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ILLUSTRATIONS AND PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF THE LAW OF SIMILARS

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It is an established fact that there are more suicides on bright, sunny days than on dark, dreary ones. The gloom of the day is in some measure similar or in tune with the hopelessness in the mind. Comes a glorious day when every prospect pleases but the awful shadow never lifts, by contrast it only deepens.

Loss of a loved one by death or separation can be a terrible blow. Homœopathy has cured many a case of sickness when the patient has never been well since such a loss. But let us consider other measures and note their significance. A gay party, something exciting and amusing may act as a palliative for a few brief hours, but when it is over there is nothing left to hold to, nothing but an empty void. Grief is better assuaged by the silence, by a walk alone in the forest or by a friend who understands.

Everyone knows that misery likes company and the more similar the misery the more effective the treatment and this is strictly homœopathic. Hahnemann went so far as to say "grief and sorrow are extinguished in the mind by more intense, real or fictitious affliction of another person."

"What he needs is a dose of his own medicine." This is a treatment that has been effective in all ages and in every realm and clime. How explain it except on a homœopathic basis?

When a little child is on an all-out crying bout imitate him, he will soon laugh it off.

Science has established that there are roughly 21 grades or degrees of pain, from the least, grade 1 to the most extreme grade 21. Suppose in an accident two injuries are sustained, one causing grade 7 pain and the other grade 18. Practically no discomfort will be experienced from the minor injury until the pain from the other has been ameliorated. The stronger potency has cancelled out the weaker.

The black fingernail following a hammer blow is wholly unnecessary. The only exception is where actual destruction of tissue has occurred. Drop hammer instantly and apply *very hard pressure* to the injured part. Continue pressure until pain begins to subside, a matter of a few moments, then ever so gradually reduce pressure as the discomfort leaves. *Result, no black nail.*

To explain this in modern terms, the blow causes the nerves in the injured area to go into local shock. The blood vessel control mechanism fails to function, the capillary walls over-dilate and seepage of blood into the surrounding tissue results. *The hard pressure* gives mechanical support to the blood vessel walls until the nerves recover from shock and resume their function. This treatment is very definitely homœopathic. The *hard pressure* is similar in kind but differs in degree from the injury.

When adhesive straps are removed from the chest in cases of rib injury or fracture it will be observed that no bruise marks will be seen on the area covered by the adhesive but are often conspicuous just beyond it.

A burn, if there is no destruction of tissues, is treated very effectively by homœopathic means. Hold the burned part as close to the source of heat as can barely be tolerated. Then, as the pain subsides ever so gradually, reduce the heat or very slowly move the burned area away from the fire. A first degree burn will be cured immediately and with no after discomfort. Treat burns with heat, either dry or moist heat as circumstances may require. Cantharis ointment (carried by homœopathic pharmacies is an excellent treatment for burns. Cantharis

(spanish fly) will produce burns and blisters in strong solution and therefore acts curatively when used in properly reduced strength. In severe and extensive burns this drug may be used internally in potentized form.

A frozen limb is successfully and homœopathically treated by cold and not by heat. Thawing out the part in ice water is a time honored method.

Again quoting Hahnemann, "How does Jupiter, shining brightly in the morning dawn, vanish from the gaze of the beholder? By a stronger potency, the brightness of approaching day." "In situations replete with foetid odors, wherewith is it usual to soothe effectively the offended olfactory nerves? With snuff, that affects the sense of smell in a similar but stronger manner. No music, no sugared cake, which act on the nerves of the other senses can cure this olfactory disgust." "How does the soldier cunningly stifle the pitious cries of him who runs the gauntlet from the ears of the compassionate bystanders? By the shrill notes of the fife commingled with the roll of the noisy drum. And the distant roar of the enemy's cannon that inspires his army with fear? By the loud boom of the big drum."

Many years ago a business man made frequent trips by train between New York and Philadelphia. One day he was picked up unconscious beside the track. It was more than a year before he was able to return to his work. He remembered boarding the train at Jersey City but until he regained consciousness in the hospital his mind remained a total blank as far as the intervening time was concerned. Finally he was able to resume his trips between the two cities. One day when going into the dining car the train gave a lurch and he stumbled against the vestibule door. He said to his friend, "Now I remember how it happened. I reached for the hand no vestibule." Here again the Law of Similars operated. The slight shock and trauma induced the reaction that bridged the memory gap.

The successful results of shock treatments are to be explained on a homœopathic basis although this fact is evidently not for "scientific" publication. Unfortunately the size and

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repetition of the dose of these treatments are often beyond the requirements of the case and brain damage has sometimes resulted.

Mechanical injuries and defects may require mechanical means of treatment and in such cases surgery is the indicated homœopathic remedy.

The above illustrations are given to demonstrate the fact that Homœopathy is not limited in its scope to the field of drug therapeutics although it is in this field that it has become known throughout the world. No other method of treatment has so wide a curative range or is so effective within its range. Every homœopathic remedy when accurately prescribed on the symptoms of the patient is a "miracle drug" in the most fully warranted sense of the term.

The unfailing operation of the Homœopathic Law, the Law of Similars, is entirely too obvious to be ignored by any intelligent person. Historians of the future in reviewing the present century of medicine will be amazed that it was not long ago accorded universal recognition.

—*The Layman Speaks, May, '60*
