PROGRESSIVE HOMŒOPATHY.

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There is no standstill in nature and there is no standstill in the sciences and arts; we either progress forward or backward. These few lines are intended to show the progress forward under existing circumstances. This is as pleasant a sight as is the acknowledgment of Richard Hughes, M. D., that the great opus of his creation, *The Cyclopædia of Drug Pathogenesy*, is *intended* to be the *Materia Medica* of the future. This, we opine, does not mean the *near* future, but a future far off. Rejected by the ungrateful present generation, it is hoped by R. Hughes & Co. that the opus rejected now will fare better than other works of other unappreciated authors—as, for instance, the *Organon* of Hempel, which, rejected by a large and respectable majority, progressed backward into the paper-mill.

The kind reader is reminded of the fact that the late Dr. Von Bœnninghausen published in 1863 a *Glossary to the Aphorisms of Hippocrates*. On page 280 we find the following foot-note (No. 30): "Many homœopathists will have found, with us, that there is a form of epilepsy most difficult to heal and which we often fail to cure if the patient falls into a deep sleep after an attack, from which they awake with a continuous pain in the cerebellum." Since the late distinguished Bœnninghausen wrote that foot-note we have progressed, and have a knowledge of the pathogenesis of Bufo, and just such cases, which are not infrequent and so clearly described by the great observer, have been cured by Bufo, provided it is properly administered. It is an easy way to condemn a prover and his provings, and we find Richard Hughes dissatisfied with Bufo provers, and he abuses them and rejects their provings. To judge of the correctness of a proving *a priori*, without having subjected it to the clinical experiment, is a supererogation, and if such an *a priori* condemnation comes from an individual who has not given any evidence of his capacity to make an experiment it is best to ignore it. At all events, the clinical experiment has repeatedly proved that Bufo, when properly administered, will cure epileptic attacks, especially when they occur during sleep at night. The sick may or may not be awakened by the attack, but when he does awaken from his sleep he will have violent headaches. Whether the modern backward-progressing compilers of materia medica reject such clinically-confirmed symptoms or provings

or not, the true healer will, nevertheless, make a note of them and will cure a form of epilepsy formerly incurable. That *is* progress.

The Guiding Symptoms of Our Materia Medica, by Dr. C. Hering, the master-work of the father of our school in this country, is now in a fair way of being continued, and that is another progress forward, while it appears that the great opus of Richard Hughes is by him pronounced to be a progress backward in the distant future, probably into "the paper-mill." *The Guiding Symptoms of Our Materia Medica* will guide the diligent student into a full knowledge of our materia medica and enable him to become a true healer and progress forward.

A progressive way to find the curative remedy can be pursued, even when our best repertories do not assist us. We again resort to the illustration manner. There are very rare chronic cases of illness in which it seems almost a hopeless task to find the similar remedy. A few prominent symptoms may be covered by a remedy and they vanish after it has been taken for a short time; a new set of symptoms sets in, and you can cover only a few of them, and the same unsatisfactory results follow. In the case alluded to, which might be diagnosticated chronic meningitis, some symptoms predominated. The headache was worse when lying down; relieved by remaining in a sitting position; when the pain increased a sensation like the globulus hystericus was complained of; *all the coverings of the neck felt too tight and were constantly loosened;* fullness, pulsation, and beating in the head. Glonoin, *Bellad.*, Gelsemin., had given relief at times; Lachesis only caused aggravation. Belladonna had given out; so had the repertories. It now seemed as if a remedy related to Belladonna in its sick-making actions had to be found. We took up the little work of the indefatigable Bœnninghausen on *Relations*, and finally came to Sepia. All other related remedies did not correspond with the case before us. There we found what we had been looking for in the four hundred and seventieth and four hundred and seventy-first symptoms in the fifth volume of *Hahnemann's Chronic Diseases.* No. 470—Pressure in the throat, no matter how little it is covered; No. 471—Pressure in the throat in the region of the tonsils, as if the handkerchief were tied too tightly around the neck. To our not small astonishment, we found, for the first time in this case, *all* the symptoms of the patient under *Sepia*, and the benefit she received from this remedy was as astonishing as it was unexpected. In no other way than by examining the relative remedies to the one which had most benefited her could we have been enabled to

find the similar. It is not often that the repertories give out, but they did in this exceptionally singular case, and we call our colleague's attention to a progress forward to find the remedy. The materia medica of our school is, as we have shown, progressive, and we may further progress if we enter earnestly upon the study of the relationship existing between the proved drugs. If we progressively develop our healing art, we cannot be persuaded either into distrusting and abandoning the great inheritance left us by the master in his *Materia Medica Pura* and *Chronic Diseases*, nor into declaring that the law of cure, *Similia Similibus Curantur*, is also not reliable, and that progressive abandonment of logic and principles, as well as general progressiveness backward into misnamed liberal and scientific planes, demands from every "physician" a condemnation of sectarianism and an entire reliance upon his own illogical judgment when to administer remedies according to the law of the similars and when to apply palliative treatment only. Progressive liberalism, untrammeled by any formula or law of cure, demands (so these men say) that we may, as scientific men, apply the law of the similars and the palliative treatment "*in alternation.*" Progressive freedom of medical opinion and action demand such a course. Let us have full freedom of action in these liberty-seeking days; let us defy all laws, natural and divine, as well as the laws of the land; let us malign, boycott, and punish, if we can, all men whom we deem obstacles to *our* progressiveness. This is the language and demand expressed in the organs of this liberty-seeking set of men, who, besides all other absurd demands, claim the freedom to practice and teach Homœopathy as *they* understand it and claim to be still entitled to the honorable name of homœopath while, in fact, they have abandoned all the tenets of the school long ago. The symptom, "every covering of the neck seems to be too tight," has been so frequently cured by Lachesis that it appeared almost a positively reliable indication for Lachesis. In the case above referred to this symptom was permanent, did not necessarily belong to the presumed pathological condition, and Lachesis, also sometimes otherwise indicated, especially for violent pains in the left ovary when menstruation sets in, always aggravated the symptoms and never gave the slightest relief. In seeking for a remedy it was thought best to find among the remedies one related to the one which had given the most relief (Belladonna), and there was set at the head of the list a symptom not necessarily belonging to the disease so called. The lady had her fingers continually on the dress covering her neck; when it was even wide, the very touch of it distressed her.

The above enumerated symptoms were found under Sepia, and to our knowledge Sepia was for the first time administered where these neck and throat symptoms were present, and this symptom disappeared entirely after Sepia, which remedy much improved the whole condition of the patient. Is it not evident that our *Materia Medica* can only be made more useful by carefully noting the clinical results? Is a daybook of provers, such as the backward progressionists, Richard Hughes & Co., now try to foist on the profession of any possible use till the symptoms experienced by the provers have been verified by the clinical experiment? And then, after arranging them in a proper manner, they become accessible and useful. There are many, a great many, symptoms recorded in Hahnemann's, Hering's, and other collections of proved drugs not yet verified by the clinical experiment, but they have just as good a right to remain on record as other symptoms that have been verified. In the course of time these as yet unverified symptoms will become "guiding symptoms." The student of the pathology that is found in the books, as well as the progressive healer who studies comparative pathology, is aware that even the known forms of classified diseases have changed their characteristic concomitant symptoms, and as one of the most palpable illustrations we mention "scarlet fever." The older physicians have all observed such marked changes, not only in the scarlet eruption itself, but especially in the concomitant symptoms, that in these changed symptoms quite a different class of remedies became curative at various times. Remedies most frequently called for in scarlet epidemics forty years ago, such as Ammonium carb., Lycopodium, and Calc. carb., are in the later epidemics not indicated. There was an epidemic requiring very often Mercurius jodatus, another epidemic required Apis and Arum trif., and for some years we have the old Sydenham scarlet fever for which Hahnemann found Belladonna so often the curative remedy. The next epidemic may call for an entirely different set of remedies, and symptoms may arise which now remain in our *Materia Medica* still unverified. In consideration of these facts stated, how is it possible for a thoughtful healer to fable about even the mere possibility of pressing diseases into a labeled pathological livery, much less demand the treatment of diseases by a *Materia Medica* read through scientifically ground pathological spectacles.

The progress forward was well illustrated by the published provings of Lithium carbonicum by the late Dr. C. Hering. If the progressive backward set of men, Hughes & Co., will take

up the third volume of the *American Review* they will find in it the daybooks of the provers, and it is a well-known fact that R. Hughes & Co. previously deplore Hahnemann's omission to publish the provers' daybooks. They should know that the publisher of Hahnemann's *Materia Medica* published the work from utterly disinterested motives, and only in grateful acknowledgment of the benefit he had received by Hahnemann's treatment. In the fourth volume of the *American Review* will be found an arrangement of the symptoms of Lithium carbonicum, including some clinical experiments and clinical confirmations. Hering and his contemporaries advocated a progress forward. But what of to-day? The progressiveness of our school will go on progressively; nothing can possibly check it. In the pathogenesis of Lithium carbonicum by C. Hering we find symptom 93: Acidity in the stomach was relieved by nothing so quickly as by Lithium. Here we have an evidence that curative effects of drugs frequently observed can by no means with propriety be expunged from our *Materia Medica*. Let our aim, as homœopathicians and true healers, be to progress forward and ignore the progressivists backward—leave them to their fate.

POINTS.

C. Carleton Smith, M. D.

Prophylamin.—In rheumatism when the needle held in the fingers gets so heavy she cannot sew.

Copious diarrhœa, with rheumatic pains in ankle joints, but not in the wrists; thirst for large quantities of cold water, similar to Bryonia.

Arnica.—Taste of rotten eggs, especially in the morning. Graphites: *only* in the *morning* after rising, disappearing on washing the mouth; Tart. emetic, taste of rotten eggs *only* at *night;* Chamomilla has stools like spoiled eggs, but not the eructations or flatulence; Psorinum has eructations tasting like rotten eggs.

Under Chamomilla, Ant. tart., Ars., Cina, Ignatia, Kali c., and Puls., the children want to be carried; under Ars., the child wants to be carried *fast;* under Bromine, wants to be carried fast on account of dyspnœa, as in croup; Cham., only quiet when carried; Cina has amelioration from fast rocking; Acon. also better from fast rocking.