

Stomach.

Remarks on some Diseases of the Digestive System. Indigestion is due to imperfectly performed mastication, weakness of the muscular coats of the stomach; deficient, expulsive power of the stomach; imperfection in the mechanism in the biliary or pancreatic ducts, and febleness of the peristaltic motions of the intestines. We may also add spasmodic disorders of the involuntary muscles. The secretions may be altered—saliva, excessive or deficient, less alkaline or acid; gastric juice, excessive or deficient, hyper-acid or sub-acid. Same faults may occur in secretion from liver, pancreas, etc. Prevention and cure—perfect mastication, rest of body one day in the week, pure air, avoidance of hurry and active exertion at the time of eating, and heavy sleep after eating, cleanliness of skin surface. (Bayes, M. H. R., v. 17, p. 355.)

Dyspepsia. *Acet. ac.*, 1st and 2d dec. sol., relieved the following symptoms, given every hour or two: appetite good, but a short time after eating the contents of the stomach seemed to ferment and sour. Nausea and vomiting generally followed, attended with much relief; severe paroxysmal headache, with a species of ophthalmia was prominent. All the symptoms worse from any nervous excitement. (L. Dulorse, A. J. H. M. M., v. 7, p. 24.)

Mrs. W., æt. 60. Heavy pain in the epigastrium after eating, pain worse on pressure, appetite poor. Cough and shortness of breath, worse during the day, in the open air and when walking; headache, especially in back of head, increased by walking; feet frequently cold; cutting sensation in small of the back. *Bryon.*³. Cured in a few days. (A. E. Hawkes, H. W., v. 8, p. 139.)

Indications for the use of *Chelid.*, *Kali bichr.*, *Hydrast.* and *Sepia* in dyspepsia. (A. C. Clifton, M. H. R., v. 17, p. 150.)

Dyspepsia. *Lith. carb.* is efficient in dyspepsia where there is pain in the left temple, and gnawing sensation in the stomach the whole morning, going off while eating; appetite soon satisfied; after eating acidity and heaviness of the stomach; the pain in the head which had ceased while eating returns and continues with the other symptoms until food is again taken. (T. S. Hoyne, M. I., v. 10, p. 184.)

Ac. phosph. Mrs. R., æt. 42, formerly subject to severe dyspepsia, now complains of loss of appetite; little food taken, comes up with acid eructations half an hour after eating. Crampy pains in stomach *∴* distress from acid eructations. *Ac. phosph.*³.

One dose, relieved so that patient ate heartily next morning. (A. Berghaus, Trans. A. I., 1872, p. 339.)

Boericke's Saccharated Pepsin cured an aggravated case of dyspepsia. Eructations and cough almost constantly, sometimes even at night. Bloatedness of stomach and bowels; cough with glairy, tough and stringy mucous expectoration. No pain anywhere, even not after a meal. (Eggert, N. A. J. H., v. 22, p. 257.)

Dyspepsia of fifteen years, caused by straining the stomach when carrying heavy weight. Cured by *Ruta*^{2x}, before each meal. Symptoms. General health pretty good, but pulse soft, and every attempt to eat meat would be followed by headache, eructations and itching all over like an undeveloped nettle rash. (E. A. Farrington, A. J. H. M. M., v. 7, p. 25.)

Gastralgia. The patient suffered for a year with waterbrash, constrictive pain at the epigastrium. The pain became continual and the waterbrash was transformed into vomiting of a light yellow, tasteless fluid. He grew thin and weak. He was pale and haggard-looking, with feeble and slow pulse and flabby tongue. The pain now came in paroxysms of one or two hours duration, it recurred once or twice on most days; vomiting occasionally accompanied it, sometimes of the fluid mentioned, sometimes of food. The pain was severe and acute, and seemed to go through from the epigastrium to between the shoulders. *Arsen.*, 3d dec. trit., a grain night and morning, with prompt relief, and a complete cure soon followed.

A lady, æt. 37, with similar symptoms to the above, and spreading over four years instead of one, was cured with *Arsen.*¹². (R. Hughes, B. J. H., 1873, p. 367.)

Gastrodynia. W. B., æt. 21. Severe pain in epigastrium after food; tongue coated; appetite not amiss; giddiness. Says it came on ten weeks back from a severe cold. *R. Pil. Puls.*, one to four, terhora. Improvement followed promptly. (Maffey, H. W., v. 8, p. 241.)

Typhlo Enteritis. Diary report of a case by I. S. P. Lord, with criticism of treatment. (U. S. M. and S. J., v. 8, p. 147.)

Dysentery and its Treatment. It follows constipation, and is itself a species of constipation, acute and inflammatory in character.

The inflammation of the mucous surface of the large intestines induces the great urgency to stool, with tenesmus, which are attendants of dysentery; the greater the inflammation the more

danger of ulceration, or even perforation of the bowels, which is often a sequela in fatal cases.

Never give lower than the 200th potency; do not alternate; give at long intervals. *Nux vom.* or *Merc. viv.* cure most cases. This treatment cures in from three to six days.

E. H., æt. 35. Dysenteric discharges for three days; stools copious, every hour; greenish mucus, mixed with blood. *R. Nux vom.*²⁰, one dose. Discharges ceased the next day.

J. D., æt. 50. Had diarrhœa two weeks previous to above date, which was checked with a dose of *Arsen.*²⁰. Now has much pain and straining at stool with small passages of bloody mucus, numbering about eighteen in twenty-four hours. Loss of appetite, with much prostration. *R. Nux vom.*²⁰, one dose. Cured without repetition of remedy in two or three days.

R. A., æt. 48. Ill four or five days. From twelve to fifteen stools of slimy mucus streaked with blood in twenty-four hours; stools small, with much tenesmus and pain in the bowels. *R.* two doses of *Nux vom.*²⁰, twelve hours. Two days later had two stools in twenty-four hours. Cured.

Miss H., æt. 12. Constipation for four weeks. Had now frequent inclination to stool; much pain and straining, with ineffectual efforts to evacuate the bowels, which symptoms continued to increase for three days, when she discharged small quantities of jelly-like mucus, streaked with blood; passages occurring every few minutes, with tenesmus and great pain, causing her to scream when at stool. *R. Nux vom.*²⁰, one dose. In twenty-four hours had a healthy, painless stool; no return of diarrhœa.

Miss C. had been in bed with dysentery for two days. Much lumbar pain with fever and headache. Scanty passages each hour of bloody scrapings, with great tenesmus; has to sit long at stool, with prostration when rising. *R. Nux vom.*²⁰, one dose. Cured in two days. (C. Preston, H. M., Aug., 1873, p. 9.)

Indications for Remedies for Dysentery and Diarrhœa:

Acon. Dysentery with full, frequent pulse, restlessness, anxiety, etc.

Canthar. He largely uses for bloody, mucous, skinny stool, with suppression of urine and burning during stool.

Cale. carb. Sour eructations; sour stools; dyspepsia with swelling at serobiculus; low spirited, feels awe-stricken at night.

Chamom. Yellow, chopped or watery stools; wants to be carried.

Coloc. Severe cutting pain; doubles up and rolls all over the bed, before stool; green, slimy stool with straining.

Mercur. Colic, griping and cutting; blood and slime; tenesmus during and after stool.

Nux vom. Ineffectual urging to stool.

Phosphor. Diarrhœa or dysentery with thirst and vomiting as soon as the water gets warm. (T. D. Stow, H. M., Dec., 1873, p. 206.)

Dysentery and Diarrhœa. *Dysentery* consists in an inflammation of the mucous membrane of the large intestine, with fever, tenesmus, colic, with burning pains in rectum and anus, frequent discharges of bloody mucus. At first they may be loose fecal evacuations, afterwards there is constipation of the bowels. When the latter symptom is removed, the case is convalescent. This disease often prevails epidemically during the summer and fall, and then is very contagious. It may result from taking cold, getting wet, eating unripe fruit or almost any occasion when a predisposition exists. The most important remedies are *Nux vom.* and *Mercur.*

In *Nux vom.* there is pressing pain in the back, and pain before and during the discharge is relieved afterwards. In *Mercur.* there is great tenesmus afterwards; there is more colic, and there is aggravation at night.

In *diarrhœa* the discharges from the bowels may be loose, watery, acrid, undigested, slimy and bloody. They are preceded by sharp colicky pain. There may be fever, nausea, flatulence, anorexia, etc. There is irritation and inflammation in the stomach or some portion of the bowels. When the inflammation is confined to the upper portion of the small intestines, constipation may be present, when the extension of the inflammation causes obstruction of the gall-ducts, there is jaundice. The primary causes are, overloading the stomach, improper food, bolting the food, the use of purgatives, taking cold, mental emotions. The symptoms and treatment are variable, depending upon the causes and the locality affected. The discharges are but the effects of disease, hence merely checking these effects or suppressing a diarrhœa is not a rational mode of proceeding, the causes must be removed. Its proper treatment is very important. The habit of bolting food causes much digestive trouble. (H. V. Miller, H. M., Dec., 1873, p. 200.)

Dysentery and Dropsy. Mrs. A., frequent evacuations of jelly-like mucus, with blood and shreds of mucous membrane. Enorm-

ous distention of body and limbs; flesh cold, white, shining, pitting on pressure. Urine scanty, high colored. Great exhaustion after evacuation. Tongue dry and brown. Great dyspnœa. R. *Arsen.*⁶, every two hours, for two days. Dysentery cured, but dropsy now worse. Patient felt as if she would burst. *Apis*³, every two hours. Little change. Pain in liver and spleen. *Mercur.*⁵, every two hours. Next day dropsical symptoms improved. R. *Mercur.*³. Patient worse. R. *Mercur.*⁹. Gradual improvement and recovery. (Young, H. M., Dec., 1873, p. 199.)

Dysentery. Miss C., æt. 23, passage every half hour; stools bloody, full of mucus, great straining and burning of anus. R. *Merc. corr.*³⁰. Five days later, terrible colicky pains relieved by bending double and after stool. R. *Coloc.*³⁰. Cured. (W. F. Edmundson, H. M., May, 1873, p. 471.)

Dysentery with severe tenesmus, headache, red face, rapid pulse, opisthotonos, frequent stools of bloody slime, and sensation during stool as if the uterus would be expelled. Was cured in a few hours by *Bellad.*³⁰ and *Merc. corr.*³⁰, in alternation. (Ball, H. M., Dec., 1873, p. 204.)

*Laches.*²⁰, cured in twenty-four hours a case of dysentery. Patient could not protrude the tongue, which caught on the teeth. During a nap, restlessness, dyspnœa, distress, and then *stinking* stool. (Boyce, H. M., Dec., 1873, p. 204.)

Laches. Dysentery, shivering without coldness. (Spooner, H. M., Dec., 1873, p. 204.)

Characteristic Indications of Remedies in the Treatment of Diarrhœa. *Acon.* Frequent watery, slimy stools in summer, with cold nights, or after getting wet or overheated. The patient suffers from high fever, with pains in the abdomen of a griping or cutting character, preceding a frequent inclination to stool after anger or fright.

Æsc. hipp. Chronic diarrhœa in persons suffering from a pituitous state. The stools are slimy, mushy, accompanied with severe lumbar and sacral pains and straining at stool. (*Asar.*)

Æthus. cynap. Bilious, light yellow or greenish liquid stools; worse in the morning, especially in children during dentition, with violent vomiting of curdled milk, of greenish mucus, or of frothy, milky, white substances.

Aloes. Just before each stool there is a great rumbling in the bowels, accompanied by the escape of a large quantity of wind; the flatus smells very badly and causes burning in the rectum; want of

confidence in the sphincter ani; the rectum seems full of fluid, which feels heavy as if it would fall out; morning diarrhœa; generally good appetite, but aversion to meat; profuse urination; chilliness when leaving the fire.

Ant. crud. Watery, often profuse diarrhœa, especially at night or early in the morning, alternating with constipation. Diarrhœa from disordered stomach, with heavily white-coated tongue, after acids, from getting overheated (*Acon.*) after bathing; diarrhœa of old people. Absence of thirst. (*Acon.*, great thirst.)

Apis mel. Yellowish, brown stools, accompanied by frequent and painful urination; painless morning diarrhœa; burning in abdomen, and tenderness at the least pressure; the stools are watery and foul-smelling, and the anus feels raw after the stools. It acts well with irritable people, who are dissatisfied with everything, or with weak children of a rambling disposition.

Arg. nitr. Stools are green or brown, bloody, mucous, fœtid, especially after midnight, with colic and emission of much noisy flatus. Suits children who love sweets.

Arsen. Watery autumnal diarrhœa, with pinching pains and a tendency to run into sporadic cholera or dysentery; sometimes with burning pains in anus and rectum; rapid prostration and exhaustion with faintness, and rapid, weak pulse. The watery stools are painless and offensive; worse about midnight; there is great restlessness, anguish, with fear of death or being alone.

Ascl. tub. Painful fluid black stools, with yellow spots, like fat, swimming in it (*Magn. carb.*, *Phosphor.*), with the feeling as if a stream of fire passed through the abdomen, and as if the bowels would come out.

Baptis. Adynamic diarrhœa; stools dark, offensive, mucous or bloody, with pains in the region of the liver, and particularly of the gall-bladder; fetid exhausting diarrhœa, with violent colicky pains in the hypogastrium before and during stool; sweat and urine are also extremely fetid; little or no thirst (*Arsen.*, great thirst); great sinking at the epigastrium, with frequent faintings.

Bryon. Diarrhœa from hot weather (when the weather changes suddenly to warm in the summer season; *Dulcam.*, when it changes to cold or damp weather); after eating fruit or drinking milk, especially in the morning on rising, as soon as he moves about; qualms and fainting when rising up, with great desire to lie down and keep quiet; painful diarrhœa after vexation and anger.

Cact. grand. Diarrhœa accompanying heart affections; morning diarrhœa of very loose fœces, preceded by great pain; sensation of great weight in the anus, and a strong desire to pass a great quantity; however, nothing is passed.

Calc. phosph. Extremely offensive diarrhœic stools, with a great deal of flatulence; pus is discharged with the stools.

Canthar. White or pale reddish mucous stools, like scrapings of the bowels; frequent small corrosive stools with colic and pinching; anxious restlessness; pale, wretched appearance; frequent ineffectual desire to urinate; burning after urination.

Capsic. Cutting, flatulent colic; thirst, but drinking causes shuddering and increases pain and diarrhœa; aggravation by currents of air, even warm air; putrid taste as of putrid water; burning in the lower part of the rectum, with throbbing and a sense of excoriation and pain in the back, continuing after stool.

Caustic. Chronic diarrhœa in dyspeptics and consumptives; renewed whenever they take fresh meat.

Carb. veg. Involuntary, putrid-smelling stools, with meteorismus, emission of large quantities of either inodorous or putrid flatus; tongue and skin cold; collapse without the stool, as in cholera or exhausting infantile diarrhœa.

China. Frothy, painless diarrhœa, with a great deal of fermentation in bowels; worse after eating, (*Ferrum*) while eating; diarrhœa early in the morning; three or four relaxed brownish stools, generally painless, but leaving a feeling of great debility.

Cinnam. Diarrhœa, always worse after drinking.

Cist. can. Thin, grayish-yellow stools, hot, squirting out; worse during after-part of the night till noon, with irresistible urging to stool; desire for acid fruit, but pain in the stomach after eating.

Colchic. Frequent evacuations of transparent, jelly-like mucus mingled with a skinny substance; profuse and watery stools in the fall, or in hot, damp weather; burning, unquenchable thirst; salivation; either violent or easy vomiting, renewed after every motion (*Bryon.*); burning in the stomach and abdomen, or icy coldness; abdomen distended by flatus; cholera sporadica, with much weakness and prostration.

Coloc. Cutting colic, in paroxysms, with squeezing up in the intestines, especially around the navel, coming up into the stomach and causing nausea; frequent bilious, bloody stools, but not profuse.

Corn. cir. Dark, bilious, very offensive stools, and foul-smelling

flatus, with griping in bowels and burning in rectum and anus; amelioration by stool and flatus; jaundice, aphthæ; great debility and nervous excitability, with sleepiness and mental and physical relaxation (*China*).

Crot. tigl. Yellow, green, watery stools, suddenly gushing out with protrusion of rectum and constant urging to stool; worse after eating and drinking; great prostration after stool.

Digit. Violent diarrhœa of ash-gray stools, with very slow pulse; violent nausea with anguish and great despondency, not relieved by vomiting; jaundice; feeling of sinking in the stomach, as if one would die.

Diosc. Morning diarrhœa with profuse, deep yellow, thin stools, followed by very weak, faint feeling, without relieving the constant twisting pains in the bowels. (*Coloc.*: colic is remitting and the stools not profuse.)

Dulcam. Diarrhœa from taking cold or traceable to a change in the weather from warm to cold. (By *vice versa* from great heat.) Stools green, white, yellow, with nausea and great prostration of strength.

Ferrum. Nightly diarrhœa, or diarrhœa while eating and drinking (*China* after meals); undigested, involuntary, painless stools; distended abdomen without flatulence (*China*, with flatulence, and the passage of wind does not relieve the colicky pain); canine hunger alternating with loss of appetite; bowels feel sore to the touch and by motion; emaciation.

Gelsem. Diarrhœa brought on by mental excitement and in persons subject to nervous chills; bowels loose, but great difficulty of discharging anything, as if the sphincter ani were spasmodically closed.

Graphit. Knotty stools, the lumps being united by mucus threads; even after the stool is expelled, there is some mucus yet about the rectum; fluid stools mixed with undigested substances and of an intolerable fetor (*Asaf.*), with scalding of the anus; the stools are followed by great but transient prostration (*Arsen.* and *China*, continued debility); fulness and hardness of abdomen.

Gratiol. Green, frothy, watery evacuations, gushing out with force (*Crot. tigl.*), preceded by rumbling and cutting in the abdomen; the pain is not relieved by the stool, but by escape of flatus; choleraic attack after drinking excessive quantities of water,

though it is not very cold. (*Arsen.* from ice water; in *Gratiol.* the excessive quantity; in *Arsen.* the icy coldness.)

Gamboge. Rapid expulsion of dark green mucus, offensive and corrosive stool; the stool being discharged with a single, somewhat prolonged effort, with great relief after stool, as though an irritating substance were removed from the bowels.

Hepar s.c. Green, slimy, fetid diarrhoea of a sour smell, the whole child smelling sour (*Rheum*); chronic diarrhoeas in dyspeptics or after abuse of mercury or quinine, with longing for sour or strong-tasting things; empty, sinking feeling in the stomach, relieved by eating (*Chelid.*, *Petrol.*).

Ipecac. Autumnal diarrhoea, with a great deal of griping, nausea and vomiting (*Acon.*, hot days, cool nights; *Dulcam.*, damp, cold, raw weather); stools as green as grass, fermented, putrid, with flatulent colic about the umbilicus, as though the bowels were grasped with hands; dysenteric diarrhoea.

Iris ver. Tympanitis; severe rumbling of gas; excessive watery discharges, preceded by soft and more substantial stools; intense aching, cramp-like pains; excessive nausea and vomiting; bloody mucus discharges, with burning in the rectum and anus after a stool; prolapse of the rectum; periodical spells of diarrhoea about two or three o'clock in the morning; diarrhoea and vomiting of bile, food, or of very sour fluid; vomiting, with burning in the mouth, fauces and œsophagus; much exhaustion and debility.

Kali bichr. Dark brown, watery, frothy, jelly-like, gelatinous stools (*Colchic.*, transparent, jelly-like mucus, mingled with skinny substances); with urgent pressure to stool, waking one in the morning (*Sulphur*; *Bryon.*, after moving about); burning in the abdomen, with nausea and violent straining at stool; dryness of mouth, lips, tongue, which is red, smooth and cracked, with thirst, especially for acids; vomiting of stringy, glairy fluid.

Kali brom. Painless diarrhoea, with great chilliness, even in a hot room; burning in the chest; internal coldness of the abdomen; pulse frequent and weak; urine scanty, dribbling of a few drops in the beginning; at every stool, sensation as if the bowels were falling out; restless and shaky as if from palsy.

Kali carb. Chronic diarrhoea in cachectic, dyspeptic persons, suffering from acid eructations and flatulency; painless diarrhoea, with rumbling in abdomen and burning at the anus after stool.

Laches. Diarrhoea of mixed blood and slime in warm weather, aggravated by acid fruits; worse at night and after sleep.

Lauroc. Green mucous diarrhoea, with peculiar suffocating spells about the heart; drinks roll audibly through the œsophagus and intestines; choleraic diseases without vomiting and stool, but great anguish in the præcordial region. (*Carb. veg.*)

Leptand. Profuse, black, fecal fluid stools, with sharp cutting pains between the navel and pit of the stomach, generally in the afternoon and evening; chronic diarrhoea from congestion of the liver, with a jaundiced hue; yellow-coated tongue, and brown urine. (*Podoph.*, another liver remedy, has morning diarrhoea and dark green, debilitating stools.)

Lil. tig. Morning diarrhoea, with tenesmus of bladder and rectum; acid, smarting, burning sensation at the anus and up the rectum, as if a hot spray were projected upon the parts, felt immediately after the passage; all other symptoms are worse in the evening till about midnight, except the diarrhoea, which occurs in the morning and forenoon, being peremptory in its calls; constant dragging, bearing-down sensation, producing a constant desire for stool, as in cases of prolapsus uteri; trembling sensation in abdomen, which is tender to pressure.

Magn. carb. Stools like the scum of a frog-pond, green and frothy, white masses, like lumps of tallow floating on the green, watery stool; cutting and pinching in abdomen relieved by the green liquid stool; profuse, sour-smelling diarrhoea (*Calc. carb.*, *Hepar*); aggravation in hot weather during the day, and amelioration of the colicky pains by warm drinks. (*Phosphor.* has also lumps like fat, floating in the fæces, but the diarrhoea holds on day and night, though worse in the morning, and the symptoms of the stomach are ameliorated by cold food and ice.)

Mezer. Chronic diarrhoea, with a herpetic diathesis; copious, watery stools, with more or less griping pains and painful tenesmus, extending to the perineum and urethra. (Bæhr considers *Mezer.* the best remedy in shingles, a disease with a neuralgic base.)

Natr. mur. Chronic diarrhoea, worse in the morning after getting up and moving about (*Bryon.*), or after farinaceous food (*Lycop.* has the same; *Bryon.* and *Natr. carb.* have diarrhoea after the use of milk); profuse emission of flatus, mostly fetid. The patient suffers much from inflammation and suppuration around the nails. (*Dios.* has disposition to felons with the colic.)

Nuph. lute. Chronic morning diarrhoea, especially from four to seven in the morning; stools liquid, yellowish, fetid, with