

The Miasms and the Remedies to meet them.

ANTIMONIUM CRUDUM.

{ Anti-psoric,
&
{ Anti-sycotic.

Antim. crud. is a stomach remedy, in the sense that the central point of attack is the digestive organ, and the symptoms all start from there to other regions of the human system. There are a few other remedies having this characteristic, viz., Pulsatilla, Natrum carb. etc.

It is a deep-acting anti-psoric. All the deep-acting agents affect the mind but they do so,—each in its own peculiar way. The mental symptoms are very important and why? Because it is the mind that speaks the man, and that is why our master has laid so much stress on the mentals of a remedy. Every deep remedy first affects the mind whence the disease *flows*, as it were, upon the organs and manifest externally. It is the mind that manufactures the body, in fact, body is the external material shape of the internal formless mind; and so the disease is also reflected from the mental to the physical plane. If this is true, just imagine what Allopathy and surgery can do. They try to do away with the tangible ultimate or the physical *results* of diseases, the diseases themselves are ignored as they cannot be reached with their crude agents. The dynamic agents are required to affect the disease plane.

This remedy affects the mind in a *sympathetic* way, and the stomach *idiopathically*. It requires a few words for explanation. Antim. crud. has its *primary* action upon the digestive functions, whence its action is transmitted to the mind which is only *secondarily* affected. It has been found in the provings as also verified in practice that it affects the mind of the children and that of the adult people,—differently. Antim. crud. child is *cross, peevish* and it resents even a little bit of attention paid to it. It is extremely *touchy*, so that it will not allow you to feel its pulse. It does not bear to be touched or looked at. Antim. crud. adult is *serious* and *sad*. He has a weeping mood. Then again, in a moonlit night, his sentimental and amative nature is found to be manifested.

Sometimes again he gets a suicidal tendency. It is quite an easy thing to distinguish a Chamomilla child from an Antim. crud. child, as the former wants to be carried, whereas the latter resents even a little bit of attention paid to it, and will scream and show temper if any body wants to pacify it. This is the picture of Ant. crud. mind.

The most important sphere of Antim. crud. action is in the stomach, as has been noticed before. Constant nausea, awful vomiting and retching are there with a sense of fulness, as if too much of food has been taken, when in fact nothing has perhaps been eaten. This fulness, this feeling of fulness, this sense of distendedness, this feeling of overloading,—is the *central point* in relation to the stomach. Vomiting of the contents of the stomach, then of slime, after the stomach has been emptied down. The vomiting *does not relieve*,—and the nausea and the retching and the sick feeling continues, and there is *no relief*.

There is one symptom generally noticed, at least in all acute disorders of the stomach of this remedy, is the *white-coated tongue*,—the tongue as if white-washed. So, in relation to stomach, three things ought to be remembered, viz.,—*sense of fulness and distension, no relief in vomiting, and the white-coated tongue*. This condition of the stomach is the result of Sycotic inheritance, and is therefore generally observed in the children of Sycotic parents. The most aggravating circumstance is the infantile Cholera in those children, and obstinate dysentery is an ordinary matter with them. Every diarrhoea tends to end in dysentery.

Another Sycotic manifestation, though mostly found in adult life, is the warts, new growths, callosities, hard and horny excrescences, &c. ; nails are thickened, the skins below the feet are thickened and sensitive. Walking is made painful, as the thickened spots, the callosities are highly sore and sensitive. This tendency of induration, and of producing new growths is Sycotic, as conclusively proved in the case of patients, who have acquired Sycotic Gonorrhoea in their life

and have those sore and thickened spots in the soles of their feet, making walking awfully painful.

The above stomach symptoms, if in a child, make it *cross* and *touchy*, and if in an adult, make him *sad*, and he loathes life. Of course, he does not seek the means as to how to commit suicide as in Aurum met., but simply loathes to live, and that is all. In Aurum it is wholly a *mental* aberration, but in Ant. crud. it is reflex from the stomach. In the former it is a Syphilitic symptom, in the latter it is Sycotic.

Ant. crud. economy is a disturbed economy full of troubles, owing to Sycotic miasm. In such a system, metastasis is terrible condition, sometimes confusing the ablest of prescribers. In 1925, I got a patient who, they said, used to suffer from Rheumatism in cold season but purge and vomit throughout the rains. The first thing he prayed for was to administer him such a remedy that would end his life of so much troubles and disorders. From the history that I could collect, I got three regular cycles, viz., of having Rheumatic troubles in winter and stomach troubles in the rains. I just caught up the idea of metastasis, and with one prescription of Ant. crud. 5 M I could bring about a cure though after a dreadful aggravation the like of which I hardly had seen before. Very many good prescribers who had treated him failed, because they took the two aspects of the *same* thing as two separate entities and so dealt with *separately*. This "hide and seek" nature of the disease-symptoms and assumption of altogether different garb at different times, this concealing propensity, are quite in keeping with the miasm lurking in the economy. Of course, the mental condition and a few modalities which are given below were the guides, which actually led me to prescribe the remedy in the above case. Abrotanum has a like metastasis, and is a sycotic.

Still another sycotic manifestation is the catarrhal symptoms of the remedy. A man takes cold because he has the susceptibility in him, owing to the miasmatic influence, to take cold on the slightest exposure. As soon as he takes

cold, his nose gets stuffed and obstructed. There may be a sick headache attending the stuffed condition of the nose. Nose is stuffed especially in a warm room and at night. Open air relieves the nose as well as the headache.

I would warn my worthy readers against supposing that because this remedy has "sore, cracked and crusty nostrils, and corners of the mouth." it ought to be a Syphilitic remedy. No, it is never so,—it is Sycotic in its very nature. The above symptom is also a Sycotic manifestation, as the *cracks* and *crusts* are the nature of Sycosis, and *ulceration* and *offensiveness* - are that of Syphilis.

At last, we come to modalities ;—The remedy has a disgust for all foods, so that food aggravates. Nursing children throw up a little sour milk, and refuse nursing again. (*Æthusa*,—after vomiting, the child sleeps and wakes hungry). Aggravation from heat is a marked characteristic, yet there is an aggravation from bath and cold washing, which is equally characteristic. In spite of the aggravation from heat, the patient is greatly sensitive to cold. There is an aggravation from touch. Sour things, especially sour fruits aggravate and are not tolerated. The patient is worse at night, in damp weather and damp cold. Sun-rays and radiated heat are always against him. The stuffed room and over-heating he is wholly unable to stand. There is in this way a general aggravation from heat, but heat when applied to any painful spot is soothing and brings relief. The Ant. crud. child is so much sensitive that it resents a touch,—even a look at it is highly intolerable.

This remedy is Syco-psoric, and it gives special indication of Sycotic inheritance in the early life. The miasmatic wrong should be remedied and the child will have a healthy growth and healthy mind. It is one thing to cure Ant. crud. symptoms in an *acute* way, and another thing to correct the *inherited wrong*. If you intend the former, 30th or 200th would be enough, but if the latter, 1 M is sometimes too low, and higher potencies are to be preferred.