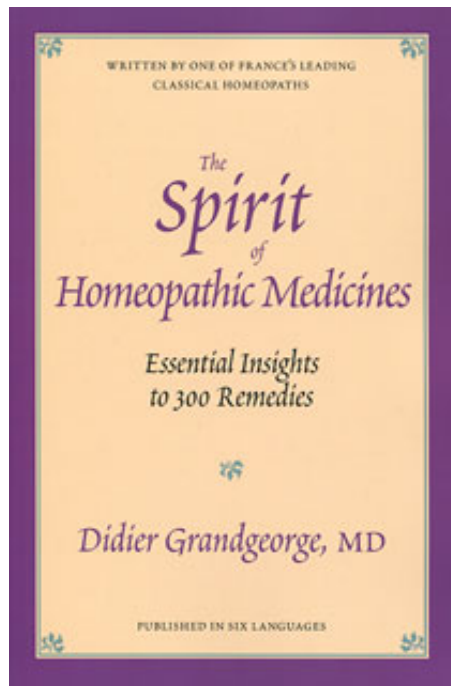


Didier Grandgeorge

The Spirit of Homeopathic Medicines

Reading excerpt
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homeopathy and psychotherapy, all worked together to help her through a difficult point in her life.

Natrum Muriaticum

The Father

Let the sun shine on the sea (the mother), and the result is salt (the child). The father is the person who separates mother and child, bringing language to the latter (language not being needed in the bonded mother-child relationship.) Equipped with the word, the child emerges, leaving the mother behind, able now to communicate with another. Natrum muriaticum children have a problem with the father. Either his presence has been too pronounced, leading to a bonded father-child relationship, or, on the contrary, he has been physically or emotionally absent.

Natrum muriaticum subjects are immured within themselves, superbly reserved (Latin *murus*, wall). They are late in learning to talk and then speak little, telling nothing about what is going on in their lives (at school, for example). Later, we might find an adult, face hidden behind a profuse beard, who has decided to "really express himself" by crossing the Atlantic on his own, alone on the sea beneath the sun. In the homeopathic interview, these individuals reveal nothing: all our observations are summed up by the blank page before us, on which we might simply write, in very large letters, "Natrum muriaticum."

In the physical sphere, the symptoms are generally typical of the remedy: thinness of the upper body (thin arms, narrow chest); desire for salt, bread, and meat; intense thirst; constipation; allergic reactions to the sun; herpes; colds that start with profuse and violent sneezing; asthma at 9 a.m. or around nine or ten at night; a "mapped" tongue; bitten-down nails (*Medorrhinum*); hangnails (a thin layer of cuticle growing at the edge of the nails, also bitten down); oily skin; dandruff and eczema at the hairline; and urticaria (hives).

Natrum muriaticum generally shows improvement at the seaside, though aggravation of symptoms may occur if the person becomes saturated with salt.

Natrum muriaticum is also a useful remedy in cases of jealousy among children (Arsenicum album, Nux vomica, Sepia).

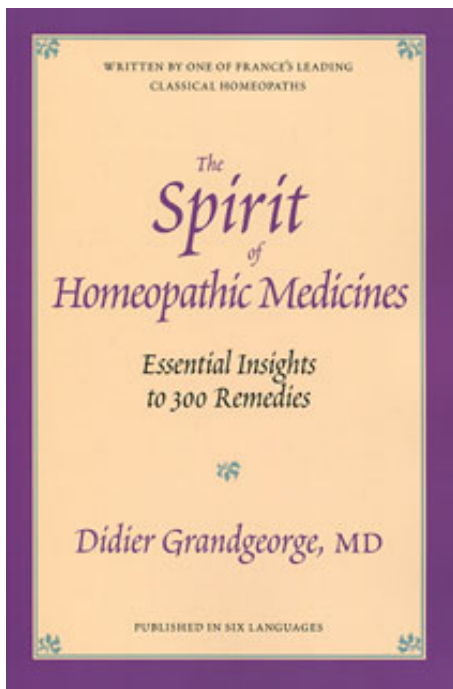
OBSERVATIONS

** Bertrand, nine years old, is very jealous of his three-year-old sister, an extrovert who knows how to amuse her audience, completely captivating their father. Some time ago, Bertrand began to add salt to all his food, and he became solitary, withdrawn. Then, suddenly, violent attacks of asthma came on, appearing every evening around ten o'clock. Natrum muriaticum brings a speedy cure.*

+ A grandmother, a pharmacist by profession, takes advantage of some vacation time to bring me her grandson, 20 months old, covered with eczema.

"My daughter is a doctor herself," she tells me, "but I do not think that allopathic medicine can get to the bottom of this problem."

The child is thin and talks very little. In addition, I learn that he is constipated and loves salt. I think of Natrum muriaticum and notice that the grandmother has a slight divergent strabismus (crossed eyes); she is unable to look me directly in the eye. It is no coincidence that she is the one who thought to bring me the child: both have the same constitution. I address her with these words: "Tell me about your father." She becomes troubled, begins to cry, and acknowledges that her father was an alcoholic, making family life a veritable hell. . . . Both child and grandmother benefit from Natrum muriaticum, which brings a complete disappearance of the child's eczema.



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