

## THE DYNAMIC ELEMENT OF THE REMEDY

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The recognition of a natural law in therapeutics had a slow growth, but that of the Dynamic element, quite as vital, has been slower. Hippocrates, Von Haller, Anderson of Edinburgh and others had glimpses of the Law of similars before the time of Hahnemann. Others saw the star of Similia on the Eastern Horizon, but to Hahnemann was left the Herculean task of its practical development. Hahnemann announced a new system in therapeutics based on a natural law, but that was only to begin drug provings on the healthy and thus build a new *Materia Medica*. To this indefatigable worker and accurate observer it was left to make drug provings the chief business of life, and to this we are indebted for practical Homœopathy. Every Homœopath firmly believes in the law of similars and in a more or less scientific method applies its wonderful possibilities in the cure of the sick. The various methods of application depend upon our knowledge of the law of the *Materia Medica*. But while we have, thanks to Hahnemann's labors, a practical law in therapeutics, upto date there has been no law discovered or formulated for the dynamic strength of the dose, the dynamis of the remedy. Among the first few paragraphs of the *Organon* Hahnemann lays down the broad dividing line between the Homœopathic system of therapeutics and all others, in his recognition of the dynamic, spirit like vitality or life force of the organism. He tells us that it is in this life power, this invisible principle, we are to look for, as the disturbing agent in sickness. It is dynamic, non-material. In sec. 9 he says :

"In the healthy condition of man, the vital force or dynamis that animates the material body, rules with unbounded sway and retains all the parts of the organism in harmonious operation ; in other words, Health."

Again in sec. 10 :

"A body without the vital force is capable of no sensation, no function, no self preservation, it derives all sensations and

performs all the functions of life solely by means of the immaterial being, which when removed leaves us the cadaver."

In sec. 11 he says :

"When a person falls ill, it is only this spiritual dynamic force everywhere present that is primarily deranged by the dynamic influence upon it of a morbid agent inimical to life."

In sec. 12 he affirms :

"It is morbidly affected vital force alone that produces diseases, the morbid phenomena, which we perceive, express at the same time all the internal changes, the whole morbid derangement of the internal dynamis, in a word, the whole disease, and the removal of these alterations in health, these derangements which we call symptoms, restores health to the whole organism."

It is this power or dynamic force, when in health, that protects us against all diseases : la grippe, pneumonia, diphtheria, scarlatina, small-pox, coughs, colds, consumption etc. The susceptibility to elements of disease producing agents, depends upon a lowered vitality or weakened dynamic or life force, and it is the first and highest duty of the physician to employ such means as will increase the strength of this dynamic resisting power and restore health. This is a simple common sense system of maintaining health.

The Homœopath is dealing with the dynamic effects of deranged vitality which we call disease. The system of Hahnemann is based upon a technique by which we attempt to afford relief. Faith has no place in science. Confidence is a plant of slow growth and is the result of experimental knowledge, laboratory, pathogenetic and clinical. The Homœopath should *know*, not simply believe.

Every Homœopath need not be told that Bell can never cure a Nux case and Bell is not at fault, not to blame. The symptom pictures are totally so different. There is no such thing in our practice as substitution. The same thing is true in regard to the dynamic strength of our remedial agents. Many Homœopaths assert that they tried the 30th and 200th potencies, but failed and then cured the patient with the 3rd or the 6th and vice versa, thus settling the potency question with the

Doctor. The dynamis must be individualized as well as the remedy. The 1st, 3rd, 6th, 12th potency can cure, quickly or safely, only a similar dynamis in the patient and vice versa; the 200th or 1000th may cure or fail to cure, on account of its want of dynamic similarity.

Now in sec. 16 : Hahnemann gives us the nearest approach to a working law of dose. He says : "Our vital force, as a spirit-like dynamis, cannot be attacked or affected by injurious influences on healthy organism caused by the external inimical forces that disturb the play of life, otherwise than in a dynamic way, and in like manner, all such morbid derangements cannot be removed from it by the physician in any other way than by the dynamic curative powers of medicines."

Hahnemann insinuates that our rule of action for the selection of the dynamic strength of the remedy must be the dynamic strength of the patient. The crude drug has a dynamic force and has cured many cases to which it is similar in symptoms and similar to the dynamic strength of the patient; but it is not the fault of the drug, if it fails to cure, only it is apparent that it is not in dynamic harmony. This harmony of dynamic strength runs through every line and every phenomenon in the natural scale of life.

It is apparently not more difficult to discover than the method done accidentally by Hahnemann, of potentizing a remedy, of obtaining the dynamic power from a drug which is practically inert in its crude form. Hipp's chronoscope by which the dynamic difference between the 3rd, 6th, 12th or stronger powers could be readily distinguished in a healthy, sensitive person, may, in future, in some way be adapted to the needs of the sick.

What great advance has been made in our science of therapeutics, either in accuracy or ready selection of the remedy, since the death of the Master in '43. What vital progress in the philosophy, science and art has been added, since the last edition of the organon? Neither the science nor the art can be perfected along the empirical lines of Allopathy, for that is outside the realm of law.