

THUJA

A. H. GRIMMER, M.D.

Thuja is one of the most useful and far reaching remedies of the *Materia Medica* whose therapeutic worth was discovered and developed by Hahnemann.

He placed it at the head of the antisycotic group.

Bœnninghausen found it curative in an epidemic of small-pox and Burnett, because of the fact of that curative action, applied it successfully as the best antidote against the ravages of vaccinosis, the disease resulting from the poison of small-pox vaccine introduced directly into the blood.

From Burnett's time to the present *Thuja* has been a benediction and at times a life saver, especially for the evil effects following small-pox vaccination.

Truly the beautiful "tree of life", endowed by the Creator's fiat with the twin properties of the force of destruction and degeneration on the one hand and the benign power of regeneration and healthfulness on the other, the manner in which this inherent force is applied determines the end that is obtained.

By the intelligent use of the Law of Similars, together with the employment of the homœopathic technique of preparing and prescribing the similar remedy, can the force of destruction and disintegration be changed and transmuted, as if by magic, into healing streams of energy, to dissipate disease and restore the bloom of health.

When the medical world learns simple facts, humanity can then be freed from the innumerable sufferings attendant upon the abuse and misuse of drastic experimental drugs, of crude vaccines and serums introduced directly into the blood stream acting as foreign materials and proteins, to fester and poison the fountain of life and pile up added evil in the human economy.

As we look around throughout the realm of nature, we behold everywhere the double aspects of action and re-

action, of negative and positive forces of good and evil, at work to promote the progress of growth and evolution toward the goal of better things.

Hence all objects—minerals, plants and animals—contain within themselves these same dual qualities.

Every human being has the possibility of disease or health, of evil or good, inherent in his life-process operating in relation to environment.

Every plant and mineral has the dual power of producing good or evil in its nature when applied to the economy of man.

Divine Providence has vouchsafed to man the power to choose and has endowed him with intelligence and discrimination to mould his life in accordance with the laws and order of the Universe.

Thus man may use the destructive powers in drugs to dissipate the destructive processes inherent in his organism by employing the Law of Similars and the unique technique of its application.

From these observations we learn that crude drugs bring out the inherent evils of disease in man, as evidenced by provings, and potentized drugs dissipate those evils and restore the harmony and power of life-processes in their relation to environment.

Now to proceed with the story of *Thuja*. We are told that this tree loves to abide in wet, swampy places, and its habitat extends from Pennsylvania northward to Canada; and it is not by accident that the symptoms and conditions produced by this drug are brought on or made worse by exposure to wet and dampness.

Grauvogl listed it high in his hydrogenoid group which contains such remedies as *Cal.*, *Dulc.*, *Nat. sul.* and *Rhus tox.*, all having aggravations from cold, wet weather and from exposure to the same.

Thuja is not only an antisycotic, that is, a constitutional gonorrhœal remedy, manifesting excrescences, warts, especially fig warts, dark-coloured spots, cauliflower-like growths

which are soft, foetid and emitting an odour like herring brine, sometimes a sweetish odour is noted, growths tending to bleed easily; but also marked and extensive catarrhal states, both chronic and acute, are produced and cured with this medicine. Besides these manifestations of sycosis, many symptoms and states relating to syphilis are found.

Also in the pathogenesis may be noted many chronic skin eruptions that are psoric in nature.

Thus we behold in this unique remedy a blending of all the miasms described by Hahnemann in his chronic diseases, together with the added evils resulting from the universal poisoning of humanity by vaccination.

From this general outline it is likely that many prescribers have failed to get the most in the way of cure by neglecting a full and complete study of this remedy's proving, together with its clinical confirmations in the field of cure at the hands of the old masters, Hahnemann, Boenninghausen, Burnett and Clarke, whose observation and use of the curative action of *Thuja* presents a volume of brilliant cures of a great number of disease-conditions embracing both acute and chronic manifestations. In fact the wide extent of the proving and cured confirmations are too vast to present in a brief medical paper so that only the high lights of the therapeutics will be given with the hope that sufficient interest may be awakened to stimulate a more detailed study by physicians everywhere.

A remedy well-proven and clinically developed presents a great array of mental, emotional and nervous symptoms and states. *Thuja* is rich in many strange, rare and peculiar symptoms. Such symptoms are the joy of the homœopathic prescriber.

Those having fixed ideas, especially of an unusual nature such as: as if the soul were separated from the body, or that the limbs were brittle like glass and would break easily. Or the sensation of a living animal in the abdomen. Sensation as if the whole body is very thin and delicate and could not resist the least violence. As if the body would

be dissolved. The insane will not be touched or approached. Imbecility after vaccination, mental depression and anxious apprehensions regarding the future; everything appears troublesome and repugnant.

The merest trifle occasions pensiveness; music causes him to weep, with trembling of the feet. Hurried with ill humour, talks hastily. Averse to any kind of mental labour. Mental depression after child birth.

Very depressed, sad and irritable. Scrupulous about small things. Feels she can not exist any longer; shunning everybody. Aversion to life. Moroseness and peevishness, perversions of the will, the love of life is gone. Over-excited, quarrelsome; easily angered about trifles.

The child is excessively obstinate. In reading and writing the patient uses wrong expressions. Talks hastily and swallows words. Thoughtlessness, forgetfulness, slowness of speech and reflection, seeking for words when in conversation. Incapacity for reflection. Cretinism, an indication of profound effects on the endocrine chain.

Sense of intoxication and much vertigo, especially on closing the eyes. Head: suffering of many kinds. Pains are congestive compressive, as if a hoop or band encircled the head, or sharp pains as if a nail were driven into the vertex. Head pain relieved from looking upwards or sideways or turning head backwards. Headaches brought on or aggravated from sexual excesses, or from over heating or overlifting. Headaches relieved exercising in the open air, aggravated stooping, relieved bending backward. Dull stupefying headaches. Pressive headaches with shocks in the forehead and temples. Headache worse afternoon and at 3:00 a.m., worse at rest, better after perspiration. Neuralgic types of headache; nervous, sycotic or syphilitic headaches. Meningitis of sycotic children may require *Thuja*. Headaches with sun stroke, especially with the sycotic constitution.

Hair becomes hard, dry and lustreless and falls; extremely sensitive scalp even the hair at night when lying

in bed is painful in the neuralgia of the head. Wants the head and face wrapped up warm. Scalp itching and very tender to even the pressure of the hat. Dry, herpetic eruptions of scalp with dandruff extending to the eyebrows. Perspiration smelling like honey on uncovered parts of the head, face and hands with dryness of the covered parts. Pityriasis affecting forehead, face and ears and neck.

Thuja has paralytic weakness of the eyelids and lower limbs. Many eye symptoms are cured with this remedy. Stitches through left eye to brain, malignant balanorrhoea; wart-like excrescence on iris. Inflammation of cornea; vascular tumour of the cornea. Episcleritis, sclerochoroiditis, staphyloma, ophthalmia neonatorum, phlyctenular conjunctivitis. Conjunctivitis of left eye with violent pain across forehead and outer side of eyeball constantly recurring from childhood and following the suppression of a skin eruption. Fungus tumour in the orbit. Inflammatory swelling of the lids with induration. Granular lids with wart-like granulations. Epithelioma of left lower lid. Ptosis, lids fall down several times a day. Eyelids feel heavy as lead. Styes, tarsal tumours, chalazia; red painful nodosities on margins of the lids.

Purulent and itching pimples between the eyebrows, condylomata in eyebrows. Nocturnal agglutination of the lids; weakness of the eyes, obscure sight, dim sight, as if through a cloud or veil. Diplopia, myopia, black dancing specks before-eyes; floating stripes; sees green stripes which frighten her. Flames of light, mostly yellow and many other perversions of sight.

The ears are the source of much trouble and pain. Catarrhal and other discharges purulent, offensive oozing from ears. Polyps and other growths. The same severe catarrhal states and conditions are found in the nose.

Nose red and hot or swollen; tumid, red eruption on nose. Painful pressure at root of nose. Dry or fluent coryza with cough and hoarseness. Foetid green discharges, green mucus mixed with pus and blood, or thick green mucus.

Chronic catarrh after measles, scarlatina, or variola. Ozæna, warts on nose.

Heat of face or burning redness. Redness of face with fine nets of veins as if marbled; this condition is also found over the limbs. Greasy skin of face (*Graph.* and *Tuberc.*) Pains in bones of face. Neuralgia of trigeminus after suppressed gonorrhœa. Facial pains spreading to neck and head. Scabious, itching eruption on face. Red, painful nodosities on temples. Tumours and warts on the lips. Flat ulcers on inside of lips and corners of the mouth. Fungus on left lower jaw, more angry in damp weather; swelling of submaxillary glands. Toothache after drinking tea; many complaints are worse from the excess of tea and *Thuja* is the best antidote.

Carious teeth and very sensitive inflamed swollen gums with looseness of the teeth. Aphthæ and ulcers in the mouth which feels as if burned. Salivation with swollen salivary glands. Swelling of the tongue, painful ulcers on tongue; condylomata under tongue, varicose veins under the tongue. Sweet taste with gonorrhœa; slowness of speech.

Painful sore throat with dryness and necessity to swallow. Swelling of tonsils and throat with ulcers like chancres. Large accumulation of mucus in the throat that is tenacious and hawked up with difficulty. Exophthalmic goitre.

The appetite is impaired and taste perverted, either sweet or like rotten eggs. Craves salt. Food never seems salty enough. Desires cold drinks and food. Unable to eat breakfast, a keynote of Burnett's. Aversion to fresh meat and potatoes, speedy satiety when eating (*Lyc.*), aggravated by onions (also *Lyc.*). Many distresses after eating.

Bitter or putrid risings and greasy substances. Nausea and vomiting of acid serum and of food. Indurations of stomach and abdomen. Soreness in hepatic region, pressing and constrictive pains through the whole abdomen. Sensation as if something was alive in the abdomen. Intussusception of the intestines; obstinate constipation; tenesmus

with rigidity of the penis. Diarrhoea, pale yellow, watery, forcibly expelled with much noisy wind and colic; worse after eating; very exhausting with short and difficult breathing; anxiety, intermitting pulse, acute pressive pain in the back.

Rapid disappearance of fat; periodic diarrhoea at the same hour; stools oily or greasy, with the passing stool sensation as if burning lead were passing through. Burning soreness in rectum lasting all day. Painful contraction of anus during evacuation. Condylomata at anus. Hæmorrhoidal tumour, swollen and painful, worse while sitting. Fistula in ano; fissure of anus.

Kidneys inflamed, feet swollen, diabetes. Violent burning in fundus of bladder. Frequent urging to urinate with interrupted stream. Bladder and rectum feel paralyzed, lacking power to expel; involuntary emission of urine.

The genitalia of both sexes are the site of much suffering, the characteristic stigmata of the venereal poisons are prominent. Warts, chancres, ulcerations, polypi, cauliflower excrescences, and offensive catarrhal discharges that are painful and burning with swellings, and morbid growths abound.

In the female, varicosities that are painful and burning. With the menses the breasts are painful and swollen; violent motion of the child in the womb during gestation. Abortion at the end of the third month is a feature of *Thuja*. Labour pains weak or ceasing, contractibility hindered by sycotic complications.

The respiratory tract presents many distressing symptoms and conditions. The voice is weak or low. Sensation of a skin in the larynx; polypus of the vocal cord, shortness of breath from mucus in the trachea. Asthma, worse at night, with red face, coughing spells with sensation of adhesion of the lungs. Asthma with gonorrhoea without having been exposed to contagion. Asthma with little cough. Asthma of sycotic children. Respiration short and quick, worse from deep inspiration and talking, relieved

lying on affected side. Convulsive asthma. Cough in the morning excited by a choking sensation. Sputa green, tasting like old cheese. Spasms of lungs from drinking cold water.

Oppression and dyspnoea; pain in chest as from internal adhesion; hæmorrhage from lungs copious and terribly offensive. Cramp in heart with violent and audible palpitation of heart, especially climbing stairs. Anxious palpitation or visible palpitation without anxiety.

The neck, back and limbs are recipitant of much suffering and weakness too numerous to mention here. *Thuja* is a paralytic remedy. However among the afflictions of these parts is gonorrhœal rheumatism and left-sided sciatica with the affected leg atrophied. Emaciation and deadness of affected parts.

Sleep and dream symptoms are important and often guiding. Sleep retarded because of agitation and dry heat. Nocturnal sleeplessness with agitation and coldness of the body. Unrefreshing nocturnal sleep. Distressing, anxious dreams, of danger, of death and the dead, of falling from a height soon after falling asleep. Starting and crying out in sleep. Sleeplessness with apparitions as soon as he closes his eyes, which vanish when he opens them; lascivious dreams without emission of semen, but with painful erections on waking. Perspiration at commencement of sleep. Perspiration on parts uncovered with dry heat of covered parts; perspiration after the chill without intervening heat; perspiration at times oily, staining the clothes yellow, or foetid, or smelling sweet like honey. Perspiration only during sleep.

Typically a left-sided remedy, aggravated by touch, relieved by pressure; rubbing relieves. Closing eyes aggravates the vertigo. Overlifting and overheating aggravate the head pains. Lying on affected side relieves the asthma. Motion relieves, extension and letting limbs hang down aggravates. Worse at 3:00 a.m., early morning (the syctic time). Worse at night, worse cold water, damp

weather, change, draught, overheating, sun's rays, bright light, warmth of bed. Warmth aggravates except the rheumatism which is relieved by cold. Worse after eating, especially breakfast, tea, coffee, fat food and onions. Worse after coitus and blowing nose. Worse during increasing moon; from sun and bright light.

Causation of complaint: Vaccination; gonorrhœa badly treated or suppressed; sunstroke; sexual excess; tea; coffee; beer; sweets; tobacco; fat meats; onions; *Sulphur* and *Mercury*.

DISCUSSION ON SYMPOSIUM ON THUJA

DR. EUGENE UNDERHILL, JR.: I tremble to think of what this Association would be without Dr. Hubbard. I have had the privilege of knowing her for a great many years, perhaps more than twenty years. That doesn't mean she is getting old, because when I first knew her, she was very young, and she is still young. She "enthuses" life into our organization and that is something we are sorely in need of. She is at once a wonderful wife, mother, physician, and a wonderful teacher, as I have had ample opportunity to observe at the post-graduate school, and she is one of the relatively few people who wears well. I know she has the love, respect, and admiration of every one of us.

Dr. Grimmer gave in clear detail many of the symptoms that we meet in patients needing this remedy, and then Dr. Hubbard came with a paper quite different and therefore dovetailing in with all that Dr. Grimmer has said, and I have noticed that often when an essayist is so modest as to start with an apology, we usually get a better paper than one from someone who stands up boldly and reads a whole lot of stuff that isn't worth a darn.

All I have to say further about Dr. Hubbard's paper is this, that it is a teaching paper, and that is her forte. It gives generalities for the most part, but nevertheless, generalities that are so peculiar that you can use them in prescribing for your cases, and, with her and one or two others, I confess I don't understand *Thuja* altogether now, and I have studied it for about fifty years.

I have one case to offer in illustration. It is also a lesson in homœopathic philosophy. It is a case of a man about thirty-six years old who had a large wart on the left side of his chin. This was about as large as the half of a marrow-fat pea, and arranged very nicely around it were twenty little warts.

Then in the centre of the left lumbar region he had a huge condyloma. It was irregular and fissured to some extent, but soft, with a few other symptoms.

I naturally chose the remedy *Thuja*, and gave him a dose of the 10M. He came in in about five days with most of the little fellows on his chin having disappeared, and gradually when they were all gone, the large ones started in as though following them, like the grandfather following his children to the wart heaven. They all disappeared. Then the one on his backside became reddened and grew smaller, but this is three years ago and it is still there, and I haven't yet found the remedy that will cure it.

DR. JAMES M. HEIMBACH: Just a little shy of fifty years ago when I started the practice of medicine, I took over my brother's practice for a month, and a patient came into my office who was covered with warts all over his back, over the dorsum of the hand, and I wasn't very proficient in my *Materia Medica*, of course, in those days, and I am still 'way behind Dr. Hubbard, but I knew that was a symptom of *Thuja*, and I gave the tincture of *Thuja* to put on the warts once or twice a day and occasionally take a drop of it internally.

I didn't find out how that worked out until about a year ago. He was a railroad man and he came through my town, and he remembered me and he came in to see me just purposely, you might say, to tell me about these warts, and he told me they had entirely disappeared in a very short time.

I must confess I never heard a better exposition of *Thuja* than these papers today, and thank you both very much.

DR. V. TABER CARR: I, too, am grateful for these papers. As we are on a warty subject, there is a case which comes vividly to my mind. About eighteen months ago, a patient was operated on in the hospital who had a very large, figlike wart over the angle of the left shoulder blade. This wart was about eight or ten inches in diameter.

I had seen the patient off and on. She was a dried-up, dirty brown woman, about five feet tall, very seclusive and short in her talk. Her relatives had given up visiting her for years because she had a mean word for them every time they said something. As it happened, she came to my service about January 1st of this year. Well, the result of the operation resolved itself into an irresolution of the field of operation. That field was discharging all the time. It had to be dressed for several months about four or five times a day.

I thought probably *Thuja* might cover her case, and I found it did. I started her on the 10M, and that was the first of the year. To make it short, now she has gained weight, her complexion has cleared up. The relatives came to visit her about two months ago and they were surprised at the improvement in her mental condition. They had a very pleasant conversation together.

DR. ALLAN D. SUTHERLAND: That *Thuja* works externally as well as internally, and that it works internally as well as externally is illustrated by the two brief cases which I will state, the first case proving that *Thuja* works externally.

A ten-year-old Boston terrier owned by me developed a cauliflower growth on what would have been his chin if he had been a man. This was treated with tincture of *Thuja*, one drop applied three times a day for about six weeks. The progress toward cure was very interesting. The first thing that happened was that the growth increased. The second thing that happened was that the growth began to break down, to become necrotic; and the third thing that happened, it completely disappeared.

That *Thuja* will work internally as well as externally is illustrated by a widow of uncertain age, but definitely not younger than seventy, who showed me on the upper part of her left arm a very dark cauliflower growth. I was unable to obtain symptoms of any note in this woman and purely empirically prescribed *Thuja*, one dose of the two hundredth, with the result that in about three weeks' time that growth was completely gone, never to reappear.

DR. BELLE P. NAIR: I am not going to talk about *Thuja*. I am going to ask this question: Is *Thuja* considered the only remedy to take away warts?

SEVERAL MEMBERS: No!

DR. NAIR: I wondered about that because my daughter at one time many years ago had a lot of warts on the inside of her hand, thirty warts on the palm of one hand. I tried several things and nothing did any good, but finally I began to give *Baryta iodata*, and at last there were no warts.

DR. HARVEY FARRINGTON: I want to answer the doctor's question with one case. I suppose I have cured two hundred and fifty cases of warts on the soles of the feet, and I don't know how many on the nose, and elsewhere, but I never had but one on the vermilion of the lips—a little girl of eleven, and about the only characteristic symptom I could get was the fact that her face flushed easily. I gave her a dose of *Ferrum*, 1M. All those warts

disappeared. Imagine the horrible results and suffering that would have resulted from having those warts burned off!

DR. ALLAN D. SUTHERLAND: I should like to say that the subject matter of the paper read is *Thuja*. The discussion properly has been directed toward *Thuja*, and hence the conception might arise that *Thuja* is the only remedy for warts. Of course, it isn't. Any homœopath knows that.

DR. A. H. GRIMMER [closing discussion]: I don't know that I can add any more to what has been said. The comment, of course, brought out some of the things that we ought to take notice of. I was going to say before I left that I hope that a lot of you wouldn't go out and give *Thuja* for every case of warts. There are a good many remedies you will have to compare. *Nitric acid* is one, and *Causticum* is another, and *Calcarea* is still another, and *Natrum sulph.* and *Dulcamara*. There are others, according to the character of the warts. More than anything else, be sure to get the patient in as a whole. Then you will clear the warts.

I saw a very definite result in a man that had a very disfiguring case, an aged patient of mine whom I had treated a long time for other conditions. I had helped him with his symptoms, those he complained about, but I will admit I didn't go carefully enough into his case, and finally one time he said, "Doctor, do you suppose you could do anything for this thing on my head? The barbers and everybody else are commenting on it."

It was a black, spotty area probably two inches in circumference, with a warty base, flat but warty, decidedly warty. I said, "I don't know, but we can try. Sometimes we get results. I haven't had much results with these things that look like moles but I have cured any amount of warts." I gave him a 10M of *Thuja*, and in less than a month he was as smooth and as perfect as he was the day he was born. He had no more of that growth at all, and his friends couldn't get over it when he told them he had a little powder on his tongue from a homœopathic doctor, and they refused to believe him. They said he had had some x-ray or some material means used to take it off.

Now, there is one thing more! I wanted to bring up this external-internal application of remedies to warts. I believe that it can be done, but think that the application of the remedy *Thuja* to the wart externally is just as bad as burning it off with Nitric Acid. We have seen plenty of effects from the suppression of warts with Nitric Acid. I believe that perhaps some of the "jam" was taken off by the internal action of the remedy given

at the same time. I don't believe it is wise. I think if you use just the internal remedy, you will be much better off.

DR. ELIZABETH WRIGHT HUBBARD [closing discussion]: I just want to say that while we are discussing *Thuja*, I wish we wouldn't discuss E.W.H. I appreciated tremendously the erudition in Dr. Grimmer's paper. He had any number of symptoms, forty of them that I had never known or heard of, and I will restudy that paper when it comes out in *The Recorder*.

I thank you all for your kindness and I hope you will carry home one thought, you younger men, and that is to try to dig out of innumerable books and your small experience, a living internal image of every remedy, a picture such as I tried to give you today, of one of the remedies which does not lend itself to a mental picture or inner image easily, as some of the others do. It is like that in a friendship. Nobody can remember all the symptoms, but anybody can remember an old friend.

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