

MORE MIRACLE CURES FOR ANIMALS

BY THE LATE J. ELLIS-BARKER

Among the most intractable diseases among animals is infective jaundice. A veterinary surgeon, Monsieur Roger Dutems, wrote an article: "Infectious Jaundice of the Dog" in *L'Homœopathie Francaise*, December, 1930:

"Infectious jaundice occurs in dogs and occasionally in mules and is nearly always fatal. The bodies of animals who have died of this disease are as yellow as sulphur and the disease may be due to poisoning with phosphorus which dogs have picked up and which was intended to destroy rats.

I was called to see a grey bitch, three years old, who for several days had been sick and vomiting. She had been given castor oil. Her general condition was very bad. When I saw her she was lying on her side completely paralysed. She could move neither head nor face. Only the eyes had some movement and their brilliancy told that there was still a glimmer of life in the poor body. The skin of the animal was yellow and so were the whites of the eyes. The diagnosis of pernicious jaundice was obvious. Although I had no hope of saving the animal, I gave it phosphorus 30th potency in solution, a dessert-spoonful every hour. During two days there was no change in the condition. The animal retained the water with the phosphorus in it. Then there was rapid and permanent improvement and in a fortnight the dog was completely cured of both jaundice and paralysis."

Mange in dogs is an exceedingly intractable disease. Like all skin diseases, it is treated by orthodox veterinary surgeons by outward applications. Homœopaths believe that skin diseases usually are the local manifestations of a constitutional disease, that therefore they should be treated by internal medication. The same principle, is, of course, followed in treating animals suffering from skin disease. An English veterinary surgeon, Mr. Edward Thomas, report-

ed a cure of red mange in the seventeenth volume of the *Homœopathic World*, as follows :

"On the 5th of last June I was asked to prescribe for 'Percy', a favourite 'Spitz' dog suffering from a skin disease which had obstinately baffled all the skill of an allopathic veterinary surgeon of good repute for three years.

"I remembered some cases of baldness cured by one of our ablest doctors with *Acidum fluoricum*. And baldness, or rather large patches entirely denuded of hair, being a very prominent symptom, I decided to try it, and gave twenty-four powders, each containing one drop of *Acidum fluoricum*, a powder to be given every morning for six days, miss a day, and resume until all were taken. On September 17th the dog was again brought to me completely covered with beautifully soft white hair ; not an ulcer or a bit of discoloured skin to be found on careful examination."

Dr. Thomas Skinner briefly described how he cured two of his dogs of red eczema. He disdained outward treatment and used inwardly only very high potencies. We read in Vol. 3 of the *Organon* :

"The form of the disease in 'Wallace' and 'Nel' as also in all the others, was that of Eczema Rubrum. The remedies corresponding best to it are *Apis*, *Arsenicum*, *Aurum*, *Dulcamara*, *Mercurius*, *Phosphorus* and *Sulphur*. Of these, I chose *Arsenicum*, because I observed that the itching and scratching was always worse when the dogs were taken into the open air, and better when in the warm air of their kennel....

"Both dogs got one dose of *Arsenicum* 150,000th potency, and the itching and redness ceased within 48 hours. The dose has been repeated twice at intervals of a month or two, and at present they are perfectly well. No other medicine of any kind was allowed to be given, and no external medication was permitted.... What could be more simple, more elegant, more effectual, more speedy, and more permanent, than three small powders of the ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSANDTH CENTESIMAL ATTENUATION OF ARSENICUM ?"

Homœopaths have no specific remedies for any one disease. A child can learn by rote *Digitalis* for heart disease, *Salicylates* for rheumatism, etc. Homœopaths consider not the name of the disease, which is indifferent to them, but the actual manifestations of the disease in the form of symptoms. Dr. Skinner selected *Spike arsenic* for his two dogs because the itching was worse in the cold than in the warmth. *Arsenic*, taken by the healthy, is apt to produce a skin disease characterized by itching, which is worse in the cold air than in the warm air. If two other dogs should suffer from the identical skin disease which was cured with an infinitely small dose of arsenic and if the two dogs should feel better in the cold air than in the warm kennel, then *Arsenic* would be contra-indicated, although the form of the skin disease might be identical with the *Arsenic* cases.

Homœopathy is an art of fine differentiation. However, although careful differentiation and individualization are required in each individual case, there are diseases which produce uniform symptoms in men and animals, and which can be treated more or less uniformly. *Iodide of arsenic* produces certain symptoms which were produced in a mysterious epidemic among horses which swept over the American continent some years ago. The orthodox veterinary surgeons had never seen the disease before and were at a loss how to treat it. Whether the disease is known or unknown, has a name or no name, can be diagnosed, or cannot be diagnosed, is of little importance to the homœopathic physician. He matches the complex of the disease symptoms with a drug producing the same symptom complex in the healthy and thereby cures the disease. At the time of the mysterious horse disease which baffled the veterinary surgeons, an excellent remedy and prophylactic was discovered by an American physician, Dr. E. M. Hale, who told us in Vol. II, page 394, of his book, *New Remedies* :

"When the 'horse disease' swept over this country I carefully studied the symptoms as narrated by the newspapers, and I resolved, in case it reached Chicago, I would

give the *Iodide of arsenic* to my horses if attacked. I saw many cases in all stages, and was struck with the similarity of all the symptoms, and the general condition of the animals, to the symptoms of *Arsenic*, particularly the *Iodide*. I publicly advised its use and gave it to my horses, and to those of my neighbours, as a prophylactic. The result was that in many cases it cut short the disease when well under way, and prevented, almost entirely, its attacks in those horses to whom it had been given as a preventive. The disease afterwards attacked men, women and children, and this medicine was the specific remedy in nearly every case I treated."

Chronic diarrhoeas in horses are exceedingly intractable to the most experienced veterinary surgeons. I have come across a large number of such cases which were considered incurable. However, they are not incurable to the homœopath. Mr. J. S. Hurndall published the following cure in the 36th volume of the *Homœopathic World*:

"A tradesman's cob had been the subject of a diarrhoea that affected him only when he was at work. So long as the cob remained quiet in the stable the evacuations were quite natural, the discharge of yellowish fæces was of a passive character, and food was repulsive to the animal. I was informed the cob had been under allopathic treatment with astringents for sometime, but all to no purpose. I cannot remember from what source I obtained the hint, but I found somewhere or other that diarrhoea which appeared only during active exercise was amenable to *Rheum*, and this I prescribed in third decimal attenuation, 20 drops to a dose; after three doses had been given relief was obtained, and the diarrhoea was cured never to return during a period of three years that I knew the animal."

Homœopathic doctors have no specifics for diseases as such, such as diarrhoea. The usual diarrhoea specifics had failed in the case of the cob. The case seemed incurable to the orthodox veterinary surgeons. Homœopaths individualize treatment in every case and are guided by symptoms

which vary in every individual. *Rheum*, or rhubarb, has produced in the healthy diarrhoeas which are made worse by movement. Consequently rhubarb was likely to cure, and to cure permanently, the case described, while *Opium*, which is often given in such cases by allopaths, would merely change the chronic diarrhoea into obstinate constipation.

Orthodox practitioners may be at a loss what to do if they cannot diagnose a disease, for they use specifics for certain diseases, and if they cannot name the disease, they often can do little except give sedatives, purgatives, tonics, etc. The homœopath can immediately tackle a mystery case which defies diagnosis by acting in accordance with the symptoms. The name of the disease is of little interest to him. How a homœopathic physician will cure human beings and animals suffering from a mysterious complaint which defies diagnosis was well shown by Dr. J. H. Clarke, in a passage which will be found in the Transactions of the Seventh International Homœopathic Congress :

"My bulldog, aged 2½ years, has weakness in the left leg, a sequela of dermodex mange, but is otherwise well. But one day he was noticed to be very sluggish in his movements; could with difficulty be induced to take his usual walks, for which he was generally eager. In the evening both hind legs were paralysed. He had to be helped upstairs. When he was touched on the lower part of the back he cried with pain, though he never as a rule cried when he was hurt. Running my hand lightly over his back, I felt it quite hot over the lumbar spine. It was clearly time to do something. In this case the most peculiar symptom was the heat of the lower spine. I went to Kent's Repertory. I looked up 'heat in the lower spine' and found *Picric acid* prominent among other remedies. On referring to my Dictionary I found this confirmed; and, in addition, there was pain in the back, paralysis of the lower extremities, and weakness, especially of the left leg. I gave 'Danny' five globules of *Picric acid* 30. The next

morning the heat and tenderness of the spine were very much less, and there was more power in the limbs. *Picric acid* was repeated two or three times, and in few days the dog was quite well."

Dr. J. H. Clarke cured his dog of paralysis, with a few doses of medicine given, be it noted, in the decillionth of a grain.

Dr. Thomas Skinner told in the nineteenth volume of the *Homœopathic World*, the story of a cat whom he cured of an apparently incurable cough of the severest kind with a single dose of *Arsenic* in the 50,000th potency. We read:

"A lady belonging to Yeovil, in Somerset, writes me as follows: 'You were so kind about our dogs and horses that I am now going to venture to ask you if you will do something for our pet cat. She is almost thoroughbred Persian, and she is the pet of the house. She has a fearful cough, sharp, and hard, which seems to give her great pain. She stretches herself out flat on her stomach whenever the cough comes, and for a long time after a bout of coughing you can see her breathing as if it were very hard for her to do so. These attacks of cough, followed by difficult breathing, come now and again during the day, and they have lasted now for some weeks, getting the longer and worse, and the poor animal seems to dread it.'

"I had no difficulty in 'spotting' the remedy, because of all medicines having dyspnœa after cough it is *Arsenicum*, and it is characteristic—indeed, so perfect a keynote is it in cough, and asthma in general, that I have little hesitation in stating that in 99 cases out of 100 if dyspnœa after cough is a regularly marked symptom, *Arsenicum* is bound to cure or greatly ameliorate the patients' suffering, be they belonging to the lower or the higher class of animals. On December 1st, I sent 'puss' one small powder of *Arsenicum* 50,000th potency, with directions to place it dry on her tongue. One dose, be it remembered. On December 10th, in a postscript, the lady owner of the Persian 'Tabby' wrote me, 'Thank you so

much for Pussy's medicine, she has not coughed once since she took it, and looks a different cat.'"

Homœopathy has no specifics. In the case described the cat suffered from what a homœopath would call an "arsenic cough". Every form of cough requires a special remedy, and if it is properly selected, an infinitely small dose will cure promptly and permanently. Dr. H. N. Guernsey described the cure of a very different cough in horses by means of two doses of *Phosphorus* in the 19,000th potency in the third volume of the *Organon*, page 492, as follows :

"During an epidemic of influenza in Philadelphia, a few years since, my horses became affected with the disorder. Their cough was fearfully severe and shaking, which seemed to exhaust them very much. Two doses of *Phosphorus* 19,000th potency speedily relieved their cough, and after a few days' rest in the stable became quite well."

Horses, dogs and cats are highly intelligent animals and it might possibly be argued that the cases mentioned were cured by the personal magnetism of the homœopath who treated them. Cows are dull and not very impressionable. However, cows, pigs, poultry, rabbits, etc., react as satisfactorily to the correctly chosen homœopathic remedy as do dogs, cats and horses. Very frequently cows are attacked by terrific bloating, a trouble with which the medicines of the ordinary veterinary surgeon cannot deal. The homœopath can cure the complaint promptly with an infinitely small dose of *Colchicum* (Meadow Saffron), which is known to orthodoxy only as a specific in case of gout. Dr. J. T. Kent wrote in his *Materia Medica* :

"If you ever happen to be in the country practising medicine, and the farmer's cows get into a fresh clover patch and eat themselves full and become distended so that you are afraid they are going to explode, offer your services and give each of those cows a few pellets of *Colchicum*. It will be but a few minutes before that wind will get out of them to your surprise and the farmer's too ; and you may

convert him to Homœopathy. Farmers have been known to put a butcher's knife into the pouch of the cow between the last ribs to let the wind out. The cow will get well, but *Colchicum* is better than the butcher's knife. The same is true of the horse ; in fact, of man or beast. When the abdomen is violently distended and drum-like, *Colchicum* is often a suitable remedy."

In the forty-fifth volume of the *Homœopathic World*, Dr. A. L. Fisher had an article, "Some Experiences with *Colchicum*", in which we read :

"About the first that I remember about the therapeutics of *Colchicum* dates back to 1869 or 1870, when Dr. Hering lectured on this remedy in the Hahnemann Medical College in Philadelphia. In the course of that lecture he stated that if cattle after eating clover in the springtime got enormously bloated, there was no need to stick a knife into the pouch to let out the gas, as a few doses of *Colchicum* would always give relief.

"In my childlike simplicity I believed what he told us, and sent a two-dram vial of *Colchicum* 3x dilution to a farmer brother, with instructions to put two drops of it in the beast's mouth. It is now nearly 40 years since the remedy was sent, and the sharp double-edged knife formerly used to let the gas escape has not been resorted to since then, but the *Colchicum* has been used successfully in scores of such cases in the neighbourhood."

—Heal Thyself, October, 1951.

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