

The Miasms and the Remedies to meet them.

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Samuel Hahnemann, the immortal founder of the only true Healing Science and Art, after years of close study and observation, found out the miasms, which, in every intractable and complicated case, are at the back, either severally or jointly. He found out also a long list of remedies which are powerful enough to grapple and cope with those miasms and to successfully cure the patients suffering under their baneful influence. Before the discovery of these efficient remedies, the Master had really been at a loss how to avoid the repeated recurrence of many disease symptoms at the time, and those deep acting agents were the which *wreka* made his labours quite successful and his Materia Medica complete.

The value of these remedies, for the true and sincere Homœopaths who really follow the Master, cannot be over-estimated. Especially in these days of complicacy and suppression, one can hardly deal with his patients without their help, for even a day. The apsoric group of remedies are only for superficial and acute cases. It would therefore be highly useful to draw up as fully as possible, a complete and all-round picture of each of them, so as to give us a clean facility in using them according to our necessity.

The founder himself has incorporated into his Materia Medica Pura and his book on Chronic Diseases all the polychrests and deep-acting remedies, but they are all in the form of Provings and therefore cannot be studied and put into use by the general run of students and practitioners. Besides, the immediate followers of the great founder and several other luminaries in the line have been able, by virtue of their constant use at the bed-side, to greatly improve upon the previous records, which should be widely broadcasted among the practitioners. The Law of Cure is of course constant, but the remedial agents can greatly be improved through

provings, re-provings and by clinical use. The deep peculiarities of many remedies are still unknown and it is only after repeated provings, correct uses and close observations that many inner beauties are still to be discovered. Then, there are many remedies the provings of which cannot be continued *in extenso* for fear of fatal ultimates, & so only the clinical use and honest observation can reveal their virtues that are really invaluable for the good of the suffering humanity.

There are some minds who are very fond of innovations and are therefore inclined to prescribe new remedies that are only half proved or simply clinically based. This practice can hardly be encouraged, because it is dangerous, not only to the patient but to the Healing Art as well. Well proved as well as truly verified remedies should receive the first attention of an honest prescriber. Then the well-proved but not yet clinically confirmed should form the next class. But the remedies having in their favour only clinical recommendation are hardly worth being used, at least in any serious predicament, because the sentiment of the recommender,—who may as well be the founder,—is mostly found to be at play. Though we cannot discourage new remedies *per se*, what we want is careful and unbiased provings, otherwise, we fear, the gap between the Homœopathic Materia Medica and the Allopathic one would be fast dying away,—a most undesirable degeneration which every sober Homœopath should carefully avoid. A true Homœopath can under no circumstances follow the *ipse dixit* even if it comes from the highest in authority.

Miasmatic remedies have been found to produce and therefore to cure similar symptoms, not only at a particular stage in a patient's life, but may also be similar to his *very being*. In other words, a particular patient may be a living proving of a particular remedy. One may be a lifelong Lycopodium patient. For example a Calcarea carb woman might have been a Calcarea carb child, a Calcarea carb girl, a Calcarea carb wife, a Calcarea carb mother, that is, she

may be found to retain the Calcarea carb picture all through her life. So that, a workable life picture showing all the trails similar to Calcarea carb would be really invaluable for a sincere practitioner. All the deep-acting agents in our Materia Medica deserve similar delineation. A careful comparison, wherever necessary, would be another mode of impressing those pictures upon the students' mind.

Then, every miasm has its peculiar points of attack, each of them having a special characteristic of its own. Some is prone to attack the very citadel of strength, i.e., the brain and the ganglia, some again fond of affecting the lower tissues; not only so,—their very nature is widely different, as is shown by the fact that one of the miasms makes its victim intensely cold-blooded, another awfully hot, and the third puts him as between two fires,—the unfortunate patient can tolerate neither heat nor cold.

Each miasm has a favourite group of remedies, which, when assiduously studied, gives us a clear and comprehensive idea and the extent of its manifestation in the human economy. They are to be studied individually and in groups, i.e., each as a whole in itself, as well as, one among the many in the group. In fact a miasm is better understood by studying the group under each. A group of Cholera remedies only can give us a clear anamnesis of the fell disease before we observe any particular case; exactly so with each of the miasms. It is only a diligent study of the groups that we can expect to have a clear comprehension of the miasms. This is the proper way, rather the only way to master, and to obtain a vivid image of each of the miasms.

We shall commence Psora and the anti-psoric remedies, first of all.

(to be continued.)