

## Typhoid Fever.

DR. S. C. GHOSE, M. D., CALCUTTA.

(Continued from Pages 556, Vol. IV.)

### DETAILED TREATMENT.

*Baptisia*—As soon as we detect the invasion of typhoid fever *Baptisia* should be administered without the least possible delay. If it be given just in proper time it will, no doubt, nip the malady in the bud\*. Most of the famous victories of Napoleon Bonaparte were won by sublimely sudden surprisals and swift marches, before the enemy was prepared for rebuff. In like manner, the onset and progress of typhoid fever may be arrested if the prompt administration of *Bap.* be made\*. It is used in the first stage of enteric fever when the predominance of nervous symptoms is apparently marked; the countenance is flushed, with a besotted expression; dulness, and confusion of ideas\*; the patient gives slow answers or falls asleep while answering questions; extreme debility and nervous prostration exist; erethism; the patient suffers from frightful dreams, and is restless with the illusion that he is double or his second half is outside; sordes on lips and teeth; dull hearing; tongue is white, with red edges or brown with yellow stripe down centre; slight sensitiveness in right iliac fossa; yellow, putrid stools; urine, sweat, breath, and stools are offensive and fetid, and, in short all exhalations and discharges are greatly offensive\*; disorganisation of blood; the patient can swallow only liquids and the least solid food gags; in whatever position the sufferer lies the parts rested upon feel sore and bruised\*. It may be employed with benefit when Arsenic has been improperly given or too often repeated.



slides down in bed ; the sleep is disturbed and restless ; the patient suffers from frightful dreams ; dropping of lower jaw, the patient sees nothing and complains of nothing.

*Bryonia*.—Delirium is present, especially at night ; the patient "desires to escape from bed and go home" ; stupefying headache and sensations of weight pressing on vertex are present and these symptoms are lessened in rest and from external pressure ; there is a marked accumulation of frothy, soap-like saliva in the mouth and throat which sometimes chokes the patient ; "constipation is present" ; the headache is aggravated by motion ; the taste is bitter and the tongue is rough and brown coated, "there is white coating on the tongue, lips and mouth are dry parched, without or with thirst for large quantities of water at a time" ; there is loss of appetite ; empty eructations ; bilious disorders are present ; sudden and almost involuntary stools which are very offensive ; there is a peculiar sour smell of body, "with or without great lassitude and weakness and patient wants to keep quiet ; cannot sit up on account of nausea and faintness" ; disturbed sleep exists, with groaning and moaning, and with frequent movements of mouth like chewing ; shooting or jerking tearing pains in head, chest, abdomen, and limbs are present, pains worse from movement ; white miliary rash ; "aggravation of the symptoms takes place from any motion".

*Gelsemium*. It is an excellent remedy for typhoid fever. "There is extreme prostration of the vital forces in the initial stage ; great muscular and nervous prostration, and weakness associated with general trembling" ; if the patient tries to walk, "the legs tremble or the hands tremble if he tries to lift them ; there is trembling of the tongue if he tries to protrude it ; there

is lack of muscular co-ordination\* ; the muscles refuse to obey the will ; \*suffused red face\* ; the pulse is slow and weak, but becomes accelerated by lifting or turning the patient or on the slightest motion ; there is vertigo with dimness of vision and loss of sight ; seems intoxicated when he tries to move ; the tongue is red and raw can hardly protrude it ; \*great heaviness and drooping of the eye-lids exist\* ; the patient desires to be quiet and to be left alone ; \*there is generally little or no thirst\* ; there is no constipation or looseness of the bowels.

*Differentiating symptoms existing between Bryonia, Baptisia and Gelsemium.*

These three remedies have muscular soreness and prostration but where soreness predominates, Baptisia is the remedy ; where there is prostration in Gelsemium and Bryonia the patients want to lie still and dread any motion, in Gelsemium because he feels himself so weak, in Bryonia because his pains especially in the head grow worse. In Bryonia there is constipation, in Baptisia diarrhoea, in Gelsemium there is none.

In Baptisia and Gelsemium there is drowsiness with red face, but in Baptisia the mind is very clouded, in Gelsemium not nearly so much. All these three have red face ; Baptisia most so, besotted ; Gelsemium next ; Bryonia least and becomes pale on rising or sitting up. In Baptisia there is a disposition to decomposition which appears very early, but this tendency is not present with the others. The delirium of Bryonia is about the business of the day, Baptisia cannot go to sleep because she can not get himself together ; Gelsemium not always characteristic. In Bryonia there is white tongue with dry parched lips and great thirst ; in Gelsemium the tongue is red and thinly coated or not at all, there is no thirst and there is trembling of the tongue when trying to

protrude it; in *Baptisia* the tongue turns dark in a well defined streak through the middle. In *Bryonia* the urine is scanty and high coloured; in *Gelsemium* it is copious and in *Baptisia* it is scanty dark and offensive.

*Apis Mellifica*.—It is an excellent remedy in advanced cases of cerebral type. The most characteristic symptoms are the following:

Muttering delirium, there is apathy or stupor broken by occasional "sudden, shrill, piercing outcries"; general "whining exists"; there is general "trembling" which is severe and continuous, so much so that it shakes the bed; "the abdomen is sore and bloated and very sensitive to touch" or any pressure, often associated with foul, bloody or involuntary stools, as though the anus were wide open; the skin is burning hot in some places and unnaturally cool in others; the skin is hot and dry, or covered with copious sweat; the urine is very scanty or suppressed; pulse weak, full and soft; trembling tongue which is blistered, can hardly protrude it, dry-cracked or uncerated; patient is very weak and slides down in bed.

*Hyoscyamus*.—It is used in the advanced stages of typhoid fever; "profound stupor exists, but when the patient is aroused, he answers correctly"; he lives, as if it were, an inward life, and full of delusions and hallucinations; indistinct and muttering delirium is seen; the "delirium goes on although the patient is awake, and he sees and talks with persons who are not present, with picking of the bed clothes"; the patient jumps out of bed and tries to run away; lips appear like scorched leather; paralysis is present; cadaverous odour comes from mouth; stools are passed involuntarily; retention of urine is present, or involuntary discharge which leaves streaks of red sand on sheet; convulsive motions are seen;

*Sulfuris radium* sleeplessness or constant inclination to sleep, vesiculae on chest and abdomen; deafness, cold extremities; painless torpor and paralysis of organism. In delirium, Hyoscyamus holds a place midway between Stramonium and Scopolamine. It combines the furious rage and delirium of the former and the constant cerebral congestion of the latter.

*Rhus Tox.*—It is used whenever an acute disease assumes an enteric form. It is used in mild temperaments and adapted to persons of a rheumatic diathesis. Delirium is present; talks to self or incoherently without any connection of ideas; sleep is disturbed and anxious, with frightful dreams and murmuring, snoring or picking at bed-clothes; stools are involuntary with considerable exhaustion; tearing pain is felt down the posterior part of limbs during stool; diarrhoea sets in with copious watery, sanguineous or bloody stools which are worse after midnight. It is employed during the second and third week when sopor and exhaustion reign with extreme weariness; epistaxis; the tongue is dry, with red triangular tip; the patient dreams laborious dreams of unusual bodily exertion, as running; face is red and swollen with blue circles around eyes; the ears are stopped and the patient is dull of hearing; miliary eruption prevails; low fever exists, with general soreness and tenderness; pains in the limbs which are worse during rest and relieved by movement; the patient is very restless, anxious and apprehensive, and cannot stay long in one position; the cases to which Rhus is adapted do not even take a rapid course and we can only meet with crisis during third week, dry and teasing cough. We ought to stick fast to this medicine without any change unless and until we are authoritatively commanded to do so.

*China Vegetabilis*.—It is our sheet anchor in critical cases and, in the last stage. Extreme collapse, some cold sweat and rattling are present; the face is pale, sometimes in Diphtheria greenish-yellow, greenish, or cold with cold sweat. Complete torpor of vital functions is marked. hæmorrhages appear from the mouth and nose; brownish greyish, bloody, involuntary, fetid, and cadaverous smelling stools (are passed, which gave rise to void waste or prostration; the patient suffers from internal burning, though the extremities are cold and covered with cold sweat, the breath is cold, and loud rattling breathing from the start is present; he wants more air and to be fanned uninterruptedly at the time; abdomen is distended.

*Lachesis*.—It is used in cerebral typhoid. Both body and mind appear to be relaxed, with relaxation of muscular system. Fever is not high, but aggravated at night or occurs; stools are very offensive, whether formed or loose; the sufferings grow worse after sleep; sleeps with mouth open; stupor or muttering delirium; sunken countenance falling of lower jaw; the tongue is dry, black, or catches on the teeth when protruding; great sensitiveness to touch; loss of consciousness; cough exists with slimy, bloody expectoration; the throat, stomach and abdomen are sensitive to touch or pressure, even bed-clothes or night-dress cause an uneasiness, not because sore or tender, as in *Apis* or *Bell.* hæmorrhages are present, with dark blood, and the particles look like charred straw; coldness of the extremities.

*Acid Muratic*.—It is used in the first and second stage. It is also used in the third stage. The fever is of an asthenic type, accompanied by moaning, unconsciousness, restlessness, continued delirium which stands in the way

of rest and sleep; the patient is stupid, with groaning and moaning in sleep; unconsciousness and muttering delirium are present while awake; the patient constantly sinks down in bed; he becomes forgetful of the past and the present; the ears very sensitive to the slightest noise; all senses become very acute; extreme nervous prostration sets in; the legs are flexed and the feet are drawn up; mouth and anus are principally affected; the tongue and sphincter ani are paralysed; tongue shrunken and dry, like leather; putridity exists; mucus is dropped; stools are involuntary while urinary is putrid sore throat follows well after Bry. Merc. has

*Acid Nitric* is administered with much benefit in the ulcerative stage and also in the advanced stage when the symptoms of abdominal symptoms are perceived; some pressure in the abdomen and great tenderness of the abdominal bowels is present which brings on a diarrhoea consisting in the slightest movement; tenesmus or diarrhoea with green, slimy or acid stools; the tongue is found to be white, brownish, or dry, and to be enveloped with sore spots; threatening paralysis of the lungs with rattling cough; urine scanty, dark brown, very strong like horses urine; the patient is very irritable and headstrong, or hateful and vindictive. It is complementary to Arsenic and inimical to Lachesis. It is adapted to black haired persons of rigid fibre and dark complexion.

*Opium*.—The case presents a picture of complete stupor, cannot be easily roused; mild delirium, the patient is constantly talking; the patient lies speechless, with eyes half open, face pale, unconsciousness, deep coma, limbs stiff or with eyes wide open, face red, puffed; the patient sings and tries to go away; and picks at bed clothes during sleep (while awake, Bell, Hyos.); consti-

pation or very offensive watery stools; involuntary stools and retained urine; the face is red, and the darker red it is the more appropriately is it indicated; the pulse is very weak and scarcely perceptible; sweat is over whole body which is burning hot; tympanitis; heavy, stupid, sleep, with stertorous breathing, red face, eyes half open, threatened paralysis of the brain from extreme congestion, great sopor exists in all complaints, and the patient complains of nothing and wants nothing.

*Phosphorus*.—It is used in the cases which are complicated with pneumonia and bronchitis, while some other symptoms mentioned above are present. Great weakness and prostration, with nervous debility and trembling; the patient cannot talk, as the larynx is very painful; the pains are very acute, especially in the chest, worse from slight pressure and lying on left or painful side.

*Stramonium*.—Delirium which alternates with tetanic spasms; loss of consciousness; the delirium is furious, more furious than that of Bell. or Hyos., and the patient attempts to bite and scratch, and uses indecent language; the mania more severe, while the congestion, though more considerable than Hyos., is much less than Bell; the patient feels sleepy but cannot sleep, no pain exists with most complaints; imagines all sorts of things; the eyes are wide open, prominent, brilliant, and the pupils are dilated; loss of sight, hearing and speech; red eruption appears on the chest; the face is hot and red, with cold hands and feet; risus sardonicus; stools smell like carrion, and are blackish; retention of urine wild loquacity exists.

*Acid Phosphoric*.—It may be used with advantage from the commencement to the termination of malady. Delirium is quiet; the patient can be aroused, when he answers slowly and correctly or incorrectly, and then

relapses into stupor; he is utterly unconscious of his surroundings; it is employed in cerebral typhoid, with total indifference and stupor and intestinal hæmorrhage; abdomen is distended; sordes appear in the teeth; lips are crusty; the patient bites his own tongue while asleep; urine is albuminous or appears like milk with jelly-like, bloody pieces or, is loaded with phosphates; petechiæ, epistaxis; the patient is not exhausted by sweat or diarrhœa; if diarrhœa it is painless, yellow, watery or very light coloured, even white.

*Mercurius Corrosivus*.—It is used especially when there is peritonitis or peritoneal pain.

*Veratrum Viride*.—It is used in typhoid malarial fever. Constant talking and delirium, with open eyes; congestion appears especially of base of brain, of chest, spine, and stomach; the stomach is very sensitive and returns the smallest quantity of food; violent retching and vomiting are present; the patient borés his head into pillow and jerks it backward and forward; picks at bed-clothes; the tongue is white or yellow, with red streak down the centre.

*Terebinthina*.—Extreme tympanities; urine is thick, scanty, mixed with mucus, and disintegrated, blood-corpuscles are present in it and has the odour of violets; hæmorrhages from the bowels exist, with ulceration; the tongue is smooth, glossy, as if deprived of papillæ.

*Pyrogenium*.—Dr. Drysdale has termed it the Aconite of typhus or typhoid quality of pyrexia. I used it in two cases of typhoid fever, and the result was, indeed very satisfactory. I ask all other Homœopathic physicians to try its value in these fevers. I gave Pyrogenium, No. 6 and No. 12 successively.