Rajeev Saxena
A Phenomenological Study of Nosodes

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From the very early days of civilization, the products of diseases have been used as a remedy in the same disease from which they have come. Hippocrates writes—"Vomitus Vomitu Curantur" in this connection. The seeds of Isopathy have been found in the writings of Hippocrates and other contemporary physicians. But if we see the matter seriously we find that "Rigveda" is the oldest treatise of this planet's civilization. "Ayurveda" has come out of Rigveda as a true science of healing. In this Indian system of medicine we find the accounts of same nature. "Vishasya Vishmaushadham" has been one of the golden principles of "Ayurveda". We also see this principle in Charak's writings. Thus the seeds of Isopathy (Isopathy means the treatment of disease by the
same disease products) were present much earlier in the Indian System of Medicine. Poison is the remedy of poison is such an important formula of history of medicine that an independent method of treatment i.e. Isopathy came into existence.

The tribes of ancient world, the inhabitants of Bohemia, Columbia and China used the products of diseases for treatment in the same disease. Chinese used dried pustules to treat the smallpox. Dioscorides, Xenocrates, Garen, Serapion, Paul Aegineta used the lungs of fox for treatment of asthma. This was a new idea in which the corresponding animal organs were used as a remedy for the disordered organ of human being. Dioscorides and Paul Aegineta recommended roasted liver of mad dog for dog bite. Wolfs liver was used for hepatic problems and camel's brain was used for epilepsy. The dead scorpion was used for scorpion bite. History of medicine shows that Haly Abbas, Celsus, Zenocrates, Nicanender, etc. recommended this type of practice where the corresponding animal organs were used in human disordered organ problems. Here, it is to be noted down that sometimes the same insect or animal's organ was used in treating the problem created by the same creature, for example liver of rabbied dog in it's bite and sometimes the animal's organs were used as a general thumb rule.

Paracelsus opined blood serum to stop hemorrhage and extract of spleen for obstruction of spleen. His pupil Oswald Croll advocated animal organ therapy for corresponding human ailments. Van Helmont, Duryey and Richard meal opined in the same way. Meal recommended scorpion's oil for scorpion bite and Viper's flash for viper bite.
Chapter 2

THE BIRTH OF NOSODES

We have seen in the previous study that isopathy was having the seeds of nosodes. The remedies made from pathological secretions and substances and diseased tissues excretions were widely in use.

Dr. Collet had divided isopathic method of treatment into three categories:-

(a) The Organic Isopathy, which in later days founded the concept of Organotherapy.

(b) The Serotherapy.

(c) The Pure Isopathy.

This Pure Isotherapy, later on, founded the concept of Nosodes. P. Schmidt says, "Application of an alternated dose of a pathogenous product for curing the disease of which it is the result forms the isopathic remedies, and If it is used after having been experimented on a healthy man it becomes a nosode."
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