

ejected as soon as they warm up. Sometimes it is very difficult to distinguish between Ars. and Phos., and it is well that they are complementary.

Ars. has many other complementaries, as Pyrogen, Carbo veg, Natrum Sulph, Nitric ac., Thuja etc., of which Natrum Sulph, Nitric ac. and Thuja being miasmatic complementaries need special notice. In the sycotic field of action, Thuja is deeper than Ars., and Ars. follows Nitric ac. when prostration increases and fear of death with restlessness becomes a prominent feature. The other two, viz, Natrum Sulph. and Thuja come in most cases of Sycotic manifestations like Asthma, Humid cough, Small pox etc. when the acute condition is allayed with Ars. and some deeper and more permanent hit is needed in order to eradicate the miasmatic tendency to further attacks. Ars. acts in Sycotic cases as Aconite does in Psoric ones, though apparently well indicated.

### Keynotes for Homoeopathic Remedies in Surgery\*

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#### PRE-OPERATIVE PRESCRIBING

It is claimed, and there is evidence to support the claim, that phosphorus given in a single dose of high potency the day before an abdominal operation, will prevent nausea and other distress after operation. Arnica has been used for the same purpose. Staphisagria, given before the incision for circumcision, allays the pain following incision and prevents inflammation.

Such generalising as the above is in accord with good

\* Through the courtesy of the writer,

Homœopathic methods and every case is a better surgical risk if it is well prescribed for beforehand.

#### POST-OPERATIVE PRESCRIBING

- Arnica, given immediately after operation, has a marked control over shock and soreness. It is good routine practice to give Arnica after an operation until symptoms manifest themselves that indicate some other remedy.

Aconite is preferred by some instead of arnica. A differential point would be arnica where there is more of a shock to the tissues, a depression of the forces due to direct injury, a reaction asthenic in type; aconite where the reaction is more sthenic, the shock being more mental. The location and character of the operation would be influencing factors. For instance, in operations on tissues that are very sensitive, such as the eye and urethra, aconite would be more likely to be the remedy. In major operations, arnica.

Where sphincters are lacerated or stretched, do not forget staphisagra.

Frequently, one of the above remedies will be all that is necessary to carry a patient through. In the cases where complications ensue, various factors determine the symptoms that follow. Healing starts with an inflammatory reaction and the location and tissues operated on determine the character of this inflammation.

The pathological condition of the patient is another factor. Back of everything is the constitution of the individual.

Rhus tox has been a remarkably efficient remedy in relieving the soreness, restlessness and other distress after operation involving the right lower quadrant. The late Doctor Biegler of Rochester, N. Y., called rhus tox his Homœopathic knife in appendicitis. Phosphours has been

equally useful for the effects of operations involving the right upper quadrant, especially of the liver and gall-bladder. Arsenic has also been useful here. Probably this is because both of these remedies have an affinity for the liver.

Pulsatilla is indicated where the patient lies with hands above the head, keeps asking for air, and wants the mouth washed frequently.

Nux vomica relieves the vomiting after operation, when accompanied by much retching; irritability of the patient strengthens the indication.

Phosphorus where there is thirst for cold drinks, but water is vomited as soon as it becomes warm in the stomach. (Chloroform and pyrogen). Arsenic and phosphorus are much alike and should be compared in their finer differentiations. The insatiable thirst of arsenic may make it seem like phosphorus.

China relieves post-operative gas pains where there is no relief from passing gas up or down.

Raphanus for incarcerated gas in the upper abdomen.

Aconite relieves the sleeplessness and anxiety following the continued use of morphine.

Vomiting from the smallest quantity of water, arsenic, bismuth, bryonia, cadmium and phosphorus.

#### INTESTINAL OBSTRUCTION

In intestinal obstruction, there is no time to lose; patients die in a short time if not relieved, and the passage of a short time may make surgical interference futile. While waiting for the surgeon, an attempt should be made to prescribe, but not opiates. Nux vomica will sometimes relieve where there is much retching, especially if there is also urging to stool. Belladonna, opium, veratrum alb, camphor and nux vomica where fecal vomiting is

present. In a case apparently due to mesenteric embolus, where the vomitus had a fecal odor, nux vomica controlled the condition. There was marked abdominal tenderness, tympanitis and marked aggravation from all odors such as perfume, tobacco and even odor of food.

Stannum has acted remarkably where the pains come and go slowly. It stopped the pain and released the bowels in a case of fecal obstruction. It stopped the pain and removed the necessity for an operation in the case of an old lady with a growth in the left lower abdomen, that caused obstructive symptoms. It cured a left pyelonephritis in a woman, due apparently to impacted uric acid gravel. In all these cases, the leading indication was the gradual onset and gradual subsidence of the pain.

#### INJURIES AND THEIR COMPLICATIONS

##### EYE INJURIES

Aconite relieves the distress and inflammation from foreign bodies in the eyes. It is also useful after any injuries to the eyes. Coccus caeti has a sensation of a foreign body between the upper lid and eyeball, varified many times, and it has relieved the distress from foreign bodies lodged in the eye, that resist the spud. Coccus caeti is a useful remedy to carry when traveling with children on a train. When a cinder gets in the child's eye, after a few doses of this remedy the irritation ceases and something seems to happen to the cinder and it causes no further trouble. Arnica for injuries to the eye from a blow, with hemorrhage within the eyeball. Ruta where the bone around the eye is injured. Symphitum relieves the pain from a blow on the eyeball and prevents complications. Nux vomica in bloodshot eyes.

##### HEAD INJURIES

Arnica relieves headache, dullness, sleepiness and other

symptoms following a blow to the head. Has cured, even when abscess resulted with discharge of pus from the ears.

Stupor persisting, consider opium, which failing, give helleborus. Also, think of cicuta and natrum sulph. For the effects of long past head injuries, natrum sulph and cicuta are especially useful.

Calendula in potency, internally, is a specific for infected scalp wounds. Pyrogen may also be useful in infected scalp wounds.

#### LACERATIONS, PUNCTURE WOUNDS, ETC.

Calendula succus is very efficient as a wound dressing for all sorts of lacerations, preventing suppuration and hastening healing. It is called a Homœopathic antiseptic. As a matter of fact, it is not antiseptic but probably stimulates granulation. It is recommended topically in crsipelas.

Hypericum cures the effects of punctured, incised or lacerated wounds, even when lockjaw has developed. It stops the pain very quickly, if given early, and prevents lockjaw. Injuries to parts rich in sentient nerves—fingers, matrices of the nails, toes, palms and soles. Injuries from treading on nails, splinters, needles, bites of a rat. Two cases of tetanus, a week after injury, were cured after lockjaw had developed. Hypericum cured two cases of coccydinia, one of thirteen and one of five years' duration, following falls on the end of the spine. The pain following fracture of the elbow was relieved in ten minutes by hypericum and pain in the hand, following laceration of the arm, was quickly relieved. The pains of hypericum are streaming in character.

Ledum for punctured wounds on palm. A man was injured in the palm from a brass fish-stringer. The wound had been cauterized. Pain was severe, pus formed in

twenty-four hours, pain going up the arm. Hand swollen and jaw stiff, cured by *ledum* high in forty-eight hours. Keynote for *ledum* tetanus, twitching of muscles of wound, apt to be cold. *Ledum* ointment is useful for punctured wounds.

#### DENTAL REMEDIES

After dental work, *aconite*, *arnica* *merc. prot.*, *hecla lava* and *staph.* *Calendula* is a good mouth wash after extraction. *Hepar sulph* removes pain and swelling after dental work.

In abscesses and decayed teeth, *merc. prot.* often relieves at once. It has pain in the teeth, better by cold water.

*Hecla lava* has cured many cases of caries of the jaw-bone, upper or lower.

*Phosphorus* has cured cases involving the lower jaw.

#### ULCERS, NECROSIS, ETC.

For ulcers, necrosis, etc., in general, where dead bone has to be removed, *calcarca fluorica* is useful. Also, *silicia*.

*Calendula*, internally and externally, for ulcers that will not heal.

*Silica* for insensitve suppurative processes of all kinds. May be useful for dental apical abscesses. In one case, acted curatively for acute inflammatory rheumatism due to apical abscesses.

*Kali bi* for ulcers near tibia that look punched out.

*Lycopodium*, in ulcer of knee below left patella, *Silica* in ulcers after vaccination.

*Mereury*, flat ulcers on the shin.

*Asafoetida*, syphilitic ulcers with atrocious pain.

*Opium*, old painless, insensitve ulcers, blue base, no attempt at healing.

## AMPUTATIONS, FRACTURES AND SPRAINS

Arnica is the chief remedy after amputation. Rhus tox, silica and phosphorus are also useful. Arnica given immediately, in fractures and dislocations, relieves the nervousness and pain like magic, both externally and internally. A few drops of arnica in hot water can be applied as a compress. Do not use when skin is broken, as it may cause inflammation resembling erysipelas. Arnica is useful for the first effects of sprain. Ruta is often useful after arnica. Rhus tox often follows ruta and calcarea carb follows rhus tox. Bellis perenis, in sprains where arnica, ruta and rhus tox have failed. Strontium carb is recommended for old sprains. Pulsatilla, temperament and symptoms agreeing, will hasten resolution in sprains or injuries to the ankle. Apis is useful for housemaid's knee.

## CELLULITIS AND INFECTIONS

Rhus tox is a wonderfully efficient remedy in cellulitis and will often abort a beginning suppurative process near the rectum. The color of the inflammation is a mahogany red. Carbuncle may be aborted if given early enough. The pains are atrocious. Any cellular inflammation accompanied by pain so severe that the patient cannot sleep or be quiet day or night, must walk about all the time. This may follow injuries from punctures, bruises, bites, even though pus has formed. Abscesses and cellulitis very painful, with dark gangrenous colour, are cured by lachesis. Tarentula, anthracinum and arsenic in carbuncles.

## BURNS AND SCALDS

Urtica urens and cantharides are useful for the effects of burns, used topically and internally. A burn from slacking lime, involving the face and eyes, closing the eyes

completely, first cleansed with sweet milk, then kept moist with cantharides 3x, was relieved of swelling and pain in three hours.

#### APPENDICITIS

Belladonna, bryonia, lycopodium, arsenic, colocynth, rhus tox, carbo veg, and other remedies have cured cases diagnosed as undoubtedly appendicitis. The late Edmund Carleton claimed never to have been obliged to operate on a case and never to have lost a case that he had from the start, during his forty years of practice. Ignatia was a remedy that he found useful at times. Dr. Thomas E. Reed of Middletown, Ohio, makes the same claim. When they first began to operate for appendicitis, he decided that he would follow his own experience. He figured that he might lose some cases but that the surgeons would also, and although he is over 80 years old, he had not yet lost a case.

Appendicitis is a treacherous condition, and one must know his drugs, and never sleep on the case if he relies on Homœopathic prescribing alone.

#### BOILS, CARBUNCLES

Hepar, sulphur, silica, echinacea, arnica, belladonna, tuberculin, and pyrogen will take care of most boils without resorting to surgery.

Rhus tox, arsenic, anthracinum, lachesis and tarentula will cure most cases of carbuncle.

#### OBSTETRICAL REMEDIES

Yingling's Accoucheurs' Manual is one of the most valuable instruments to carry in the obstetrical bag.

Remedy indication for obstetrical conditions are clear cut and there is no padding. The slack time while waiting is well utilized in running through this incomparable book.

After normal labor, arnica takes away the soreness, quiets the nerves and prevents after-pains. Pyrogen or rhus tox is required in a few cases.

Pyrogen is one of the most useful remedies in puerperal sepsis. Kali carb is also useful where there is a great distension, easy sweat, sensitiveness to touch and sharp wandering pains.

#### CALCULI

Chelidonium, calcarea carb, china, bryonia, belladonna, nux vomica, berberis, chamomilla and other drugs have relieved the pains of gall-stones. Lycopodium, nux vomica, berberis, belladonna, maguesium phos, and other remedies have done the same for renal calculi. There are a great many remedies that relieve pain Homœopathically and, to use them successfully, one must acquire the habit of thinking Homœopathically for all conditions. When attempting to prescribe for patients who are passing calculi, failures will occur, but at least the attempt should be made. A skillful prescriber will rarely have to resort to an opiate. However, the best of prescribers will fail occasionally. The value of Homœopathic relief is that the remedy that relieves pain is always one that benefits the patient's general condition, whereas an opiate has harmful secondary effects.

( to be continued )

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To Hahnemann alone is due the imperishable honor and renown for discovering, first, the existence of a universal law of cure; and second, that the specific properties of drugs could be developed, transmitted and utilized by potentization.

Those who reject the idea of potentization, halt at the stage where Hahnemann began his first practical tests of the newly-discovered general law of cure.—A. R. MORGAN, M.D., 1892.