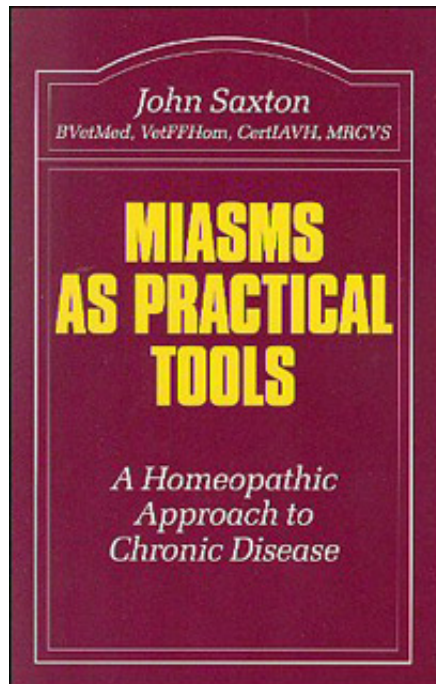




John Saxton

Miasms as Practical Tools

Reading excerpt
[Miasms as Practical Tools](#)
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Preface

The subject of miasms is a perplexing one, and from the earliest days their place in the homeopathic view of chronic disease has created controversy. There are some homeopaths who have doubts about the relevance of the basic concept, and others who reject the theory entirely. Still others, while accepting the reality of the forces, are doubtful about their role in practical prescribing. Some practitioners are building new philosophical layers onto the original concepts in an attempt to understand better the full extent of their dynamics. For many people starting out on the homeopathic route, all of this can cause confusion.

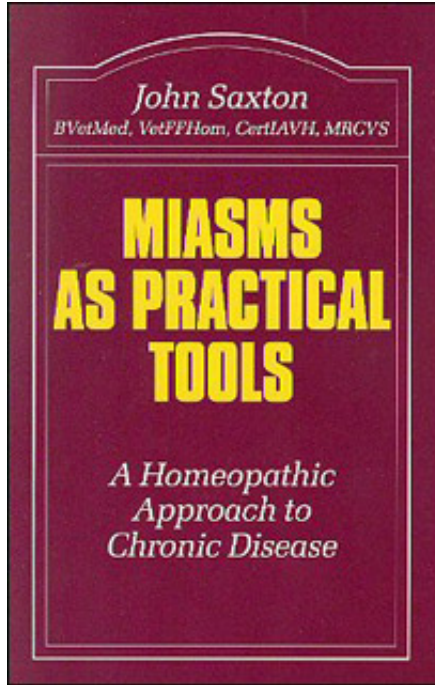
The purpose of this book is not to rehearse in detail the arguments concerning the very existence of miasms, as the underlying premise of the work is that these influences do exist. The aim is to provide a possible theoretical framework within which the reader can develop their ideas and understanding of what many regard as a central feature of homeopathy. It is hoped too that those with a deeper knowledge of the subject of miasms will also find something of value here, enabling them to acquire a different perspective on the subject.

In modern Western societies chronic disease is now the main enemy, as opposed to the acute epidemics of the past. Hahnemann's view of chronic disease and his concept of miasms provide insights into the understanding and relief of these conditions. Above all, the concept of miasms is a practical therapeutic tool and its use as such will enhance prescribing skills. It is hoped that after reading this book practitioners will be able to apply the concepts more effectively for the benefit of their patients, human or animal. A basic knowledge of homeopathic principles and practice is assumed, and the 6th edition of the *Organon*, edited by Wenda Brewster O'Reilly, has been used as the principal source throughout.

The book presents the author's personal understanding of the concept of miasms as it works for him. The cases quoted are not designed to show that the miasmatic approach is necessarily uppermost in every

Preface

prescribing situation, but rather that a miasmatic pattern can be seen to run through every case. Inevitably the author's veterinary background and experience have been a major influence in the approach, but the ideas are not confined, or only applicable, to the animal world. The principles are basic to homeopathy and can be applied to the human situation just as much as to the animal. The problems of chronic disease are common to all species. Anything that contributes to the understanding of those problems will be helpful, and it is in that context that this work is offered.



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A Homeopathic Approach to Chronic Disease

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