

Only our own ignorance of it represents its limitations. The only reason that homœopathy has not been more openly and extensively accepted is due to our ignorance of it, and because of this our bungling presentation of it, and due also to the lack of knowledge of what constitutes the drug proper. From this lack of knowledge we were unable to explain our remedies, why they acted, and why they all tasted, smelled and looked alike. Hahnemann left us the nucleus to the full construction of the medical prize of all ages. It is too bad, it is criminal that we have neither the desire, nor the ability to complete it.

With apologies to, and paraphrasing Hahnemann: When any man (or body of men) professes openly to the world that he practises, or is prepared to practise, an art, or a science, whose end is the saving of human life, any neglect on his part to perfect the same and make himself thoroughly master of the same becomes a crime, and puts him in a position of obtaining money under false pretense.

— *Homœopathic Recorder.*

The Cure of Small Growths with Medicine

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The cure of neoplasms on the skin or mucous membranes with potentized remedies, though difficult, furnishes positive evidence of Hahnemann's teaching that the external manifestations of disease are simply the expression of some internal derangement of the vital functions of the body. Whether we call this derangement of the vital force a miasm or a dyscrasia, matters not. Our literature is full of reports of cures by internal medication, unaided by any external treatment, if only you will take the trouble to search for them.

There would be no valid reason for arguing this question were it not for the fact that many very able prescribers in the Homœopathic school consider warts, papillomata, and other benign excrescences, as purely local in character and remove them with cautery, knife or escharotic. Many have tried to accomplish the desired result with internal medicines and failed. This was because they overlooked some very important factors.

SUCCESS LIES ONLY IN ACCURATE CONSTITUTIONAL
PRESCRIBING

Although most acute diseases and many chronic ailments may be ameliorated by remedies imperfectly suited or only approaching the exact simillimum, it has been my personal experience that tumors, nodosities, and growths of various sorts, especially if malignant, will yield only to the remedy *exactly* suited to the constitution of the patient. Warts are more readily cured because they fall under a well known and comparatively small class of remedies.

Aiming at the pathological condition alone or giving a remedy because it is listed as "good for" this special lesion or because it has cured a similar case, spells failure seventy-five times out of a hundred. Again, the first remedy may be doing good work constitutionally and yet have no apparent effect on the growth itself. Weeks or months may elapse in the curative series before *the* remedy finally comes into the picture.

The following brief cases are submitted in confirmation of these assertions. No other system of therapeutics can accomplish such results—no other remedial agents exhibit such searching power. For not only do the pathological end-products of disease vanish without leaving scar or discoloration of the site in which they grew, but the general health of the patient is benefited as well.

PAPILLOMA

Case I. The late Dr. J. Henry Allen, who had been under constitutional treatment for several months, came rushing into my office one day in great excitement. He said, "What was that you gave me, doctor?" I answered with the query, "Why?" It is usually wise to play safe under such circumstances. "Well," he said, "that little papilloma on my right arm near the elbow is gone!" He had never thought to mention the growth, but it had been reached by the remedy prescribed on the totality of his symptoms. Some time afterwards I told him what it was: *Tuberculinum aviare* in the cm potency.

But a curious thing happened later.

Case II. Not long after the doctor had reported the deletion of this little protuberance, a lady consulted me for a number of ailments, among them a small growth apparently formed of skin and in the exact location of Dr. A's. The same remedy and potency were given with the same result. The growth disappeared in ten days. This might have been a coincidence, but I have been keeping it under my hat for future reference.

Case III. As already stated, prescribing for the local pathology is exceedingly uncertain. At times, however, we make a center-shot, as in the case of an old lady approaching the eighties, very childish and hysterical. She was referred to me by a chiropodist who had seen me cure many cases of warts on the soles of the feet. Here was an unusual condition. Projecting from the inner aspect of the great toe of the left foot, was a growth covered with natural skin and looking, for all the world, like a congenital malformation. It jutted out at right angles for an inch and an eighth, was about three-quarters of an inch at the base, narrowed slightly toward the

distal end, and was much flattened and calloused by the pressure of the two adjacent toes. It was impossible to obtain any symptoms of value for a prescription, but from the looks of the growth, the thickened and distorted toe-nails and dry, scurfy skin in general, I decided on *Graphites*. What followed was one of the most startling actions of a remedy that I have ever witnessed. In three days it began to shrink, and at my last visit was less than half an inch in length. But about that time the old dame slipped into the pantry and ate rhubarb pie or something that brought on an acute diarrhoea, and the "family physician" was called. I imagine he gave them advice as well as medicine, for I was never allowed to see the case again.

NEVUS LIPOMATOSUS

Case IV. It has always seemed strange to me that a lipoma was amenable to the indicated remedy. If you will dissect out one of these formations, you will see that the fat is arranged in lobules from which arteries and veins pass down to one or more parent trunks like the stem of a bunch of grapes. It is like an adventitious organ with its own distinct blood supply. Yet I have cured two or three of these fat tumors. The largest of these was about the size of large orange and was situated on the inner side of the right thigh of a big, husky fellow, apparently perfectly healthy in every other respect. One dose of *Sulphur* cm caused Mr. Lipoma to wither so that in seven months he was the size of a finger nail. My patient, relieved of the inconvenience in walking, declined to spend further good dollars on what now seemed to him so insignificant a blemish.

Case V. Moles and pigmented growths are often seen disfiguring the faces of old people. They are harmless and usually considered beyond the range of internal medi-

cines. In fact, we usually think that it is safer to let them alone. A number of years ago a man of sixty-eight consulted me for what had been diagnosed as "hilariousness." In the course of the examination I noticed a flat growth of jet black color about the size and shape of a hay leaf, slightly raised above the level of the surrounding skin on his right temple. He said that he had been there for many years and that he had ceased to notice it as it gave him no inconvenience. Among other symptoms, he complained of a dull pain under the tip of the right shoulder blade and soreness in the region of the liver. He received a dose of *Chelidonium* cm with a liberal supply of placebo and went away. When he returned to the office at the end of the week, he was much improved. At that time I failed to notice the growth, but at the next visit it was visibly shorter. It gradually shrunk until, when I last saw him, it was about half an inch long and even with the skin.

A STRAWBERRY MARK

Case VI. Have you ever witnessed the cure of angioma or a plexus of enlarged veinlets? One of the 1913 crop of babies was born with what is commonly called a birth-mark on one of her thighs. She was a chubby, good-natured urchin, well formed in every way. Along about the sixth month of her earthly career she developed a few symptoms of *Lycopodium*. At about the same time her mother called my attention to the mark on her thigh. It had grown to the size of a half dollar and was raised about an eighth of an inch above the skin surface in little, rounded nodules and ridges, scarlet as the proverbial strawberry. *Lycopodium* 200th, (B. & T.), was given. In a few days the center of the growth began to suppurate, healing from within outward, gradually encroaching upon the red, until it was entirely obliterated.

But the process of cure does not usually take place in this manner. I have seen many varicose veins disappear under the action of *Calcarea flour.*, *Carbo veg.*, and other remedies, but they were usually larger veins belonging to the normal venous system. Although vascular tumors can scarcely be classed as "growth," a case or two may not be out of place in this paper.

NEVUS VASCULOSIS

Case VII. An old lady rather careful of her good looks, asked me what I could do for a tiny group of enlarged venous capillaries just under her right eye. At a distance it looked like a dab of bluish ink. There were absolutely no other symptoms, either local or constitutional, and since I supposed that medicine would do no good. I could not give her an encouraging prognosis. Still, I ventured a few doses of that old venous standby, *Hamamelis* 30th. To the wonder of both patient and doctor, those capillaries receded to their natural diameter, and in a week or ten days became invisible.

VASCULAR TUMORS OF LIP AND TONGUE

Case VIII. I have seen vascular tumors on the tongue cured by a high potency; only one on the vermillion of the lip. Mrs. I. A., sixty years of age, called my attention to a dark, bluish tumor on the lower lip, about the size of a large split pea. She was a typical *Lachesis* patient and was about to receive the first dose of her remedy. I told her that the cure of this tumor was problematical and that all we could do was to wait. My record does not state the exact time, but I think it was about two weeks from the date of her first visit that signs of improvement occurred. The blemish was removed to the last vestige. I tried *Lachesis* in another very similar case but without result.

Empirical prescribing is nothing more than pure guesswork and unworthy of the conscientious physician. But with careful selection of remedies, and a little study and patience any one practicing Homœopathy can obtain results in the field of growths and tumors as well as in other chronic diseases, whatever the diagnosis may be.

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