

# Charles Porter Hart

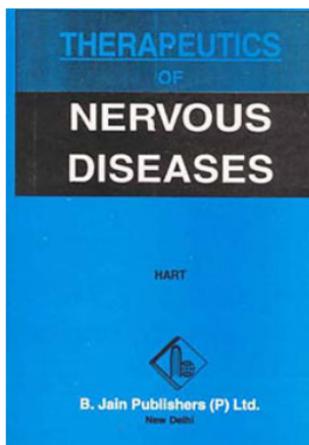
## Therapeutics of Nervous Disease

Leseprobe

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von [Charles Porter Hart](#)

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THERAPEUTICS  
OF  
NERVOUS DISEASES.

PART I.

DISEASES OF THE BRAIN AND ITS MEMBRANES.

CEREBRAL ANEMIA.

**Synonyms.**—Brain-Fag, Cerebral Hypertemia, Cerebral Hypertemia et Hydremia, Cerebrasthenia, Neurasthenia Cerebralis; JFV., *Anemie Cerebrale*; Ger., *Anämie des Gehirns*, *Gchim-anawie*.

**Definition.**—A condition in which the blood contained in the cerebral vessels is deficient in quantity or defective in quality.

**Diagnosis.**—The history of the case is usually sufficient to establish the diagnosis. When, as is sometimes the case, the symptoms resemble those of cerebral hyperemia, the condition may be recognized by the following comparison :

Cerebral Anisemia.	Cerebral Hyperaemia.
Patient $\alpha$ iteraic, weak and pale. Disposition to sleep. Pulse small and weak. Neuralgic headache, chiefly limited to forehead and vertex. Pupils dilated. Relieved by stimulants and horizontal position. Anaemic murmurs.	Patient plethoric, red face. More or less insomnia. Pulse full. Cephalalgia of a dull, aching character, and diffused. Pupils contracted. Aggravated by stimulants and by lying down. No abnormal heart sounds.

rosis. It is also suited to cases aggravated by injudicious use of Ferrum. The indications are: *great prostration, with rapid sinking of the vital forces*; hammering headache; coldness of the extremities; *restlessness*; bloating of the hands, feet and face; *thirst* for small quantities of water; *nausea*; tendency to syncope on raising the head; vertigo, with vanishing of the senses; chilliness; mental depression<sup>1</sup>.

**Ferrum.**—Cerebral anaemia dependent on *hydremia*, as shown by great pallor of the face, lips and buccal mucous membrane; *bellows-sound of the heart*; muscles flabby and weak; beating headache; slight exertion produces shortness of breath and exhaustion. This remedy is generally best adapted to chlorotic cases and to those resulting from passive hæmorrhages.

*Avena sat.*—Coldness of different parts of the body, depending upon want of nerve-force; brain-fag; nervous debility of school teachers and professional men; women who have become anaemic and debilitated by household cares, worry, over-urging, etc.

*Nux vom.*—Anaemia from mental exhaustion or overwork, as in students and professional people; also the anaemia resulting from debauchery and overstimulation, the long-continued use of ardent spirits, late hours and high-seasoned food. Especially indicated in all cases where there is gastric irritation, indigestion or constipation; *nausea and vomiting, with frequent eructations of sour-smelling fluids or food*; insomnia; muscular twitchings; trembling of the hands; frequent cramps.

**Camphor.**—*Syncopal form*, resulting from the rapid loss of vital fluids, and causing *great embarrassment of the respiration and circulation*, spasms and convulsions; coldness of the body, vertigo and loss of consciousness. This is a transiently acting remedy, but very useful in meeting the primary symptoms, especially when caused by diarrhoea, cholera, etc.

**Ignatia.**—Cases occurring in weak, *hysterical subjects*, or in women who have become *anaemic through grief or mental anxiety*; melancholy, taciturn, nervous, seeks solitude, *frequently gives way to tears*; sinking sensation at the pit of the stomach; constipation; *overlactation*.

**Helonias.**—Cases resulting from diseases of the female sexual

occasion to resort to either of these remedies in active cerebral congestion, but have employed the bromides with apparent benefit in a few stubborn cases, giving them in two or three-grain doses every hour.

Care should be taken in every case to keep the feet warm, the head elevated, the chamber cool, and the clothing about the chest and neck loose and comfortable. The diet should be light and easily digestible; and in all severe cases it should be entirely devoid of any stimulating quality. I have found nothing better, for this purpose, than a thin broth made of a bare knuckle of veal, and containing little more than water and gelatine.

### CEREBRAL HAEMORRHAGE.

**Synonyms.**—Apoplectic Stroke, Cerebral Apoplexy, **Apo-**plexia Sanguinia; *Fr.*, *Hemorrhagic Cerebrate Interstitielle*; *Gfer.*, *Hirnschlag*, *Schlagfluss*, *Gehirn-apoplexie*, *Hirnblutung*.

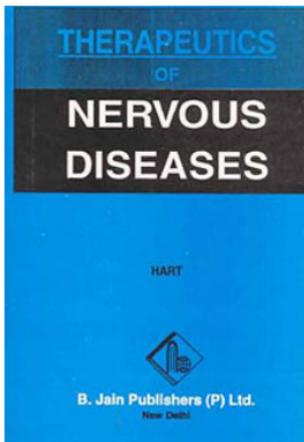
**Definition.**—A rupture of a cerebral bloodvessel, and the consequent escape of blood into the substance, or into the ventricular cavities, of the brain.

**Diagnosis.**—The distinctive character of cerebral haemorrhage is that of a brain lesion occurring suddenly. But as apoplexia sanguinia is but one form of the *apoplectic state*, it is important to distinguish it from the others, namely, the apoplectic variety of cerebral hyperemia, embolism of cerebral arteries, alcoholic and ursemic intoxication, sunstroke and haemorrhage into the cerebral membranes.

' The distinctive features of cerebral congestion have already been given under the head of cerebral hyperaemia, which see.

Embolism of the cerebral arteries may commonly be distinguished from cerebral haemorrhage by the fact that in embolism there are no prodromic symptoms, that the paralysis is usually on the right side, and that the disease is almost always associated with valvular disease of the heart.

The symptoms of alcoholic and uramiic intoxication sometimes closely resemble those of cerebral haemorrhage, but the profound stupor of full inebriation can usually be satisfactorily determined by the breath, habits and general appearance of



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