

**A SUPPLEMENT TO
GROSS' COMPARATIVE
MATERIA MEDICA. PART I**

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A Supplement to Gross' Comparative Materia Medica. Part I by E. A. Farrington

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E. A. FARRINGTON

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Sam Horn

Complete

A

SUPPLEMENT

TO

GROSS'

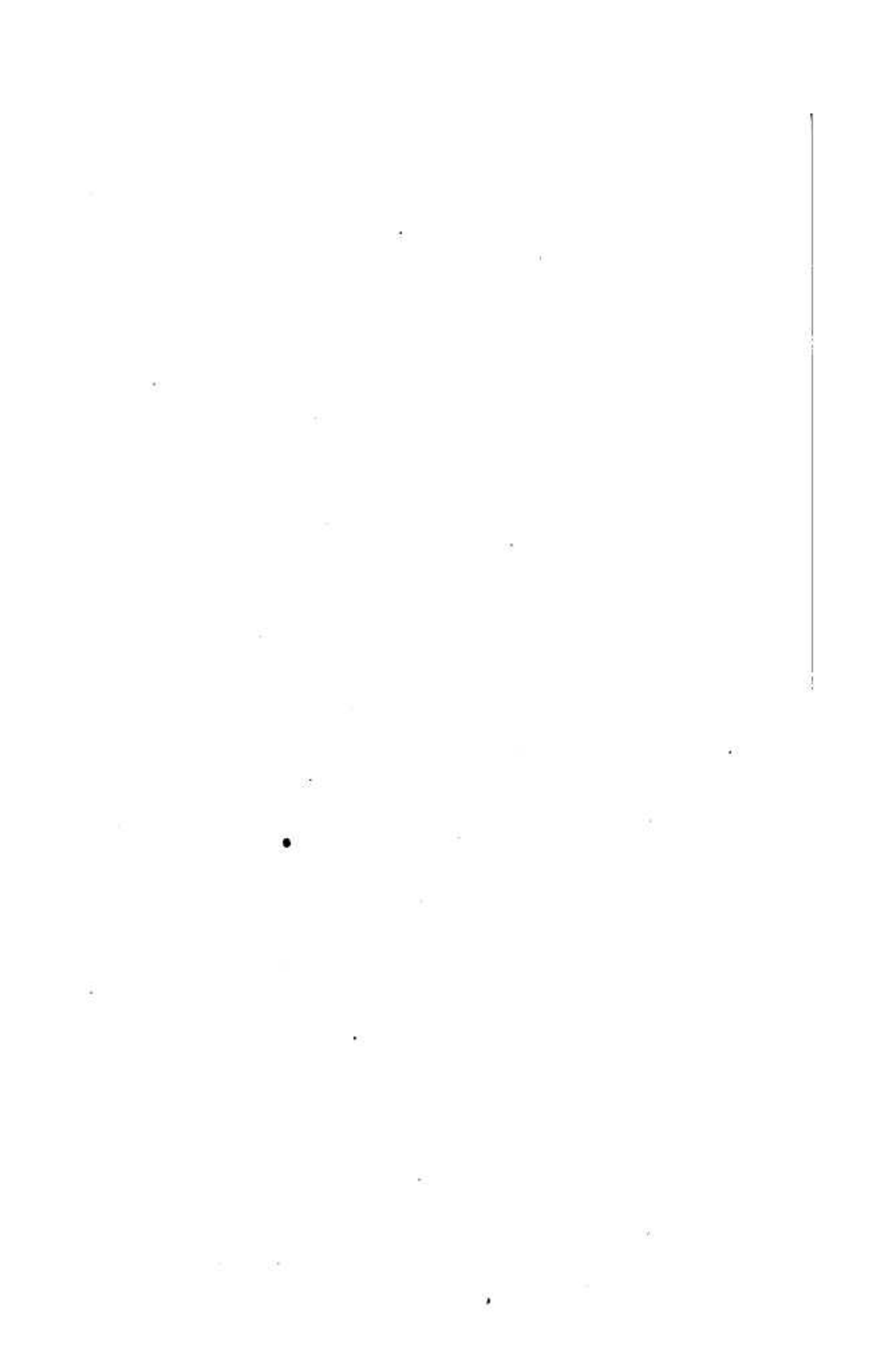
Comparative Materia Medica.

BY

Wm. H. C.
E. A. FARRINGTON, M.D.

Part I.

APPENDIX TO THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF H. M. M.
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CORRIGENDA.

P. 3, Note (2), line 2, for "apis," "Apis;" p. 5, 6th line, for "periostal," "periosteal;" p. 5, Note (4), line 2, for "apis," "Apis;" p. 6, line 8, for "tenemus," "tensesmus;" p. 8, Note (8), for "asthenic," "sthenic;" p. 9, line 2 from the foot, for "mucous," "mucous;" p. 12, line 12, for "is," read "if;" p. 13, line 13, for "sensative," "sensitive;" p. 14, Note (5), line 4, for "congeative," read "congested;" line 5, for "congested," read "congestive;" p. 18, line 28, for "Rhus," read "Bell.;" p. 41, line 20, for "Sotus," read "Sotub.;" p. 75, line 11, for "involuntary," read "involuntarily;" p. 98, foot note, for "Kali Nitratum," read "Kali Nitricum," and also through the comparisons; p. 105, line 7, for "like almost all muriates," read "like the muriates;" p. 186, line 21, for "suits the cerebral form," read "suits when the patient cannot sleep," etc.

COMPARING DRUGS.

The following remarks are offered as explanatory of the most approved methods of comparing drugs. They are not designed as an introduction to the Comparative Materia Medica, but embody views communicated to me by Dr. C. Hering.

In studying the proving of a new drug, we should compare the symptoms of different organs and regions, with the view of ascertaining if similar symptoms appear repeatedly. Marked cases of such concordance should be noted. All additional provings by the same party, may be compared with this first proving. Again, all furnished by other parties must be compared, and thus will resemblances appear, even though the respective persons know not of each other or what they have taken. Of course differences will appear, increasing, the greater is the range of action of the drug, and the more various are the constitutions and endemic or epidemic surroundings of the provers. Comparisons of more than a thousand provings of not less than one hundred drugs, elicited the fact, since amply confirmed, that the more individual a symptom was, the longer it lasted; or the later it appeared, the more characteristic it was. So we see, individual symptoms must not be discarded, but confirmed and assigned to their relative positions. We have a right to mistrust any symptom, but never to reject it, until experiment has shown it untenable. The primary and secondary classification of symptoms, must not be insisted on arbitrarily. Grauvogl (Text Book, p. 198, vol. 1) explains them according to the laws of proportional oscillation, and the above facts clearly show their division untenable.

Next, we may compare one drug with another, to determine any existing resemblances, differences or inimical relations, (if possible). The last method may teach us that there is a kind of similarity not calculated to cure but rather to aggravate. The *Ignatia* and *Nux vomica*, though very similar, are by no means antidotal or serviceable one after the other. Their resemblance appears to be too much like *aequale* or *idem*, rather than only similar. To draw a comparison, it would seem like a marriage of brother and sister. In the *Materia Medica Magna*, partly published, two classes of relationship are recognized, conjunctive and disjunctive. The former embraces a similarity arising from natural alliances—a similarity of kin, and so near like *idem*, as to seldom warrant giving immediately one after another. The latter comprises those interesting drugs, which, though differing widely in origin, offer symptomatic resemblances of the most important character—true types of similarity.

Further, the individuals of any given family may be compared, in the hope of finding family characteristics, which, added to those of individuals of the family, may materially and scientifically abridge our prolific *materia medica*. Perhaps some such comparisons will be contributed by way of confirmation. One of the most important comparisons, is that of the symptoms produced, with the cured symptoms. This helps to enlarge the sphere of action of a drug.

Lastly, we may mark the concordances of one class of symptoms with the others, the real analogies of a drug-disease. This was first mentioned by Helbig. Gross (Introduction, pp. v-vii.) gives some beautiful examples: "Sexual passion, often combined with jealousy, is intimately related, on the one hand to cruelty, on the other to affected devoutness." So shall we have a new physiology, a new pathology, and a new and scientific pharmacology.

Our *materia medica* is a natural science; the future must *prove* it so.

E. A. F.

COMPARATIVE MATERIA MEDICA.

BY E. A. FARRINGTON, M.D.

APIS.	MIND	RHUS TOX.
Irritable, irascible, morose, fickle, foolish gayety.		Usually sad, despairing, easily vexed but undemonstrative.
Anxiety felt in head, fears apoplexy.		Anxiety præcordial, fears being poisoned.
Consequences of fright, rage, vexation, jealousy, hearing <i>bad news</i> .		Consequences of vexation with <i>fear</i> , all ailments worse from least annoyance.
Dread of death, or sensation as if he should not breathe again.		Dread of death with sighing, vertigo; desires death in melancholia.
Memory weak with or after prosopalgia.		Slow difficult thought, memory weak from damp weather, congestion, injuries.
Suppressed eruptions followed by hydrocephalic congestion.		Suppressed eruptions, followed by melancholy, anxiety, paralysis.
Both depress the sensorium with absent-mindedness, apathy, stupor, low muttering delirium, confusion of mind, dullness of head.		
Brain feels tired; imbecility; always busy yet does nothing, awkward, drops things.		Brain shakes when jarred, almost unconscious if even turn head; disinclined to work or think.
Vertigo when closing eyes, nausea.		Vertigo after a meal, chilliness.
Delirium, muttering, indistinct loquacity, stupor, senseless apathy or pleasant happy expression.		Delirium mild, murmuring or chats to himself or seemingly roams far and wide, stupor as if intoxicated.

HEAD.

Pressing in forehead; worse, from warmth.		Pressing outward, temples and sides, better, warmth, (1).
Burning, stinging in head or scalp; better, cold washing.		Burning, tingling (2) or stinging in head, face, jaws; worse, washing.
Hydrocephalus; for horses that kick and try to run off.		Hydrocephalus; horses jerk the head.

(1) Except the sensitive scalp, which in Rhus is worse from becoming warm in bed.

(2) This tingling is important as expressing the paralytic tendency of Rhus, a property not prominent in apis, except from intense blood poison, (after typhus, diphtheria, &c.) or as hemiplegia, and hence intra-cranial in origin.