

CLINICAL OBSERVATIONS ON 50 MILLESIMAL POTENCY

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I treated five cases of chicken pox in five different families in the beginning of last March, the symptoms of which were the followings :—

- (1) Vesicular eruptions burning almost like fire ; scalding hands to relieve the itching ; voluptuous itching that nearly drove him wild, worse from contact of air.
- (2) Tingling in the skin, with intolerable itching eruptions, burning and itching violently ; much moisture with eruptions upon the skin. The eruptions spreading with a red areola that would extend ; eruptions gradually turn to a blisters, the red border still extending. The typical vesicles tend to form scales and crusts. The itching is worse after scratching.
- (3) Sensitive to cold air, aching pains and bruised feeling over the body, restlessness, amelioration from motion, uneasiness which compelled him to move.
- (4) Worse at night and after midnight, aggravation in cold air, amelioration from warmth.
- (5) Fear, despondency, mental depression, irritability and anxiety.
- (6) Intense fever at first, then continued low forms of fever for some days ; red eyes, heaviness of the eyelids, aversion to light, swollen red face.
- (7) Fullness and heaviness in the head.
- (8) Redness of the tip of the nose, external puffiness and internal dryness of the nose.
- (9) Dryness of the mouth and throat, violent thirst, yet cold drinks bring on chilliness.
- (10) Stiffness and lameness in the back.
- (11) Want of appetite, great debility, weakness and soreness.

I used Rhus Tox 30 (50 Millesimal Potency), in the way

mentioned below, in the first two cases of chicken pox that were entrusted to me and it exceeded all my expectations. This decidedly favourable result caused me not only to use the same remedy with all the following chicken pox patients, but to use the same remedy also in different houses, where it had broken out, as a prophylactic and no case came to my knowledge where, after using Rhus Tox 30 (50 Millesimal Potency), any other member of the family had been infected. I advised my patients to dissolve two pellets of the same medicine in eight to fifteen tablespoonfools of water and thoroughly shake it up. Only one tablespoonful of this solution was put in a tumblerful of water and of this latter the patient would take only one teaspoonful, on the first day, on the second day two, on the third three and so forth, increasing by one teaspoonful daily until he observed some action. Then I would stop the medicine. In other cases when the patient was very excitable he would take a table-spoonful from the first tumbler into a second and from this into a third and so on, only to take a teaspoonful out of the last glass daily. In order to satisfy the patients I frequently gave them powders of mere sugar of milk.

But, as ill luck would have it, I was suddenly attacked with fever on the night of 21st March, and in the next morning I found only one eruption of chicken pox on the upper part of my abdomen. Of course, I did not take any medicine or prophylactic. Towards the evening, I found about fifty eruptions all over my body and I became sure of the fact that I was attacked with chicken pox. However, I was feeling better by taking Rhus Tox 30 (50 Millesimal Potency) in the way mentioned above, for three days, when accidentally a freind of mine came to see me and advised me to take a single dose of Malandrinum 200C as an intercurrent remedy, because some of the eruptions initiated small pox type, though chicken pox eruptions were innumerable. I was frightened at his diagnosis and took a dose of the aforesaid medicine at about 4 P.M., as advised, on the 25th March, after his departure. It was like throwing a little water on considerable fire and all of the eruptions over my body became as sore as boils after a minute or two, itching and burning violently. My life became miserable after taking the

dose and I had not a wink of sleep that very night, owing to the sudden intense effects of that medicine combined with maddening pains, restlessness, anguish, violence, insatiable thirst for a little quantity of water, puffy swellings, burning like fire, aggravation after midnight, chilliness, amelioration walking about etc. When the day dawned I took a dose of Arsenic Alb. 200C which pacified my condition to some extent (26th March). Thereafter, I began to recover slowly day by day and I was fully cured by the 31st March. As the scales did not fall off by that time, I observed the laws of segregation etc., for twenty-one days and I began to perform my duties from the 11th of April. When I resumed my work, I had to visit chicken pox patients again and all the patients were cured by the same medicine, namely; Rhus Tox 30 (50 Millesimal Potency) in the same way. Only two cases needed Merc Sol. 200C for the completion of cure after the application of Rhus (which is one of the followers of Rhus), for profuse sweat, sore throat, indented tongue, cervicals enlarged, aggravation at night, aggravation lying on the right side, filthiness in mind and body, forgetfulness, inflamed genitals etc. In this connection it is well to note that my patients did not suffer so much like myself as they were all placed under the influence of a single medicine, namely, Rhus.

Observations :—

(1) Now, in dealing with a case we must take into consideration the nature of the disease and its peculiar type. We must know disease accurately before we can give effective relief.

(2) If we allow ourselves to become influenced by considerations of diagnosis, in making our remedy selection, we are very apt to become confused and fail to help our patients.

(3) No medicine can cure any disease unless it acts upon all diseased parts, either directly or indirectly.

(4) Isopathy is not homœopathy; we must keep this distinction ever before us. Isopathy is identity and homœopathy is based on the similarity.

(5) By careful observations of the reactions after the administration of the remedy, we can know when we are making satisfactory progress in each individual case.

(6) When the remedy is well-chosen, if everything goes without interference, it will bring on ultimate recovery.

(7) There may be a very peculiar type of aggravation, in which the symptoms are worse, but the patient is growing better.

(8) We must observe how the aggravation or amelioration occurs and the duration of these periods.

(9) The remedy must be adapted to the patient, not the patient to the remedy.

(10) Distressing symptoms appearing during the course of disease often demand particular attention.

(11) Homœopathic prophylactics are tested and sure. The very remedy which cures the fully developed disease will protect exposed persons.

(12) The rule here is never repeat or change the remedy while the patient himself is improving (? ?).

In homœopathic literature we find many contributions about small pox which is certainly more dangerous and painful. Yet the subject of chicken pox cannot be totally ignored by us, which is also troublesome and painful and requires isolation from others like in small pox. The only difference between the two is that the eruptions of chicken pox seldom suppurate, and they dry up without leaving any scar. Though chicken pox has no relation to small pox and rarely causes death, yet it is very painful as experienced by myself and my patients.

My first choice of potency for Rhus Tox was the 30th (50 Millesimal Potency) which worked satisfactorily than any other; yet on two well-remembered occasions it had no apparent effect while the 6C and 200C cured promptly. The different degrees of susceptibility possessed by different people to medicines is of especial interest to us and it is, I believe, something that each one of us must study by noticing the effect of potencies on various patients.

The manufacture of 50 Millesimal Potency for the first time, by the Hahnemann Publishing Co. (Private) Ltd. in the history of homœopathy, is a great boon to us. I take the opportunity to tender my sincerest thanks to them.
