

EYE DISEASES AND HOMOEOPATHY

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Medicine is, or should be, the divine art of 'healing', and in the oath of Hippocrates, the wise Greek physician, who lived hundreds of years before Christ, a doctor swears that he will use that regimen which according to his ability and judgment, shall be for the welfare of the sick. 'The sick', mind you, not for the welfare of the drug houses and for the good of the pockets of the vested interests of the serum and vaccine manufacturers, who seem to run nearly the whole medical profession, except the few who see further than the rest, and full of divine discontent dissociate themselves and search for truth wherever it may be found. This truth which is hidden in the deep well of Hahnemann's often cryptic writings and the many books left by his earlier pupils.

And what joy there is, if one pearl of truth and wisdom after another is found in these old dusty books, truths which help one to really heal precious human bodies and souls who were burdened not only with original sin but also burdened with the sins of their ancestors.

Such chronic diseases are difficult to cure right from the bottom, it is easy enough to suppress, to hide, to cover up the external manifestations of disease, by the modern methods of treatment; but the original disease is still there, and will break out again and again in a different place; and neither the person afflicted nor the treating physician or physicians will see the connecting thread.

I saw such a child afflicted with a deep-seated chronic disease, and have been able to follow her progress for the last six years. She came first at the age of six in May, 1934, for dermatitis after orthodox treatment for scabies, just having recovered from measles as well.

A miserable, pallid, thin, stoop-shouldered girlie, very nervous and timid, crying easily at the slightest thing, literally hanging on to her mother's skirts, a mouth breather with enlarged septic tonsils and with septic teeth; also left conjunctivitis. Sulphur 30 given for after effects of measles and suppressive treatment of scabies. She attended regularly and various remedies were given, Pulsatilla for her weeping, then later she was put on Baryta carb. 30 for about six months, as she was so timid and frightened of strangers. She improved on this, appetite was better and she was not so nervous and scared. Her tonsils did not improve and there was also some deafness and a great deal of pressure from the school authorities, who wished to have an operation for removal of the tonsils.

Gradually I noticed that the eyes were getting worse; there was a good deal of photophobia, and lachrymation from the eyes, so I sent her up to the local eye hospital for further investigation. There it was found that the pupils

would not dilate properly owing to deep-seated adhesions, which bound the iris to the posterior wall of the eye.

This diagnosis of the eye surgeon was an excellent pointer to the underlying chronic disease and the child was immediately put on Lueticum 30, though the hospital was very urgent as well about the septic tonsils. She improved on repeated doses of Lueticum 30 at weekly and sometimes fortnightly intervals, and I noticed that the weeping from the eyes, the lachrymation was less troublesome.

I do not approve of indiscriminate tonsil operations; but once the local school authorities are on the war path, it is almost impossible to refuse an operation. So the child was sent up to the throat department at a children's hospital on at least two different occasions. The first time she stayed in for five days and was continually sick, a nervous type of vomiting, as the child was frightened of hospitals and operations. So they let her go. A second time she was admitted and this time she promptly developed bronchitis and again she escaped.

She improved in her general health, though she still could not see owing to ulcers on the cornea and the photophobia, the dread of light, and the constant weeping when she turned her eyes in the direction of light. I asked for dark glasses from the eye hospital, but I got no co-operation, all they wanted was 'operate on the tonsils'.

While the child was still so nervous it was impossible to insist on this. In September, 1935, she developed severe whooping cough and was under a local doctor for several weeks with a high temperature and presumably bronchitis. On October 3rd, 1935, she came back to the dispensary barely able to crawl, still whooping after six weeks of home treatment with nightly temperatures of 100 degrees. Drosera 30 given. She picked up well after Drosera, which was repeated on October 27th and again on December 12th and January 9th, 1936.

On January 30th, 1936, at last on the third attempt, she managed to stay the course and had her tonsils removed in hospital. This was followed by acute pharyngitis and inflammation of the throat, and the lachrymation from her eyes was very troublesome and the sight worse than ever. The operation evidently let loose some microbes hidden in the crypts of the tonsils! She was then sent by the school doctor to an eye specialist who very brightly suggested a blood examination, and ordered removal to a well-known eye hospital in the country for a course of anti-syphilitic treatment. Fortunately for the child's sake, this doctor did not have the knack of making himself pleasant to hospital patients, and put their backs up by his peremptory manners, so the parents refused point blank to give their permission.

Now the chase was fully on; the pack of hounds from the school authorities followed the sport and barked and bit at the parents for daring to contradict the verdict of the pundit at the hospital. The onus was on me, and so I sent her up to the eye department of the homocopathic hospital, where

at last they prescribed dark glasses, so the child could walk out in the streets without continually weeping.

On May 21st, 1936, she was put on Hep. sulph. 30 for the following reason: syphilitic history, catches colds easily from cold north-east winds, and is very cheeky at home. You see the homoeopathic treatment for two years had changed her nervous and retiring temperament!

She was kept on occasional doses of Hep. sulph. 30 until September, 1936, when she presented herself with a right-sided swollen knee, pain and tenderness behind knee and stiffness, and also some heat and redness. She was ordered rest in bed and given Drosera 30, which arrested the acute inflammation in the knee joint.

On October 8th, 1936, the right knee was found to be one-third of an inch larger than the left knee, but she was much better in herself and she had gained 11 lbs. in sixteen months.

On January 14th, 1937, the right knee still stiff and swollen. Drosera 30. Unfortunately she was then seen again by a visiting doctor at the physically defective school she had been attending for a year, and this physician started another trail of trouble by ordering her to yet another general hospital for further syphilitic treatment. I sent her again to the Homoeopathic Hospital for an X-ray of the knee joint, where no bony abnormalities were discovered. Silica 30 was prescribed and the stiffness, etc., improved.

May, 1937, seen again by eye surgeon at the homoeopathic hospital, who suggested further doses of the syphilitic nosode.

June 3rd, 1937, painless right knee, still swollen, however, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch larger than left. 'Throws off her colds more easily than she used to'. Tuberculin. 30.

June 17th, 1937, profuse brown moles all over body—the sycotic element coming uppermost, thrown out by the action of the Tuberculinum. Thuja 30 ordered, which was followed by some nasal catarrh.

July 16th, 1937, still looks very pale, sleeps on her face, a further manifestation of the sycotic element. Medorrhinum 30.

September 2nd, 1937, no lachrymation from the eyes—no swelling of the right knee, *but* swelling and *pain of the right ankle*. She could not fasten her right shoe, right foot hot and swollen.

September 16th, 1937, stiffness right ankle and foot, worse on beginning to move. Rhus tox. 30 t.d.s.

September 30th, ankle less swollen, no pain. Continue Rhus tox.

October 7th, right ankle $\frac{3}{4}$ inch larger than left ankle. Eyes better, can stand light better, no lachrymation when facing light. Afraid of school, lessons worry her. Lycopodium 30 ordered.

November 4th, 1937, no pains in leg, but still walks stiffly. Very lively, does not like strangers, takes more interest in things. Lycopodium 30.

November 25th, 1937, again seen by another so-called specialist at school who diagnosed rheumatism, and considered she had a healed heart lesion! not knowing anything of the previous findings of a positive Wasser-

mann test and history of corneal ulcers and adhesions of the iris. Once again I stopped her being sent up to yet another hospital for further treatment for rheumatism!!

December 12th, 1937, very pale still, gained 18 lbs. in two and a half years, very good result of treatment: Bacill. sycotic. 30.

February 10th, 1938, much better in herself, pains in stomach after onions. Thuja 30. Again followed by a running cold, sneezing, profuse discharge from nose.

March 10th, 1938. Mother volunteers the remark that eyes were first noticed to be bad after measles in 1934; on looking up baek record this was found to be correct, as she had tendency to diarrhoea after fat food and onions; she was given Pulsatilla 30.

March 31st, 1938. Great improvement, no more diarrhoea after fat or after onions. Knee not stiff, ankle not swollen any more; gets on well at school now, is fifth in her class.

July 21st, 1938. No stiffness of knee or ankle for weeks, no gain in weight since April, 1938, very pallid still. B. sycotic. 30.

September 1st, 1938. 'The best August for four years.' Eyes improving. right knee and right foot give no trouble. Gained 9 lbs. in a year. B. sycotic. 30. Sent away from London to Dymchurch by school authorities 'for fear of war breaking out' and returned home on October 6th. After a month away, having lost 2 lbs., still very nervous, hates being separated from her parents and home B. sycotic. 30.

October 13th, 1938, gained 2½ lbs. after being back at home for a week; this shows how she reacts to her surroundings. Kept under the action of B. sycotic. for several months with general improvement all round.

February 16th, 1939. Gained 11½ lbs. in a year, big sturdy child, eyes not so much trouble, can sit and read books now.

April 27th, 1939. Vision greatly improved. When she first went to school, could not see even the top row of Snellen's Reading Card, can now see the letters on the thurd row from the top.

June 22nd, 1939. No trouble with right knee or right foot, vision improving still more, also gain in weight. B. sycotic. 30.

July 27th, 1939. Gained nearly a stone in a year, and eyes much better, no photophobia, no lachrymation: still opacities on cornea round pupils. B. sycotic. 30.

Then the war broke out and she was not seen again until January 11th, 1940. No swelling of either right knee or right foot, vision steadily improving. Weighs now 5 stone 10 lbs. 12 ozs., a very good weight for a child who is 11 years and 6 months old. She weighed only 3 stone 8 ounces in May, 1935, five years previously, and has thus gained 2 stone and 10½ lbs. in 4 years 9 months, a very good record. Is going to an ordinary school now and doing well.

May 2nd, 1940. Seen by eye surgeon who is well satisfied; vision good,

general health good, still some opacities on the cornea. Weight is now 5 stone 12½ lbs. At last, after five years of attendance, an interesting piece of family history was discovered. The maternal grandfather died after a fall and the mother let out in the course of conversation that he had been suffering from locomotor ataxia for many, many years. Here was the link that I had been looking for for years, the beginning of the syphilitic infection. The result was his unfortunate grandchild had been suffering from congenital syphilis ever since birth, almost complete blindness, and general marasmus, until she was taken in hand and treated homoeopathically. No strong allopathic drugging was necessary, and only minutial doses of the appropriate remedies were given, and yet the blindness cleared up. Did you notice, too, how the truth of the homoeopathic law was brought out during the course of treatment, which extended over several years. The homoeopathic cure of a deep-seated infection goes from above downwards, from within outwards—the law states. The serious deep-seated infection of the important internal organs, the eye—was followed in due course by swelling and inflammation of the less important organs, the right knee joint. Then a little while later, the right ankle joint became affected, while all the time the sight and the general health improved, the psychological characteristics also improved, nervous instability went, the brain power, the power to learn and to retain facts improved. This is how it should be. A triumph for Homoeopathy. Even quite good homoeopaths are shy at the homoeopathic treatment for syphilis, and think that this should be treated by orthodox methods, by arsenic or bismuth, salts and whatever may be the latest orthodox way.

This case proves that this is unnecessary, that Homoeopathy can and does cure even such a deep-seated disease as syphilis, and that it cures without giving great discomfort to the patient. No need for painful intravenous injections of noxious drugs.

A further development recurred recently. Early June, 1940, this girl developed what was called by the school doctor impetigo of the left side of the face and forehead. This spread rapidly and when I saw it it covered the whole left side of the face and chin and nose. I considered it was due to ringworm, a very malignant, rapidly spreading type, which was traced to a badly infected cat living in the house. It was treated locally for two weeks without any effect. Then I remembered that Dr. Burnett recommended Bacillinum. I had no Bacillinum, but I gave her Tuberculinum 30, one dose, with appreciable difference to the ringworm in a week. Then I gave daily doses of Tuberculinum 30 for a week, and several days later the face was clear, not a vestige of ringworm! The child can read ordinary small print without glasses now and the general good health and progress is maintained.

Oh that the day would dawn when Homoeopathy is taught properly in the medical schools. How much suffering, how much chronic ill health could be saved.

—*Heal Thyself*, August, 1940