

schema. Thus Hahnemann's transcendental genius has succeeded in achieving the impossible feat of building a science of the particulars and the individuals.

We have tried to delineate how percepts and concepts are made to play into each other's hand in the art of Homœopathy to individualise diseases as well drug-pictures and in a way concepts are made subservient to percepts to keep always in view the integral idea of the individual and the closest approximation of mental ideas to factual reality.

B.K.S.

A CASE OF ALTERNATION OF DISEASES

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To enlarge on the principle of Similia Similibus Curentur, to systematise the new art of healing the sick on well-defined scientific basis by the application of potentised deep acting remedies, and to crown it with the much applauded results of his long researches on the treatment of "one-sided and chronic cases," were in short the gifted work of Hahnemann, to whom the world will ever owe its lasting indebtedness.

In crowded or hurried out-patient work one is apt to make his prescription on the main entrance symptoms of a patient whether it be an acute, or acute manifestation of a chronic ailment, missing the full image of the disease. Often it happens that the full picture does not loom at the first sitting with a patient, that we are forced to take the case over and over again. In chronic work it therefore affords both a source of pleasure and interesting study to go over the case sheet and to gather how a particular drug acted and led on to another in a natural course. The following is one such case hulled from my dispensary records, for purpose of recapitulation.

On 19-3-50 a middle aged man (Record Keeper in a local office) brought his wife to me and gave the following report of her illness. She was suffering from a kind of White crusty itches on her head which was both dirty looking and offensive. Patches of hairs were cut off at the back and sides, where the thick scabs were quite clear with the margins well outlined. The hair that remained were thickly matted here and there at the base and the report was that she had suffered from the itches on her head every summer for over eight years. As the summer passed away the itches would dry up, and disappear but in the winter year after year she suffered from rheumatism of joints with fever and tearing pain all over. Every winter she used to be completely bed-ridden causing a lot of anxiety to her family and heavy expenses to her husband. All these years he had her treated by doctors of standing' repute and practice (in Allopathic School of Medicine) and although he was several times assured against further recurrence the itches and rheumatism appeared in regular cyclic order every summer and winter. In 1949 December she was first given some country herbal treatment with certain green leaves and medicated oil but with no sign of any speedy progress that she was again treated with injections and mixtures by the Regular School.

She was short in stature, medium built and aged 33 ; had three children the last of which was a nursing baby of seven months. She had no eruption on her body. Skin dry. There was burning sensation in her feet and palms at night and she wanted plenty of open air. She was active and used to attend to all her domestic work. She was only afraid if her child also would get the itches from her. Appetite normal, but her bowels moved only once in 4 or 5 days.

My first prescription for her was *Mezereum* 200 (2 pills size 20) which was given in an ounce of boiled cooled water. She was also given S. L. for a week's use after which the husband was to report on her progress. He however in-

formed me on the third day that her constipation was gone, her bowels moving once a day regularly since the first dose and that she was progressing well. She was adhering to the restriction of tobacco chewing and Coffee which I had suggested in the beginning itself.

28-3-50—Report was that constipation had set in since 26th. Itches had dried up. Seeing however, that the constipation was the beginning of reappearance of the old symptoms another dose of *Mezereum* 200 was sent to be administered immediately with sufficient S. L. as the follow up. Bowels began to move regularly and she was almost cured of the itches. In the meantime she took an oil bath in the hope it would prevent her body becoming too much heated.

4-4-50—Sulphur 10 M (2 pills size 20) was given in the hope it would benefit her constitution and fix up the cure. At this distance I now consider it was too hurried a follow up, as one should have waited to allow the second dose of *Mezereum*, to complete its action. However, it was given in all good faith that it would do her immense good but on the 12th the husband reported that the lady was since two three days suffering from her old rheumatism which had come all too soon instead of appearing in December. He was greatly upset and though I assured him that there was no cause for any anxiety and that she would also be cured of her rheumatism now alone instead of postponing it to the mid-winter, he was not quite satisfied. I sent him away with some S. L. and promised to see the patient soon. On visiting the patient that evening I found her practically crumpled in bed with fever and stiff joints. She liked fomentation but was unable to stretch the limbs or to turn in bed without somebody assisting her. She got *Causticum* 200 and S. L.

This time, the husband did not turn up as usual and though I was confident of the remedy, yet I was not without my own fears that in the midst of worry and anxiety he

might heed to the advice of some relatives who were already persuading him to get his wife admitted in the hospital to be free from all inconvenience. This however, he did not do. She steadily improved and as there was sufficient S. L. already given the husband did not turn up. After a month he was happy to tell me that his wife was completely cured of rheumatism and itches and that he had lately sent her to his village to avoid the height of summer in the City. Recently, I was glad to learn from him that the cure holds good even to this day, without any relapse of itches or rheumatism and that she has been keeping fit without any illness for these two years.

In the above case, the fact remains that the crusty itches on the scalp in summer and rheumatism mainly contracting the flexors and tendons in winter were only two different expressions of a deep-rooted common base of Psoric Miasm, which was rooted out in toto by four doses of innocent looking sugar pills, i.e., two of Mezereum and one of Causticum interpolated with a single dose of Sulphur High. Evidently, the lack of annihilating the miasmatic base on the part of the regular school was just the reason of its having had become more and more chronic year after year.

N.B.—If the second dose of Mezereum were allowed to have its full go, the latent disease force in the constitution of the patient would have become daily more and more diminished and Sulphur if given after that would have held the cure in which case neither Rheumatism nor Causticum would have come to the fore front to finish the case. (I however welcome the comment of experienced members of the profession in this behalf.)

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