

by pressure. When this sensation of the liver is found there is a peculiar fine rash over the hepatic region. In cases of this particular type selenium is the first remedy thought of and most usually the last. Antidotes for selenium are pulsatilla and ignatia.

—*Journal of the American Institute of Homoeopathy,*  
*April, 1946.*

### EXCERPTS FROM "CLINICAL EXPERIENCES"\*

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#### CHRONIC LIVER DISEASES AND ICTERUS

##### ACONITUM

1. A florid girl of eighteen suffered for many months from pains sometimes in epigastrium, sometimes in right hypochondrium, and again in umbilical region.

Symptoms: when the pain was located in the stomach region, then there was distension and pressure in the pit of the stomach with bitter taste. Pressure increased the pain. Tongue slightly coated, or red with much thirst. Gums were scorbutic, swollen, at times bleeding. Vomiting of food. Constipation or diarrhoea. Menses regular, but profuse. At other times pains in left liver lobe worse from pressure. Conjunctiva and sclerotica yellowish. In between rheumatic inflammation of right eye with photophobia. Vertigo when bending down, or moving head.

\*Translated by S. W. S.

During addominal pain there was either constipation or diarrhoea.

After resultless treatment during four months she was given *Aconitum* tincture five drops four times daily. This cured her completely after an ounce of the tincture had been taken.

2. Boy of twelve developed jaundice two weeks after a skin eruption. Symptoms: the entire body discoloured a sulphur yellow except the cheeks, nose and lips. No fever, tongue clean, taste normal. In forenoon frequent bitter eructation; later vomiting, especially after eating. (At noon and evening he can eat without after-effects.) Swelling in pit of stomach, sensitive to pressure, as also the entire hard abdomen. Burning around umbilicus; stool soft, yellow; urine yellow. Bursting pain in forehead. *Aconitum* 3c. was given. In three days everything was normal except for his distended addomen.

#### AURUM

3. In a lady suffering from icterus which did not respond to several remedies, the urine remained yellowish-brown and there was obstinate constipation. *Aurum foliatum* cleaned up urine and skin discoloration in a few days, and recovery was complete and lasting.

4. Woman of thirty-two has always been well and strong, but for the last five weeks has felt sick, very weak, became emaciated; eyes and skin discoloured dark yellow.

Symptoms: very bitter taste, no desire for food; severe pressure in pit of stomach, difficult breathing

and painful exhaustion, feet very tired; stool gray; urine yellow as if mixed with bile. Is constantly angry and irritated.

*Aurum* 3c. improved all complaints; urine has lighter colour. *Aurum* repeated after three days produced clear urine and clear skin, but eyes are still icteric. Three more doses of *Aurum* completed the cure.

5. Woman of thirty-four, pregnant nineteen weeks, has been jaundiced for thirteen weeks. Symptoms: entire body is discoloured a dark yellow; severe pressure in region of stomach; feet are very tired; legs oedematous up to knees. Daily soft gray stool. Urine dark brown with yellowish-green foam. Cough; difficult breathing.

During a week she received *Aurum* and *Nux vomica* 4c. with much improvement. Now suddenly very bitter taste, vomiting of food and bile, which *Pulsatilla* cured quickly. *Helleborus* cured the oedema in a week.

6. Man of forty has been sick for three weeks following severe vexation. Yellow discoloration of albuginea and skin. Tongue coated white; no appetite; pressure in right hypochondrium; stool like clay; urine dark; pulse below 60. *Nux vomica* 3c. produced no result in a week. Then *Aurum muria-ticum* 3c. was given every night. After first dose three diarrhoeic stools; after *Aurum* 2c. twelve bilious stools in twenty-four hours. Remedy discontinued. A complete cure was obtained after four days.

#### BELLADONNA

7. Man of thirty-six has been jaundiced for three

months following vexation. Allopathic treatment was without benefit. Painful hardness in liver region. Great exhaustion. *Nux vomica* and *China* did not help. *Belladonna* 30c. in six doses of the 2c. started improvement on the second day, and cured completely in two weeks.

#### CALCAREA CARBONICA

8. Girl of twenty-one, strongly built, of quiet disposition, had suffered from liver enlargement for a long time, which was not only palpable, but also visible. For two years all treatment could not overcome the jaundice, and its usual accompanying symptoms: constipation, grayish-white fæces, poor digestion.

*Calcarea carbonica* 3c. trituration accomplished improvement without primary aggravation; regular stool of normal colour, and normal colour of face. The same remedy in higher potency and given less often soon cured lastingly. Referent remarks that in material changes low potencies are most useful.

#### CHINA

9. Girl of six, tall, slim, narrow chest, had frequent attacks of palpitation, became jaundiced.

Symptoms: red urine colours linen yellow; stool like clay, abdomen tense; liver region painful upon slight pressure; poor appetite. Severe loose cough causing retching.

*Pulsatilla* 12c. did not improve; *Aconite* 12c. and later 24c. was given on account of the inflammatory liver symptoms with increased pain and fever. In a

few days jaundice improved; stool became more normal in colour, but abdomen more bloated, especially below navel; liver region still painful upon touch or slightest rubbing; cough better. *China* 12c., one dose, improved continually for ten days, and soon patient was completely cured.

#### CONIUM MACULATUM

10. Enlarged liver in woman of forty-eight, of nervous constitution with pressing pain in upper abdomen worse from pressure; a flat, convex, hard swelling toward pit of stomach and reaching almost to crest of ilium; stool alternating hard or normal, constipated, again greenish diarrhoea. Urine diminished in quantity, brown, containing bile pigment and bile salts, passed with burning; on body diffused small wart-like gray-brown easily removed epidermic thickenings, dipping between enlarged papillæ of cutis. *Conium maculatum* 30c. in weekly doses cured in six weeks.

#### DIGITALIS

11. With this remedy (one drop of 15c.) I cured a case of icterus accompanied by nausea, vomiting of mucus, exhaustion, headache "as if head would fall away," loss of appetite, dark brown urine, chalk-white stools, thirst, pulse slow and full. In thirty-six hours pain in lower abdomen and urging to stool; patient had six yellow bowel movements of which the last were more yellow than the first, followed by gradual improvement.

12. For two months a woman of thirty had

been sickly, especially from digestive disorders, pain in joints with weakness and finally jaundice.

Symptoms: intensive icterus over entire body; stomach region bloated and painful; disgust toward food; frequent nausea, retching, vomiting of small quantity of insipid watery fluid; abdomen bloated; constipation; urine scanty, blackish; exhaustion; body cold; weeping mood, could not be consoled.

*China* tincture was given for five days without result. *Digitalis* tincture, four drops during the day, was followed by nausea; but soon improvement set in, and appetite returned, while jaundice left gradually, urine almost normal; stomach and abdomen less sensitive to pressure; strength is returning, and patient became cheerful. Complete cure.

13. A strong woman of fifty suffered frequently from digestive disturbances with bitter taste, especially since two years ago she took an emetic. Though the tongue was clean, there was much empty eructation after eating; liver region was hard, abdomen full and tense; stool normal. *Bryonia* was given without result. *Nux vomica* 200 acted remarkably well, but only temporarily. Pulse was only 50.

*Digitalis* 200c. was given morning and night. On the third day pulse had gone up to normal, and the bitter taste was gone. Slight aggravations were overcome by a dose of *Digitalis*. In four weeks the cure was complete.

#### FERRUM METALLICUM

14. Woman of fifty-three had suffered from

liver pains for a long time, and after a severe attack of hepatitis the following condition remained :

Symptoms : plainly palpable liver swelling, painful upon pressure ; constant pain along back, especially in the places on which she had been lying ; cannot lie long on sides.

*Ferrum metallicum* 200c. relieved for a few days when pain again became worse. The same remedy in 3c. trituration was given, causing a primary aggravation on first day, but soon there was relief and a complete cure.

#### KALI CARBONICUM

15. Man of eighteen, tall, slender, brunette complexion, after an attack of hepatitis suffered for eight weeks from liver abscess ; he was the picture of suffering from liver tuberculosis in the last stage.

Symptoms : total exhaustion without any vitality, cannot even sit up without tumbling over ; attacks of syncope ; reduced to skeleton. Yellow earthy colour of face ; cheeks flushed during fever. Eyes lustreless ; suffering facial expression ; often quick hot flushes followed by cold perspiration, especially mornings after eating, as also evenings and upon the least exertion ; small, rapid pulse. When fever-free : pulse small, weak, slow, dropping the third, fifth and ninth beat. The Swollen liver reached the border of ribs, hard, painful on deep pressure with frequent pressing pain in its depth. Tearing, stitching pain in right side, from pectoral muscles to shoulder and right upper arm, between scapulæ and lower back. Can lie

only on right side ; when on left side pain is worse ; neither appetite nor thirst ; stool normal. Urinary sediment greasy, reddish, similar to liver pus during past week, so proved by chemical analysis.

*Kali carbonicum* 30c., two doses daily ; after two days pain in right side was better, can now lie on left side. A dry cough indicated *Aconitum* 30c. ; one daily dose cured it in six days. Improvement continues ; urine only cloudy ; appetite coming ; again some dry cough and fever in the evening. *Kali carbonicum* 30c. every third day. Seven weeks after the treatment started patient developed a wonderful appetite, and stool and urine became normal. There was still some cough with slight expectoration. *Sulphur* 30c., a dose every third day, cured with six doses. The entire treatment lasted eleven weeks.

#### MAGNESIA MURIATICA

16. A lady of nineteen, small, blonde, very sensible, has had liver disease for four years. Spas like Carlsbad, Marienbad and allopathic treatment did not help.

Symptoms : complains of fixed pressing pain under short ribs radiating to spine and stomach as also into abdomen. The entire region was tense, and pressure increased the pain ; patient can lie only on back or right side as any other position increases the pain. Pain immediately after even a small meal ; flatulence, chest oppression. Tongue coated dirty white ; stool every three or four days, is gray, hard, must press severely. Pulse small, slow. Exhaustion ; is easily frightened ; inclination to weeping ; menses regular.



• *Nux vomica* 15c., a drop every five days. Stool became more regular, and flatulence, local pain and tension less. *Magnesia muriatica* 9c. was given in one dose, repeated after a week. In eleven weeks patient was cured completely.

• 17. Lady of twenty-four, tall, strong, black hair, had suffered from liver disorders for five years. Symptoms: complexion dirty dark yellow; expression of the eyes weak; eyelids and lower lip swollen; abdomen hard and bloated; entire liver region painful radiating to back, often not tolerating the clothes. No appetite; much eructation, flatulence; constipation, faeces hard; urine scanty, cloudy; menstruates only every six to ten weeks for a day, discharge pale, with much pain in abdomen and back. Breathing is constricted; palpitation; pulse small, weak, 105 in forenoon. Chilliness in morning, is hot toward evening with thirst and burning of face. Legs oedematous to calves. Sleeps poorly with anxious dreams. Feels "so weak," is emaciated. Abdominal pains seem to be inflammatory.

• *Belladonna* 3c., a drop four times daily, relieved the excitement. *Nux vomica* 18c., a drop five to six times daily; in three days the stool was more regular, but the general condition was unchanged. *Magnesia muriatica* 9c., a drop every seven to nine days. Soon a real improvement set in and after a few weeks patient was entirely cured.

• 18. Russian of forty, hardened by many travels, suffered from hepatitis ten years ago. Since then has extensive liver induration, especially of left lobe

with constant heaviness and pressure in abdomen, poor digestion, hypochondriacal disposition. Has had much allopathic treatment without relief.

*Sulphur* and *Nux vomica* gave no result. *Magnesia muriatica* 30c. was given, then the 12c. and later 6c., also *Magnesia muriatica* 10 grams in daily bath brought some relief. After the third bath the patient was very tired, had putrid stool as from an abscess.

After eight weeks he was free from pain, felt well; he left apparently cured and had a healthy complexion.

#### NUX VOMICA

19. Girl of six has suffered for a few days from colicky pains and tenesmus which did not produce any evacuation, but a prolapsus ani; she was peevish, had no appetite, tongue coated white, nausea, inclination to vomit, retching; fear of being alone. *Nux vomica* 6c., three doses of one drop each. Icterus appeared, scleræ canary yellow; tongue coated white-yellow. Liver margin hard. Stools white and hard. Urine yellow with solid sediment. Abdominal pain. Again *Nux vomica* 6c., a drop daily for seven days, then four doses during the next few days, produced a complete cure.

20. Man of twenty-nine, strong constitution; scabies was suppressed some time ago. Has been sick for four days after intense vexation.

Symptoms: loss of appetite, bitter taste, eructation, salivation; periodical squeezing sensation in abdomen, as if too full; stools hard; urine red; sleep poor with anxious dreams; skin deeply yellow for last

twenty-four hours, even the scleræ; frequent vertigo; general weakness. *Mercurius vivus* 3c. did not relieve. After six days he was given *Nux vomica* 18c., which relieved quickly and cured in eight days.

21. Girl of ten took sick on October 20 with bilious vomiting, and until November 2 this condition: yellow skin and scleræ; extremities tired and feel "so heavy"; itching of skin, especially evenings in bed; has no ambition; tongue coated; nausea after eating with pressing pain in stomach which is swollen and sensitive to slightest pressure; loss of appetite; white stool two to three times daily with griping pains; urine dark. *Nux vomica* 6c., one drop daily, cured entirely in seven days.

22. Mr. J., thirty, had almost constant pain in liver region for three years, generally with anxiety, head congestion, nausea, itching and pressure in rectum. For some time pain in knees after liver pains left, but the latter returned again with great sensitiveness to even slight pressure. *Nux vomica* 2c., daily one dose for a few days, then a dose every two days, and gradually became symptom-free.

#### SEPIA

Boenninghausen recommends it where the pains are exclusively in the liver.

23. Soldier of twenty-four, irritable, blond, jaundiced, stitches in forehead, pit of stomach and back; tearing pain in knees and joints of foot preventing sleep; has to shift position of legs all night; weakness with much thirst; colour of urine yellow. *Sepia* 30c. cured in two weeks.

## SILICA

24. Woman of twenty-one had suffered for nine months from liver symptoms after an attack of hepatitis.

Symptoms: below false ribs on right side pain as from abscess, throbbing, does not tolerate the least pressure; stepping on right foot aggravates that pain very much; head dull, with dull pain in forehead and occiput; vertigo from stooping; very little appetite; pressing in stomach after eating. Constipation. Cough all day; disturbs sleep all night, aggravated from motion; scanty mucous expectoration. Sensation as if sternum were grasped by a hand; tearing and stitches in limbs. Muscles lax, withered; emaciation. Always after eating pressure and shivers over back with head congestion, hot cheeks, slight burning in soles of feet which are icy cold evenings. Weakness; perspires easily, especially mornings in bed. Pulse small, hard, a little fast, irregular. Feels weak all day, and sleepy; restless sleep nights; awakens with trembling from anxious dreams. Sad mood. *Sulphur 30c.* had no effect. I had her smell of *Silica 30c.* on November 23, repeated on December 2. On December 8 all complaints were cured. When seen a year later patient still was absolutely well.

## SULPHUR

25. Man of forty, emaciated, sallow complexion, had scabies six years ago, which was suppressed; has had indurated liver for three months, for which he had been treated with calomel without improvement. Symptoms: region of stomach and liver bloated and

hard, very sensitive to slight pressure; continual eructations, no appetite, constipation, pulse small; hectic fever; cough with mucous expectoration; urine reddish; poor sleep; general exhaustion.

*Sulphur 30c.*, a drop every third day, was followed by vomiting cysticercus (encysted larvæ of various tapeworms); after two weeks hardening of stomach and liver disappeared and patient felt stronger. Now followed attacks of rheumatism, catarrh and aphthæ, which when cured, left patient normal.

26. Girl of nine has been suffering from swelling of spleen and liver since she was two years old; all allopathic remedies were useless.

Symptoms: monstrous enlargement of abdomen, even bulging of false ribs, and the internal pressure had caused a degree of kyphosis. The umbilicus was absolutely obliterated; spleen and liver enormously enlarged, very hard, causing sensation of heavy fullness in abdomen. At times mild stitching or prickling pain in liver. Skin and scleræ yellow. Breathing difficult; often vomiting of blood and food. Flying heat. *Sulphur 30c.* daily.

On the eleventh day an eruption over entire body appeared with aggravation of all symptoms, general heat, hard pulse. The abdominal tension disappeared, leaving a flabby abdomen. The storm was relieved by smelling of *Aconitum 30c.*, and in five days patient was passing large quantities of urine with general improvement. The girl made a complete recovery, even as to the kyphosis.

—*The Homoeopathic Recorder, January, 1946.*