

PETROLEUM

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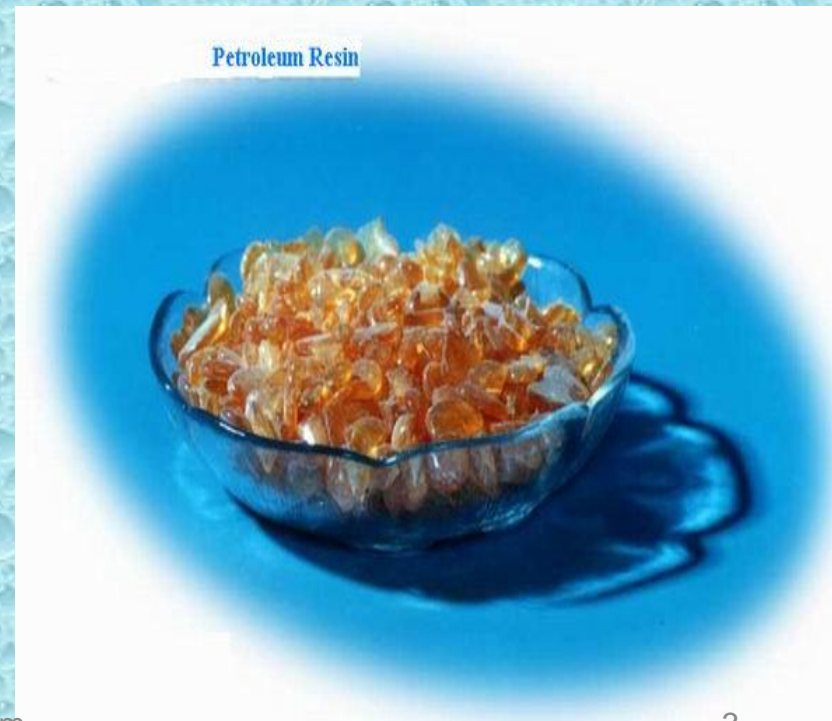


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INTRODUCTION

- Petroleum and all its derivatives have changed the shape of the modern world more than any other substance and given that the USA is currently at war in the Middle East, with oil at the center of the equation, a further exploration of Petroleum as a homeopathic remedy seemed appropriate.

- Petroleum has always been an important remedy, but as with many remedies, a complete Hahnemannian proving had not been carried out



- Hahnemann's description of the substance he used indicates that it was not a refined substance but simply crude petroleum taken from the ground:

“This product of the interior of the earth is extremely strong in smell, taste and medicinal effect. For medicinal use it ought to be very fluid and of light - yellow colour. If it is very fluid it is not very likely that it has been adulterated with fat vegetable oils.”

- In Hahnemann's day, oil distillation had not been developed, the first instance of it being in 1853, 10 years after his death, and fractional distillation had not been developed as a laboratory or commercial tool until 1864.
- In 1853 the first actual distillation of crude petroleum into kerosene (paraffin oil) was performed and the first modern "rock oil" mine was created in southern Poland in the following year.

- While Hahnemann was alive, therefore, the practice of refining crude “rock oil” had not been developed and what he worked with would have been the liquid portion of the unrefined substance.

- Hahnemann's expressed concern was whether the product was exclusively rock oil or had been adulterated with vegetable oils, chiefly suspecting oil of turpentine.
- He proposed tests, one using sulphuric acid and a simpler one of evaporation on writing paper, to determine if such oils were present.
- He then advised a means of removing any such oils, if found, using alcohol and filtration.
(Chronic Diseases)

- So we are forced to accept that Hahnemann's Petroleum is from the liquid portion of crude petroleum of unknown composition and from an undefined source.

- petroleum consists of hydrocarbons: chain molecules of carbon with hydrogen attached; and non-hydrocarbon fractions: compounds which might also include nitrogen, sulphur, oxygen, or traces of metals such as vanadium or nickel.

COMMON NAME: coal oil or rock oil

- Alternative names: Rock Oil, Oleum Petrae, Oleum terrae – which should be reserved for the crude material. coal oil (as kerosene can be extracted from coal), but to this should be added for clarity: paraffin, paraffin oil, lamp oil, mineral oil.

PROVER: Hahnemann

PREPARATION: This mineral oil is found interior of earth , this crude oil is purified with the help of sulphuric acid before the process of potentisation.

TEMPERAMENT: Irritable, quarrelsome, easily offended by trifles and vexed on everything.

THERMALLY: Chilly patient.

MIASM: Psora.

DIATHESIS: Scrofulous.

CONSTITUTION: Light hair and light skin, who suffer from cutaneous eruptions and gastrointestinal disorders.

Clinical conditions

- - Addison's disease.
- - Albuminuria.
- - Anaemia.
- - Angina pectoris.
- - Anus, fissure of.
- - Bed-sores.
- - Breath, offensive.
- - Burns.
- - Chilblains.
- - Chlorosis.
- - Constipation.
- - Cracks in skin.
- - Deafness.

- - Diarrhoea.
- - Dyspepsia.
- - Ear, affections of.
- - Eczema.
- - Face, rough.
- - Facial paralysis.
- - Feet, soles painful.
- - Fester, tendency to.
- - Fistulae.
- - Frost-bite.
- - Gastric ulcer.
- - Gonorrhoea.
- - Haemorrhoids.
- - Hands, chapped.
- - Headache; occipital.

- - Herpes.
- - Herpes preputialis.
- - Irritation.
- - Jaw, easily dislocated.
- - Myopia.
- - Nose, sore.
- - Otorrhoea.
- - Perspiration, offensive.
- - Pregnancy, sickness of.
- - Presbyopia.
- - Prostatitis.
- - Psoriasis.

- - Rheumatism.
- - Sea-sickness.
- - Skin, affections of.
- - Sprains.
- - Syphilis.
- - Toothache.
- - Urethra, stricture of; chronic inflammation of.
- - Varices.
- - Vomiting.
- - Warts.

SPHERE OF ACTION

- 4 Centres
- Skin - Eczema, pustules, fissures, vesicular inflammation
- Glandular system – Foul and putrid lymphatic secretions
- Digestive organs – Gastroenteritis
- Mucous membranes – Catarrhal inflammation of lungs

PATHOGENESIS

- Skin → dry → irritation → cracks and fissures
- Brain → tonic and clonic convulsions with giddiness and faintness
- Heart → oppression, giddiness, palpitation

CAUSATION

Riding in a carriage, ship, train, car





- Eating cabbage



- Fright, vexation



MODALITIES

- - agg. After eating or drinking.
- - After eating : giddiness; heat in face; cutting in abdomen; eructations; drowsiness; uneasiness.

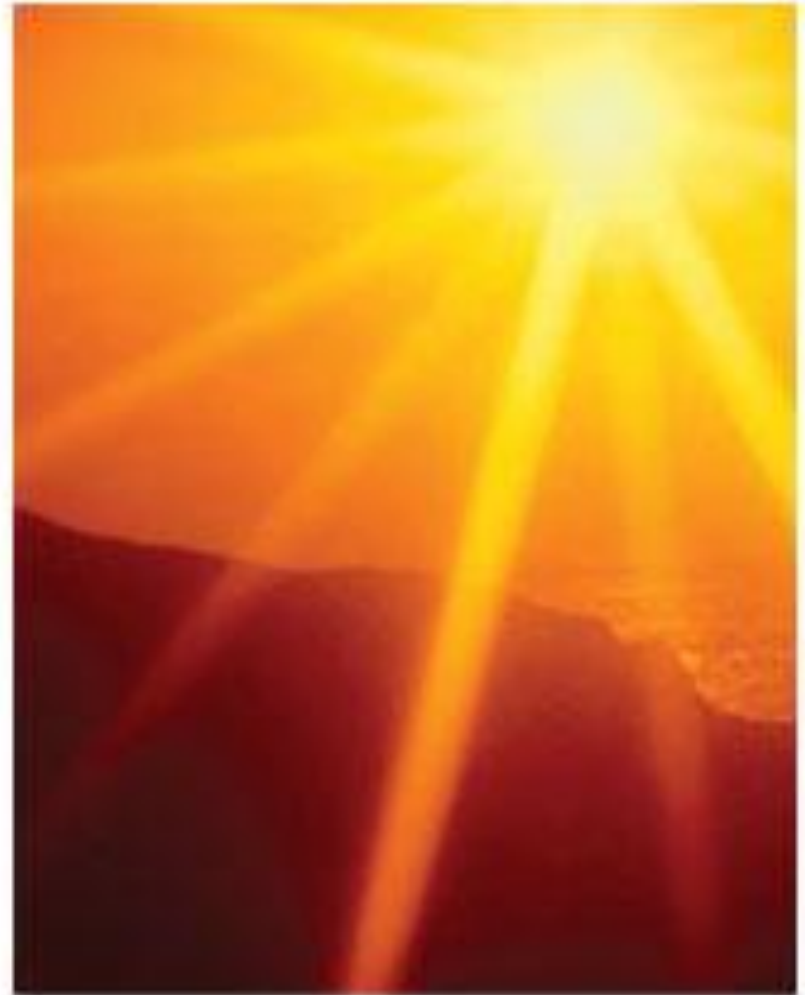
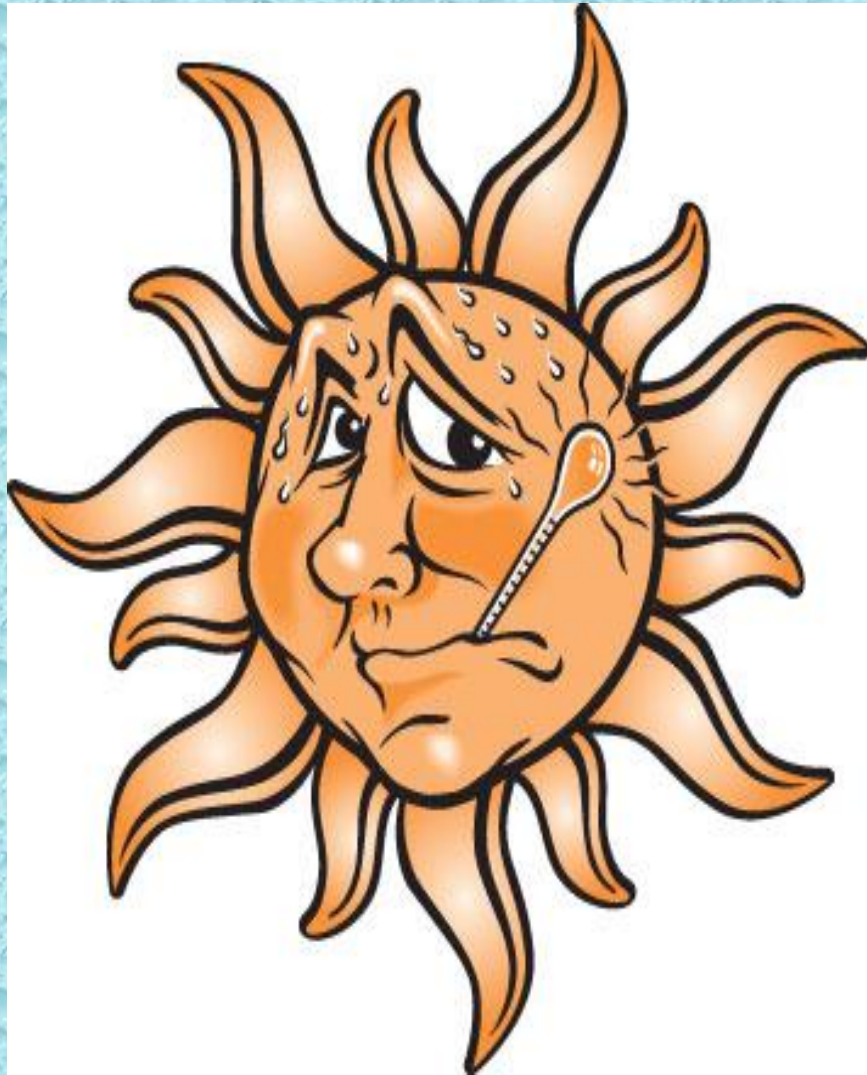


- Cabbages, saurkraut = diarrhoea.
- - Colic >> by bending double.
- - Exertion, motion, riding, sitting agg..
- - Lying down agg. cough, and distension of abdomen.
- - Vertigo when head lies low.
- - agg. Cold air.

- agg. Winter.



- Better – Summer



- - agg. Open air.
- - agg. Before and during thunderstorm.



- agg. Bathing.
- - >> Warmth and warm air.
- - agg. Warmth of bed (itching).
- - Cough is agg. at night and 2, 4, and 6 a.m.
- - Smoking befogs him; = cough.
- - agg. After coitus (nervous irritability).
- - Cough agg. by laughing (cured).
- - agg. During day (diarrhoea and dysentery).
- - Throat affections go right to left.
- - Headache back to front.

GUIDING SYMPTOMS:

- Symptoms worse in winter , with cracks and fissures of the skin , tendency of every little injury to suppurate, dry with violent itch.
- Symptoms appear and disappear rapidly
- “Empty feeling of the stomach” sensation.....> on eating.
- Foul smelling sweat all over the body.
- Diahrroea only during the day time

- Aversion to meat and fat food.
- Ailments worse before and after thunderstorm.
- Long lasting ailments from mental state, fright, vexation etc

- **MENTALS:** Among the early things that Petroleum does to a prover is that it puts him in a state of confusion of mind and dizziness; he is dazed so that he loses his way in the street. She has strange imaginations that there are people near her who are not present; that the atmosphere is full of strange forms; that her limbs are double; that another person is in the bed with her.

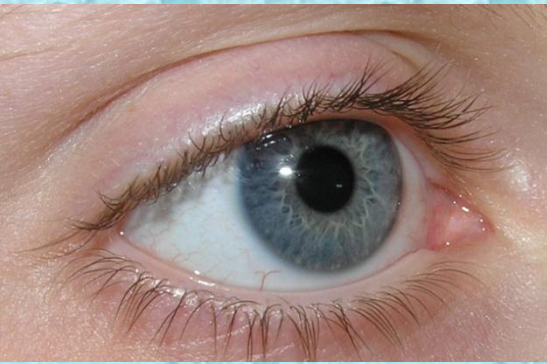
- Such things are found in the fevers. A woman after childbirth imagines there is another child in bed with her, and she wonders how she will take care of the two. These ideas are found in many diseases, have been often verified. In typhoids and low forms of sickness; in diarrheas; when just awakening he is in confusion; in his dreams he had the idea of being two or more and the impression remains with him while he is in a semi-conscious state.

- He cannot reconcile the state, but when aroused to consciousness he is able to reason it away, and when semi-conscious again it returns. This annoys him day and night.
- Easily offended at trifles; vexed at everything.
- During sleep or delirium ; imagines that one leg is double; that another person lies along side of him in same bed; that there are two babies in the bed.

- Ailments from fright and vexation.
- Sadness, despondency and inclination to weep.
- Melancholy mood ,great fearfulness.
- Quarrelsome disposition.
- Anxiety and apprehension about the family.
- Feels death is near and must hurry to settle affairs.

HEAD:

- sensitive ,as if cold breeze blowing on it . feels numb, as **if made of wood**.
- Occiput heavy, **as of lead**.
- **Vertigo on rising, felt in occiput , as if intoxicated or like seasickness.**
- **Headache in temples, > pressure on temples.**
 < on shaking while coughing.
- Seasickness – deathly nausea,pallor,coldness of the body,profuse sweat,exhaustion,>fanning,<warmth (tabacum).



- loss of eyelashes, dim sight, far sighted, Cant read fine print without glasses, skin around eyes dry .
- Canthi fissured with itching.
- Catarrhal state of the eyes.
- Vesicular formations, ulcerations, inflammation, redness and copious discharge.



- noise unbearable, eczema, intertrigo (erythematous skin eruption) in and behind ears with intense itching.
- fissures in the meatus, ringing and cracking in the ears. hearing diminished.
- Parotid gland enlargement, hardness of sub-mandibular and sub-maxillary glands.



nostrils ulcerated, cracked, burn, itching on the tip of the nose.

Epistaxis , ozaena , mucopurulent discharge.

FACE: dry , constricted feeling, burning and itching of the face.

THROAT: loss of voice catarrhal condition with cough, cough<night, emaciation of body with pain and soreness of the chest. dry cough.

- STOMACH**:heartburns ,sour eructation,
distention,feeling of great emptiness, aversion to
fatty food, meat,
- **Diarrhoea during the day time.**



Hunger immediately after stools, nausea, with accumulation of water in the mouth.

Gastralgia in empty stomach, relieved on constant eating.

Ravenous hunger, must rise in the night and eat.

Worse eating cabbage



ABDOMEN: diarrhoea only during the daytime , watery, gushing and itching in the anus, after eating cabbage, >night.

MALE: herpetic eruption on perineum.

prostate inflamed and swollen.

itching in the urethra, early stage of gonorrhoea.

FEMALE: throbbing of head before menses.

leucorrhoea profuse and albuminous.

genitals sore and moist.

RESPIRATORY: dry cough with the oppression of chest at night.

oppression of chest < cold air.

hoarseness of voice.

Laryngeal diphtheria

HEART: sensation of coldness , with palpitation of the heart.

BACK: pain in the nape of the neck ,stiff and painful.
coccyx painful.

JOINTS: Sore , lame bruised feeling in the joints<motion , sore to touch.(Arnica)

EXTREMITIES: chronic sprains.
knees stiff ,cracking in the joints.

SKIN: itching in the night.

chilbains ,moist , itch and burn.

- **skin- cracked , constricted , itch ,very sensitive, slight scratch makes the skin to suppurate.**
- **psoriasis of hands, intertigo**

Thick , greenish crusts, burning and itching,redness, raw, cracks,bleeds easily.czema <winter.

keeps on scratching till it bleeds.



comparision

petroleum

Cracks and fissures are present

Oozing is thin and watery

graphites

- **Cracks and fissures are present**

- **Oozing is sticky,honey and transparent.**

comparision

petroleum

- **Small vesicles with itch, sting and burn.**

Rhus tox

- **Inflammatory conditions of genitals especially ezema, erysipelatous inflammation, nodules, vesicles and large blebs.**

FEVER: coldness in spots ,in stomach, abdomen,cold spot between scapula,sensation as if heart were cold.

chilliness followed by sweat.

flushes of heat especially face and head,in night.

perspiration on axillae and feet

MODALITIES: < dampness, before and during
thunderstorm, riding cars, passive motion, winter,
eating , mental states





**> warm air, summer,
lying with head high**

- RELATIONS:

Complementary: sepia

Antidotes : nux vomica, cocc.

One of the best antidotes for lead poisoning.

