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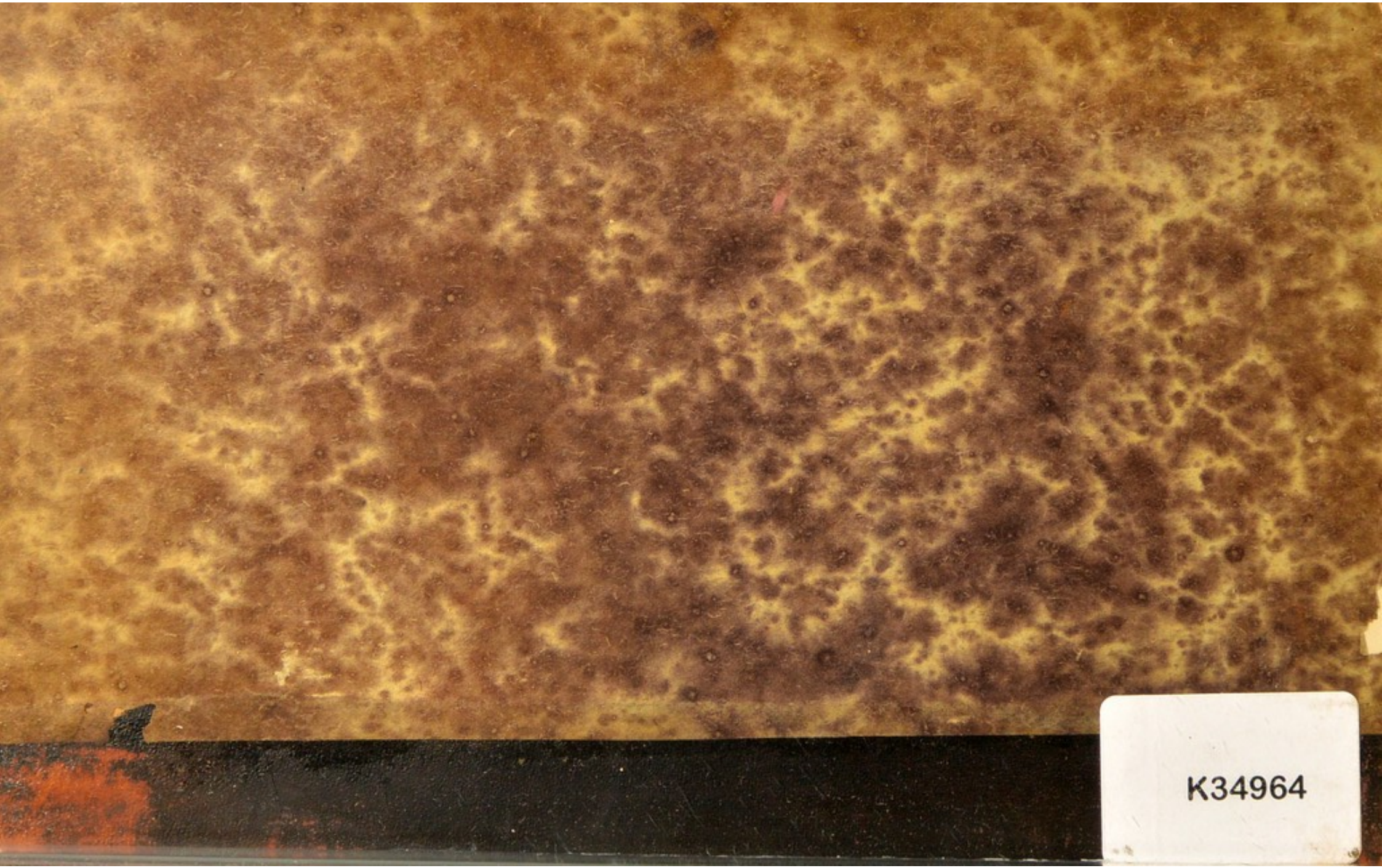
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TIC DOULOUREUX:

ITS CAUSES, SYMPTOMS, AND TREATMENT.

BY

WILLIAM MORGAN,

Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England; Member of the British Homœopathic Society; Author of a Treatise on Indigestion, &c. &c.; and one of the Medical Officers to the London Homœopathic Hospital.

ILLUSTRATED WITH A WOOD ENGRAVING, SHOWING AT ONE VIEW THE NERVES AFFECTED IN TIC DOULOUREUX.

Ὡς ἀεὶ τὸν ὅμοιον ἄγει θεὸς πρὸς τὸν ὅμοιον.
How God ever links like with like!

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AND ALL HOMŒOPATHIC CHEMISTS AND BOOKSELLERS.

—

1856.

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PREFACE.

The principles advocated in this essay were originally submitted (in an abbreviated form) to the Congress of British Homœopathic Practitioners, held at London, in the month of July, 1855, and the manner in which those principles have since been received, by many who are interested in, and anxious for the diffusion and spread of homœopathy, has induced a belief in the mind of the author, that a fuller and more complete exposition of the subject would be no unwelcome addition to the present literature of that doctrine.

In the investigation and treatment of the disease under consideration, he has dwelt as much on the anatomy, pathology, and symptomatology connected therewith, as the scanty limits of so small a treatise would allow of, and he ventures to hope, that the section devoted to therapeutics is so arranged, as considerably to facilitate the practitioner in the selection of his remedies.

74 *Connaught Terrace,*
Hyde Park.
Jan. 29, 1856.

INTRODUCTION.

In treating of the subject of neuralgia, or pain of the nerves, I feel that I am taking up a subject neither new nor unnoticed; on the contrary, the very anomalous nature of nervous diseases has left them long a riddle to the medical practitioner—a riddle that the most patient investigation has too frequently failed in solving.

This much, however, we clearly know; pain is mainly the result of nervous irritation. If pain arise from mental causes; if sorrow or anger, grief or passion, be the sources of their origin, the nerves are the wonderful and sensitive *media* through which those emotions are enabled to act upon the bodily frame; if pain arise from local injury, from fracture, from dislocation, or from decomposition of bodily parts, still the nerves are the active agents through which it is carried from one organ to another; nerves are, so to say, the life and death of the human system; through these nerves are conveyed its means, both of existence and destruction; through these wondrous—as it were—wire springs of life, we receive the influence that may stimulate or deaden all faculty; through these nerves we receive consciousness or forgetfulness; we are sensible to the minutest wave of the polarizing crystal, to the most delicate magnetic influence, though produced from a remote source; through them even the phantasies of mania assume a strange, often a healthy tranquillity; through them the powers of the soul develope themselves in all their might and God-endowed grandeur.

For, whatever be our view of the first grand source of human

life and action, it is an undeniable fact, that *electric force* is one of, if not the greatest means that a higher power has selected for the production, sustenance, and reproduction of both. And what is electric force but nervous influence distributed more or less throughout the body? What is the action of the blood but that of the most wondrous clockwork ever devised, keeping up with unerring and steadfast measure that motion which but some outward irregularity can disturb or suppress? What is the very medium through which life and its attributes of sense and motion are distributed, but that wondrous complication of small, sometimes almost invisible nerves, the off-shoots, as it were, of some of greater size and power, and finally terminating in their great nourisher and supporter, the seat of the soul itself? Through these nerves it is, that the human system is, as it were in a map, divided and traced out; through these nerves it is, that heat and cold, pleasure and pain are discerned; through these nerves, as it were through a living galvanic battery, we feel every emotion, gain every perception; through these, the brightest impulses of love and religion transmit their influence, and connect physical matter with the soul, with which God has made it animate.

Yet this wondrous organization is no less susceptible of the ills which flesh is unhappily born to undergo. The very delicacy of the nervous system renders it the ready path through which "pain and anguish rend the brow"; and hence the almost infinite variety of neuralgia, or painful affection of the nerves.

Neuralgia, in whatever form, or whatever chord of the nervous system it may attack, is, it may be safely affirmed, one of, if not the most distressing and painful affections which invade the living organism. I need hardly say that the term derives its characteristic appellation from the Greek νεῦρον and ἀλγὸς, and is understood by most pathologists to apply to all those painful disorders, which are, to all appearances, unconnected with any inflammatory or recognised lesion of a part: in fact, it implies a morbid exaltation of sensibility, without a perceptible organic change. As the whole system is lavishly

supplied with nervous branches varying in size and magnitude, from the great sciatic down to the minutest silk-like filament, so also may any part of the body be attacked with this distressing malady. It restricts itself to no particular locality, neither does it bestow any particular favouritism upon one organ more than another. The *head*, the *face*, the *neck*, the *mammæ*, and *testes*, are alike subject to its influence, in some while it runs its harrassing course along the intercostal, the sciatic, and the ilio-lumbar in others.

The greatest authorities of the present day, more especially the continental physicians, assign it a place among the affections of the more vital and important organs. Under the different titles of *gastralgia*, *gastrodynia*, *colic*, *ileus*, *hepatalgia*, *nephralgia*, *splenalgia*, *hysteralgia*, *mastodynia*, &c., while most of our own pathologists are also agreed that that very distressing and painful affection, "*angina pectoris*," arises from a morbid excitability of the cardiac nerves, leading to spasm of the muscular fibres of the heart and the great blood vessels.

Neuralgia may therefore be said to comprise a large class of prominent and important disorders, which, from their extreme severity, obstinacy, and in very many instances, profound obscurity, demand the most serious attention, the most close and careful investigation of the practitioner.

Neuralgia is a disease of no recent origin, neither does it (as I have before stated) confine itself to any particular locality or country. It did not escape the vigilant eyes of the ancient physicians, as the works of *Hippocrates*, *Cœlius Aurelianus*, *Aretæus*, as well as the Arabian authors, such as *Avicenna*, and others, teem with scattered allusions to this painful affection of the nerves. The inhabitants of the high table-lands are not more exempt from its ravages than those who are found on the borders of forests, rivers and swamps. Indeed, the whole human race are more or less liable to its attacks, whether they be natives of the Torrid Zone, the icy regions of Behring's Straits, or the remotest isle of the Polynesian group. I myself have met with it on the fair and beautiful isle of Madeira, on the swampy banks of the Demerara, as well as on the lofty ranges of the West India Isles.

Having made these few remarks on the general character and history of neuralgia, we will now proceed to consider that species of the disease which has popularly obtained the name of *tic douloureux.*

Since the days of Sydenham, the acknowledged father of English medicine, many able treatises have, by different authors, been written on this subject, and I believe that Dr. John Fothergill was about the first in this country, who, in a separate form, drew the special attention of the profession to it, and called it simply "a painful affection of the face." Soon after, or about the same time, M. André of Versailles wrote upon the subject, and gave it the familiar name which it has ever since assumed, that of *tic douloureux.* I may also mention Dr. Darwin, who speaks of it as "*hemicrania idiopathica,*" i.e., an affection by which *one half* of the nerves of the head are in a state of pain; Heberden as *dolor capitis intermittens;* Sauvages, as *trismus dolorificus;* Young, *antalgia dolorosa;* Chaussier, the French writer, gave it the name of *neuralgia facialis,* which was slightly altered by Good into *neuralgia faciei;* Kerrison and Hutchinson as *neuralgia facialis spasmodica;* Swediaur, *prosopalgia;* while others have assigned it that of *dolor faciei Fothergillii.* But these different names after all amount to the same meaning, viz., that of nervous and painful affection of the face, more or less spasmodic in its character, but evidently to be distinguished from many affections of a like nervous origin. Let us therefore consider the expressive name of *tic,* &c. both as to its applicability, and the symptoms it indicates.

Those who have either suffered from, or have medically treated tooth-ache, are aware that *vibration* is the active medium of pain; just as in battering a wall, it is not one stroke, nor another, that brings down the mass of masonry, but a series of blows, continually multiplying their force as one stroke succeeds another, and thus producing a gradual but certain decomposition and separation of parts; so it is with neuralgic pains, especially those which affect the facial nerves. Hence the feeling as if something were beating or pulsating, which is so repeatedly experienced by those suffering from

neuralgia, and hence the applicability of the name of *tic* to the complaint.

The word *tic* implies a convulsive movement or spasm, and as strong emotion, even when of a mental character, readily displays itself by muscular twitching and contortion, the name has been well selected by M. André to designate those feelings, when, in the paroxysms of facial pain, the patient feels as though something were moving in the cheek, oscillating like the pendulum of a clock, and from the proximity of the ear actually sounding. So clearly has this been felt by patients, that they have spoken of feeling as though something in the cheek went tic-tic-tic.

Another person speaks of the disease as commencing with a slight concussion, or ticking somewhat similar to that of a pendulum.

Several authorities have endeavoured to account for these vibratory sounds, but, as an able writer on the subject of neuralgia well observes, we can only *guess* at the cause of this sensation. It may, he thinks, possibly be occasioned by the spasmodic action of the nerve itself during the paroxysm; or, which is more probable, result from the implication of the auditory nerve in the diseased action; the idea of sound arising from irritation of the nerves of the ear, in the same way as flashes of light appear to the patient when those of the eye are disturbed.

It is now, I believe, pretty well settled that the source of mischief causing this distressing complaint, rests with the terminal branches of the fifth pair of nerves—*the trifacial.* This nerve, as we know, arises by two roots from a tract of yellowish white matter, situate in front of the floor of the fourth ventricle. It passes forward to the petrous portion of the temporal bone, where it spreads into a large semilunar shaped ganglion—"*the casserian.*" This ganglion divides into three main branches: the ophthalmic—the superior maxillary, and the inferior maxillary. The first, as its name implies, gives off (in the first place) a frontal, lacrymal and nasal branch, besides numerous twigs to supply the surrounding tissues of the orbit. The

second, or superior maxillary, passes forwards and makes its exit from the cranium through the foramen rotundum; it crosses the spheno-maxillary fossa, penetrates through the canal in the floor of the orbit, and emerges at the infra-orbital foramen, where it divides into a shower of branches, to supply the muscles and integuments of the face. This nerve gives off in its course, orbital, dental, muscular, and cutaneous branches. While crossing the spheno-maxillary fossa, you may remember it receives two ascending branches from Meckel's ganglion, and this appears to be the first communication which exists between the nerves of the face and that vast chain which forms the great sympathetic tract. The third, or infer-maxillary, leaves the cranium by the foramen ovale, and divides into two branches, internal and external; the first gives off four or five branches, which are distributed to the temporo-maxillary region, consisting of the masseter, temporal, and buccal, &c. whilst the internal divides into the gustatory, infer-dental, and anterior auricular.

In addition to this, there is another class of nerves which becomes affected with this complaint; and although grave differences of opinion did exist upon this point, still I should presume that there are now very few practitioners who doubt the possibility of the *portio-dura* of the seventh pair being similarly assailed to the other more superficial and sensitive nerves of the face. Whether this nerve, or its branches, be directly affected by the exciting cause, or whether from the close approximation, the extensive intertwinings and inosculations which are well known to exist between this and the other facial nerves, and thereby coming (as it were) into actual contact with a diseased surface, and that of the most sensitive character, I will not stop here to discuss.

There seems to be but one opinion as to the more frequent occurrence of neuralgia of the face, than any other part of the body; and there are many cogent reasons to be assigned for this peculiar susceptibility. In the first place, its continual exposure to atmospheric changes—heat and cold, dryness and moisture—its thin and fragile integument, scarcely defending the delicate machinery beneath—its mental vicissitudes. And

once more permit me to remind you of the effects of mental emotion (whether pleasureable or painful, whether in the blush of modesty, or the throe of anguish) on the skin, and so on the nervous system of the face. I may also point out to you how fearfully the face is the index of internal indisposition, and how often we have but to look in the face of the patient, to probe and fathom as it were the whole nature of his disease. In no case is this so apparent as in the disease of which I am now speaking—in no case does pain speak more clearly or more feelingly for itself.

There is another point connected with this subject which I think demands further consideration. I allude to the *anatomical* distribution of the facial nerves. We cannot help being struck with the immense mass of filaments distributed "*net-like*" all over the face, their more than ordinary size, their extensive inosculations, and above all their immediate contact and blending (as it were) with the skin, which brings them within the pale of those atmospheric changes, as well as the grasp of the subtle malaria.

Symptoms.

This disease sometimes announces itself by certain premonitory symptoms, such as a peculiar itching of the nose, sneezing, with a tingling, pricking sensation in the part about to be attacked; added to these we have at other times an increased secretion of urine, with a sense of rigor all over the frame; but it more frequently developes itself in all its frightful and agonizing horrors without even a moment's warning. The pain (if I may so term it) is of a specific character, and such as is not usually experienced in the ordinary course of diseases. It is of the most acute description, varying from a sharp, piercing, thrilling, stabbing, crushing, to a plunging sensation; it shoots through one or more branches of the *trifacial* with the rapidity of lightning, and acquires its utmost intensity in a very brief space of time. It seldom confines itself to one spot, but darts backwards and forwards from near to remote points with elec-

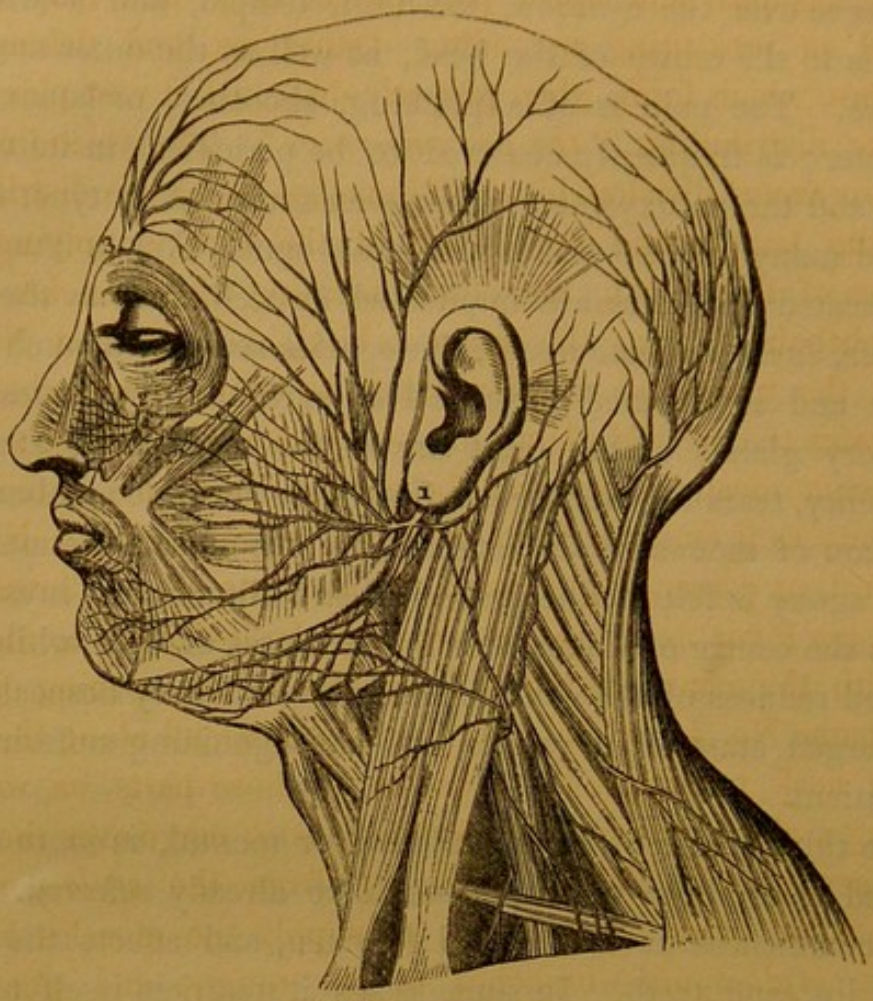
trical velocity. It seldom varies in its course, and appears in paroxysms, while each paroxysm is made up of a number of small attacks, and recurring at irregular intervals. The paroxysms vary in duration from that of a minute to half an hour, or even longer, and the severer the complaint becomes, the longer are the attacks ; it generally confines itself to one side of the face, and seldom crosses the mesial line. The parts affected become so highly sensitive that the most trifling movements of the facial muscles, either in chewing, gaping, speaking, or even the mere passing of a razor over the part, or the most gentle pressure, has frequently produced a recurrence of an attack. During the continuance of an attack the muscles are either in a convulsed or tremulous state, or they become fixed and immovable, whilst the features are frequently so distorted as almost to defy recognition. The temperature becomes exalted; the surface red, smooth, and shining, while the arteries pulsate, and the veins become enlarged.

It may attack the three divisions of the trigeminus as well as the portio dura, at the same time, but in the majority of cases it confines itself to one or other of the three divisions of the fifth pair. Tic douloureux may therefore for the sake of convenience be divided into supra-orbital or frontal, infra-orbital, or sup. maxillary, and mental, or inf. maxillary. The region supplied by the terminal branches of the sup. maxillary appears to be involved more frequently by this complaint than any other. The pain commences at the infra-orbital foramen, where it sometimes confines itself, and may be covered with the tip of the finger; but it oftener extends to the lower eye lid, alæ nasi, the upper lip, cheek, the gum and teeth of the upper jaw. In severe cases the pain takes a reflex course, by passing backward along the course of the nerve, and thereby affecting the more deep seated structures, such as the antrum, post nares, soft palate, root of the tongue, as well as the salivary glands, which is followed by a profuse discharge of that secretion from the mouth. The next in order of frequency is the ophthalmic, or rather its frontal division. The morbid sensation commences at the supra-orbital notch, and follows the course of

this nerve over the eyebrow, forehead, temple, and sometimes extends to the crown of the head, as well as the outer angle of the eye. The pain is of a pricking, shooting, or lancinating character; is frequently observed to be periodical in its visitations, and the paroxysms to assume an intermittent type, which has led many to confound it with brow ague. When the more deep seated branches are implicated as well, such as the *ophthalmic*, *lacrymal*, and *nasal*, this species assumes a much more severe and aggravated form. The surrounding tissues and secretory glands of the orbit are in the most acute state of sensibility, tears flow in torrents from the eye, while an abundant secretion of mucus is discharged from the nose; the most intense agony is felt in the eyeball itself; illuminated rays flash across the centre of vision with the swiftness of light, whilst the diffused redness of the conjunctiva but too plainly bespeaks the overgorged state of its vessels, and the agonizing sufferings of the patient.

The third division, inf. maxillary, or mental, is more rarely affected than those to which we have already referred. The pain commences at the mental foramen, and affects the chin, lower lip, and teeth. In some cases it restricts itself to this region, while in others it takes a more extensive range, and assumes a more severe form, by following the branches sent to the *portio dura*, thereby implicating the latter nerve; from this it also extends along the *ant-auricular*, following the course of the temporal artery to the temple and side of the head. In other cases it affects the more deep seated nerves, such as the *gustatory*, by means of which the same morbid sensation is conveyed to the tongue and the salivary glands; while the motor branches convey it to the internal ear and muscles of the cheek, producing spasmodic action of the same, and as a consequence, a distorted state of the features.

Those frightfully morbid feelings to which we have referred as symptomatic of this complaint, may be accounted easily for if, with the assistance of the accompanying diagram, we but trace the extensive blending and inosculation which take place between the three divisions of the fifth and the *portio dura* of



the seventh pair of nerves. A glance at this diagram, assisted by a reference to the brief anatomical sketch already given, points at No. 3 as the spot where the frontal branch of the *ophthalmic* makes its exit from the orbit to distribute its branches over the forehead; No. 2 the infra orbital foramen, where the second division of the fifth, the sup. maxillary, makes its appearance previous to dividing into a leash of filaments to supply the parts marked out in its course; No. 4 the mental foramen, situated to the left of the symphasis of the chin, is the spot where the mental nerve, a terminating branch of the inferior dental, being the second division of the inf. maxillary, presents itself; some of the branches pass forwards, while others take a backward course along the ramus of the lower jaw; No. 1 marks the spot where the *portio dura* of the seventh pair of nerves, "the facial proper," makes its debut, "*the stylo mastoid foramen;*" this nerve covers the whole of the side of the face,

temple, occiput, and upper part of the neck, and may be described as presenting ascending, transverse, and descending branches, which form, when properly dissected, a vast plexus or net-like distribution, "*the pes anserinus.*" The ascending, or *temporo-facial* division, gives off branches which are distributed over the temple and upper half of the face, supplying the muscles of this region, and communicating with branches from the ophthalmic, viz., the supra orbital, &c., marked No. 3; 2ndly, the transverse division takes its course across the face, penetrates the *perotid* gland, follows the course of Steno's duct, and communicates freely with the terminal filaments of the sup. maxillary as it emerges from the infra orbital foramen, No. 2; the third, or descending division, divides into several branches, some pass forwards along the ramus of the lower jaw to inosculate with the mental nerve as it appears at the opening of the same name No. 4; while other branches descend along the side of the neck, to supply the muscles of those parts, as well as forming a plexus with the *superficialis colli* nerve over the submaxillary gland. While emerging from the *stylo-mastoid foramen,* it gives off branches to supply the muscles of the tongue, *stylo-hyoid*—branches to the tongue and pharynx, branches which communicate with the pneumogastric, a branch which passes backwards, *post-auricular,* and ascends behind the outer ear to supply the muscles of that appendage as well as the occipito-frontalis. In addition to this, and while taking its tortuous course through the internal ear, it gives off branches to supply a portion of that wonderful piece of mechanism, (perhaps the master piece of God's creative wisdom) namely, the apparatus of hearing.

The communications which also exist between the nerves of the face and that vast chain of nervous matter, the great sympathetic, although not demonstrable in this plate, must not be forgotten, by means of which the closest intimacy is established between the *heart,* the *lungs,* the *liver,* the *stomach,* the *pancreas,* the *kidneys,* and intestines on the one hand, and the *face* on the other; while a morbid state of each, or either of those organs, has frequently been found to be the original cause of this very painful and complicated disorder. If we will but for

a moment take a retrospective glance of the anatomical details just given, it will at once become apparent how that in the agonies of "tic," the temple and forehead throb, the eye sparkles and flashes like a fiery meteor, while the tears trickle in gushes down the burning cheek; how the deglutition becomes difficult, the tongue fixed and coated, and the jaws clenched, while the saliva copiously flows from the mouth; how, the piercing, throbbing, buzzing and lancinating pains shoot through the ear, whilst even a whispered sound tends but to add fuel to the fire; how, the neck becomes stiff, rigid, and immovable, while the slightest motion produces the most excruciating agony; how, the most beautifully formed and placid countenance becomes thrown into a mass of frightful and hideous contortions; and how, the mild, the gentle, and unimpassioned mind, assumes the character of a raving, frantic, and delirious madness.

Causes.

When we have enumerated the varied and manifold causes which may produce an attack of this *protean* disease—causes frequently of an *obscure, undefined, mysterious,* and impenetrable character, arising perhaps from a morbid state of some remote and distant part of the body, it will at once become apparent how requisite it is for the sound and honest practitioner in medicine, whether he be a worshipper of the temple of *Galen,* or that of *Hahnemann,* to cultivate with care and assiduity sound *physiology* and *pathology,* as well as morbid anatomy. In fact, the investigation of the *fons et origo* of maladies is one of the most sacred duties of the surgeon, and the one upon which his very reputation and success in practice depends.

The lamentable mistakes made by some of the early disciples of homœopathy cannot be too deeply deplored, when they declared both in their writings, as well as in the arena of discussion, that the cultivation of *pathology* with its kindred sciences was unnecessary for the proper investigation of disease, and that *symptomatology* only was required to make a sound *homœopathic* practitioner. Had these gentlemen confined so shallow a theory within the limits of their own immediate

atmosphere, it would have mattered little, but when they openly perverted, misinterpreted and misconstrued the writings and philosophy of the master mind of Hahnemann, they committed a most unwarrantable and unpardonable error; and I hesitate not to say, that the publicity of such a doctrine has materially checked the progress of our cause, has deterred many a noble mind from joining our ranks, has placed a system which took the founder years of laborious study to perfect, in a position of the greatest jeopardy, and held it up to the derision, the abuse, and the scurrility of our allopathic brethren. Surely if evidence be required to prove the falsity of such a dogma, it will be found in the disease we are now treating upon.

The causes of *tic douloureux*, like most other diseases, are of a *predisposing*, *exciting*, and *pathological* character.

1. The predisposing—include age, sex, temperament, hereditary predisposition, and mode of living. It is the opinion of some able authorities that no age is exempt from this disease, even from the babe reclining softly on its mother's bosom to the aged and hoary headed centenarian; while others maintain that it only occurs after the thirty-fifth year. I think there must be some mistake here, as *Hempel* mentions the case of a young girl only ten years old who suffered from frightful attacks of *tic douloureux*. I have myself met with several persons subject to this disease whose ages were under 30. Sex appears to exercise but little influence, if any, over this disorder; the temperaments most liable to be influenced by it will be found amongst the nervous and melancholic, and in persons of an hysterical, hypochondriacal, rheumatic and gouty diathesis; the high liver and dyspeptic is often the victim of this affection, which accounts for its being so frequently met with in the higher ranks of society.

2. Among the exciting causes may be mentioned those arising from strong moral emotions, anxiety, prolonged mental excitement, constant watching, sudden changes of temperature, exposure to currents of air, sitting outside a carriage in bleak or frosty weather, sitting in wet clothes, standing or sitting on moist floors, living in cold damp cellars, or sleeping on a stone

floor; and since the able researches of Dr. Macculloch, it has undeniably been proved that a swampy locality with its miasmatic emanations is one of the most prolific resources of this disorder.

8. Amongst the pathological causes are a thickening of the walls of the cranium, osseous deposits, caries of a tooth, caries and exfoliation of the walls of the face, ossific deposits in the dura mater, the growth of tumours, pressing on the root of the nerve, aneurism, softening of a nerve, disease of the brain, derangement of the digestive organs, fæcal accumulations in the cœcum and sigmoid flexure, piles, *hyperhæmia*, congestion of or anhæmia (loss of blood) of a nerve.

In addition to these it may arise from local injury, such as severe burns, splinters of bone or foreign bodies penetrating a nerve, leech bites, the cupping instrument, wounds, contusions, some diseases of the skin, such as herpes zoster, suppression of habitual discharges resulting in metastasis, &c.

General Treatment.

From the numerous causes which exercise their influence over the facial nerves, and thereby producing what is familiarly termed *tic douloureux*, or what the learned editors of the British Homœopathic Quarterly Journal in their criticism on my paper would prefer styling *prosopalgia*, it is very evident that a more intimate knowledge of the cause and effects of disease is required to guide the conscientious practitioner in his onerous, perplexing, and too frequently trackless career, than is to be found in the various Domestics both large and small which have so long disgraced the literature of our doctrine, and have brought so much odium and reproach upon homœopathy as a science; to attempt to cure or eradicate a disease by a mere slender acquaintance with some of its outward manifestations, would be equally as futile and presumptuous as to attempt to palm upon the public a nostrum as a specific for all diseases; and let it be distinctly understood that the cases which accompanied my original paper on this disease, and which still maintain their position here, were not quoted as illustrations of the successful treatment of *tic douloureux* in *all* its phases, but were merely

brought forward to prove what amount of suffering could be alleviated, and what frightfully morbid sensations could be obliterated by a careful selection of two or three remedies. A disease arising from so many causes consequently demands an equal number of specifics, and as homœopathy embraces the whole universe within her grasp, selecting as it may suit her purpose either from the animal, the vegetable, or the mineral kingdom, a champion to cope with the multifarious and diversified maladies to which man is liable, an idea may be formed of the gigantic dimensions of our prospective Materia Medica, and the colossal task we have undertaken to perform; for let it be known that there is not a blade of grass that grows on the wildest heath, nor the smallest flower that raises its tiny head on the banks of some murmuring and insignificant mountain stream, that does not in itself contain medicinal properties of more or less value, and applicable to some form of disease, or to some symptom of the same.

It is true that comparisons are odious, and consequently it is with some reluctance, that I for a moment venture to take you, my readers, back to the sombre shades of old physic, when *harassed*, *disappointed* and *chagrined*, we in vain explored the whole range of the pharmacopœia, turned over and over again the huge and ponderous volumes of its Materia Medica, in search of some drug which would but give a moment's ease and comfort. How often have we tried in succession, the vaunted specifics so frequently extolled, whether of the animal, the vegetable, or the mineral kingdom. Again, if we sought the council of some noted authority or neighbouring friend, the result was equally as unsuccessful. "Take," says Dr. Elliotson, "carbonate of iron in large quantities; it will cure the disease:" on the contrary, "I have," says Sir Henry Halford, "seen a lady take during the course of her illness *twenty-seven pounds* of that mineral, and she still died a victim to neuralgia."

With *despondency* and *despair* knitting our brows, how often have we resorted to *bleeding*, to *leeching*, to *fomentations*, to *poultices*, to *lotions*, to *embrocations*, to *blisters*, to *issues*, to *setons*, and to *moxas*; add to these the many times we have applied powerful stimulants—the introduction of equally

powerful narcotics, or nervines, beneath the skin, by means of a sharp cutting lancet, when all these have failed—what next have we done. Why, we have plunged heedlessly and recklessly, (knife in hand) into the very substance of the flesh, and sought out the poor tremulous and agonized nerve, crouching with fear and despair, like the timid bird under the piercing, fiery, yet winning eye of the rattlesnake; but instead of removing the cause of this disturbance, we wilfully destroyed one by one, those delicate and tender tendrils, which gave so much beauty and expression to the countenance—yes, we severed the nerve, (and yet we did not remove the disease, for the cause was still left) but by so doing we produced palsy—and by such reckless treatment we converted a well formed face into a hideous and unsightly one.

Cases illustrative of the Cure of Tic Douloureux as they appeared in the original paper.

Case I.

Tic Douloureux of the three branches of the fifth or facial and portio dura of the seventh pair.

Mrs. C., æt. 42, residing at Pimlico, consulted me on 10th February, 1851; her statement was, that she had suffered on and off for some eight to ten years, from pain in the face—that she had consulted several private practitioners, in addition to which she had had the advantage of several eminent physicians, by attending at public institutions: the last gentleman she was under, was Dr. Lankester, who (from his well known talents) you may rely left not a stone unturned. She had taken besides other medicines, while under this gentleman, large quantities of Iron and Quinine, with very little beneficial result. She was recommended to try homœopathy, and placed herself under my care. She had for some days previously to this suffered from almost incessant pain, which appeared to implicate the whole mass of superficial, as well as the more deep seated nerves of the face. It confined itself entirely to one side of the face, observing with the greatest exactitude, the mesial line.

The forehead and temple beat furiously—the eye sparkled and almost started from its socket—the vessels of the conjunctiva, as well as the more deep seated ones were highly gorged, attended with sharp cutting piercing pains—there was profuse lacrymation —the cheek, nose, and lips quivered with pain, producing the most fantastic and hideous contortions of the features—bounding, throbbing, buzzing pains shot through the ear, appearing at the stylo-mastoid foramen, and passing forward along the side of the face, upwards to the temple and downwards along the side of the neck; this was followed by profuse salivary discharge, evidently implicating the parotid and the other salivary glands. The head was fixed, as well as the articulation of the upper and lower jaw—the slightest movement materially aggravated the symptoms. The tongue was coated and foul—deglutition was painful, even to the swallowing of a little liquid—every tooth felt as if wrenched from its socket—there was considerable gastric derangement—pyrosis and flatulency. The bowels were inactive—urine was high coloured, but copious.

Treatment.—℞ Tinct. Acon. ♎ gtt. iij,
Aquæ Distill. ℥ iss. M.
One fourth to be taken every 3 hours.

Feb. 12. She called upon me to day and expressed herself as being much better; considerable relief was experienced after taking the second dose of the medicine—the pains continued, but were of a duller character—the digestive organs were in about the same condition. I repeated the *acon.*, and gave besides *sulphur* 3, a dose alternately every six to eight hours. Three days after this she called to say she was quite well, the entire pain had been removed, while the dyspeptic symptoms had also disappeared.

Case II.

Tic Douloureux of the Superior Maxillary branch.

Mrs. D., æt. 30, consulted me on the 27th of May, 1852. She had suffered from facial pains for three years previously—she had consulted several medical men with scarcely any benefit; the pain commenced at the infra-orbital foramen. It affected the

lower eye-lid, side of the nose, and upper lip; it passed outwards and upwards over the malar and temporal bones, and again forwards to the forehead. Each attack lasted from six to twenty-four hours. This patient was subject to obstinate constipation—in other respects she enjoyed tolerably good health.

Treatment.—℞ Tinct. Bell. ♁ gtt. vj.
Aquæ ʒ iss. m.
℞ Colocynth. 3
Aquæ ʒ iss.

To take a teaspoonful alternately every two to four hours, to commence with *bell.*

She called upon me on the following day, and stated that the first dose had eased the pain, she slept well through the night (which she considered as a great treat) but dull lingering pains yet remained—the bowels were moved freely. I continued the *bell.* at intervals of six to eight hours, and omitted *colocynth.* On the 29th she called again and complained that those dull pains were still remaining. In other respects she felt very well. I gave her a few doses of *bell.* 3, which entirely removed the remaining symptoms.

Case III.

Tic Douloureux of the Inferior Maxillary branch.

Wm. Phillips, æt. 24, came under my care as out-door patient at the London Homœopathic Hospital, on the 7th May, 1855. He had been suffering for a week previously, from pain in the left side of the face; it first appeared at the mental foramen, where it might be covered with the tip of the finger; it then passed backwards along the ramus of the lower jaw, and upwards over the side of the face—his general health was good.

Treatment.—Tinct. Bell. 3.

A dose every two, four, or six hours, according to the severity of the symptoms.

May 17th. He attended again at the Hospital, and stated that three doses entirely removed the pain. He now applied for

further advice, as the pain had reappeared on the opposite side with great severity. I repeated the *bell.*, but prescribed a higher dilution, the 6th.

May 31st. Reports himself as cured; a few doses of this, a higher dilution, removed every vestige of pain.

Case IV.

Tic Douloureux of the Inferior Maxillary.

Ellen Mills, æt. 22, came under my care as out-door patient at the London Homœopathic Hospital, August 2, 1854. She had suffered for some months from facial pains: the symptoms present when she applied for advice were as follows: Darting shooting pains in the left side of the face, which appeared to commence at the mental foramen; it extended upwards to the temporal region; the gums were tender; there were no decayed teeth; the bowels were regular; urine was clear and copious; the catamenia had stopped for fourteen months. She complained of aching pains in the lumbar region, thighs and legs. There was puffiness of the legs and feet, increased towards night.

Treatment.—Bell. 6, a dose every six hours.

August 9.—The pains and other symptoms are about the same. Nux vom. 6, a dose every 4 to 6 hours.

August 21.—She has been very much better, a few doses of the Nux removed the pains; this was followed by a very important change in the system. Certain peculiar sensations in the abdomen led her to suppose, that she had unknowingly become pregnant. She had no recollection of seeing any signs of the menses for fourteen months, and these slight agitations were evidently the first movements of the child.

Note.—This case presents features of peculiar interest, involving as it does two questions: First—Is the removal of the pain to be attributed to the change of the medicine? or Secondly—To the shock given by nature to the mother in the quickening of the fœtus?

Case V.

Tic Douloureux of the Inferior Maxillary.

Wm. Raper, æt. 34, applied for advice at the London Homœopathic Hospital on the 29th January last; he had suffered from faceache for the last *five* months; he has been scarcely free from pain during the whole of that time; the paroxysms vary in duration; the pain commences near the septum of the lower jaw, it extends backwards along the ramus of the same, and as high up as the inferior half of the temporal region. His general health appeared tolerably good.

Treatment.—A few doses of Bell. 2 removed all unpleasant symptoms.

Case VI.

Tic Douloureux of the Portio Dura, implicating the branches of the fifth or trifacial.

On the 12th of November, 1852, I received from a lady residing near Shrewsbury, a written statement of her case, with a request that I would prescribe for her. She stated her age to be 36; of ardent temperament; strong feelings and acute sensibility; circulation rapid; had been subject to faceache for seven years. It was at first thought to arise from toothache, and having several decayed teeth, they were extracted, but with no relief; the pain came on in paroxysms, and sometimes lasted many days, during which she suffered the greatest agony. She stated that the mouth was clenched, which prevented her from eating for days, although the appetite was good. She had consulted several practitioners in vain. She found galvanism relieve her for a time, but this powerful agent, as well as *iron, quinine, chloroform, morphia, cum multis aliis*, had all lost their charms. The hop-pillow, from its well-known soothing properties, sometimes acted beneficially; but this was merely temporary. With this imperfect picture of her condition, I ventured on *belladonna*, and sent her some globules, saturated with the 3rd decimal dilution, to be dissolved

in half a tumblerful of water. A teaspoonful to be taken three times a day.

On the 23rd, I heard from her again, requesting a supply of the same medicine, as it had done her some good, and the pain had shifted from the face to the back part of her head. I therefore forwarded a supply of the same medicine.

On the 26th, she writes again, stating that she was much more free from pain, that she felt much stronger, and purposed visiting London in a few days.

On the 30th, I had my first interview with this lady, and found her written statement materially correct. She had suffered from this frightful complaint for seven years, and as time wore on the paroxysms became more severe, and their duration more lengthened; she was scarcely free from pain a fortnight at a time; the pain commenced at the *stylo-mastoid foramen*, implicating the whole of one side of the face and neck. It extended forwards as far as the mesial line, producing profuse lacrymation, an increased discharge of mucus from the nose, and a dribbling of saliva. There was considerable stiffness of the articulation of the lower jaw, whilst the slightest attempt to open the mouth produced the most agonizing pains. There was a throbbing buzzing pain in the ear; twitching and quivering of the muscles, which threw a well formed face into a series of hideous contortions. The bowels were generally regular, and the catamenia were natural. I further ascertained that she resided in a low swampy locality, and as it has been very ably and satisfactorily pointed out by Dr. Macculloch in his Essay on Marsh Fever and Neuralgia, published in 1828, that malaria is a frequent cause of this complaint, it struck me very forcibly that such may have been the case with this lady. I therefore gave her in addition to *bell.*, *arsenicum* 3, a dose to be taken alternately from every 12 to 24 hours. She continued with these two medicines for some weeks with marked relief, and a daily improvement in her general health. I had the gratification of receiving, after the expiration of three months, a most flattering letter, stating that every symptom had disappeared, and that her general health had in a great measure been restored.

After the enumeration of the above cases—cases in which the most inwardly painful, the most outwardly apparent symptoms are so fearfully and so clearly set forth—after my comparison of the old and new treatment of a complaint which has long baffled the most experienced and time-honored members of our noble profession—I may perhaps hope that you will give me credit, at least, for the desire to bring some little amount of experience to bear upon a field of human suffering, which has scarcely received due attention in any age—upon a style (so to say) of suffering, against which no human patience can afford a refuge, but from which I believe, from constant and honest experience, *Homœopathy* may rescue many a sufferer—may raise up many a new disciple, who shall stand in the breach between death and life, between pain and comfort, between the gratitude to the real medical man and the doubtful feeling towards those who still do battle for a fast-decaying system.

Therapeutics.

We shall now enumerate some of the principal medicines which have hitherto been found to exercise a curative influence over this distressing, and at times intractable complaint, after which we will briefly consider the medicinal effects of the most important of them; and it is hoped such an arrangement may be of some assistance to the practitioner in the proper selection of his remedies. The maximum or minimum of the dose, and the repetition of the same, which, since the foundation of homœopathy as a distinct science has probably caused more discussion and unnecessary dissension in our ranks than any other subject, is a theme on which I shall not presume, nor venture to lay down any specific rules, beyond what may be actually necessary as a guide to those who in the absence of proper professional advice, may be called upon to administer temporary relief in this complaint, or to state the result which has attended my own immediate success in practice; and while I will yield to none in my devoted attachment to and recognition of the science of homœopathy, my admiration of the beauty and simplicity of its ruling and guiding principles, and a candid,

honest, and conscientious acknowledgment of its curative agents, still I do claim to myself what I cordially and freely grant to others, viz., a free and unshackled liberty to exercise my own judgment and discretion to the best of my abilities, and however unsavoury it may be to that miserable remnant of our body who persist in blindly following in the footsteps of others, "venturing neither to the right nor to the left in search of any improvement upon the past," whether it be the last authoritative dictum of Hahnemann, or the visionary dilutions of Jenichen, I must candidly avow that my experience is in favour of low dilutions, especially in acute diseases. I have in the inflammatory sore throat witnessed the most remarkable effects produced by one drop of the expressed juice of the *atropa belladonna* administered on a lump of sugar, and allowed to be dissolved in the mouth, while repeated doses of a higher dilution (the 30th) was slow and uncertain in its results in some cases, while in others it had not the slightest effect. In the low muttering delirious stage of the deadly typhus, when the half opened mouth, the fixed eye and vacant countenance, the laborious breathing, the drowsy stupor, the dry offensive stools, and the involuntary flow of urine are present, I have seen the system roused and consciousness restored to a remarkable degree by repeated doses of a low diluted preparation of *opium*, while a higher one (the 12th) was entirely inoperative. In the inflammatory stage of gonorrhœa, when the patient is troubled with a frequent inclination to micturate, and attended with those frightful pains which are so characteristic of this complaint, I have had frequent opportunities of witnessing and testing the decidedly beneficial effects of the alternate administration of drop doses of the 1st and 2nd dilution, and even the Mother tincture of Cantharides and Cannabis sativa, on the one hand, and the unsatisfactory nature of, and disappointment attending the administration of a higher diluted preparation on the other hand. In the premonitory stage of that frightful scourge, the cholera, what man is there, however devoted and however bigoted he might be to the strict injunctions of Hahnemann, who would for a moment attempt with a globule of the 30th dilution of Camphor to resuscitate the shivering frame, give the

rosy tint to the pallid cheek and to the blue and livid lips, and arouse from its slumbers the paralized state of the nervous system, the result of the first invasion of the subtle poison? There are however amongst us thousands who have witnessed the miraculous effects of drop doses frequently administered of a strong solution of the same medicine. Again, in the irritable, corroding, and rapidly destructive progress of the phagedenic chancre, I have with deep concern witnessed its rapid spread, and threatened destruction of the surrounding parts when treated by a high diluted preparation of *arsenicum*, *causticum*, or *nitric acid*, while the application of a low diluted preparation of the latter, sixty drops of the pure acid to the ounce of water, has, after one or two applications, checked the further progress of the ulcer, and converted the angry, unsightly surface into a healthy granulating sore; while a still more diluted preparation of the same medicine, viz., ten drops of the acid to six ounces of water, taken internally in divided doses has effectually completed the cure.

But while I give a decided preference to low dilutions, and sometimes even to the crude drug, in the inflammatory or acute form of diseases, based as it has been upon an experience of some years duration, I beg it may be distinctly understood that I am not unmindful of the extraordinary curative powers which the more exalted preparations of our *Materia Medica* possess, in removing from the system those morbid feelings which for years have bound down and enslaved the mind, and in eradicating the latent "psora," which from the very depths and inmost recesses of the system, throws upwards to the surface, from time to time, the malignant pustule, the indolent tumour, the destructive and unsightly lupus, the running scall, the crusted tetter, and the wide spread scaly lepra, under the name of chronic diseases. In the secondary and tertiary forms of that direful disease, lues venerea, I have witnessed the most gratifying effects to follow the administration of the 6th and 12th dilutions of a well selected preparation,* in one such case, where the patient (a lady) had been previously drugged by large and

* This case was read at a meeting of the British Homœopathic Society during the Session of 1854-5.

frequently repeated doses of Calomel until profuse salivation was the result; when the mind became deranged, the ideas confused, with a suicidal tendency, when the scalp was studded with running pustules, the eyes be-dimmed and bloodshot, the foul ozœna trickling from the nostrils, with indolent greyish looking ulcers studding the tongue and fauces, and the skin bedecked with copper coloured blotches. I saw this motley group of symptoms vanish, like the mist before the rising sun, and entirely disappear in the course of a short period, after the administration of a few doses of a high diluted preparation of *aurum metallicum* the 12th, with the aid of an occasional dose of *nux vomica* 3, to keep in action a rather indolent state of the bowels.

In that frightful form of scrofula, *tabes mesenterica,* or abdominal consumption, when the child presents more the appearance of a parched up mummy than a living being, with its shrivelled and emaciated limbs, its large and protuberant abdomen, its constant and harrassing diarrhœa, its voracious appetite, with its unearthly countenance and hectic flush. I have not yet failed in purging and cleansing, as it were, the system of the foul and malignant matter which had taken entire possession of the lymphatic system, blocking up the canals and corroding the glands, and thus restore to the limbs their former roundness and beauty, in removing the unsightly aspect of the abdomen, in checking the all but incessant diarrhœa, in modifying the morbid appetite, in restoring to the face its former roseate hue, with its moulded form, its dimpled cheek, and its placid smile, and in banishing for ever that hectic flush, the invariable forerunner of death and the most unwelcome symptom which meets the gaze of the anxious physician, by the administration of *arsenicum, belladonna,* Mercurius sol., Hepar sulph., *veratrum,* Calcaria, and Sulphur, of the 6th and 12th dilution.

Again, in that serious and fatal form of cerebral disturbance, the serous apoplexy of old age, several instances have occurred in my own practice where an opportunity was offered of testing the respective merits of the high and low dilutions of our medicines, and here I must again give a decided preference to the latter; the astonishing result which followed the adminis-

tration of *belladonna* 3, and the third triturated preparation of *mercurius solubilis*, in one of these cases, was so remarkable that it would almost induce the over credulous to believe the days of miracles had again appeared: it was that of an elderly gentleman who had already reached the prescribed limits allotted to human existence; he had for some months previously to my first seeing him been attended by three of the most eminent London physicians, besides his usual family attendant, who were unanimously of opinion that the case was one of softening of the brain. A few hours before I had been summoned to the bedside of this gentleman, the symptoms had assumed so serious and hopeless a character, combined with the grave and ominous looks, and the unsatisfactory opinions which these skilful and popular physicians had formed of their patient, that it was thought expedient to summon all the members of the household around the bed to witness the last moments of their venerated master—but it was decreed otherwise. On the day following this distressing scene, it was decided, in spite of the supposed hopelessness of the case, that the remarkable and to many, mysterious system of medicine, called "homœopathy," should be put to the test. I was selected for that purpose. I found my aged patient in an insensible state; the features were pale and collapsed; the breathing was somewhat quick and stertorous; the pulse was rapid and intermittent; the eyelids were half closed, and the the pupils dilated; the muscles of the right arm were contracted, the limb was drawn at right angles and firmly fixed across the chest; the urine passed involuntarily; and the bowels were costive. These symptoms, together with other circumstances, led me in the onset to differ in opinion with my learned and distinguished predecessors as to the *cause* which had produced such serious mischief, and although it has been considered by some of our most able authorities a most difficult task to distinguish between the morbid feelings indicative of softening of the brain, and the symptoms which follow the result of sanguineous or serous effusion, still I am persuaded that there are landmarks sufficiently palpable and prominent to the close observer to enable him to point out the distinguishing

characteristics between the former and the latter disease. It will be sufficient here to observe, that my diagnosis was a correct one, and that under the influence of the medicines just referred to, the amount of pressure upon the brain was so far removed at the expiration of four days as to enable him to answer questions, the correctness of which would have astonished the most sceptical mind. On the eighth day the following remarks appear in my note book: is evidently better; more conscious, his sentences are longer and more connected; bowels have been moved, colour and consistence natural; pulse considerably less intermittent, sixty strokes without faltering; urine natural; tongue moist; takes nourishment freely. It may further be added, that under the influence of *belladonna, cocculus, mercurius sol., baryta carbonica, opium, stramonium, nux vomica, coffea, lachesis, hyoscyamus,* varying from the first to the sixth dilution and triturations, this gentleman lived for upwards of eight months; and I am seriously and solemnly impressed with the idea that had it not been for circumstances over which I had no control, this case would still have remained a living monument for testifying to the efficacy and value of the homœopathic mode of treating diseases.

With these illustrations, selected as they are from cases of frequent, and I may almost say of daily occurrence, I would fain hope that sufficient evidence has been adduced to justify the practitioner in taking a wider range in the selection of his dose, and the repetition of the same, "than is permitted in the last authoritative and fantastic injunctions of Hahnemann, and which are still maintained in this country by an 'infinitesimal' portion of his disciples." They will also, I hope, serve to exonerate him from unworthy motives, as well as to defend him from the tongue of the evil doer. The very essence of homœopathy, in my opinion, consists, not as is represented by some in the high diluted state, or *spiritualization* of the medicines, but in a careful and accurate diagnosis of a disease, and in an equally careful and accurate selection of a remedy administered in strict accordance with that beautiful, simple, and never failing guide, the law of similitudes.

The dose, or potency, or by whatever name we are pleased to

call it, I repreat, should be left entirely to the discretion of the practitioner, who (guided by the picture of the disease, with its attendant evils or aggravations, as well as by the age, sex, temperament, hereditary predisposition, idioscyncracy, its sthenic or asthenic character, &c., of the patient,) ought, I presume, to be the best judge whether a drop of the first dilution, a grain of the first trituration, or a globule of the 30th or the 200th dilution, is the most appropriate dose, and whether such doses should be repeated every two, six, twelve, or twenty-four hours in the one case, or to wait for seventy days and watch the effects of a globule of the 200th dilution in the other.

Selection appropriate to the cause or condition.

Aconitum, Belladonna, Arsenicum, Chincona, Spigelia, Colocynth, Lycopodium, Platina, Staphysagria, Mazerium, Aurum metallicum, Veratrum album, Digitalis purpurea, Stannum, Hepar sulph., Conium, Thuja.

Aconitum napellus (Wolf's bane) is undoubtedly a heroic remedy in inflammatory affections of most kinds, and well may it be termed the lancet of the homœopathist. In the inflammatory form of tic douloureux, this is one of the first medicines which should be consulted, and it is the one which the practitioner can most frequently rely upon with the greatest prospect of success. This therapeutic agent has long been a favourite remedy among some of the most eminent of our allopathic brethren, and is administered by them internally combined with *calomel*, *guaicum*, and the golden *sulphuret of antimony*, as well as applied externally in the form of an ointment. *Dr. Copland* speaks in the highest terms of it. The symptomalogical effects of this drug, as being applicable or "Homœopathic" in certain forms of *tic douloureux*, are a chilly shivering sensation over the body, with cold feet, great agitation, and a feeling of despair; shooting, throbbing pains in the head; one side of the face bloated, hot and red, while the opposite side retains its natural temperature and colour; crawling, burning pains in the cheek, appearing in paroxysms; distortion of the features; *eyes*

inflamed, with deep redness of the vessels; profuse lacrymation; tearing, shooting pains in the globe of the eye; the eye sparkles, is convulsed, and feels as if about to start from its socket; lancinating pains shoot through the teeth; stiffness of the jaw, rigidity of the neck, deglutition difficult.

Atropa belladonna (Deadly nightshade), stands next in importance as a curative agent in the inflammatory form of this complaint. It is a remedy that has gained for itself a wide spread notoriety in all affections appertaining to the nervous system, including mania, epilepsy, chorea, convulsions, tetanus, craziness, hydrophobia, gastralgia, hiccough, whooping cough, amaurosis, hysteria, eclampsia, and neuralgia in general. In neuralgia facei it is indicated when the attack is ushered in by a sense of coldness and shivering of the whole frame; fulness, heaviness, and a violent pressure in the head, principally over the forehead, eyes, and nose; sharp, darting, cutting pains on one side of the head and face; violent throbbings in the head; determination of blood to the head; a feeling of congestion in the head; burning heat of the face, attended with a glowing redness and bloated appearance; shooting, pulsating, and burning sensation in the cheek; prominent beating of the arteries. A wild, unearthly, vacant, and wandering look; aching, boreing pains in the substance of the eye, extending into the brain; involuntary closing and quivering of the eyelids; redness of the eye, with injection of the superficial and deep seated blood-vessels; the eye convulsed and moves spasmodically; a flow of acrid, corrosive tears, which trickle down the cheek. Aching, piercing, pinching pains shoot through the ear, with at times a murmuring, buzzing sensation. Grinding, tearing, and piercing pains in the teeth, giving the sensation as if they were all wrenched from their sockets; swelling and tenderness of the gums; fluent coryza from one nostril; painful constriction of the fauces, with stiffness of the tongue; pain and difficulty in swallowing.

Arsenicum metallicum (White arsenic) has long held a prominent place as an anti-neuralgic remedy amongst the therapeutical agents of the old school, but it was little dreamt of until the brilliant discoveries of Hahnemann, that the symptoma-

logical effects of this metallic preparation were homœopathic to and consequently curative of the ravages of tic when arising from malaria or exposure to cold. It is more particularly indicated in those cases which assume a periodic or intermittent form, in persons of an hysterical temperament, and where the cause can be traced to functional derangement of the uterus, such as congestion of that organ, with irregularity of the catamenia, &c.

I have met with many cases where *Arsenicum* has succeeded in performing a cure after the unsuccessful administration of several other remedies, and especially when I have been enabled to trace the cause to sudden changes of temperature, or to the subtle and poisonous miasm which treacherously and imperceptibly floats over the soft and spongy bog on the midnight heath. The symptoms denoting the administration of this medicine are excessive headaches of a periodical character; stitching, lancinating pains over the eyebrow, temple, and root of the nose, which go off soon; violent tearing pains in the substance of the eye, increased on the slightest motion; redness of the eye; œdema of the eyelids; profuse discharge of tears, hot and scalding, producing pain in the cheek while trickling down; distortion and protrusion of the eye; wild look; lancinating pains in the internal ear; drawing, tearing pains behind the ear, extending down the neck; buzzing, whizzing sensation in the ear with each paroxysm of pain; pale and sunken countenance; contortion of the features; spasmodic action of the facial muscles; jerking, tearing pains in the teeth; the teeth feel as if they were loose; gums tender, &c.

China, cinchona (Peruvian bark.)—The different preparations of this drug have long been held in the highest estimation as a remedy in various forms of neuralgia, as well as in febrile affections, particularly those of an intermittent type. There is something that is both pleasing and instructive to the mind when it contemplates the remarkable career connected with the history of this medicament, and it plainly shows (if illustrations be wanting) the important events which frequently follow the result of accidental discoveries. It was to a wild, untutored, and savage Indian that the world was first indebted for pointing

out the febrifugal properties of this medicine. Roaming about the mountains and valleys of his native country, Peru, this swarthy denizen of the forest became stricken with fever. He sought the shade of a neighbouring tree, under which lay in placid serenity a silvery and limpid spring, which received day by day into its bosom the fallen leaves and withered branches of the overhanging *cinchona*. An opportunity so inviting to cool the fevered brain and moisten the dried and parched up tongue of the hunter required but a moment's thought; he partakes copiously of the impregnated water of this hitherto unknown elixir, which was followed by a rapid restoration to health.

Since its first introduction into Europe "by the Jesuits," in 1640, there is no drug that has played a more important part in the field of therapeutics than the one now under consideration. At one time the most extravagant encomiums were passed upon its supposed unsurpassable medicinal properties. In fact, it was considered as a panacea for all disorders. But as time wore on the test of experience too faithfully proved these lofty assumptions to be in a great measure groundless, and its sphere of usefulness became more and more restricted, until that same test assigned to it its proper position in the list of therapeutics, a position which it has an undoubted right to enjoy, viz., that of a febrifuge anti-periodic and a tonic.

In 1790 it again fell to the lot of this drug to play a still more important part in the arena of medical science, a part which has gone far to uproot and throw to the four winds the preconceived opinions and prejudices which for ages have built up that incongruous temple of learning, and has shaken the whole fabric to its very foundation. It was in that ever memorable year that the dawn of light first flickered and then gloriously burst upon the mind of the German philosopher and physician,—that God had not denied to the healer of the sick what he had granted to the mariner, viz., a law to guide him in his trackless course. It was in that year that Dr. Samuel Hahnemann, discontented and disappointed with the uncertain results of the *Hippocratic* and *Galenic* mode of healing,

sought, from the very depths of his sorrow and despair, some more direct, more certain, more successful, and more expeditious mode, whereby he might be able to relieve the living organism from the meshes of disease. It was in that year and while translating the celebrated works on Materia Medica of that no less celebrated Scotch physician, Dr. Cullen, that his eye glanced upon a sentence in the article on the Peruvian bark, which laid the foundation of the homœopathic doctrine, —that Cinchona was a specific in intermittent fever, and that it frequently produced upon the healthy subject symptoms analogous to the same kind of fever. Hahnemann's experiments upon himself proved the correctness of this statement. He says:—"The first trials of Cinchona which I made on myself, and which showed to me that it has the power of exciting an intermittent fever, date as far back as 1790. These provings revealed to me the dawn of a brighter day in therapeutics, for they showed to me this great truth,—that diseases can only be cured by drugs that are capable of exciting diseases in the healthy organism, the totality of whose symptoms corresponds to the totality of the phenomena that characterize the natural disturbance."*

In tic douloureux it is best suited for persons of a meagre, dry, and bilious constitutions, or leuco-phlegmatic temperament; where the attacks assume an intermittent or periodic character, and where the cause can be traced to malaria, &c.; when, in addition to the rapid, darting, or twinging pains so characteristic of tic, we have a pressive headache, as if the head were going to burst, with strong pulsations of the temporal arteries; when the pain is further increased by the touch, movement, or the slightest exposure to a current of air; in fact, in those cases where we find the most exalted sensibility of the skin, and even of the roots of the hair, &c.

Spigelia Anthelmia (Pink root or Indian pink).—Since the introduction of this medicine into Europe, in 1739, its valuable properties were unknown beyond that of a powerful purgative and vermifuge, until it passed through the searching crucible of the master mind of Hahnemann. It is best suited for per-

* Mat. Med. Pura, ii, art. Cinchona.

sons of a nervous temperament, and is indicated in those cases of tic which assume an intermittent type, and where the opthalmic division of the fifth pair is more particularly affected, such as deep seated, digging, boring pains in the substance of the eye, extending into the brain, and followed by a feeling which drives one almost to despair; the eyeball feels too large for the socket, while the slightest movement of the orbital and facial muscles greatly increases the intensity of the pain; the blood vessels of the *sclerotic* are highly injected; luminous rays flash before the sight; lacrymation is profuse, acrid, and smarting; pulsating and lancinating pains in the forehead and malar bone, which are highly sensitive to the touch; the pains appear on the left side, and are frequently attended by anguish and uneasiness about the heart.

Cucumis Colocynthis (Colocynth or Bitter cucumber).—Although the majority of the profession have limited their experience to the well known purgative properties of this drug, still history relates a few authorities who have prescribed it with good results in various derangements of the nervous system, such as *epilepsy, melancholia, mania, sciatica,* &c. In the hands of the homœopathist it is of infinite service in a variety of diseases, and amongst them is that of *tic douloureux.* It is best suited for persons of a sthenic, bilious, choleric, and melancholy temperament, likewise those of a lax and scrofulous constitution, and in those cases where the cause may be traced to sudden fits of anger, mortification, and chagrin; when the attack comes on with a kind of itching, tingling sensation in the forehead, followed by intense, tearing, burning stitching pains, attacking more frequently the left side of the face, and extending to the head, temple, molar teeth, as well as behind the ear; the regions corresponding to the pain are red and swollen, and highly sensitive to the touch.

Lycopodii pollen.—A yellowish, dust-like powder, collected from the ears of a cryptogamous plant, the Lycopodium clavatum (wolf's foot,), which grows in the rugged and mountainous forests of Russia and Finland. Very little importance had been attached to this vegetable production in any age beyond its use as a substitute for magnesia or liquorice powder in wrapping up

pills, &c., or imitating lightning in theatres, which from its well known combustible properties was well adapted for that purpose, until it occupied the attention of Hahnemann, who converted (by the powers of trituration and succussion) this hitherto considered inert and almost valueless substance into one of the most wonderful and powerful remedies which grace the Materia Medica of our school. In tic douloureux it is best adapted for persons (especially females) of a soft, mild disposition, given to melancholy, and of a leuco-phlegmatic temperament, and where the cause can be traced to derangement of the liver, kidneys, stomach, or intestines. The symptoms indicative of its use are tearing, stitching pains on one side of the head, commencing in the temple, extending to one side of the forehead, eyebrow, and root of the nose; the pains occur in sudden jerks or stitches, which irradiate over a given space; darting, throbbing, jerking pains in the orbit, extending from within outwards; the eye feels as if forced inwards; redness of the eye, with profuse corrosive lacrymation; tearing pains around the eye, extending into the forehead and cheeks; roaring, humming, or whizzing pains in the ear; pains extending sometimes behind the ear and to the occiput. Alternating distension and contraction of the nasal muscles, with pressure on one side; tearing pains on the outside of the nose, near the inner canthus; flushes of heat felt in the face, with no perceptible redness; tearing pains in the malar and upper jawbone; spasmodic jerks and twitches in the muscles of the cheek and lips, producing deformity of the mouth by drawing it on one side; the teeth are exquisitely sensitive and painful to the slighest touch; drawing, boring, throbbing, stitching pains in one or more teeth; the tongue feels enlarged, painful, and darts involuntarily out of the mouth; bitter taste in the mouth; nausea, acrid eructations, pyrosis, &c.

Platina.—This silvery-looking, ductile metal is seldom met with in a pure state, but generally mixed with *iridium*, *omnium*, *palladium*, &c., and is found in the sandy shores of some of the Peruvian streams, down deep in the mines in the far and inhospitable Siberian wilds, as well as in the auriferous sands of the Ural mountains. It was unknown as a medicinal agent

until it fell under the scrutinizing eye of the founder of homœopathy, who, by the power of trituration and succussion, developed medicinal properties of great value. It has been administered with considerable success in various affections of the nervous system, such as *catalepsy, eclampsis, hysteria, nervous cephalalgia, mania, melancholy, odontalgia,* as well as various derangements, structural and symptomatic, of the uterus, &c.; it is more particularly indicated for persons of an excitable temperament; and in tic douloureux, where the face assumes a pale and sunken appearance, where there is a feeling of coldness, with a creeping, palsical sensation; jerking, cramp-like pains in one of the nasal wings, coming and going at irregular intervals; involuntary twitching of the eyelids; jerking pains in the lower jaw; tensive pains in the chin, as if pressed between screws; a cramp-like pain running along the lower jaw, &c.

Staphysagria—stavesacre, wild vine. This perennial plant, a native of the South of France, Italy, and Greece, is scarcely known as a medicinal agent by the old school practitioners of the present day. It was used by the ancients as a *sialagogue*, and recommended by *Dioscorides* as a cure for toothache, &c. The homœopathic applications of this drug are both numerous and valuable in some of the most important and serious derangements of the organism—such as scrofulous and scorbutic affections; cancer, polypus in the nose, gastralgia, sciatica, coxalgia, gastric and bilious affections, hysteria, hypochondria, scabious eruptions on the head and body, and those frightfully loathsome and hitherto considered intractable affections which arise from the abuse of mercurial preparations.

As a remedy for tic douloureux it is more particularly indicated for persons of a broken down constitution, of a hypochondriacal and taciturn disposition, pale, sunken, cadaverous countenance, who exhibit a constant uneasiness about their health; of extremely sensitive feelings, with a deficiency of animal heat in the extremities, &c.; where the teeth are black, brittle, and decayed, with drawing, tearing, pressive pains in the same, extending into the eye; pain and spongy swelling of the gums, which easily bleed; swelling of the sub-maxillary glands and one side of the face, attended with excruciating pains, as if the

bones were affected; lancinating pains in the head, as if a nail were driven into the brain; lancinating pains, with spasmodic closing of the eyes; black flashes and luminous sparks dart before the eyes, &c.

Mezerium, mezerion, daphne mezerium, a native of the Alps and Pyrenees, ranks next in importance to the former medicine as a remedy in those cases of *tic douloureux* which are complicated with an unhealthy, cachectic state of the constitution, in persons of a hypochondriacal and melancholy temperament, with a pale and wretched appearance of the face, subject to scrofulous affections, glandular swellings, old and uneradicated syphilitic ailments, with cutaneous eruptions, &c., when the inferior maxillary branch and its filaments are more particularly affected; or when the paroxysm commences at the cheek bone, and extends to the eye, temple, ear, teeth, down the neck, and even to the shoulder of the affected side, with violent and frequent jactitation of the muscles of the cheek and eye, with deep-seated tearing pains in the ear, &c.

Aurum metallicum (metallic gold).—The pathogenetic effects of this valuable metal, filling upwards of twenty pages of Hahnemann's insurpassable work on chronic diseases, is an irresistible proof of the wonderful medicinal properties which are found nestling in the very atoms, which aggregately form those bodies which for ages have laid deeply imbedded in the profound and mysterious womb of nature; and which required but the breath of genius to fan into a flame. Aurum has long been held in the highest estimation as a curative agent, and more particularly by the Arabian physicians, who administered it in those very affections which centuries afterwards were found by the experiments of the founder of the homœopathic doctrine to have been homœopathic to those diseases. *In tic douloureux* it ranks next in importance to the two former medicines, in those cases which develope themselves in the old standing dyspeptic, arthritic, cachectic, scrofulous, mercurial, syphilitic and broken down constitutions, in persons of a hypochondriacal, melancholy, and phlegmatic temperament, exhibiting a dejected, peevish, and unsociable mood, coupled with a tendency to suicide, &c.; when the paroxysms are of a grinding, boring,

throbbing character; a sensation of a rush of blood to the head; a wild, excited appearance of the eye, spasmodic pressure of the eye, as if it was pressed inwards, tension of the eye, with fiery sparks before the eye; roaring, crackling noise in the ears; shooting pains at the septum of the nose, and at the infra orbital foramen; violent tearing, stitching pains in one side of the face; shooting pains in the teeth; the teeth feel loose by sudden paroxysms; the teeth ache by merely opening the mouth; pain in the face relieved by pressure, &c.

Veratrum album.—WHITE HELLEBORE.—A native of Italy, Switzerland, Austria, and Russia. This medicine may be administered with great advantage in those cases of tic where *chincona* and *arsenicum* are indicated, and when the pain confines itself to the right side of the face, of a pressive character, recurring in paroxysms, and sometimes attended with partial delirium, &c.

Digitalis purpurea (Purple foxglove).—This beautifully bell-shaped flowered plant, which is frequently cultivated in our gardens, and found growing wild on dry and sandy hills, woody slopes and in our thorn-bound roads and lanes, has long held a prominent position in the Materia Medica of the old school. It is a medicine of great antiquity, and is supposed by some authors to be the baccharis of Dioscorides, from which the baccharion salve of Hippocrates was prepared. In tic douloureux it is indicated when the pains assume a cramp-like drawing character, principally in the malar bone, and preceded by a peculiar corrosive itching, and convulsive state of the muscles on one side of the face; the cramp-like pain is a peculiar characteristic for the indication of this medicine; it is also of great service in those cases which are complicated with an asthmatic and constrictive state of the chest, attended with irregular action of the heart, &c.

Stannum (tin).—This, like most other metals, had been scarcely recognized as a medicinal agent in any age, excepting its occasional administration as a vermifuge, in pulmonary phthisis, cancer, some forms of hysteria, as well as in old, indolent ulcers, until it fell under the observation of Hahnemann, whose remarkable proving of this substance occupy upwards of

twenty pages of his work on chronic diseases. The pathogenetic effects of this preparation as being applicable to certain forms of tic, are a sudden sharp pressure on the top of the head, relieved by using pressure with the hands; violent jerks through the frontal region; sudden jerks in the left temple; drawing pressure over the left supercilliary ridge; sudden intensely dull shocks on the outer border of the left orbit, with tensive stitches in the eye-ball, increased on the slightest movement; face pale and sunken; features look careworn; cramp-like pressure in the muscles of the left malar bone, with a kind of burning, itching, stinging sensation; the teeth feel elongated and loose, with jerking pains in them.

Conium maculatum (common hemlock), is valuable for a flashing, tearing pain in the right half of the face, recurring every two to five minutes; or for a stitching pain in the right cheek in front of the ear, sometimes accompanied with tearing. These pains are sometimes preceded by a corrosive itching on the part about to be attacked.—*Hartmann.*

Hepar sulphuris calcarium (Sulphuret of lime).—This well known homœopathic remedy may be consulted with great advantage in those cases which attack persons of broken down constitutions, and cachectic individuals, when the pains which extend from the cheeks to the ears and temple are aggravated by the slightest pressure, &c.

Thuja occidentalis (tree of life) is more particularly suited to females at the critical age, and corresponds to crampy pains in the right cheek during rest; darting and stitching in the malar muscles, only while walking in the open air; boring pain in the left malar bone *diminished* by contact, or digging and jerking pains; gnawing and boring pain in the left upper jaw, or tearing pain striking in the direction of the eye; all these pains leave behind them a stiffness in the muscles of deglutition, and a pain in the articulation of the jaws.—*Hartmann.*

Capsicum annuum (Spanish pepper) is a medicine which should be consulted in such cases as are supposed to arise from malaria, &c.; its well known efficacy in intermittent fevers would be a sufficient hint to the practitioner to induce him to test it in tic douloureux as well. Hartmann says he has used

this preparation (whether successfully or not he does not mention) in those cases when the patient was unable to state whether the pain was seated in the bones, muscles, or nerves, or in all these parts together; when the pains were excited by contact; when the pains were fine, and penetrating the nerves; or a tearing, burning, stitching in the right malar bone; the pains were particularly acute on going to sleep, and aggravated by contact.

Verbascum, first attenuation, according to the same able authority, appears to have been very successful in several cases of tic douloureux, which had previously baffled all other remedies, when the pain was of an intensely painful aching, and sometimes interrupted by a violent stitching.

Ruta graveolens (garden rue) may be used successfully in those attacks of tic douloureux where Belladonna is partially indicated, when the disease confines itself to the eye, producing congestion of the sclerotica, and extends along the supra orbital branches as far as the parietal region, attended by the most acute cutting or tearing pains, and when it assumes an intermittent type.

In addition to the medicines which have already been enumerated, the following may also be consulted both with satisfaction to the surgeon and benefit to the patient: Mercurius sol., Nux vomica, Kali carb., Causticum, Bryonia, Sepia, Phosphorus, Baryta carbonica, Arnica, Sulphur.

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