

muscles seem to be greatly embarrassed in the exercise of their functions. There is no laxity of fibre, such as is shown by the occurrence of involuntary exertions.

The depressing effect seems to be confined to that part of the nervous system which presides over voluntary motion, and over the operations of the mind.

2. The *Organic Substance* of the body is affected as follows: The secretions from the intestinal surfaces are diminished. The capillary circulation appears to be somewhat impeded in the mucous membranes, but is particularly so in the serous membranes, which line the closed cavities of the pleura, peritoneum, pericardium, and joints. As a sequel of this impediment we have effusion (so called) into these cavities.

3. *Sphere of Action.*—The action of Bryonia, as appears from the proving, is exerted chiefly upon the nervous system of animal life, presiding over ratiocination and voluntary motion; upon the gastro-intestinal region, producing various perversions of digestion, a deficient intestinal secretion and a form of constipation and, moreover, the symptoms of a well-marked hepatitis; upon the respiratory mucous membrane; and eminently upon the serous membranes of the large cavities, and the serous and fibrous tissues of the joints. Finally, the female sexual organs are in such wise affected that menorrhagia is produced, the discharge being *florid*.

4. *Sensations.*—The sensations peculiar to Bryonia are stitching, lancinating pains; such pains, in fact, as usually attend and characterize acute affections of the serous and fibrous tissues. Drawing pains are analogous to these. In addition, we note the peculiar sensations of lassitude in the limbs that have been already described.

5. *Periodicity.*—A disposition to a recurrence of the pains in the morning early, not immediately on awaking (as with Lachesis), but on first moving after waking.

6. *Peculiarities.*—The great feature characteristic of the Bryonia symptoms is their *aggravation* by *motion* and *touch*. This applies to all, except a few isolated symptoms, which it is evident, from the context, are purely nervous.

It is also noteworthy, that the seat of the *subjective* pain soon becomes *objectively sore*, and then swollen and red.

The pains of Bryonia are, in *general*, relieved by warmth and aggravated by cold.

They are aggravated by mental excitement.

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS.

Hahnemann mentions the importance of Bryonia in the treatment of various kinds of fevers, and gives directions for its use in a malignant typhus that was epidemic in Saxony in 1813. We shall speak of this in "Observations on Rhus tox."

Hahnemann recommends Bryonia in certain kinds of abdominal cramps in women, of course, when the symptoms correspond.

Head.—Seeing the action of Bryonia on the serous membranes one might infer that it would occupy a prominent place in the treatment of meningitis. But this inference is not justified by the symptoms. They represent a fever too asthenic to correspond with any form of idiopathic meningitis.

In repercussed eruptions, however, as, for example, during the course of an exanthematous fever—scarlatina or measles—when the eruption has disappeared, and the sensorium becomes immediately affected, Bryonia has often done excellent service. The oppression of the senses, the general prostration, the peculiar form of fever, consisting of predominant coldness, first a chill and then a fever mixed up of chill and heat, with a small pulse, and which never, even when the heat is greatest, becomes very full or hard—these symptoms correspond well to the kind of case to which we refer.

But it is only in a certain class of cases of repercussed exanthemata that Bryonia is indicated and useful, viz., where the sensorium and the system of animal life are depressed, benumbed, but the functions not perverted. They is another class in which they are perverted, and in which, consequently, convulsions more or less complete occur. In such cases Cuprum aceticum (or metallicum) is likely to be indicated, a fact for

the knowledge of which we are indebted to Dr. G. Schmidt, of Vienna. In other cases of this kind, without fever or disturbance of the general system, the entire sensorial life is suspended. Here Hellebore may be required, as Hahnemann has shown in his introduction to the proving of that drug. Or, again, together with this suspension of sensorial life, there may be signs of effusion within the cranium; the patient lies like an animate but not intelligent log; the pupils are dilated; the eyes converge or diverge; and here *Zincum metallicum* will sometimes save the patient. I made this observation in 1853, in a case of scarlatina. About the same time Dr. Elb, of Dresden, published some similar cases in the *Allgemeine Homœopathische Zeitung*.

Under these circumstances the vital processes move very slowly, and I believe it is necessary to repeat the Zinc frequently, and to continue it for many days.

Epistaxis.—*Bryonia* is a standard remedy. The blood is florid. The epistaxis occurs in the morning, often waking the patient from sleep. It is often a concomitant of suppressed menstruation and this is a controlling indication of *Bryonia*.

Fevers.—In the fevers marked by gastro-intestinal localization, such as bilious remittent, some forms of intermittent and of typhus fever, *Bryonia* has done good service. It compares with *Eupatorium* and *Rhus tox*, and with *Nuxvomica* and *Mercurius*.

The headache is a splitting pain through the temples and at the same time, and more severely, in the occiput. Oppression at the pit of the stomach and tenderness there; vomiting of food, mucus and bile, stitches in the hypochondria, and soreness and tension in the hepatic region, along with dry cough and decided constipation, without any desire for evacuation of the bowels. Together with these local symptoms there are frequent short chills, alternating or mixed up with heat of the body; a pulse small and frequent, but somewhat hard. Add to the above a slimy and bitter taste, aversion to food, pains in the back and limbs, much aggra-

vated by touch and motion, together with dulness of the sensorium, and aversion to noise and to mental exertion, and we have a picture of the form of fever for which, whether remittent or intermittent, *Bryonia* is appropriate.

Similar symptoms often characterize what is popularly called "a bilious attack." These "attacks" are very common in persons who have for years been accustomed to take frequent doses of calomel or of blue mass for headache and "biliousness." And we are often called upon to supply a substitute for these drugs. In the majority of these cases *Bryonia* is the remedy. If early resorted to, it will generally break up the attack; and a repetition of this treatment rarely fails to destroy a tendency to its recurrence.

Bœnninghausen gives the following picture of the *Bryonia* fever: "Pulse hard, frequent and tense. Chill and coldness predominate, often with heat of the head, red cheeks and thirst. Chill, with external coldness of the body. Chill and coldness most at evening, or on the right side of the body. Chill more in the room than in the open air.

Dry, burning heat, for the most part only internally and as if the blood burned in the veins. All the symptoms are aggravated during the heat.

Much sweat. Easy sweating, even from walking slowly in the cold open air. Copious night and morning sweats. Sweat sour or oily."

Hahnemann gives the following groups of symptoms, as characterizing those cases of typhus for which he gave *Bryonia* so successfully:

"The patient complains of dizziness, *shooting* (or jerking-tearing) pains in the head, throat, chest, abdomen, etc., which are felt particularly on *moving the part*—in addition to the other symptoms the hæmorrhages, the vomiting, the heat, the thirst, the nocturnal restlessness," etc.

In *Acute Hepatitis* it is very evident, from the symptoms that *Bryonia* may be a most valuable remedy. Experience has confirmed the indication.

Bryonia is also a remedy for *Constipation*, being, as Hahn-

emann remarks, one of the few remedies of which the primary action is to diminish the intestinal excretion, and likewise the peristaltic action of the intestine.

It differs from Nux vomica, as we shall see, in *this* respect, that the action of the intestine is *diminished*. Nux vomica does *not diminish* the action of the intestine. It rather *increases* it, but at the same time renders it *inharmoonious* and *spasmodic*—a hindrance, therefore, and not a help to evacuation. This is the reason why the constipation characteristic of Nux vomica is accompanied by frequent ineffectual desire for stool—the action of the intestine being irregular and spasmodic, and the constipation resulting from this *irregularity* of action, and not from inaction. Bryonia has nothing of this. Under its influence the intestinal activity is *really diminished*—there is no desire for stool. As a remedy for constipation Bryonia is analagous to that other valuable remedy for the same trouble—*Veratrum*.

It has been already remarked that Bryonia is our great remedy in the treatment of Vicarious Menstruation—a perversion of function which is not so rare as has been supposed. At the period when the menstrual discharge should naturally take place, there occur hæmorrhages from some other parts of the body, as from the nose, mouth or lungs. I have seen, under such circumstances, likewise, hæmorrhage from the eye, the ear, and the nipple. These vicarious discharges are not difficult to distinguish from hæmorrhage attending and consequent upon diseased conditions of these organs themselves. If, for example, about the time of menstruation, this phenomena not occurring, a copious expectoration or vomiting of blood take place, without any other symptoms of disease of the lung or stomach—if it last two or three days, with no greater disturbance of the general health than commonly attends menstruation—if it then cease, having no sign of disease in the organ apparently affected, and, if it recur again after the usual menstrual interval, there can be no reasonable doubt of the nature of the trouble. Clinical experience has shown that Bryonia generally cures these cases.

(To be continued.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

LITERARY CURIOSITY. *A consultation between four learned Doctors, held in Latin, respecting the case of a Noble Lord.*—1st. D. Is his honor sic? Præ lætus felis pulse. It do es beat veris loto de.

2nd. D. No notis as qui cassi e ver fel tu metri it. Inde edit is as fastas an alarum ora fire bellat nite.

3rd. D. It is veri hi.

4th. D. Noto contra dictu in mi juge mentitis veri loto de. It is as orta maladi sum callet. (Here ever id octo reti resto a parlorina mel an coli posture.)

1st D. It is a megri mas I opi ne.

2nd. D. No docto rite quit fora quin si. Heris a plane sim tomo fit. Sorites Paracelsus præ re adit.

1st. D. Nono doctor I never quo te asque casue do.

2nd. D. Sum arso: mi autoris no ne.

3rd. D. No quare linget præ senti des ire. His honor is sic offa colli casure as I sit here.

4th. D. It is æther antrophi ora colli casu sed. Ire mem bri re ad it in doctor me addes esse, dere ittis.

3rd. D. I ne ver re ad apage ofit, no re ver intendit.

2nd. D. Fer ne lis offa qui te deferunt noti o nas i here.

1st. D. It is ad ange rus cases ani.

4th. D. It me be a plusi se; avo metis veri pro per fora manet his age.

3rd. D. Ure par donat presenti des ire; his dis eas is a cataride clar it.

4th. D. It is alea pro si fora uti se. Præ hos his a poti cari? can tu tellus A blister me bene cessa risum dacens. It is as urem edi in manicas es.

3rd. D. I findit isto late tot hinc offa remedi; fori here his honor is de ad

2nd. D. Hist ime is come.

1st D. Is it trudo ut hinc?

4th D. It is vera certain. His par is bella stolingo ut foris departu re.

3d D. Næ i fis ecce lens is dea ad lætus en dum apri esto præ fari sole.

His honor has bina cato liquor a de isti here.

1st D. Alor dis sum time as tingi as an use reris.

2nd D. O mei ne vera tendo na nil ordin is danss fora forte nite.

4th D. Api stolis ne a quin in a nil ordo fis qua liti; sum pes fort imes more. It istes mala fito a doctor o fisic.

2nd D. Lætus paco fitis time.

1st D. Abigo ditis hi time inde ed editis forus alto fall as campe ringo fafastas arato ut ona da iri: fori fera bea tinge veri minute; bimi solido. His lao quis an das turdis aussu sto ut valet is rea di forus.

2nd D. Ali feris ab ast in a do, for I here ano is at adis stanns.

OBITUARY.

THE LATE DR. FRANZ WURMB: *A Passage in the History of Homœopathy in Vienna.* By Dr. Fr. Ant. Watzke. (Translated from the "*Allgemeine Homœopathische Zeitung.*") Franz Wurmb was born on the 22d of June, 1805, at Neumarkt, on the Aschach, in Upper Austria, where his father conducted an extensive business in the linen trade, principally with Italy. Even when a mere boy at the normal school, the talent, ambition and vigor of his manhood were perceptible. He outstript all his school-fellows in diligence and zeal for learning. At the Gymnasium of Kremsmunster, which he entered at twelve years of age, he took a first place in every class.

He commenced the study of medicine at the University of Vienna in 1823. His second course of lectures he attended at Padua, studying Italian at the same time as a secondary object. In the following year he returned to Vienna, devoting himself with his characteristic energy to the several branches of medical science; obtaining not merely the highest testimonials from the professors, but—what speaks more forcibly in his favor—he secured the esteem and affection of the best of his colleagues. At this time it was that he formed a friendship with those subsequently celebrated members of the University, Kolletscha, Skoda, and Schuh.

The examinations having been creditably passed, Wurmb was in 1831 created Doctor of Medicine and Surgery, and Master in Midwifery. In the year following, cholera having broken out, he was recommended by Dr. Wierer, at that time a physician in high repute among ladies of rank and fashion, as cholera physician to the Baron Von Sina. In Rippolden, when he served as *salva guardia* to the fugitives from cholera, he had opportunities for observing how a careful man applies his wealth; but the cholera he did not see. The destroying angel spared that district. On his return to Vienna, he became the assistant of his patron. The smooth-tongued, polite ladies' doctor—Wierer—in union with the simple, candid—aye, rugged manners of Wurmb! Such a connection could not be of long duration. But more still than difference of character, did the struggle, that at that time commenced between the modern physiological school and the privileged defenders of old doctrines—between the young men but just escaped from professorial influences and the professors themselves, contribute to the more speedy dissolution of this relationship. The knife of pathological anatomy and the ear-trumpet of physical diagnosis were the tools with which the antiquated Galen, with his pathological prosings and his nosographic dreamings, was driven from the lecture rooms of the Vienna University. The ancient Galen departed forever, but the arrogance of his successor was not a hair's breadth less.

During this highly important revolution in science, our Wurmb remained no idle spectator. He saw at once that, for the reformation to be made advantageous to the practical physician, it must not be allowed to stop half way; that,

on the contrary, it must be extended, far beyond the limits the young Viennese school had assigned to it, into a department of medicine, in which, more than in any other, the control of experiment and physiology was especially demanded. The old *Materia Medica*, those rugged pearls, a collection of unsubstantiated hypotheses, erroneous conclusions, delusions of the imagination, traditions and fables copied in all sincerity and faith by one author from another, required to be rooted up, in order that the physiological science of medicine might stand upon a basis of its own, a basis of positive facts.

Hahnemann, whose genius, though neither understood nor regarded by the mass of physicians, was nearly half a century in advance of the physiological school, had, with his disciples, already collected abundant resources in this department of medicine. Wurmb was not scared away from their study because he stood only at the very commencement of an entirely new science, whose structure and the mass of whose materials laid great difficulties in the way of its comprehension and mastery. The indomitable determination, the zeal and energy with which he devoted himself to its study, dissipated all these obstructions. The observations he made at the bedside, guided by the knowledge he had recently obtained of the physiological treasury of remedies, gave him at once practical proofs of the value and utility of the law of *similars* as a universally applicable dynamic law of cure. He now came publicly over to the standard of Hahnemann, resigning in so doing the brilliant future which as Wierer's assistant certainly awaited him—exchanging it for the humble position the young practitioner must occupy who has only himself to rely upon in competition with some hundreds of senior colleagues. Successful cases soon procured for him a high reputation; after a few years, he was numbered among the most actively occupied of homœopathic physicians in Vienna, and found himself amply recompensed for the sacrifices his convictions had entailed upon him.

Wurmb did not, however, limit his exertions, exclusively to practice; he was not contented, as unhappily too many of our colleagues are, with mere loaves and fishes. His aim was a far higher one, viz., to contribute according to his ability to the scientific completion of the new system of medicine. As early as 1839 he published (*Hygea*, Vol. IX.) a carefully worked out and favorably criticised essay on *pneumonia*. From 1843 to 1849 he edited, jointly with his friends Drs. Fleischemann, Hampe and Watzke, the *Osterreichische Zeitschrift für Homœopathie*. In this journal numerous original articles of sterling merit solid, elaborate monographs of medicines and thorough physiological provings of lasting value appeared, so that it deservedly occupies a place among the best homœopathic works. His excellent essay on *Arsenic* (*Ost. Zeit. f. Hom.* Vol. II.) will ever secure for him a highly honorable position in homœopathic literature. [A translation of this valuable and exhaustive essay appears in the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, Vols. III. and IV.—A. C. P.] In 1852 the *Homœopathic Clinical Studies* of Wurmb and Caspar were published. In these they gave some of the results of their experience at the Hospital of the Sisters of Charity in the Leopoldstadt, and the most important of the clinical lectures delivered there by Wurmb. [A complete abstract of the

contents of this work, comprising indeed a literal translation of many parts which cannot well bear abridgment, will be found in the *Brit. Journ. of Homœop.*, Vols. XI., XII. and XIII.—A. C. P.] They contain, together with much interesting matter on medicine in general, a large number of practical hints and observations on therapeutics, especially welcome to the junior homœopathic physician. A more brilliant memorial than that formed for him by his literary labors, did Wurmb erect for himself in the constitution of the Society of Austrian Homœopathic Physicians for the Proving of Remedies, and at the Hospital of the Sisters of Charity in the Leopoldstadt. Although the notion of forming a society took root in several heads at the same time, still Wurmb was the foremost—he it was who realized the idea, who carried out the excellent design, and to whose efforts it chiefly is that the society owes its existence. He will ever be acknowledged as preeminently its founder. For the reputation of the society for essays of a high order of merit, for the carrying on and accomplishment of the proving of remedies on the healthy body, Wurmb displayed unwearied energy. For, not only did he set the members a good example, by proving with them nearly all the medicines proposed by the society, but he influenced them by animating, encouraging and advising them, and induced many of his friends to join them, so that they boldly undertook provings as difficult as they were dreaded. We refer here only to one well-known monograph on *Thuja occidentalis*, by the brothers Huber and Dr. Von Zlatarovich. [A translation of this proving forms an appendix to one of the early volumes of the *North American Journal of Homœopathy*.—A. C. P.]

In 1850 *The Institute of Homœopathy* was formed by Wurmb, though the first suggestion of it came from his colleague, Dr. Watzke. In the memorial laid before Government, both Wurmb and Watzke engaged to fill the post of professor gratuitously for eight successive years, and showed by minute statistical evidence the necessity for such an institution in Vienna. The result of the memorial was the formation of the Institute, and its endowment with the capital necessary for its foundation and maintenance. But the truth is, that it appears to us more than probable that had the Institute been left solely to his colleague and his lukewarmness, had it not had Wurmb's ambition and fiery zeal, it would have remained incomplete for a long period. Wurmb has therefore a perfect claim to be regarded as its founder.

Wurmb's varied and numerous meritorious exertions on behalf of the new doctrine procured for him not only the esteem and regard of his colleagues in Vienna, by whom the honorable office of President of the Homœopathic Society was on six different occasions confided to him; they carried his reputation into more distant circles, and obtained even abroad the honor which was their due. Besides the Society of Austrian Homœopathic Physicians, he was elected either an ordinary, a corresponding or an honorary member of the Central Society of German Homœopathic Physicians, by the Society for the Specific Art of Medicine in Carlsruhe, by the Homœopathic Medical Society of Paris, by the Society of Bavarian Homœopathic Physicians for the Specific Art of Healing, by the Free Society of Homœopathic Physicians of Leipsic, by the Society for Physiological Pharmacology in Munich, by the Homœopathic

Academy of Palermo, and by the Homœopathic Society of Philadelphia. [Wurmb was also an honorary member of the British Homœopathic Society, A. C. P.]

Our friend was not, however, long to enjoy the fruits of his praiseworthy exertions; it was his lot to be removed from his beautiful sphere of labor much earlier than his vigorous constitution and his long undisturbed, nay, blooming youth would have led one to expect. In December, 1862, he had an attack of bronchial catarrh, which, being unattended by febrile symptoms, and of no apparent moment, did not prevent his continuing to conduct his laborious and extensive practice in his usual manner. This neglect of his cold, even when it became more troublesome and more intense, had fatal consequences. Sudden and profuse hæmoptysis occurred in January, 1863, and returned twice with equal severity at intervals of a few weeks. By the end of February the incautious and daring convalescent, though still extremely feeble, was again actively engaged in his professional duties. Even when, during the ensuing month, an extremely painful swelling formed over the right wrist, it was with difficulty that he could be induced to allow that care and rest which were so indispensably necessary. The swelling became purulent, and the bone was found to be carious. At this juncture did our friend for the first time make an earnest effort to obtain the restoration of his health. He spent the summer at Ischl. His residence in the pure mountain air produced for the time a change unexpectedly favorable; so that he returned to Vienna apparently strong and vigorous. Whether it arose from a series of fresh professional engagements, or from the prejudicial influence of the autumnal dews, or whether, as is most probable, it had a purely constitutional source, a swelling again gradually formed over the left shoulder, which in the course of a few weeks became an abscess several inches in diameter; and when this burst a second of a similar size arose near the spine. During this period of in some measure really agonizing suffering, his spirits remained unaffected. Throughout the following winter he was almost entirely confined to bed. Toward the spring he was, though with difficulty, able to make nearly every day a few professional visits. In a return to Ischl for the summer his physicians saw the only hope of saving him. He cheerfully acquiesced in their wishes: but he had scarcely arrived at Gmunden when an attack of high fever set in. In a week he returned to Vienna in a dying state. All hope of his recovery was now gone. A few weeks after, on the 10th of October, 1864, he sunk under his sufferings; passing from this to a better world calmly and peacefully.

The firmness with which he held to the truth he had recognized was seen in the efforts he made only two or three days before his death, to convert a medical candidate, the son of his earliest friend, Dr. M. Certainly it was "Love's labor lost!" When his two physicians, Drs. Loewe and Watzke, paid their evening visit, he told them, his countenance at the time beaming with joy, how he had on that day won over to the new doctrine a young man full of talent. "These young people," thought he, "are to be pitied, they come in a manner the reverse of that of Socrates, in a state of mind rendered so haughty by their scholastic learning, that it is extraordinarily difficult to make them

understand that as yet they really know nothing at all; that in their mixtures there is no sound reason, no logic; and that they are utterly wanting in a physiological Materia Medica, a knowledge of which is completely indispensable to the practical physician. Undoubtedly they derive their unmitigated conceit from their tutors and masters; whom also we cannot make understand that, though they may be learned naturalists, anatomists, chemists, physiologists, and diagnosticians, yet that the most learned naturalist without the physiological Materia Medica is, as a practical physician, not superior to the cobbler or the quack. I feel it," he continued, "to be very inconsistent and indiscreet for us in difficult cases to consult with one of these learned men, and should God restore me to health, will never again allow myself to be led into doing so."

"What can the practitioner expect in the way of advice from one who first of all despairs of any precision in treatment; aye, from one who regards this despair as evidence of a higher order of personal wisdom, and looks down proudly and contemptuously on those of his colleagues who have faith in remedies; who is fully conscious that at the bedside he is powerless, helpless, and without any remedy for the disease before him?"

Thus vigorously did the mind continue working in a body undermined by disease, until death put a period to its activity!"—[*Monthly Homœopathic Review*, London.

In addition to the Essays by Dr. Wurmb we have mentioned as having been translated by the editors of the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, we find in that periodical a paper by him on *Pleurisy*, in Vol. I; one entitled *Contributions from the Homœopathic Hospital of Leopoldstadt*, in Vol. XIV; and an elaborate *Proving of Sulphur* in Vols. XV. and XVI.—Eds. [*Monthly Homœopathic Review*, London.

THE

AMERICAN

HOMŒOPATHIC REVIEW.

Vol. VI

NEW YORK, NOVEMBER, 1865.

No. 5.

DYSENTERY.

BY F. G. OEHME, M. D., CONCORD, N. H.

WE propose to give, in the following summary, the experience of homœopathic physicians in Dysentery, as it has been deposited in the German homœopathic literature from its commencement to the present day. We have used principally the "*Klinische Erfahrungen*" (clinical experiences) by Dr. Ruckert, and the Supplement, by Dr. Oehme.

In this disease the following remedies have thus far been used or recommended: Acon., Aloe, Apis., Ars., Baryt., Bell., Borax, Canth., Caps., Colch., Coloc., Dulc., Hep., Iris, Ipecac, Merc. sol., Merc. corr., Nitr., Nitric acid, Nux vom., Puls., Rheum, Rhus. tox., Sep., Staph., Sulph., Verat.

These have been given or proposed by about forty physicians, under the following conditions:

Aconite, particularly when the fever and pain in the bowels are very violent. Many cases have been cured within one or two days by the exclusive use of this one remedy, especially in some epidemics; others have been prepared by it for the effective use of Merc., which soon removed the tenesmus and bloody discharges.