



UTILITY OF BOENNINGHAUSEN'S THERAPEUTIC POCKET BOOK IN MANAGEMENT OF CASES THROUGH HOMOEOPATHIC SYSTEM OF MEDICINE

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Abstract : After Hahnemann's materia medica pura was written it became more and more apparent that some method should be used that would make it possible to find the similimum more easily and quickly. Records of symptoms developed through proving reached so bulky proportions that medicines were prescribed after referring pages and pages of materia medica. Even Hahnemann who conducted many provings and who himself proved many drugs prescribed medicines after much reference to the materia medica. This was a stupendous task even to Hahnemann and he compelled a short repertory of leading symptoms which were printed in Latin. Later he developed the repertory idea still further but these later repertories are still in the manuscript form. Boenninghausen took up the task of compiling a Repertory on being requested by Hahnemann himself. He meticulously went through the records of original provings and compared them with reports of clinical verifications. In this process he even discarded some medicines which could not stand his scrutiny.

KEY WORDS :- BTPB, Therapeutic Pocket Book, Homoeopathy, Dr. Boenninghausen, Repertory

INTRODUCTION :-

Repertory is a systematically and logically arranged index to the homoeopathic materia medica, which is full of information collected from toxicology, drug proving and clinical experience. Repertorization is the process of repertorization is essentially a logical elimination of apparently similar medicines. It starts with a broad choice and gradually narrows down the field, which provides us an adequate and a small group of similar medicines, so that the final selection of the similimum is made easier with the help of further reference to the materia medica, if required.

HOW BOENNINGHAUSEN TURNED TOWARDS HOMOEOPATHY ? :-

Baron Clemens Maria Franz Von Boenninghausen was born on March 12, 1785 on the ancestral state of Heringhaven in Overyssel in Netherland. He attended lectures upon law, natural history and medicine and received the degree of Ultrinsic Juris on August 30, 1806 from the Dutch University at Groningen. In 1812, he got married and went to Prussia where he became greatly interested in agriculture and allied sciences, particularly botany. [2] He established the agricultural society for the district of Munster. In 1827 - 1828, he suffered from tuberculosis which later got treated by his botanical friend, Dr A. Weihe through homoeopathy. After that Dr. Boenninghausen became a firm believer of Homoeopathy. Since 1830 onwards, he was in close touch with Hahnemann and studied homoeopathy and did a lot of contributions in it.

After recovering from purulent tuberculosis In 1828 Boenninghausen developed a firm belief in homoeopathy. He started working on the new healing art and came in contact with several physicians and tried to know more and more about Homoeopathy. Soon he came in contact with Hahnemann in 1830. At that time repertory was a new adventure in the Homoeopathic literature developing under pressure of necessity in indexing many provings that had accumulated or to Index the ever enlarging materia medica.

In the modern version Boenning hausen's repertory encompassed only those medicines that were listed in Hahnemann's chronic diseases as antipsorics. He published his first repertory in 1832 and It is called as the REPERTORY OF ANTIPSORICS with a preface by Hahnemann. In spite of the systematic productions of Hartlaub and Trinks and Weber and Peschler whose alphabetical index was also prepared by Boenninghausen, the practitioners preferred Boenning hausen's repertory. They found it more practical and urged Boenning hausen to make it more useful. To make this book more comprehensible Boenning hausen later on added more more antipsoric medicines that were nearly proved.

His second repertory the REPRTORY OF MEDICINES WHICH ARE NOT ANTIPSORICS was made available to the profession in 1835. In 1833 he published a book named THE SUMMARY VIEW OF CHIEF SPHERE OF OPERATION OF ANTIPSORIC MEDICINES and their characteristic peculiarities as an appendix to the repertory and also another work AN ATTEMPT AT HOMOEOPATHIC THERAPY OF

INTERMITTENT FEVER. In 1836 the book named AN ATTEMPT AT SHOWING THE RELATIVE KINSHIP OF HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICINES was published.

Lastly after 10 years of clinical experience published his Therapeutic pocket book in 1846 wherein he incorporated all informations from his earlier works as well as his rich clinical experience. It was named by Boenning Hausen as THE THERAPEUTIC MANUAL FOR HOMOEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS FOR — USE AT SICK BED AND IN THE STUDY OF MATERIA MEDICA PURA.

BOENNINGHAUSEN'S THERAPEUTIC POCKET BOOK

“Therapeutic pocket book for homoeopathic physicians, to use at the bedside and in the study of the material medica” is one of the contributions to homoeopathy by Dr. Boenninghausen.

This book is compilation of following three books.

- 1) Repertory of the antipsoric remedies
- 2) Repertory of the medicines which are not antipsoric
- 3) Attempt at showing the relative kinship of homoeopathic medicines.

TRANSLATIONS :-

About 2 years after Boenning Hausen first published his Therapeutic pocket book an English edition was published in Munster. Translators name has not been given for this edition but the translation was done as Boenninghausen says in his preface that by one of the most eminent German Homoeopathic physicians who is perfectly acquainted with English language and literature but who does not care to be known. This edition is not practical for present day use because the translator used many phrases which are now obsolete. A short time afterwards It was translated by Hempel in around 1847. A careful comparison of several editions and comparison with materia medica convince us that of the older editions Hempels edition is more nearly correct in Its original form and more practical than any other early editions available at that time. translated by Boger and Okle in 1847.

Later it was translated by T.F-Allen where he made many changes in the form of additions of rubrics medicines and even some changes in the structure but the basic outline remained the same. he incorporated the two sides of human body published by Boenninghausen in 1851. This incorporation was not done smoothly, so there are many difficulties . Allen's edition has suffered from faulty translation to a marked degree. Along with these mistakes in translation and rearrangement of headings has decreased the usefulness of what would have been the most valuable edition of Therapeutic pocket book. At last in 1935 H. A. Roberts a stalwart in the field brought out a new edition of Boenninghausen's Therapeutic pocket book with a few minor changes and carrying an elaborate Introduction which facilitated the understanding and practical use of the book. With his vast experience and contribution to the Homoeopathic literature he was perhaps the fittest person to write such a learned and useful introduction

PHILOSOPHICAL BACKGROUND OF THERAPEUTIC POCKET BOOK :-

The principle of repertorisation on Boenninghausen's Therapeutic pocket book is based on inductive reasoning. The essence of reportorial preparation is a generalisation or proceeding from particulars to generals. Boenninghausen proceeds on Hahnemannian theory that it is the patient who is sick and not his body nor his eyes. every symptom that refers to a part may be predicted of the whole person.

Boenninghausen's attempt was to complete the symptom but in practice he found it difficult to do so. Thus he evolved the concept that what is true to the part is also true to the whole person. The following fundamental concepts forms the bedrock of Therapeutic pocket book as

- Doctrine of analogy
- Doctrine of concomitants
- Evaluation of remedies
- Concordances

METHOD OF WORKING :-

Under the medicine given as the first prescription refer the subheading in which the main complaint of the patient and use it as the first rubrics. First rubrics can be taken as the eliminating symptom , only these medicines should be taken further which covers the first rubrics. Only 3, 4 and 5 mark medicines need be taken. Add up the marks and take the remedy with maximum marks. If the patients outstanding symptom is skin eruption then the first rubrics need not be mind but skin.

ADVANTAGES :-

1. Can be used for studying the relationship of various remedies at various levels as mind, locations,
2. Helps to find out the close running remedies which can be thought of in future follow up.
3. Helps to find the second prescription in an acute case after the action of the first remedy is over to complete the cure in a case where the outstanding complaint is related to gland bones or skin, we must select our remedies from those rubrics under the remedy that has served well at first in acute stage.
4. Treatment in a chronic case with a partial similimum. Here some benefit has been secured from the remedy selected as the similimum but a complete a cure. This can be due to several factors such as Incompleteness of our materia medica due to lack of complete provings our incomplete knowledge of materia medica Imperfect case taking due to these reasons we have been unable to select a similimum. So in order to make a complete cure we can find a related remedy with the help of this section
5. In chronic diseases with advanced pathology in serious conditions like advanced pulmonary tuberculosis we cannot give the indicated remedy if it is deep acting, but a remedy should be given which will not produce any adverse effects. Here the complimentary remedy can be given which may lead the patient into a condition where he can tolerate the deep acting remedy.
6. Comparative study of materia medica becomes easy

CLINICAL UTILITY OF BOENNINGHAUSEN'S THERAPEUTIC POCKET BOOK

Boenninghausen's Therapeutic Pocket Book is the ultimate work and a precious gift to the homoeopathic world by Dr. Boenninghausen. From the philosophy and construction of the Therapeutic Pocket Book, it is obvious that the book can be used for the repertorization of the following type of cases:

- Cases with complete symptoms
- Cases with prominent sensations and modalities in some parts but vague in other parts.
- Cases with prominent concomitants
- Cases with paucity of symptoms with scattered modality and no characteristics
- Cases where generals are lacking
- It is also useful to get related remedies by working on the last chapter.

Dr. H. A. Robert says, "Cases where there are confusing symptoms, many or few, or where the remedy likeness is veiled, we can refer to the Therapeutic Pocket Book, so as to bring order out of the chaos and the remedy will be stand revealed."

LIMITATIONS OF THE BTPB REPERTORY

Therapeutic pocket book was the ultimate attempt of Boenninghausen to index the symptom of materia medica according to the instructions given by Dr: Hahnemann, It was the first valuable repertory for bedside practice. But soon many practitioners found it difficult to use it in daily practice. its construction was also found to be defective.

The Therapeutic pocket book underwent many editions but nothing could make it free from defects. Many criticized the principles of analogy and raised voice against the use of associated complaints as concomitant symptoms. Apart from over generalization and difficulty in comprehending true concomitants the presentation itself has some problems. Being one among the earliest and pioneering works the attempt of Boenninghausen is commendable.

As time passed newer repertories emerged some of its deficiencies were noted. There are No: of medicines:- originally the Therapeutic pocket book contained only 126 remedies but Allen who edited the book dropped out 4 medicines and added 220 new medicines. Hence the total no: comes to 342. Even after Robert's edition the book deals with only 362 medicines which fall short of various pictures available in practice.

CONCLUSION :-

The Therapeutic pocket book attained instantaneous popularity among practitioners. Even today this work is Invaluable. Dr: Hahnemann himself used Boenninghausen's Therapeutic pocket book in his practice and preferred it to Jahr's compilation. This Therapeutic pocket book contained the principles and general method of construction set forth in former volumes, much amplified and perfected as the fruit of constant observations over a period of several years and yet so compactly constructed that it avoided the cumbersome features of Jahr's and other earlier repertories.

Boenninghausen's Therapeutic pocket book is the result of his long years of his Indefatigable labor , the fruit of all his professional studies, the sum total of all his vast experience and a perfected type of mechanism by which the principle of Homoeopathy are made practical of application. Allen rearranged the book by changing the titles also.

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