

**THE HOMŒOPATHIC  
TREATMENT OF ACUTE  
AND CHRONIC DISEASES**

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The Homœopathic Treatment of Acute and Chronic Diseases by Emil Kreussler & Charles J. Hempel

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**EMIL KREUSSLER & CHARLES J. HEMPEL**

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OF  
ACUTE AND CHRONIC DISEASES,

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BY  
EMILIUS KREUSSLER, M. D.

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TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN,

With important Additions and Revisions,

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## P R E F A C E .

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THIS work is more particularly destined for those, who, having become convinced of the inanity of the allœopathic method of treatment, desire to satisfy the demands of an enlightened conscience, by embracing the new and better method of treatment. They require assistance and instruction, lest a few failures should discourage them and turn them away again from the good cause. It is exceedingly difficult, always to discover the right remedy by a simple comparison of the symptoms; even experienced homœopathic practitioners, who scarcely ever err in the selection of the appropriate remedy, will not hesitate to say so.

Since it was simply my intention to throw out a few useful hints, I have left out everything which might have unnecessarily enlarged the boundaries of this work, and which I had a right to suppose was known to those who desire to study homœopathy. I believe I have said just enough, neither too much nor too little. Not too much, by leaving out all such remedies which simply palliate the disease for a time, or the cura-

tive effects of which are only imagined by some physicians ; nor too little, by indicating all such remedies as have proved positively efficient means of cure in the diseases for which they are recommended, and mentioning all the circumstances in which their action is most fully and most usefully developed.

In regard to doses, homœopathic beginners will do well to use the higher, rather than the lower attenuations, although it is not, by any means, necessary, to avoid the latter as contrary to rule.

The present work is of course not intended to render the study of our *Materia Medica* superfluous ; he who omits this study, and then complains of his want of information, will have to accuse himself of his ignorance.

THE AUTHOR.



## INTRODUCTION.

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### SECTION I.

THE first and most important requisite which every homœopathic physician, who desires to effect a cure, has to fulfil, is to select a remedy, whose action upon the healthy organism shall be exactly similar to the morbid condition he has to treat. Howsoever easy it may seem to make such a selection, the beginning practitioner will nevertheless meet with occasional difficulties which I desire to remove, partially at least, by the following short remarks.

In the treatment of acute diseases, where the symptoms are distinctly and unmistakeably developed, the selection of a remedy, in accordance with the principle, *similia similibus*, will generally appear easy. In many cases a *single appropriately chosen remedy* is sufficient to restore the patient's health. In comparing the symptoms, those which refer to the mind and the emotions, should not be omitted; for they constitute a most essential indication in the selection of a remedy, and, indeed, facilitate it a good deal. Even if the physical symptoms should be less strikingly developed, or if several drugs should seem to be indicated at one and the same time, we can scarcely fail in hitting the right remedy, provided we are well acquainted with the moral symptoms, such as that *aurum* causes a sort of melancholy, *veratrum* a sort of religious mania, *pulsatilla*, *ignatia*, *sepia* a disposition to weep and complain, *bryonia* a high degree of irritability and *coffea* an excessive sen-

sitiveness of feeling. Mind and body being intimately united, it stands to reason that both must be affected by a drug, even if it were only sympathetically. What gives to the homœopathic practice a decided superiority over the old-school system of medicine which, a mere fragmentary thing in itself, becomes a perfect nothing in the hands of ignorant physicians, is precisely the account it takes of the mental and moral symptoms of the patient.

In many diseases it is necessary to use *two or three* remedies. In acute diseases it will scarcely ever be necessary to give more than two remedies; in inflammatory affections, for example, it may be necessary to commence the treatment with *Aconite*, for the purpose of diminishing the fever, and then to prescribe a remedy that is more particularly adapted to the local affection and subdues it more efficiently. In cases where more than one remedy seems indicated, or where complications with some chronic disorder exist; the most essential symptoms will have to be noticed first, and a remedy to be chosen accordingly. Of course, it is only the truly scientific physician who is capable of distinguishing essential from secondary symptoms. The essential symptoms having been removed, a second remedy is chosen for the remaining symptoms, and so on until the disease is cured, which will take place the more speedily the more accurately the symptoms were distinguished.

In many cases it is not the apparent disease that has to be combated, but the *latent psora* with which it is complicated. The presence of this latent psora is known by the fact, that apparently well chosen remedies which had never failed to perform cures in apparently the same cases, now remain without any effect, or that they effect only a partial and temporary improvement, which is soon followed by a relapse into the original condition. In such cases it will not only be found necessary to prescribe several drugs, but the antipsoric remedies,

whose action is of long duration, will have to be chosen in preference to the other so-called psoric medicines that act for a less period of time. If an antipsoric remedy has had a good effect, without however accomplishing a cure, it is not necessary to choose a second antipsoric remedy immediately after the former; on the contrary, one of the psoric medicines may be given, in acute as well as in chronic diseases. If an acute disease, which, itself, runs a short course, should be complicated with psora, a single well chosen antipsoric remedy will sometimes cure the whole complication; a dose of *Sulphur*, for instance, frequently removes encephalitis complicated with the psoric miasm.

A disease is often found complicated with the effects of massive doses of allopathic drugs. This is bad enough if it is a simple disease, but it is a good deal worse if there should be a psoric complication. The drug-symptoms and the symptoms of the disease are frequently so intimately connected, that it is difficult to distinguish them from each other.

If it should be possible to separate the drug-symptoms from those of the disease, it will be first necessary to antidote the former. The removal of these symptoms is frequently accompanied with the disappearance of the whole malady. This will happen much less frequently, if the disease should be chronic. After the removal of the drug-symptoms, it will then be found necessary to combat the disease itself with both antipsoric and psoric remedies. If neither the antidotes nor the remedies which were chosen for the disease, should have any effect, it will sometimes be found necessary to resort to the use of animal or mineral magnetism, after which the same remedies which had remained without effect before, will be found to act with good results.

For the sake of expediting the cure, the dynamic as well as the material causes of the diseases should be investigated and determined. However, this is not abso-