Francis Hunter
Everyday Homeopathy for Animals

Reading excerpt
*Everyday Homeopathy for Animals*
  of Francis Hunter
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Primary Materia Medica

ACONITE        LYCOPODIUM
APIS MELLIFICA  MERCURIUS SOLUBILIS
ARGENTUM NITRICUM NATRUM MURIATICUM
ARNICA          NUX VOMICA
ARSENICUM ALBUM PHOSPHORUS
BELLADONNA      PULSATILLA
BRYONIA         PYROGEN
CANTHARIS       Rhus TOXICODENDRON
CARBO VEGETABILIS RUTA
CAUSTICUM       SILICA
COLOCYNTHIS     SULPHUR
EUPHRASIA       SYMPHYTUM
GEELSEMIUM      THUJA
HEPAR SULPHURIS URTICA URENS
HYPERICUM

Aconite
Aconitum napellus, Monk's Hood, Wolf's Bane Plant
Family: Ranunculaceae (the buttercup family)

Aconite is a herbaceous, perennial plant, the flowers are purplish-blue in
colour and shaped like a monk's cowl. Aconite flowers from June to August.
It is handsome to look at, but somehow rather sinister in appearance. All parts
of the plant contain the alkaloid aconitine, making it one of the most
poisonous plants in Britain.

It is appropriate that it should be the first remedy in this materia medica,
because it is the first remedy to consider whenever there is shock, fright or
fear. In homeopathy it has been known as the homeopathic lancet, because
years ago it replaced the surgical instrument of that name in blood-letting for
cases of acute fever. In earlier times, if blood-letting was not practised in
conditions such as pneumonia or pleurisy, it was considered to be the
equivalent of murder, for without blood-letting to release the 'bad blood' the
patient must surely die.
Primary Materia Medico

Aconite is a short-acting remedy but it does act very quickly. It may be repeated several times at short intervals (its effects are noticeable in minutes).

Uses
ACCIDENTS - SHOCK - FRIGHT - FEVER - CHILLS
1) To steady the nerves after an accident or unexpected incident such as a fall or road traffic accident. This is likely to apply equally for the owner as for the animal.
2) To help to control pain of any kind.
3) In the early stages of a fever, such as acute tonsillitis, mastitis etc. when the temperature is high, the eyes may appear reddened, the pulse is rapid and bounding. The patient is often anxious, restless, thirsty and may be severely chilled.
4) It should be considered after animal or insect bites, burns or scalds, when there is haemorrhage (bleeding), especially if distress is obvious with trembling, increased respiration and heart rate.

Modalities
Worse in a warm room and in the evening. Worse when lying on the affected side. Better in the open air, but can be affected by dry, cold winds.

Apis Mellifica
Prepared from the honey-bee, using the whole body and the sting. In folklore the bee's venom has been used for centuries for its medicinal properties. The poison acts principally on cellular tissue causing swelling, oedema (the accumulation of fluid in the tissues) and local pain. Oedema may occur in many different parts of the body and these are where Apis exerts its curative properties. It can therefore be useful as an alternative to, or in conjunction with, a modern diuretic.

Uses
STINGS AND BITES - NETTLE RASH - ARTHRITIS - NEPHRITIS
1) Its first obvious use is to counteract the effects of the pain and swelling caused by any sort of insect bite or sting.
2) Puffy swollen eyelids, possibly associated with conjunctivitis, respond well to treatment with Apis.
3) Acute urticaria (nettle rash or hives) with raised swollen plaques anywhere
Primary Materia Medica

on the body, combined with irritation and a desire to rub or scratch the affected part.
4) In the early stages of acute sore throat (tonsillitis) or earache (otitis).
5) Arthritis with hot, shiny, swollen and painful joints.
6) Acute nephritis (kidney infection), often accompanied by retention or restricted flow of urine, due to bladder involvement.
7) Difficulty in breathing due to the accumulation of fluid (oedema) in the lungs.
8) Useful in the early stages of acute wet eczema.

Modalities
Worse from any sort of warmth or heat, a stuffy atmosphere and from pressure. Symptoms always appear to be worse in the early evening (around 5 p.m.), on the right side, and after resting. Better in the open air, from cool bathing of the affected parts, lying on cold surfaces and from moving about.
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