

IV - 'LUESE' AND EXCHANGE¹ :

The 7 (8) capital metals

Extremes - contrast - paradox : three keywords...

Characteristic, in one's mind, of what is called 'capital metals', they can only make one think of 'Luèse'² with the instability (and)/or ossification of which it is comprised.

When there seems to be malleability, there is fixedness.

When power and apparent strength predominate through intermediate extremes, vagueness, insecurity, and anxiety emerge.

In a somewhat terse manner, one might say 'Many of them glitter but few of them are clear'.

Gold, silver, mercury, pewter, copper, and iron are essential to maintain life.

If their roles in certain biological functions make them fundamental, it is, above all, their commercial uses as regards trading, power, and strength which mark them out as 'capital'.

Put into the same category as gold and silver in the trio of those coveted precious metals, platinum comes before gold. If it remains true to its image regarding the paradox of the imaginary exception, it does not belong to the category of the 7 'capital' metals.

'All that glitters is not gold'. Only the deceptive appearance and façade make it utterly convinced of it.

Quicksilver, mercury amalgamates. Divided between order and disorder, cohesion and dispersion, it dissolves as much as it tarnishes. Platinum would resist it. Unaffected by exposure to the air, the latter is stainless and not damaged by heat or the corrosive of acids.

Lead, pewter, copper, and iron are familiar to everyone but that does not mean they are not essential.

The more precious a metal is, the more toxic it is.

Head congestion, blood poisoning, gland and vessel sclerosis, selective fixation to nerve axes and neurons give it destructive power. Only a minuscule and measured dose appropriately measured out appears to be capable of avoiding this dangerous affinity which more often than not engenders enslaving attraction and fatal sclerosis.

Explaining these symptoms, vascular congestion dominates the physiology of metals.

It accompanies **the nervous affection** and is more or less directly linked to it.

The paradoxical aspect of the behaviour and the characteristics of the pathology follow from it.

Variability, malleability, lack of moderation, paradox...

They constitute one of the aspects of the psychology of those seven (eight) capital metals.

¹ Fourth part of an article published from January 2017 on homeopsy.com and entitled 'Luèse'... *Progressive disorder?*. It is taken from a book to be published at the end of 2017 and entitled *Ordre et désordre. Perspectives homéopathiques*. Editions Homeopsy.

² Pathogenic stamp responsible, at the somatic level, for distortion, destruction, sclerosis, multiple mutations and, at the psychological level, for behavioural pathologies like deviance, instability, and melancholic disorders accompanied by a not inconsiderable potential for creativity if not, often, genius.

Fixedness, rigidity, obsessive ossification...

They are another of them.

These two poles follow one another, can be very similar, sometimes become intermingled in varying degrees.

They express themselves in various pictures directly linked to the most predominant physiopathological characteristics.

Variability, malleability, lack of moderation, paradox...

Variability

Affecting the behaviour, it is found in all of them but with particular aspects.

In AURUM and MERCURIUS SOL, it is tinged with sudden fits of rage.

If 'gold' expresses themselves loudly and tries to assert themselves in a verbal and gestural explosion, 'mercury' loses their temper but, as they are held back by the intrusive strength of their anxiety and paralysing obsessions, they very often implode.

Then both of them wish they had not got angry : their anger causes distress to them.

ARGENTUM METALLICUM gets excited, is carried away by their cheerful and loud logorrhoea but they get worked up quickly and switch abruptly to sthenic anger which can go to the point of fury and epileptic seizure.

PLATINA is changeable... They get irritated, are capricious, and sometimes break things. If they do not wish they had not done so, they remain sullen for a long time afterwards - NATRUM MURIATICUM is not far from this... and pride is a bad master.

PLUMBUM switches from one emotion to the other, 'from one thing to the other, from one series of imaginations to the other'. Indifferent or agitated, anxious or sad, 'they are extremely changeable'.

FERRUM and CUPRUM are irritable.

Ferrum is hypersensitive to any vexation. The 'mere crumpling of paper drives them mad', perturbs them and makes them get up and move. They are exhausted by their giddiness and headaches.

Hyperalgesic and hyperaesthetic, Cuprum is also touchy. They cannot stand anything, even a smell and make one think of BELLADONNA, ZINC, and NUX VOMICA...

This behavioural variability is accompanied in all of them by a temperamental variability.

It takes a cyclothymic turn in AURUM and ARGENTUM METALLICUM or falls within the scope of typical bipolar disorder.

The risk of suicide is all the more to be feared in Aurum as acting out may be sudden.

In FERRUM, after the bursts of cheerfulness with logorrhoea accentuated by fear or anger, asthenic depression appears, often with headaches, giddiness, and difficulty in making efforts.

In MERCURIUS SOL, temperamental variability resembles emotional instability. Fits of anger with suicidal impulses are often alongside fundamental anxiety and depressive phases when obsessive remorse, a tendency towards self-accusation, and world-weariness are evidence of emotional collapse.

In PLATINA as in MERCURIUS SOL, the symptoms of a mixed pathology which might, in the extreme, be called dysthymic pathology, are found. Mood swings, more or less marked depressive phases in direct proportion to what is taken as a narcissistic injury very often show underlying NATRUM MURIATICUM. Wordless brooding, silent and inexplicable sulkiness come to a head unless the original 'Luèse' and its circulatory side is in the forefront: the growing disappointment and inability to accept failure follow the inflationary expansion of an idealised image of the self.

In PLUMBUM, with mental torpor and impaired memory in the background, emotional and mood instability may be combined with a depressive and involitional pathology.

In CUPRUM, with variable behaviour and a timorous, fearful nature in the background, a changeable mood with intense anxiety, hyperaesthesia to everything, cramps, and fits of rage often manifests itself.

FERRUM and STANNUM express themselves more through pictures of psychasthenia : quick to react to any emotion, FERRUM easily becomes hypersensitive, hypochondriacal, and incapable of sustained efforts : this predisposes them to physical and mental depression.

STANNUM is driven to despair that they do not get better. Their severe asthenia makes them doubt they will be able to get out of the state in which they are, unlike the other types of subjects suffering from - or bearing the marks of - attack from tuberculosis. They generally have much difficulty coping with their illness.

This behavioural and temperamental variability has different origins and varies according to each of them.

In AURUM and PLUMBUM, **it comes from profound vascular affection.**

In Aurum, the mental mark predominates. As no organ has any similarity with gold, the nervous system is generally the obvious receptacle. The hyperaemic action and its consequences for the muscle tissues of the vessels with all the impacts on the glands and nerves are obvious.

In Plumbum, intense vasoconstriction of the capillaries engenders gradual sclerosis of tissues, nerves, and of the anterior grey column.

In PLATINA and CUPRUM, **the affection of the sympathetic nervous system predominates** : the abdominal sympathetic system and nervous one in Platina, the medulla in Cuprum.

In STANNUM, there is also this action on the sympathetic and peripheral nervous systems but also, through iron, whose metabolism it stops, an impact on the muscle system and bronchial tree, which are debilitated.

In FERRUM, action on the blood, circulation, and haemopoiesis with all the consequences towards anaemia, has an impact on real life and the way of being.

In MERCURIUS SOL, the action on the lymphatic and venous systems affecting, through the portal vein, the liver and uterus, determines many characteristics of a behaviour composed of impulsiveness, sudden implosions, somatisation, and long-term depression.

This behavioural and temperamental variability is often combined with delirium.

Unequivocal delirium with a typically melancholic or religious theme in AURUM. It becomes a part of them like, sometimes, ARGENTUM METALLICUM in the case of bipolar disorder.

More coherent delirium in CUPRUM : like ARGENTUM METALLICUM, they have a tendency towards 'fits of rage'.

In PLUMBUM, besides religious themes, the fear of being murdered or poisoned is often found. The mistrust of the people who surround them and seem like potential murderers to them is often accompanied by hypochondriacal themes.

In STANNUM and FERRUM, this hypochondriacal tendency is found but is linked directly to their deficient physical state.

In MERCURIUS SOL and PLATINA, bad apprehension of the real and limits predominates. Combined with sometimes irrational fears linked directly to more or less well contained aggressiveness, it may get as far as delirium.

The latter is agonising to Mercurius Sol. Anxiety combined with the 'sensation that time passes too slowly, the fear of a menacing misfortune, of having committed a murder, of going insane, or of seeing water flow' show that they have a personality with difficulties as regards their real life and the image they have of themselves.

In Platina, the propensity inherent in their personality and perhaps in their very 'luétique' inability to see things in perspective and the others as 'smaller' at all levels makes reality hard to accept.

Their distorted view of what surrounds them is obvious and becomes a sort of handicap. Very vulnerable rather than hypersensitive to the undermining of their image, Platina is hyperaesthetic to everything that may spoil their delusions of grandeur. They may go successively from 'sexual frenzy' when they show an 'impulse to go and kiss everybody' to 'religious frenzy'. She expresses 'ideas of possession and damnation' or 'the fear that something might happen to her husband'. Fear or desire ? Besides, homicidal tendencies where, as Jahr put it, they may have the impulse 'to strangle their child' are often present. Everything seems strange and horrible to them. The 'world becomes narrow for them'... The 'sensation that they no longer belong to their own family' and that 'everything has changed at home after their short absence' mingles with illusions and hallucinations. Everything becomes all the more threatening as they sometimes have the 'sensation that their body has increased in volume' !

Malleability

It constitutes another characteristic of metals and can be mentioned here.

Reaching its peak in PLATINA, in whom it is often responsible for **distorted apprehension of the real**, it is found, in the literal sense, in all of them and, in the figurative sense, in most of them.

Soft, ductile, very resistant, unaffected by exposure to the air, platinum is, in its intrinsic characteristics, always the same. Oxidising at no temperature, attacked by no acid, it requires much handling to become a pure metal. To separate it from the other metals with which it is bound is no small matter : it exists no more for itself than Platina exists for themselves. The latter tries to find themselves :

Whether they are, as it was previously mentioned, the defensive evolution and excessive distortion of underlying NATRUM MUR with all the uncertainties of their ossifying narcissism and of the rigidified retreat which raises them above all and sundry ;

Whether they are the expression of the lack of points of reference and limits of 'luèse' intolerant of all standardisation or simplistic constraint, Platina, whether a man or a woman, has difficulty finding themselves. The compression they feel in their head when they come up against an obstacle shows their most internalised refusals and conflicts. If platinum can be cast, melted down, moulded and takes the tint of the salt that colours it, the psyche of Platina is no exception to the rule of malleability proper to hysteria and is not spared the deceptive tendency towards inflation of the latter. The fact that they are capable of being a 'mythomaniac' illusionist or distorting reality is evidence of it.

Oddly enough, this malleability can also be found in other types :

According to Kent, PLUMBUM, too, would be predisposed to it but also with **attitudes intended to dupe.**

It engenders a tendency to deceive, cheat, and causes a propensity to exaggerate one's malaise and feign illness.

It generates a real hysterical state with nervous impulses, local hysterical convulsions, apparent delirium. Localised numbness and local conversion pains are frequent. According to Materia Medica, lead acetate would have engendered, in a woman who had taken some of it to commit suicide, a chronic hysterical state : 'Dès qu'on la regardait, elle entrait en crise, mais lorsqu'elle se croyait seule, elle se levait, se promenait, se regardait dans la glace, pour voir combien elle était belle. Par contre, dès qu'elle entendait marcher, elle se recouchait sur son lit et semblait sans connaissance, on pouvait la piquer profondément sans qu'elle ne bouge et ne percevoir qu'à peine sa respiration³... Hysteria... its masks... its deceptive stratagems...

AURUM, ARGENTUM METALLICUM, and MERCURIUS SOL are no exceptions to the rule either. Reactive to the environment into which they blend, they show their syntone there until a contradiction appears and generates fear or anger in them.

They avoid the threat of constraints only by exploding into liberating outbursts.

Sometimes, the inflationary or distorted transformation of reality comes to a head. This is the outright negation of the rule with the appearance of breach of the law and deviation from moral principles. Hysteria becomes tinged with mythomania and obeys sclerotic and unscrupulous 'luèse' : AURUM, MERCURIUS SOL... perhaps, also, CUPRUM... They are described as 'mischievous' !

STANNUM and FERRUM do not express this particularity in such a characteristic way...

³ 'As soon as people looked at her, she would have a fit but, when she thought she was alone, she would get up, walk up and down, look at herself in a mirror to see how beautiful she was. But, as soon as she heard footsteps, she would go back to her bed, looking unconscious. One could give her an injection deeply without her moving and hardly hear her breathing'.

But is it not simply because they have neither time nor strength to do so ? Perhaps - and this would be worth going into in depth - they are only a 'simile' for the disorder and not a similitum for the subject ?...

Lability

It is found in all of them.

MERCURIUS SOL or AURUM is reactive to the least emotion of joy, anger, or fear.

Their guilt and feeling of powerlessness, one as regards creativity and the other as regards creation, gnaw at them to the point of engendering in them changeable mood and unpredictable behaviour.

PLATINA, too, reacts to emotion. Fright, fear, humiliation, pregnancy, or genital affections which bring her face to face with the fact that she must internalise the meaning of her femininity disrupt the expression of her femininity. They also show the weaknesses of the expression of his masculinity when, confronted with this problem, male Platina finds himself forced to place himself or overcome the Natrum Mur-type sense of propriety which is often linked to it in him.

FERRUM and STANNUM are easily tired by everything linked to emotion.

PLUMBUM's mood and behaviour constantly change.

CUPRUM is hypersensitive to everything...

Paradox

If it is found in all of them, it takes on various aspects.

The fear of dying and, at the same time, the urge to kill oneself - or kill somebody - are found in AURUM, MERCURIUS SOL and also, sometimes, in PLATINA.

The fear of dying and resignation coexist in STANNUM.

Slowness combined with hurriedness are described in AURUM and MERCURIUS SOL who, paradoxically, have 'the sensation that time passes too slowly'.

Touchiness and timorous hypersensitivity go hand in hand in AURUM, MERCURIUS SOL, and CUPRUM, who is described as fearful but also mischievous and malicious.

The fear of punishment and, most paradoxically, a tendency towards deviance are found in AURUM, MERCURIUS SOL, PLATINA, PLUMBUM...

It is therefore obvious that this falls into the category of the most classic type of hysteria with the elements of variability, suggestibility, mythomania...

Manifesting itself in a characteristic form in PLATINA, PLUMBUM, MERCURIUS SOL or tinging the personality in a subtler way, as it can be seen in the other remedies of this type, hysteria cannot be left out when confronted with a 'metal'.

Ideal fixedness, mental rigidity, emotional ossification...

They constitute the other facet of the psychology of metals and convey the stamp of sclerotic 'Luèse' narrowed in communication and the flow of life.

They influence more or less strongly the general behaviour, mental attitudes, and the emotional sphere.

Ideal fixedness

More or less tinged with obsessions, it is found in all of them :

AURUM is haunted to the point of obsession by the awareness and fear of death.

PLATINA pursues power in an almost obsessional way. In search of an overweening image of themselves, they are a prisoner of a sort of frenzied pursuit of conquest and power which is often alongside a form of somewhat paranoid megalomania.

MERCURIUS SOL shows, with silent mental hebetude in the background, agonising fear of punishment, of the murder they would have committed, and of threatening illness...

STANNUM and FERRUM, fearful of illness, are slow to act, asthenic and, above all else, all the more obsessed by the same idea as they are no longer capable of defending themselves.

CUPRUM is fearful of death, in paroxysms. They generally think about it very often.

PLUMBUM is afraid of everything, especially of people around them. Their field of consciousness grows considerably smaller and they have great memory problems.

Mental rigidity

It is found in all of them.

PLATINA, AURUM, ARGENTUM NIT are self-centred. Their megalomaniac inflation and tendency to be easily annoyed and offended show their lack of flexibility and ossified perceptions.

CUPRUM is described as touchy, malicious, and intolerant.

PLUMBUM, mistrustful and quarrelsome, has difficulty adapting themselves.

MERCURIUS SOL, distrustful, suspicious, and quarrelsome, has fixed perceptions.

Behaviours looking paranoid, with mistrust, pride, overconfidence are visible and present.

STANNUM and FERRUM are spared this but remain centred on themselves and their state.

Emotional ossification

It is found in each of them with various facets.

It comes to a head in PLATINA, selfish, proud, and haughty.

It is present in CUPRUM, described as 'malicious and mischievous'.

It is found in MERCURIUS SOL, who gradually becomes 'indifferent to their family'.

ARGENTUM NITRICUM and AURUM, intolerant of the slightest contradiction, do not really take the other into account after all, except when they are tormented by the guilt over and fear of not having behaved as they should have. One should not forget their 'fear of being abandoned', which is always likely to reappear, or its direct link with the fear of no longer having any of the meagre points of reference which their 'luétique' environment gave to them as bases.

STANNUM and PLUMBUM are often withdrawn, one because of their asthenia, the other because of the weakness of their physical and mental capability.

PLUMBUM is taciturn and indifferent.

Two characteristic poles in the behaviour :

One is variability, malleability, and paradox ; the other is rigidity, ideal fixedness, and

emotional ossification.

These two extremes which coexist or alternate may fall into the category of **hysteria** as well as into that of **paranoid sclerosis**.

However, one might stress that perhaps it is the degree of sclerosis and poisoning, the circulatory impact, the special features of the salt with which the metal is bound, and the diathesis to which it belongs which best show the instability and facets of these personalities, whose most paradoxical and enlightening reflection these fundamental metals are...

Faces of 'Luèse', they are the most obvious aspects of it...

They show the impalpable side of it which subtly influences what tries to define them and the harshness tinged with ossification which constitutes one of its basic dominant characteristics.

But perhaps it is a feature of this diathesis that it has hidden and unexpected aspects... They reveal its destructive and creative power as well as its surprising special features⁴...⁵

To be continued...

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Bibliography :

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⁴ Bringing out what emerges in many fields at world level at the present time and sheds light on particular aspects of it on which the Hahnemannian approach can shed light through totally original ways linking what changes at the somatic and neurological levels under various influences (diet, poisons and pollution of all types, etc) to what manifests itself at the mental and behavioural levels.

⁵ Translated by Pascale Tempka