

more superficial than those of either Bell. or Stram. If we begin the series of its symptoms as in the preceding, we shall find its

*Convulsions* sustaining this view. Spasmodic bending of the limbs, while the curved body is thrown upward in the air. Spasmodic tetanic stiffness of the whole body. Jerking of the limbs. Subsultus. Convulsive motions of the limbs with frothing at the mouth; great throwing about of the body; with a renewal on the slightest attempt to swallow liquids; with thumbs drawn inward on the palms.

General prostration of strength, with trembling of the whole body and coldness of the extremities.

Burning of the skin when laying the hand on any part of the body. Inflammation of the skin of the whole body with cinnabar redness.

Irresistible inclination to sleep, (op.) continued profound slumber or sleep. Excessive (*unmassiger*) sleep. Quiet sleep. (Op.) Coma vigil. (Op.) *In Sleep*, perspiration, laughing expression of countenance, suffocating snoring during inspiration. [The distinction between this symptom and that so characteristic of Opium is not difficult; with Opium, the respiration is *slow*, deep, loud, and snoring, but there is no suffocation.] Whimpering, with throwing up of the arms, tossing about of the head, throwing about and jerking of the feet, (Stram. more of the hands) and opening and spreading, and then closing of the fingers.

*Sleeplessness* from nervous excitability, with convulsions and shuddering as if from fright. Sleepless the whole night. Sleepless with anxiety. The child passes the whole night in tossings and cries, wakes with screams. Wakes and starts up in a fright. The sleep is interrupted by grinding the teeth. Frightful dreams.

Restlessness the greatest, he moves constantly from place to place. Terrible anxiety. Shudderings alternating with trembling and convulsions. Uses violence, and strikes his attendants. Insensibility to nipping and pinching. Entire loss of perception and understanding. Complete stupidity

and loss of consciousness. He neither sees nor hears. Does not recognize his relations. Sits in bed like a statue, immovable, and bereft of his senses. Delirium even when awake, as if he had seen a man who was not present. Absurd talking and muttering. Grasps at the nearest object and cries that he shall fall. Lies naked in bed, talking. Violent moving of the hands with constant burning heat, outcries and difficult breathing. Remembers occurrences long past. Great weakness of memory. Inability to think. Dullness and sinking into continued sleep. Confusion of the head as if absent-minded. Vertigo with clouded sight. Violent vertigo. Vertigo as if from drunkenness.

Continued violent pains in the head, with preternatural heat, alternating with pain in the nape of the neck. Dull pains in the base of the brain; in the forehead, especially in the membranes of the brain. Heaviness of the head with severe pain.

*Eyes*, sparkling and red, distorted and open, prominent and convulsed; sunken, sparkling and staring; staring and distorted; gazes on those present with a staring look. Strabismus. Inability to open the eye-lids. Pupils much dilated or contracted. Objects appear enlarged and brighter colored.

Tongue red, dry and parched, while it is clean or brown coated. Burning dryness of the tongue and lips which look like burnt leather. Sensation of fullness of the tongue, as if burnt, much increased by speaking and inspiration. Inability to speak distinctly. Loss of speech with loss of the senses.

Great dryness of the throat (also shootings) and almost constantly with thirst. The throat is so dry and constricted that a single swallow (of tea) will suffocate him. Pressure of the throat, as if swollen, when, and when not, swallowing. Points to the throat with the finger as if something stuck there. The throat as if constricted, preventing swallowing. Inability to swallow. He spits out the liquids which have been put in his mouth.

It requires only a cursory comparison of the above symptoms with the two series which have preceded it, to discover the differences which control the selection of either of these drugs in cases when one of them is called for by the law of similars. The convulsions of Hyoseyamus are quite peculiar. In one of its forms, affecting chiefly the flexor muscles of the limbs and trunk. In another the tonic character of the spasms is quite marked, more so than in either of the others. Jerkings in the symptoms of Hyos. are replaced by trembling shaking in those of Stram. The jactitation is peculiar to the convulsions of Hyos. or at least this feature is more prominently expressed here, than with either of the others. The *trembling* is here accompanied by general prostration, while it is not so in the case of the others. Burning of the skin is peculiar and different from the skin affections of either of the others. It will be well to note carefully the symptoms of sleep, and to compare them with the effects of Opium, as well as with those of Bell. and Stram. The similarity of the symptoms of Hyos. and Opium in this rubrick are quite marked, and it is often in this rubrick that the symptoms are found which decide the choice of the remedy. In treating the coma of scarlet fever, so often significant of grave cerebral condition, and often developed even early in the case, the experience of years has taught that little is to be expected of good from either Bell. or Stram., while prompt relief will follow the use of Opium or Hyos. if these be selected with careful reference to their differences and to the similarity of these to the symptoms of the case. If, in this class of cases, time be lost in proving, by actual trial, the worthlessness of Bell., the case will probably pass on to a hopeless state, the condition having been either aggravated by the action of an inappropriate drug, or allowed to progress uninterruptedly towards a fatal termination, during the whole time in which the action of a rightly selected drug could have been curative. It is in just this class of cases that the utmost care should be used in the first prescription, for the enemy is

likely to allow little chance of good from any subsequent one if this proves to be wrong. The symptoms developed during sleep, are also worthy of careful attention. The symptoms of the intellect, head and eyes, though like to those at times developed in an inflammatory attack within the head, are many of them of a less distinctive or demonstrative character than are those of its two related remedies, and this is one of the chief differences by which its true character and place in practice are indicated. Where the symptoms are more demonstrative in their character they have also more numerous concomitants.

*Sulphur.*—Before presenting the elements of the pathogenesis of this drug, we wish to make a few general observations on its use, especially in the treatment of acute diseases. There is a notion prevailing with many practitioners that this remedy, though of great value, is more especially appropriate to the treatment of chronic than acute affections. That if in place at all, in dealing with the latter, it is only after the first stage of the attack has passed, or there have been deposits in cavities, in parenchyma, or upon surfaces, which are to be removed; or the acute attack has roused to activity some old cachexy or chronic miasm, giving to the case much of the character of that class of affections for which Sulphur is supposed to have special appropriateness. This, though an error, is not without excuse. It has in part, at least, grown out of the division of diseases by the great Master into the two classes of psoric and apsorice, and giving to Sulphur the place of first importance in the treatment of cases of the first division. To the efficacy of the drug in this class of affections the experience of intelligent Homœopaths of all countries bears ample testimony. The error of those who have failed to recognize its importance in the treatment of the second class, is in this restricted view of its relations to one class, and to an altogether too limited view of the prevalence and importance of the miasms which are the producing essence of those affections which all term chronic. (Psoric.) There is not attack of acute or a psoric disease, where these miasms may

not be brought into action from their previous latent state and in which then they are not a cause of increased embarrassment to the practitioner, and danger to the patient. It is just the causes of the psoric class which are likely to excite the activity of the psoric poison. How often is this the case in measles, typhoid fever, pneumonia, influenza, etc., and when this occurs, in these or other affections, who shall draw the line where the case ceases to be acute and becomes chronic? We make this statement of the general liability of diseases, commonly called acute, to become complicated in their progress by the roused activity of psoric miasm, thus broad, in the full view and belief of the almost universal prevalence of this poison in each individual of our race. Where is there one, who can be said to be entirely free from it? And wherever it exists, there it may and does become active whenever subjected to the action of causes which in their nature tend to rouse it from its latent to an active existence. Of such causes, all experience proves, that those which originate common acute diseases are the most important. Therefore, even on the view of the relationship of this drug which would limit it to the treatment of affections commonly received as chronic, or psoric, it may be called for in the treatment of any one member of the other class by reason of this complication of the chronic element, so likely to occur, and so important when met.\*

But this is not all the truth. There is in the relationship of Sulphur to diseased conditions, as their curative, no law which separates it from the law which declares and constitutes this relationship for all other drugs. There is no exceptional element by which it is removed from the domain of the common law, which requires similarity of the characteristics of the drug and the disease for the constitution of this relationship. Neither is there anything in the division of diseases into the two classes named which removes either of

\* See paper on the "Use of High Potencies in the Treatment of the Sick," by CARROLL DUNHAM, M.D., p. 297 *et seq.* Vol. II of this REVIEW, where this subject has been more fully discussed.

them from the authority of this common law, in the discovery and establishment of their curative relations. This division evolves no new relations and imposes no new conditions. It is the similarity of the required elements and this alone, which declares that this or any other drug will cure a given case. If this similarity be ascertained, it does not matter whether the case may have been classified as acute or chronic or whether the drug has its place with the psoric or apsoric; the one will be cured by the other in all cases and conditions where cure is yet possible.

If these views are correct, it follows that Sulphur may be in place in the treatment of any, the most acute, diseases, inflammatory or otherwise; that it is sure to be the best remedy in any or all these, whenever its characteristics are more like the characteristics of the disease, than are those of any other drug. And this is just what enlightened experience and observation has proved to be the fact. Under the guidance of this law of similars it has been selected for the cure of the most violent and dangerous inflammations, and they have yielded to its power. Indeed, broad as is its clinical application by this law, it may be doubted whether in any class of diseases it has greater value, or will oftener be followed by success, when rightly selected, than in that of the most important inflammations, in which, hitherto, it has been unwarrantably neglected. This certainly has not happened from a failure, after a careful study of its pathogenesis, to find a resemblance to the phenomena of acute inflammation of important organs. How beautifully and how often has the use of this drug in Peritonitis, Pneumonia, Pleuritis, Meningitis, etc., been followed by the prompt and complete disappearance of these grave affections, showing conclusively, not that its psoric relationships are less general or important than has been supposed, but that like all other drugs, it has other relations, scarcely less important, growing out of the general law of similars, by which it stands allied to a large class of important affections, which may or may not be complicated with the psoric poison, but which have their

origin from causes entirely independent of this. An example illustrative of this is often met in the progress of cases of scarlet fever, especially in those which are characterized by prominent brain affection. The following symptoms from its pathogenesis are the grounds of this relationship:

Miliary rash (Friesel) on the whole body, sticking itching, or itching followed by exfoliation of the skin. [A tolerable picture of the cutaneous phenomena of scarlet fever, as now oftenest met, from the beginning to the end.] A fiery red or scarlet (Scharlachartiger) eruption over the whole body. After a slight rubbing, the skin is for a long time very painful, as if it were raw. Swelling, suppurations and indurations of the glands. [Not necessarily belonging to this fever with the affection of the brain we are considering, though in the progress of these cases the glands of the throat often become involved.]

Difficulty of falling asleep, with frequent waking, at night. In the evening, in bed, he cannot fall asleep for an hour. Cannot sleep before twelve o'clock, and then there is frequent waking and tossing about in the bed. On account of great restlessness, he cannot sleep after midnight. Wakes each time with fright, as if from a terrifying dream, and after waking is filled with anxious phantasies, from which he can not free himself. Restless tossing here and there without waking. Severe pains in the head which hinder sleep, and allow of rest in no position. Frequent waking on account of beating of the arteries in the head. Waking, especially in the evening, on falling asleep, with frightened start. Calls out as if unconscious (in sleep). Delirium, in a restless sleep, filled with dreams, before midnight, like anxious delirium. Eyes half open in sleep. Indistinct muttering in sleep. Snoring. Lies with the arms over the head. Frightful and anxious dreams, in which he gets out of bed, unconscious, followed by violent headache. Immediately on closing the eyes, visions of strange and frightful apish faces, which he can not keep away. The child is angry and passionate. Excited temper, easily excited. Seizes on things with great haste.

Headache with nausea, also with heat and rushing sound

(sausen) in the head. Heaviness of the head, which makes every motion unpleasant; in the vertex; like a weight pressing from above downwards upon the brain, as if a band were drawn around the head. Pressure, mostly on the vertex, as if the eyes would be forced out, or as if the brain were pressed from above. Tension in the forehead. Drawings in the forehead and temples and in the occiput, so sensitive while chewing that he must stop eating. Jerking pains in the head, especially over the right eye. Shootings in the temples; in the vertex. Throbbing in the head morning and evening; in the temples; hammering throbbing, during earnest speaking, or very painful. Single blows through the head. Congestion of blood to the head, and often with flushing heat. Heat in the head, mornings and evenings, with cold feet; great and dry, with glowing redness of the face, mornings, on waking. Humming in the head, especially in the vertex. Ringing rushing towards, and out of, the ears. Striking of the brain upon the skull when moving the head, with pressing pain. With every nod of the head pain as if the brain were struck.

Redness of the eyes the whole day, with great itching in them in the evening. The pupils are greatly contracted. Intolerance of light especially of sun-light.

The symptoms connected with sleep have been given somewhat fully, from a conviction that it is often in connection with these that the indications for the use of Sulphur in this fever are found. It is no objection to this view that these symptoms are often met in other and less grave affections. It does not follow from this admitted fact that they may not be also indices of curative relationship in graver affections, when similarity to them obtains in the phenomena of the disease. It will be noted also that there are few moral or intellectual symptoms in those translated above. It is true also that in the class of cases for which Sulphur will be found of the greatest importance, this class of symptoms have few representatives, or are, in some cases, almost in abeyance. The head symptoms are important and quite suggestive of acute inflammation. It is true in many cases of the brain

affection we are here considering, the subjective symptoms are more or less completely masked by the paralyzed perceptions of the patient, and that we are deprived to that extent of their aid in our study for the selection of a curative, but where this paralysis is found in connection with other phenomena of cerebral inflammation, these symptoms may be assumed to be more or less present, for the purposes of the prescription, and acted on as if really detected.

As illustrative of the view here given of the importance of the sleep symptoms, and also of the variety of the fever to which Sulphur is appropriate, we give the following case:

A little girl of five years was attacked with the ordinary symptoms of scarlet fever, in the latter part of Nov., 1844. The initiation of the attack was with chills, vomiting, violent headache, prostration, peevishness, flushed face, injected eyes, etc. Then in a few hours came the eruption in the miliary form, patchy, and evanescent. At times it was bright and full, then it faded and partially disappeared. The mind soon became wandering, and then delirious, the character of the delirium being active rather than muttering. The heat of the skin was great, while the skin was at the same time dry, hard, and somewhat roughened. The throat was moderately swollen, internally and externally, impeding somewhat both speech and deglutition. The patient was treated chiefly with Bell., till the evening of the fourth day, growing rather worse than better, at which time, in addition to her previous symptoms, she was, apparently, wide awake but positively asleep so far as perception or recognition of her surrounding relations were concerned. She no longer knew her attendants or heeded whatever was said to her. She was in great agitation and anxiety, with loud outcries, not screams, calling out that she wished to "go to bed," though she was upon the bed at the time. Immediately on being laid on her pillow she would spring up and call out that she wanted "to go to bed;" and this was repeated as often as she was replaced, with the assurance that she was already on the bed. She seemed to have no apprehension of what was said to her. The eyes were injected and staring. The aspect dull and heavy, though very

anxious, and apparently apprehensive. At six o'clock in the evening she got a dose of Sulphur. She now became more quiet, then fell asleep, had a good night, and in the morning appeared convalescent. She recovered from this time without accident.

It will be noticed there was a marked peculiarity in this case. The patient's eyes were wide open, even staring, and yet she seemed to see nothing. She seemed wide awake and yet to hear nothing. She paid no attention to any thing said to quiet or comfort her. No one of her senses seemed to recognize objects or relations around her. She did not know she was on the bed all the time she was so anxious to go to it. The whole state was so like that of sleep-waking, or somnambulism, that the resemblance could not fail of being recognized. The relation of Sulphur to this state is disclosed by the following symptoms: "The night walker gets out of his bed, as if unconscious, saying, 'my head, my head, I am insane;' and seizing upon the forehead. Rises from the bed as if somnambulant, thinks there is a fire, dresses herself, speaks out at the window in alarm, when she hears nothing, but is much debilitated and as if bruised for three days." The state of waking unconsciousness is here clearly disclosed, and though the expressions or hallucinations are not the same as those manifested by the patient, the general state of the two, it will be seen at once, as to essential particulars, was the same. The truth of this view is confirmed by the prompt recovery of the patient after taking the drug. Other similar cases have been relieved with the same promptness and completeness by the use of Sulphur.

This case, in connection with the above symptoms, gives opportunity for the remark that it is not the *literal* similarity of the pathogenetic record and the expressions of patients which the law of cure contemplates or requires, but a likeness of the essential nature of the symptoms as disclosed to the perception of the provers and patients, and the observations of others who may be capable of judging the objective phenomena presented.

(To be continued.)

## CACTUS GRANDIFLORUS.

BY DR. ROCCO RUBINI, NAPLES.

This cactus is of great importance on account of its beauty, its great size, and the sweet perfume of its flowers. The flower appears to be inimical to light, so that it opens as the evening advances and in the course of the night withers, closes, and dies before dawn of day. In having hid it from the sun and from the sight of man nature seems to have indicated some peculiar qualities. In having acted, just as man himself does when he hides precious objects for fear of losing them, she seems as though she would say, that this plant was a precious treasure for man himself. Still no one in ancient or modern times, as far as I know, has ever thought of interrogating her, and pressing her as it were to reveal her secrets. This was reserved for Homœopathy. She can boast of having succeeded in displaying the *wonderful antiphlogistic virtues*, and proposing to science another means of rapidly curing inflammatory diseases, without blood-letting. If my colleagues and brothers in Æsculapius, for whom I entertain the highest esteem, will give it a fair trial, they will certainly save those blood-lettings which have hitherto been deemed of such ordinary necessity, and they will not debilitate the systems of their unfortunate patients. In which case I shall esteem myself fortunate if I have contributed to the preservation of those vital forces which are so necessary to sick humanity for the organic reaction requisite to overcome disease. If my colleagues will make use of it, in order to obtain its full effects, they should take care that its action should not be interfered with, or indeed destroyed, by any other medicine. The preparation of this sovereign remedy is so simple, as I shall presently show, that any druggist and indeed any person may prepare it for himself, and have it ready for use and at the service of the doctor.

The characteristic feature of this Cactus consists in this, that while it develops its action *specially in the heart and its*

*blood-vessels, dissipating their congestions and removing their irritations*, it does not weaken the nervous system like Aconite. Hence it is preferable to the latter in all cases of inflammation, especially in patients of lymphatic and nervous temperaments.

The small pathogenesis which I subjoin, is but a tithe of what this medicine can produce in the healthy subject. My wife and I, when we saw that it acted so fearfully on the heart and circulating system as to produce weeping and fright (sym. 67, 74), had not courage to push our experiments further and thereby endanger our lives. I trust that others, endowed with more courage and less timidity than we, may be able to complete and to correct the pathogenesis where I may have erroneously described the symptoms. Every one is aware that repeated proofs are necessary, first on the healthy subject, afterwards on the sick, in order to acquire full conviction and certainty respecting the constant mode of action of any medicine.

This Cactus has cylindrical stems, furnished with five or six branches that are not very prominent, and beset with small spines arranged in a ray-like manner. Usually the flowers appear one by one, they are white, of considerable size, and of a very sweet odor of benzoic acid and vanilla. These flowers open in the morning and shut up at the rising of the sun and do not re-open. The fruit is of an oval shape, covered with scaly tubercles, fleshy, of an orange or fire red color, full of very small seeds, and of a slightly acid taste. In Naples it flowers in July, and though originally from Jamaica and the coasts of Mexico, it thrives well in the open air, in the mild climate of this enchanting country.

To prepare the tincture of Cactus, in the manner required by Homœopathy for all fresh vegetable substances, the youngest and tenderest branches and the flowers should be gathered in July; they should be cut into very small pieces and put to macerate in rectified spirits of wine, so that there shall be one part of the plant to ten parts of alco-

heart was very peculiar; it beat with great force and irregularity. There was no displacement nor valvular disease. She described it as if grasped with an iron hand. The palpitation was excited by any strong mental emotion or bodily exertion. It affected both the lungs and head, producing dyspnœa and violent throbbing head-ache. My impression is that she must have had pericarditis with the rheumatism, and that the heart must have been bound by bands of lymph, hence that concentric hypertrophy of the ventricles ensued. She was under my care, latterly assisted by Mr. Leadam, who found ulceration of the os and congestion of the cervix uteri, for about two years and a half—partly in this country where I visited her, partly in Italy where I sent her medicines. Although somewhat relieved chiefly by Belladonna and Naja, she derived no permanent good from the medicines I administered or the local treatment adopted by Mr. Leadam; on the contrary the last winter spent at Rome was by much the worst. She was confined constantly to the house, and was almost never free from pain; she wasted and her friends were apprehensive of her vital powers sinking under her long sufferings. The following extracts from the letters of this patient will put the reader in possession of all the knowledge I have of this matter, and I can answer for all that comes from her pen being absolutely trustworthy, if within the sphere of her own consciousness or personal observation.

“17th July, 1864.

“When I sent you from Naples the pamphlets of Dr. Rubini about the new medicine, the *Cactus grandiflorus*, I had not time to tell you what I knew of Dr. R. and his experiments. During the winter at Rome I had several times heard him spoken of and of the wonderful power of the new medicine. An English lady who left Rome suffering from bronchitis and an affection of the heart of long standing, derived so much benefit from it, that she could not praise it enough, and carried home a large supply with her. Dr. Rubini is a man past middle life, and has been ever since

1848 occupied in observing the effect of this medicine. In his pamphlet he speaks very modestly of his experiments on himself; but the fact is that he has suffered most severely in health from his perseverance in the cause of science. He holds quite the first place as homœopathic physician in Naples, and having private means has been able to do much good, which otherwise would not have been in his power. It was he who immediately, on the change of government, took advantage of the newly acquired liberty to found the Homœopathic Hospital, which had not been permitted under the Bourbons. His well-known liberal principles of course had kept him in bad odor, and every project of his was immediately quashed by the government. With regard to myself I have told you so often how horribly I have suffered that there is no need to repeat *that*, but I can say with a real satisfaction that the last time has been quite bearable; that I have faith when Dr. Rubini says that in a few months the pain will not return at all. I no longer look forward with dismay to certain days, and I have a hope that I may even get strong when this great suffering is so calm that I do not constantly lose the little strength I may have regained in the interval. Besides this, it certainly has done my heart and chest good.”

Although there is more promise than fulfilment in this statement, yet to one acquainted with the case—the severest of the kind and least amenable to treatment I ever saw—even this amount of improvement is a great achievement for any medicine to have effected.

It remains only to say that the translation of the pamphlet having been made by Dr. Dudgeon is a sufficient authentication of its accuracy—and that the supply of the *Cactus* sent me by Dr. Rubini is in the hands of Leath and Ross, Homœopathic Chemists, who have made all the usual preparations of it.

J. R. R.

(*To be continued.*)