

THE HOMŒOPATHIC LIBRARY.

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Seventeenth Annual Session of the *International Hahnemannian Association*, at Glen Summit, Philadelphia, June 24-25, 1896

78 In bringing before the Association the subject, what books a homœopathic physician must possess in order to discharge his sacred duty of curing the sick, I speak more particularly to the younger members, so that they may not make mistakes which will cause themselves chagrin and cost their patients health and even life. It would take too much time to go over the fields of surgery, obstetrics, diagnosis and pathology, and I will therefore leave this to others better acquainted with these subjects.

I will only say that you should own at least one standard work on each of these subjects, which is fully up to date. As to these books a question arises on which there

79 may be a difference of opinion. But I boldly assert that if you cannot get a book written by a real homœopath, that you can get works containing better descriptions of disease and of the necessary operative processes required written by allopaths than by polypaths. I refer to such works as Arndt's, Wood's, Goodno's, Hale's, etc. As far as the treatment taught in the latter I would not risk the lives and health of those confided to my care to such as these writers advise. Just think of confining your selection of remedies in pneumonia to four, and they not the most frequently useful.

I will therefore proceed to those works which relate to the treatment of patients. The foundation on which all homœopathic therapeutics rests is the *Organon*. Study it frequently and thoroughly. The great Adolph Lippe made it a rule to read it once a year and he said that every time he discovered something he had not before observed. Those sections which describe the examination of patients should be more especially studied, for your repertories and materia medicas will avail you little if you do not examine your patients as he teaches.

Next you need works on materia medica. For the study of this indispensable subject Farrington's *Clinical Materia Medica* is invaluable, as it renders the subject more attractive and easily remembered. I have no sympathy with the views of those who maintain that you do not need any inateria medica in your head. Get all you can there. True, you can only get a small part of it, but that, if well selected, will enable you to save lives when even with your repertories at hand you would not have time to find *the* remedy.

I recall a case of a young woman in collapse after malarial fever. I could at first only discover general symptoms, nothing individual until I learned that whenever she moved off the right side she vomited; Bönninghausen's

80 Pocket Book gives one hundred and thirty-two remedies which have vomiting. The small pulse belongs to seventy-eight, most of which have vomiting also. Then, if fortunate enough to have his "Intermittent Fever" you will find that twenty-nine remedies have cold sweat on the face. Most of these have the small pulse and nearly all of them vomiting. If we turn again to the Pocket Book to aggravation when lying on left side (which is given as amelioration on right) we find that thirty-six have it, many of which have the before mentioned symptoms. I will give anyone, who has not the symptom in his memory, possession of a homœopathic library one hour to find the symptom. It is not in Knerr's Repertory. An hour would have placed my patient beyond help. But as I was fortunate in remembering it I gave Ant, tart., the only drug that has the symptom, and the benefit was immediate and permanent. If you turn to the Guiding Symptoms you will see that the symptom has only the two thin lines.

The one work that is indispensable and to be without is trifling with human life, is Hering's *Guiding Symptoms*. You need it for study and for reference in prescribing. As to repertories you cannot have enough. No one has all the good points and I know of none that has not some good ones. I have nearly all in the English language and I occasionally find use for every one. I need not demonstrate to you that you cannot remember all the materia medica and it is therefore obvious that repertories are indispensable in all difficult cases and more particularly chronic ones. In fact it is a good rule to always use at least one in every chronic case. The repertory which is the most indispensable to the thorough study of a difficult case still remains Bönninghausen's Pocket Book. It has not been superseded nor do I think it ever will be, although a new edition is now sorely needed, as it is now necessary for everyone to take it and compare it rubric by rubric with the Guiding

81 Symptoms, more especially of course, in those remedies which have been added since he wrote. Take Apis and do this and you will find that you have written it in at least one hundred times. As a means of facilitating the use of the repertories particularly Bönninghausen's Pocket Book and his *Intermittent Fever*, permit me to recommend Underwood's *Checking List Case Book*; when it is open, the left hand page is for the history and symptoms of the case, while the right columns are ruled so that by checking one symptom after another the remedies are seen in the order of their similarity. You will then have the rank in which they stand, the symptoms which are covered and the value of each one covered, and the comparative value of each to the different miasms.

Next in order is Knerr's Repertory of the Guiding Symptoms, although there is really no competition between them, as they complement each other. After working out a case by Bönninghausen a short glance therein will show you which one of two or three of the leading remedies best covers the case. Knerr is also useful if you do not need to make a systematic study of the case, but only to look up a few symptoms. This work also needs annotation. First of all the references to related symptoms should have the number of the page written in. To illustrate I turn to "Expression of Face painful," and it refers to "careworn" and "suffering," by writing in 277 and 278 respectively the search is facilitated, and it also needs to be gone over symptom by symptom, and omissions supplied and errors corrected.

Another of Bönninghausen's works not as well known is his Intermittent and Other Fevers. This is unqualifiedly indispensable, not merely as might be thought by the title, in the fevers, but in those quasi-febrile conditions that are found in so many diseases as partial or general coldness, heat or sweat. In this repertory may be found symptoms

82 that are in no other repertory or materia medica. I had a case of gonorrhoea which I was treating by mail in which the principal differentiating symptom was shuddering during micturition. I found by it that ten remedies had that symptom. In Knerr are only the related symptoms: "During urination chill, rigor: Stram.," "During urination chilliness Sepia." I looked for the symptom in the ten remedies mentioned in the G. S. and found that not one of the ten had it. I then turned to that repertory that is indispensable in venereal diseases—Kimball's Gonorrhoea—and it is not there. A question naturally arises is the "Intermittents" reliable, as it is not corroborated by the materia medicas? Bönninghausen never put a symptom into his repertories till it had been repeatedly proven clinically and his 120 vols. of Case Books gave him the material.

By the way, what treasures lie buried in those manuscripts waiting for the industrious miner to bring to light and usefulness. In the above mentioned case Sulphur, one of the ten having the symptom, cured.

Lee and Clark's Cough and Expectoration is a great life saver; with this for the cough and expectoration and Bönninghausen's Intermittents for the febrile symptoms, and as always in using a special repertory with the "Pocket Book" for the concomitants, you will be able to snatch many a consumptive from the edge of the grave, more particularly if you also use Gregg's Illustrated Repertory too.

Another grand book is Hering's Analytical Therapeutics Vol. I, unfortunately the only one. It is confined to the mental symptoms. Its usefulness is somewhat impaired by a defective index, but it contains life and health for many. In connection with it permit me to mention his "Typhoid Fever." I boldly assert that to treat any of the malignant fevers without it is trifling with human life. Lee promised us a general repertory and only gave us that of the Mind, Head and Sensorium; enough to make us clamorous for

83 more and to enable us to treat the diseases coming under its jurisdiction better than with all the other literature at our command. I am sure that I express the sentiment of the best men of the profession when I urge him to complete the work so well begun. I only take the liberty to suggest that if he do so that he adopt the designation of the values of the symptoms adopted by Bönninghausen, and let me ask all others who write repertories to do the same. The four values of symptoms have been proven too useful for them to be discarded or neglected.

Bell's Diarrhoea and Dysentery needs no commendation. No man worthy of the name of Homœopathic Physician is without it.

Eggert's Uterine and Vaginal Discharges is an indispensable book to the careful prescriber. Its plan renders it very easy to use. I wish he would give us a new edition and incorporate with it that fine letter book of his, "Uterine Displacements" and also that monograph of his on the Ovaries.

King's Headaches is a very useful work and shares the honors with Lee's Repertory mentioned above.

There is a meritorious repertory on Rheumatism that has not received the appreciation it deserves, although it is without a competitor in its own field, viz. Perkin's Rheumatism, I would not be without it in a difficult case of that disease.

H. C. Allen's Therapeutics of Intermittent Fever has made the administration of quinine or other crude drugs a crime almost, for ignorance can no longer be pleaded unless it is willful. The work is so easily used, so simple in its plan and does its work so well that malaria is robbed of its terrors. It is also a good work in which to study the rudiments of materia medica.

84 I ask you not to be without Holcomb's "Sensations As If". It will throw light on many a puzzling case for you in enabling you to find rare and strange symptoms, and when you get it send to the studious author for his monograph on Convulsions. Put it inside the cover of "Sensations", fasten it there with a rubber band and you will be well armed against a

class of diseases that many times need quick and accurate prescribing.

Let me say to every homœopath that when called to the bedside of a parturient woman, you may forget your forceps and you may forget your chloroform bottle, but do not forget Yingling's Accoucheur's Emergency Manual. That is a long name for a little book, but its name is too short for its merits and usefulness. It contains all the knowledge necessary to meet all the dangers and delays of dystocia, convulsions, retained placenta, hæmorrhages, after pains and the primary dangers threatening the infant. Of course I am speaking of the medical treatment, but you will find the better you are prepared for this, the less need there will be for mechanical and surgical measures. It is a marvel of the book-makers art, such as only Bœricke and Tafel can produce, and it fits the hip pocket beautifully.

I make no apology for commending to those who do not possess it the Homœopathic Therapeutics of Hæmorrhoids by Wm. Jefferson Guernsey. Those who have it need hear no praise of it. Those who use this little book will not be under the necessity of practicing that monstrosity, nasty surgery, which is no more worthy of countenance than fortune telling. Let me call attention to another repertory by the same extremely practical author, which is in the Homœopathic Physician Vol. XIII, on the throat. It should be published in book form, for it is by all odds the best guide in the treatment of diphtheria ever printed. We need a pocket repertory of that dreadful disease.

I must enter a protest against publishing any but fragmentary repertories in the 8 mo. pages of the journals as appendices. If given as inducements to subscribers, let it be in book form and if possible for the pocket.

- 85 There is a work that is indispensable not only to the surgeon but to the general practitioner, the Homœopathic Treatment of Surgical Diseases by Gilchrist. It covers not only the treatment of injuries but also those diseases that are improperly called surgical. It combines the repertory and special indications in a thoroughly practical way. It relegates the knife to where it properly belongs, instead of as many are doing now making it almost a panacea.

The Symptom Register of Pure Materia Medica is invaluable in seeking special symptoms of a case. It is thus very useful and although covering the same field as Knerr yet being based on his (T. F. Allen's) Encyclopedia of Materia Medica, it has its own work to do and does it well. An error was committed in leaving out the "Conditions" which were to appear in another volume but which has not as yet been published.

Berridge's Repertory of the Eyes will sometimes help one out of a difficulty in which the eye symptoms are concomitants as well as when they are the seat of the disease, so that its field of usefulness is wider than its name indicates. It is a marvel of wide and exhaustive research such as few but its learned author could write.

There is another repertory which though I have kept it to the last is not by any means least even if it is not frequently required. Gonorrhœa, by S. A. Kimball, is more than its name implies, for it covers the urinary symptoms as well, better than they are handled in any other work. It also gives the symptoms of the other venereal diseases. My deceased friend, Dr. James E. Lilienthal, frequently commended its usefulness and reliability, which I heartily endorse.

I have not mentioned Constantine Lippe's or Winterburn's as I am of the opinion that, being based on the characteristic symptoms only, they are too circumscribed. There is one use of repertories that should not be overlooked viz, for the study of materia medica.

- 86 Of course I do not say that we should learn long lists of remedies that have certain symptoms. But, as at the bedside we first have the symptom presented, and then we are to find the remedy or remedies that correspond, so we should learn from that point of view. For such an object Winterburn's, Lippe's, Eggert's Discharges and, by judicious selection, Knerr's are well adapted. This is not to supersede the works on materia medica but to supplement them.
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