

## Appendix



he following is taken from the first chapter of Dr. Lindlahr's book titled *Iridiagnosis*. Since Dr. Lindlahr mentions "Diagnosis from the Eye" frequently in our text, we felt that we should give our readers more information on this matter than was included by Dr. Lindlahr in his original *Nature Cure*. We felt that the best way to do this was to let Dr. Lindlahr's own words tell all our readers just what he meant by "Diagnosis from the Eye."

### Iridology

**C**orrect diagnosis is the first essential to rational treatment. Every honest physician admits that the old school methods of diagnosis are, to say the least, unsatisfactory and uncertain, especially in ascertaining the underlying causes of disease.

Therefore we should welcome any and all methods of diagnosis which throw more light on the causes and the nature of disease conditions in the human organism.

Two valuable additions to diagnostic science are now offered to us in *Spinal Analysis* and in the *Diagnosis, from the Iris of the Eye*.

Spinal analysis furnishes valuable information concerning the connection between disease conditions and misplacements of vertebrae and other bony structures, contractions or abnormal relaxation of connective tissues, and inflammation of nerves and nerve centers.

### Is Iridiagnosis Sufficient to Diagnose Disease?

Iridology is as yet a new science, and much remains to be discovered and to be better explained. Many times we do not find a

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sign in the iris for the lesion or diseased condition which we know to exist in the body. At other times the records in the eyes indicate more serious conditions than can be ascertained by other methods. As regards this point, however, it is well to remember that old school physicians, notwithstanding their up-to-date scientific equipment, only too often see their diagnosis discredited by the postmortem findings.

Those who confine their examinations to the eye or the spine fall as far short of making a reliable diagnosis or prognosis as the old school country doctor with his limited equipment. In our work we do not confine ourselves to Iridiagnosis, but combine with it the diagnostic methods (physical diagnosis) of the allopathic school of medicine, spinal analysis, basic diagnosis, as well as laboratory tests and microscopic examinations.

Thus any one of these methods supplements and verifies all the others. In this way only is it possible to arrive at a thorough and definite understanding of the patient's condition.

### The Story of a Great Discovery<sup>1</sup>

Dr. Von Peckzely, of Budapest, Hungary, discovered Nature's records in the eye, quite by accident, when a boy ten years of age.

**Playing one** day in the garden at his home, he caught an owl. While struggling with the bird, he broke one of its limbs. Gazing straight into the owl's large, bright eyes, **he noticed, at the moment when the bone snapped, the appearance of a black spot in the lower central region of the iris**, which area he later found to correspond to the location of the broken leg. The boy put a splint on the broken limb and kept the owl as a pet.

As the fracture healed, he noticed that the **black spot** in the iris became overdrawn by a white film and **surrounded** by a white border (denoting the formation of **sear tissues** in the broken bone).

This incident made a lasting impression on the mind of the future doctor. It often recurred to him in later years. From further observations he gained the conviction that abnormal physical conditions are portrayed in the eyes.

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<sup>1</sup> Some of this history is given in Chapter Fifteen, but we felt that for sake of the continuity of this "Appendix" we would not edit the text as printed in Dr. Lindlahr's book *Iridiagnosis*.

As a student, Von Peckzely became involved in the revolutionary movement of 1848 and was put in prison as an **agitator and ringleader**. During his confinement he had **plenty of time and leisure** to pursue his favorite theory, and he became more and more convinced of the importance of his discovery. After his release he entered upon the **study of medicine**, in order to develop his important discoveries and to confirm them more fully in the operating and dissecting rooms. He had himself enrolled as an **interne** in the surgical wards of the college hospital. Here he had ample opportunity to observe the eyes of patients **before and after accidents and operations**, and in that manner he was enabled to elaborate the first accurate chart of the iris for diagnostic purposes.

Since Von Peckzely gave his discoveries to the world, many well known scientists and conscientious observers, in Austria, Germany, Sweden and in this country have **devoted their lives** to the perfection of this wonderful science. Foremost among the followers of Von Peckzely in Europe was the Rev. Niels Liljequist, a Swedish clergyman, who, for many years, has made Iridology his life work. He perfected Peckzely's chart of the iris and was the first one to describe signs of drug poisoning. He had suffered terribly from most of the symptoms of quinine poisoning (chronic cinchonism) ever since he had taken large quantities of the drug in early life. After he became acquainted with iridiagnosis he discovered the connection between the yellow discoloration in his eyes and the chronic quinine poisoning. This led him to study the relationship of other color pigments to various forms of drug poisoning, such as iodineism, mercurialism, bromism, arsenical poisoning, etc.

In Germany Dr. Thiel and Pastor Felke made valuable contributions to Iridology, and became famous diagnosticians and Nature Cure physicians.

In this country Dr. H. Lahn wrote the first book in the English language on this new and valuable method of diagnosis. Many years of personal acquaintance with this remarkable man and his work impels me to give him credit for being one of the ablest iridiagnosticians now living. Anderchou in England published a few years ago a brief summary of the discoveries and teachings of the pioneers of Iridology.

The regular school of medicine, as a body, has ignored and will ignore this science, because it discloses the fallacy of their favorite

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theories and practices, and because it reveals unmistakably the direful results of chronic drug poisoning and ill advised operations.

Leaving out of consideration everything that is at present speculative and uncertain, we are justified in making the following statements, subject to the qualifications and limitations before described:

(1) The eye is not only, as the ancients said, “the mirror of the soul,” but it also frequently reveals abnormal conditions and changes in every part and organ of the body.

(2) Organs and parts of the body are represented in the iris of the eye in well defined areas. (See the Eye Chart in this book.)

(3) The iris of the eye contains an immense number of minute nerve filaments, which through the optic nerves, the optic thalami and the spinal cord are connected with and receive impressions from every nerve in the body.

(4) The nerve filaments, muscle fibers and minute blood vessels in the different areas of the iris reproduce the changing conditions in the corresponding parts or organs.

(5) By means of various marks, signs, abnormal colors, or discolorations in the iris, Nature reveals transmitted disease taints and hereditary lesions.

(6) By signs, marks and discolorations, Nature also makes known acute and chronic inflammatory or catarrhal conditions, local lesions, destruction of tissues, various **drug** poisons, and changes in structures and tissues caused by accidental injury or by surgical mutilations.

(7) The diagnosis from the iris of the eye positively confirms Hahnemann’s theory that acute diseases have a constitutional background of hereditary or acquired disease taints or systemic encumbrances.

(8) This science enables the diagnostician to ascertain, **from the** appearance of the iris, many of the patient’s **inherited** or **acquired** tendencies toward health and toward **disease**, **his** condition in general, and the state of various **~organs** in particular. Reading Nature’s records in the eye, he can predict many of the healing crises through **which** the patient will have to pass on the road to health.

(9) The iris frequently reveals dangerous changes in **vital** parts and organs from their inception, thus enabling the patient to avert threatening disease by natural living and natural methods of treat-

ment.

(10) Changes in the iris indicate plainly the gradual purification of the system, the elimination of morbid matter and poisons, and the readjustment of the organism to normal conditions under the regenerating influences of natural living and treatment.

## How the Signs in the Eye Are Produced

The effects of surgical operations performed under anesthesia either do not show in the eyes at all, or only very faintly, though entire organs or large parts of the body may have been removed by the surgeon's knife. This is due to the fact that under anesthesia the sensory nerves are benumbed and paralyzed; for this reason we do not feel pain. This condition of temporary paralysis prevents the transmission of impulses to the iris and thereby the production of corresponding signs or lesions in the eye. For instance, the loss of a leg amputated under anesthesia may not show in the eyes, while the sear tissue caused by the bite of a dog, a wound received from a bullet, or other injury received in a waking, conscious condition, may show for life in the form of a closed lesion in the iris.

These facts prove that the lesions in the eyes are made through abnormal or pathological nerve impulses, which throw the nerve fibers and other structures in the surface layers of the iris out of their normal arrangement. Inflammatory processes incidental to the healing of wounds show temporarily as white signs.

Discolorations or color signs in the eyes are created by color pigments carried into and deposited in the surface layers of the iris through the capillary circulation.

The dark signs of subacute catarrhal and chronic catarrhal conditions and of loss of substance or death of tissues are created through atrophy and sloughing of nerve and muscle fibers in the surface of the iris, or depressions and holes in the deeper layers.

I have frequently heard the question, "How is it possible that lesions in the body show in the iris on the same side, when all the afferent nerves cross to the opposite brain half? According to this, lesions on one side of the *body* should show in the opposite iris." The answer is, the crossing of the optic nerves brings back the signs in the eye to the side of the body in which the corresponding lesion is located.

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Exceptions to this are lesions in the brain. They cross over in the optic nerves, and show in the opposite iris. Thus lesions in right brain half show in the left iris and vise-versa.

