

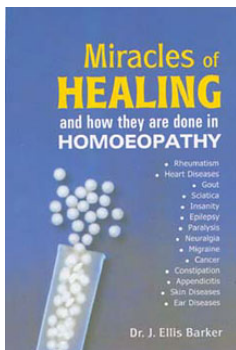
J. Ellis Barker Miracles of Healing

Reading excerpt

[Miracles of Healing](#)

of [J. Ellis Barker](#)

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CHAPTER I

Some Amazing Facts and a Confession

" **There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all arguments, and which cannot fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance—that principle is contempt prior to investigation.**"

HERBERT SPENCER.

" The most beneficent and **most valuable discoveries** are recognised and utilised **only** centuries after they have been made."

A. VON HUMBOLDT, *Kosmos*.

" Very few of the **valuable discoveries in medicine** have been made by physicians and they **have been always opposed** by the Faculty, till everyone else was **convinced of their importance.**"

DR. W. BUCHAN, *Domestic Medicine*, 1788.

IT is a pleasant duty to pay off a debt of honour.

A few relatives and some friends of mine who were pronounced "absolutely incurable" by leading physicians and surgeons, and who apparently were absolutely incurable by orthodox medical and surgical methods, were miraculously cured by homoeopathy. I can never adequately express my gratitude and I consider it incumbent upon myself to make known the new method of healing. Hence I have done my best to give in this volume an adequate and authoritative summary of the new science and art which was discovered and gradually evolved by Dr. Samuel Hahnemann more than a century ago.

This book is authoritative because, instead of giving

my **own** views, I have quoted hundreds of homoeopathic physicians. Nothing of the kind has previously been attempted. **The** united testimony of hundreds of competent witnesses in favour of that method of healing should impress even the most sceptical. I have ransacked and copiously quoted the vast literature on the subject in the desire to give a brief, yet full summary of homoeopathic thought, of homoeopathic practice and of the entire homoeopathic literature. The extracts given will probably be a revelation to those who believe that homoeopathy is shallow make-believe and is carried on by a few dreamers and visionaries.

I feel bound to make a confession. My father, who was born in 1832, twelve years before Hahnemann's death, was a very eminent physician and surgeon, and a favourite pupil of the celebrated surgeon von Langenbeck. He and Theodor Billroth were von Langenbeck's assistants, and my father was given the first offer of the commanding position in Vienna which, on his refusal, was offered to, and accepted by, Billroth. Among my father's intimate friends were great medical celebrities, among them Rudolf Virchow. There are many doctors in my family, and I grew up in an orthodox medical atmosphere. When I was quite little a heated controversy about homoeopathy took place. My mother was much interested in the subject, asked my father's opinion, and I vividly remember how my father, with a tone of quiet authority, told my mother: "Homoeopathy is based either on deception or on self-deception. That method of treatment is ridiculous and quite unworthy of serious discussion. It is, of course, quite obvious that the infinitely small doses of homoeopathy have no curative effect whatever. Homoeopathic treatment means treatment with imaginary medicines, sham treatment, is no treatment at all, and if homoeopaths effect cures, they are not due to the medicines given, but to the absence of all medication, disguised by a few harmless sugar pills. Faith is a powerful medicine. Some are cured by making a pilgrimage to Lourdes, others by

present moment 70 of the 250 children have fallen victims to this experiment and have died, but we cannot yet tell how many of the surviving 180 have been damaged for life. Nothing done by unauthorized healers is comparable to the Lubeck disaster. The Public Prosecutor should have proceeded against the responsible doctors for culpable homicide. The Commission investigating the case condemned the action of the doctors except for a minority of three which justified the doctors. The minority of three was composed of two doctors and of the wife of a doctor! "

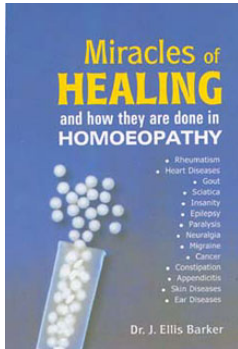
Dr. Moses described in detail in his book a large number of dangerous experiments made on patients in the German hospitals, many of which greatly aggravated the condition of patients. However, it must not be believed that such experiments are done only in Germany.

It need scarcely be pointed out that the homoeopathic method of testing remedies on, healthy observant doctors and medical students is not only infinitely more humane but infinitely more fruitful and scientific than the methods practised by orthodox medical men. Hahnemann tested about 100 different drugs, largely poisons, on his assistants and on himself. The homoeopathic *Materia Medica* has been built up not on the sufferings of animals and patients but on the sufferings of unselfish and idealistic medical men.

The director of a proving, who alone knows what drug is being tested, sees the various provers every day, observes the effect of the drug on the provers, studies the notes which they have taken regarding the effects of the drug and he cross-examines them so as to eliminate symptoms which may be purely imaginary or which may be due to chance or accident, such as a chill caught, a mental upset, over-indulgence at the table or something of the kind. Of course only healthy men and women are employed for proving remedies and they are expected to live so plainly and simply that the full drug-effects may be brought out. If the

drug should give them violent diarrhoea, then they have to put up with it until the director releases them, or gives them an antidote. If it constipates them or gives them cramps, or fever, or causes vomiting, or rheumatic pain or toothache, they have to bear it, and must not try to obtain relief by acting on their own, disturbing the full picture of undisturbed drug action. At the end of the proving the diaries of all the provers are compared, any symptoms which seem of doubtful validity because the prover has done anything which he ought not to have done or because he seems unreliable, are omitted. Symptoms caused by a drug in one prover will usually be confirmed by similar symptoms in other provers. The reliable diaries are collated and the information obtained from them is collected and arranged under suitable headings, such as symptoms of the mind, symptoms of the head, symptoms of the eyes, symptoms of the ears, symptoms of the nose, symptoms of the face, symptoms of the teeth, symptoms of the mouth, symptoms of the throat, symptoms of the appetite, symptoms of the stomach, symptoms of the abdomen, symptoms of the stool and anus, symptoms of the urinary organs, symptoms of the male sexual organs, symptoms of the female sexual organs, symptoms of the respiratory organs, symptoms of the chest, symptoms of the heart and pulse, symptoms of the neck and back, symptoms of the limbs in general, symptoms of the upper limbs, symptoms of the lower limbs, symptoms of the skin, symptoms of sleep, symptoms of fever, general and unclassified symptoms, etc.

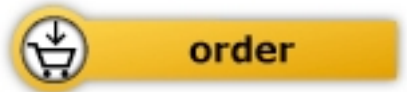
Occasionally provings extend over weeks and months. As many male and female provers as possible are engaged, and important drugs are proved and re-proved by leading physicians who arrange provings. Of course the fullest knowledge of the action of a drug is obtained by a physician who has felt the action of that drug in his own body and who keenly remembers the discomforts and sufferings he has undergone. The



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