much milder than during the preceding attacks. The chief remedy, while the gastralgia existed, was ipecacuanha II every half hour: during the remission I sometimes gave *nux*, sometimes *china*, and

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again *mercur.*, or *bryonia.** This latter remedy, as I convinced myself beyond doubt the last time I treated her, was followed by longer remissions; and I therefore repeated it on the next remission; and by its aid produced a more rapid appearance of the jaundice, which then soon succumbed to a dose of *digitalis.*

As I have entered on the subject of gastric affections, I will forthwith mention the kind of *constipation* in which *bryonia* is a curative. Obstruction is always more or less complicated with other abdominal disturbances, which the physician cannot without difficulty appreciate; this must be done by accurate examination of the patient. We then often find, that the patient in addition to constipation, complains of a pressing sensation in the stomach and epigastrium after eating; the appetite fails, or he is attacked with a voracious appetite, succeeded by qualmishness, rapid flush of heat in the face, obstupefaction, and oppressive heaviness of the head.

The lower dilutions are more proper than the higher in these cases, as they soon overcome the disease, without exciting any new symptoms. Obstruction of intestinal evacuations occurring during pregnancy, likewise often requires this remedy. *Bryonia* is still more worthy of attention in a consti-

* I have had an opportunity of witnessing the power of bryonia in allaying the violent pain produced by the presence of biliary calculi, in the unequivocal case of a female, who had suffered for many years, and had frequently passed gall stones.—*Translator.*

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pated state of the bowels during confinement, because in these cases, it is frequently dependent on an inflammatory excitement of some of the most deep seated organs of the abdomen, which are often admirably indicated by it. In the two first cases, experience has taught me, that the alternate application of *bryonia* and *nux*, is often very salutary. On this property of removing obstructions of the intestinal canal, depends its curative power in a case of *miserere*, which I am not able to recount accurately, as it was mentioned to me *en passant*. Bryonia undoubtedly ranks next to *opium* in such cases.

PUERPERAL FEVER. In this class of diseases, the cases in which, according to my experience, bryonia is adapted, are conjoined more or less with inflammation of the organs of generation. Be the exciting causes what they may, fright, anger, grief, anxiety, error in diet, or supposed perspiration, the homœopathist will strive to relieve by the remedy indicated; but will always have recourse to bryonia eighteen or twenty-four, if the patient, with internal heat and great thirst, complains of a sensation of chillness externally. The additional criteria are—violent pressing pains of the head, chiefly in the forehead and temples, which by their violence are followed by obtuseness of the senses, and even delirium, and are almost always conjoined with flushed, distended face; although that shining, fiery expression, denoting madness, which so characteristically indicates the exhibition of belladonna, is wanting.

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Other characteristic symptoms are—constipation, (but still not for the first five or six days after delivery, when it is to be regarded as the regular course of confinement,) copious evacuation of urine, with burning sensation when urinating: recurrence of sanguineous lochia, which had disappeared, which only appears to be suppressed when there are inflammatory symptoms in the uterus or ovaries, which is manifested by burning, sticking pains, aggravated by touch and motion, and from painfulness of the lower extremity on the side affected: the acidulous sweats at night, and the unquenchable nocturnal thirst are likewise characteristic in these cases: flow of, as well as absence of milk in the breasts, (sudden disappearance of the milk in the breasts, *metastasis of the milk*,) neither indicates, or contra-indicates this remedy, provided the other symptoms demand it. I must not omit the fretful, sad, desponding, and disheartened tone of mind, alternating with inordinate excitability and paroxysms of rage, which will certainly decide all doubt on the part of the physician, even if all the other morbid symptoms do not sufficiently indicate this remedy.

INTERMITTENT FEVERS. They are not of such rare occurrence,* although they do not often appear as uncomplicated intermittents, but are usually united with gastric, rheumatic, and other complaints. If the physician directs his attention less to these than the type of the febrile affection, he will often fail in

* Those cases to which *bryonia* is adapted is of course understood.—*Translator.*

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discovering the remedy adapted. I will not repeat here the gastric state as it should be found when united with intermittent fever, in order that bryonia may be the required curative: the reader will find it accurately mentioned a few pages before, and these symptoms when complicated with another disease, are not constituted differently from those there described. This is likewise the case with the rheumatic complaints which will be discussed below. The type of the fever, whether it be of the quotidian, tertian, or quartan, does not exclusively render bryonia adapted: when the symptoms correspond, it is adapted to any of the types. The stage in which the fever is ushered in, is characteristic for bryonia: it is usually preceded for some hours by a confused, vertiginous obstupefaction of the head, which is succeeded by a pressing headache, the exacerbation of which is conjoined with rigors, gaping, stretching of the limbs, which increases until actual chill sets in; with this the internal heat is manifested, as the patient, even during the cold stage, complains of thirst, which gradually increases as the hot stage is developing, so that it can scarcely be quenched; and is followed by retching and vomiting, from over filling the stomach with water: as this antiperistaltic motion continues, bilious matter is evacuated, which, by its irritating action in the region of the larynx, excites spasmodic cough, which constantly keeps up the retching, collateral remedies in these cases are *ipecacuanha*, *cina*, *pulsatilla*, *drosera*, *veratrum*—all in repeated doses before a new attack of fever.

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Lower dilutions of bryonia are here of more benefit than the higher.

In Inflammatory Diseases, *bryonia*, as well as aconite, is of the utmost importance, and often removes (after the previous exhibition of aconite, and also when entirely unaided by it) diseases extremely harassing to both the patient and his relatives: this is amply confirmed by numerous published cases. I shall likewise here proceed to give accurate statements of confirmed, characteristic symptoms, which in the various inflammatory affections, indicate the application of bryonia. In these forms of disease also, I apply this remedy in the various dilutions from the twelfth to the thirtieth.

If children, during an inflammatory disease constantly chew, (a motion of the jaw as if there was something in the mouth to chew,) like the ruminating animals, the homœopathic physician discovers in this unusual symptom, a good criterion for the application of bryonia, and will therefore not deny to this remedy a curative effect in *hydrocephalus acutus* or *febris hydrocephalica*, which is moreover founded on the following symptoms: constant slumber with slight delirium on awaking; fixed look with dilated pupils, which scarcely contract even when bright rays of light impinge: individuals speaking to the patient awaken him with difficulty from his lethargy, and his answers to questions, conjoined with his simple facial expression, plainly denote his inability to think, his imbecility: the pulse is accelerated, but weak; the patient partially passes his urine involuntarily,

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besides which, he very often passes it in small quantities. I have often observed conjointly with these symptoms, slight general spasms, with blueness of the face, and pulsation of the carotids, after the cessation of which, a continued coma supervened. In short, all the morbid symptoms present, point to a *cerebral disease dependent on mechanical causes.* The disease is too far advanced to exhibit belladonna or aconite, mercury likewise does not appear to be indicated. The numerous published observations point to *arnica* and *digitalis* where there are certain signs of cerebral effusion; but still neither of these two remedies has done as much for me as bryonia 18, which in several doubtful cases afforded relief in the course of a few days, where it was scarcely to be anticipated.

The majority of observations confirm the curative power which this remedy possesses in inflammations of the *thoracic organs*, but still I cannot gainsay the remark of that astute and accurate observer, Dr. Knorre,* "it appears to be next in importance to aconite in pneumonia," although Dr. Gross, in an annexed note, says that depends entirely on the peculiarity of the case. It is undoubtedly true, that in the most violent inflammation of the lungs and pleura, accompanied by fever of the synochal form, *aconite* should be preferred to all other remedies as the orgasm of the vascular system is allayed with the most certainty by it, which no other remedy accomplishes in the same degree: and this, according to

* Vid. Allgem. Hom. Zeitung. B. 5, No. 5.

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my views, is the chief object in most violent inflammatory diseases: the removal of the local affection which remains, by the remedy next adapted is accomplished with far more facility. Inflammatory diseases of less violence, or such as do not appear with such turbulent symptoms of excited vascular action, succumb to specific remedies without the prior administration of *aconite*. And these particularly are the cases in which bryonia is indicated from the commencement.

Pneumonia. Inflammation of the Lungs. I do not here speak of those morbid symptoms which unquestionably require the administration of aconite; the reader will find them specially given in the treatise on aconite, and from these will be able to determine whether aconite or bryonia is indicated. The symptoms to which bryonia is adapted are: sticking, burning pains, not over acute in one or the other sides, or the middle of the chest, or between the shoulders, when inspiring; more violent when coughing: the cough is not at this time entirely dry, but begins to become loose: the sputa is mostly mucous, streaked with blood, but not frothy; yellowish masses are often expectorated, after which relief is experienced: the pains in the breast are often aggravated by motion of the chest and arms, a sign that the pleura and pectoral muscles are conjointly affected. (*Pleuritic affection.*) Asthma, dyspnœa, with great sense of anxiety in the chest, are seldom wanting.

Bryonia will always be found in the category of remedies indicated, if there exist rheumatic pains in

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the extremities. Gastric complaints are frequently concomitants of this variety of inflammatory affection of the chest, which are manifested by a dirty coated tongue, bitter taste, qualmishness after every ingestion of food, vomiturition, sometimes even mixed with blood, which likewise very much aggravates the sticking pains in the chest: confusion in the head, with sticking, pressing pains in it, constipation, &c.

PNEUMONIA OR PLEURISY, WITH GASTRIC SYMPTOMS. The accompanying fever is usually from the first conjoined with intercurrent rigors, and but seldom begins with a violent chill; on the other hand, the heat of the head is particularly developed, with vehement thirst: the pulse is somewhat full and hard; the face reddened, turgid: urine of a dark red colour. When the heat in the head increases, there arises not only cephalalgia, but an obstupefaction of the cerebrum and its nerves, from which results a constant inclination to sleep, with vivid mental wandering: the latter appears immediately after closing the eyes, (*nervous inflammation of the breast.*)

We next have DIAPHRAGMITIS. INFLAMMATION OF THE DIAPHRAGM, which is of frequent occurrence, and plays an important part in diseases of children. This disease is very often relieved by *bryonia* alone. Characteristic symptoms are: cramp-like pain in the epigastrium, with a sensation of constriction, or distension in that part: with this the patient experiences a sense of anxious inquietude which obliges him to change his position frequently, by which the pain is only rendered worse, as the organ affected sympa-

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thises with every motion of the thorax, whether from change of position or deep inspiration: coughing, or even swallowing aggravates it.

It is immaterial as regards the exhibition of this remedy, whether only a part or the whole diaphragm be inflamed, if the pains and symptoms previously mentioned be present. Where the inflammation is diffused over the whole diaphragm, the symptoms are more acute and extended, the pains are experienced in the sides, in the lower ribs, in the vertebra, and below the shoulder blades. There becomes united to this, violent and painful sobbing, various spastic symptoms, trembling, laughing, &c. Respiration is short, with sighing and groaning. The violence of the fever depends upon the greater or less extension of the inflammation, the pulse is always small, quick, and hard, sometimes intermittent. The urine is of a dark red colour, it is passed often, but in small quantities. The thirst is excessive, and although the patient drinks but little each time, it is always succeeded by painful hiccough. In such cases I have of late found bryonia 10 a specific, and have never been obliged to repeat the dose, but still the repetition may become indispensable in cases where the disease was not clearly pronounced, or was not recognised by the physician, before it had been treated with other remedies with a view to its relief. It is likewise possible that in chronic cases of this nature, we must have recourse to lower dilutions.

HEPATITIS. INFLAMMATION OF THE LIVER. The symptoms of hepatitis are sufficiently known. I have

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only to speak here of those particular states to which bryonia is adapted.

It is particularly applicable where there are burning, sticking pains in the right hypochondrium, in the hepatic region, united with a sensation of fulness, a distension of this part, which extends up between the shoulder blades, and excites spastic paroxysms in the heart, as the hepatic symptoms are aggravated by inspiration. Motion of the body, change of position, pressure on the swollen liver likewise increasing the pain. Collateral symptoms are: distension and tension of the abdomen, constipation, symptoms of jaundice, vomiting, or at least retching, pressing headache, namely, in the forehead, &c. The accompanying fever is more or less violent: the former depends on the greater degree of extension of the inflammation; the latter, where this is more confined in partial inflammation. When the fever is very violent, one or more doses of aconite are indispensable. If the fever requires no more attention, and the phenomena above mentioned exist, bryonia is immediately applicable and should here be applied in the 12th and 24th dilution, which does not excite any medicinal symptoms; indeed I have treated cases with still lower dilutions.

Splenitis muscularis. Inflammation of the Spleen. Sticking, pressing pains in the left hypochondrium above the region of the kidney, with perceptible tumefaction, which is increased to the highest degree by motion and touch, and is almost always accompanied by constipation. *Bryonia* 18, a small

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part of a drop is the specific remedy for this affection.

Acute Rheumatism and Gout. In both diseases bryonia 18 is a very celebrated remedy, if the morbid phenomena are as follows: tensive sticking, rending pains in the affected parts, which are swollen and of a shining red colour: in isolated cases I found this redness but partial, in spots, and these extremely sensitive to the touch, in which the patient complained of a far more acute pain, and it is likewise experienced on the slightest motion of the part affected. When the disease has progressed far, the voluntary motion of the patient is restrained—all the parts affected are as if paralysed, torpid, or stiff, and even the unaffected parts must be kept quiescent in order not to excite the pain anew. When the patient is quiet at night, a very profuse sweat of an acidiferous odour is secreted, as if the patient had been taken out of a bath. Constant heat with great thirst, with a full frequent pulse; urine reddish, thick, without depositing any sediment, or of a fiery red colour, the latter generally at the commencement of the disease: tongue coated, of a dirty yellow colour, which requires frequent moistening, and readily becomes dry; complete inappetence; constipation; sleeplessness, owing to internal inquietude, pain, and perspiration: the characteristic headache so often mentioned is frequently present, particularly when there is rheumatic disease of the nape. In such cases, preceding the bryonia by several doses of aconite, affords to it a more favourable subsequent influence.

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The dose must be repeated if the improvement is not permanent.

I must here mention a peculiar complaint in which I found bryonia 12 beneficial. It is a sensation when stepping, as if the knee was too short, and would not reach the ground, and yet externally there is not the slightest perceptible change; neither is there pain when feeling or moving the part.

It is likewise beneficial in pale, tense, hot swellings, unaccompanied by fever or other symptoms, or at most with slight stinging pains.

RHEUMATISMUS UTERI. I have frequently observed this form of disease during gestation, towards its latter period particularly, and have often found bryonia 18 beneficial, when it depended upon wet feet, producing congestion of blood to the uterus, and exciting that state which is well known by the name of *false labour pains* (falsche wehen). This last expression is not properly adapted to this complaint, for although the pain is more violent periodically, the painfulness of the whole abdomen is never entirely lost, on the contrary, it is aggravated by every motion, and by the touch. The pain in the small of the back united therewith, is often insupportable, particularly on turning in the slightest degree. The longer this state continues, the colder the extremities become, and the head more manifestly sympathises. Constipation is a never-failing symptom.

There is no remedy better adapted to *inflammation of the ovaries* than *bryonia* 12, which appears to rank as a specific in this affection; this idea I can

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announce with some certainty, as it is founded upon numerous observations. Of late this remedy appears to have been unjustly neglected in this disease, and other curatives which act less specifically upon the affected organs have superseded it.

The symptoms which point to the exhibition of bryonia, are, violent sticking pain in the region of the loins, vividly increased by motion of the leg on the side affected, and by external pressure; at this part a hard swelling is sometimes plainly perceptible: the whole abdomen is often sensibly affected, the secretion of urine is diminished, the alvine dejections stopped: the fever is violently pronounced, and of the synochal form, on which account it is proper to precede this curative by a dose of aconite; but this can be dispensed with in a chronic inflammation of these organs.

INFLAMMATION OF THE EYES, PARTICULARLY RHEUMATIC AND GOUTY. Characteristic symptoms are: palpebræ reddened, inflamed and *swollen;* agglutination of the lids early in the morning, as if with purulent matter, the margins of them are sore, and when opening and shutting them, the eyes pain as if excoriated: the conjunctiva is softened and surrounds the cornea; stooping forward excites an outward pressing pain in the affected eye, and a similar sensation in the forehead and temples, which the patient strives to relieve by counterpressure with the hand. Congestion to the head is always conjoined with this affection, and is manifested by the redness, heat, swelling and tension of the face, and by the pains in the head. If the dis-

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ease is not entirely unaccompanied by febrile symptoms, still they are so trifling as not to affect strikingly the organism generally. If this latter should occur, it is always advisable to exhibit a dose of aconite four hours before the bryonia.

INFLAMMATION OF THE BREASTS AND MILK DUCTS. This disease usually appears during lactation, or when weaning. The exciting cause is often entirely unknown: but still it cannot be denied that these organs in the female are frequently the resting point of psora existing in the system, which then gives occasion to obstinate and chronic suppurations.

Bryonia eighteen is indicated if a sudden stoppage of milk in the breasts occur, from which they become hard and feel knotty: these hard points then begin to inflame, they become red, and the patient experiences pain; a complication of tension, pressure, burning and stinging, which becomes more acute as the disease progresses. If medical advice is sought at the commencement, one dose is sufficient to allay the disease in a short time: if it has made some progress, a perfect cure is not always affected by a single dose, but a repetition is necessary, although even this cannot always arrest its progress, which can then usually be prevented by other remedies adapted to the case. The *milk fever*, which sometimes appears a few days after delivery, composed of slight rigours, heat, anxiety, constrained respiration, increased thirst, usually dependent on the great quantity of milk forced into the lactiferous vessels, and favoured by suppression of the cutaneous transpiration, frequently succumbs

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in the course of a few hours to a single dose of bryonia thirty, particularly if the patient complains of a violent outward pressing headache in the forehead and temples, which can only be supported when very quiet in a recumbent position. Vide Dr. Gross on the care of lying-in women and nursing infants.

CATARRHAL COMPLAINTS, if excited by a sore pain in the epigastric region, and a loose cough, which affects the system generally, does not remit much, and excites a bruise-like pain in the upper abdominal region, and from this cause produces in pregnant women a very perceptible inquietude in the fœtus, often find a curative in bryonia twenty-four. Other kinds of cough, as dry *spasmodic cough* in adults, if excited by eating and drinking; *suffocative cough* of children, excited particularly in the evening and at night, as well as by eating and drinking, which is often so violent that the patient vomits the food he has eaten, are frequently cured with *bryonia:* a lower dilution, six or twelve, is required in such cases.

In eruptive diseases we likewise find bryonia indicated; namely, in collateral symptoms of those affections which indicate it, and in their various sequelæ. It should be preferred to all other curatives if the patient is harassed by a *gasping, sighing respiration,* accompanied with anxiety, oppression in the præcordia, and the utmost general inquietude, from which we often can prognosticate a *nettle-rash. Ipecacuanha* is likewise indicated in these cases. It is also a powerful remedy in *retrocessent measles,* in reproducing the eruption on the surface, or in ren-

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dering its disappearance harmless. In these cases I give bryonia in the fifteenth dilution, and notice that it is chiefly indicated, if after the retrocession of the eruption, a morbid affection of the eyes supervenes, which resembles that which I lately mentioned when speaking of ophthalmia. Another complaint, which appears after the eruption has disappeared from the surface, is an inflammatory affection of the viscera of the chest, which is manifested by an incessant, though loose cough, which affects the breast painfully, and by its long continuance very readily gives occasion to the developement of chronic thoracic affections.

This disease is very harassing to the patient, particularly if the measles occur during the period of developement, or in the seventh year. Moreover, both the affections of the eyes and breast are concomitants of the eruption of measles, and bryonia is not therefore alone indicated for them as sequelæ, or diseases arising from retrocessent measles; but when vividly predominating while the eruption exists, the whole disease is then simultaneously relieved, and considerably shortened by its exhibition.

In Scarlet rash and Scarlet fever, bryonia can (as mentioned by *Trinks* in his practical treatise on *scarlatina miliaris*,) be applied if *a status nervosus versatilis* becomes united with the eruptive disease; which is recognised by "unusual excitement of the cerebral functions, and those of the senses, by delirium, great sensibility of all the senses to external impressions, unusual brightness and redness of the eyes, with photophobia, and ocular spectra by the

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fixed and unsteady look, the roaring and rushing noise before the ears, great restlessness and constant jactitation in bed, light sleep, frequently disturbed by mental wandering and delirium, violent congestion of blood upwards, quick, hard, tense pulse and hurried respiration."

According to *Trinks*, one or two doses removes this state. The symptoms here specified would undoubtedly demand the application of belladonna, if the thoracic affection which prevails did not decide more for *bryonia:* belladonna will nevertheless always deserve attention, and ranks with bryonia in cases of this nature. Bryonia, according to Trinks, also proves beneficial when an extremely harassing urging to urinate, appears in the course of the disease. Among the *sequelæ* of the exanthemata specified, I will notice *the chronic thoracic and ophthalmic affections* already mentioned, but particularly the *dropsical state* after the eruption of *scarlatina*, in conjunction with a very troublesome and even painful straining, without much secretion of urine, and likewise a harassing pressure in the rectum, with constipation and sleeplessness. Bryonia eighteen or thirty likewise deserves attention in those frequent *glandular tumefactions* and *indurations* after cutaneous eruptions, namely, in the neck and abdomen, which always appear with more or less inflammation, and are therefore never unaccompanied by febrile phenomena. We thus often find *furuncles* as remains of such exanthematous affections which frequently drag out a long existence, and after one is

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cured, another is reproduced in some other part. It is true that arnica is often applicable and salutary in these complaints, but I have found bryonia more beneficial, in so far that it overcomes the disposition to their reproduction better than it. Belladonna likewise ranks with these remedies in such cases, but bryonia should always be preferred, where great lowness of spirits, languor, weakness, and prostration are conjoined.

All the morbid states above described, may, however occur, without having been preceded by exanthematous affections: even then bryonia is indicated, or at least deserves as much consideration as any other remedy, namely, in those glandular tumefactions already specified, if they are of a scrofulous nature, probably even conjoined with eruption on the head, swollen, tense and somewhat hard abdomen, with more less disturbance of the digestive functions: indeed even in scrofulous ulcers, some experience has taught me that it becomes a salutary intercurrent remedy, which not only exercises a curative power upon the morbid symptoms accompanying, but upon the ulcer itself.

Hydropic accumulations, dependent upon such a scrofulous state, are likewise diminished, if not completely removed, by repeated doses of bryonia: as such diseases often require several remedies for their cure, and in general, but the minimum of cases succumb to a single curative. It is important in these cases to note the *causæ proximæ et remotæ*, which enable the physician to make a far more certain

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prognosis than the mere collection of morbid symptoms, and the comparing of them with the medicinal symptoms: nothing, save a diagnosis, founded upon the *tout ensemble* of morbid phenomena prevents the homœopathist from committing the great error of promising more than he can accomplish with his remedies, by which he injures both himself and his mode of treatment.

Chilblains on the feet and other parts of the body. Against the first, particularly when in an inflammatory state, bryonia is an indispensable remedy, by which the inflammation is allayed more quickly than by any other curative. I have likewise found it beneficial when the hands, the nose, or the ears, have been frozen; if these parts begin to swell, look red, and become fissured on the appearance of cold weather. It is by no means the only remedy in these cases, as both belladonna and pulsatilla claim precedence, if the frozen member is swollen, of a bluish-red colour, and the patient complains of a throbbing pulsating pain in the affected parts. The tone of mind and temperament in these cases determines the choice of a remedy: the gentle and phlegmatic indicates pulsatilla, the desponding, indifferent, or at times violent disposition, decides for belladonna. Lately we have become acquainted with two other remedies, very celebrated in these affections—*acidum nitric.* and *petroleum* thirty.

When *ulcers of the feet* exist, the inflammatory state which often supervenes, produced by the action of cold on the part affected, attended with stinging

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burning pains, tumefaction, and great dryness, is always relieved by bryonia eighteen. In these affections it is an indispensable adjuvant.

HÆMORRHAGIA. HÆMORRHAGES. Bryonia likewise deserves attention in *hæmorrhages*, as excitement of the circulation may be considered one of the chief of its primary effects. I have frequently applied it with benefit in epistaxis, which usually appeared in the morning, by which the patient was prematurely aroused from slumber. Of course those complaints which appear early in the morning, are more adapted to nux vom., by which indeed I have in several instances cured epistaxis so constituted: but still I have likewise applied it in many cases without effect, when subsequently bryonia proved curative. Epistaxis, which is owing to sudden suppression of the catamenia from taking cold, in individuals in whom the menses generally appear prematurely, in most cases succumbs to a single dose of bryonia: the repetition of which several times, likewise regulates the *irregular menstruation*, if the collateral symptoms arise from an orgasm of blood in organs situated in the superior parts of the body, which is manifested by fulness and constriction of the chest, with distension in the epigastrium, sensation of fulness in the nose and head, which in the latter gradually becomes changed to pain in the forehead and temples, as if the head would burst, the violence of which produces stupefaction or desperation.

This premature menstruation is curable with bryo-

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nia, even when it is constituted as absolute *metrorrhagia*, when the blood discharged is of a dark red colour, and appears to be forced out by violent pressing pains in the small of the back, while the patient suffers from the headache already so often mentioned. During child-bed, when the *lochial discharge* contains pure blood after the sixth day, which is a state allied to that just described, and is therefore very readily changed by this remedy into a discharge of a sero-sanguineous character, which it should assume after the time specified.

Hæmoptysis. I have often removed a peculiar variety of hæmoptysis with bryonia twelve, when I repeated the dose at intervals of eight days. I was not led to administer this remedy where there was cœpious expectoration of blood, but rather where coagulated blood was expectorated by frequent tickling cough, which made its appearance only in the morning early, soon after rising; preceded by oppressive weight on the chest and shortness of breath, which disappeared after expectorating several times. Even the first dose diminished the tickling cough, and after the third, it had almost entirely disappeared; but still the bloody expectoration continued, although diminished in quantity, and always made its appearance at the usual time, but gradually disappeared after the fourth, fifth, sixth, and sometimes even the eighth dose. The subsequent return of the expectoration of blood, if the patient did not delay too long before consulting his physician, usually gave

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way to a single dose of the remedy, and the cure was then permanent.*

Before antipsoric remedies were known, bryonia twelve to eighteen was a remedy which I valued very highly in *hæmorrhoids*, from which even now I cannot be weaned in treating these affections, although many of the remedies of the antipsoric class appear to be better indicated in numerous cases. Its favourable effect is not easily to be mistaken, and not to be denied by any homœopathist when a patient affected with hæmorrhoids complains of an excoriating, burning sensation in the lower part of the rectum, after the evacuation of very hard fæces, which only disappears gradually, and leaves sensations of it for a considerable time. The indication is still more certain if the patient experiences a sensation of fulness in the left lumbar region, which becomes a sticking, pressing pain on moving, is relieved by rest alone, and leads us to suspect an accumulation or stagnation of blood in the spleen.

Bryonia is to be recommended in *spastic affections of the chest*, *asthmatic complaints*, less in those which continue long, than in those which recur periodically. The patients complain of constriction of the chest,

* I treated a case of hæmoptysis of the character above described, with various homœopathic remedies, but with transient effect only, as the disease always recurred: having read the above practical hint of Dr. Hartman, I administered the bryonia, a dose every other night; about six doses entirely cured my patient, who has had no return for eight months; a longer respite than he has enjoyed at any one interval since first attacked.—*Translator*.

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with a pressure in the middle of the sternum, without pain; but still the pressure does not always exist concomitantly with the constriction, and the latter may appear without the former: the reverse, however, does not occur. During the attack, the patient cannot lie on the right side, but is constrained to lie upon his back: cough exists without tickling in his throat, accompanied by expectoration of mucus and retching, or even actual emesis, with pains in the hypochondria. When the cough becomes loose, or excites emesis, the thoracic oppression is relieved; but still these tried symptoms do not stand in close connection, and may appear isolated. When the asthma is present, every breath of cool air produces great aggravation, and even when it has become unimportant, it is immediately excited to such a degree by speaking, moving, or even by raising the bed clothes, that the patient is fearful of suffocating. Complaints of this character are frequently produced by a debilitated stomach, and every ingestion of food excites distension of the epigastrium, which is somewhat relieved by eructations, with taste of ingested food: if the latter is not the case, an anxious inquietude supervenes, which is much aggravated by the pressure of the clothing on the abdomen.

Flatulent complaints: constipation: small, contracted, but quick pulse: peevish irritability: inclination to quarrel: bryonia twelve is the most suitable dose, but still it should be repeated after eight to twelve days: it is more proper under circumstances such as these, to alternate this remedy with nux. twelve to

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eighteen, which should supply the place of the second dose of bryonia. Two or three doses of each remedy are frequently sufficient to remove an obstinate asthmatic affection of this character.

Cramp in the stomach appears under such Protean forms that there are but few remedies with which we are acquainted, which will not, under certain circumstances, allay the affection. It is true that it is not always to be considered a primary affection—it is more frequently secondary: where this disease is the chief one present, the symptoms are so expressed, and present such a characteristic picture, that one of the remedies which is well known, and has often been successfully employed in this disease, will certainly be adapted: but in these cases, as in many other chronic diseases, disappointments occur, and the physician often finds himself deserted by the remedy, which appeared to be most accurately adapted to the picture of the disease in the *ensemble* of its symptoms. Why is this? I here may ask. Answer: because we are not sufficiently conversant with the characteristics of the remedies, with their pure effects on particular systems and organs, which we can attain only by accurate and circumspect observation from their application in diseases, on which acccount I do not consider this treatise on homœopathic remedies, as I have undertaken it, superfluous. Bryonia likewise deserves to be known as a curative in some kinds of cramp of the stomach, and the criteria for its application are as follows: every ingestion of food or drink excites a contracting pain in the

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stomach, which often begins while eating, or at least supervenes immediately afterwards, with the sensation as if the epigastrium and gastric region were swollen: counterpressure relieves, and sometimes even removes the harassing complaints from the eructation which it excites.

The gastric pressure produced by foul stomach is peculiar, and is accompanied by other collateral symptoms, as—nausea after every ingestion of food, desire to vomit, which terminates in actual emesis, not of food, but of a bilious mucus, which can only be prevented by great voluntary power on the part of the patient. The characteristic headache, already repeatedly spoken of, is but seldom absent in this gastric affection; the aggravation of this headache is often followed by complete disappearance of the pressure in the stomach: the headache, however, despite the alleviation produced by the head being firmly bound, does not disappear until muco-bilious vomiting occurs: constipation is sometimes conjoined with this affection of the stomach, although in many cases defæcation is entirely normal. I will direct attention to another variety which often appears in such persons as have suffered from hæmorrhoidal affections, in whom bleeding piles have ceased to bleed,* or in those who have laboured under blind piles: we likewise frequently observe this during gestation, and in females who have suffered from varicose swellings on the labia, the anus and feet,

* Under such circumstances *calcarea carb.* is often the proper curative.—*Translator.*

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during pregnancy, which occasion much pain after delivery, when the catemenial flow recurs, and frequently becomes united with the gastric affection above mentioned, which then is usually aggravated by motion, and gradually becomes easier when quiescent. We cannot well overlook the sympathy of the spleen in these cases, and even not the entire improbability of the gastric pressure, depending upon the accumulation and stagnation of blood in this organ.

ONE-SIDED HEADACHE, HEMICRANIA, MEGRIM. *Hysterical headache.*—The first of these affections appears more frequently in females than males, and is often united with hysterical complaints: I have, therefore, thought best to unite it with hysterical headache. Individuals of a quiet, mild disposition, who are of an excitable, timid constitution, are those most prone to this kind of headache: it readily arises in such individuals from mental emotions, or taking cold, and becomes aggravated to the utmost violence. The following symptoms are more or less vividly expressed: pressing headache over the whole head, but more painful in the forehead and temples: with the megrim the patient often complains of a rending sensation which extends to other neighbouring parts, to the facial bones, and down to the neck. The patient experiences the pains early in the morning in bed, on first waking, and they become so much aggravated by motion after getting up, that he is obliged to lie down again, and observe the strictest

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quietude: notwithstanding this the pains increase in the afternoon and evening, so violently, that they appear to be scarcely endurable. The eyes are conjointly affected, are dull, appear smaller, so that from this alone we could premise the existence of cephalalgia, and sensitive to light: the auditory nerves are sensitive to noise. *Belladonna* thirty might likewise be indicated, particularly when the vessels of the eyes are turgescent.

As the pains become aggravated, the fretful tone of mind, and the inclination to scold increases: palpitation of the heart, anxious inquietude, qualmishness, even vomiting of muco-bilious matter, great thirst, fever, orgasm of the vascular system supervenes, and constipation is always united. After the exhibition of bryonia twelve to eighteen, the patient generally falls asleep, and awakes free from pain, or only with dulness and confusion in the head, as if after a debauch. If this does not soon disappear, the mere olfaction of nux. vom. thirty suffices to allay it in a short time, and in general the alternate application of these two remedies, I know, from experience, relieves this sensitive head ache.

In rheumatic and gouty odontalgia I have very often applied bryonia fifteen as the proper curative, and sometimes merely as an assistant intercurrent remedy. It is chiefly in the twitching, sticking tooth-ache that recurs periodically, and is always reproduced by warm food and drink, with flush over the whole body, that bryonia is usually indicated. In

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many cases, but more rarely than in the former, I found it beneficial in sensibility of one or more teeth on drawing in cold air, with the sensation as if the teeth were too long: nux vomica claims precedence to it in such cases.

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MERCURIUS SOLUBILIS HAHNEMANNI.

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MERCURIUS SOLUBILIS HAHNEMANNI.

BLACK OXIDE OF MERCURY.

I will not, in this place, occupy time and space uselessly, by specifying the mode of making this preparation of mercury, and the less so, as the reader will find this given in detail in the Materia Medica Pura of Hahnemann, and in my Pharmacopeia. This remedy too, according to the ideas of some physicians, should be applied in diseases in doses of a small portion of potence thirty. I seldom proceed beyond the twelfth potence, when I employ the *trituration*, which I generally do when I can administer the remedy at my own residence. I do not on this account deny the power of the solutions of mercury; I apply them likewise according to my individual ideas from the third to the thirtieth potence; but always with the silently fostered opinion that they possess less active power than the triturations. Formerly, before all medicaments were screwed up to the thirtieth dilution, when Hahnemann himself recommended the application of the twelfth trituration, I made many cures with this without any injury resulting to my patients: who can now blame me if I

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do not immediately give up my faith in the former mode of preparing this curative? Mercury and hepar sulphuris are two substances which, according to my views, should not be prepared like the anti-psoric remedies generally, if we would not weaken or even change their active power. Why then should we thus adopt one mode of preparation? if we confess it, it is only for the sake of our convenience. Why should we set aside the former effectual mode of preparing mercury and hepar sulph., probably in order to introduce uniformity into our pharmacy, or to be rid the sooner of a labour somewhat trouble-some. If we wish to prepare hepar in a more simple manner, why do we not prefer the tincture of this remedy as well as that of sulphur; which every homœopathist recognises as the most powerful pre-paration of sulphur? But let us leave this, let every one proceed according to his conviction and what his own experience has taught him on the subject.

Mercury excites a number of symptoms in the healthy human body, which indisputably so closely resemble diseases of frequent occurrence, that we are led to expect their cure from it: but still, accord-ing to the assertions of Hahnemann, this is not the case, "but it proves one of the most deceptive pallia-tives in chronic diseases, and the symptoms which had disappeared from its exhibition, not only recur, but return after the reaction of the organism in a much more violent degree."* According to his views, it can be used only as an *antisyphilitic remedy*, and

* See Chronic Diseases, Vol. II. pp. 12.

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therefore in such chronic diseases alone as are complicated with syphilis. If this were really the truth, its circle of effects would be very limited, and yet I consider it, and many homœopathic physicians with me, one of the most active, nay, indispensable remedies; from the judicious application of which, I have never witnessed any injury of importance, still less any remaining bad effects.

Rummel* considers the *perspiration* in particular, as a criterion for its application: "it is, says he, for the *sub inflammatory*, or so termed, *rheumatic catarrhal state*, if the *dryness of skin be absent*, what aconite is in the inflammatory." It is beyond question, one of the greatest antiphlogistic remedies in homœopathy after aconite, namely, where profuse *debilitating sweats*, particularly *at night*, and *inordinate weakness* predominate. If it is applied by the physician in acute diseases, when not accurately indicated, he must blame himself if he sees a sudden prostration of strength supervene.

Its effects on the *lymphatic system* and *salivary glands* are striking, and its favourable influence in diseases of the bones is undeniable. Its power of promoting the *secretion of pus* is worthy of attention.

This remedy is particularly indicated by the *phlegmatic temperament*, and the *lax, flaccid, torpid constitution*. Antidotes to unfavourable effects, and too prominently collateral symptoms of mercury, are:

* See his practical remarks in der Allg. hom. Zeitung, Bd. IV. Nr. 3, § 27.

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hepar sulph. calc., acidum nitric. dulcamara, clematis, staphysagria, rhus, chiefly after its long continued application in allopathic doses, if ptyalism, chancre-like ulcers in the mouth or on the genitals, rheumatic affections and osseous swellings are the results of its misuse: sometimes *china, sulphur, ferrum, belladonna, and asaf.* are required, the first particularly if an hepatic affection, jaundiced hue, disturbances in the functions of the abdominal viscera are present: China is likewise to be considered, if, when using mercury, swelling and painful hardness of the testicles appear when complete loss of excitability supervenes, opium in doses frequently repeated is indispensable. In pains, painful glandular swellings and indurations, resulting from the abuse of this remedy, cicuta vïrosa is one of the most celebrated antidotes, at the side of which conium maculatum and mezereum should be placed; if thickening of the periosteum, nocturnal pains in the bones, foul ulcers of a circular form are conjoined. In the latter case asaf. and silicea are also indicated; where there are suppurating lymphatic ulcers, phosphoric acid, and if they are of a burning nature, carbo animalis is to be recommended. If hæmorrhage from the organs of respiration is produced by a somewhat large dose of mercury, small doses of arnica act as an antidote. Profuse sweat produced by this remedy succumbs most readily to china, salvia, &c. Copious evacuations in general, after mercury, must be soon checked if we wish to experience a favourable effect from it.

Where the impressibility of the organism to the

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action of homœopathic remedies has been so blunted by allopathic doses of sulphur, that no reaction results after their exhibition, an intercurrent dose of mercury twelve is indispensable, which is yet more beneficial if preceded by a dose of pulsatilla twelve. After this, even sulphur will act, and may again become beneficial, where without this practical caution, it would have proved entirely useless. The class of *fevers* in which mercury proves serviceable, differs essentially from those which are mentioned under the two preceding remedies. Here the indication is less for an affection of the vascular, than for that of the lymphatic system; not so much the acuteness of the febrile phenomena, as their slow and lingering course: with this, great debility and prostration prevails. These symptoms belong to the characteristic peculiarities of this fever, and form at the same time the chief indications for the choice of the remedy of which we are speaking. Simple forms of fever unaccompanied by particular collateral phenomena, do not indicate mercury, unless we consider the *lymphatic or catarrhal fever* as simple fever; to which, however, as such, mercury is not adapted; but only when it is complicated with an inflammatory affection. We can also justly assume that mercury in every potence, is applicable in some kinds of inflammatory catarrhal fever, where an affection of the mucous membrane prevails. Whether it is of equal benefit in all of this class of fevers, whether produced by taking cold or change of the weather, if they are constituted as I shall immediately specify, or if it be

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only adapted to that epidemic which we know by the name of *influenza*, I will not yet venture to determine with certainty, as my experience is not sufficient to speak decidedly upon the subject. All simple catarrhal fevers (which it is true, since the appearance of that epidemic, have been much more acute than before,) are now called *influenza*, without being it, as they are produced by the usual influences of climate and changes of weather. Mercury is not a specific in such cases, although I have found it applicable when they were very violent, or presented, from their commencement, phenomena like influenza, namely: great languor and dejection suddenly attack the patient, with rigours and intercurrent flushes of heat, and at night give way to a copious sweat of a sourish odour, conjoined with much thirst. If the organs of respiration were not prominently affected immediately from the commencement, one could easily be misled to prognosticate a nervous fever, and the more so, as slight delirium is conjoined to the febrile symptoms. This form of fever, with local affection, always appears most violently in individuals who have a weak breast, or a disposition to pulmonary diseases, in a word, who are of a *phthisical habit*. The cough in such catarrhal fevers is for the most part dry, but continued, with a painful dissevering sensation through the whole chest, and when it continues a long time, in the head likewise: this is the prominent sensation, although I have seen it in some few cases united with sticking pains through the middle of the thorax, when not respiring. An in-

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variable symptom, therewith, is constant constriction of the chest, which appears more aggravated during and after the cough. Mucus streaked with blood is sometimes expectorated with the cough. Muco-diarrhœal stools, give as little contra-indication for mercury as constipation. The preparation suitable for such morbid cases is the twelfth trituration, from one half to one grain per dose, and when necessary, repeated early in the morning and in the evening.

In GASTRO-BILIOUS FEVER mercury is a remedy worthy of note, in which the homœopathist, probably from an imbibed prejudice to sweat *in verba magistri*, bestows too little attention. Criteria, for its application are: heat of the whole body, alternating with enervating sweats, with moderate thirst, but great debility and prostration: tongue coated with yellow mucus; putrid odour from the mouth, expectoration of mucus and bitter taste: appetite entirely null: the features are altered, distorted, the white of the eye and skin have lost their pureness, and are tinged of a dirty yellow colour; diarrhœa, of acrid, green or bloody mucus, conjoined with an almost constant feeling of pressure in the rectum, and lancinating pains in the belly, both of which continue for a long time after the evacuation, and disappear gradually. With this there is sensibility in the hepatic region to pressure, tension in the præcordia with constriction of the chest, confusion of the head with slight vertiginous attacks, &c.

A half or whole grain of trituration twelve of mercury, will always prove permanently beneficial in

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such cases, and not merely flatter us with an apparent cure, or indeed produce a worse and more dangerous state, but will allay the disease permanently.

In some deviation from the symptoms thus laid down, *china*, *veratrum*, *pulsatilla*, and *arsenic* may be indicated.

DYSENTERY AND DYSENTERIC DIARRHŒAS. There is no place where these diseases can be more properly described than here; mercury often proves specific in these cases, whether the disease be sporadic or epidemic, at the hot season of the year. The aqueous alvine evacuations which supervene, with the sensitive, cutting pains in the umbilical region, are usually ascribed to a passing cold, and nothing but regulation of the diet, warmth, the ingestion of mucilaginous food, chamomile tea, &c., is done by the patient, until the languor which is conjoined, the exacerbation of the fever, the increasing heat and thirst, the pains which but seldom remit, the frequent evacuations of bloody mucus without any stercoraceous matter, make the patient comprehend that regimen will not suffice to cure him: as collateral symptoms, we have the tongue more or less coated with yellow mucus, which inclines to become dry readily, inappetence and sleeplessness, anxious inquietude, expression of countenance indicative of pain. The triturations of mercury likewise in these cases, prove more beneficial than the dilutions, and of these the lower are better than the higher potences.

The first, second and third trituration, according to the difference of individual constitutions, is the

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dose best adapted, which should be repeated after twenty-four, thirty-six, or forty-eight hours, according to the degree of intensity of the disease.

DIARRHŒA IN CHILDREN sometimes depends upon acid in the primæ viæ, sometimes on dental irritation, and again from taking cold. They are characteristic for mercury when the stools are green, chopped, or mucous, with cutting pains in the belly, which is known by the crying which precedes the evacuation, and the contraction of the lower extremities; by their frequent occurrence, the anus becomes excoriated. With this there is great distension of the abdomen, and perceptible emaciation of other parts of the body; the sleep is disturbed, miliary eruptions form, and produce excoriation were the skin is corrugated; aphthæ likewise make their appearance when the disease continues a long time. The dose is here half a grain of the millionth trituration.

DIARRHŒAS IN ADULTS, attended with evacuations of mucus, and mucus mixed with blood, or aqueous, with tenesmus, find a curative in mercury. Not less the *purulent* diarrhœas denoting ulceration in the intestinal canal: the repetition of the dose of the first or second trituration is here absolutely requisite.

The consideration of the states of disease which we have just described, leads us to one allied to them. To *jaundice*, which likewise requires this curative, under certain conditions which are to be laid down. My experience has taught me to view this remedy as one very often beneficial in this disease, particularly at its commencement, where it prevents its pro-

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gress and restores the force of the sinking powers. Mercury is always indicated when the exciting cause of the disease is unknown, or at least when it can scarcely be ascribed to slight, passing anger, or cold. Although mercury is not excluded as a curative in any form of jaundice, still its favourable effect as readily understood, is the most plain and decided in *icterus spasticus*, which is only produced by transitory causes. The change of colour of the skin and secretions is well known. Mercury, however, is more indicated, if the urine is less of a yellow than a dark red colour, and yet produces yellow spots on the linen. Collateral symptoms are: nauseous taste when the tongue is but slightly coated with yellow mucus, loss of appetite, fulness in the præcordia with shortness of breath, viscid stools, restless sleep, frequently complete sleeplessness. I have always applied the sixth trituration of mercury in these cases, in some the twelfth, but I have likewise found the dilutions of this potence effectual. If vexation gave rise to the jaundice, I first gave chamomile, and forty-eight hours after, mercury. In other cases I gave mercury immediately, or when the symptoms of disturbed digestion were vividly prominent, *china*. Both remedies are indispensable in the cure of jaundice, and in chronic cases where the disease is more developed, sulphur should succeed them.

A similar disease, but of peculiar character, improves only after the application of mercury. A man in his sixtieth year, the colour of whose skin was

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always of a yellow tinge, which increased as he advanced in years, particularly in the face, suddenly complained of great languor and prostration, with which the yellowish tint became more developed, and the other parts of the body were likewise affected with it. Rheumatic pains in the muscles of the chest, were gradually developed, which at length became so violent on moving, that he frequently complained loudly; the pulse was full and hard.

Aconite eighteen always afforded relief, but still it was unable to entirely prevent a relapse, which, however, was each time slighter. The yellowish tint remained in the mean time unaltered, and on the appearance of the rheumatic pains, an asthmatic state supervened, which was in no wise diminished by the removal of the first, but rather continued to increase, and finally was so much aggravated by every motion, with the feeling as if he must die, particularly when getting into bed, that he was obliged to sit immovable for a long time, before he could recover his breath: when he kept himself quiet, and did not speak much, the asthma was less marked, although respiration was never so free as when he was healthy, even with the utmost quietude. The hepatic region was neither hard, nor swollen, but extremely sensitive to external pressure. Dejections occurred every other day, and only then after using lavements: the fæces were viscid, of a dark brown or almost black colour: the urine, which was evacuated in small quantities, bore a close resemblance to beer, and deposited a dirty, thick sediment. The temperament which had for-

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merly been choleric, was changed into a quiet, inanimate listlessness. The state resembled a kind of *hydrothorax*, which, however, would not succumb to *bryonia*, *arsenic*, *colchicum*, *china*, *digitalis*, *&c.*; not even a change was produced by any of these remedies. A single dose of mercurius solubilis, 3 gr. 1, removed the whole disease in the course of a few days.

MUCOUS FEVER. In incipient mucous fever, the homœopathist applies this remedy with benefit, particularly if the following symptoms appear as premonitions of it: the appetite daily diminishes, with white coated tongue, and great painful dryness in the throat and œsophagus when swallowing: the taste in the mouth, and the odour from it, is mostly putrescent, and frequently excites qualmishness and nausea: if this state continues for a length of time, a rending, burning headache becomes united with it, particularly in the temples, which depends upon congestion to the head, and is conjoined with vertiginous attacks and flushes of heat. Even a slight meal excites pressure and tension in the epigastrium, the gastric and hepatic regions, with which an acrid fluid is often eructated, which is succeeded by soreness of the mouth. The urine is turbid, wheyish, depositing a mucous sediment; the alvine dejections are irregular, patient evacuates frequently, but in small quantities, and is often urged to stool. The appearance of the patient is pale and cadaverous, he becomes enervated, phlegmatic, morose.

NERVOUS FEVER. There are but few forms of this

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disease which require the application of this remedy, but these few are so characteristic that the homœopathist who knows accurately the symptoms of the remedies which would be brought in question, would not readily miss this remedy when indicated. Besides the gastric complaints, such as sensitive pressure and tension in the epigastrium and hepatic region, with disagreeable, putrid taste, inappetence, nausea and vomiting of bitter mucus, and diarrhœa, with yellowish-green evacuations, vertigo, with confusion in the head, and rending, burning pains, particularly in the temples, which prevent sleep and produce inordinate watchfulness, irritability, inquietude, anxiety, and even delirium, which draw in their train other symptoms, but particularly a burning heat over the whole body, conjoined with much thirst. The most characteristic of all is the blanched livid appearance of the whole internal mouth, a sign that aphthæ threaten to supervene, the spongy, bleeding gums which have fallen away from the teeth, the dark urine of putrid odour, cadaverous face, the stupidity, the listlessness, with absence of thought, and constant position on the back. Mercurius solubilis, twelfth potence, removes such a nervous state with certainty.

INTERMITTENT FEVER. Even this disease (febris intermittens tertiana,) succumbed to this remedy, but I forgot to give a second dose, and a relapse occurred after eight or ten days, which did not yield to a new dose of mercury, because the peculiar characteristic symptoms did not appear with the recurrence of the

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disease. Every other day, chill of from one hour and a half to two hours duration, followed by burning heat of four to five hours continuance, with thirst which could not be satisfied, which appeared soon after the supervention of the chill; for many hours after this, profuse debilitating sweat. During the whole continuance of the fever, putrid, cadaverous, offensive odour from the mouth. Besides the fever, the following symptoms, which were exacerbated during the paroxysms: great prostration, vertigo when rising up in bed, which increases to syncope on getting up, particularly soon after the attack, sensation in the throat as if a plug was sticking there, remarked when swallowing; inflammation and the utmost painfulness of the whole gums, particularly at the incisores, where they are separated from the teeth, copious expectoration of viscid saliva.

INFLAMMATORY DISEASES. Mercury plays a prominent part in the cure of these affections: this was likewise known to the old school, and they have with entire justice recommended it in asthenic inflammations of the lymphatic system, of the glands, of glandular organs, and surfaces studded with many glands, and in all asthenic inflammations of the cutaneous surface: moreover in all asthenic inflammations of a catarrhal, rheumatic, gouty, venereal or scrofulous form: therefore in this kind of inflammation of the liver, of the cerebral ventricles, of the eyes, the bones, throat, lungs, bladder and diaphragm; in asthenic inflammations complicated with exanthematous affections, or that supervene after their disappearance.

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Allopathy considers this curative more adapted to inflammations of the asthenic than those of the sthenic form. The numerous observations of allopathic practitioners give us a good hint, founded upon experience, in those cases where mercury is indicated: the decision that it is better adapted to asthenic than sthenic inflammation seems to confirm that characteristic symptom, sudden sinking of strength, and thus unwittingly applies it on homœopathic principles. She would, likewise, find it beneficial in sthenic inflammations if she could only in a measure depart from the large doses, even if she did not diminish them to the homœopathic sense. Let us leave the old discussion until the partisans of allopathic medicine learn that the principle *similia similibus*, is found in nature, and is not a mere chimera. That the conjecture that mercury is not so well adapted to sthenic forms of disease is incorrect, we prove to them by recommending this remedy as the first specific in

Glossitis. Inflammation of the tongue, with synochal fever which may always be cured by it when it presents the following symptoms. At first the patient complains merely of a sensation of paralysis of the tongue, which is more manifested by the unwieldiness of the tongue in articulating than as pain, and the patient refers it to unimportant causes, on which account in this stage of the disease he does not consider it necessary to seek medical aid. In the mean time, the disease becomes aggravated, in a few hours, the tongue occupies the whole cavity of the mouth, its motion is attended with extreme pain, the swelling

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finally becomes so violent that the mouth cannot contain it, and it is extruded between the teeth, it is quite hard, red, hot, dry, fissured and viscid saliva constantly flows beside it from the mouth, with this the patient is harassed with insatiable thirst, which can only be partially gratified from the extreme difficulty, almost impossibility, of swallowing.

In this stage the patient is unable to speak, and we recognise his feelings by signs only. Respiration is extremely oppressed, as it is entirely nasal: this produces the utmost anxiety and inquietude, excites violent frontal cephalalgia, complete sleeplessness: the alvine dejections are stopped: the fever is violent, pulse full, hard, and frequent, face red, puffed up, eyes prominent: urine fiery, of a dark brownish colour. Several doses of mercurius solub. 2 gr. 1, administered at intervals of one hour, very soon produce an amelioration of the symptoms, and after the lapse of from eight to twelve hours, the tongue is again in a normal state, except that the margins are somewhat hard and show the impression of the teeth. I have but seldom had to give more than three doses, and in one case but a single dose, for in the course of half an hour, the morbid symptoms diminished, and no cessation of improvement supervened. The repetition of the dose in this case depends altogether upon whether the diminution of the disease is perceptible or not: if improvement occurs, the repetition is superfluous.

Every routine physician knows the power of mercury in *anginose affections:* this remedy in this

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affection is likewise not unknown to the more astute physicians of the old school, but they would do still better if they employed merc. solub. which they usually use in syphilitic angina, in the common forms of inflammation of the throat,* in preference to calomel, whose power is so readily lost by the ptyalism which supervenes after several doses, by which the inflammation is often aggravated, or even ulcers in the throat, aphthæ, ulceration of the gums, looseness, and loss of the teeth are produced.

Mercurius sol. is best indicated in those inflammatory affections of the throat which appear on the slightest change in the weather, and occur in individuals who have often suffered, and thus have a disposition to angina. (To this class belong those anginose affections which appear after acute cutaneous eruptions which generally depend upon a slight cold. They generally appear in spring and autumn in young, robust individuals; where catarrhs are frequent, such subjects are exempt: but on the other hand, are affected with *angina catarrhalis*, which assumes the character of *angina faucium et tonsillarum.* I still have a very vivid recollection of this anginose affection in my own person, from which I suffered after taking the slightest cold, and which never disappeared until the tonsils ruptured sponta-

* I lately saw a case in which the whole veil and soft portion of the palate was corroded by the administration of calomel in this affection. The patient's food and drink passed through the nose, and articulation was completely altered.—*Translator.*

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neously with the most extreme pain, and a tormenting dread of suffocation. It happened but once that a physician relieved this affection by giving me calomel, but the prevention of a relapse I accomplished myself, during the latter period of my studentship. The disease begins with a catarrhal irritation of the fauces which excites a scraping sensation in the throat, obliging one to hawk frequently. This irritation grows hourly worse, but becomes changed into a swollen feeling, which does not force the patient to hawk, but causes frequent attempts at swallowing, which first excites a sticking, then a stinging pain in the fauces, which increases in sensibility and extends to the ears. With this there is conjoined an unusual secretion of viscid mucus, which aggravates the deglutitory irritation. As the disease increases, the root of the tongue becomes affected as well as the velum palati and the uvula, they swell, articulation is rendered difficult, and finally impossible. The mouth cannot be opened in consequence of the swelling in the maxillary joint. The tongue is coated with a yellowish purulent mucus; the taste is disagreeable; breath putrescent; appetite null; great thirst, which cannot be satisfied from the pain attending deglutition; heat, with full strong pulse; great languor, patient must always lie down, sullenness, despondency, ill humour. I administered a grain of the mercurius sol. one, and improvement commenced in half an hour, and after the lapse of three hours all traces of the disease disappeared permanently. I will not assert that

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so large a dose is required in all cases. I have likewise obtained similar results from smaller doses of the third, sixth, and twelfth trituration, but still only in cases where the disease had attained its extreme point: in the latter case, I always use trituration one, with immediate good effect, without having ever witnessed aggravation of the disease from it. At the commencement of the disease, when the inflammation is acutely predominant, it is advisable to precede mercury with one or more doses of aconite.

STOMACACE. APHTHÆ. ULCERATIONS OF THE MOUTH AND TONGUE. Next to anginose affections we have these complaints, which I shall treat of conjointly, as they are concomitant. Patient complains of heat and burning in the mouth, vesicles arise on the apex of the tongue and on the palate anteriorly, as in catarrh; the gums begin to pain, are separated from the teeth, and retracted, several teeth appear as if in a fistula; with this, ulcers gradually form on the internal parts of the cheeks, on the inner side of the lips, on the tongue, they excite an excessive burning pain, and diffuse a putrescent odour from the mouth, with flow of viscid saliva. The neighbouring glands are generally conjointly affected, the submaxillary and parotid glands swell and pain on moving the throat and touching them. If the tongue suffers more than the other parts of the mouth, induration, namely, around the ulcers is present, which feel like knots, and often break out into suppurating fissures. The ulcers themselves have a dirty, reddish, rough, lardaceous base, the edges are pouting

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at many points, shining red, and on others sharply dentated, livid: the pains in them are mostly burning, occasionally a slight stitch passes through. Aphthæ often become united with these ulcers, and this is an additional criterion for the exhibition of mercury. Prevailing symptoms are: drawing, rending pains in the teeth, particularly at night, which extend to the glands, which sympathise, and to the head; tongue swollen and foully coated; putrid taste in the mouth; inappetence; nausea early in the morning. Patient complains more of chill than heat, his complexion is livid, his countenance distressing, with livid circles around the eyes; stools rather diarrhœal, producing excoriation of the anus. The trituration of mercury is in these cases likewise to be preferred to the dilutions, and we may use both the first and twelfth trituration, in the dose from one-eighth to a whole grain, but the dose must be repeated in four-and-twenty hours.

INFLAMMATION OF THE PAROTID AND SUB-MAXILLARY GLANDS. If this disease is the sequelæ of an acute cutaneous eruption, it is immaterial whether it be produced by cold or not, mercury is always the first specific, while in those inflammations of the parotids which appear in scrofulous subjects unpreceded by exanthemata, and which arise from taking cold, carious teeth, or inflammation in the neighbouring organs, other remedies likewise become necessary. An inflammation of this character, to which mercury is adapted, is usually developed rapidly, and generally the patient awakes early in the morning with

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his face swollen on one side with very great pain. As the inflammation increases, the pains become aggravated, and the mobility of the neck and lower jaw is constrained. There are but few cases in which the parotids alone suffer, in a large majority, the sub-maxillary glands, and the cervical muscles are concomitantly swollen. If this is the case, these inflamed glands are generally hard, and a stinging pain is experienced on external pressure. It is but seldom that external redness exists at the commencement, and it is not developed if homœopathic treatment is resorted to early. On the other hand, if the disease is neglected, this symptom appears, and then it is but seldom that we can prevent suppuration and an external opening.* In the latter case, the fever is likewise more apparent, although at the commencement it was scarcely recognisable. The appetite is entirely null, the tongue is much coated with mucus; stool every day, but always somewhat hard and dry; sleep is much disturbed, restless, with startings. Since I have given a dose of mercury six daily in these cases, I allay the disease much more rapidly. This is a very serviceable intercurrent remedy, as I have frequently observed in *indurations of the glands of the throat and neck*,

* I think this remark relative to the external redness holds good in almost all acute inflammations of glands; the only cases of buboes which I have not been able to resolve, were those in which external redness existed when I undertook the case. I look upon it as a certain indication of the presence of pus, or at least of its incipient formation.—*Translator.*

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which have been gradually formed and developed in scrofulous individuals, and which obstruct the motion of the neck very much, from their stone-like hardness, but except this, prove of no great inconvenience to the patient, and do not produce any other disturbances in the other organs, or of the organism and its functions. Small doses of the higher potences I have seen act very powerfully in these cases.

INFLAMMATION OF THE MAMMÆ. The connection of ideas leads us here to speak of *inflammation of the breasts of the female during lactation*. The frequency of its occurrence creates a disposition to relapse. The disease is easily recognised as the pain accompanying it directs our attention, even if the premonitions have been overlooked. Fright, vexation, or cold, appear to be the chief exciting causes, after which the disease becomes developed rapidly, being preceded by general excitement of the vascular system. Even when the chill is present, there exists a sensitive feeling of tension in the breasts, which becomes more and more developed in the succeeding hot stage, and attacks more the swollen milkducts, which are hard and acutely painful, in which likewise there is an evident feeling of incipient suppuration. Several points which are slightly reddened and in which the pain is most acute, are recognisable externally; the pains begin towards evening, with slight febrile indications, and become aggravated hourly to such a degree, that the patient would rather die; about midnight remission sets in, and rest is immediately experienced. Under such circumstances

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no remedy is better adapted to resolve the indurations quickly, than mercury twelve, which should be repeated in a smaller dose when the disease exacerbates.

A remark which I could not slip in at any more suitable place than this is—that mercury and cina possess the power of so acting on the organism of the mother, that the child which at first took the breast, refuses it without any apparent cause; after giving the mother a dose of one of these remedies, it again desires to take the breast.* There is not any thing to be discovered, either on the breast or nipples, which could mislead the child, or no obstruction in the mouth of, or about, the child.

HEPATITIS. INFLAMMATION OF THE LIVER is a disease which often requires this curative, particularly when the violence of the fever has been assuaged by other remedies, for a highly inflammatory case is not adapted to mercury, which is more indicated in cases where there exists intercurrent rigours and proneness to perspiration, which must be the case, if we would exhibit this remedy in this affection.

The symptoms of the topical affection are: pressing, stinging pains in the liver, which impede respiration from their periodical violence, and produce

* I opine that this undoubtedly arises from an internal morbific change on the part of the mother, affecting the secretion of milk, which might probably be elicited by accurate observation; the exhibition of one of the above curatives overcomes (dynamically) the change, and a healthy lacteal secretion results.—*Translator.*

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the utmost restlessness and jactitation: the patient prefers lying on the side affected, with his head hanging down, but still he retains this position but a short time, being obliged to change it. The alvine dejections are stopped, the patient is of a jaundiced appearance, the taste is bitter, appetite wanting, the base of the tongue is coated yellow, the urine is of a dark colour, leaving yellowish spots on the linen: the thirst is great, although the drinking of cold liquids reproduces the pains momentarily.

In *chronic hepatitis* with periodical pains more of a pressing than stinging character, with hard swelling of the liver, perceptible externally, jaundiced hue and great debility. In these cases, mercury is an admirable intercurrent remedy; I have but seldom gone higher than potence six or twelve in this disease.

HYDROCEPHALUS ACUTUS ET CHRONICUS are likewise forms of inflammatory disease, in the homœopathic treatment of which mercur. solub. in the first, second, or third trituration must be interposed and repeated. It is indicated both in the inflammatory stage and when effusion occurs. I have often seen encephalitic complaints, even after no decided improvement had followed the treatment apparently best adapted, and which threatened to terminate in effusion, disappear after a single dose, and complete cure soon followed. If I must here mention the criteria for its application I am obliged to confess my weakness, as in these cases I was more guided by a practical tact, than by any certain indications, and in so far I employed the remedy more on empirical

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principles. But still I did not administer it without any grounds whatever, as, for instance, I never employed it without preceding it with belladonna, and frequently from eighteen to twenty-four hours after its application. I sometimes received a hint from the phenomena which preceded the irruption of the disease, as—vivid mental activity, with flaccidity of the muscles and skin, which precede the disease a long time; slight perspirations; the sudden rousing from sleep with fearfulness; frequent miliary eruptions, which become excoriations; and occasional vertiginous attacks, with loss of thought and speech.

INFLAMMATION OF THE EYES are, under certain circumstances, curable with mercury. Particularly characteristic are those forms conjoined with swelling of the lids, with a sensation of a dull, pressing, lancinating body beneath them, with difficulty of moving them. Both day-light and candle-light is insupportable, and aggravates the burning, smarting pains in the eyes, which are slightly injected, so that the eyelids are at most spasmodically contracted from this cause, and can only be opened by the greatest voluntary effort; agglutination of the eye-lids, with excoriating pain in the margins.

RHEUMATIC OPHTHALMIÆ are curable with mercury if with vivid redness of, and net-like inflammation of the sclerotica, frequent lachrymation and photophobia, the patient complains of sudden darting stitches through the ball of the eye, and boring, rending pains in the orbit and frontal sinuses, with which the neighbouring parts sympathise.

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INFLAMMATION OF THE MEIBOMEAN GLANDS. BLEPHAROPTHALMITIS. BLEPHAROBLENNORRHEA. This appears most frequently in *scrofulous subjects* and in individuals labouring under dyscrasies generally, and is a disease which tests the patience of the homœopathic physician as well as that of his patient, as he but very seldom undertakes the treatment at the commencement, but usually after it has been subjected to allopathic treatment for a long time. The inflammation is mostly confined to the margins of the lids, which are red, hard and intumescent, accompanied by a stinging, burning pain, and are very sensitive to touch; acrid tears are secreted, which make the cheeks red, and produce an agglutination of the cilia, which is rendered worse by the secretion of mucus, which is also followed by ulceration of the eyelids.

I have in a few cases observed this morbid state, conjoined with *ectropium*, and my therapeutic method was the following, after having waited a long time in vain, for the period of duration of effects of my curatives.

At the commencement of the inflammatory affections of the glands, I gave five or six doses of digitalis fifteen, a dose daily: I waited quietly for several days, and then interposed a dose of mercury in the third trituration, after which hepar sulph. was given in eight-and-forty hours, the repetition of which is indispensable. A dose of euphrasia, pulsatilla, or another remedy, is sometimes required subsequently.

INCIPIENT AMAUROSIS. There is no place where I

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can better make mention of this affection than here, while speaking of ophthalmia, to which mercury is adapted. This is an affection of the eye, in which specifics are often wanting, and even those seemingly adapted, disappoint: in order to enlarge this class of remedies, mercurius solubilis from the first to the twelfth trituration must not be forgotten. The signs of approaching amaurosis are well known. It is, however, characteristic for mercury when perceptible diminution of vision creeps in gradually, and sensitive, pressing pain is experienced on exerting the visual power inordinately: a mist gradually comes before the sight, the patient momentarily sees nothing: black points, like insects, appear before the affected eye, which interfere very much with vision, although the eye is very sensitive to light; still the pupil is not so, the contractility of which undergoes but little change. I have still to remark that in two cases which I treated, the subjects having laboured under syphilis, which had been maltreated allopathically, gave me a good hint for the selection of this curative, and I was the more willing to have recourse to the Hahnemannian preparation, which I here used in the third trituration, as I believed it would act as an antidote to the calomel and corrosive sublimate which had been previously used.

In gouty and rheumatic pains with fever, it is particularly indicated, when the patient experiences no relief, when the skin is moist, or even profuse perspiration present, which I have likewise had occasion to observe in a case of *ischias nervosa antica*.

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Coxalgia. Some varieties of these affections, as they often appear in children without any other cause apparently than cold, are closely allied in character to these pains, and always appear with violent sticking pains in the hip joint of the side affected, which not only prevent every motion, but are rendered more acute by it. Bryonia is but seldom indicated, for the fever is either of a synochal character, and then aconite is indispensable, or it is less acute, and denotes more an affection of the lymphatic system and the glands, and then mercur. six or twelve, according to the individuality of the case, is entirely in place, and a few doses often cure the morbid state. It is likewise applicable where, on account of the violent fever, aconite must precede it; but still belladonna sometimes contends for, and deserves preference to it, if a striking over excitement of the nerves, an inability to support the pain, predominates.

Claudicatio spontanea. In this disease mercury should always be considered. It depends on a greater or less degree of inflammation of the capsular ligament of the hip joint and of the neighbouring glands. This voluntary limping is a disease peculiar to childhood, and appears particularly during the years of developement, and usually only in scrofulous individuals. Mercury is here an invaluable curative, and in many cases a proper adjuvant after the previous exhibition of belladonna. Of many cases, I have yet a vivid recollection of one, that of my own child, which was cured by mercurius solub. alone. My boy was at that time four years of age, and had

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withstood several successive diseases, as measles, inflammation of the brain, and finally an attack like jaundice, of which he was pretty well recovered, and had commenced his usual sports. There was still a yellowish hue perceptible on his face and the hairy scalp. One morning, on stepping, he tripped, after awhile, however, he commenced walking again, and then seating himself gave up play. Subsequently, when he again attempted to walk, his limping was apparent, and was so much aggravated in the course of a few days, that he could not stand on his left leg forward, without bending his whole body over to that side, and he touched the ground with his toes only. There was no pain present, and strong pressure on the hip joint only produced a slight twitching of the leg. One dose of mercurius solubilis, third trituration, administered about eleven o'clock in the morning, produced such rapid improvement that in the afternoon at three o'clock there was no vestige of the disease remaining, and a relapse did not subsequently occur.

In subsequent cases which I have been called on to treat, I always considered the absence of pain, or at least trivial pain, as an indication for mercury, and have but seldom been deceived: where there is acute pain, I have always preferred belladonna.

LUMBAR ABSCESS likewise belongs here, as preceding inflammation produces it. It is well known that the painful sensations alone, do not decide as to the choice of our curative. The diagnosis of the disease does not properly belong here, but merely the crite-

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rion for the exhibition of mercury. The pain in the lumbar region is an obtuse sticking, which at first merely prevents decided flexion of the thigh, gradually, however, it produces an unsteady gait, with the sensation as if the whole leg was palsied and trembled, which is likewise perceptible even when lying down. The muscles on the side affected gradually become pale and flaccid, and even the whole body sympathises. Febrile symptoms are noticed for a long time; they become more apparent daily, and finally develope a regular *febris suppuratoria*, which is more of a *continua* than *remittens*. It is characteristic, that on coughing, sneezing, blowing the nose or talking loud, or in general in every concussion of the abdominal organs, an acutely painful sensation is experienced in the part morbidly affected. The appetite diminishes, the thirst on the other hand increases; alvine dejections are stopped, and if they occur without injections, it is with extreme pain. The patient feels worse at night; the fever, thirst, and pains are far more acute, and conjoined with very great inquietude and anxiety. If this remedy alone is not able to effect a cure in these cases, it is nevertheless very salutary where suppuration has commenced, and promotes this process as well as relieves the pain: *silicea* is the only remedy which ranks with it. Its curative powers are in such cases manifested only when given in the lowest potences, as the first, second, or third trituration: the repetition with every exacerbation of pain is indispensable.

PANARITIA. WHITLOW. In this affection I have

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often applied mercury with the most brilliant success, but have never seen decided benefit from its use as long as the inflammatory state predominated, but when inclination to suppuration appeared, or when it had already occurred. Remission of the pains occurred soon after its application in the third trituration, the renewal of them requires a second dose. When suppuration is already far advanced, an artificial opening affords great relief to the patient.

INFLAMMATION OF THE EXTERNAL LABIA in females, is a disease which is not of such rare occurrence; if it arises from transitory causes, but one of these organs is usually affected. In very many cases, delicacy prevents medical aid being sought. The disease commences with tumefaction, redness, and sensitive, stinging pains, which are much aggravated by walking, and continues to grow worse with increasing hardness of the morbid part, like a large furuncle. At this period, the physician has but little to do, as the patient believes she can trust nature with her disease. The burning, pulsating pains are, however, so violent, with the shining redness of the part, that the patient experiences relief only when lying down with the thighs abducted. The termination in suppuration, is in such cases beyond question, and I have often seen the external application of empirical salves prolong inordinately the suppurative period, while a grain of the third or fourth trituration of mercury promotes it, and hastens the spontaneous rupture which should be left to nature, as we

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can dispense with surgical aid. With the rupture the pains vanish, and cure soon follows.

PROLAPSUS VAGINÆ is another disease of the female sexual organs. This, however, is internal. It is frequently preceded by burning pains internally in the vagina, with burning sensations during micturition, which, with the fluor albus benignus, demonstrate the inflammatory state, of which the patient is ignorant until a remission of these symptoms occurs, and the disease shows itself, producing a harassing, urging sensation at the mouth of the vagina, and when the anterior wall is prolapsed, a disagreeable flow of urine, which gives origin to excoriations. *Mercury* six and twelve in repeated doses is often the best curative in these cases, with which, when circumstances require it, belladonna and stepia may be interposed.

STERILITY will certainly be relieved by mercury six, when syphilis, or still more general lues has previously existed. We can also administer repeated doses of mercury to prostitutes who have married, in order to produce a greater liability to conception.

ACUTE CUTANEOUS ERUPTIONS. In these affections mercurius solub. is a remedy which should not be disregarded, but it is less adapted to the eruptions than to the other concomitant symptoms. The disease in which mercury does the most, is varicella, and I have not yet met with any other remedy which benefits more than this in the stadium repletionis et maturationis. It proves beneficial in particular when the pocks are much diffused, when the whole cavity

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of the mouth and the intestinal canal in general participates, which may be judged from the copious secretion of mucus from the nose and the organs of deglutition, from the flow of saliva and the ulceration of the eye-lids. In the period of maturation, when the pocks are confluent, with enormous swelling of the part on which a number of pocks are situated, with violent febris suppuratoria, mercury in the second, third, or sixth trituration will never fail to afford relief; it must, however, be repeated daily, and in bad cases it should be given twice in that time. The patients, who, before taking it, were very restless, in a state of excitement, become quiet, feel relieved, and even the sensibility of the external skin is no more so perceptible.

Caries sometimes succeeds small-pox in scrofulous subjects, which proves very destructive if not speedily arrested, but mercury is in such cases also an admirable remedy, which soon stops the progress of the disease, and in a short time cures it. This is likewise the case with caries after injury of the bone.

SCARLET FEVER AND SCARLET RASH when somewhat virulent are but seldom, fortunately overcome without this curative. The eruption itself does not indicate its application, but the affection of the throat, which is conjoined, the stinging pains when swallowing, the vivid redness of the soft palate, fauces, and tonsils, and the increased secretion of saliva, which is in some instances united. A small portion of the twelfth dilution often suffices in these cases, which,

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however, acts more favourably if it be preceded by belladonna, which moreover is always first indicated by the general morbid state.

GLANDULAR AFFECTIONS, which appear during scarlet fever as mentioned above, (see Angina,) often find a curative in mercury.

The *dropsical accumulations* after scarlatina in many cases, require the application of mercury, which likewise proves beneficial in dropsies dependent on hepatic affections, which is confirmed by Dr. Knorr, of Pernau.* As the age of childhood is often subjected to diseases of the lymphatic vessels, the formation of a *leucophlegmatic* state after scarlatina, is not of such rare occurrence, and this is a disease to which mercury is particularly adapted, less, however, in those cases where collections of serous fluid occur. We can suppose with some probability that the swellings depend upon an exudation of lymph, if they are hard, immovable, and the skin insensible and cold.

Hydrocele, which sometimes supervenes as a sequelæ, belongs here, in which, as a primary medicine, mercury might not improperly be applied.

PURULENT OTORRHEA succeeding acute cutaneous affections, is often curable with this remedy.

We come now to a disease in which mercury is specific, which is indeed peculiar in its character, but still it can be best introduced with eruptive diseases. Otherwise I lay but little stress, whether it

* Vide Allgem. homœop. Zeitung. Band V. Nr. 15, § 232.

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properly belongs here or not, as I have in this work to treat of practical and not systematic subjects. It will truly be a source of joy to me if my practical remarks, drawn from experience, shall prove serviceable, and if the homœopathist shall be able to use them in particular cases.

SYPHILIS is a disease which appears in such manifold forms that it is necessary to state those varieties accurately in which the soluble mercury is chiefly applied; for gonorrhœa,* sycosis, &c., which likewise originate from impure connection, are in many cases cured by it: but still these are merely exceptions, as it is not specifically adapted to those affections last named.

ULCUS VENEREUM. CHANCRE. This primary sore, which is well known as the immediate result of local infection of the genitals, which appears on the inner surface of the prepuce, and on the scrotum of males, on the inner surface of the external labia, on the nymphæ and the entrance of the vagina in females,

* The gonorrhœa which depends on the miasm of sycosis, as well as the condylomatous excrescences, that is the whole sycotic disease, is most certainly and effectually cured by the internal use of the juice of the thuya occidentalis in the thirtieth dilution, which should be alternated with a similar small dose of nitric acid after the lapse of fifteen, twenty, thirty, or forty days, the effects of which should be awaited for the same length of time, and in the most *chronic* and *difficult* cases, the morbid growths should be touched once daily with the tincture of thuya, made of one half expressed juice, and as much alcohol. Vide Chronic Diseases, Vol. I. p. 106. —*Translator.*

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in the form of a vesicle which breaks and forms an extending ulcer, the edges of which are hard, sharp, irregular, thrown outwards, and painful, the base lardaceous, or covered with matter, is the principal local symptom of syphilis, and which is curable with mercury. This ulcer, which rapidly increases in size, and never heals by the natural efforts alone, unaided by medical treatment, is quickly cured by proper doses of merc. solub. The longer or shorter period of duration of the disease depends on the impressibility of the individual to the action of medicaments generally, and hence it arises, that one subject is cured early, while another requires a much longer time:* but still the cure of primary chancre can almost always be affected in from two to six weeks.

In the treatment of this disease I have for a long time used from the first to the fourth trituration of mercury, and have even been obliged to have recourse to still larger doses, particularly in very flaccid torpid individuals, and have never had occasion to regret this seeming rashness. The cure of these syphilitic ulcers is likewise affected by far smaller doses of this mercurial preparation; this I have witnessed in several instances: but still in many

* This is undoubtedly one cause of cures being more prolonged in some cases than in others; there are, however, various others, as the conduct of the patient, his dietetic regulation, observance or nonobservance of physical and mental quietude, for I doubt not that in many instances the moral shock is a cause of our success being for a time deferred.—*Translator.*

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cases the physician will not accomplish his object so quickly with these higher potences, and can always prognosticate with more certainty when he exhibits the lower. The patient can thus be soon cured, and he therefore overlooks the slight symptoms elicited by the medicine, (not, however, in all cases,) which subsequently disappear spontaneously when the doses are given less frequently. My method is the following: I give at first a grain of one of the triturations every two days, and even on the fourth I expect, if no perceptible improvement, at least an arrest of the progress of the ulcer: if the latter has not occurred, it is necessary to repeat the dose daily: if, after the lapse of four days no improvement has occurred, we must select a lower trituration. When chancres are situated on the frænum, it is necessary to make a decided impression at once, in order to check the rapid and here destructive progress of the ulceration.

Phimosis and Paraphimosis. Both of these affections are frequent concomitants of syphilis, (but still may appear without it,) at least when the disease has made much progress: the former when there are chancres on the frænum and verge of the prepuce, the latter when they exist on the corona glandis and the internal surface of the prepuce; these states do not require any change in the treatment. Although by this treatment the constriction which ensues from paraphimosis is simultaneously overcome, it is nevertheless a critical state, which causes uneasiness both to the patient and his medical attendant, as mortification of the glands may readily be thus pro-

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duced. I consider therefore mechanical aid not superfluous, and strive to remove the constriction by the proper manipulation, even if some force, producing pain to the patient, must be used. This operation is performed the easier the earlier we are acquainted with the existence of paraphymosis. A very proper requisition on the part of the physician is that the morbid part should be bathed several times daily in tepid water or milk; it promotes cleanliness, and prevents the formation of new ulcers, which are prone to be excited from the acridity of the purulent discharge. As soon as a partial improvement is produced by this treatment, the rapid repetition of the doses of mercury must be abandoned; it is then sufficient to give a dose of the trituration, which we at first applied every third or fourth day.

Buboes. The treatment of buboes does not differ from that laid down, if the suppurative process has taken place, and the pus affected an external passage.

The edges of the wound, which are reflected upwards, are jagged and bleed readily, causing the patient much pain, which can be much relieved by applying charpie covered with althea ointment. This topical treatment is soon rendered superfluous, as frequently after the second dose of mercury, the great sensibility and painfulness disappears, and the edges of the wound look much better. Both with this mode of treatment, as well as where I have applied the most minute doses, it has sometimes occurred that venereal ulcerations in the throat have

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arisen during the treatment of the primary affection, or even afterwards, which at first appeared as if I had produced them by too large doses of mercury, which I was the more inclined to believe, the greater the resemblance was to the syphilitic ulcers existing on the genitals. I therefore administered an apparently proper antidote, but effected no cure. Having repeatedly made this observation, conjoined with the fact of the same having occurred to many other homœopathic practitioners, induced me to conjecture it might be merely a translocation, which is not of such unfrequent occurrence in nature, and has probably been noticed by most physicians who have observed the translation of a disease from one organ to another by metastasis, &c. Small and repeated doses of soluble mercury produced no change in the disease, it often extended and appeared as if it would prove very destructive. In order to prevent this I had recourse to large doses; I gave the one-sixteenth, one-eighth and quarter of a grain, and repeated it several times through the day. By such means a cure sometimes slowly occurred; I was frequently, however, obliged to learn that my patients had secretly left me, and had applied to allopathic physicians for advice, who then did not speak in friendly terms of homœopathy.

This experience, unfavourable for myself, but particularly so for homœopathy, spurred me on to reflect more fully on the subject; from this time I mistrusted the general firm belief of most homœopathists that

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the black oxide alone was the proper preparation for syphilitic diseases.*

Astute allopathic practitioners could not possibly recommend the various mercurial preparations in the different forms of venereal without fearing that exposure would follow a different result. Experiments with other mercurial preparations could not prove more doubtful than stubbornly continuing in the black

* It appears somewhat strange to me that homœopathists who have carefully studied the subject of syphilitic maladies should have fallen into the error of supposing there was but one remedy for their cure, the mercurius solubilis, as this is contrary both to the spirit of homœopathy and the pathology of the disease. To me it appears that the general law of cure by similarity of symptoms is as valid here as in any other disease; it only requires that we should be able to distinguish differences, (which undoubtedly exist,) in primary sores, and we could not well mistake our remedy. For the form of chancre described by Mr. Hunter, merc. solub. is undoubtedly specific, but there are various other primary forms which differ essentially both in their local character, and in the effects which they produce on the constitution. These are the views of Carmichæl, and are indubitably founded in nature. It follows then that the homœopathist, in order to cure the venereal, must pay particular attention to the character of the sore, as primarily manifested on the genitals: his remedy must be varied in accordance with the characteristics of the ulcer. He will thus be obliged to have recourse not only to the soluble mercury, but also to corrosive sublimate, red precipitate, calomel, *nitric acid*, phosporic acid, thuya, hepar sulph., sulphur, corallia rubra, staphysagria, and others. The peculiar form or kind of sore which each remedy excites on the genitals, and which it consequently cures, will be found in detail in the *Materia Med. Pura* of Hahnemann, to which I refer the reader.—*Translator.*

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and grey oxides. I tried them and was satisfied, although I did not bind myself to the prescribed doses, yet this was no source of anxiety. The preparation which appeared to me best adapted, the reader will find farther on.

LUES VENERA is cured with mercurius solub. Hahn., if the disease in its early stage has been suppressed by improper treatment: there should, however be no symptoms of mercurial disease present. It is most certainly applicable if the disease reappears in its primary form as chancre, or bubo, on the parts first affected. If, on the contrary, it appears in the mouth, fauces, or nose, other mercurial preparations as mentioned above: or entirely different remedies, are required to cure it, as aurum, mezereum, sulphur, hepar sulphuris, nitric acid, clematis, &c. It is likewise beneficial in violent, particularly nocturnal, pains of the bones, with swelling; also in swellings of various glands, as of the throat or axilla; in herpes, &c., of which I shall speak more specially hereafter.

The treatment of this disease demands the greatest circumspection, and is not so simple as it at first appears, as complication with other diseases very often present themselves, but also because the various morbid symptoms require frequent change of remedies. The mercury must be applied as beforementioned.

LEUCORRHEA. FLUOR ALBUS, acrid, excoriating, smarting and burning, with swelling of the external and internal genitals, with burning pains during micturation, originating from impure connection, suc-

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cumbs to the application of repeated doses of merc. sol. three, a dose every four days.

I have sometimes seen, during the existence of venereal sores, *hæmaturia* supervene, with burning pain in the urethra during micturition, which disappeared after giving mercury without requiring any other remedy.*

Ulcerative herpes. I have frequently seen this supervene after the cure of syphilis, and it sometimes coexists with it. It is usually on the fore arms and calves of the legs. They form themselves into groups of small maturating vesicles, with violent burning itching, which constantly enlarge, break, become confluent, and then form a common scab, from beneath which extremely acrid ichor is secreted, which, by oozing out, occasions the disease to spread. Several doses of mercury six, one every two days, cures most cases in from three to four weeks.

Another variety of herpes, unpreceded by syphilis, which had continued for many years, which appeared on the back of one hand, and on the ball of the thumbs of the other, the skin was of a dark red colour, terminating abruptly, on the external margin the redness was more vivid, was somewhat elevated,

* This symptom, *hæmaturia*, often denotes the presence of *chancres in the urethra*, which, according to M. Ricord, is of much more frequent occurrence than is generally imagined. He gives the following signs of their presence: induration of a point in the course of the urethra, a sanious and often bloody discharge, and the presence of an acute bubo; the "pierre de touche" with him is inoculation.—*Translator*.

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and constantly desquamated. In the middle of this, small vesicles rapidly appeared which contained a yellowish fluid,—fourteen days after the administration of a dose of lycopod X., it began to inflame so violently, that the mobility of the whole hand, but particularly of the fingers, was prevented by this and the simultaneous swelling, and the patient complained of the most violent stinging, burning pains in the arm, as well along the course of the inflamed lymphatics as in the large suppurating points of the eruption. Several doses of mercur. solub. six, removed not only the acute febrile state, with great thirst, inappetence, sleeplessness, constipation, and very high coloured urine, but likewise the chronic herpes, so much that but a slight trace of it remained, which succumbed to the repeated application of graphites.

I several years ago treated a morbid state, which, if not herpetic, approached very near to it, in a young man who had suffered from ulcers in the genitals, and who, from modesty, had not intrusted his case to any physician, and had therefore taken no mercury. A new and very painful disease, which was superadded, obliged him to seek medical aid. His state was the following: nine days since, the right arm inflamed very much, and was swollen to an enormous size; vesicles had formed on this red tumefied part, as in erysipelas pustulosum, only that they were larger, which broke spontaneously, at which points there were deep holes in the arms which did not suppurate, but from which a white lymphatic

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fluid oozed. This was the state in which I found my patient: he could not move his arm without producing pain: the swelling of the arm had abated somewhat, but the hand was still very much swollen, and the three cavities which were situated on the inner side of the arm looked livid. The joint was likewise swollen, was red, and sensitive to touch. The chancres on the corona glandis, which were already much developed, had not increased in size during the new disease, but remained entirely unchanged, and had likewise a healthy appearance. The patient was always feverish, had much thirst, and was anxiously restless, particularly at night. Mercurius solubilis three, a dose every five days, removed the whole morbid state in three weeks.

Zona. This is burning, itching, and stinging eruption, consisting of vesicles, situated on an inflamed ground, extending half around the body directly under the ribs, and of about the breadth of three fingers. I lately treated a case in a man of thirty years of age, who had been affected with the venereal several times. A dose of mercury twelve, a dose every other day, and after eight days a fourth dose removed the disease. We may with some probability suppose that in this kind of erysipelatous inflammation, which succumbs with most certainty to mercury, where syphilis has existed, where this cause has not been present, other remedies, as sulphur, graphites, arsenic, nitric acid, euphorbium should be applied.

Crusta lactea. This remedy likewise deserves

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attention in this disease, if the eruption is papular, maturates, and then forms thick yellowish brown crusts: in such eruptions generally, where considerable suppuration exists.

CRUSTA SERPIGINOSA. It is likewise valuable in this disease, if not as the principle curative, at least as an intercurrent remedy, particularly if the remedies indicated in this affection after repeated repetitions do not act so well as before. Under these circumstances, I have frequently given merc. solub. twelve with great benefit, and hourly seen a more striking decrease of the eruption after this, than I had previously observed from any other remedy. Sulphur answers best after it.

INTERTRIGO. In treating excoriations of small children, I should not like to be without this remedy, particularly if this cutaneous affection is situated not merely at particular points, for instance, the folds of the skin, but also at other parts of the body, presenting the appearance of a raw piece of flesh. The twelfth potence does all we desire in these cases, and we but seldom have occasion to repeat the dose.

Dry, miliary itch, which bleeds readily, requires the application of mercury. It generally does not appear primarily in this form, but usually after it has been so changed by improper treatment that it cannot be considered as pure itch, or as an uncomplicated eruption from sulphur, but as a complicated disease, as itch united with the cachexy of sulphur, to which no remedy is better adapted than mercurius solub. two or three, in repeated doses.

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HOARSENESS. In this disease, unaccompanied by any other particular symptoms, mercury is one of our principal remedies: besides this, however, we have sulphur, *manganum acetatum* and *pulsatilla*.

PHTHISICAL STATE is connected with this, and in its treatment a dose of mercury must frequently be interposed. Its application is indispensable in *phthisis trachealis* (bronchitis) which has been developed after repeated syphilitic attacks. If this remedy alone is not able to perform a cure, still its intercurrent use as it is indicated by the exciting cause, always checks the progress of the disease, and favours the sphere of action of the remedy next adapted. Its effects in *phthisis tuberculosa*, (tubercular consumption,) are not less favourable, even when the disease is far advanced. It should, however, be given alternately with hepar. sulph. calc. in very low potences, the third or fourth. Some experience, and repeated trials, induced me to give the remedies in these low triturations, and I first attained fortunate results by this means. This remedy is indicated by the prevalence of inflammatory symptoms, (sub-inflammatory state,) of tubercles, passing into a state of suppuration, and it should therefore be repeated as soon as such symptoms manifest themselves. I have become more certain of this treatment of this morbid state since I have perused the remarks of Dr. Schmid* on this disease. I applied this remedy with the most unqualified benefit when

* Vide Allgem. Zeit. Band VI. No. 18. § 273.

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the disease appeared in a young man just at puberty, and in whom the disease had made rapid strides, he having had repeated attacks of hæmoptysis, and even very enervating night sweats had made their appearance. After ten weeks treatment the patient felt so much better that he could not be withheld from pursuing his business. This was, however, premature, for his journey had a great effect on him, and his disease grew worse daily, particularly while drinking whey for the benefit of his health. I have hitherto considered phthisis, which appears during the period of developement, incurable, even under the most careful treatment. This one case, however, has aroused my hopes, and shown me the possibility of cure, at least in individual cases, when the diet and regimen is properly regulated.

Sweat following every slight corporeal exertion also, when it appears during convalescence after severe debilitating diseases, mercury six very often removes; it sometimes requires the application of cocculus twelve.

In very *profuse and offensive perspiratory secretion on the feet*, I have likewise given it with great benefit, and by repeating it several times, overcome this disagreeable state.

Congestions to all parts of the body, namely, to the organs of the three large cavities, are morbid states, which not unfrequently come within the sphere of effects of this remedy. It is chiefly in congestions to the abdomen and thorax, at the menstrual period, when the latter has become irregular from repeated

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fright, although again regular, but still always before, and after the periods, a congestive state is ushered in, to which particularly, thoracic spasms, asthma, ebullitions in the epigastric region, palpitation of the heart, &c. belong. Several doses of aconite are always proper in such cases; they, however, do not prevent a recurrence of these distressing symptoms, which is, however, accomplished by several doses of mercury, administered after the catamenial period; experience has taught me this practical hint.

I will not aver that mercury is an indispensable remedy in *apoplexia sanguinea*, but that it is frequently of great benefit in the sequelæ of that affection.

How often do we observe paralysis of the tongue after this disease, which is manifest by the *stuttering*, *stammering* articulation, a kind of *muttering*, which usually succumbs to the application of merc. three, which is likewise efficacious in curing this vicious articulation if not too chronic, when unpreceded by apoplexy.

HÆMORRHAGES. One of the primary effects of mercury is to excite hæmorrhage, and therefore in the first or second trituration it proves beneficial in *bleeding of the gums*, where the blood is discharged from the swollen red gums in which the teeth are loose and the gums have fallen away from them, and is united with an offensive fetor from the mouth.

Smarting and itching in the anus and genitals. When hæmorhoidal tumours exist, as well as frequent passage of blood from the anus, which weakens

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the patient very much, they often disappear after a single dose of mercury three, which should be repeated when the disease recurs.

The discharge of gravel, the passage of which through the urethra excites so much pain, which is known from the sensation in the loins as if something heavy was being dragged towards the genitals, is often much relieved by giving this remedy; the pains in some instances suddenly disappear after it. I have made this observation in two instances.

ASTHMATIC PAROXYSMS AND THORACIC SPASMS, originating from the inhalation of the vapours of arsenic, are removed by no remedy with more certainty than by mercury three, in repeated doses.

CHOREA STI. VITI. The dance of St. Vitus, although a rare disease,* has nevertheless been successfully treated by mercury twelve in the case of a young girl aged ten years, who had likewise suffered from scrofula since her earliest childhood, and who inherited a syphilitic taint from the parents. She was much debilitated, her muscles hung flaccid and wasted on her bones, which were softened and crooked, the child's face was emaciated and her countenance stupid. The hopping and dancing motions appeared to arise more from the prevailing restlessness which did not permit her to remain in one place for any length of time, and ended with twitchings of the limbs if she strove to remain in a state of quiescence. This

* It cannot be said to be rare in this country. I have now two cases of it under treatment.—*Translator.*

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remedy was given alternately with *stramonium*, hyosciamus, and *ignatia*.

The kinds of *odontalgia* curable with mercury are so characteristic that the homœopathist somewhat conversant with routine practice, could not well mistake it. I give all the symptoms here indicative of mercury, but will mention that all collectively are but seldom met with in the same subject, but still those specified are of practical worth.

Rending, sticking pains along the whole row of teeth on the one side or the other is the principal sensation; the very sensitive periodical jerking pains, extending from the fang of the tooth to its crown, which appear at night only, and continue for a long time, is the next in importance: we next have *rending pains* in the teeth themselves, not in the jaw, particularly at night, with great sensibility of the teeth to touch, conjoined with profuse *ptyalism*. Odontalgia with ulcers on the gums; likewise sensitive pains in the teeth as if they were situated in fistulous openings; loose, painful teeth; odontalgia with swollen livid gums which have fallen away from the teeth, are also curable with mercury six or twelve.

In conclusion, I must mention a disease which falls in the psychologic sphere, the cure of which was affected by mercury two alone, in a man already advanced in years. At first the disease appeared as slight, transient vertigo, which afterwards occurred more frequently, and continued a longer time; in the periods intervening the attacks, he laboured under loss of memory, weakness of understanding, and

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absence of mind, from which he had previously never suffered. Sometimes cardiac anxiety, or again *ptyalism*, which continued for a whole day, at which time his mental powers seemed unimpaired, supplied the place of the vertiginous attacks. He had used many remedies by the advice of physicians, but none of them had benefitted him; on the contrary, the morbid state seemed to increase, and finally complete mania was developed, which always disappeared entirely on the supervention of ptyalism.

When the cardiac anxiety supervened, it was always conjoined with the settled idea that he would lose his reason. Mercur. solubilis two, repeated in three days, effected a rapid and permanent cure.

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MERCURIUS PRÆCIPITATUS RUBER.

I have used this mercurial preparation for several years in the following syphilitic affections, with far more success than the black oxide.

1. In those cases which I before mentioned when speaking of syphilis, where, during the homœopathic treatment of primary chancre, or immediately afterwards, the disease appeared in the same form in the *fauces*,* and likewise reappeared as chancre.

2. In SECONDARY SYPHILIS: *a.* if a long time after the cure of primary syphilis, under allopathic treatment, *chancrous ulcers* appeared on the soft palate, &c. which proved rapidly destructive: farther, *b.* in *herpetic eruptions on the nose, which formed deep ulcers, and constantly increased*, which appeared several years after the cure of secondary syphilis in the form of a small furuncle, which continues to inflame, and becomes elevated; a white apex then forms,

* I have used it in two cases of secondary syphilis, where ulcerations of the throat had progressed to a considerable extent, in both with decided effect. In one case the patient averred that he had never had a chancre, that his first disease was gonorrhea, for which, when it degenerated to gleet, he had, by the advice of an allopathic practitioner, taken corrosive sublimate for a long time.—*Translator.*

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this forms a scab, under which the ulceration progresses, with the farther extension of the inflammation; finally, the nasal bones become affected, and the pus which is discharged diffuses an offensive odour. The external scab still continues to increase in size, and when removed presents either a foul ulcer of livid hue, or with jagged edges, with a deep red blush surrounding it; the periphery of which is a small but shining red stripe, which gradually becomes lost in the natural colour of the integuments.

3. IN LYMPHATIC SWELLINGS, PARTICULARLY ON AND AROUND THE GENITALS. I have repeatedly observed this peculiar morbid form, never, however, except when preceded frequently for many years by primary syphilis, usually after chancres; but still in one case I was so undecided, whether gonorrhea had not been united, that I at least assume, that the latter may likewise be an exciting cause, and give origin to this disease. I have seen it appear under two forms:

a. Several weeks after the healing of chancre there appears on the corona glandis, the seat of the sore, *a bluish induration* of the size of a pea, which extended almost to the frænum, but was always confined to the corona of the glans, and never exceeded a straw in breadth.

b. A long time after the cure of syphilis, a spotted appearance of the glans, resembling herpes; several places appear as if the delicate membrane had been denuded, and discharge as in balano-blenorrhœa; a similar state was visible on the tongue. Soon after,

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indurations formed on the corona glandis, and in the prepuce; the lymphatics along the penis, in the groins, and down the thighs, felt like knotted cords, and the patient experienced much pain from every motion, but particularly during an erection. On the frænum, where these indurations were likewise situated, lymph oozed out on each side from small openings, which did not appear unlike chancrous ulcerations, but still they did not increase but remained the same as at the commencement, there likewise appeared to be no loss of substance. Similar symptoms may probably occur in the throat, which can be assumed from the difficulty of deglutition, from dryness of the throat, which occurs readily, and which is followed by excoriation; this symptom is relieved by drinking water, all other liquids produce more pain.

These are the complaints in which I now employ mercur. præcipitatus ruber. In the first trituration, a grain morning and evening, and in the course of six or eight days, (being always governed by its earlier or later perceptible effect,) omit it for some days. The disease mentioned under 1 is readily cured by this treatment; 2 requires a long continuation of this remedy, only omitting it for a few days at intervals; and in 2 *b*. I was obliged to give the one-sixth of a grain at a dose three times a day, before I could check the disease, which then, however, soon improved, and required but the one-sixth of a grain every fourth day. Even in these large doses I have but seldom seen any medicinal symptoms arise, ex-

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cept soreness of the gums and some loose teeth, which disappeared when the remedy was given less frequently.

The disease specified under 3, likewise requires the continued use of this curative, but here I have never been obliged to give lower doses.

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MERCURIUS SUBLIMATUS CORROSIVUS.

I have never had occasion to employ this remedy in syphilitic diseases, as I have always succeeded with the mercurial preparations just spoken of; and moreover, in those cases in which it was well indicated, sublimate in allopathic doses had previously been exhibited, on which account I was obliged to select another mercurial preparation. There are, however, several other complaints in which I have used it, and in these I can report favourably of its effect.

Besides *dysentery*,* in which, in common with every other mercurial preparation, it proves beneficial in repeated doses, I found it serviceable in

1. *Very malignant obstinate stomacace*, arising after debilitating, prostrating diseases. In accordance with my observations, it is immaterial what disease precedes it, for it always appears in the same form, which is curable with our remedy. I have most frequently seen it arise after nervous fevers, but lately after intermittent fever, treated with improper remedies, after which spasms of the chest supervened

* Sublimate is preferable to any other mercurial preparation in dysenteries, when intense irritation exists in the lower bowels, manifested by constant tenesmus and discharges of pure blood, or blood and mucus.—*Translator*.

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after their disappearance from the exhibition of homœopathic remedies, namely, ipecac. and ignatia; small flat ulcers, resembling chancres, showed themselves on the soft palate, with dirty, lardaceous base, with flat but inflamed and irregular edges, which were accompanied by a discharge of very fœtid saliva, with a general unpleasant odour diffused about the patient. Deglutition was very painful and difficult, always attended with violent stitches extending to the ears, appetite completely null, short, dry cough. The strength constantly declined, the face collapsed, the lips were quite white, the speech stammering, stuttering; answers to questions completely perverted: mania supervened; audition was very obtuse, almost deaf; peculiar twitching and tremor of the hands, she could never hold them still; pulse small, accelerated; urine resembling light coloured beer, depositing a reddish sediment; alvine evacuations suppressed.

I found this state of things existing, which was rendered still more distressing from the rapid loss of strength, from an affection apparently local.

Sublimate fifteen, in a dose of three or four globules, removed the disease within ten days, except a slight debility, which soon disappeared after a dose of acidum phosphoricum nine.

2. *In hectic states in scrofulous individuals*, which commence with simple catarrh, slight coryza, hoarseness, headache, cough, and gradually draw the glands and lymphatics already affected, within the compass of the disease; they become inflamed, and occasionally in the neck terminate in suppuration; the

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abdomen is distended, doughy; the alvine evacuations become diarrhœal, sometimes aqueous, or even purulent; the body gradually but constantly emaciates; the existing fever, which was previously *intermittens*, becomes changed to *continua continens;* the pulse is small and extremely frequent; the thirst continues to increase; the cough, which, in the commencement, appeared periodically, becomes more permanent, and more intense, is united with retching.

In such cases I have given sublimate fifteen, always with great benefit, which is likewise permanent if the dose is repeated in three or four days.

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CALOMEL. MERCURIUS DULCIS.

Calomel deserves more attention from homœopathic physicians than has hitherto been bestowed on it. I myself did not pay much regard to it some time back, until about one year ago I undertook the treatment of an anginose affection, which, in conjunction with exanthematous diseases, I had frequently seen terminate in gangrene and death, without being able to produce any improvement, far less restoration, by remedies which appeared to be adapted. This experience induced me to give this remedy in a case apparently similar. I will call the case *ulcerated putrid sore throat*. I shall give an accurate description of the morbid symptoms, so that in similar affections other homœopathists may be enabled to test my method. The disease appeared in a child of eight years of age, which had become obnoxious to rheumatic symptoms, with febrile phenomena, from playing in the damp air in the evening, this was not fully allayed, when a similar exciting cause changed the morbid state, but for the worse. The child became emaciated, pining, lost all courage and sprightliness, refused its food, but not drink, had

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a violent fever; there was in particular always a burning heat perceptible, and early in the morning it was bathed in sweat, which diffused a very offensive odour. After the lapse of some weeks, as this state did not succumb to any remedy, there became united to it when swallowing, a raw, burning feeling in the throat; there was constantly a disagreeable odour about the child, which became putrescent, the nearer you approached its mouth. The strength was so prostrated that the child could no longer get up. The internal mouth and fauces exhibited a number of small, round, deep, livid looking ulcers, which must have extended down to the larynx, as the child now began to speak hoarsely. In this sad state I saw the child, and taught by experience, could give but little hope. Bellad., arsenic, sulphur, secale cornut., carb. veget., and other remedies I had always applied in vain. I therefore here tried calomel in the first trituration, of which I gave a grain every four hours in sugar of milk. The next day the salivary secretion appeared to be increased, notwithstanding this, I continued the same treatment, and on the second day noticed a less putrescent stench from the mouth, and a better appearance in the ulcers. On the third day the improvement was striking, but towards evening diarrhœa supervened, which induced me to omit the medicine, and the next day it disappeared without treatment. The improvement progressed for three days, I then again administered a few doses, but the ominous alvine evacuations reap-

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peared, and forced me to omit it a second time. The debilitating sweats which still remained, I treated with acid phosphoric three, and in order to restore the strength I gave china twelve.

Although I have no experience on the subject, I can readily believe that calomel may do much in *autumnal dysenteries*, where nothing save blood and mucus is evacuated.

In suppurating herpes on the hands, with much inflammation, from which inflamed streaks pass off, following the course of the lymphatics, very painful to the touch, and on motion, with vivid fever, heat very strong, full pulse, intercurrent rigors, I gave every two hours a grain of calomel of the first trituration, and after four doses, the improvement was so apparent, that I did not use any more mercury in this acute stage, but after several days I continued the cure with other suitable remedies.*

* Calomel may likewise be given in primary chancre, which does not yield to the merc. solub. Hahn.

I lately treated a case in which mercury was evidently indicated, for nearly three weeks without any improvement, with the soluble mercury. The chancre occurred in a young man who had never had the venereal. It was situated on the external integument of the inferior surface of the penis, near the scrotum; when I first saw it, it had made considerable progress, it was long and narrow, the edges hard and elevated; it was red, and the base did not present that lardaceous appearance so common; the patient complained of constant *sticking or pricking* pains in it as if from needles. I gave merc. sol. three, a dose every day; on the fifth day the sore had evidently progressed, I repeated the same remedy,

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but gave it *twice* a day; at the expiration of five days the sore was much worse, had extended both in length and depth; I nevertheless repeated the soluble mercury, and now in the *first trituration*, but as before, fruitlessly. I now gave calomel three, six powders, two a day; my patient returned on the fifth day, and I was really surprised at the change which had occurred; the sore had granulated, contracted, and commenced skinning; I gave four powders, to take one every other night, which perfected the cure.—*Translator*.

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CHAMOMILLA.

In homœopathy we make use of the tincture of this plant, prepared like all other articles of the vegetable kingdom, of equal portions of the expressed juice of the green plant and alcohol.

The chamomile is very similar to *ignatia* in its effects, particularly in regard to the nervous excitability and the morbid tone of mind which it produces; with *coffea*, particularly relative to the power it possesses, in common with that substance, of allaying paroxysms of pain, with inordinate sensibility, which are often not very important; with *pulsatilla* it accords in the temperament and disposition to which it is adapted, as well as the debility of the stomach and intestinal canal, which is one of its prominent effects; with *aconite*, particularly in certain rheumatic affections of sub-inflammatory character. From this we understand the antidotal powers of the remedies specified to *chamomilla*.

This remedy is preeminently adapted to the cure of many diseases of children, and in some respects corresponds with *belladonna*. The latter is more indicated in diseases of the *cerebral* system, which appear during childhood; the effects of chamomilla, on the contrary, are extended more to the *ganglionic*

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system, and it there excites various disturbances of the abdominal organs, not merely during childhood, but also in more advanced life. On this account I do not intend to confine myself in this treatise to the therapeutical application of chamomilla in diseases of children, but as it is one of the principal homœopathic remedies, I shall speak of its application in diseases generally.

It is well known that chamomilla possesses *febrifuge* powers, particularly in those intermittents where, with external and internal heat, rigours exist concomitantly. In diseases where the accompanying fever assumes the character of *synocha*, this remedy is seldom applicable; its curative effects are best manifested where the febrile phenomena are of the *synochus* or *typhoid* character, with which gastric or bilious derangements are conjoined. In this respect it likewise in a measure resembles *nux vomica*, with this difference, that the latter is often applicable where *gastric* derangements prevail, while chamomilla is indicated where the complaints are more of a *bilious* nature. I say *often*, for this remark is not fully born out in all cases, for instance, where bilious fever becomes annexed to a chronic affection of the liver or stomach; nux vomica in such cases is applicable at least as often as chamomilla or any other remedy. Chamomilla is a remedy whose place cannot be supplied in some varieties of *febris biliosa*, particularly in those which originate from a violent fit of anger or vexation, and which often become so aggravated as to threaten a fatal termination.

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It is particularly indicated in such cases where some of the following symptoms exist. Heat of face, burning heat in the eyes, with redness of one cheek, dry lips, and constant thirst; the extremities are at the same time cold; vertigo, with a dragging pain on one side of the head, or a heavy, pressing sensation in the forehead; bitter, bilious taste in the mouth, which is likewise imparted to the food; nausea, and even vomiting, the matter ejected tastes bitter, like bile; yellow, mucus-coated tongue, it is generally furred, and more yellow posteriorly at the base; the eyes are therewith somewhat injected, the eyelids become agglutinated, particularly early in the morning, and appear tumified; the appetite is very slight, often null, with distension and tension of the abdomen, particularly the hypochondria; patient feels as if it were too full, and pressed upwards towards the breast, by which not merely harassing uneasiness is produced, but even absolute paroxysms of anxiety; gastric pressure, cholicky pains, and aqueous diarrhœal stools often become united. The patient is extremely restless, is sensitive and irritated at every thing, his sleep is disturbed by startings, jactitations and paroxysms of anxiety; the utmost dejection; heavy, bruise-like sensation in all the limbs.

I treated symptoms very similar to these in a man about thirty-six years of age, who was subject to frequent paroxysms of anger, by which a kind of bilious fever had been produced. Chamomilla removed it completely in forty-eight hours, but in consequence of another angry fit, it shortly returned

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with the same violence, and was allayed as quickly the second time, by the same remedy; a slight angry fit produced it the third time, but now chamomilla only partially removed it, on which account a small dose of nux, and subsequently mercurius, was required.

GASTRIC FEVER. In uncomplicated *febris gastrica*, chamomilla is not so often applicable as nux vomica, but certainly fully as frequently as it is in *febris gastrica biliosa*. In general we may be certain that chamomilla deserves preference to all other remedies in the febrile form just mentioned, when it is the result of a violent fit of anger, for anger, with all its oppressive, morbid sequelæ, is removed by this remedy alone.

This, however, only holds good where it is applied soon after the angry fit; if, on the other hand, a long time has elapsed, and the disease has become fully developed, chamomilla does not always suffice, and it often happens that we must have recourse to *pulsatilla*, *ignatia*, *bryonia*, or *nux vomica*, according to circumstances. It is likewise different when there are no ebullitions of the paroxysm of anger, where it is concealed, and excites silent indignation, grief, or shame; ignatia is preferable to chamomilla in such cases. In the case previously mentioned, bryonia may also sometimes be indicated, and this is particularly the case, where, in addition to the irritability, chill and coldness of the body exists. If indignation is united with vexation, *staphysagria* proves most effectual.

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ICTERUS. JAUNDICE. I could not easily find a more suitable place than this, to introduce this disease, as I have just spoken of symptoms which frequently accompany it, particularly if it appears in an acute form. This disease succumbs to this curative when it has been produced by transient causes, as errors in diet, mental emotions, taking cold, &c. under which circumstances we may place it under the head *icterus spasticus.*

ICTERUS NEONATORUM. JAUNDICE OF NEW-BORN INFANTS. This disease is often ascribed to causes, which it is by no means fully proven, may excite this affection of children; the hypothetical assumption on the part of authors, that it depends upon a stoppage of the *ductus choledochus*, is the least worthy of credence. Its origin much more frequently depends upon the foolish use of chamomile tea during the latter periods of gestation, and in the abuse of it in administering it to the young infant. It is of course understood that in such cases chamomilla should not be exhibited; antidotes to it can alone be applied, or such remedies as indicate the *ensemble* of symptoms of which *china*, *mercury*, and *sulphur* may be particularly mentioned.

The complication of *febris biliosa et gastrica* with rheumatic complaints, where the former precedes the latter, or the reverse, dependent on transitory causes, often succumbs to this remedy, if *dulcamara*, *pulsatilla*, and other remedies, do not better indicate the morbid state prevailing.

TYPHUS. Even in a dangerous variety of this dis-

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ease, particularly where diarrhœa, with constant rumbling in the abdomen, exists, with syncope, twitching, sleeplessness, with anxiety and vivid phantasy, with coolness of the whole body, and burning of the face, this remedy effects all that is possible; we should here pay attention to the exciting cause, as the choice of the remedy generally depends on this. When the disease arises from taking cold, anger, sorrow, or grief, chamomilla always deserves accurate consideration.

INFLAMMATORY AFFECTIONS. In some affections of this nature, chamomilla has likewise proved beneficial, although it is applicable only when the inflammation has not run very high. If the inflammation has attained a high degree, where the old school considers venesection the *sine qua non*, *aconite* is the chief homœopathic remedy, the place of which cannot be supplied by blood-letting.

OPHTHALMIA CATARRHALIS. Chamomilla quickly allays a variety of catarrhal ophthalmia, in which the conjunctiva is moderately injected, unaccompanied by lachrymation, with a pressing sensation when opening and shutting the eyes, with which a slight catarrhal fever and coryza, with discharge, is conjoined. According to my idea, the ophthalmia is here a secondary affection, and yields with the disappearance of the catarrhal fever, produced from taking cold. Catarrhal ophthalmies generally, which appear with febrile phenomena, yield more readily to a homœopathic remedy, which is indicated by the fe-

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brile symptoms, and experience confirms the views, that even violent ophthalmy may often be merely an accompanying symptom, not the primary affection.

An habitual *ophthalmia catarrhalis*, which is produced by the slightest atmospheric changes, yields radically neither to chamomilla or any remedies which were formerly known to us, because a permanent cause, either of psoric or syphilitic origin keeps it up, as it does all other chronic diseases, and of course it can only be overcome by such remedies as operate powerfully against this cause and destroy it.

HEPATITIS. This remedy may be administered as an intercurrent curative, both in *acute and chronic hepatitis*. In the *acute* form of this disease, particularly when it is still recent, and has originated from a fit of anger, or from taking cold, chamomilla usually effects considerable amelioration of the pains in five or six hours; but according to my own experience, I find it advisable, in such cases, to exhibit first a dose of *aconitum*, and administer the chamomilla subsequently; after which, according to circumstances, either *belladonna*, *mercury*, *nux vomica*, or *pulsatilla* are applicable. In *chronic* inflammation of this organ, chamomilla is likewise to be given as an intercurrent remedy. In this and in all other chronic affections of the liver, we can cure radically by the exhibition of *antipsorics*, and of these in particular with *natrum muriat.*, *magnes.* and *lycopodium*.

The very excellent remarks of Dr. Kammerer, when

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speaking of the efficacy of this remedy, in *fever during childbed*, where there is great inquietude and excitability of the nervous system, the breasts free of milk, diarrhœa, with milky evacuations, lochial discharge inordinately profuse, with labour-like pains extending from the loins anteriorly, headache, and thoracic constriction, coincide with my own experience as not merely palliative only, but absolute cure is effected with it, and prove that it might be beneficial in some varieties of metritis, as scarcely any puerperal fever is induced without greater or less inflammation of the womb, which is first developed at this point, as plethora is frequently the exciting cause, while during childbed a trifling cause may give origin to an inflammatory irritation of that organ.

UTERINE HÆMORRHAGE AND AFTER PAINS. The power which chamomilla possesses of allaying these affections is well known, and also that it produces this hæmorrhage, and pains, like those of parturition. It therefore does not astonish us when we see these pains supervene, where large quantities of chamomile tea have been taken during labour, which are often so violent that the aid of art is required to complete the delivery. We are just as little surprised when we see a patient shortly after delivery, who has been thus treated, suffer immense loss of blood, which threatens a fatal termination; or from harassing after-pains, which occur periodically for eight, ten or twelve days, which, in conjunction with the determination of blood to the uterus, produced by the frequent use of the chamomile tea, gives rise to

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inflammation of the womb, which on this account may terminate in puerperal fever.

As I have spoken of uterine hæmorrhage, I will proceed to state the peculiar indications for chamomilla in this affection. When this remedy proves beneficial in metrorrhagia after delivery, the patient must not have previously taken any chamomile tea, on which account it is necessary for the physician to investigate such cases accurately; the discharge must be dark, almost black, coagulated and periodical; (which proves that chamomilla is better adapted to venous than arterial hæmorrhage;) furthermore it is adapted to those cases where every discharge of blood is attended with violent labour-like pains in the abdomen, where there is much thirst and coldness of the extremities. The smallest part of a drop of the twelfth dilution is fully sufficient in these cases; and the physician should wait until its effects are exhausted, as the slightest disturbance might produce an aggravation which would require the application of another remedy. If the metrorrhagia results from the abuse of chamomile tea, some one of the remedies which we are about to mention, is usually adapted. If hæmorrhage supervenes after delivery from atony of the uterus, if the contractions necessary to reduce the organ to its normal size are entirely wanting, if the patient is at the same time quite cold and blue, with occasional twitches of the whole body, a mechanical irritation of the uterus itself by gentle frictions on the abdomen, or an injection of vinegar and water is not to be overlooked,

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while at the same time we should administer *china* in a low dilution. *Belladonna* proves most beneficial in metrorrhagia, which is kept up by incessant bearing down pains, as if prolapsus of the uterus or vagina was about to supervene, (likewise a kind of atony,) and which is usually conjoined with violent pain in the small of the back, as if it would break; the colour of the blood discharged is between dark and light red. *Platina* corresponds with belladonna in these cases, but with this difference, that where it proves beneficial, the blood discharged must be darker, thicker, and more coagulated; the pain in the sacral region is less acute, and is more manifest in both groins, with bearing down internally, and inordinate sensibility of the sexual organs. I have found both *belladonna* and *platina* applicable far less frequently in metrorrhagia after delivery, than where the catamenial flow was almost like flooding, and united with the pains just described. *Crocus*, on the other hand, often corresponds with chamomilla in this affection after delivery. I was usually led to administer it where the blood discharged was blackish, grumous, and viscid, which was conjoined with lancinating pains deep in the abdomen, extending towards the sacrum.

Bryonia is closely allied to both of these remedies in cases like those we are now considering, particularly where dark red blood is discharged in large quantities, and appears to be extruded by violent pressing pains in the sacrum, and where the patient

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complains of very acute dissevering pains over the whole head, but particularly in the temples.

Hyosciamus is another remedy, which, although less frequently adapted to this affection, yet when indicated, is almost specific. I have always found it beneficial where general spasms of the whole body supervened after the appearance of metrorrhagia, which were interrupted by general twitches, or jerkings of particular limbs, after which general stiffness of all the joints reappeared. It is particularly prone to appear in females who have, during gestation, suffered occasionally from spasms. The blood, which is here more of a light red colour, continues to flow constantly, and is more profuse when a spasm appears, and the pulse becomes slower. I usually administered the fourth dilution, after which the complaints were diminished in the course of a few minutes. A remedy to which every homœopath should direct his attention, I have yet to mention. I refer to *arnica*. I am convinced that many complaints after delivery arise from the great exertion, the contusion of the womb, or even laceration of particular parts, which this remedy is capable of allaying in many cases.

AFTER PAINS. Chamomilla is here an indispensable curative, which frequently, if not always, relieves these acute pains; *nux vomica* is likewise beneficial; in many cases, according to circumstances, also *pulsatilla*, *bellad.*, *coffea*, *&c.* When the catamenia appear too frequently, and flow too profusely, particularly if the discharge is coagulated, and con-

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joined with acute pains in the abdomen, chamomilla affords all possible momentary relief. A permanent cure can, however, only be obtained from long continued antipsoric treatment.

ANGINA TONSILLARIS ET PHARYNGEA. Where chamomilla is indicated, it appears to be more a collateral symptom, manifested by sensitive stinging, burning pains in the larynx, with which there is generally some roughness of the voice, constriction of the chest, cough, excited by a ticklish irritation; the tonsils and sub-maxillary glands frequently sympathise, and likewise manifest inflammatory irritation, denoting a catarrhal state. Chamomilla is one of our chief remedies in catarrhal complaints in general, whether accompanied by fever or not, and it therefore proves of great benefit in fevers accompanied by cough, which arise from taking cold. I found this remedy beneficial in several instances where the cervical and submaxillary glands were swollen, and often very sensitive, when administered immediately after the appearance of tumefaction, but still, according to my experience, dulcamara proves still more efficacious in these cases.

CRAMP OF THE STOMACH. This disease may often be allayed by chamomilla. In my treatise on nux vomica, (page 77,) I have spoken of this disease in detail, and I therefore refer the reader to those remarks. I will here only mention that chamomilla is to be recommended in this affection, when the patient is of an irritable nervous temperament, and of a morbid tone of mind; it is also applicable where this

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affection has been produced by a violent fit of anger. A good criterion for its application is a pressing pain in the epigastrium and below the false ribs on the left side, as if from a stone. This pain is always united with shortness of breath and anxiety, frequently worse at night, so that the patient has no rest from the anxiety, inquietude, and jactitation, to which a pulsating headache, affecting the vertex, is frequently conjoined, which obliges him to get out of bed, by which he hopes to obtain relief. It is important to mention that this gastric affection is usually relieved by drinking coffee, while those which *nux vomica* cures, is aggravated by it, but chamomilla proves still more efficacious in such cases.

If Dr. Kammerer found the chamomilla so extremely serviceable in induration of the mammary glands of new born infants, the observation corresponds with what I have observed. My observations were, however, not in the cases of children, but in adults, and generally only in cases where *sore breasts* resulted from taking cold, or from mental emotions while nursing, after which hard knots remained in the breast for a long time. Chamomilla sometimes did something without completely curing these cases, and again no improvement resulted, which was particularly the case in mothers who had borne many children, and had drank liberally of chamomile tea.

Chamomilla is adapted to but few diseases which are united with constipation; in this respect it is diametrically opposed to *nux vomica*.

DIARRHŒAS. It is applicable in this class of af.

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fections, both in children and adults, particularly if the stools are aqueous and mucoid, and where there are violent lancinating pains in the belly below the umbilicus before every stool, which disappear after the evacuation. It is not less serviceable in painless diarrhœas of children during dentition, where the stools are greenish, aqueous frequently, continuing for a long time, and very debilitating. Those diarrhœas which appear with spasms during dentition, I shall mention below.

Chamomilla is of no less importance in many other spasmodic complaints; for instance, *cramps of the abdomen*, particularly in a kind of flatulent colic, which we sometimes find after taking cold. It has this peculiarity—that the flatus appears to collect in different parts of the abdomen, as if it would escape at these points; conjoined therewith, there is general distension in the hypochondria and epigastrium, with indescribable anxiety, inquietude, and clammy perspiration. If these cramps appear very violently, they are accompanied by a feeling as if the patient must go to stool, and this is announced by loud rumbling, which accompanies it, and disappears after a small evacuation, consisting of watery mucus. This is also the kind of colic in which the muscular power of the abdominal ring appears to be weakened, which is manifested by the sensation as if the intestine would protrude at this point, which leads the patient to anticipate a hernial protrusion. In cases where this symptom has been frequently conjoined with this kind of colic, the appearance of hernia is not impro-

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bable, and chamomilla is therefore a good intercurrent remedy in *disposition to, and the premonitory symptoms of, inguinal hernia.* Besides chamomilla, we have *coccul.*, *nux.*, *aurum* and *magnes artificial. arct.* and others, as proper intercurrent remedies in such cases. It is with justice that I call these remedies *intercurrent*, as a radical cure of this affection can in most cases be effected by antipsorics alone. A disease which closely resembles flatulent colic, is the so termed *verfangen der kinder* in very windy weather; a state in which chamomilla is almost specific. This complaint is known by the distension in the epigastrium and abdomen of children, previously healthy, which is so great, that no impression can be made on the skin by pressure; the children are usually very restless, throw themselves about, contract the lower extremities, are anxious and asthmatic; indeed respiration is even interrupted, a kind of thoracic oppression.

ASTHMATIC COMPLAINTS. This remedy is often applied with benefit in these affections, particularly where accumulations of flatus appear to produce it. This is the reason why it does so much in children who become asthmatic with suffocative paroxysms after taking cold.

Dentition in children is accompanied by many distressing complaints, among which convulsions, or even epileptic attacks are not unfrequent. These attacks are not always dangerous, but if they occur in very debilitated subjects when teething, if they succeed each other rapidly, or are united with suffo-

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cative paroxysms, they are never free from danger, while cases of an opposite character we may term harmless. But I will give somewhat specially the particular cases in which chamomilla is indicated. (If dentition in children is accompanied by a short cough, which, though loose, is incessant, chamomilla is of the greatest service; it is also useful in catarrhal coughs in general.)

There is frequently, on the appearance of the first teeth, if the children are yet nursing, an increased activity of the vascular system, which is manifested by the burning heat over the whole body, the child, moreover, frequently carries its hand to its mouth, which is likewise burning hot. The vascular fever is always more acute where the mother or nurse is a devoted coffee drinker. It may often be relieved by their abstinence from coffee; in most cases it may be entirely cured by observing this rule, and administering a dose of *aconite* to the child. It is, however, quite different where, in addition to the febrile phenomena just mentioned, nervous symptoms become united, which are made known by the anxious restless state of the child, which starts at the slightest noise; or by the convulsive twitches of the limbs when sleeping. If these symptoms appear in a child who has been allowed coffee to drink, or has imbibed it with its mother's milk, it is of course understood that this exciting drink must be entirely avoided, if we wish chamomilla twelve, which is adapted to such cases, to effect a cure in a short time. If, however, this excited state of the nervous system is met with

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in children who have seldom or never drank coffee, we will often find a small dose of the tincture of coffee an effectual remedy. These are the slightest cases, they are more serious when the disease is not combined to such isolated convulsions, but the whole body becomes affected, and convulsions resembling epilepsy occur. This state often begins with the symptoms first mentioned; it is sometimes preceded by diarrhœa for several days; or all these symptoms are wanting, and for several days previous the child exhibits no other symptoms than unusual paleness, dulness of the eyes, little appetite, the head hangs, is much inclined to lie down. Chamomilla often allays these symptoms, which are the precursors of no affection in particular, and are all to be found in the primary effects of this curative. If these complaints are not noticed by the relatives, the epileptic paroxysm frequently supervenes suddenly with great violence; the child lies completely rigid and stiff for several minutes, and is then seized with distortion of the eyes and facial muscles, twitching of the limbs, which are thrown about while the thumbs are pressed into the palms, the whole body is bent posteriorly or laterally, stertorous, rattling respiration, with froth at the mouth; in short, all the signs of true epilepsy. If we administer in such cases a dose of chamomilla immediately after the attack, we may often cut the disease short; sometimes, however, a second, or even third paroxysm occurs soon after the exhibition of this remedy, but which is each time weaker, under which circumstances we must be

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careful not to repeat the dose, as the new attacks are generally produced by the chamomilla. We should give another remedy only where the disease hourly increases in violence, and where no improvement has resulted after the lapse of six hours; we generally find *ignatia* the remedy next adapted.

Similar affections in older children and adults of very irritable constitutions, after a fit of anger, may often be relieved by this remedy.

This remedy is of no less importance in very sensitive females of irritable fibre, in such persons generally as are inclined to be *hysterical.* In order to remove *hysteria* permanently, a long continued antipsoric cure is indispensable.

Cephalalgia. Syncope. In some kinds of headache and syncope, which appear paroxysmally, chamomilla is of benefit, if the complaints accompanying correspond with this remedy.

Rheumatism. It has proved advantageous in some varieties of rheumatism, which we will examine more minutely. Chamomilla is particularly adapted to *acute rheumatic* attacks, where the pains in the parts affected are more of a rending and dragging nature; there is a feeling of torpor or paralysis therewith, and the pain is more in the tendons, cartilages or bones, (not at all in the muscles,) without tumefaction of the parts. If the reverse is the case, if the pains pass from one part to another, if they are exacerbated at night, and conjoined with swelling, pulsatilla is preferable to chamomilla. The most sensitive form of acute rheumatism to which chamo-

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milla is adapted, is that in which the vertebral column in its whole length is affected and the head sympathises, labour-like pains extend from the sacrum to the thighs, which are increased by every motion at night. The selection of a remedy in such cases is often attended with difficulty, as *pulsatilla*, *bryonia*, *belladonna* and others are indicated, and the practised glance of the physician alone knows how to distinguish.

Toothache. There is a kind of toothache which is characterized as rheumatic. Chamomilla proves most serviceable where the pain is most aggravated at night, with redness of the cheeks, distressing toothache, which appears paroxysmally, and attacks no one tooth in particular; when the pain is at its mildest point, it is a crawling, jerking, when worse it is rending, and when most aggravated, a stinging pain, which extends to the ear; it usually commences soon after eating or drinking, and is somewhat relieved by dipping a finger in water, and applying it to the teeth; but by drinking cold water it is much aggravated; the warmth of the bed renders it insupportable, and is wont to leave behind a swelling of the cheeks and neighbouring glands.

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PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS

ON

SOME OF THE CHIEF

HOMŒOPATHIC REMEDIES.

96638

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BY A. HOWARD OKIE, M. D.

OF PHILADELPHIA.

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