

## Samuel Swan



Samuel Swan (1815-1893)

## Inhalt / Content

1874 - Renal Colic: *Cantharis*

1881 - Nosodes and High Potencies, with Clinical Cases illustrative of their Action

1882 - Clinical Notes

1888 - Pyrogen - Sepsin

1893 - In memoriam Samuel Swan

### 1874 - Renal Colic: *Cantharis*

"Sept 24. - Mr. D., a merchant, doing business in this city, came to my office evidently in much distress. He was very pale, and great drops of sweat were coursing down his cheeks; he walked with difficulty, and was unable to speak till he was seated. He was suffering intensely from a pain in the right side of the abdomen, just above the crest of the ileum. He said that a number of years since, he had a similar pain on the left side, when, after a long period of suffering, extending over many weeks, he had passed a stone; that the present attack was similar in its nature, but more intense. After an exciting day at the commencement of the panic, he was standing near the door of a street-car on his way to the Grand Central depot, when he was seized with this pain. A gentleman gave him a seat, and some kind ladies endeavored to revive him with fans and smelling-salts, in spite of which he very nearly fainted. Leaving the car, he was barely able to get to my office. His wife and his daughter were waiting for him at the depot; and, expecting to be laid up, he requested they should be sent for.

I gave him one dose of *Cantharis*, 44<sup>m</sup> Fincke, and leaving him on the lounge, went for the ladies myself. I returned about twenty minutes after with his wife and daughter, to find him sitting up, free from pain. In a few minutes we walked to Madison Avenue, and he took the stage to the depot, feeling no inconvenience. He has had no return of the difficulty, and has taken no more medicine.

This is the third case of a similar character that has been rapidly relieved by *Cantharis* high, after low potencies have been given with no effect. In some instances *large* calculi have passed from the kidneys, without pain, while in others very *minute* stones or gravel have caused great agony. Each can be easily explained by the different conditions of the mucous lining of the ureter. If highly inflamed, the smallest gravel would cause intense suffering by irritating to contraction the inflamed surface, and this condition is better met by *Cantharis* than any other remedy I am acquainted with. I do not attempt to explain *why* the 44<sup>m</sup> acts so quickly, while the lower potencies do not; but I am satisfied that it does."

(Samuel Swan, M. D., New York, Renal Colic: *Cantharis*, The New England Medical Gazette vol. 9 (1874), p. 52-53)

## 1881 - Nosodes and High Potencies, with Clinical Cases illustrative of their Action

"In the present paper I propose to report clinical cases illustrative of the use of nosodes and high potencies, without any intention to disparage any other mode of treatment, or desire to make converts, but simply to state the experience of others as well as myself in their use; thereby showing that my generalization, "*that morbid matter will cure the disease that produced it, if given in a high attenuation, and to any other than the person from whom it was obtained,*" has, by repeated verifications become a law, and that the high attenuations cure quicker, better, and more permanently than the low, *as a rule*. Of course, there *will be exceptions*, and these exceptions, are because the disease is complicated - to discard them, because *alone* they do not cure every time, would be good reason for discarding all the remedies in the *Materia Medica*

Hahnemann said that "in genuine unadulterated syphilis, one single dose of the best mercurial preparation is sufficient to effect a permanent cure &c." but if complicated, several antipsorics would be required. Our knowledge of the action of high potencies is not derived from, nor is it based on theory. because we can not theorize on the action of the unknowable or the imponderable. They act. *how* they act, or, *what* it is that acts, has not yet been ascertained, and the knowledge of the *how* and *what* can never be obtained by theorizing; but their use is based on the daily experience in practice of physicians who are careful in observation and in their selection of the remedy, seek the minimum dose, and have the faith and the patience to *wait*, and it seems that the strongest opponents and objectors, are those who never use them.

It has been asserted that "alleged cures with high potencies do not occur more frequently than recoveries without any medicine whatever," or, in other words, all diseases cured with high potencies were self limiting, and would have gotten well without medication! The readers of this paper can judge if the patients whose cases are reported would probably have recovered without medicine. The opinions of those who have *never used* high attenuations are of no possible value, and it is generally those, who tremble with fear that the C.M. or M.M. are not made in accordance with the scale suggested by Hahnemann, and have grave doubts if the dynamis of the drug can be eliminated from its original body, and made to domicile in sugar of milk. Were they satisfied of *these* facts they would *not* use them - therefore it is of no importance whether they are satisfied or not - those who use them, do not appear to have any anxiety in this respect.

There are but two tests that an attenuated remedy is high.

First, if an attenuated remedy cures, where the same remedy used low only palliates.

Second, when it will antidote the action of the same drug in a toxical or a low attenuation. I will suppose a case: and yet similar cases have often occurred in the practice of those using high potencies, when they were *learning* to use them.

The patient has rheumatism, and Bryonia is the similimum; it is prescribed low, higher, and perhaps to the 200th or 1000th, relieving every time temporarily; a dose of the C.M. D.M. or M.M. is given, and the pains disappear. Perhaps you say, if that was the true similimum the cure would have come had time been given. But physicians who use high potencies do wait the action of the remedy when they are sure of their selection. I have no theory of the why, except that the low dilutions could not reach up to the exigency of the case, and the high did. It has been noted that in the use of morbidic products, and drugs to antidote a toxical effect of the same drug in a crude form, the *highest potencies* should be *used*. In a case of poisoning by Rhus tox., some have failed to cure with Rhus 50 M. or CM., but they would hardly have failed with the M.M. or C.M.M. Many cases of opium and of alcohol habit have been not only cured, but even the desire removed by the M.M. and higher potencies of opium and alcohol, but only in exceptional cases can it be effected with the C.M. or lower. The assertion that this

is Isopathy is not true. Hahnemann, as well as common sense have settled that, and those who continue to iterate the charge do not realize that their "Error proceeds by thinking that things are antagonistic, when they are merely opposites, tending to marry if they are left to their own law" "No truths are so hateful as those which are unanswerable." and therefore their *only* argument is ridicule and insult. Isopathy would apply bruised Rhus leaves to the patient poisoned by Rhus, or give the tincture, or would apply the crude product of a chancre to another chancre with the expectation of curing it. Isopathy would give raw cucumbers to a person made sick by eating cucumbers and would make him worse. Homoeopathy would give the C.M. or M.M. of Curcumis, and not only cure the patient, but enable him to eat cucumbers in future with impunity, as has been already demonstrated. The potentized drug is a similimum not an idem, and what difference does it make from what kingdom of nature a similimum is derived so long as it *is* a similimum. If physicians think that a dose of Syphilinum would cause the disease to appear in the patient, or add a dangerous element in case the individual had syphilis, they should never use it, nor should they ever use any drug, in any potency, until they know exactly *why* it cures and *how* it cures; they can not know these even with the lowest, as the internal chemistry of the human body has never yet been known, and all statements to the contrary are mere conjectures. Some think, that in the sixth trituration there are particles so fine that they should antidote a lower potency even if they are mixed with coarse particles.

It is not in the fineness of the particles that the antidotal power resides: those drugs as before stated are most efficacious when they are attenuated to a degree where no test can discover *any* medicinal agent, except the experiment on that most sensitive of all tests, the sick human organism. If a drug is a perfect similimum of a group of symptoms, and when given to the patient causes those symptoms to disappear permanently, it is in very bad taste, (to use no harsher term), to say it is a cure, if given in the 3rd or 6th potencies, but if given in the M.M. attenuation it is only a coincidence.

There are a class of men who think it an evidence of keen, logical acumen to doubt every thing; they say "I believe " or "I don't believe." as if that settled the question finally. I would advise all such to read "Conferences upon Homoeopathy " by "Granier." No man has a right to say "I believe" or "I don't believe" until he has fully and seriously examined the new idea, in a conscientious manner, and made all necessary experiments, and thoroughly investigated all he denies or affirms."

When a man dogmatically asserts. "I believe" or "I don't believe," and has not given the subject that honest investigation referred to, he simply publishes his ignorance, and his opinion will be valued accordingly.

"But," say some, "these nosodes have not been proved." In reply, let me say, that I do not advocate or approve of the use of unproved remedies: but what would we know of the action of a large number of remedies, were it not for the cases of poisoning? and when we find that in case after case of poisoning by a drug the same symptoms appear, we take those for the pathogenic effect of that drug, and when the same are met in a patient, we use that drug as a remedy, even though it has not been proved *secundum artem* in small doses on a healthy person.

If no remedies were used, except those proven on *absolutely* healthy persons, there would be very few used: and what should be done with "clinical provings" which are generally "Guiding Symptoms." We often meet with cases having one prominent symptom. Why should we not use a drug of which we know but one symptom, if it is a similar? Dr. Higgins informed me that the bite of the "carinated water viper" of South America caused instant coagulation of the arterial blood. I had a case of a young lady who from lifting had an aneurism of the left sub-clavian artery, with a thrombus in left radial artery, three inches long: various potencies of the viper poison from 1 M. to C.M. resulted in a perfect cure of thrombus and aneurism inside of six months. The thrombus disappeared in six hours.

A gentleman who was troubled with asthma told me that when he entered a room where they were shelling scallops, he instantly experienced a severe attack. The high potencies of Pectin (scallop) in other hands as well as mine have effected complete cures in such cases.

These symptoms are corroborated by the proving, and toxical symptoms are the same as any other symptoms to be cured by the similimum, and what similimum equals the drug itself that produced them? But some prate about "insulting intelligent physicians by reporting such cases." If they have not ascertained that the high potency of a drug will cure the symptoms produced by it more promptly and more effectually than any other remedy, they have something yet to learn. A drug may be considered well proven when we know thoroughly its action, and the symptoms it will produce on the human organism. Now, I ask, is there any poison whose effects, or symptoms are more thoroughly known than those of Syphilis? I claim that the nosodes are proven, with a few exceptions, and those are used in accordance with the law of *Morbific products*, and the proving is clinical. I will now mention a few cases illustrative of the value of nosodes and high potencies.

I burned my hand with steam, and a blister with intense burning pain was the result, and a dose of cantharis M.M., inside of ten minutes subdued the pain, and subsequently there was no painful sensation. Will a low potency do it as quickly or as well?

I was called to a case of double pneumonia, lower third of both lungs hepatized. Respiration hurried, painful, superficial. Sputa rusty, sometimes streaked with blood. Pulse 140. Temperature 105 ½ d. Skin mottled, dusky red. countenance expressive of great agony. Prescribed Phos. M.M. in water to be given every half hour until easier. After 3rd dose no more medicine and patient fell asleep; in the morning pulse 100. temperature 98, with rapid cure. Does any one suppose this case would have recovered without medication The M.M. of Phos. must have had "a greater degree of intensity than the disease" if that is the theory of the cure.

In a case of passage of a renal calculus, the patient, a young, healthy man, was writhing in agony; gave cantharis M.M. in water, a teaspoonful every fifteen minutes until easier; after second spoonful he was relieved of the pain and fell asleep, in two hours was up, and went to his business next day: a few days after passed a calculus size of a small pea. Compare this with the days of agony under allopathic treatment, or under the 3rd X or any other X.

That Syphilinum, which a certain professor is so afraid of, is well worth studying, I will illustrate by a few cases. Dr. Boardman of Trenton, N. J., sends the following:

"Mrs. set. 61, had obstinate constipation, the rectum seemed tied up with stricture; when injections were given, the agony of the passage was like giving birth to a child; gave Syphilinum 50 M. one dose. In seven days there were regular natural evacuations, after having suffered for years."

What can be more remarkable than the case of "Potts disease" by Dr. Skinner in the first volume of the "Organon." in which Syphilinum was given on this characteristic: "Aggravation commencing at 4 or 5 P.M., increasing till midnight. diminishing after, and ceasing at daylight:" making a wonderful cure!

In the following case from Dr. Jackson of Boston a cure was effected, as will be seen, in a patient apparently dying.

"On the 16th of Sept. 1880, I found the child presenting these symptoms: very great emaciation. hardly able to lift its hands, the fingers and thumbs had run rounds; lips and teeth covered with bloody mucus, rattling in the chest and throat: stools very dark and offensive: eyes dull; syphilitic sores on the back, near the spine and on the hip. I thought the end was at hand, and so informed the parents: gave a dose of Syphilinum. CM., and asked for consultation. I invited Dr. Lincoln who was unable to meet me until evening. I have never been so much surprised as when I entered the room, and saw the improvement since my visit in the morning.

Respiration was comparatively easy, the eyes looked better, and the parents remarked that a great change had taken place about the third hour after my morning visit. From this time the patient continued to improve: on the 18th I gave Arum triphyllum; on the 20th, a second dose of Syphilinum, and a third was given during convalescence, and during this time there came upon its cheeks, under the chin, on the back of the shoulders, on the scalp and other parts of the body, syphilitic bullae which discharged profusely. I have not seen the patient since I discharged it, but learned that it was out coasting a few days since with no signs of having been sick.

This certainly was not a case that promised rapid recovery without medicine.

Dr. Biegler of Rochester, N. Y., reported in the "Organon." vol. iii., p. 211. a case of the sequelae of Rheumatism. "A man sixty years of age, who rose from his bed a wreck, walked the streets leaning on a cane, bent over, muffled in wraps to his ears, looking like a broken down old man, apparently soon to fall into the grave." and his relatives coincided with this opinion. Dr. B. gave Medorrhin C.M., three doses, and ten days after, one dose of the same M.M.. and no more medicine; he says. "within a month after I first prescribed Medorrhin, he had dropped his cane and muffler, and walked the streets erect, with a firm step, a *perfectly well man*. In that time he had gained in flesh from a hundred and forty, to two hundred and twelve pounds; within two months from the first prescription, he became so restless for the want of occupation that he rented a store, and engaged in active business."

Does any one think that this patient would have recovered without treatment, or that the 3 X would have produced such a result?

It is not alone in chronic cases that nosodes are effective.

Dr. Biegler, in the second volume of the "Organon," p. 439, gives a case of acute cerebral meningitis in which the strabismus was intense: cured with Tuberculinum, CM., first dose given Nov. 1st, 1878; she was up and about on the 25th of December, attended a matinee, riding two miles to and from the hall without injury. June 9th, 1879, no sign of the strabismus. Another case can be found on p. 342 same volume, and on p. 41, volume iii, a case of chronic periodic headache of forty-five years standing was permanently cured with Tuberculinum.

Another case occurred in the practice of Dr. H. H. Tinker. "A little girl given up to die of basilar meningitis, after Prof. Austin had confirmed the diagnosis, and Dr. Flint positively asserted the doom of the child, was completely cured with Tuberculinum M. M., but it left her entirely blind, which will give some idea of the gravity of the case." Drs. C. A. Tinker and H. Von Musits report similar cures.

A patient, after diphtheria had paralysis of palate and uvula, and of the left arm and leg. Diphtherine M.M. cured it.

Another case of post-diphtheritic paralysis reported by Dr. Nichols, of Boston, was cured by Diphtherine M.M.

Few remedies have such a controlling influence in the last stage of cholera infantum as Medorrhin: and several cases I have had brought to me on pillows apparently dying, have been cured by one dose of Medorrhin M.M. Three of the cases I have since heard from, and am assured by their parents that they have seldom been sick in any way since.

Dr. Rendell of New Haven, reports the following interesting case: "Mr. C, aged forty, tall, slender but plump body and limbs, very thin face, dark hair, blue eyes, with brown spots on the forehead, and very sallow complexion, was naturally very lively, and of a happy disposition: he had good health until during the war, when he had small-pox badly, and rheumatism. For the latter, he took large doses of mercury, which cured the rheumatic pain, but left him with severe aching pains in the bones and chest, worse at night; he was confined in prison, and from exposure, starvation, and the aching in the bones and chest, became very much reduced. At the end of the war, instead of attending to his physical condition, he found a

situation as Government Clerk, and it has been since then a constant tax on his brain, and nervous force, so that he could not regain his former strength. He became very despondent, gloomy, sad, very quiet looking, absent-minded, giving no attention to any thing about himself, very irritable, said he knew he was worn out, could only live a few years, felt as old as a man of seventy, and that nothing could be done for him, or restore his youth. Has had for years a constant pain in top, sides and back of head, extending down the neck between the shoulders, with tenderness on pressure in the region of the medulla, from which spot, he says, proceeds the pains in his head and neck, is very restless, wide awake, and entirely sleepless at night, feels very tired all the time, and vertigo when walking, poor appetite."

Now this is, as all will admit, a very unpromising case.

"Nov. 26th, 1880, gave him one dose of Protagon M M. Three days after taking it, he wrote that he had had a very refreshing, and all nights sleep, feels as fresh and young as ever; appetite good, head and neck much better, but vertigo continues very bad.

In a week from the time he took the powder, he wrote that he was delighted to inform me that he had no more pain in the head or neck, felt stronger, had gotten rid of the vertigo, and the weary old feelings: could now walk about, attend to business, did not get tired, felt happy and bright, and more like himself than he had for years.

Saw him last Jan. 14th, and hardly knew him, he was so improved."

That the higher potencies of morbid matter are necessary for the cure of the disease which produced it, I would instance a case of hydrophobia reported by Dr. Berridge, in which he gave the C.M. of Lyssin (Hydrophobinum) and produced Euthanasia - he had no higher potency - if the M.M. or C.M.M. had been given there is little doubt that we should have had a perfect cure.

The following case of small-pox by Dr. Cochran of this city illustrates my argument.

Mr. -, net 35. Exposed from April 1st to 10th, to small pox in a fellow clerk: for several days had terrible pains in back, more in right side, over and below shoulder blade: muscles sore to touch; nausea: pains all over: tongue clean: had taken blue pills.

Saw him April 22d. Eruption had come out all over him. Body completely covered with large pustules, face one mass, confluent, mouth and fauces lined with pustules and tongue covered; constant hawking of mucus, bowels constipated, pulse 120. Delirious; gave Variolinum, CM. May 1st. pulse 120. Temperature 104 1/2 . Fear of death, wild excitement: begging to know if he was to die, and before sentence completed would drop into a heavy sleep; loud stertorous breathing; jaw dropped; pupils contracted; breath horribly offensive; teeth covered with thick, brown slime, centre of tongue perfectly black, mucus membrane of mouth and pharynx, deep purple crimson, with gangrenous appearance. Skin of face and neck wherever visible, of a deep, dark purple hue; odor from patient like a fetid steam; very little control over tongue and jaw; the latter fallen, and tongue protruding when he was asleep. The effort to speak when he waked up, causing violent tremblings of the jaw, and tongue with difficulty retracted; it was dry and stiff, looking like a mass of putrid flesh; the urine continued through the attack, free and dark colored.

Gave Variolinum C M.M. (Swan) in water, a teaspoonful every half hour. May 2d, called with Dr. Ostrom, found patient almost convalescent. Temp. 100 1/2 , pulse 96, and moderately strong; color of skin and mucus membrane almost a natural red; mind clear; patient wide awake, rather lively and talkative; centre of tongue changed from black to brown, and the stiff dryness gone. From this time he continued to improve without drawback, and on 25th of May went out. June 12 perfectly well, with a few pocks on nose and on a small place in forehead.

It would make this paper too long for your patience to give more of such cases. Now, I admit that we have no sound theory to explain the action of high potencies, or what is the difference of organization of the drug that makes the M.M. cure, when the CM. only palliates, or maybe

have no effect. We can not deny that there is a force or a power undiscoverable by any known tests, that acts in the direction of the provings of the drug, and when found by those provings to be the *similar* to a group of symptoms, *rapidly* and *permanently cures them*. I say this can not be denied, because it is an every day occurrence, and we have a cloud of witnesses to the facts. No man can discuss this question, who has not used these remedies, because he would only have an imaginative theory, not based on fact, and therefore useless and worthless as far as discussion goes.

I am here met by the question "why was Syphilinum or Medorrhin given where there were no indications by which to be guided, as in Dr. Boardman's case, or in the cases of cholera infantum?"

I answer, that in the experience of most physicians there are cases in which the most carefully selected remedies do not fulfil the expectation, and often cease to act. It is then usual to prescribe an anti-psoric, and an improvement at once commences, and in many cases continues to a complete cure. It is as if the anti-psoric had removed an obstruction that interfered with the action of the first remedy, and enabled it to complete its work.

Now, if physicians would learn to recognize in a patient the indications of the various hereditary miasms, Psora, Syphilis, Gonorrhoea and Sycosis, and administer the potentized virus of the miasm so diagnosed, before giving any other remedy, they will frequently be agreeably surprised to find an entire cure without the aid of any other remedy.

It is not my wish to excite controversy, but experiment: Dr. Hering told the writer, that "it was the duty of every physician to make known any new drug, whose action, however ascertained, would be of benefit in healing the sick, and it was also the duty of every physician to prove all drugs that he can," and it is in this spirit that I give this paper to the profession. Try these potencies and nosodes yourselves; use them properly, and after careful and painstaking investigation and experience you will be in a condition to discuss the subject understandingly.

If the objection, that the nosodes have not been proved, and therefore should not be used, is valid, it behoves those objecting, to prove them; there are those who believe, as I do. that the fixed symptoms, or pathological changes, that differentiate between one sickness and another, one group being called Pneumonia another Pleurisy, etc., etc., are the characteristics of the morbid product, and indicate the remedy, they think that those who need a proving *before* using, should do it themselves. For my part, I can not if I wished, prove any more remedies. I think it sufficient if I find the curative effects of unproved remedies, and leave the provings to others.

I close this paper by quoting the words of Professor Jaeger.

"I do not expect or wish that my assertions should be blindly accepted, but I think I have a right to demand that these assertions should be examined, and proved or disproved. I have a right to assert that he who judges without having experimented, does not deserve the name of scientist - not even that of a man of honor. I well know how inconvenient and uncomfortable it will be to many to have my investigations confirmed: this, however, gives no man the right to heap upon me personal abuse. Honorable men must endure the truth, no matter how bitter it may prove.

When Harvey discovered the circulation of the blood; Soemmering invented the telegraph; Pleysonell proclaimed the animal nature of the Corall; when Robert Mayer found the equivalent of heat, etc.; these discoveries were not only received with malicious phrases, but the discoveries pronounced consummate nonsense. The names of the discoverers were held up to public scorn by attaching to them insulting attribute. Harvey was called 'the circulator' for several centuries: attempts were made to dispossess him of office and honors, to alienate his dependants, and, had not the king interfered in his behalf, he would have died a ruined man.



If any one believes that these dark ages have passed away; that such things are impossible in our enlightened century, I regret to be obliged to say that affairs are precisely the same now as they were then."

(Samuel Swan, M. D., Nosodes and High Potencies, with Clinical Cases illustrative of their Action Second Edition, in: Homoeopathic Pamphlets vol. 22 (n. d.), p. 209-219)

### 1882 - Clinical Notes

"(1) A lady had the following symptoms: She felt so pressed for time that she could not remain long in one place, and must go home; but this sensation was not felt in the mind, but in the left hypochondrium. She had also a blood-red tongue, smooth, swollen, with great dryness of mouth and throat, and great thirst, drinking a goblet of water every few minutes, with profuse urination; there was also sleeplessness.

One dose of *Belladonna* DMM. (Swan) cured these symptoms.

She said I must have given her a narcotic, as she had a sound sleep the first night."

(2) A woman had the following extraordinary delusions: She was sure that a man was after her for sexual intercourse, and that his family were going to have her arrested for getting him pregnant; that they said that nine women could get a man pregnant, but that, as the child could not be born, he must die. She was afraid of doctors, and refused medicine.

I succeeded in giving her three doses of *Veratrum album* DMM. (Swan), and in one week she was entirely well.

The symptom which led me to the remedy was the very analogous one, 'she fancies herself pregnant,' a symptom noticed by Greding in a patient, and which the would-be purifiers of our Materia Medica would like to expunge.

(3) A child, two or three years old, had both eyes swollen and closed with syphilitic ophthalmia, with pus running out of them. I gave one dose of *Syphilinum* DMM. (Swan); in one week the child was nearly well, and in two weeks entirely cured.

*Syphilinum* is indicated when children's teeth are *cupped*; when they are *serrated* it indicates *Medorrhinum*. In a large number of cases one dose of the indicated remedy, in the DMM. potency, cures the disease, and in all cases it prepares the way for a cure.

(4) I was called in consultation with Dr. Ostrom to a case of septic poisoning. Temperature 102; pulse 98; apathetic, complains of nothing; does not want to be spoken to, but wants to be let alone; feels very comfortable; slight discharge from a sinus in the leg.

Gave *Septicinum* CMM. (Swan) in water, a spoonful every hour for three doses.

Early next morning had profuse discharge of pus; temperature and pulse normal; was bright, cheerful, and talkative.

(5) *Dolichos pruriens* has cured intolerable itching all over body, especially in pregnant women; *worse at night*, preventing sleep; *worse from scratching*, with no perceptible eruption on skin.

(6) A dose of *Graphites* CM. wonderfully relieved a case of membranous dysmenorrhoea, but produced the following symptoms: kneading, twisting, wringing sensation in right ovary, followed by a greyish-brown discharge; the menses came on three days afterwards.

(7) *Corbinata Americana* is a stone from the head of a fish called *Corbinata*. It causes permanent paralysis of the sphincter vesicae, and I have verified it in incontinence of urine (see Higgin's *Ophidians*).

(8) Pain in eyes back into head, extremely sharp, with a sensation as if the eyes extended back; great photophobia to natural or artificial light; any continued glare results in this pain. *Lac Felinum* caused steady improvement up to last report.

(9) Pain in left eye, which protruded; pupil dilated; sensation of a cool air blowing upon it; want of co-ordination of recti muscles with those of right eye; photophobia from gaslight, looking at a glistening object, to a less extent from sunlight, but severe by reflection from snow. I gave *Magnes arcticus* (high potency). The pain left at once, and the patient was improving at last report.

(10) Dr. - , was, with several other physicians, exposed to very bad weather, and, as they all had similar symptoms, they diagnosed the disease as malaria, and treated it accordingly, all using low potencies, nothing above the 6<sup>th</sup>. After suffering off and on for two or more months, and being prescribed for in vain by several 'physicians practising Homoeopathy,' not Hahnemannian physicians, the doctor concluded to try 'moonshine,' as he jokingly calls a high potency. I found the following condition: -Nervous chills, preceded by aching pains in head, *especially in occiput and integuments thereof*, the head feeling heavy, sore, and congested; also frontal headache about a half or two-thirds of an inch wide across forehead under eyebrows; and *aching pains* below waist, in pelvis and *extremities*, especially on the *tibia, which is sensitive to touch*. THE PAINS COMMENCE ABOUT 4 P. M., culminate about midnight in delirium, and CEASE ENTIRELY AT DAYLIGHT. Appetite good; bowels torpid for five weeks; cross, irritable, and peevish. The italicised symptoms, and especially those in small capitals, indicated *Syphilinum*, and I gave him one dose of dmm (Swan) at 3.30 p. m. All symptoms at once ceased, and did not return - not an ache, pain, or chill has been felt since. The next day he had a natural stool, the first for five weeks, and is now an entirely well man.

(11) Sick headache since girlhood, pains intolerable, with high fever, frequent retching or trying to vomit; arteries of head full and pulsating violently; menses regular but very scanty. Cured by Dr. J. C. Boardman with *Syphilinum* 50m.

(12) *Syphilinum* (high) cured in a married lady a large sore, an inch and a half in diameter, over middle of occipital bone, covered with a large yellow-white scab a quarter of an inch thick.

(13) Constant linear headache, commencing at both angles of forehead and extending in parallel lines backwards (a precursor of epileptic fits). Cured by Dr. Thomas Wildes with *Syphilinum* (high).

(14) Syphilitic cephalalgia in occiput; attacks come on at irregular intervals, especially after excitement. The pain extends to the nervous ganglia of the neck, causing hardening of the cords; the pain is intolerable; in a married lady. Cured by *Syphilinum* Materia Medica (Swan).

(15) *Syphilinum* (high) cured red papulous eruption around left inner canthus, with isolated pimples on side of nose, cheek, and eyebrow; these pimples were red, with depressed centre, circumscribed areola, becoming confluent where the pimples were most dense; the pimples bleed when the scabs come off, agglutination of eyelids.

(16) *Syphilinum* has cured ophthalmic pains worse at night, and relieved by cold water.

(17) Left eye covered with fungus-like growth, pain intense, worse at night.  
Cured by Dr. E. A. Ballard with *Syphilinum* 1m.

(18) A girl had deafness, which came on gradually till at last she could hardly hear at all.  
Gave *Syphilinum* cmm (Swan), and in three hours she could hear as well as ever.

(19) Spasmodic twitching of many muscles, especially in face (paralysis agitans), with great melancholy and depression of spirits.  
Cured by Dr. Thomas Wildes with *Syphilinum* (high).

(20) Putrid taste in mouth before epileptic fit.  
Cured by Dr. Thomas Wilde with *Syphilinum* (high).

(21) Aversion to meat. Cured by Dr. Thomas Wildes and by myself with *Syphilinum* (high).

(22) A married lady; lower portion of rectum hanging out of anus like a ruffle, looking like a full-blown rose; was fully three inches in diameter, not sensitive; constant weak, dragging sensation in rectum, extending as far up as sacrum.  
Cured with *Syphilinum* 1m.

(23) Fissures in anus and rectum; cured by Dr. W. Eggert with *Syphilinum* (high).

(24) Bilious diarrhoea when at seashore (compare *Natrum muriaticum* and *Aqua marina*); painless, driving her out of bed (compare *Sulphur*); about five stools during day; later causing some excoriation; face red; suffers from heat; occasional painless whitish diarrhoea when at home; always relieved when going to the mountains.  
Cured by *Syphilinum* mm (Swan).

(25) Mrs. -, urine infrequent, not oftener than once in twenty-four hours, scanty, golden-yellow colour. Gave *Syphilinum* 1m. She woke near morning with great distention of abdomen and pain in region of kidneys; rising, she passed a large quantity of normal coloured urine, after which the distention and pain were relieved; next day urination regular, watery.

(26) Profuse urination after the chill, passing during night nearly a chamberful. Cured by *Syphilinum* (high).

(27) Rich lemon-yellow, scanty urine. Cured by Dr. Thomas Wildes with *Syphilinum* (high).

(28) *Syphilinum* (high) has cured several cases of chancre on prepuce, and several cases of bubo. In one case the cm potency cured a bubo, purple, pointing in left groin, the size of a pigeon's egg; accompanied with night-sweats, and constant pain in anterior right thigh, worse at night.

(29) Mrs. -, uterus and all surrounding parts loose, soft, and flabby; three large ulcers on cervix uteri; thick yellow profuse leucorrhoea; constant pain across small of back.  
Cured by *Syphilinum* (high).

(30) Miss -; after taking *Syphilinum* (high) the usually painful menstruation with all its concomitants was very easy, and the best for years.

(31) Hard, constant cough, with thick yellow, tasteless expectoration. Cured with *Syphilinum* (high).

(32) Dry, racking cough, with slight purulent expectoration now and then for two years, caused by a sensation of rasping or scraping in throat, always much worse at night; three years ago had chancre cured (!?) by 'bluestone cauterly' and drinking 'bluestone water.' Cured by *Syphilinum* 20m.

(33) Hard cough, worse at night, when it is continuous, preventing sleep; white phlegm expectorated. Cured with *Syphilinum* (high).

(34) Expectoration muco-purulent, greyish, greenish, greenish-yellow, tasteless. Cured with *Syphilinum* (high).

(35) Whooping-cough, accompanied with terrible vomiting. Cured by Dr. Laura Morgan with *Syphilinum* (high).

(36) Dry, sharp, hacking cough, without expectoration, but with rawness, scraping, and burning from fauces to stomach-pit, with a whoop on inspiration (compare *Spongia*), and a choking sensation from fauces to bifurcation of bronchia, with great mental distress. Cured by Dr. Thomas Wildes with *Syphilinum* (high).

(37) Cannot lie on right side, as it causes a dry cough. Cured with *Syphilinum* (high).

(38) Bubo, with pain in a spot on middle of right thigh in front, only when standing and on deep pressure, which latter seemed to touch the spot, which apparently was in the periosteum. Cured with *Syphilinum* (high).

(39) Fever, commencing from 11 a. m. to 1 p. m., daily; fever hot; perspires when she begins to get over the fever; pain in back, worse between shoulders; no ambition or desire to move. Cured by *Syphilinum* 1m.

(40) Rheumatism, with swelling of hands, wrists, legs below the knee, and feet, with great soreness of soles; all worse at night. Cured by *Syphilinum* 1m.

(41) I gave a lady *Buboinum* (high) for a bubo; it relieved it, but caused the left ovary to swell, so that during coitus, at the moment of orgasm, there was a sharp cutting pain in left ovary like a knife, and twice there was a smarting as of a sore. The ovary swelled so much that its size and shape could easily be felt through the abdominal walls.

(42) A young man complained that if he rose up suddenly after stooping he would faint easily. *Linaria* cm (Swan), one dose, cured. Dr. C. Lippe gave me the symptom, 'Fainting from small causes.'

(43) *Cubeba* is indicated in foetid odor from chronic catarrh with greenish-yellow expectoration; also in catarrh with rawness of throat, hoarseness or aphonia, with fulness in chest or

wheezing; also in catarrh with greenish-yellow foetid discharge from nose, and in greenish-yellow foetid leucorrhoea. Have cured several cases with cm and mm (Swan).

Thus Houat's provings, which the great purifier of the *Materia Medica* and misquoter of the Master and his followers stigmatises as 'sectual lies,' are again verified by the clinical test.

(44) Case of brain-fag in a young man; the symptoms were reticence; difficulty in co-ordinating ideas so as to answer a question; would look at you intelligently, as if he were going to speak, or as if he had grasped the idea, and then the light fading from the eye would show that he had lost it; he would say that he would get up, evidently intending to do so, but failed to hold long enough to accomplish his purpose.

One dose of *Protagon* mm (Swan) relieved him entirely, and I found him downstairs next morning, bright and cheerful, and had been reading about the election without any fatigue of brain.

In my pamphlet on Nosodes, etc., p. 7, I have reported a remarkable cure of a similar case by Dr. Leila A. Rendell, one of the best Hahnemannian physicians in our ranks.

Dr. Berridge also informs me that he has greatly relieved two similar cases with the same remedy, though others were indicated afterwards.

(45) A girl, aet. ten, had been for four months under the care of one of the most distinguished Hahnemannians of New York and its environs, but without benefit.

The right eye alone was affected, congestion of sclerotic and conjunctiva, and some chemosis; lids inflamed, especially at outer canthus; sensation of sand in the eye; lids agglutinated in morning; great photophobia; profuse yellow leucorrhoea, worse at night.

Feeling sure, from the great eminence of her former physician, that all the most indicated antipsorics had been given, I conjectured and ascertained a syphilitic origin, and as nocturnal aggravation is very characteristic of *Syphilinum*, I gave one dose of cmm (Swan).

In one week the eye was much better; in two weeks it was well, but there appeared an enlargement of the cervical glands.

As I discovered on her neck a number of pedunculated pin-head warts, I gave her *Sycosyphilinum* dmm (Swan).

This completed the cure of the eye symptoms, the leucorrhoea, and the glandular enlargement. Warts all disappeared.

(46) A boy, aet. five, golden hair, brown eyes, fair and fat, as are all the family; had his left eye closed, upper lid swollen as large as half an English walnut, deep red, with oozing of purulent matter from between the lids, not much pain.

Gave *Syphilinum* dmm (Swan), one dose.

Next day nearly well; third day, eye all right, except a little redness in both lids.

Complains now of an intense earache in right side, incisive pains thrusting from the ear, purulent watery discharge from the ear with the pain.

Gave *Otorrhoea syphilitica* cmm (Swan), one dose, and in two days was entirely well.

(47) A young lady, who had just recovered from a severe attack of tonsillitis, developed a case of pleuro-pneumonia without any assignable cause, not having left her bed.

The temperature was 104.5, and pulse 135. The lesion was *high up on the right side towards axilla*.

I gave her *Aconite* in the morning.

The same day, happening to see Dr. Baruch, I mentioned the case to him, and he gave me the ninth centesimal potency of *Ferrum phosphoricum*, which he said he had seen act admirably with him in similar cases.

I saw her again at 4 p. m., but neither the pulse nor temperature had changed, so I dissolved the *Ferr.-Phosp.* in a full glass of water, and ordered a spoonful every half-hour till my return. I saw her again at 7 p. m., and found she had not coughed once since the first dose; temperature 103, pulse 104; felt better; could raise her arm above her head, and could breathe deeper. Dr. Baruch claims that it not only reduces the pulse and temperature, but is curative of the disease *in that particular location*.

The *Ferr.-Phosp.* almost entirely cured the case, only one dose of *Bryonia* being subsequently required.

Neither Schussler's clinical symptoms nor the proving in vol. 10 of the *Encyclopedia* give this characteristic indication.

(48) A dull aching pain over the right hip, with soreness on pressure, extending round to the front, and considerable fulness and sense of great distention in the liver, was entirely cured with *Cholesterine* cm (Swan).

(49) Ptosis, even look sleepy from the lowering of upper lid. Cured by *Syphilinum* cmm.

(50) A gentleman had chancre on velum palati, which was congested, thickened, and interfered very much with his speech; had contracted syphilis eighteen years before, which was suppressed; never had the disease since.

Gave one dose of *Syphilinum* mmm. (Swan).

In three days better, in six days argued a case for three hours without suffering. Afterwards the ulcer granulated and filled up, the voice being without a trace of huskiness.

(51) Inflammation of outer half of lower tarsal edges of both eyes. *Kali bichromicum* relieved the granulations, but the redness and swelling remained. *Syphilinum* dmm, one dose, completed the cure.

(52) Complete deafness, with nothing morbid to be seen. Cured by *Syphilinum* (high).

(53) Calcareous deposits in membrana tympani. Cured by *Syphilinum* (high).

(54) Feeling like a worm in the tooth; could not tell which tooth it was; - a child. Cured by one dose of *Syphilinum* (high).

(55) Herpetic eruption in mouth, tonsils, hard palate, and fauces, making it very difficult to swallow even liquids. Cured by *Syphilinum* (high).

(56) Swelling of legs from knee to the ground, the soles being painful when standing on them; the swelling goes down in morning, returning at night. Cured by *Syphilinum* (high).

(57) Biting sensation in various parts of body, as if bitten by bugs, at night only. Cured by *Syphilinum* (high).

For other cures by *Syphilinum* see my *Nosodes and High Potencies*; Dr. C. F. Nichol's *Quantum Sufficit*; The Organon, vol. ii, pp. 46, 73, 262, 448, 461; vol. i. pp. 63, 266, 358; *New York Journal of Homoeopathy*, vol. i., p. 109; *The Homoeopathic Physician*, vol. I, p. 120; vol. ii, pp. 77, 139; and *The Homoeopathic World* for 1882.

(Samuel Swan, M. D., New York, Clinical Notes, The Homoeopathic World vol. 17 (1882), p. 52-54, 209-214, 315-316)

### **1888 - Pyrogen - Sepsin**

"Some years ago, I do not remember how many, Messrs. Alfred Heath & Co. (I think it was) sent me some " Sepsin " artificially prepared. Some time subsequent to that Dr. William Todd Helmuth sent me a vial of pus from an abscess in the thigh, in the "worst case of septicaemia he had ever seen", the patient at the time being moribund. This I potentized and named it Pyrogen - the English preparation being then called Sepsin.

I have made several partial provings, have used it extensively in cases of blood-poisoning, and it has been used by other physicians in such cases, and in certain forms of malaria, especially those taking on the typhoid form; also in typhoid fever, and surgical diseases where the symptoms of blood-poison were marked.

In the proving there is a marked similarity to the premonitory symptoms of small-pox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, malarial fevers - such as aching in the limbs, chills down the back, severe pain in small of back, pain in stomach, soreness in the whole body and especially in the region of the spleen - with extreme sensibility of the parts - also complete apathy, wants to be let alone, is very comfortable; dull, sleepy.

It has greatly modified, and in some cases cured, typhoid fever.

It cured a case of purpura haemorrhagica.

There is great dryness of all the mucous surfaces.

Dr. G. H. Carr cured a case of puerperal peritonitis in a very short time with four doses, one-third hour apart.

Headache, extending to nape and dorsal vertebra.

It should be the first thing thought of in surgical wounds, and in all cases where blood-poison is suspected.

If used in high potencies, no person need to die of blood-poison; and seldom more than one dose is needed.

If physicians would give it a trial, I think they would never after be without it."

(Samuel Swan, M. D., New York, Pyrogen - Sepsin, The Medical Advance Bd. 21 (1888), p. 545-546)

### **1893 - In memoriam Dr. Samuel Swan**

"The homoeopathic profession will read with surprise this announcement of the death of Dr. Samuel Swan, of New York, so widely known in connection with the numerous remedies of the nosode class which he has from time to time introduced to professional notice. He died on Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> of October, at ten o'clock in the morning. Dr. Swan had been unwell for several months, and had relaxed his usual active work and had lost much of his interest in the events of the profession owing to the prostration that his illness had caused. In May last he wrote: "I have been sick for the last two months and am now so weak I can't attend to patients, who very considerably keep away from me. \*\*\* I have been too sick to pay attention to anything." Later he retired to his bed never to rise again. He was well aware his end was approaching and expressed a wish to die. He was fully conscious to the last, but had lost the use of his voice and was finally unable through weakness even to write what he wished to say.

Dr. Swan was born at Medford, Mass., July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1815. He was therefore seventy-eight years old at the time of his death.

The first half of his life was spent in active business pursuits, which he was finally compelled to relinquish on account of ill health. He then went South in the company of his devoted wife, and there met Dr. Uhlrick through whom he became interested in medicine, and under whose direction he studied it. He then returned to the North, entered as a student in the Homoeopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, now merged in Hahnemann Medical

College, and graduated in 1866. His diploma bears the signature of such distinguished men as Adolph Lippe, Constantine Hering, and Henry N. Guernsey. He settled in New York, and went into the active practice of medicine, which he continued until incapacitated by the illness of the last few months. The first five years of his medical career were spent almost entirely in gratuitous practice. He was a kind man and none who appealed to him for aid ever went away unsatisfied. The grateful memories that cluster about his name amply testify to his deeds of good-will and benevolence.

The writer of this sketch himself owes Dr. Swan a large amount of gratitude for valuable professional services rendered to his mother under the following circumstances:

The patient had been suffering for years the most excruciating agony from headache. The pain was so violent as to cause loud screaming and a desire to run wildly from one room to another. No remedies prescribed seemed to have any effect, and there seemed to be no hope of procuring relief.

In June of 1876, Dr. Adolph Lippe gave a dinner party at which were assembled Dr. Edward Bayard, Dr. Henry N. Guernsey, Dr. Constantine Lippe, Dr. Samuel Swan, two or three others whose names it is impossible now to recall, and the writer. This case of violent headache was incidentally mentioned to Dr. Swan in the course of a conversation in which experiences had been mutually recounted.

He became much interested and offered to prescribe. A detailed statement of the symptomatology was furnished him, and after two or three remedies had been given with but indifferent success, *Lac felinum* was administered. The screaming ceased and the headache slowly disappeared. The disease energy was driven to the surface with the production of an extremely annoying eruption upon the legs of a decidedly erysipelatous character which has continued from that time. The relief from the intense agony of the headache, however, was as complete as it was remarkable.

In January 1878, he joined Dr. Thomas Skinner, then of Liverpool, and now of London, Dr. Adolph Lippe, Philadelphia, and Dr. Berridge, of London, in the publication of a new journal devoted to pure Homoeopathy. It was called *The Organon*, and was issued quarterly. It at once took a prominent position in medical journalism, and promised to be a great success. It ceased after three years of publication, however, and pure Homoeopathy was without a representative. It was then that Dr. Lippe, deploring the loss of the journal, determined to start another journal in its place. THE HOMOEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN was thus established and was the successor of *The Organon*. Dr. Swan became much interested in this latest venture and was a frequent contributor to its pages.

Dr. Swan did not confine himself to pure Homoeopathy, and he soon became widely known for his indorsement of Isopathy. This was considered to be an invasion, and a nullification of the doctrine of the law of similars, and it brought upon him a storm of denunciations and criticisms in which this journal sometimes participated. It would be out of place here to rekindle the fires of that controversy, but without affirming or denying the injurious effect upon Homoeopathy that it is claimed to have caused, the one practical result has been the bringing to professional notice of a large number of new and singular remedies. Among these may be mentioned the various "milks" which were, with one exception, introduced by Dr. Swan. That one exception was Lac-caninum, which was originated by Dr. Reissig; by him communicated to Dr. Bayard, who, in turn, transmitted the information to Dr. Swan.

Dr. Swan introduced Tuberculinum to medicine years before the same remedy was discovered by Professor Koch, of Berlin, who made such a tremendous sensation with it in the ranks of the dominant school. He also introduced Syphilinum, Medorrhinum, and other remedies of like character, now known under the general name of nosodes.



The profession were not opposed to the use of these nosodes, but the demand was frequently made that they be proved like the "polychrests." To this Dr. Swan answered that these remedies had already produced provings which could be found in the phenomena and symptoms of the disease of which they were the products. This answer did not satisfy the strictly logical Hahnemannians, and thus a gulf was formed between them and him which has continually widened. Much more might be said, but space will not permit the elaboration of the subject, and it is accordingly left to other writers to treat as they shall feel inspired."

(In memoriam - Dr. Samuel Swan. *The Homoeopathic Physician* Vol. 13 (1893), p. 557-559.)

[Probably written by the editor, Walter M. James, M.D.]

"Samuel Swan, M. D., was born at Medford, Mass., July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1815. Died, New York, October 18th, 1893. He was the son of Samuel Swan, a sea captain, who was lost at sea. His grandfather was a major in the Revolutionary war under General Lincoln. Thus we find the Doctor to be of good old American stock, and the old homestead still stands, a relic of colonial days. He attended the Bradford Academy and early developed a talent for music. He entered into the music business and also published a number of his own compositions. He was married in 1843, and as his health was not good went to Montgomery, Ala., and entered mercantile life. During the ten years he was there he became intimate with Dr. Uhlric and Dr. Albright, local physicians, who were practitioners of Homoeopathy, and spent much of his spare time in the study of medicine under their direction. He was fortunate in being directed to that line of investigation through the influence of his uncle, Dr. Daniel Swan, of Medford, who as early as 1808 embraced Homoeopathy, and was one of the pioneers in the practice in this country.

During the Doctor's residence in Montgomery the yellow fever broke out and a severe epidemic ensued. He did not turn away, but devoted his whole time to caring for the afflicted, acting both as nurse and physician at a time when such assistance was most difficult to obtain. His success was marked, not only as a physician, but in business as well, and he rapidly accumulated a competency. In 1860 he removed to Wilmington, Del., and while there attended the Homoeopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, from which he was graduated in 1866. In 1863, however, he came to New York, where he made his home till his death.

During his early residence in New York he was associated with Dr. E. Bayard, and their relations were always of the most friendly nature.

Dr. Swan became most widely known through his work in connection with the preparation of high potencies and the use of the morbid products of diseases as remedies. He was interested in the proving of remedies for many years before he began the manufacture of the potencies, which was about the year 1875. With him originated the term "bottle washing," which became the sneer of those who scoffed at the idea of the high potencies, and the excessively high notation which he adopted caused very severe criticism of his method.

In 1881 he became a member of the then newly-organized International Hahnemannian Association, and was one of its most staunch supporters, although in 1887 he severed his connection with the Association because of the most unpleasant complications arising from the use of his membership seal on his catalogue of remedies.

In private life Dr. Swan was one of the most genial and kindly men, beloved and respected by all who knew him. His charities were broad and unostentatious, giving freely of his means and services to those whose need appealed to him, and for five years gave his service free to all who came. Broad and liberal-minded in all things, his religion was as broad as his charities, and held the brightest hopes for all.

By the death of Dr. Swan the profession loses one of its most conscientious students; his widow, son, and daughter a loving husband and father; while his associates and patients mourn a kind and valued friend.

The time has not yet arrived when a just estimate of the work of Dr. Swan can be made. Labors which have extended through years, intermingled with the tumult and turmoil of battle, the sounds of which, together with the heat and passions of conflict are not yet passed away, cannot be considered with the calm and dispassionate judgment that will be accorded them in later days.

Even the bitterest opponent of Dr. Swan cannot but admit his sincerity and earnestness of purpose. If he was in error in his conclusions, the error was of the head and not of the heart. The writer knew him many years and never knew him to utter an unkind word or speak disparagingly of even his most bitter opponent. He simply said in substance, they could not understand his meaning ; and that, unfortunately, was one of the difficulties of his methods of expressing himself in writing. He took too much for granted, believing that his readers understood his position and could understand what he intended to convey without further explanation. This the writer has observed a number of times, when a personal interview would give a distinct, and sometimes, almost opposite meaning to something which he had written, and which had been construed in an entirely different manner.

To be sure, it will be necessary to depend upon what he has written, to assign him to his place in homoeopathic literature. How much of fact and how much of fancy there is in his investigations and compilations remains for the future to determine. All that he has done must be proved and accepted, or must be disproved and rejected ; it cannot and will not be cast aside because some, however well meaning, have stamped it with their disapproval. Homoeopathy will not stand or fall by any one's *dictum*. Its foundation is on facts and on facts depend its existence.

The intense opposition which was developed by his advocacy of the use of the morbidic products, reached its culmination when he issued his famous *Catalogue of Morbidic Products, Nosodes, and other Remedies, in High Potencies*. There can be no question as to the use of morbidic products in potentiated form, any more than there can be a question concerning the use of other products of animal or vegetable origin in like manner and under the Hahnemannian principle. If Psorinum, Syphilinum, Medorrhinum, etc., are legitimate remedies, Morbilin or Pyrogen are equally so. It is to Dr. Swan that we are indebted for many of these agents, and to his indomitable perseverance in the face of the most strenuous opposition that provings of them have been obtained.

With all this, however, the question may be legitimately raised, and without casting any reflections upon his sincerity or honesty of purpose, as to whether he was justified in his methods of using and introducing his "specifics," as he chose to call them. In all probability, it was this, rather than the preparations themselves, which caused his confreres to oppose him so strongly. That he believed his oft-repeated generalization, "Morbidic matter will cure the disease which produced it, if given in a high potency, even to the person from whom it was obtained," cannot be disputed : and his experience in the use of these products, extending over many years, only served to confirm his belief. The very fact that his observations have been confirmed in hundreds of instances by other physicians - that hundreds of physicians have used his remedies to a greater or less extent, and in many cases with the most surprising and satisfactory results - is sufficient cause for reflection and consideration rather than for hasty condemnation because the generalization was apparently "unorthodox."

The indiscriminate use of the morbidic products was never advocated by Dr. Swan to the writer's knowledge. He was a firm believer in the Hahnemannian principles, but like many others, he was satisfied that the homoeopathic materia medica was incomplete and would remain incomplete till it embraced everything that could affect the living organism. As Hahnemann found his first provings by the action of the crude drug, so Swan found the first provings of morbidic matter by the action of the crude disease-element as shown in the disease condition,

and his argument was : If the sum total of all the symptoms arising from any specific disease-producing element can be obtained, we shall have the complete proving of that element.

"While this proposition is logically correct, the conclusion that the morbid product of the diseased condition contained the disease element, is not strictly true, for while this specific sick-making element does obtain, as may be proved by the process of inoculation, it also contains other elements of varying characteristics according to the source of the morbid matter, hence even the potentiated product is not pure and does not represent the true sick-making element in the original state.

Herein lies the difficulty in the use of the morbid products. That any morbid product will produce the exact totality of symptoms produced by the original disease-producing factor cannot be substantiated, as it is a compound factor in itself: hence it cannot be considered as an *idem* or the same, but being of nosodic origin is still the *homoion* or similar. Therefore, while there cannot be any reasonable objection to the use of remedies of nosodic origin, any more than against those of isotic, organic, or dynamic origin, they must be invariably subjected to the process of proving, according to well-established homoeopathic principles.

The small volume, *A Materia Medica*, which Dr. Swan published in 1888, containing the provings of Saccharum-lactis and Lac-caninum, stands in evidence of his industry and labor. This work was never completed because the demand for the work did not warrant the necessary expenditure, and unfortunately, the greater portion of this edition was destroyed by fire and the work is now out of print. It is to be hoped that the large amount of MSS. which the Doctor has left, containing the provings and memoranda of his various remedies may be presented to the profession at no distant day, for they are far too valuable to be lost."

Hitchcock.

(In Memoriam - Dr. Samuel Swan. The Homoeopathic Physician Vol. 13 (1893), p. 589-594.)