

SULPHUR

(references of, in Kent's Repertory)

Compiled and arranged by: Vishal Chawla*
V.P. Singh**

Introduction¹

The pathogenesis of *Sulphur* makes an interesting study. One is amazed to see the large number of symptoms it has produced during the course of its proving by *Hahnemann*, his son and contemporaries, and also the wide range of its action on human mechanism. Not a single part of the body or physiological function remains uninfluenced by its action. So many people have said so many things about *Sulphur* and all that has been said or written about it add to its value and credibility as a therapeutic agent. Some have, however, described its value in a very few words yet conveyed a great deal. *Hahnemann* says "The homoeopathic physician (who alone acts in conformity with natural laws) will meet many important morbid states for which he will discover and may expect much assistance in the symptoms of *Sulphur* and *Hepar Sulphuris*." Says *Huges* "*Sulphur*, if not the most important, is perhaps the most frequently used of all we have." And according to *Kent* "*Sulphur* is such a full remedy that it is difficult to tell where to begin. It seems to contain a likeness of all sickness, and a beginner reading over the provings of *Sulphur* might naturally think that there was no need of any other remedy, as the image of all sickness seems to be contained in it." *Jahr* accorded a very prominent place to *Sulphur* in the treatment of *chronic diseases*. No wonder that one finds a very frequent mention of *Sulphur* in his therapeutic guide.

History

If we go through the history of its evolutionary development into a homoeopathic remedy we observe that, although in use as a medicinal substance much before the time of *Hahnemann*, it was he who proved it homoeopathically on his person for the first time and published its pathogenesis in the *first edition* of the *Materia Medica Pura*. The *second edition* of the *Materia Medica Pura* which was published in the year 1825 included 755 symptoms under *Sulphur* which were observed by *Hahnemann* himself and another 60 which were reported by his son *Freidrich* and few other provers. In the *first edition* of the *Chronic Diseases*, another treatise by *Hahnemann*, a little more than 300 symptoms were added to those reported earlier. By the time *second edition* of the *Chronic Diseases* appeared in the year 1839, the number of symptoms produced by *Sulphur* rose to a new height of 1,969 recorded symptoms. These included also a few reported by *Nenning* in *Arzneimittellehre* of *Hartlaub* and *Trinks*. *Allen* incorporated in his *Encyclopaedia* the symptoms reported by *Hahnemann* and *Wurmb*. The latter were observed by an Austrian Society during the course of a re-proving of a *Sulphur* and published by *Wurmb* in the first volume of *Zeitschrift des ver Hom Aergte Oest* (English translation appeared in XV and XVI volume of *British Journal of Homoeopathy*). *Allen*, however, incorporated only about 1,040 symptoms in his *Encyclopaedia*.

* Ex-Research Assistant** Research Officer Incharge (DID), Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy.

¹ The introductory part of the compiled data, which was first published in CCRH Quarterly Bulletin, Vol. 3 (3&4), 1981, is being reproduced here in this issue for the benefit of our readers, especially those who might not have received the earlier numbers.

Apart from the *Materia Medica Pura* and *Chronic Diseases Hering's Guiding Symptoms* and *Allen's Encyclopaedia* contain a detailed pathogenesis of *Sulphur*. *Kent* has also provided us with a lucid description of *Sulphur* in his *Lectures on Homoeopathic Materia Medica* but that does not cover its entire pathogenesis.

It is in the *Kent's Repertory of the Homoeopathic Materia Medica* that we find *Sulphur* as one of the most referred drug, appearing under more than 10,000 rubrics (including cross references). He has mentioned it 478 times in the chapter on *Mind* alone. *Kent's Repertory* is mainly based on the repertories developed by *Boenninghausen*, *Lippe* and *Lee*. *Kent* has also incorporated material from other sources to which he appended his own observations. He, however, verified the symptoms, as far as possible, before including them in his Repertory. It thus goes to prove that his Repertory contains symptomatic information about *Sulphur* which was, in his time as well as prior to him, scattered in various places, in a collective and classified manner. It was a very useful contribution by him to the science of Homoeopathy.

Object of the Study

The present study was undertaken to scan *Kent's Repertory* and gather all the *rubrics* (symptoms), important or otherwise, represented by *Sulphur*, and present them in one place in order to evolve a relatively complete drug picture. It is expected to help in clinical practice and also to serve the need of an academician who ever thrive to acquire knowledge. He will find it interesting to corroborate evolutionary relationship between different symptoms.

Method

The rubrics have been studied in their arranged sequence in respective chapters in the Repertory. The rubrical composition has not been altered in the least and the same arrangement of spacing, as provided in the Repertory, with regard to the rubrics, sub-rubrics etc. has been followed judiciously.

The sub-rubrics have been mentioned under main rubrics except in case where *Sulphur* was not indicated under the latter but was mentioned under the sub-rubric. In such cases main rubric has been clubbed with sub-rubric so that its meaning is not lost on the readers. For instance '*Jesting*' (*Mind*) is not represented by *Sulphur* but it is mentioned under its sub-rubric '*averse to*'. These rubrics are, therefore, clubbed together to convey correct meaning. Same is the case with main rubric '*Kicks*' (*Mind*) and its sub-rubric '*sleep in*'. But

there are a very few instances where such arrangement has been made.

It was thought to be impractical to mention the name of the drug with its grading again and again against respective rubrics, the rubrics and sub-rubrics are, therefore, graded to convey the grade of the drug viz. a rubric, general or particular, which has *Sulphur* in *first grade* is printed in *Bold type* the one which was represented in *second grade* is in *Italic type* and the one represented in *third grade* is printed in *Ordinary type*.

STOMACH

Anxiety

Appetite, diminished

morning

noon

Easy satiety

eat, with inability to

INCREASED (hunger in general)

forenoon

11 A.M.

noon

night

headache, with

VANISHING AT SIGHT OF FOOD

WEAKNESS, WITH

RAVENOUS, CANINE, EXCESSIVE

forenoon

11 A.M.

night

diarrhoea, with

eating, after, soon

emaciation, with

marasmus, with

relish, without (See Aversion to food)

WANTING

morning

noon

evening

FOOD, AT SIGHT OF

hunger, with

THIRST WITH

Aversion to acids

beer

evening

bread

brown

eggs

everything

fats and rich food

fish

food

eating a little, after

hunger, with

supper, during

MEAT

noon

evening

milk

Sweets

tobacco

smoking (his accustomed cigar)

wine

Cancer

Clothing disturbs

Coldness

Constriction

menses before

Contraction

DESIRES, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS

ale

BEER

Brandy

WHISKY

WINE

claret

apples

cider

coffee

cold drinks

fat

HIGHLY SEASONED FOOD

liquid food

meat

milk

pickles

RAW FOOD

salt things

sour acids

SWEETS

vinegar

warm drinks

Disordered; beer after

fat food, after

mental exertion

milk, after

DISTENSION

afternoon

eating, after

EMPTINESS, weak feeling, faintness, goneness,

hungry feeling

morning, breakfast, before

FORENOON, 11 A.M.

afternoon

aversion to food

diarrhoea, with

DINNER, BEFORE

eating, before

hunger, without

menses, before

stool, after

throbbing, with

EPILEPTIC AURA

ERUCTATIONS

morning

forenoon

evening

night

aggravate

ameliorate

breakfast, after

constant

dinner, after

EATING, AFTER

farinaceous food, after

ineffectual and incomplete

night

on going to bed

milk, after

paroxysmal

pressing on stomach, from

walking, while

in open air, while

bitter

menses, during

eggs, spoiled, like

morning, on rising

smelling like

EMPTY

morning

evening

hiccough, during

breakfast, after

dinner, after

EATING AFTER

fluid

food (regurgitation)

morning

afternoon

evening

dinner, after

eating, two hours after

mouthful, by the

food, tasting like

foul

garlic, like

hiccough, like

loud

milk, after

milk, of

putrid

rancid

SOUR

DAYTIME

dinner, after

eating, after

milk, after

rich food, after

walking, in open air

sweetish

morning

water, of

WATER-BRASH

morning

noon, after eating

dinner, before

eating, after

Formication

FULLNESS, SENSATION OF

morning

waking, on

noon

afternoon

breakfast, after

eating after

ever so little, after

waking, on

Hanging down, sensation of, relaxed, morning

Heartburn

morning

afternoon

evening

dinner, after

eggs, boiled, after

menses, before

HEAVINESS, weight, oppression (see fullness)

morning

forenoon

evening

night, (waking), on

EATING, AFTER

waking, on

Hiccough

noon

evening, fasting, while

bed, in

eating, after

INDIGESTION (Includes Complaints After Substances Not Otherwise Described)

farinaceous food, from

mental exertion, after

MILK, AFTER

Loathing of food (See Nausea)

Lump, sensation of (See Stone)

lying on back, while

Narrow, pylorus feels too

NAUSEA

day time

morning

forenoon

evening

night

waking, on

abdomen, during pain in

eating, before

eating, after

faint-like

food, on looking at

thought of

headache, during

menses, suppressed, with

motion, on

music, from

ODORS, OF HIS OWN BODY

perspiration, during

piano playing, from

pregnancy, during

pressure, stomach, on

riding in a carriage or on the cars while,

rising, up in bed

sitting, up in bed
sleep, after
stool, during
sudden
swallowing saliva
throat, in
walking, while

PAIN

morning
forenoon, stool, after
afternoon
evening, chill, during
night

midnight after
acids, after
bed covers, from
breakfast, after
chill, during
dinner, after
drinking, after
drunkards, in

EATING, AFTER

lying, while
menses, before

DURING

after

milk, after
rising, after
sitting, while

bent over amel.

STANDING, WHILE

stool, after
warm drinks amel.
extending to back

BURNING

morning
evening
night
periodical
rising amel.
standing, while
stool, after amel.
waking, after
walking, while
extending upwards

clawing

morning, on waking

cramping, griping, constricting
night

dinner, before
eating, after
cutting
afternoon
gnawing
pressing

morning

forenoon

evening

night

midnight, after

breakfast, after

chill, during

dinner, after

eating, after

eructations amel.

lying, while

MENSES, DURING

sitting, bent, amel.

stool, after

weight, as from,

extending to back

sore, bruised, beaten (tenderness)

Stitching

morning, standing, while

afternoon, 3 p.m.

breathing, on

standing, while

Pulsation

noon

cough, with

Retching

morning

night

cough, with

ineffectual

liquids, after

Sinking (see Emptiness)

eating, before

Tension, evening

THIRST

morning

afternoon 4 p.m.

5. p.m., during chill

evening

night

midnight

burning, vehement

chill, before

during

after

EXTREME

heat, during

LARGE QUANTITIES, FOR

Small quantities, for

often

stool, before

during

after

unquenchable

Thirstless

heat, during

Trembling

noon

Turning

Twisting

VOMITING

morning

afternoon

4 p.m.

evening

night

beer, after

Coughing, on

diarrhoea, during

dinner, before

drinking, after

drunkards, of

EATING, AFTER:

eggs, after

headache, during

menses, during

milk, after

periodic

perspiration, during

Pregnancy during

rich food, after

riding in a carriage, while

bile

cough, during

fever, during the

headache, with

bitter

afternoon

headache, during

black

blood

menses, during

suppressed, during

suppressed hemorrhoidal flow, after

brownish

clear

fecal

food

morning

evening

eating, immediately after

undigested food

sour

milk

curdled

mucus

morning

offensive, smelling

salty

SOUR

afternoon

4 p.m.

menses, before

Water

morning

afternoon, 4 p.m.

dinner, before

food, then

menses, during

ABDOMEN

Abscess in walls

Alive, sensation of something (see Movements)

Anxiety in

Atrophy of liver

Bubo

suppurating

refuses to heal, old

Cirrhosis, liver

Clothing, sensitive to

Coldness

night

bed, in

air, as from a draft

chill, during

eating, after

sides

Constriction
 night
 menses, during
 stool, during
 Hypochondria
 Contraction
 stool, after
 Umbilicus
 Diarrhoea, sensation as if, would come on
 eructations amel.
 flatus, passing, amel.
 stool, after a normal
 DISTENSION
 morning
 noon
 afternoon
 evening
 night
 CHILDREN, IN
 dinner, after
 EATING AFTER
 flatus, passing, amel.
 MENSES, DURING
 painful
 stool, after
 tympanitic
Dropsy ascites
 Emptiness, menses, during
 stool, after
 ENLARGED
 children
 Liver
 Messenterics
 Spleen
Eruptions
 inguinal region
 herpes zona
 itching
 Fermentation (see Rumbling)
 Fistulae inguinal glands
 FLATULENCE (see Rumbling)
 obstructed
 descending colon, with constipation
 Hypochondria
 FULLNESS, SENSATION OF
 morning
 on waking
 forenoon
 breakfast, after
 eating, after
 flatus, passing, amel.
 FOOD. AT SIGHT OF
 waking, on
 Hypochondria
 Hypogastrium
 10 a.m. until evening
 Liver
 GURGLING
 night
 Hard
 Liver
 Spleen
 Heat, inguinal region
Heaviness, as from a load, etc.
 Hypochondria
 Hypogastrium
 Spleen
Hernia, Inguinal
 Strangulated
 inflammation
Inflammation (Peritonitis, Enteritis, etc)
 Liver chronic
 Spleen
 Typhlitis
 Intussusception
Itching
 NIGHT
 dinner after
 iliac region
 umbilicus
 LIVER. AND REGION OF
 Lump in abdomen, sensation of
 Spleen
 Movements in
 fist of a foetus, like
 Pain. aching. dull pain (See Boring, Drawing, Distress,
 Digging, Gnawing, Pressing, etc.)
 day time
 morning
 forenoon
 walking in open air
 noon
 afternoon
 5 p.m.
 evening
 night

bed in
 midnight
air, cool, every draft
touches abdomen, if
anger, after
 bend double, must
 bending double amel.
 chill, during
cough, during
 diarrhoea, as if, would come on
during (colic)
 dinner, after
 drinking, after
eating, after
 flatus, passing, amel.
 flexing limbs amel.
 heat, during the
hemorrhoids, from
inspiration, during
 lying, on back
 menses, before
 DURING
exercise amel.
 flow becomes free, amel. when
motion, on
 amel.
 periodical
pressure agg.
 respiration, on
sitting, while
 bent
 amel.
 sleep, before going to
 standing, while
 STOOL, BEFORE
 DURING
 diarrhoeic, during
 AFTER
 amel.
 stooping agg.
Sugar, after
waking, while
 amel.
extending to anus
 stomach
 upwards
Hypochondria
 right

left, coughing on
forenoon
 night, 3 a.m.
 coughing, from
 dancing, after
 menses, before
 pressure, clothing agg.
 walking, while
 extending to outward
 HYPOGASTRIUM
night
lying, while
 MENSES, BEFORE
 DURING
Inguinal region
 left
hernia, as if a, would appear
 coughing, on
 walking, while
extending to back
 ring, coughing on
Liver
 lying on painful side, amel.
mental labour, after
 Sides
 morning
 waking, on
 midnight
 sitting, while
 supper, after
 walking, while
Spleen
 chill during
 umbilicus, extending to stomach, pit of
region of
 noon
 AFTERNOON
 4 p.m.
 EVENING
night
eating
 sitting while
 Pain, Burning
 menses, during
standing, while
 walking, while
 hypochondria, right
 Inguinal region

Pain burrowing
Pain bursting
rigor, during
PAIN, CRAMPING, GRIPING

morning
forenoon
noon
afternoon
evening
night
eating after
eructations amel.
flatus from passing amel.

inspiration, on
MENSES, DURING

STOOL, BEFORE

DURING

AFTER

amel.
stooping agg.
walking amel.
walking, in open air
Hypochondria

menses, before
walking, while

HYPOGASTRIUM

MENSES, BEFORE

Inguinal, region

rubbing, on
walking, while

Sides

left

Umbilicus, region of
noon

AFTERNOON

4 p.m.

EVENING

eating after
extending to stomach

PAIN CUTTING

evening

7 pm.

night

midnight

after 4 a.m.

bending backward

dinner, after

flatus, passing, amel.

heat, amel.

menses, during

Stool, before

DURING

DIARRHOEIC, DURING

after

before amel.

causing urging to

Urination, before

Hypochondria

Hypogastrium menses, during

Ilium, anterior superior, spinous process

Sides night

Iying on the back, while

flank, in

Umbilicus, region of, morning

midnight

rising, after

stooping agg.

waking, on

PAIN, DRAGGING, BEARING DOWN

NIGHT, IN BED

dinner, after

menses, before

during

extending towards anus

Pain, Drawing

menses, during

hypochondria

right

forenoon

sides, flank in

umbilicus

Pain, Gnawing

Pain Lancinating, Hypochondria

PAIN, PRESSING

afternoon, 5 p.m.

night

dinner, after

menses, during

extending, towards anus

Hypochondria

right

night, 3 a.m.

dinner, after

Hypogastrium

night

downward

genitals, towards

lying, while
 Inguinal region
 left
 Liver
 sides, left
 drawing
 spleen
 umbilicus, region of
 afternoon, 4 p.m.
PAIN SORE, BRUISED, TENDERNESS
 forenoon
 every-step, on
 menses, during
 stool, before
 during
 after
 walking, while
 Hypochondria
 right
 morning
 Hypogastrium
 Ilium
 Inguinal region, right
 liver
PAIN STITCHING (Sticking, etc)
 morning
 night
 midnight
 waking on
 coughing on
 extending anus, to
 Hip, region of
 extending to small of back when coughing
 Hypochondria
 right
 left
 air, open
 sitting, bent, while
 extending, outward
 Inguinal region
 right
 afternoon, 4 p.m.
 Liver
 Sides
 left
 daytime
 evening
 coughing, on
 inspiration, on

respiration
 walking, open air, in
 extending to flanks, in
 Spleen
 evening
 breathing deeply, on
 lying, while
 Umbilicus
 Pain, tearing
 Perspiration, night
 Protrusion Umbilicus
 Pulsation, Hypochondria
 right
 Relaxed feeling, stool, after
 Restlessness, sleep, after
 Retraction, sensation of
RUMBLING
 afternoon
 evening
NIGHT
 STOOL, BEFORE
 midnight, after 5 a.m.
 breakfast, after
 dinner, after
 eating, after
 Stool, before
 diarrhoeic, before
 after
 Spleen, complaints of
 Suppuration, inguinal glands
 Swelling, mesenteric glands
 INGUINAL REGION, GLANDS OF (See Bubo)
 Liver
 Tabes mesenterica
TENSION
 morning
 afternoon
 dinner, after
 stool, amel.
 Hypochondria
 right
 Spleen
 UMBILICUS, REGION, OF
 midnight
 Twitching and jerking, Inguinal region
 Ulcers
 umbilicus
 Veins, varicose
 Weakness, sense of, stool after