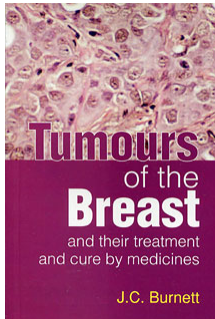


James Compton Burnett Tumours of the Breast

Leseprobe

[Tumours of the Breast](#)

von [James Compton Burnett](#)



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TUMOURS OF THE BREAST

tumours I understand all lumps and swellings whatsoever the same being more or less growths on or in the breast, and *also* such as are usually called cancer. This work is not intended to deal with the causes of tumours beyond the merest outlines, as this subject I reserve to be dealt with by itself. I have great faith in "one thing at a time." Nor shall I dwell at every great length on my reasons for giving this or that remedy, because otherwise I should have to omit many of the details of the course of the cures related and because most of the indications are homoeopathic, and can be deduced, from the proper pharmacological sources by any *competent practitioner who will take the trouble*; and these sources are medical literature in general—the literature of the homoeopaths more particularly, and specifically, the records of drug pathogenesis by Hahnemann and by his followers going back nearly to the beginning of this century. Some of the indications

poohed the proving of *Condurango*, and who ridicules the idea of curing tumours with medicines. As J. Stuart Mill says, "He who knows only his own side of the case, knows little of that" I may add that when I last saw the patient she had very much improved in general appearance, being stouter and fresher, younger.

NINE YEARS LATER

||~J|| published the foregoing case in the *Homoeopathic World*, November 1, 1879, and I have just made inquiries regarding this woman, who was thus cured of her tumour, notwithstanding its declared impossibility, and find that she still continues in perfect health and free of tumour.

A certain number of distinguished practitioners of scientific medicine (homoeopathy) have from time to time published cases of tumour as cured by medicines, but these cases are on record, and need no further writing about. I therefore will not refer to them, as my object is not to bring together odd cases of tumour cured here and there all over the world, some of them quasi-accidentally, but to bring new clinical material to the general stock. I have not time to collect these strewn-about cases in our literature, however in-

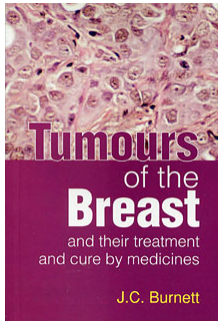
remarked that microscopical evidence in the early stages of cancer was often conflicting and misleading. For instance, in this American case many most competent pathologists, both in England and on the microscopical specimens, formed the opinion that the growths were not cancerous, yet the patient undoubtedly had cancer, and had died of it. He believed that herpes zoster was certainly produced by Arsenic; Arsenic eczema had already been described. A remarkable fact about Arsenic eruptions was that they were never symmetrical.

"The only lesson that the members present, when Mr. Hutchinson made this communication, would learn from it would be that they should be more cautious in prescribing *Arsenic* in the future, this, indeed, is admitted by *The Lancet* in its ensuing number. To those members of this profession who have learned by experience that Hahnemann's therapeutic *rule-similia similibus curantur*—is indeed the bridge that spans the gulf so long fixed between the pharmacologist labouring to elucidate the mysteries of the subtle actions of drugs upon the complicated and intricate human organism, and the therapist struggling to apply these results to the successful treatment of disease (*British Medical Journal*, August 9th, 1884), it had a far higher value, Perhaps we should rather say that if you have had such a value, were it not

"Our selection, then, of *Arsenic* as remedy in cancer has been mostly confined to the epithelial variety of the disease. We have in Mr. Hutchinson's contribution an illustration of it's producing a condition exceedingly similar to this form of the disease-so much so, that Mr. Eve remarked that 'epithelial cancer of the palms always presented the peculiar appearances which agreed with those described by Mr. Hutchinson;' while Sir James Paget stated that 'it could not be doubted that *Arsenic* had a power, in persons predisposed to it to determine the development of cancer.'

"Our contemporary, *The New York Medical Record*, in referring to Mr. Hutchinson's paper, and 'his belief that *Arsenic* may produce, or at least be an exciting cause of epithelial cancer,' and after stating that 'Sir James Paget held the same view,' adds, this will be joy ful news to our homoeopathic brethren.'

"We certainly are glad to find our opponents, more especially such as have in years gone by been known to us as particularly bitter opponents, confirm the truth and accuracy of your drug pathogenesis by observations of their own. Let us now suggest to them to test the value of our therapeutic application of your pathogenetic observations, by giving *Arsenic* as a remedy in cases of epithe-



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and their treatment and cure by medicines

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