

ORGANON OF MEDICINE

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FOR JUNIOR CLASSES

DISCUSSION AND NOTES ON PARA 5

We have observed and noted in Para Nos. 3 & 4 that without certain qualifications, a homoeopathic physician cannot practice a healing art and Science. Now let us suppose that the physician has acquired necessary qualification, does it mean that he can cure the given case? No. He must thoroughly gain the knowledge of the disease in a patient, as he has to cure the patient, gently and permanently. Then, HOW CAN HE GAIN THE KNOWLEDGE OF DISEASE IN A PATIENT TO ASSIST HIM TO CURE?

When it is wished to effect a cure the physician must use all possible means at his disposal to determine.

1. In acute disease or illness: The most likely or probable exciting or precipitating cause, - aetiology.

2. In chronic disease: The most significant phases or points of development of the disease. He will then be in a position to discover the origin, the deep fundamental cause, which is most often a chronic miasm (diathesis). And for this, it is necessary to take into account.

a. The physical constitution of the patient particularly when the disease is chronic.

b. His moral and intellectual charac-

ter.

c. His occupation.

d. His way or mode of life.

e. His habits.

f. His social situation or relations.

g. His family or domestic relation.

h. His age.

i. His or her sexual function or life etc.

The Homoeopathic concept of pathology which sees an individual as a whole and in relation to his surroundings, allows of an excellent medical and therapeutic side.

All above investigations constitute **individualizing** examination of a case of disease, commonly known as Case taking. The details according to Hahnemann we shall discuss when we come to para 83.

Now let us see, what Dr. Hahnemann meant "THE PHYSICAL CONSTITUTION OF THE PATIENT."

The Physical constitution is that state of an individual in which his economy has become so altered that it is susceptible to certain circumstances and influences.

"Physical constitution is the soil on which grows the idiosyncrasis, diathesis (miasms), susceptibilities etc. and it is either congenital or ac-

quired. We always find men or women of different temperaments that is irritable, nervous, bilious, lymphatic etc. We also find complex temperaments such as, nervous-bilious, nervous lymphatic etc.

One can always find or discover some chronic miasm lurking under such constitution. It is the duty of the physician to investigate and know it. In Chronic disease there is always fundamental cause which Hahnemann means his three Chronic miasms- Psora, syphilis, sycosis. Either of these can be a cause in a patient. Sometimes we find complex miasms in a patient, i.e. Psora-Sycosis, Psora-syphilis or Psora-syphilis-Sycosis. I had the good fortune to see in my practice these complex miasms in single individuals.

Discussion and notes on para 6. Organon of medicine

In this paragraph of the Organon a very important statement is contained which is worthy of our notice. The first pointer is that A TRUE PRACTITIONER of the Healing Art should be an unprejudiced observer. We are concerned with Scientific facts. What we observe and experience is to be believed. The physician must be unprejudiced, i.e. he should proceed to investigate the case with a clear and open mind and not with preconceived ideas about the illness or diseases

which he finds in the books of pathology and Practice of Medicine. If we say that the patient is having Tonsillitis and the cause is such and such bacteria where do we stand in Homoeopathic practice? Tonsillitis such where do we stand in Homoeopathic practice? Tonsillitis with bacteria have no place for the treatment of the patient. Hence a diagnosis of Tonsillitis does not help us for the treatment and so we have to investigate further in a patient. An allopathic doctor as soon as he comes to know about ITIS-inflammation, he will at once say 'infection' due to bacteria or germs or virus and will start with-antibacterium or antibiotics because he never thinks beyond 'Infection due to germs'. He is prejudiced before investigation, the true picture of the illness patient has, though he may be a good clinician and diagnostician.

Dr. Hahnemann writes in the footnote to this paragraph that without symptoms the illness or disease cannot be known and the so-called causative factor, bacteria or virus-which sometime cannot be visualised by a human eye or microscope. The cause has its effects which only can be known by signs and symptoms in a patient. If we take one bacterium-pneumococcus, as a case for illness-eg. Pneumonia, all patient who get pneumonia do not react with similar or same symptoms and hence they represent different symptoms and so, if we want to have definite and reliable knowledge of the disease for the treatment we must have symptoms-subjective and objective-and not only the so-called causative factor. No man can see what goes on in the interior of

human being which causes the outward illness in a subjective and objective manner and so it is waste of time and talent of the physician to investigate what actual dynamic changes have gone wrong in the patient before he starts the treatment.

Hahnemann makes a distinct difference between the subjective symptoms of the sick person and the objectively visible symptoms i.e. objective observations to be made by his surroundings and especially by doctor. We Homoeopaths attach much importance and consideration to these symptoms than the objective, while little importance is given by modern medicine.

In a patient we have to observe two phenomena-i.e. (1) Subjective and (2) Objective. In medical terms we say subjective symptoms and objective symptoms. Now let us see what we mean by subjective and objective symptoms.

1. SUBJECTIVE SYMPTOMS : These are those which the patient feels and speaks about and communicate to the physician. The physician may not know these symptoms unless told about them. Among them are all the varieties of pains and abnormal sensations which accompany the disease condition. Subjective symptoms can be of mind or of the body. These symptoms were previously disregarded and are still considered as of no value by the so-called "Rational or Modern" school of medicine. These symptoms are of essential value in Homoeopathic therapeutic, because it is mainly these symptoms which depict the intrinsic nature of the case or the drug. Everybody knows that pains and various sensations different from those of health, make up a large and important part in every case of illness.

Every physician and intelligent person knows by observations and experience that pains and abnormal sensations almost always precede any material or organic evidence of disease. The first evidence of nearly all diseases consists of subjective symptoms. A method, therefore, which does not provide for the employment of these symptoms in the determination of the treatment, cannot furnish means for encountering disease at the very outset.

- e.g. 1. Burning sensation anywhere.
2. Throbbing or stitching pain in the chest etc.

These symptoms can be considered under General or Particular or Common.

OBJECTIVE SYMPTOMS : These are morbid signs and phenomena perceived and observed by the physician and those around the patient or objective symptoms are those symptoms which the physician observes or sees and those around the patient and therefore, consist of physiological findings, laboratory findings and his observations. The physician derives a knowledge of these symptoms by the use of his own senses i.e. by sight, touch, hearing, smell, taste; percussion and by microscopic and chemical examinations. These symptoms can be seen by the patient himself or others who attend on him. These symptoms are of less value for exactly identifying the individual patient, they are rather of more value for identifying the nature of the disease. These symptoms are more common in various patients suffering from the same disease and they are grosser manifestations of more advanced stages of a disease. These symptoms characterise the disease more than they characterise the individual pa-

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tient. But they are of great value in authentically ascertaining the nature of the disease and its changes in course of treatment. A case cannot be taken as radically cured however much the subjective symptoms have disappeared or even however much the patient feels well. So long as the objective symptoms like, intermittent fever with enlarged spleen and liver in a case of malaria, the high sugar percentage in the blood of a case of diabetes etc; have not disappeared.

Objective symptoms are valuable in cases where subjective symptoms cannot be obtained or relied upon such as in the unconscious, insane or imbecile patients and in children.

eg. 1. Ulcers, boils, swelling etc.

2. Dysfunctions of the heart or any organ of the body.

3. Sugar in the urine, blood changes etc.

These symptoms can be considered at times in physical general, otherwise they are common.

Beside these Hahnemann mentions in this paragraph :

ACCIDENTAL SYMPTOMS :
Hahnemann means those symptoms that have come abruptly due to errors in diet, regime, habits, emotions and due to drugs employed by Allopathic physicians. These symptoms mostly are objective.

eg. rash, ulcer or may be subjective-fainting, general weakness, lethargy, and laziness. These symptoms mostly disappear when the use of medication is stopped, if due to drugs but if it persists Tautopathic applications may remove the accidental symptoms due

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to drugs after which Homoeopathic indicated remedy may cure or relieve the patient.

FOR SENIOR CLASSES :

Discussing para 146, we have taken up acute diseases (Vol. 1, No.2) but did not differentiate the sharp differences in acute diseases. This was left for the purpose of classification while discussing para 150, so that 'Indisposition' can be better understood.

Acute diseases :

A. Individual diseases:-

1. Traumatism

2. Indisposition, non-observance of the rules of Hygiene, food etc.

3. Aggravation of chronic diseases. (Cold, Asthma, Appendicitis, Tonsillitis, cystitis etc.)

B. Sporadic (seasonal influenza, hay fever etc.)

C. Collective diseases:- Acute miasms, Epidemics.

1. Immunizing-once in life time; small pox, measles, whooping cough.

2. Non-Immunizing-Reoccurable; Cholera, Plague, Scabies, Diphtheria, Puerperal fever etc.

Now, what is meant by Sporadic diseases?

It is one of the Varieties of acute diseases. These are of such a kind of diseases as attack several persons at the same time, here and there. They are caused by atmospheric and meteoric influences or condition of water and soil and injurious agents, the susceptibility of being morbidly affected by, which is possessed by only a few persons at one time.

eg. Typhoid, Jaundice, Influenza, Dysentery etc.

What is meant by Epidemic Diseases?

Epidemic diseases are just similar to the sporadic variety and attack many persons at one time with very similar sufferings from the same cause. When they prevail in thickly populated localities they become infectious and contagious. It terminates in a moderate period of time in death or recovery. Exciting causes are calamities of war, inundations and famine. At times they are peculiar acute miasms which recur in the same manner or either attack persons but once in a life time. eg. Immunizing: i.e. once in a lifetime, small pox, measles, whooping cough, scarlet fever, mumps etc.

Non-Immunizing: Recurrence of disease several times in a lifetime.

Cholera, plague, yellow fever, diphtheria etc.

Now let us see what it means if a patient complain of one or more trivial symptoms. Suppose you have gone to a marriage party. You have had something which is not to your liking or you have taken something in excess which is more to your liking. In both cases you may come out with diarrhoea or gastric complaints. You run to a Doctor. He may diagnose it as acute dysentery or something else unless you relate the incidence. Now he remarks then it is only an 'Indisposition.'

Now, WHAT DOES INDISPOSITION MEAN TO YOU?

Indisposition is a state of the body and mind of an individual in which he presents morbid signs and symptoms due to errors in diet, evil habit, over-exertion etc.

By indisposition Hahnemann means a slight alteration of health manifested by one or more trivial symp-

toms, which a slight alteration in the diet and regimen will usually suffice to dispel. A true disease has a period of prodrome, period of progress and decline or no decline, but in indisposition we do find prodrome but no progress unless the error is continued. In cases of disease proper the vital force cannot adjust itself automatically, even with adequate hygienic and dietetic measures, but requires a specific stimulus in the form of drug or drugs for the restoration of health.

When man disorders his stomach with excess of food or drink and has an attack of vomiting and from which he has no after trouble, he has suffered merely from an indisposition.

Para 151,152,153

In our 1st issue Vol.1 we discussed what are acute diseases with their treatment and to understand indisposition, we classified acute diseases in our fourth issue of Vol. 1. In paragraph No.151,152 Hahnemann directs us that we have to choose a remedy after considering the collective symptoms of the disease. But out of these symptoms what types of symptoms we should take into consideration for selecting the remedy? He write **“The more striking, singular, uncommon and peculiar (characteristic) signs and symptoms of the case of disease are chiefly and most solely to be kept in view, for it is more particularly these that very similar ones in the list of symptoms of the selected medicine must correspond to, in order to constitute it the most suitable for effecting the cure. Now be-**

fore going through what are striking, singular or uncommon and peculiar, let us know what is a symptom and what type of symptoms are there.

What is a symptom?

A symptom is the expression of disturbance in a healthy body produced by a drug or some morbid agent (Dr. Dewey) or it is defined as “any evidence of disease or change from a state of health” (Dr. Close)

It is one of the phenomena of disease which leads to complaints on the part of the patient. In a stricter sense in medicine, it included every possible deviation from a healthy condition of the mind or body which the physician can in any way discover or perceive or which the patient makes known by his statements or complaints or which can be communicated to the physician by attendants of the patient.

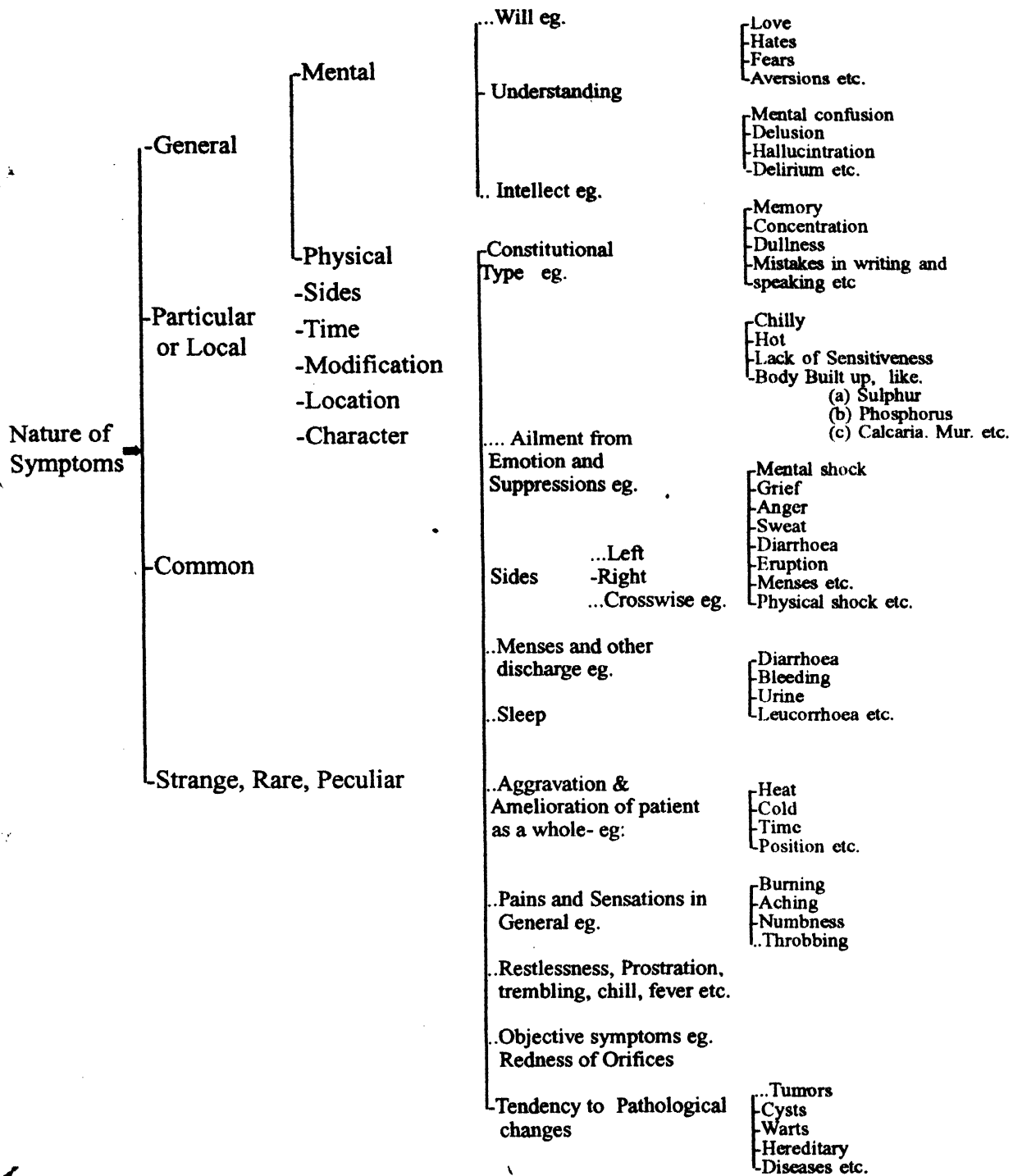
A symptom of a disease is something that is not found in every man, nor found in the same man at all time and is either painful or causes disability or disfigurement or discomfort eg:- cough may be painful; cataract produces disability to see; Leucoderma causes disfigurement, flatulence produces discomfort. It is necessary to know sickness, not from pathology, not from physical diagnosis, no matter how important these branches are but by symptoms, the language of nature. In a real sense it is the reflection of disturbance of the vital force.

Homoeopathy, indced distinguished more than eighty different types of symptoms. Subjective and objective,

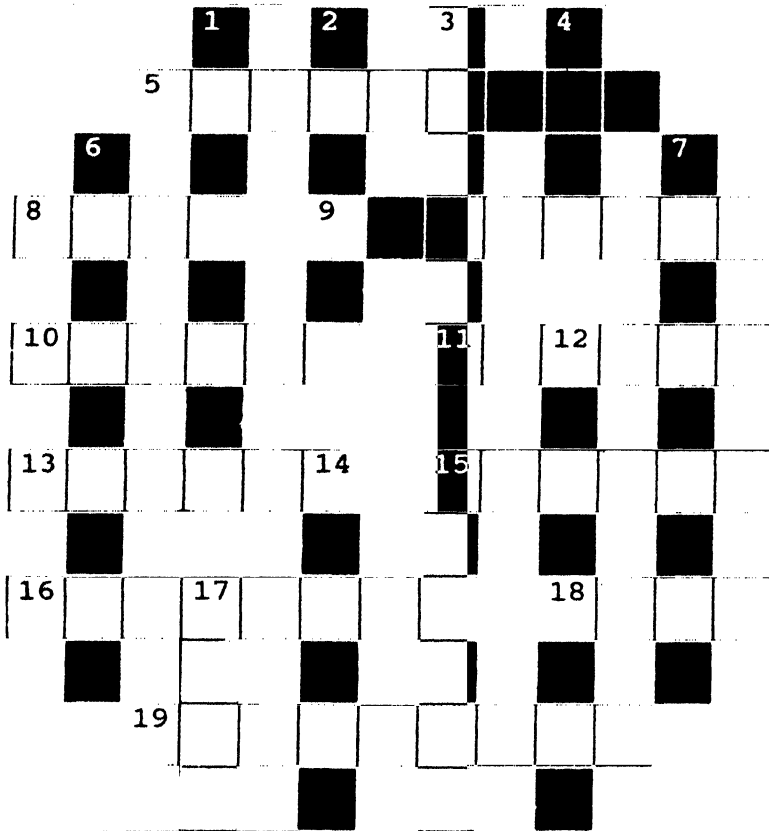
accidental, organic or functional psychosomatic, mental or physical, physiopathognomic or individual, occasional, isolated or concomitant, latent masked, submerged or suppressed, acute or chronic, general, fractional and partitioned, local or localised, particular and peculiar, characteristic, unusual, rare, essential or common, vague, blurred or distinct, aetiological or ultimate, principal, or subsidiary, primal, original, or secondary, old or new, superficial, spurious or deepseated, external or internal, morbid or pathogenetic, similar, dissimilar, contrary or opposed, artificial or natural, variable, contingent, alternating or fixed eliminative, dubious, stable or progressive, exceptional or frequent, heterogeneous, weak or strong and well defined, mortifying, mutated or new, transient or persistent, clinical, generic, basic, determinative etc.

All symptoms and conditions are not of equal importance in Homoeopathy. A symptom becomes complete only when it is qualified by three essential elements or factors i e. (1) Location (2) Sensation (3) Modalities. It may or may not have concomitant. The choice cannot be made in a mechanical way or by mere symptoms which are irrelevant or of no special value in finding the similimum; which can be determined with accuracy only by those symptoms called “characteristic”.

Now let us see the **analysis of symptoms** : Analysis means classification of the symptoms into various groups. The following classification of the symptoms is being followed according to Dr. Kent with slight alteration or variation.



QUINQUINA CROSS WORD



ACROSS

- 5. The state of being given up to some habit. (9)
- 8. The crest or anterior edge of the tibia. (4)
- 9. The physical and mental deterioration associated with old age. (8)
- 10. Synonym of laminae. (6)
- 11. Water Hemlock. (6)
- 13. A roundish, eye like patch of color. (6)
- 15. Projections, especially surmounting a bone or its borders. (6)

- 16. Filix Mas or Fern. (8)
- 18. Blue Flag. (4)
- 19. St. John's Wort. (9)

DOWNWARD

- 1. A Pentahydric alcohol found in Adonis Vernalis. (8)
- 2. Contraction of the pupil of eyes. (6)
- 3. A Calculus. (5)
- 4. A combining form denoting relationship to a cavity or space. (4)
- 6. The Cisterna Chyli. (9)
- 7. Congestion of the lungs. (9)
- 12. An alkaloid from Opium. (8)
- 14. An arc-shaped scotoma which extends at either or both ends, the concavity of the prolongation always being directed towards the fixation point. (6)
- 15. ——— Leede Phenomenon. The appearance of minute subcutaneous haemorrhages below the area at which a rubber bandage is applied not too tightly for ten minutes upon the upper arm, characteristic in scarlet fever and haemorrhagic diathesis. (6)
- 17. The method for denoting bleeding time. The time required for the arrest of bleeding after standardised puncture in forearm. (4)

FOR ANSWERS SEE PAGE 10.
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