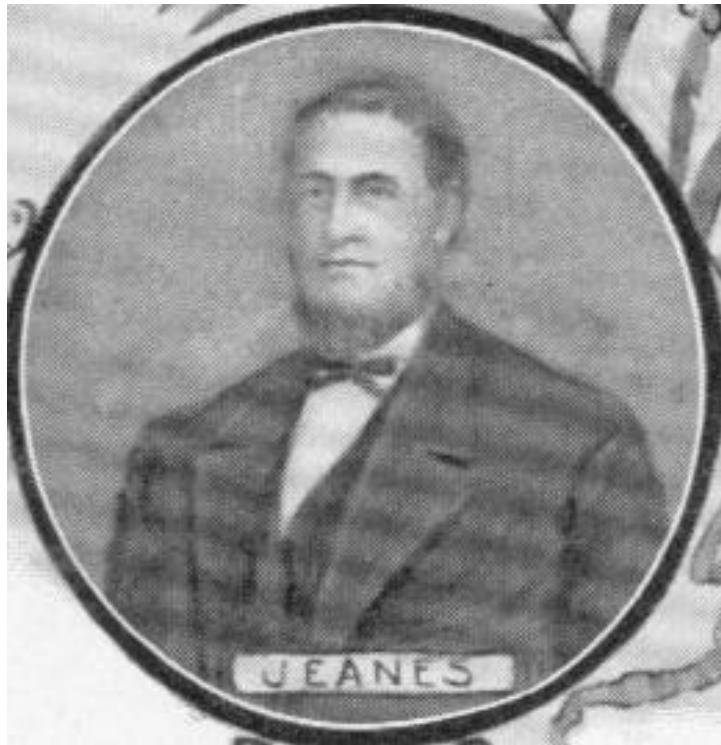


Jacob B. Jeanes



Jacob B. Jeanes (1800-1877)

1871 - Special Indications

"It is always of great importance in homoeopathic practice to know of a remedy which acts upon the parts in a particular locality of the organism. We have an example of this in the value of *Viola odorata* in rheumatism of the right wrist. The recommendation of Dr. Kitchen of this remedy for such cases, has been fully justified in my own experience, as also in that of many other physicians.

I wish this evening to communicate to you several experiences in my own practice in regard to the important local symptoms of a few remedies. And first of the tincture of the seed of the

Chenopodium anthelminticum.

Of this, an important local symptom is, a slight dull, pain a little lower than the inferior angle of the right scapula, but nearer the spine. The record of my proving of this medicine by chewing the seed, made in March, 1842, reads as follows:

Pains through the breast under the right scapula, and in the right shoulder; pain in the head and eyes, neuralgia.

Of the above symptoms it is only the infrascapular pain which has been proved to be important, and this, in the record, is wrongly stated, because the word under is employed instead of the word below. But, whilst the fact of below and the exact location of the pain was fresh in my memory, it happened that an old lady applied to me for the relief of an asthmatic affection with which she had been troubled for twenty years. It was very severe, compelling her to sit up the greater part of the night, for many years. I could not satisfy myself that either of the remedies with which I had successfully treated asthma was adapted to her case, and as she had pain in this locality I concluded to give the *Chenopodium* in the eighteenth centesimal dilution. Four powders were given, which not only removed this pain but also the asthmatic disorder. Some years afterwards she was attacked by hydrothorax, and not receiving any important benefit from my prescriptions, employed an allopathic physician and experienced relief for some time, but died suddenly.

Since then, I have often employed the Tr. Sem. *Chenop.*, when this pain was present, and have seen it not only remove this pain, but also benefit the patients in other respects. We will pass from this remedy to another:

Lobelia coerulea. Olim Lobelia syphilitica.

Of this medicine, I possess but one pathogenetic symptom, namely: Pain about and under (not below) the short ribs, in the back, on the left side, and extending outward nearly to the left side. This embraces the posterior aspect of the region of the spleen.

I cannot tell the date of my proving of this medicine, but it was many years since, whilst I was a member of the Bureau of the *Materia Medica*, along with Doctors Williamson, Hering, Neidhard, and Kitchen. Doctor Hering gave to each of us a vial of *Lobelia coerulea* in a low dilution, for experiment upon ourselves. What were the symptoms observed by the others I do not remember. But the above stated symptom was decidedly marked in myself. On giving our reports, Dr. Hering remarked that he was rather disappointed in not finding any mental symptoms reported. I recollect my then remarking, that these could hardly be expected from the observations of experimenters upon themselves. That if unusually irritable they would think they had unusual irritation, and not think of this as an effect of the medicine; so if uncommonly dejected they would think they had sufficient causes of dejection.

Some time after this I was called to visit a lady about 50 years of age. Her son told me that the family was exceedingly anxious about the state of his mother's mind. She appeared to be very unhappy, but would give them no explanation of the cause of her unhappiness, though she wept a great deal. On visiting her, she wept, but stated no cause of grief. She had no other

pain but such as described in the above stated symptom. On this ground, as, perhaps, partly influenced by the suggestion that this medicine might have important mental symptoms, I gave her a dose of *Lobelia coerulea*, fifth centesimal. At my next visit I found her better; and another dose of the same medicine effected a perfect and permanent cure of the disorder.

Since that time I have employed this remedy in many cases where this symptom was present. Sometimes where no mental disorder was apparent it has removed this pain, and generally with improvement of the health. Where the dejection of spirits has been very considerable, and the stated symptom well marked, I believe I have always found it to cure.. Where this symptom has been very violent, and occurring where there has been a real and great cause for grief, I have also seen this remedy highly useful. An instance of this kind was afforded in the case of an elderly lady who had just lost her husband, to whom she was greatly attached. In the course of a day or two she was attacked by severe pains in the region above mentioned. A dose of *Lobelia coerulea* fifth, every four hours, removed this pain in the course of two days, and I thought that I could perceive that a mental reaction had occurred, which would prevent her from sinking into absolute despondency.

There is a local pain of another remedy, the

***Ranunculus bulbosus* (Radix),**

which, for a long time, I thought had been obtained from its pathogenesis, but which I now regard as having been only attained by observation of cure.

This is a pain, sometimes very severe, along the inner edge of the left scapula nearly its whole length, and often extending a little below its inferior angle. Sometimes this pain may also extend through the lower half of the left side of the thorax.

Many similar locations of pain, in which other remedies are useful, might here be mentioned. I will only add, that formerly I gave the remedies with longer intervals between the doses than I do at present. It appears to me, that whilst it is true that the intervals may often be of considerable duration with advantage, yet, in many cases, greater benefit will be derived from frequent repetition of the medicines."

(Jacob Jeanes, *Special Indications*, *The Hahnemannian Monthly* vol. 6, February 1871, p. 331-335. Read before the Philadelphia County Medical Society, Jan. 12, 1871.)