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MONTREAL

# Homœopathic Record

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF HOMŒOPATHY AND OF THE MONTREAL  
HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

VOL. VIII. No. 3.

MONTREAL, MARCH, 1903.

25 CTS. A YEAR.

## Montreal Homœopathic Record

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By the Montreal Homœopathic Hospital.

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### MEDICAL VAGARIES.

In the light of recent events, the beginning of the end of the anti-toxin epoch is of more than passing interest. Of all the medical fads of the past century, probably none have made so strong a bid for permanency in the realm of therapeutics as it has done. Now that its use is on the wane, and its future destined for a niche in the great museum of medical curiosities, it is but charitable to give it credit for having drawn serious attention and study to the combatting of the most dread scourge of modern times. The following, taken from the Medical Times, is of interest in this connection, especially to the adherents of homœopathy:

From an article on "Do Homœopaths Need Anti-toxin?" by Dr. C. E. Fisher, ex-president A. I. H. (Medical Visitor, August, 1902.)

It is safe to assert that the homœopath who relies upon anti-toxin deliberately sacrifices from eight to ten lives out of every hundred he is called upon to treat, with diphtheria. The best the most ardent anti-toxinists have been able to do with this

much-vaunted product has been to reduce the mortality from thirty-six per cent. under old methods to about sixteen and one-half per cent. under the new, while on the other hand it has been demonstrated with equal reliability that under even the most ordinary homœopathic treatment, that of alternation, etc., a trifle less than seven per cent. are lost. Just why, then, homœopathic physicians and journalists should use and advance anti-toxin is unexplainable. Anti-toxin is polluted horse-serum. The chief preservative used to keep it from spoiling is carbolic acid. Carbolic acid is homœopathic to many a case of diphtheria. Homœopathy has infinitely better measures for combatting diphtheria than are offered by the anti-pathetic profession, and of these we should consistently avail ourselves to the limit before flying to nostrums of doubtful scope and value. Our armamentarium is replete with splendid curatives, whose pathogeneses make prescribing a science and curing almost a never-failing certainty. A correct homœopathy is a scientific procedure, a careful individualization, a rifle-shot directing of medication, a precise, accurate, successful adaptation of the right remedy in each individual instance, and not a wholesale adoption of supposed specifics which have no proven value and no pathogenic outline upon which we can work unerringly. I look upon it as lamentable and thoroughly inconsistent that we should continue to uphold and justify homœopathy as a separate and deserving system of practice, and yet hold that the best it can do is to cure everything pretty

well but diphtheria, everything pretty well but pneumonia, everything pretty well but typhoid fever, everything pretty well but epilepsy, everything pretty well but syphilis, everything pretty well but pain, and so on down the list, according to the individual notions, weaknesses and unbeliefs of individual practitioners. What moral and logical right have we to separate existence as an honorable profession if this be our portion and limit? With me as time rolls on and my experience and observation broaden and deepen I become more and more convinced that my preceptors of thirty years ago knew what they were talking about when they advised me to let allopathic measures alone and adhere to straight homoeopathic doctrine and practice. To them homoeopathy was all-sufficient. It ought to be all-sufficient to us.

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#### CURE IN THE PHILOSOPHY OF MEDICINE.

In early times the doctors knew so little about hygiene and paid so little attention to natural laws that for hundreds and hundreds of years they would not allow a patient suffering from fever to partake of a drop of cold water. Doctors in those days said, "Cold water is certain death in fever. Do not give the patient a drop. Give a dose of calomel and a spoonful of warm water." Not only were the fever patients denied pure cold water—Nature's remedy—but sunlight and fresh air were also denied them, and they were salivated with mercury, physicked with jalap, depleted of their life-blood by the lancet, and starved until they gave up the ghost.

In those days it required a very robust constitution to withstand the heroic assaults of a doctor. Even as late as fifty years ago it was a very serious matter to fall sick with a fever and have a doctor. I mean the doctor was the serious part of the business, for in those days the doctor still declared, "Cold water is death," and fathers and mothers were solemnly warned not to give a drop to a child tossing with a raging fever, and vainly pleading like Dives for "just a drop" to cool the parched tongue. Owing largely to the advances made in sanitary science, and to the spread of the therapeutic doctrine of similia, similibus, curenatur, with its small dose, single remedy and

brilliant results, the harsh and drastic modes of treatment which were common half a century ago have been dropped one after another by the profession. Until now the instinctive calls of nature are being more heeded by the medical practitioner, and the profession as a whole is daily approximating nearer and nearer to the constructive art of healing which takes more cognizance of sanitation and hygienic living and far less account of drugs and poisons. Calomel and blood-letting have had their day and the good will of the old school doctors, and during that terrible day the sick room was a torture chamber, a gloomy and dreadful place, and the doctor's visit the most dreadful part of the composite calamity. But times have changed. The lancet is rusting away. The healing sunshine and the pure, fresh air which in those days were sedulously excluded from the sick room are now freely admitted. The pure cold water which was looked upon as a messenger of death is now plentifully supplied to the sick as one of Nature's most logical remedies for the cure of disease and the restoration of health. The precept couched in the words of the maxim, "An ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure," is particularly applicable to the practice of medicine. The physician who is happily able to prescribe the ounce of prevention can dispense with the pound of cure.—J. W. Hodge, M.D., in Homoeopathic Recorder.

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#### INSOMNIA.

If the blood be impoverished, liquid food, hot milk, beef broth, an hour before sleep is intended.

Coffea is very useful in sleeplessness, because the patient is full of ideas: great mental activity, especially after pleasant surprises. Sleeplessness, owing to excessive agitation of mind and body, and here it had best be given high. Sleeplessness from the bad effects of too good news.

Cimicifuga. Sleeplessness of drunkards, delirium tremens, opium eaters. There is pain at the base of the brain, extending to nape of neck and sometimes to shoulders, mentally there is a sense of crushing depression, a feeling as if the mind were wrapped in the blackness of eternal darkness. Throughout the body there is a condition of active and distressing tremulousness.

Arsenicum. Sleeplessness of those who are suffering from blood degeneration and from mal-nutrition, accompanied by an exhausted nervous system. The brain and body are anaemic. Restlessness and anxiety due to anaemic ir-

ritability. (Aconite, restlessness due to erethistic hyperaemia.) The arsenicum insomnia needs liberal use of milk and beef tea, warmth and rest both day and night. Such a patient needs restorative treatment.

**Phosphorus.** For sleeplessness following intense mental overwork and anxiety and coupled with distressing confusion, pain and vertigo in the head. Patient falls asleep easily enough, but is awakened as easily. He sleeps and wakens many times in a single night. Five drops of the 3x in a half glass of water, spoonful doses every half hour during the evening, followed by a bowl of hot soup or a cup of beef tea or hot milk at bed time will generally relieve the pain and restlessness of brain fag and secure a sound and refreshing sleep.

**Silicea.** Is the remedy for sleeplessness of utter mental and physical inanition, when food fails to nourish, when the heart loses courage, and when there is abject despair and total absence of hope. Talcott says: "It will often work a wondrous and magical change in the condition of affairs."

**Coca.** In cases of mental exhaustion, utter prostration at times and again patient is bright and well and eager for work. Sometimes you meet a patient who is suddenly awakened after going to sleep by a sense of shock in the brain. Weak and nervous women, worn-out brain workers, are peculiarly liable to such conditions. If it is a spasmodic anaemia, coca is the remedy.

**Opium.** Sleeplessness from shock of bad news, fright (aconite with agonizing restlessness), but with opium dulness and dazed depression. Stupor of cerebral congestion, particularly where there is a tendency to atrophy.

Sidney Smith recommended his own sermons as a never failing soporific.

Eat lettuce; it has an ancient reputation as a soothing and soporific agent. We are told, when Venus was left inconsolable after the death of Adonis, she threw herself on a bed of lettuce to soothe her grief. So Galen cured his insomnia.

Chronic affections after the abuse of coffee require Chamomilla, ignatia, nux vomica, etc.

Strong black coffee, drunk as hot as possible, is indispensable as an antidote in a large number of poisons, especially narcotics. In general it antidotes narcotic substances such as opium, nux, belladonna, tobacco and chamomilla. Coffee antidotes wine, but tea is a better antidote to beer.—Dr. W. A. Dewey, in Cleveland Homoeopathic Reporter.

## THERAPEUTICS.

## SULPHUR

Is an excellent remedy for eczema of the wrists. Many cases of this affection will present sulphur symptoms.

## GASTRALGIA

With pains extending through to the back, with a sense of fatigue and a tired sensation, is relieved by belladonna 30 or 200.

## HAHNEMANN

Said in a letter to Dr. Stapf in 1826: "The worst kind of coughs were treated successfully by phosphorus and sepia in alternation."

## ALOES.

An old practitioner reported a verification of the symptom. Compelled to make the eyes small. It led to the use of the remedy in measles with success.

## IODINE

Is a valuable remedy in scrofulous affections of the ear, with impaired hearing, profuse secretion of mucus in the throat, sensation as if ear were closed by a valve and roaring in the ear.

## CALCAREA PHOSPHORICA.

Dr. Roberson Day, president of the British Homoeopathic Medical Society, thinks Calcarea phosphorica 3 gives the best results in adenoid growths in the naso-pharynx. Tuberculinum intercurrently is a most valuable remedy.

## PHOSPHORIC ACID

Is one of our best remedies in weak heart, and may take rank with Arsenicum. There is irregular pulse, fainting and fluttering of the heart. For the palpitation which comes on during sleep it is especially beneficial. Syncope and extreme prostration call for it.

## MANCINELLA

Has a special affinity for the left parotid gland. Animals poisoned with it always had enlargement of the left parotid. Perhaps some scientific physiologist will explain why the left and why not the right. If so we will tell him why Lachesis cures left-sided sore throats.

## NAJA

Is a useful remedy to relieve the cardiac uneasiness that occurs after using tobacco too freely. In fact, it is a remedy for many discomforts in the cardiac region, and has benefited angina pectoris. Cures of spinal irritation will be frequently made with the remedy where there is hyperaesthesia.

## THUJA.

Sometimes in order to cure warts this remedy must not be given exclusively. If it be followed by nitric acid oftentimes the cure will progress rapidly; especially is this so if syphilis complicates the case. In other cases it will be necessary to follow thuja with other remedies, pulsatilla or sulphur.—Medical Century.

## HINTS.

Inflamed, bloodshot eyes find a quick remedy in Aconite.

For overworked eyes Ruta is the remedy—Ruta graveolens—to be taken internally, pellets.

Causticum is sometimes a good remedy for enuresis where there is weakness of expulsive and retaining power. Dribbling of urine.

Spasmodic cough, nothing raised, Hyosciamus.

Sickness caused by exposure to dry cold air or draughts, Aconite.

Kali mur is an excellent remedy for "the ordinary follicular sore throat that occurs in children as a result of dietary indiscretion.—Dewey.

Acute bronchitis, with white tongue Antimonium tart., or with clean tongue, Ipecac.

Gums bleed easily, spongy, Mercurius.

Pain in the long bones, Mezereum.

Bunions pain in frosty weather, Pulsatilla.

Twitchings and jerking of muscles, Agaricus.

Headache in the scrofulous or tuberculous, Calcarea carb.

Sleeplessness, crowd of ideas, Coffea crud.

The best remedy for boils and carbuncles is Echinacea in the tincture of ix.

For paralytic conditions accompanying rheumatism Phytolacca, Rhus or Ruta may be indicated.

Hiccough, where it is a serious ailment, can be permanently cured, according to Dr. C. R. Crosby, of Cannersburg, Mich., with the tincture of Ginseng in drop doses.

Granatum is said to be a remedy for persistent vertigo.

"When cod liver oil is needed here is something to think about. If your stomach is strong enough to digest the ordinary cod liver oils and emulsions that are put upon the market, it isn't medicine that you need, it is simply work. You are able to saw wood." The above quotation is to be found in the New Idea, and it is as meaty and as oily as it can be. The stomach that can stand cod liver oil can stand iron and nails and tin cans.—B., in Medical Gleaner.—Homoeopathic Envoy.

## CONSTIPATION IN INFANCY AND CHILDHOOD.

## ALUMINA 6x.

The stool is soft and papescent, sticking to the anus like putty. Child has no desire to go to stool. Stool slow in passing, caused by dryness and inactivity of the rectum.

## BRYONIA 3x.

Stool large, dry and hard, as if burnt. Soreness in abdomen. "Constipation after Castor oil."

## CALCAREA CARBONICA 3x.

Hard, light-colored stool, undigested. Rickety children, with offensive fluid oozing from anus.

## GRAPHITES 6x.

Atonic constipation—obstipation. Stool very large and difficult to expel, consisting of small balls bound together by mucus; fissures ani; eczema—itching in rectum after stool. Fat, greasy children, with skin eruptions.

## LYCOPODIUM 6x.

Constipation, attended with colic and flatulence. Stools, first part lumpy, second part soft. Child inclined to linger at stool. Urine red and sandy, staining diaper. Has many symptoms of Carbo vegetabilis, with which it may be alternated, and by which it may be followed in case of failure.

## NUX VOMICA 3x.

The chief remedy in constipation. "When in doubt, play a trump," applies to Nux in constipation. The remedy par excellence in constipation alternating with diarrhoea. "The child strains and grunts, but passes little or no stool."—Raue. Child cross and fretful. The mother addicted to use of condiments and strong coffee.

## PLUMBUM 12x.

Obstipation in infants. When the moisture of the faeces has been absorbed, making stool dry, hard and crumbly, blackish or green, like sheep dung. (Opium.)

## SULPHUR 30x.

Habitual constipation with burning and itching in rectum when at stool; atrophy and mal-nutrition; intestinal indigestion; "lips red, tongue dry and papillae prominent through a dirty coating; hunger between meals; dry, unhealthy skin."—Raue.—Medical Century.



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SUBSCRIPTIONS AND CASH DONATIONS IN FEBRUARY.

The hospital treasurer acknowledges with thanks the following:

Woman's Auxiliary (for painting fund) .....	\$200.00
College of Homoeopathic Physicians and Surgeons (for painting fund) .....	100.00
Montreal Homoeopathic Association (for painting fund).....	60.00
Dr. H. M. Patton (for painting fund) .....	5.00
Mrs. Jas. Williamson.....	10.00
Mr. A. H. Thomson.....	10.00
Mr. Bissett .....	2.76
	<hr/>
	\$387.76

PHILLIPS TRAINING SCHOOL NOTES.

Nurse Harding is still at St. Albans, Vt., on private duty. She will most likely return this month.

Nurse Fleet has fully recovered from her recent illness, and is again on duty.

Nurse Brown has been off duty, being laid up with an attack of grippe.

Nurse Blackmore, who was at home recuperating from her recent illness, has returned to duty after an absence of two weeks.

Miss Spence, "02," has returned to town from Kingston, Ont., where she has been nursing for the past six weeks.

Miss Trench, "02," left the hospital February 23 to take up private nursing. Her three years' training was following by a three days' holiday when her first call came.

Misses Spence and Trench have the same telephone number, viz., East 643.

Our graduate nurses all report more calls than they can attend to.

Miss Malboeuf, "98," is still in Southern California, and will probably remain there for a year with her patient.

Miss Bartholomew, "02," has returned to town from a visit to Quebec, and has resumed private nursing. She is now on special duty in the hospital.

We have received the 1902 annual report of the Berlin and Waterloo, Ont., Hospital, containing the lady superintendent's report signed by Miss I. MacLagan, one of our "99" graduates. The trustees' report speaks of Miss MacLagan and her work in the most flattering terms. The hospital is nearly as large as our own and has a medical staff of eleven doctors. In the training school Miss MacLagan has eight nurses, and there are eight graduates from the school. The hospital derives its revenue from grants from Government and towns of Berlin and Waterloo, also from private patients. There has been a surplus over expenditure during the past two years.

There are about 2,500 hospitals and asylums in the United States. These give employment to 65,000 people, and pay over \$23,000,000 in salaries. They have 300,000 beds, are attended by 37,000 physicians, and treat over 1,000 patients during the year.

A scientist recently converted a certain quantity of liquid air into a small solid mass, and on examining it found that it was as transparent as clear ice and as elastic as rubber. To test its elasticity he struck it with a hammer and the latter immediately rebounded.

Portes and Desmoulieres have succeeded in isolating crystallized salicylic acid from strawberries. The Gaz. Med. Belge of March 13 mentions this curious fact, and observes that it is important in the study of adulterating substances in preserves, syrups, etc., containing strawberries.

According to official figures the city has a decided advantage over the rural districts in the matter of human longevity. The average age reached in the city is 38.2 years and in the country 31.1. There the urban has an advantage of 7.1 years over the suburban. The advantage of pure air in the country is apparently more than offset by sanitary and food advantages in the city.

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Australians hold the world's record as tea drinkers, consuming 7½ pounds a head yearly. New Zealanders drink 7¼ pounds.

A woman sixty-five years old recently gave birth, in a New Jersey town, to a healthy girl. The woman's husband is seventy years old, though both are said to be young for their years, and the couple had passed forty years in childless wedlock.

## HOSPITAL NOTES.

**POUND PARTY**, Saturday, April 4, in afternoon.

**THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY** will hold their annual pound party at the hospital on the first Saturday in April, and extend a cordial invitation to all friends.

**DON'T MISS** the opportunity of seeing the hospital since it has been renovated, incidentally enjoying a cup of tea and spending a pleasant afternoon.

**IF YOU LOOK** over the "Hospital Wants" you may save yourself some worry about what kind of a pound or pounds you are going to send to the hospital.

**THE NAME** "pound party" is misleading, as anything or any quantity is acceptable—pounds of money, barrels of sugar, chests of tea, bolts of cotton, tons of coal, etc. There is no limit to the variety or amount.

**WHEN YOU VISIT** the hospital, take a look at our miniature diet kitchens, and fancy how you would like to have to replace all breakages, with so little space to work in.

**OUR HOUSE DOCTOR** would like to hear from some one feeling disposed to present the laboratory with a new microscope sufficiently powerful for the performance of necessary work of this department.

**THE PAINTING** of the interior of the hospital has been completed, enhancing its appearance, and well showing how much we needed this improvement.

**THE GOVERNORS' ROOM** has also been renovated, new paper being put on the walls and generally brightened up, to be in keeping with the rest of the institution.

**OWING TO** unforeseen extras not included in the renovation contracts, we find our painting fund inadequate. We still require about \$200. Send in your subscription and help us to settle this account.

**A SYSTEM** of electric call bells should be installed in our private wards at least. At present it is difficult for nurses to always locate the bell call, and it certainly is not pleasant to be wakened at night, to find out if you had rung your bell. Wouldn't you like to help us remedy this difficulty?

**WE HAVE HAD** estimates furnished showing the cost of the proposed enlargement of the diet kitchens, the alterations and additions to the operating room, all of which are absolutely necessary improvements. The price, over \$600, is the great stumbling block in the way of our doing this work, or of considering the proposition for the present. How much will you give towards a fund for saving broken crockery, nurses' tempers and salaries, and providing better cooking facilities?

**THE NEED** of more light in the basement of the main building is of importance, if only as a means of reducing our gas bills. Removing the wall on Burnside Place, between the two buildings, and whitening the side wall of the annex building, would reduce our lighting bills at least twenty-five per cent.

**BEFORE ANOTHER** issue of this paper reaches you, the glad Easter tide will be with us. Not only is it meet that we should remember the sick with flowers, etc., but our joyous celebration of this great festival should enable us to extend our generosity to institutions whose aim is to alleviate suffering, and by our tangible offerings the better aid them in their chosen mission.

**THE REGULAR** monthly meeting of the committee of management, called for February 23, had to be adjourned for lack of quorum. This is the first time this has happened in the past two years, and was due mainly to absence from the city or illness among the members. Several important measures had to be left over, which will be taken up at the next meeting, to be held Monday, March 23.

**THE WORK** of the hospital for the past month was fairly heavy, the presence of the painters causing no small inconvenience. The housekeeper's department is again running smoothly under the supervision of the new head, Miss McPhee. In the maternity annex the renovation has rendered necessary a slight increase in the rates for rooms. The demand for accommodation keeps up well, some eight applications being filed on March 1 up to April 15. New green window shades have been placed in all the private wards, and most of the lights have been furnished with pretty paper shades through the kindness and labor of friends of a former patient.

**WANTED**, two nice hand bells for the nurses' hall tables, for use by doctors and visitors in summoning nurses.

DONATIONS IN FEBRUARY.

The Lady Superintendent acknowledges with thanks the following:

F. E. Phelan, Esq., one telephone register; Mrs. Childs, medicine vials; No Name, magazines; Miss M. Robertson, old linen; A. T. Chapman, Esq., six calendars; Mrs. J. T. Hagar, for "Hagar Room," two sets toilet covers, six pillow cases, six draw sheets, six large sheets, three towels, one pair curtains; Mrs. Jas. Baylis, for "Baylis Room," six sheets, six pillow cases, six draw sheets, three bureau covers, one table cover; Woman's Auxiliary, six bowls, six teaspoons, twelve forks, six dishes, one steamer, one double boiler, two small saucepans, six knives, one beef squeezer, one alarm clock, one sink brush, two hair brushes, two laundry baskets, one washboard, six enamelled pails.

HOSPITAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY.

Number of patients in hospital February 1 .....	16
Admitted—	
Private patients .....	15
Semi-private patients .....	7
Public patients .....	6
Maternity .....	3
	47
Discharged—	
Private patients .....	16
Semi-private patients .....	9
Public patients .....	6
Maternity .....	1
	32
Died .....	1
Operations .....	6
Number of days private nursing, outside .....	38
Number of days private nursing in hospital .....	7
Remaining in hospital March 1.....	15

FINANCIAL REPORT OF WOMAN'S AUXILIARY FROM JAN. 21 TO FEB. 18, 1903.

Receipts—	
Add tional from bazaar.....	\$3.00
Subscription, Mrs. F. Sumner.....	1.00
Miss A. Moodie (rent No. 46).....	50.00
	\$54.00
Disbursements—	
Rent No. 46 (two quarters).....	\$160.00
W. H. Eaton & Son, printing.....	6.00
	\$166.00
Balance in bank February 18, 1903,	\$1,274.04.

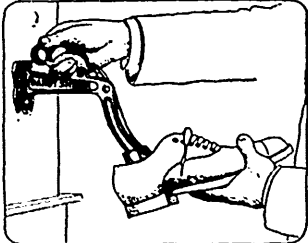
When a steam bath is indicated in country practice it is easily and satisfactorily given, says the Medical Summary, by boiling a dozen or more ears of corn, taking them from the water while boiling, wrapping in cloths moistened in hot water and packing them as close to the patient as possible. Keep him closely covered, and a few moments will bring the most profuse perspiration you ever saw.

HOSPITAL WANTS.

- Barrel of apples.
- Barrel of sugar.
- Barrel of chip soap.
- Starch.
- Washing soda.
- Soap.
- A new microscope.
- A steam sterilizer.
- A new elevator.
- Green window shades.
- Money for painting fund.
- Electric bells.

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Nor will he touch the lean.  
He scorns to eat of any meat;  
He lives upon Foodine.

But Mrs. Spratt will none of that!  
Foodine she cannot eat;  
Her special wish is for a dish  
Of Expurgated Wheat.

To William Spratt that food is flat  
On which his mater dotes;  
His favorite feed—his special need—  
Is Eata Heapa Oats.

But Sister Lil can't see how Will  
Can touch such tasteless food;  
As breakfast fare it can't compare,  
She says, with Shredded Wood.

Now, none of these Leander please;  
He feeds upon Bath Mitts,  
While Sister Jane improves her brain  
With Cero-Grapo-Grits.

Lycurgus votes for Father's Oats;  
Proggine appeals to May;  
The junior John subsists upon  
Uneeda Bayla Hay.

Corrected Wheat for little Pete;  
Flaked Pine for Dot; while "Bub"  
The infant Spratt, is waxing fat  
On Battle Creek Near-Grub.  
—Chicago Tribune.

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