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MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 1.—NEW SERIES.

NOVEMBER 1, 1855.

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TO OUR READERS.

If apology be expected for our re-appearance after a literary hybernation, let us offer one. Necessity demands—will obeys. Apology has been repeatedly sought of us for having relinquished our journal, which was commenced in troublous times. Such was the condition of homœopathy when the *Homœopathic Record* began its career, that, like Ishmael, its hand appeared to be against every man, and every man's hand against it. The *Record* stood alone in Northampton as the champion of homœopathy. The system it defended had been attacked*—'tis true in ignorance, and hence let the past be forgotten, excepting as a matter of history. Since that time (1851), many changes have occurred. Men and things are become changed. A change has come over the mind of the people. It was by matter of course that people submitted to allopathic practice; it seemed, indeed, that *doctors were not made for the people, but the people for the doctors*. In the "good old days" of medical priesthood, quiet submission to the armament of old physic was inevitable—there was then no other course. As it was in the Christian church before Luther, Wycliffe, and Knox became "troublesome disturbers," so it was in the medical church—troublesome ones disturbed not the self-sufficient "faculty" of healing.

* See *Homœopathic Record*, vol. i., No. 10, January 15, 1852; the *Northampton Herald*, Dec. 13, 1851; and the *Northampton Mercury*, January 10, 1852.

Even now, there are to be found relics of medical antiquity ; some of our villages have their doctor as well as their clergyman. The one has consigned to him the care of the body, to the other the soul's charge is committed. How happy men must have been in the days when they possessed not the opportunity of *choosing* either the body's doctor or the soul's doctor—"medical doctors" and "divinity doctors"—each being licensed by the state or by chartered corporate bodies to dispose how they pleased of the dual man. The patient had not need to consult his conscience ; indeed it may be doubted whether in those days men had any conscience, in reference to medical matters ; for without power of choice, conscience were useless ; even now, it may be questioned whether it is not inconvenient in some positions to have a conscience in medical matters.*

Was it more blissful in *those* days to be incapable of erring, being without choice, than in *these* days to be puzzled which doctor to choose—Dr. Sangrado, who bleeds, purges, leeches, scarifies, and salivates, as all his fathers did?—to choose, we say, between this petted child of orthodoxy, and the new doctor, who cures without the employment of the destructive means of Dr. Lettsom, a type of the legitimate school, of whose treatment a wag wrote the doggerel lines, ending with a pun on the poor doctor's name,—

"I physics, bleeds, and sweats 'em,
And if they dies, I—LETTS'EM."

This being truly the state of medical practice now, as then, where people still enjoy the blessed condition of not having the "trouble to choose." Thank heaven, we in the larger towns live in better times—at least, there is a stimulant to intellectuality in the possession of the opportunity of choice ; and there are few now, we hope, who desire to return to the "legitimate" line exclusively. No, this power of choice is the high prerogative of man, and its non-possession belongs exclusively to savage life. We devoutly pray that the time may soon come when every village in England shall enjoy this privilege.

* A patient of the writer was told the other day, that it was "not *legitimate* to be treated homœopathically."

It was a glorious day for the human family, when Hahnemann first saw the light. The man whom the Lord fitted to be the instrument which should rescue men's bodies from the stronghold of the "Man of Sin," which had so long held them in his bloody grasp, slaying his thousands upon thousands with the lancet, and administering the deadly poisons of the "old physic" school.

It is to Hahnemann we this day desire to do honour, in holding forth the truth of homœopathy, which is to men's bodies what Christianity is to their souls—to enlighten, to heal, and to redeem. To this end we henceforth write, while we sigh for the time to come, when, as in the beginning of Christianity, Christian ministers will go forth to "heal the sick and preach the gospel," receiving power from on high, and not from College gowmsmen only.

FEVERS :

THEIR IRRATIONAL TREATMENT — THEIR RATIONAL TREATMENT.

THE author of the following paper, deeply impressed with the duty devolving upon him, to communicate to others, in the most easily intelligible form, the knowledge which from experience and observation he has acquired of the injuriousness of the ordinary treatment of acute diseases, including *fevers*, and the advantage to life and health of the modern treatment of such diseases, has determined thus to give expression to his convictions. Any allusion he may make to the old school practice, is not so much intended for *men* as for that *effete system* to which so many cling with tenacious obstinacy, to the detriment of the patient, and the loss of honour and respect to themselves. The time is not far distant, when the public will have become alive to its own welfare, and the people sufficiently informed to enable them to judge of the various modes of medical practice, and to choose not so much the *man* as the *system* he adopts.

It is still too much the custom to place reliance on the man, more than on the means. It is only required that Dr. So and So be of a certain age and experience, that he hold a certain position in society, is of genteel birth, of gentlemanly deportment, of sound, (?) orthodox political and religious views; and if, in addition to these popular qualifications for patronage, he have the good fortune to hold an

appointment at a public infirmary, and have displayed a little literary talent as a contributor to a well-known "Quarterly," or have written a book, he at once commands a preference for patronage, and without question or consideration, he has committed to his care the bodies of the public. No matter what his mode of practice is, if orthodox, nor what the results; if he bleeds, blisters, or leeches it must be right; if he order setons, issues, acupuncture, shaving of heads, or even amputation, do not question the righteousness of the advice—the doctor, if he is "of standing," cannot err. If he bleed you till you cannot stand, bear it patiently. If he purge you till you cannot walk, submit quietly. If he blister you till you cannot lie, do not complain—it is all for your good. "Active diseases require active remedies." You may as well die under the tortures of kindness as die a natural death from disease. Although the pains may be more severe which the doctor inflicts, than those which result from the morbid changes in diseased states, it is all right, ask no questions!!! If you, in spite of the active measures employed, become convalescent, and you have to pour tonics down your throat, while their bitterness causes you to dread meeting a mirror, in which you can behold your contorted features during the gulp which you do all you can to limit to one, do not murmur; for the doctor says, "though it is bitter, it is very strengthening." If, after this "tonic," you find your nervous system so shattered, that you with difficulty write a letter, owing to the unsteadiness of your hand, do not complain. Should your teeth fall out, and your breath become so offensive that you fear that the one whom you love, the partner of your bosom, will detect your savour, it's all right. The dentist *must* live, and this he could not do were it not for the doctors and mercury.

If, on the other hand, you are about to leave your earthly tenement, after all that is done for you, you may die in peace, if you can; indeed, under the orthodox opiate, you may be spared from any anxieties about your precious hereafter. Thoughts will not trouble you, for the good, kind doctor will give you a little "composing draught" or an opiate in the shape of Morphia; and, for the time at least, you will appear to your friends to be "*very quiet*." Should you, from the re-action of the Morphia, be so disturbed in your mind that your features express an anxiety which terrifies your friends; and if you become unmanageable, a strait waistcoat will at least prevent you from doing any harm until the doctor comes, who will again order you something to compose you. If in this state you depart, your sorrowing widow, your grieving parent, or your bereaved children may be consoled by the thought, that "*everything has been done which could be done*;" and to relieve "our medical man" of the responsibility, "we had the first advice; for Doctor So and So, whom we called in, *approved of everything which was done*."

And thus, and thus, our fellow mortals die. Die! did I say? Rather let me say are killed daily.

That the foregoing is not an exaggerated picture, too many, alas! are aware. The writer of these lines has too often witnessed the direful effects of mismanagement of fevers particularly, under old physic. Too frequently has he had to lament over the dying patient whose system has been rendered so frail by the drugging of allopathy. His blood has often felt chilled and heated alternately, on receiving a description of the previous treatment; and it was at the bedside of one such case that he resolved on making known to as many of his fellow-men as possible the *danger* and the *wickedness* of "old physic."

To "torture" a fellow creature with blisters, already suffering enough, one would think is unpardonable; bespeaking, as it does, the lamentable fact, that the blister is had recourse to, *because no medical means have been found in the old school more effectual*. The theory of "counter irritation," which is called in to explain the beneficial action of the "blister," is hollow and deceitful; because the blister has produced a *greater* suffering than the natural disease, does not prove that the diseased state is cured thereby. Hence we find, that one blister after another follows in succession, as each repeated evidence is given of suffering. If the frequency of application keep not pace with the recurrence of pain, they are applied oftener; the blistering is made perpetual; and thus the poor victim is doomed by orthodox medical practice to suffering. This is step No. 1. Now of the bowels—those poor unoffending viscera, which have to endure so much to please the ignorant theorist, who supposes that disease can be *purged* out of the patient. Is there constipation, owing to the life power being for the time directed to the chest, in meeting and opposing the disturbance in that region where the blisters are doing their deadly work? "Hem! open the bowels," says the Doctor. Forthwith the patient is made to swallow pills and draught; the repeated disturbances to which the poor, weak patient is subjected in the process of purging adds to his debility; the patient is purged—he is weakened—but is the diseased state altered? by no means—the patient is worse for the treatment. The vitality directed to the bowels, to meet the *artificial diseased state* "purging," the patient's head "wanders." The Doctor visits—leeches are ordered to the temples,—the patient *submits* like a dutiful creature, the leeches suck his "*life's blood*," but to no beneficial purpose beyond a temporary relief—he is all the worse.

Is this all? No! For the bowels having been *artificially* purged, the peristaltic action becoming excessive, the purging continues. What now is to be done? there is some fear that the purging will weaken him too considerably. "We must check this," says the doctor, and for this, opium and chalk are given. The bowels are checked in their action, and what now happens? The head of the patient gets worse, and symptoms of "coma" set in—the patient dreams frightfully. And if the pulse, after re-action, be found too quick, straight-

way the lancet is thrust into a vein of the arm, and the man spills life while he spills his fellow creature's blood.

Is this all? Not yet all!!! The patient, having been deceived by the blisters on his chest, manifests signs of serious implication of the lungs, one or both. What is to be done now? He has lost blood enough already, he cannot spare more—"Tartar Emetic" is administered. The cough and difficulty of breathing increases, in spite of this treatment, for the blisters having concealed the earlier manifestation of disease in the lungs, by suppressing the pain, the disease has gone on unchecked, and the patient gets no sleep for the troublesome cough. Now, however, "Morphia" is brought into requisition, and a pill at night quiets the poor victim for a few hours more. Next morning the doctor visits; "how is the patient? has he slept?" the nurse replies, "He had a tolerably quiet night, Doctor, but he is very low this morning." What now is to be done? thinks the doctor to himself; "I think all we can do is to order some fever mixture, a pill at night to compose him, and some beef tea and port wine which may strengthen him." Poor fellow! He has no power to digest food, but food is given; it is no sooner taken than it is vomited. The diarrhœa recurs, opium and starch are injected into the bowels, *per rectum*, and again the "ports are blocked."* The patient gets weaker and weaker, he lingers on, from day to day, he emaciates, he lies a sad picture of distressed humanity. His head shaved, his chest denuded of its skin, his temples punctured, his back sore, his mind destroyed—he mutters! he sinks!! he DIES!!!

The deadly work is done, he is dead! but in these days when inquiry is abroad and doubts expressed as to whether the patient died "of the disease or of the doctor," the sorrowing friends seek very properly to be satisfied of the cause of death, and their harrowed feelings are battled with in a submission of the body to a *post mortem* examination. With all due ceremony, the family surgeon and the consulting physician seek for the results of their deadly work, and what do they find? "1 Congestion of the brain and its coverings. 2 Disease of the lungs. 3 Effusion in the chest. 4 Adhesion of the pleura. 5 Disease of the liver. 6 Ulceration of the bowels. 7 Atrophy of the tissues, &c., &c., &c." The friends are acquainted formally with the result; and what is this? They are told that "there is sufficient to account for death; the patient had a complication of diseases:" and, as though a parallel were sought between the woman out of whom were cast seven devils, "the patient," say the Doctors, "died of SEVEN diseases!!!!!!!"

Which killed the patient—the *disease* or the irrational treatment?

TO BE CONTINUED IN OUR NEXT.

* A late physician, in instructing his pupils in the art of treating their patients, used to say, "*First open ports, gentlemen!*" meaning by that, Purge the bowels.

INFLUENZA :
ITS HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT.

As epidemics are expected or known to prevail, we intend giving a brief description of the prevailing disease, with its homœopathic treatment; also, the method of preventing the expected illness.

After long continued autumnal wet weather, it is more than probable *influenza* will be epidemic. Our first article will, therefore, be respecting this *malaise*. In addition to the pains in the limbs, cough, coryza, fever, &c., consequent upon a severe cold, *Influenza* is characterized by *prostration of strength* and *difficulty of breathing*. In order to guard against its approach, nothing is more decidedly preventive, and at the same time more easy, than to sponge the body over night and morning, taking care to use a coarse towel after, until the skin is quite of a glow, keeping up the warmth by exercise or clothing. On noticing the *first symptoms of the malady*, the most certain method of cure is to produce perspiration; and thus, by increased action of the skin, restore the equilibrium necessary to health; after this is effected, the invalid must not be exposed to the cold air, for a day or two; after symptoms, as they arise, must be counteracted by the remedy homœopathic to the case. There are many methods employed to produce perspiration—we note only two, which are sufficient, and will apply in most instances.

1. Sponge the body with cold water, *particularly the feet*; dry briskly, and get into bed; well wrap with blankets, &c., &c.; a dose of *aconite* will aid perspiration; if the head is very hot, wring a wet towel out of cold water, and put round the head.

The second mode is more suitable for persons of weak habit; but the former is otherwise to be preferred. 2. Put the feet in lukewarm water, gradually increasing the temperature until the water is as hot as can well be borne; a blanket being wrapped around the patient, enclosing the vapour arising from the water; the patient drinking freely of thin, warm gruel.

The diet should be very simple, principally consisting of thin gruel, weak tea, &c. *Avoid all stimulants*. If the patient desire cold water, do not stint him—it is the best drink that can be given. The room to which the sufferer is confined should be kept at a moderate and even temperature. After sweat (in the first stage or otherwise) is established, do not allow it to be suddenly checked.

Several medicines are used in the homœopathic treatment of *Influenza*. We subjoin those most frequently called for; viz., *Acon.*, *Arsen.*, *Bryonia*, *Camphor*, *Dulcamara*, *Ipecac.*, *Mercurius*, *Nux Vom.*, *Phosphorus*, and *Sabadilla*.*

If the attack has been caused by a draught of cold air or exposure

* We would caution our friends against the too frequent practice of alternating remedies; e.g., *ACONITE* and *BELL.*, where there is fever and headache; each cures fever with headache, similar to the fever and headache produced by them in the

to a cold wind, and there is much fever, with quick pulse, restlessness, and thirst, give *Aconite*. *Arsenicum* where there is sudden prostration, with anxiety and anxious countenance; desire for drink, but refusing, or merely sipping it when proffered; running at the nose, with burning in the nose and chest; and fever, with coldness or burning of the hands and feet. *Bryonia*, where chills frequently occur, with pains in the joints, worse on motion; restlessness and thirst increased towards evening. *Camphor* is needed where the debility is attended with faintings or cramps in the muscles; cold sweats, especially about the head and neck; coldness of the body, with ice-cold hands and feet, and headache; or if diarrhœa should be induced by the ailment. *Dulcamara* is called for where the Influenza has been developed by exposure to damp or wet; if there is *pain* in the limbs, *as if bruised*; violent fever, with hot, dry skin, and great desire for cold drinks; stupifying headache; stiffness of the muscles of the neck; and soreness of the throat. *Ipecac.* if it begin with sneezing, then tickling in the nose and throat, with watery flow from the eyes and nose; sudden loss of strength; contractive, titillating sensation in the throat and chest; shudderings and chilliness, with vomiting of food and headache; the symptoms develop themselves very rapidly, and bear great semblance to those capable of being cured by *Arsenicum*. The distinguishing features are, the pains are more of a prickling character, and the symptoms generally of more rapid development. The pains requiring *Arsenic* are burning. *Nux Vomica*—chilliness not relieved by external warmth; bruised feeling in the small of the back; dull, heavy, sleepy headache and nausea, with melancholy; dry cough, and dryness of the nostrils and mouth. *Phosphorus*—characterised by great weakness, *as if paralyzed*; afternoon, fever; chilliness in the evening, and night sweats; swelling of the nose, with copious discharge of mucus, and loss of smell; hoarseness, and roughness of the throat and chest on coughing. *Sabadilla*, (which, in the influenza epidemic of 1854, cured 9-10ths of the cases that were under homœopathic treatment in Northampton,) pains in all the bones, especially the joints; external coldness, with shaking of the limbs; little or no thirst, followed by heat, with *little* thirst; increased mucus secretion from the nose and chest, with contractive sensation in the nose, and scraping feeling in the throat.

healthy body. We may be asked, "Will one medicine complete a cure?" Sometimes, although not always, continue the medicine which is doing good; change it only when another may be called for by the existing symptoms. Notice the difference between the symptoms of the separate medicines in similar states; *e.g.*, *ACON.* and *ARSEN.* in fever, each having fever and restlessness, but differing in other respects most essentially; *ACONITE* curing the fever which has a quick and (generally) full pulse, accompanied with great thirst; *ARSENIC* being more efficacious where there is great desire, but inability to drink much; the fever is more inwardly burning than outwardly hot. On these apparently little matters great consequences rest; and were more attention paid to them, there would be no complaint that "any ONE medicine will cure every disease." Leave the alternation of remedies to those who should know more about them.

Let it be borne in mind that all the above-named remedies are capable of curing the prostration of strength and difficulty of breathing—other distinguishing features only are mentioned.

With regard to the dose and repetition—in general, every two or four hours, one pellet of the medicine should be given; the frequency must depend upon the development of the disease.

T.

THE DANGERS OF OLD PHYSIC.

"MELANCHOLY MISTAKE.—On Tuesday last, an inquest was held before John Becke, Esq., at the Guildhall, on the body of Richard Warren Coe, a child of 15 months' old, the son of Charles Skinner Coe, of Victoria Street. It appeared by the evidence of Mr. Coe that his wife had been some time ill, and was attended by Mr. Flewitt. On Sunday morning Mr. Flewitt called, and was requested by Mrs. Coe to send a powder for the child. In the evening Mrs. Coe sent two of her children for the medicine. Mr. Flewitt was not at home, but his servant finding a bottle and a powder addressed to Mrs. Coe, delivered them to the messengers. At night Mr. Coe went into his wife's room, and, unwrapping the powder, which he conceived to be for the child, from its outer paper, took it to the child and administered it. The child retched immediately, and Mr. Coe, surprised at the result, went and told his wife. The outer wrapper was examined, and the fatal mistake discovered—that the powder was an opiate, intended and labelled for Mrs. Coe. Mr. Flewitt and Mr. Ashdown were sent for immediately, who adopted every imaginable means for getting rid of the poison, and counteracting its effects, but in vain, and the poor child died about eight o'clock on Monday morning. The powder was what is called Dover's Powder, and contained one grain of powder of opium, a quantity not at all excessive for an adult, but quite sufficient to cause the death of so young an infant. The jury found a verdict of 'Accidental death.'—*Northampton Mercury*.

"FATAL MISTAKE.—A very melancholy occurrence took place at Crediton, on Friday evening last, which occasioned the death of a fine female child, about 18 months' old, the daughter of Mr. William Underhill. This child had eruptions of the skin, occasioned by teething. Some medicine was obtained of Miss Wresford, a druggist, made into lozenges, which contained a small portion of calomel, and given to the child. In the evening the parents were ordered to give the child a small quantity of castor oil. About nine o'clock the mother took down a bottle, and, without looking to the label, gave it to the father, who, thinking it contained the castor oil, gave a small tablespoonful to the child; but, instead of castor oil, it was oil of vitriol. It appears that both bottles were labelled, and kept on the same shelf; but the colour being nearly alike, and the light in the room dim, the fatal mistake occurred. As soon as the child had taken it, the mother exclaimed, 'You have given me a hot spoon. Good God! it is not castor oil, it is oil of vitriol.' It would be impossible to describe the agony of the parents at this discovery. The father ran for the doctor, and the mother ran to the neighbours; in a few minutes Mr. Edwards arrived, and an antidote was administered, but the poison had done its deadly work. The poor child lingered about eighteen hours, and then expired. At the time of this occurrence, arrangements had been made for the mother and the infant, and another child, to go to London on the following day, and the luggage had even been taken to the station. On Tuesday, a coroner's inquest was held on the body by B. Crosse, Esq. In the evidence there was nothing new elicited. The witnesses spoke highly

of the character of the parents, and their general kindness to their children; and the jury returned a verdict of 'Accidental death.'—*Western Times*.

Fatal mistakes are of frequent occurrence in the practice of taking physic in large doses, which would be entirely obviated by the universal adoption of homœopathy. Not a week, scarcely a day passes, but cases are brought under our notice in the public press of children, more especially, being sacrificed to an early tomb, either by the carelessness of nurses, parents, or medical men. How many poor children are thus hurried into an untimely grave annually, must be fearful to contemplate, and for which there appears to be no help but through the adoption of homœopathic medicine.

Such "Accidents" as those we record on this occasion could never happen, were the public at once to relinquish their patronage of "dosing" with deleterious drugs. For those occurring in the practice of medical men by the substitution of one person's "physic" for another's, there are some who will find a ready excuse, in the remark which we heard lately, viz., "The doctor is not culpable, because the medicine was *intended for the mother*, and not therefore for the child."

We say, on the contrary, that the medical man, whoever he may be, whether he be the Queen's physician or the village apothecary, who administers a poisonous drug in such quantities that the limit to its *fatal* action is barely dependent on the age of the patient, is a dangerous practitioner. That which will, when given to a child, *destroy its life*, must be proportionately deleterious to an adult, but poisonous in a degree not sufficient to cause death. In the case headed "Melancholy Mistake," which occurred in Northampton on the 20th of last month, the powder is said to have been an "opiate" intended for the *mother*; it would only, therefore, *partially have killed her*; but given to the child, whose nervous system was not sufficient to resist its poisonous effects, it *killed effectually*.

Now, if a man were to use a weapon, and inflict with this an injury on another man, be he a patient or not, which would *half kill him*, or at least render him *senseless*, (the object for which opiates are given,) the law would take cognizance of the act—the "assassin" would be punished. If the blow *intended for one, by mistake fell upon another* and killed that one, surely the sin of manslaughter would lie at the door of the party who wielded such deadly weapons; yet in the case before us, a verdict of "Accidental death" is returned; legally no doubt, the administration of an opiate being recognized by the law to be right. To our way of thinking, the man who thus administers drugs in dangerous doses *unnecessarily*, the effect of such drugs proving fatal, is *guilty of manslaughter*.

If the medical man in question does not yet know how to cure diseases without administering poisonous drugs in dangerous doses, we say he ought to know; and he who refuses to investigate a system of medicine which dispenses with large doses; and which, as is proved

by the daily practice of homœopathists for the last fifty years, and now by more than *five thousand* medical men in Europe and America, IS MORE EFFECTUAL than large doses in the cure of disease, and without injury or risk to the constitution—they who scorn such knowledge are *verily guilty*, and will have a sad account to render of their *wilful* ignorance.

A SPECK OF WAR.*

Our readers will be pleased to perceive, in perusing the following extract from the Cayuga Chief, how independent men and thinkers reason about the present dilapidated state of allopathy, and the hopeful future of our own beloved science. The article is well and powerfully written. Eds.

A friend writes thus :—

“ I have noticed at different times in your paper, a thrust at allopathy. I am sorry to see this, as you must know that many of your patrons are friends of that school. Should editors undertake to teach us physic? Your opinions are not those of many who read your paper.”

Probably not, dear sir, and for such reasons, would you deny us the liberty of uttering them? Our opinions are our own, and nobody is responsible for them. We never yet asked the question whether they correspond with those of others. When we do, we shall cease to control a press, or to claim common manhood or self-respect. We are yet to so lose our independence as a man and an editor, as to think and say only as others think and say. If our opinions do not hitch with those of others it is their privilege to hold their own, but never to dictate ours.

It is probably true that we have sometimes winged a barb at the allopathic system. It was not mere carelessness—we meant it. We are honestly an enemy of the system and could give good and sufficient reasons for the faith that is in us. We have friends—many and warm friends—who practice that system, and many who are practised upon. Every mother's son of them, who is a man of sense, will not quarrel with us because we repudiate the system. Those who have not sense and liberality, will please take themselves and physic to the—dogs.

We are not entirely ignorant of the allopathic system, though we cannot handle the scalpel or compound drugs. We have a bitter experience of its benefits, (!) and to-day feel its relentless clutches in a system which ought to have been one of the most substantial ever built by nature. We blindly and without thought or investigation, as the world had done before us, took physic and journeyed rapidly to a premature grave. Injured and outraged nature gave us a beam of higher

* From the American Magazine of Homœopathy.

truth, and from that time, no murderous lance or poisonous "dose" has entered her citadel. Slowly she has been repairing the injury; but many a broad track will remain through which the last enemy will pass much easier to his final victory. O for the years which have sped away! this aching and yielding frame should stand a model of health and muscular strength. *It might—it ought to have been so.*

We are no wild follower of quacks. We hate quacks and quackery. They ought to swallow each other, which would be punishment enough. But by the light of nature and the unerring teachings of experience and observation, we are taught that the drug system is one stupendous falsehood. We can only wonder that a world has so blindly sacrificed upon its altars. It is a murderous system. Every graveyard in Christendom has its victims, and its poisonous influences at this day mingle at the very wells of life and flow down through the veins of infirmities inherited from the cradle. Men have honestly followed that system and peopled mother earth with dead. Men the most prominent in the profession and yet firm in their allopathic faith, have often admitted the sad truth that allopathy has *killed more than it ever cured*. Before God, we believe it. We can hardly conceive of an extremity which would induce us to call a "regular" to the bedside of a friend. If such a contingency *should* occur, one wrestling with disease and death, should not be tortured with one equally as fatal and far more cruel. We can now think of many loved ones who have gone from their homes and friends, who but for the regular treatment, might have been spared. And many has been the fierce and indignant word which we have provoked by avowing our scepticism, in the midst of a formidable array of drugs. Alas! for the darkness yet in the land. Doctor worship, and priest worship, are yet to enslave their thousands and keep them from the true gospel of the glorious and the redeeming truth. We honestly confess that we not only have no faith in the regular practice, but on the contrary, we dread it. The warmest friend we have in the allopathic ranks, can never put his drugs in our stomach. We love our friends, but we love truth and the sublime and immutable laws of life, more. While recently sick and nigh unto death and among strangers, we said, call a homeopathist or none. Better die a natural death than one of torment. Nature may recover from disease, but not always from the inroads of drugging. People take such compounds, and boast that it has cured them, when the truth is, nature has recovered in spite of both disease and medicine.

The "regulars" have expended a world of denunciation and ridicule upon more modern systems. So far as the bolts fall upon that which is false, they have our hearty amen. But such weapons cannot annihilate, or even stay the progress of truth, however much against old established theories. The palmy days of the old school are fast passing away. The world will be blessed when the "better way" is plain to all. One thing is certain—whatever may be crude, or even false, in

some of the new systems, they have awakened a spirit of investigation which has already shorn the old practice of half of its power and terror. Inroads have been made for aye, and the hoary fabric is crumbling away. It can never again assert its foul sway in the sick chamber and over the minds of the people. Here, if upon no other grounds, the world owe these "new fangled notions" a great debt of gratitude. How well we can remember the sick chamber! It looked like an apothecary's shop. God's free, health giving air, which, like an unseen ocean, rolled without, dashed its musical waves in vain upon the hermetically sealed windows. It was religiously kept from the feverish lungs and cheek. God's blessed water, sparkling with health, and bearing comfort and healing in every drop, was shut out, as though its very presence was death. And there were arrayed the accursed poisons, staring the wasting victim in the face, and racking his tossing frame. Emetics and cathartics, &c., &c., lance and blister followed each other with an energy terribly scientific, and if people recovered, it was to feel for months, years, and probably for life, the power of "regular" skill. Where is now the "regular" who gives the medicine or drives the lancet as they once did? Hardly one in the land* though few of them would acknowledge that he has departed from the old faith and practice.

Were it always convenient, we should trust the health of ourself and ours to the skilful homœopathist, next the hydropathist. Here are our "opinions" in short hand. Hydropathy is in its infancy, but it is in harmony with nature. It lies parallel with the laws of life, and will bear healing to the nations. Calmly, steadily, and with the sublimity of Truth, it moves under the jibes and sneers of its enemies. Its principles are as antagonistic to those of the old school, as the mission of angels is to that of devils.

Homœopathy has its truths and triumphs. Even hydropathists sneer at its "mites," but it has its facts which are proudly defiant of sneers. Struggling under the supposed odium of a humbug and an "irregularity," it has encountered a strong alliance of prejudice, ignorance, and hate. It has been comparatively unaided by the press; but if its history were investigated, especially when it has been tested by fatal and sweeping epidemics, it would be found an angel of healing and mercy, compared with its "regular" antagonist. *In this city*, there are facts sufficient to place homœopathy for ever above the old school, in the confidence of the people. If goaded out, we may present some of these statistics, in support of our "opinion" as well as in justice to our homœopathic friends. Diffidence of the value of our own humble views, has constrained us heretofore from saying more of these matters. But if we are to be taken to task for *hinting* our "opinions" we shall make a clean breast of the matter, and express them as broadly as plain Saxon and an honest purpose will permit.

* America.

COCCULUS INDICUS.

INTERESTING TO BEER DRINKERS.

THE following article from our witty contemporary *Punch*, will be read with shuddering by those whose nervous systems are being "dosed" with beer, under direction of their physician.

That enormous quantities of *Cocculus* are imported into this country, we can testify; for, on a visit to the St. Katherine's Docks, we found a warehouse pretty well filled with the above drug; and on enquiring of one of the warehousemen what becomes of it, he replied that it goes to the "brewers."

"A MAIN REASON FOR A MAINE LAW.

"We never felt so much inclined to turn teetotallers, as we did after reading these remarks upon the qualities of *Cocculus Indicus*, extracted from *Waring's Practical Therapeutics* :—

"The berries are never given internally. The kernels contain a poisonous principle—*pirotozin*—the properties of which have been lately examined by DR. GLOVER. From numerous experiments, he concludes that it acts on the spinal cord; that under its use the animal temperature is much increased. In all animals killed by it, he observed congestion at the base of the brain. From its intoxicating properties, it is used for entrapping game and fish; but animals thus caught are often very dangerous to eat. Dishonest persons use the extract for adulterating porter."

"The first sentence in this statement appears somewhat difficult to reconcile with the last: and as it is said, subsequently, that '*above 2000 cwt. of the drug are imported into England annually, of which about 1 cwt. is used for medicinal purposes*,' we are disposed to give the writer credence for the last assertion rather than the first. We think, however, that the 'persons' he refers to, deserve a stronger epithet than the word 'dishonest.' To be asked for porter, and serve *Cocculus Indicus*, is something worse, it seems to us, than giving stones for bread, or wooden knobs for nutmegs. With an eye to what may happen from it, we think that the transaction may be called, in the completest meaning of the words, a dead swindle.

"If we were writing for the *Morning Advertiser*, (which, most unhappily for our credit, we are not,) we would endeavour to exercise its great public influence—that is to say, its great influence with the 'publics'—in showing that this practice of poisonous adulteration has not merely a murderous, but, commercially considered, a suicidal tendency.

"It is obviously rather a short-sighted policy to endeavour to increase the profits of one's trade, by killing off one's customers; and surely no publican can expect to have a very brisk demand for his porter, when it is known to be a thorough drug in the market. For ourselves, now we are so well acquainted with the virtues of *Cocculus Indicus*, we mean certainly to adopt all possible precaution to escape being catalogued among the 'animals killed by it;' and, so long as we are in possession of our sober senses, we will never run the risk of being 'entrapped' into drinking like a fish, nor in any way made 'game' of, through an exhibition in our person of the drug's 'intoxicating properties.' Indeed, we in future never mean to enter any doubtful 'public' without asking the landlord for his chemical diploma; and if he fail to show one, and, instead, recommends us to 'ave a drop o' porter,' we will inform against him for prescribing drugs without authority; and perhaps drag him from his bar to that of the Old Bailey."

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MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

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TO OUR READERS.

So far from being disappointed at the reception our first number has met with, we are heartily satisfied. We have been complimented on our re-appearance, and congratulated on our success. We do not like boasting; so of this, no more.

We feel that we have entered again upon a work of some importance; a work, also, of toil. The editor's occupation is essentially medical. It is a well-known fact, that homœopathic practitioners have enough to engage them professionally, at all times, and wherever situated. The demand for medical men, in the ranks of homœopathy, is greater than the supply; the present difficulty with the homœopathic public is to get homœopathic aid when and where needed. The smaller towns and villages are crying, "come over and help us!" and there is no little anxiety displayed on the part of those who are "out of the way," to have homœopathy brought nearer to their doors. The *Record* has for one of its objects, the compensation of this lack of medical aid in person, by instructing the people how to cure themselves and each other, by the publication, from time to time, of the homœopathic treatment of diseases incident to the human frame. We have commenced with epidemics, or diseases which affect a multitude; and we believe that the utility of the *Record* as a *permanent* book on healing, will be recognized by our readers.

Another object we have in view, and not less important, is, to teach the people how to *prevent* disease. We are more impressed with the necessity for *prevention* than *cure*. There is no question that the former is preferable to the latter. With this object, we propose to teach the people *how to live*; in a word, to instruct them in the laws

which regulate our being. Under this head, we have much to do; but we are determined to help people to help each other. We have faith in this principle; and under its guidance, feeling the weight and responsibility hanging over us, we, by the help of God, purpose to perform our work.

It is a lamentable fact, that our predecessors, yea, our contemporaries also, have done little to teach the people,—to render medicine popular, and in doing so making it safe. As a body, the faculty of medicine has done nothing to elevate the people in their social condition, by instructing them how to live; admitting that we have a few Southwood Smiths, and Simons, Johnstons, and Hassals, who have laboured in the field of hygiene, yet we affirm that medicine has been kept above the reach of the people, and the people have been driven to seek help for themselves at others' hands. The fact is easily accounted for, when we reflect that the whole fabric of medical practice, from that of the Queen's physician down to the village apothecary, is hollow, injurious, unsound. No fixed law guides the old school practitioner in the selection of his materials of medicine; possessing potent remedies which a beneficent Creator has provided, he touches them with dread—they are deadly weapons—and in their deadliness is supposed to be their power to cure. For this reason, though the necessity that people should be acquainted with them is greater, yet the knowledge of them is concealed, lest the people poison themselves. **THE ONLY ORTHODOX POISONERS ARE THE LICENSED PRACTITIONERS**; and though *we*, also, are among the *licensed*, may God prevent us from ever employing means with which we are not acquainted, with which the people may not be acquainted, and which we may fear to trust to others. It is a serious reflection that so imminent is the danger of killing in old school physic, that a younger person swallowing the dose prescribed for an elder, runs the risk of instant death. Yet so it is, and so it will be, until the people are emancipated from the abject slavery of submitting to the inflicting hand of "*regular practice.*" Homœopathy is a great reform. It comes to the help of the many, with healing on its wings, and intelligence in its teachings; it visits the homes of the people, and works deliverance from the slavery of a *blind faith in physic.* May God speed its flight!

FEVERS :

THEIR IRRATIONAL TREATMENT — THEIR RATIONAL TREATMENT.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

THE sad picture just described has a stern reality in fact; and, lest the reader should imagine that it is an exaggerated one,—that in the desire to portray the advantages of homœopathic practice, the horrors of old system treatment have been made to appear more horrible by contrast than they really are,—we will proceed to give, on unquestionable authority, an example of orthodox medicine, by transcribing a case from a work, entitled *Clinical Observations on Continued Fever*, by Edward Latham Ormerod, Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians. Dr. Ormerod is of the allopathic ranks. He has written a book, valuable as exhibiting the results of the treatment of fever, from actual cases, occurring in Bartholomew's Hospital, London. The physicians then being Dr. Clement Hue, Dr. Roupell, Dr. Geo. Burrows, and Dr. Latham.

One of these cases we select as a fair specimen of the treatment to which the fever patients are generally submitted.

“CASE VII.—*Fever, with papular rash; affection of the brain; symptoms relieved! death by exhaustion; dissection.*

“Charles Barker, aged 29, admitted Sept. 28, 1843. John front ward. Face pale and anxious; eyes glassy; head hot and perspiring; feet cold; tongue moist and furred; pulse 74, small and soft; bowels freely open from medicine; urine free, high coloured; skin moist, with a papular rash about the chest and abdomen. Complains of loss of appetite, pain in the head much increased by cough, shooting pains in the epigastrium, and frequent rigors.

“*History.*—A cork cutter, temperate, healthy; six days ago was seized suddenly with rigor, headache, and oppression at the chest; he lost his appetite and sleep, and felt weak and anxious. He took some purgative medicine, but the symptoms have continued unabated to the present time. On *auscultation*, no morbid sounds are distinguishable, but the right side is rather duller on percussion than the left.

“Ordered to take a saline draught with camphor mixture every six hours.

“8th day.—No sleep from cough and headache; face flushed, profusely perspiring; eyes suffused and glassy; skin hot and moist, the rash more vivid; tongue thickly coated with a white fur; pulse 92, with more power; bowels not open; urine copious, high coloured. He has a troublesome cough, with viscid rusty expectoration. On *auscultation*, there is coarse blowing expiration in the upper part of the right lung.

“Ordered to be cupped to six ounces from between the scapulæ; to take two grains of calomel to-night, and half an ounce of castor oil to-morrow morning.

“9th day.—The cupping gave immediate relief: the cough and headache are much less severe, but he was wakeful and restless during the night; his face is flushed and hot; tongue dry and furred. Pulse 98, still with more power; three copious evacuations from the bowels.

"Ordered to have his head shaved, and to be cupped to four ounces from the temples; to take two grains and a half of mercury with chalk thrice a-day, and a saline draught with camphor mixture every six hours.

"10th day.—Restless, complaining of incessant pain shooting from the forehead to the temples and occiput. Pulse 108, small; face hot, flushed, and anxious; eyes suffused; skin hot and dry, with very abundant rash; bowels not open.

"Ordered to be cupped to six ounces from the temples; to take half an ounce of castor oil immediately, and to continue the medicines.

"11th day.—The cupping gave little relief at the time, but his head is in less pain this morning. He had a little sleep, broken by frightful dreams, and is now delirious at times. Head hot; face flushed; skin hot and dry; tongue dry and furred; pulse 110, small, but still with power; three copious liquid ochry evacuations from the bowels; abdomen soft and tolerant; urine abundant. He breathes hurriedly and with difficulty, but *auscultation* detects nothing more than slightly prolonged expiration.

"Ordered to have ten leeches applied to the forehead; to take a little more nourishment, and to continue.

"12th day.—Restless; had only a little sleep towards morning. The pain in his head is less, but he is delirious, and says that he has lost his voice. Two loose ochry evacuations have passed from the bowels; abdomen tender; pulse 120, very small and soft; otherwise, he is exactly as yesterday.

"Ordered to continue.

"13th day.—He slept at intervals for three or four hours at a time, and is much more cheerful and sensible this morning. His respiration is less hurried; he is free from pain in the head, and sensible of his own deafness. Still his face is hot, dry, and flushed; eyes less glassy; lips moister; tongue thickly coated on the dorsum, cleaner at tip and edges, slightly moist; skin hot and dry, with less distinct rash; two scanty liquid evacuations; abdomen soft, and tender on pressure; pulse 120, small and soft.

"Ordered to continue the saline draught every six hours; to take beef tea; and to have cold lotion applied to his head.

"14th day.—Noisy and restless during the night; now he lies on his back, unconscious, breathing with difficulty, and unable to protrude his tongue, which is coated with a thick, dry fur; face flushed; skin hot and dry; pulse 118, fuller and firmer; two very scanty evacuations from the bowels; urine abundant. He stares wildly at any one who addresses him, but does not move a feature, and returns no answer.

"Ordered to be cupped to six ounces from the temples immediately; to continue.

"15th day.—He lay in the same way for two hours after he had been cupped; then, soon after bursting into a profuse perspiration, he recognized, and spoke to his father. During the night he lay quiet, and had some sleep; now he is quite collected, and free from pain. Face less flushed; skin warm and perspiring, with a dusky rash; pulse 98, small and soft; tongue moist, furred on the dorsum, the tip and edges clean, slowly protruded; his bowels have not been open, but his urine passes very freely.

"Ordered to take six ounces of wine, and more beef tea; to continue the use of the saline draught and the cold lotion to his forehead.

16th day.—Noisy and restless all the night; again more quiet and rational in the early part of the day. Face hot and perspiring; skin hot, with more abundant rash; tongue dry, brown, and cracked; lips dry, covered with scordes; pulse 88, small; bowels not open. When visited at 3 P.M. he was trembling, and hardly sensible.

“Ordered to have a blister plaister applied to the nape of the neck; to continue the use of the wine and beef tea, and to take three grains of sesquicarbonate of ammonia every four hours; to have a common enema immediately.

“At 7 P.M. he was lying on his back, perspiring profusely; his hands rigidly bent back towards the ulnar side of the forearm; his pulse undistinguishable on account of the quivering of the muscles; tongue dry and cracked. He swallowed with difficulty, but seemed to relish the nourishment given him. At 9 P.M., after the stimulants had been a little more freely administered, the tremors were less; he had lain quiet, and slept a little; pulse 132—144. The blister plaster had not drawn, and the injection had returned unchanged.

“17th day.—The injection was repeated, and again returned unchanged; the blister plaister drew well. The stimulants were given freely, and he lay quiet, perspiring all night. His bowels acted freely at 5 A.M., and, without change, he ceased to breathe, apparently exhausted, about 6 A.M.

“*The body was examined 33 hours after death.*—The scalp was strongly adherent to the cranium; the brain and its coverings were in all respects natural; only there was a little old thickening of the arachnoid, and no more than the ordinary quantity of fluid in the meshes of the pia mater. The lungs were slightly gorged with blood; the heart healthy, containing fluid blood. The great end of the stomach was a little injected; there was a single patch of congestion near the lower end of the ileum, and the mucous membrane of the edge of the ileo-cæcal valve was abraded; otherwise the hollow viscera were healthy, and the Peyer’s patches unusually indistinct. The spleen was dark and soft; all the other viscera were healthy.”

In the cited case, we find a confirmation of the opinion we have expressed; viz., that the treatment is more destructive than the fever—to quote a well-known phrase, “the remedy (?) is worse than the disease.” We find the case to be that of a young man of temperate habits, healthy, following an occupation not detrimental to health. He has been ailing six days; he has had the premonitory signs of fever, rigors, headache, loss of appetite, &c.; he has taken purgative medicine; he is no better. He complains of oppression at the chest; but an examination of the region shews no sign of disease. He is there an in-patient of the hospital, and his symptoms are described above.

The treatment first adopted is saline draught, with camphor mixture every six hours. He gets worse. He is cupped! six ounces of blood taken from between his shoulders. Calomel at night. Castor oil in the following morning! Purgings are produced; he gets worse. His head is shaved; he is now cupped from the temples to four ounces; mercury and chalk *thrice* a-day; draught as before, every six hours. He gets worse. Cupped *six* ounces from the temples;

castor oil immediately, and the medicine continued. He is successfully purged again; it is now the eleventh day. Ten leeches to the forehead; continue above medicine; to take a little more nourishment.

Twelfth day. He is delirious; purged; he is *worse*. Continue same treatment.

Thirteenth day. Symptoms better. Saline draught every six hours. Cold lotion to his head, and to take *beef tea*.

The next day he is worse, *most likely for having had indigestible beef tea given him*. To be cupped to six ounces from the temples, immediately, and continue medicine.

Fifteenth day. He is better; his bowels *have not been open, but his skin acts; his improvement follows the profuse perspiration; he is now ordered to take of wine six ounces, and of beef tea, more*. Saline draught and cold lotion. The next day he is reported *worse*, and no wonder. When visited at three P.M., he was trembling and hardly sensible.

Now, reader, shudder while you read the following:—"A blister to the nape of the neck; continue wine and beef tea; notwithstanding that the patient is dying, to take three grains of *sesquicarb. of ammonia* every four hours, and to have an enema immediately."

Four hours afterwards, he is more unmistakeably dying. Two hours later, viz., nine P.M., it is said, *stimulants had been more freely administered*. The blister had *not drawn*. The next morning, it is reported that "the *stimulants were given freely*; he lay quiet; his bowels acted at five A.M., and without change; he *ceased to breathe, apparently exhausted*, at six A.M. Reader, he died DRUNK!!!—done to death by DOCTORING!!!

Cupped from the back, cupped from the temples twice, leeches, head shaved, blisters, saline draughts, castor oil, camphor mixture (wholesale), calomel, mercury and chalk, beef tea and wine *ad libitum*, all these in a course of treatment extending over a period of ten days from his admission to the hospital.

All this and the result death! Is it any wonder that the poor dread the hospitals, and that few enter there from choice? The patient, apparently of healthy constitution, is taken into the hospital, to be tortured to death. Dr. Ormerod, who gives the details of the above case, as illustrative of the boasted scientific practice of the school to which he is attached, in commenting upon the case, after the *post mortem* examination had been made, says:—"If we looked to morbid anatomy only as a guide in future treatment, there would be at once a *decided condemnation of all the depletive treatment here adopted*." He also says:—"The note of the thirteenth shews that the treatment had been carried quite far enough; for the DEPLETION, while it told so well on the local symptoms, CONSIDERABLY EXHAUSTED THE PATIENT." Furthermore, Dr. Ormerod says:—"On the fourteenth day, as the fever went *on in its regular progress*, [then where the benefit of the treatment?] there was great expectation of his ultimate

recovery. The difficulty of striking the balance between sustaining him generally and depleting him locally, seemed to have been fairly met, and there remained now little to do beyond supporting him; but the patient *died*; and it does not appear, on the face of it, **BUT THAT THE TREATMENT ADOPTED HASTENED THE MAN'S DEATH!!!** Would he have died so soon, or even at all, had not the treatment killed him?

Thus we think that the case has been fairly made out, that the treatment of fevers, as generally practised by the ordinary means, and this too in our public hospitals, our nurseries for doctors, surgeons, and apothecaries, is, to call it by no harsher name, *irrational!*

We could have given illustrations of the ordinary treatment from cases nearer home: we have preferred, however, to select, from authority which cannot be questioned by our opponents, the above case, occurring in one of the largest schools of medicine in London—Bartholomew's Hospital.

TO BE CONTINUED IN OUR NEXT.

DRUGS AND THEIR USES.

BY CHARLES T. PEARCE, M.D., NORTHAMPTON.

No. 1.

COCULUS INDICUS.

THE *MENISPERNUM COCCULUS* is a creeping plant, growing in the island of Ceylon and in the East Indies. Its fruit is like a large, rough, black pea, and is known in the shops as *Cocculus Indicus*. In India, it goes by the name of *loctan*, *lobtang*, *saura*, *tuba flora*, &c. The Indians esteem the root of this bush very highly. They term it *root for all diseases*. They use it for *loss of appetite*, *colic*, *diarrhœa*, &c. The allopathic school sometimes use the *Colombo root*, which is another species of *Cocculus*, but never the fruit of the *Cocculus suberosus*. Hahnemann was the first who introduced this substance into the *Materia Medica*, and learned its pathogenetic properties by experiment. In its crude state, it is a violent poison, in considerable doses; and its dire effects upon the constitution of man have been pointed out by various toxicologists.

Christison, in his work on poisons, says:—

“The medical jurist should make himself well acquainted with its external characters; because, besides being occasionally used in medicine, it is a familiar poison for destroying fish, and has also been *extensively used by brewers, as a substitute for hops*. The seeds themselves occasion vomiting, soon after they are swallowed; so that animals may often swallow them, if not without injury, at all events

without danger. But if the gullet is tied, the animal soon begins to stagger; the eye acquires a peculiar, haggard expression, which is the forerunner of a tetanic paroxysm, and the second, third, or fourth fit commonly proves fatal."

Orfila says that "three or four drachms will kill a dog, when introduced into the stomach: less will suffice when it is applied to a wound, and still less when it is injected into a vein."*

Wepfer infers, from a good experiment, that the *Cocculus Indicus* acts by exhausting the irritability of the heart. In the intervals of the fits, the pulse could not be felt; and on opening the chest immediately after death, he found the heart motionless, and its left cavities filled with reddish brown blood. *Orfila's* testimony is similar to *Wepfer's* in this respect.

Professor *Bernt* relates a circumstance, in which nine persons were taken ill, after partaking of soup which had been seasoned with *Cocculus* by an idiot; that they had sickness, vomiting, pain in the stomach and bowels: one of the nine died in twelve days.

Although malt liquors, it is well known, have been adulterated with *Cocculus Indicus*, for the purpose of economising hops, cases of poisoning in the human subject are rare, because the quantity required to communicate the due degree of bitterness is small.

Johnston, in his *Chemistry of Common Life*, says, of *Cocculus Indicus*, "Our humble beer drinkers consume it to a very considerable extent. The *Cocculus* has some resemblance to the bay berry; and in 1850, was imported into this country to the extent of 2359 bags of one hundredweight each. It is chiefly used for adulterating cheap beer. It is really wonderful in how many ways this singular substance is fitted to aid the dishonest brewer, in saving both malt and hops. I mention three of its properties, which offer temptations too strong to be resisted by many unscrupulous people.

"If the bruised seeds are digested in water, they yield an extract, which, when added to beer, produces the following effects:—*First*, it imparts to it an intensely bitter taste, and can thus be substituted cheaply for about one-third of the usual quantity of hops, without materially affecting the flavour of the beer. *Second*, it gives a *fulness* and richness in the mouth, and a darkness of colour, to weak and inferior liquors. In these respects, a pound of *Cocculus Indicus* is said to be equivalent to a sack (four bushels) of malt. Or, to a thin brewing of beer, a pound of this drug will give an apparent substance, equal to what would be produced by an additional sack of malt. *Third*, it produces upon those who drink it *some of the symptoms of alcoholic intoxication*, and thus adds to the apparent strength and inebriating quality of the liquor. Like hops, it also prevents second fermentation in bottled beer, and enables it to keep in warm climates.

"This array of tempting qualities causes it to be used largely by some brewers, chiefly of the disreputable class, who seek to gratify, at

* *Orfila*, Toxicol. Gen. ii. 411.

a cheap rate,* certain wishes and desires of their customers. The use of it is forbidden by act of Parliament, under a penalty of £200 to the brewer, and of £500 to the druggist who sells it to a brewer. But an extract is prepared and sold, and there is reason to believe that it is extensively used.—[*Pereira*.] Some writers on brewing give plain directions for using the drug; and the quantity recommended by Morrice to the *honest* brewer is 3 lbs. of *Cocculus Indicus* to every 10 quarters of malt. By the dishonest, as much as 1 lb. is sometimes added to the barrel of 54 gallons, with *Calamus aromaticus* and Orris root to flavour it. If 1 lb. really saves 4 bushels of malt, the 2359 cwt. imported in 1850, if all employed for this purpose, must have saved to the adulterators who used it the enormous quantity of 1,056,000 bushels!

“It is chiefly the humbler classes upon whom this fraud is practised. The middle classes in England prefer the thin, wine-like ales and bitter beers. The skilled labourer prefers what is rich, full, and substantial in the mouth; and the poor peasant, after his day’s toil, likes to find, at the bottom of his single pot, what will sensibly affect his head. It is thus chiefly among the working men that the heavy-drugged beer of the adulterator is relished and consumed; and it is probable that something of the peculiarly beastly forms of intoxication, sometimes seen among those classes, is to be ascribed to the influence of *Cocculus Indicus*. The effects which this substance produces, are said, by those who have drunk beer drugged with it, to be more ‘upon the voluntary muscles than upon the intellectual powers.’† If so, a man under its influence may be surprised by finding his body helpless, while his mind is comparatively clear, and still capable of reasoning and judging with tolerable correctness. Others say, however, that its effect is chiefly on the brain; so that its mode of action probably varies, in some degree, with the constitution of the individual who takes it. In large doses, it is poisonous to all animals; and a well-known use of it is for the stupifying of fish. Although, therefore, its special effects upon the human constitution have not been accurately ascertained by scientific physiologists, the frequent use of *Cocculus Indicus*, even in small doses, can scarcely fail, sooner or later, to injure the health.”

Professor Johnston, when he wrote this, was evidently ignorant of the *Materia Medica* of the homœopathic school. Hahnemann was the first to point out the physiological effects of *Cocculus Indicus*; and we recommend Professor Johnston, and all those who profess to give to the public all that is known of the properties of drugs, to study Hahnemann’s *Materia Medica Pura*. Had he done this, he would not have made the observation quoted above.

In the *Materia Medica* of Hahnemann, we find a remarkable correspondence in the symptoms of *Cocculus* to those we have too frequently observed in men who have been drunk of beer, more especially have we witnessed these latter in the porter drinkers of London.

* It is sold at 19s. to 21s. per cwt., or 2½d. per pound.

† *Pereira*, *Materia Medica*, 3rd edition, page 2155.

It is a well known fact, that in cases of injury or sickness occurring to a porter drinker, the chances are against rather than in favour of his recovery, owing to the shattered state of his system, consequent on drinking porter to excess.

Those who are unaware of the diligence of Hahnemann in investigating the true properties of drugs on the healthy man, may well be astonished at the fact that no less than *five hundred and fifty-seven* symptoms, or distinct sensations, produced by Cocculus, have been set down by that illustrious observer; these pathogenetic effects having been experienced in the proving of the drug, by those who assisted Hahnemann in his investigations. Among these we find the names of *Gross, Langhammer, Haynel, Wahle, Homburg, Baehr, Trinks, Hartlaub, Fleming, &c.* These "provers" having taken, from day to day, a tincture of the Cocculus, until sufficient had been taken to cause a disturbance in their health. Witness here the remarkable distinction between the two schools of physic—the "allopathic" or "any-pathic," and the homœopathic. Experiments in the *old* school of medicine are made on dogs, rabbits, donkeys, &c., or on the luckless, suffering sick inmates of our public hospitals and infirmaries. The new school prove their medicines on healthy men, who voluntarily submit to suffering, in order to get *accurate* knowledge of the properties of medicinal substances. Thus, these being ascertained, with how much more certainty does the homœopathist prescribe, who knows the instruments he employs, than the old school physician, whose knowledge is *solely* derived from data the most uncertain.

To give here the 557 symptoms recorded by Hahnemann, (and many more have been obtained since,) would occupy too much space. We have, therefore, selected the following, as being sufficient to shew the relationship between beer drinking effects and the effects of Cocculus.

SYMPTOMS OF COCCULUS.

FROM PROVINGS.

(Translated from the *Materia Medica Pura* of Hahnemann.)

HEAD. 1 Vertigo, as from intoxication, and stupid feeling in the forehead, as if he had a plank before it. 2 Disposition to vertigo. 4 Vertigo for six hours. 5 When raising himself in the bed, he is attacked with vertigo, as if everything turned round, and inclination to vomit, obliging him to lie down again. 6 Headache, with inclination to vomit as if he had been taking an emetic. 7 *Stupid feeling in the head.* 9 He forgets easily what he had been thinking of a moment ago. 11 Heaviness in the head. 13 Thinking fatigues his head very much. 14 In the morning the head feels affected, as if one had been intoxicated the evening before. 15 *Cloudiness of the head, mostly*

increased by eating or drinking. 17 Headache, as if the brain were constricted. 20 Painful concussion of the brain when walking, when moving the head, or when talking. 22 Violent pressure through the whole head, mostly in the forehead (forenoon) increasing into loss of sense by reading or meditating. 25 Dull compression in the right half of the forehead. 26 Aching, as if the brain were being compressed. 28 Violent pressing in the whole head, especially the forehead, from above downwards, increased when walking. 38 *Headache, as if the eyes were being torn out.*

EYES. 43 Dull pressure upon the margin of the orbits (immediately). 45 Aching pain in the eyes, with inability to open the eye-lids, in the night (after 5 hours). 46 Stitches in the eyes, from within outwards (after 24 hours). 50 *Dim sightedness.* 52 She sees a black figure before her eyes, walking in front of her, to and fro; when she turned, the figure turned likewise; nevertheless, she saw everything in a full light. 53 Contraction of the pupils (after 5 hours).

EARS. 58 Heat in the outer and inner right ear, early in the morning, when in bed. 60 Noise in the ears, as when one applies a shell to the ears.

NOSE. 63 Swelling of the right half of the nose.

FACE AND TEETH. Stitches in the external parts of the cheek, and in the muscles thereof. 65 Flushes of heat of the cheeks. 66 Redness of the cheeks and heat in the face, without thirst, in a room entirely cold. 73 Paralytic drawing in the side of the neck and other places, sometimes resembling an intermittent paralytic pressure. 76 Weakness of the muscles of the neck, with heaviness in the head, for several days; the muscles of the neck appear too weak to support the head; he had to lean his head, now against this, now against that; otherwise, the cervical muscles felt painful; he was most relieved by leaning with his back against something. 77 Tearing, digging up pain in the lower jaw.

MOUTH. 83 When talking, she experiences a contractive sensation in the mouth, and has to talk more slowly. 85 Dryness of the mouth in the night, without thirst. 86 Dryness of the mouth, with a yellowish white coating. 87 Feeling of dryness in the mouth, with foam-like saliva and violent thirst.

PHARYNX AND ŒSOPHAGUS. 91 Dryness and roughness in the pharynx and œsophagus, especially perceptible during deglutition (after 2 hours). 95 *Dryness of the œsophagus.* 99 Burning in the œsophagus, extending up to the hanging veil of the palate. 102 A sort of paralysis of the œsophagus, preventing deglutition.

TASTE AND APPETITE. 105 Coppery taste in the mouth. 106 Metallic taste in the mouth, with loss of appetite. 113 Sensation in the mouth, as if smelling from the mouth (after 6 hours). 114 Bitter taste on the root of the tongue.

GASTRIC SYMPTOMS. 114 *Frequent empty eructations* (after 3½

hours). 115 Bitter eructations. 120 Putrid eructations in the forenoon. 128 Hiccough (after 10 minutes). 129 Hiccough immediately. 131 No appetite for breakfast; she feels a fullness. 133 Feeling of hunger in the pit of the stomach; little diminished by eating, almost the whole day. 134 Great thirst at every hour of the day, but especially during a meal. 135 Aversion to food and drink. 136 Want of appetite; food has no taste. 150 *Inclination to vomit, accompanied by and relating to headache, and a pain in the intestines, as if bruised* (after half-an-hour).

STOMACH. 161 *Violent spasm of the stomach; gripping sensation in the stomach.* 162 Clawing sensation in the stomach. 163 Constrictive pains in the stomach, hindering sleep.

ABDOMEN. 164 *Compressive pinching in the epigastrium, arresting the breathing.* 173 Empty and hollow sensation in the abdomen, as if she had no intestines. 175 Audible rumbling in the abdomen. 178 Violent colic after dinner, when walking, with sensation of chilliness and vertigo. 185 Considerable distension of the abdomen. 187 Flatulent colic, about midnight. 195 Precursory symptoms of inguinal hernia (after 8 hours). 199 Pain as from hernia, only when sitting; and going off when rising. 203 Soft stools; diarrhoea. 205 Slimy diarrhoea. 212 Tingling and itching in the rectum, as if from ascarides. 213 Contractive pain in the anus, hindering sitting in the afternoon (after 20 hours). 214 Burning, itching of the anus.

BREATHING ORGANS AND CHEST. 257 *Tensive constriction of the right side of the chest, oppressing the breathing.* 275 Shivering over the breasts. 277 Piercing pain in the articulations of the chest and all the dorsal vertebræ (backbones), as if they were sprained or being spasmodically drawn together, especially during motion (after 20 hours.)

BACK. 278 Paralytic pain in the small of the back, with spasmodic pains across the hips, hindering walking, with anxious, apprehensive mood. 280 Paralytic, aching pain in the loins.

UPPER EXTREMITIES. 301 *Single stitches in the shoulder joint and the muscles of the upper arm, when at rest* (after 1 hour). 307 Convulsions of the arm, with clenching of the thumb. 308 Pain in the arm, as if gone to sleep, and paralytic during and after a meal (after 3 hours). 309 The arm goes to sleep, with tingling sensation. 310 A sort of paralysis of the arm while writing; he was scarcely able to hold his pen (after 4 hours). 317 Jerking in the muscles of the left upper arm. 319 *Stitches in the right upper arm.* 331 *Both hands, now the one, now the other, are insensible, and as if they had gone to sleep.* 339 Painful paralytic pain through the fingers.

LOWER EXTREMITIES. 342 to 394.

GENERAL SYMPTOMS. 395 The muscles of the limbs are painful to the touch. 400 to 404 Itching of the skin, obliging one to scratch. 405 to 409 Blotches and miliary pimples on skin, on face, back, and chest. 423 *Intensely painful paralytic drawing, continuing for a time,*

and beginning with a jerk in various parts of the limbs, apparently in the bone. 431 Painful stiffness of the joints, (after 8 hours). 432 Alternate going to sleep of the hands and feet; in transitory paroxysms. Fits; weakness. 430 Disposition to tremble. 435 Want of vital energy. 436 The limbs feel paralyzed. 440 A SORT OF EPILEPSY. 441 He enters the room with a cheerful countenance and sits down, feeling intoxicated, as it were; afterwards he becomes quite still, and stares for a long time at one spot, without answering any questions; he then falls down, without consciousness, writhing and muttering unintelligible things; involuntary emission of urine; spasmodic paroxysmal concussions of the limbs and the whole body; convulsive clenching of the fingers, the hands being stretched out; paroxysmal choking of the throat, the mouth being half open, as if he would vomit, with foam at the mouth, in the shape of bubbles; the hands are cold; the face is covered with cold sweat, and spasmodically distorted; the eyes look glassy and protruded; after this fit he rises, without, however, answering any questions; clenches his teeth, looking at those who interrogate him with his teeth clenched; does not suffer himself to be touched; tries to push away those who surround him, to wrestle with them; his face has an expression of wild rage; finally, he groans and moans; after 15 minutes, he gradually revives from his fit, and recovers his senses; feeling, however, an aversion to every kind of food or drink, even those he was generally fond of. 448 *Great weakness of the body; he found it difficult to stand firmly.*

SLEEP, symptoms referring to, 453 to 482.

FEVER, symptoms relating to, 483 to 518.

MORAL SYMPTOMS. 519 Discouragement. 521 She is absorbed in her own thoughts, and sees nothing around her. 523 Absorbed in reveries. 525 He cares for nothing; nothing gives him pleasure. 526 Weeping. 528 Great dissatisfaction with himself. 540 *Sudden violent anguish.* 541 Despairing mood. 557 Irresistible disposition to warble and sing a song; a sort of monomania.

These symptoms, and the remainder which are known, form an unerring guide in the administration of *Cocculus* curatively; and on this subject, what we say now will apply in all other cases in which we shall speak of the curative properties of medicine; viz., that success in the art of cure depends on the analogy between the suffering state of the patient, from other causes, and the suffering-producing pathogenetic property of the medicine employed.

The two following cases are selected from my case book, and will serve as illustrations to the law of "*similia.*" Each case was cured by one medicine—a practice followed by the homœopathic practitioner exclusively. The homœopathist employs every remedy singly, and he views with contempt the ridiculous custom of mixing several ingredients in one bottle, each counteracting each, to the detriment of the patient's stomach, which is made a cauldron for the time, or at least

a chemical vessel, in which the various compounds wage war; the balance of their action, which it is impossible to ascertain by the physician who prescribes the compound, either benefiting (?) or *injuring* the patient.

CASE 1.—Mr. W., aged 50. This gentleman consulted me Dec., 1852. He thus described his condition.

He has been under various medical men, but can obtain no permanent benefit. Among the remedies (?) tried, are tonics, quinine, chamomile, dandelion, with ginger, &c. He is attacked with spasm in the stomach (161) every morning, frequently before he rises; he has constricted feeling across the pit of the stomach, affecting his breathing (164); breathing oppressive, with tightness in his chest (257); after meals, about two hours, he has a sensation as of a ball in his stomach (178); he has pinching pain in the belly, chiefly in the right side, with flatulence (185); in the evening, his mouth is filled with mucus, though he has thirst and dryness in the throat (87); he has a feeling of numbness in his left shoulder and arm (308); the tingling and numbness extend down the left half of his body, including the lower extremity (351, 352). He fears a fit of apoplexy, he having symptoms of congestive headache. His wife is exceedingly anxious respecting him, as she fears he will have a fit.

I ordered *Cocculus*; one globule of the 6th potency three times a-day, for three days, then twice a-day.

At the end of a week he was much better.

Cocculus was continued; one globule every night, of the 12th, for six nights, and afterwards less frequently.

At the end of the fourth week, he was quite well. I saw this patient in the month of October, 1855, a period of nearly three years after his treatment; and he informed me that he had continued well ever since he consulted me.

CASE 2.—Mrs. B., aged 40, Oct. 26, 1855. I was sent for to see this patient. I found her in bed, suffering from excessive pain in the belly. The belly is greatly distended, and very tender to the touch. The slightest movement produces excessive pain. (166, 167, 184.) The knees are drawn up. She has vomited several times mucus, but no food (150). She has had rigors (shiverings) for some hours (434). Pulse is quick—140 a-minute, but small and weak. Cheeks are flushed. Voice feeble, extremely anxious; speaks very slowly, and in a whisper. Her head “feels stupid” (7). She is giddy if she moves her head. She is thirsty; great desire for drink, but drinks very little (87); cold water increases the pain and produces retching.

I ordered *Cocculus*; six drops of the 3rd dilution, in six table-spoonfuls of water; a teaspoonful every two hours. A small towel wrung out of cold water to be placed over the belly, and lightly covered with dry flannel.

Oct. 27.—I found her better. The medicine had stopped the retching; the pain and tenderness is less; she is more composed; less anxious.

Continue medicine every four hours.

Oct. 28.—She is still better, she is inclined to get up; the belly is smaller and softer; can now bear pressure.

Continue medicine.

Oct. 30.—She is well.

She informs me that about five years ago, she had a similar attack, she then unfortunately fell into the hands of "the Philistines," was treated allopathically with blisters and mercury and some other stuff; she was confined to her bed three weeks; but states that the attack was not nearly so violent as the present one, but that the treatment made her ill for months afterwards.

The numbers annexed to the symptoms in the above cases, refer to those in the *Materia Medica* of Hahnemann.

HOOPING COUGH:

ITS HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT.

THIS distressing complaint, which, according to allopathists,* is to be endured, but not cured, under homœopathic treatment is entirely, safely, and, where proper care is had to hygiene, quickly cured. Like all other diseases, it varies in different temperaments and under different circumstances. More generally, before the development of the hooping cough, there is a catarrh, or common cold, running at the nose, cough, &c. This stage differs in intensity and duration, sometimes exceeding a week, at others but a few hours; and in many cases is so short as to remain unnoticed: the illness beginning with fits of violent spasmodic choking coughs, followed with a hooping, crowing, or whistling inspiration. Sometimes the veins of the face and neck are gorged with blood, occasioning lividity and swelling; bleeding at the nose and mouth ensuing; frequently the fit is ended with vomiting of the contents of the stomach. The paroxysms do not recur at any stated interval. They are most frequent at night. During the interval between the paroxysms, the patient appears to be in usual health, or, as is sometimes the case, very weak and powerless. Not unfrequently, the hooping is unperceived.

After the spasmodic form has been combated by the appropriate remedy, there still remains cough and weakness, which may be removed by further treatment.

Hooping cough may attack children, from the ages of nine months to seven years. It is more likely to occur as an epidemic during wet and damp weather, but may prevail at any season of the year. Its duration depends in a great measure upon the treatment. Left to itself, or encumbered with the miserable miasma of old physic, three to four months is a common period of its continuance, unless the sufferer die in the meantime. Under homœopathic treatment, it has been cured in from four to fourteen days; although, sometimes, not before six weeks have expired; much, as we before mentioned, depending upon the attention of the parents. Let the following rules be adopted:—

1. As this epidemic most usually occurs in damp weather, do not unnecessarily

* One of the allopathic practitioners of this town told the mother of a patient who was subsequently cured under homœopathic treatment, "there was no cure for hooping cough; it would LEAVE the child as the warm weather came on. He could give fever mixtures, but that would be all." This was said after two months' treatment of the child.

expose your children to a foggy or humid atmosphere.

2. Should exposure be absolutely necessary, let them be warmly clad, and breathe through the nostrils—not through the mouth.

3. On their return home, give, as a preventive, three successive doses of *Corallia rubra*,—one globule every four hours.

Notwithstanding these precautions, should the disease be engendered,

1. Keep the patient in-doors during wet or damp weather. If there is a disposition to enjoy the fresh air, (when the atmosphere is mild and the sun shining,) do not check it, but take care that the body and extremities are kept warm.

2. Do not neglect to wash or sponge the patient over, every day, with pure, cold water. Produce warmth afterwards by gentle friction with a dry towel, and keep it up with suitable clothing.

3. *Violent* movements tend to bring on and increase the cough.

The following medicines having proved more beneficial than any others, we present them, with the *principal* indications for their use.

If the cough has been preceded by weeping, and is accompanied with hoarseness or loss of voice, convulsive movements of the body, which, together with the cough, are increased by contact and motion, *Belladonna* should be given. Should there be *much vomiting* whilst coughing, with oppression at the chest, or pain in the bowels, arresting breathing, the sufferer laying his hand on his stomach to relieve the pain, *Drosera* is to be used. If, during the ailment, and more especially when the paroxysm of coughing has attained its height, the child be very cross and fretful, and after the cough appear for a time insensible, *Chamomilla*. *Corallia* has proved of great benefit: four cases out of twelve in which it was used this season were *entirely* cured by its administration, and the remaining eight mitigated in their severity. It proved more efficacious where the cough was exceedingly loud, worse in the night, and during the intervals between each paroxysm; the patients were very much exhausted, either lying down in a state of half stupor, or lolling listlessly about.

The five following remedies are more useful towards the completion of the cure, or when the spasmodic cough and nervous stage is changing into the simple cough and exhaustive state. *Hyoscyamus* is indicated where *great fear* is manifested at the approach of each fit of coughing; jerkings and startings from sleep. The cough is worse in the evening; when the patient is lying down, the whoop is not loud. If the cough is *worse after every sleep*, and there is great lassitude and drowsiness, the cough succeeded by a hoarse noise in the throat, *Lachesis* will be required. *Mephitis* where the breathing is very thick and difficult, as though the patient would be suffocated; quick, small pulse; dry, though not hot skin; watery effusion from the eyes; cough is short, and more easily accomplished. The patient appears to be very weak; yawns and sleeps, or lies very still and quiet, apparently quite exhausted. *Chelidonium* is suitable when there is tightness or feeling of tightness in the neck and throat, and difficulty of breathing. It may succeed *Corallia* with advantage. *Pulsatilla* when the cough is but slight; there is much chilliness, yet the child is better in the open air, and feels oppressed in a warm room: generally but little thirst. If, after the symptoms are successfully combated with the homœopathic remedy, dry cough still remains behind, *Causticum* will most probably complete the cure.

In this and all other diseases characterized by debility, a globule of *Veratrum* three times a-day, continued for three or four days, will speedily restore the strength to its natural healthful standard.

Dose and repetition in the convulsive stage, one globule every four hours. Afterwards, one globule three times a-day.

T.

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THE
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TO OUR READERS.

IN our last, we said a few words on the object of our little periodical. What we said then, we reiterate now—our *Record* is essentially a people's journal. With the faculty of medicine, as such, we have done: they have no sympathy with us, we have none with them—how can we?—a faculty which persecuted Hahnemann, and drove him by that persecution from the city of Leipzig, for having introduced a system of healing superior to every one which had preceded it. A similar fate awaits all, who, having a truth to promulgate, do promulgate it at all risks. The fate of Hahnemann is ours. The fate of the Divine Son of Man was Hahnemann's—like Him, “he came unto his own but his own received him not.” Hahnemann first made known his system to his brethren in the profession—he was despised and rejected, he found no sympathy. Such was the antagonism he met with, that he could not find a publisher for his *Materia Medica*, his first work on the pathogenesis of medicines; for a long time he sought in vain, until it was accepted and printed as a token of gratitude by one who had been cured by the doctor, the publisher remarking to Hahnemann at the time, “I look upon this book as a curiosity. It will never sell; its printing will be expensive; nevertheless, I will publish it, feeling thankful and grateful for your kindness and skill.” Six long years passed away, and only six copies were disposed of. Persecution, however, of the author engendered enquiry; the result of which was, the remainder of the edition was sold in one week;

other editions followed, and since then the work has been translated from the original German into French, English, Spanish, and Italian.

Those who have embraced and practise homœopathy are numbered by thousands. We believe there are as many as 1500 in Europe; 3000 in America; 500 in the State of New York alone; and 250 in the city of Philadelphia. Practitioners of this system are to be found in the East and West Indies, in Africa, Australia, and New Zealand, in Turkey, and in the Crimea; yet there are but 60 or 70 in London, and about 150 in the provinces. We rejoice that in little more than fifty years this glorious science has made such progress.

We were once inclined to mourn that so few in "enlightened" (?) England, of a "liberal profession," have adopted the system in their medical practice. We mourn no more, for we believe that the end of old physic is near. It cannot survive any longer than the people walk in darkness in medical matters. When the people become really enlightened, the house of old physic will come down; then will the practitioners of allopathy be displaced by men of the new school—men whose education and efficiency for the good work of healing will be superior to those of the present school, because the means they employ will be more in harmony with nature.

By some, we have been thought "too severe" on the faculty; we cannot admit this. It is, we feel, our duty to warn the people against error, ignorance, and destruction. We are charitable enough to think that men are made what they are by the system they follow. We do not believe that there are no worthy doctors—we believe, indeed we know, some who adorn the profession,—but their profession does *not* adorn them. We know some, who have relinquished the practice of medicine, because they feel that they cannot pursue any longer the medicine of uncertainty. All honour to such, we say, and to such who still remain in it with a consciousness that their practice falls short of what it ought to be as a *curative* system. We offer to the faculty the medicine of *certainty*, because the medicine of *science*; if they will not hear, we cannot help it, we must perform our duty faithfully.

FEVERS :
THEIR IRRATIONAL TREATMENT — THEIR RATIONAL
TREATMENT.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23.)

HAVING now seen what old physic does in fevers, we will proceed to give an outline of the more rational modes of treatment adopted by the homœopathic practitioner. In doing this, our purpose will be better fulfilled, and our readers the more instructed, by giving an epitome of the various forms of diseases generally classed and included under the term Fevers, without entering into a discussion on the theories which have been from time to time propounded on the subject; nor do we purpose to do more than notice the simple fact of the classification of fevers under various heads. Such information, if needed, and only the curious will do so, can be obtained by perusing Dr. Mason Good, Dr. Cullen, and other authors. For our purpose, no useful end would be fulfilled in discussing theoretical doctrines; more especially as in the modern school of medicine no importance is attached to the nosology of the schools, nor is any classification at present adopted which will serve as an unerring guide to the homœopathic practitioner in *his* treatment.

It has been a custom to specify the exact class and order to which the fever belonged. Nothing can be more fallacious than this custom; for the reason, simply, that a patient, in one continued illness, may and does often pass through states which successively belong to various orders of one or more classes, according to the generally adopted nosology, that of Cullen; although we find modern writers and teachers are beginning to reject the nosology of Cullen, and have begun to introduce new theories, founded not so much on the particular type of disease, as on the pathological condition explained by physiological changes produced during the abnormal condition of the patient. This even is more rational than the mere theories, which, until very lately, obtained in our schools of medicine. Briefly to allude to those among the ancients: physicians, led by the prominent and more tangible phenomena of the disease, viz., the altered state of the secretions, imagined that fever depended on a morbid state of the animal fluids. This notion was adopted by the alchemists, and in their speculations assumed a more definite shape in the idea that fever was the result of a contest between acid and alkali within the body. Hence, for a long time, the fluids or *humours* were alone looked to for an explanation of the phenomena of fever. The followers of the doctrine were hence called "*Humoralists*." The doctrines of the humoralists held undivided sway over the minds of physicians, in one shape or other, till the close of the seventeenth century. About this time, they constituted a part of the theory of *Stahl*, who propounded the idea that fever arises from plethora, or fulness of the vessels, and a depraved condition of the fluids. Like the doctrine which it

displaced, it led to sad errors in practice. The views of the alchemists engendered a vain confidence in chemical substances, as remedies for neutralizing or correcting the morbid condition of the fluids; while the theory of Stahl, that an unerring medical soul existed in the body, as a *free agent, capable itself* of curing the disease; this theory led to the notion that nature alone was the proper physician, and the expectant theory was adopted. Indeed, so extravagant did his followers carry the principles he inculcated, that they declared their creed to be, that fever was a *salutary operation*, and scarcely merited the name of *disease*. Stahl may be thanked, however, for his introduction of the belief that there existed an agent within the body—a life action—without whose energy all treatment must be unavailing.

Hoffman, taking up the vital idea of Stahl, propounded the theory that fever consists in spasm of the capillaries, this occurring from some morbid affection of the nervous system. Then came Cullen, who explains Hoffman's theory by supposing that the primary cause of fever was a depressed state of the brain and nervous system. About the same period, Boerhåave, while he adopted the theory of Hoffmann, admitted the co-operation of chemical changes in the fluids to be the cause of fever.

Now came the blood theory, upon which, more recently, *Dr. Stevens* has enlarged; and, analyzing the blood of fever patients, especially in the West Indies, found that blood to undergo important changes. It was *Dr. Stevens'* theory which led to the adoption of the "saline treatment" in fevers. In our opinion, none of the above theories is satisfactory, not even the more modern one of *Dr. Stevens*; for, admitting that the blood undergoes changes in fever, are not *these changes the effects, and not the cause of the fever?* We believe they are.

Dr. Brown, a would-be rival of Cullen, proposed another idea, which was that all external agents possess the property of stimulating a power inherent in the body, which power he called excitability—this is a physiological fact;—and that the result of their action when *natural in degree is health*, also that inordinate excitement produces fever by causing exhaustion of excitability, or what he called direct debility. This theory was pretty extensively adopted and led to the pernicious practice of treating all *fevers alike by stimulants*; the observation of the *injurious effects of this treatment*, founded in a false theory, happily in time led to its abandonment.

The prevailing theory in this country for the last five and twenty years is, that fever is merely symptomatic of some local disorder. *Pinel* and *Broussais*, two eminent French authors, have propounded the most rational deductions from the phenomena presented in fevers and their morbid anatomy. In these systems the disease is localized.

Pinel held that inflammatory fever is connected with disturbance in the general circulating systems; bilious fever, with disorder in the digestive organs; gastric fever of a particular form, with disease

in the intestinal mucous follicles ; nervous fever, with derangement of the brain and nervous system ; and typhoid fever, with general depression of the vital power.

This seems a rational deduction from the observations which every practitioner must make in an extensive practice ; but to confess the truth, not one of the theories which have ever been accepted and adopted by physicians or schools has led to a rational mode of medical treatment.

How vain is it, therefore, to theorize and to classify, when we find that no practice can be safe which is founded in supposed causes. Hippocrates, who lived 400 years before Christ, and who has been justly styled the father of medicine, was wiser than his successors, when he held that the duty of physicians was to seek to obtain a knowledge of the *symptoms* of *diseases* on the one hand and the *properties* of *medicines* on the other, and thus apply themselves to cure.

Until Hahnemann, however, all was darkness in reference to the medical treatment of fevers ; and all is darkness still where Hahnemann is not received.

The above cursory glance at the theories of fever are alone sufficient to make it evident that the adoption of an erroneous theory leads to error in practice. In the homœopathic school, theory is discarded : the homœopathic practitioner views the case individually presented to his observation ; he beholds the suffering state ; he watches the symptoms ; and, guided by these, he has recourse to his *materia medica*, and he there finds the one remedy suited to the condition presented.

We believe with Reil,* who says, " Any classification of disease is the work of man, which nature does not always confirm ; on this account, we are unable to draw a definite line of demarcation between fevers and those diseases which are not fevers."

No just nor exact definition can be given which is satisfactory, owing to the variety of symptoms occurring, and the extent of the changes which the same undergo in each individual case.

To say that when convulsive or spasmodic symptoms are presented in fevers, the brain and spinal chord are not affected, would be to deny a most evident proof ; but to attribute the fever to the brain as the cause or primary seat of the disease, would be an assumption. Hahnemann was correct, in our opinion, when he said that the internal nature—the essence of a disease—cannot be known with certainty. He considered fever a purely dynamic disturbance of the vital force, affecting both its action and sensibility, and being most distinctly perceived in the vascular system. Hahnemann's view neither injures nor does it benefit the patient ; and the homœopathic practitioner not being the slave of a pet theory, is less liable to err in his diagnosis and his treatment than the allopathic practitioner.

The treatment of fevers, if opposed to physiological laws, if debili-

* On the Diagnosis and Treatment of Fevers, 2nd ed., vol. 1, § 24.

tating in its effects, if stimulating artificially to excessive action, if depressing the action of the heart or of the nervous system, if, in a word, opposed to nature's laws of life, is irrational. Such a case is that given above as having occurred in St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London.

The rational treatment of fevers consists in aiding the salutary operations of nature, in sustaining the patient's strength by the appropriate and careful administration of pure air, pure water, clean clothing, cheerful and diligent attendance, and, above all, the administration of a known remedy suitable to the symptoms presented—a remedy homœopathic to the phenomena of the diseased state.

It will be sufficient for our present purpose to point out some of the remedies employed by the homœopathic practitioner, with the indications for their employment. And first,

WATER—water, of a temperature suited to the powers and tastes of the patient. Most generally, cold water drinking is preferred by the patient; and the cruelty of withholding it is often inflicted by the mistaken medical attendant, the nervous mother, or the prejudiced nurse. In some cases, cold water is objected to by the patient, and tepid water is preferred; in such case, the feeling of the patient is to be followed, and he should be allowed to drink as freely as he pleases. The indications for **COLD WATER** drinking are, 1 Thirst. 2 Feeling of heat, and great desire to be cooler. 3 Dry, hot skin. For **WARM WATER**. 1 Headache of a congestive character, with cold extremities. 2 Pain in stomach or bowels, with inclination to vomit. For **HOT WATER**. 1 Actual sickness; vomiting of food undigested, or of bile. 2 Feeling of oppression in the chest, with shivering of the whole surface. An unlimited supply may be allowed, as the patient may desire.

External application of water. Cold ablution may be freely used in the first stage of febrile diseases, and cold sponging in every stage. The indications for the external employment of cold water are, Active vascular circulation; full and quick pulse; with either hot or cold *dry* skin. After the application of cold water, the patient should be rubbed with a coarse towel or flesh brush;* or if a feeling of chilliness exist, the patient should be immediately placed in bed, and covered with blankets or other warm clothing, until he perspire.

The best of all modes of applying water in fevers, is the *wet-sheet packing*. The writer has had the happiness of saving many patients, who, in all human probability, would have died, unless the packing had been employed. The mode of doing this is as follows:

For full Packing. Take two blankets, spread them smoothly on the coverlid of the bed; take a sheet, wring it out of a pail of water pretty tightly, spread this on the upper blanket. The patient being entirely undressed, place him lying on his back on the sheet, quickly

* Rubbers in the form of gloves have recently been introduced, which we strongly recommend in preference to the flesh brush or the gloves of horsehair.

bring one side of the sheet over the chest and neck, to the other side, then the lower part of the sheet in a similar manner, this done, the remaining side of the sheet should be folded to the opposite side, and tucked closely in all the way down to the feet, the head and face only being left out of the pack. One blanket, the upper one, is then brought over in like manner, one side at a time; then the under blanket, care being taken to prevent ingress of air round the neck of the patient. When the patient is closely enveloped thus, one or more folded blankets should be placed upon the patient, tucking in the sides. A pillow should elevate the head to a comfortable position, and beneath the chin, a silk or cambric handkerchief may be placed to prevent the contact of the blankets and chin; if the patient be thirsty cold water may be given by spoon or spouted feeder. The patient should not be disturbed, as the packing is so soothing in its effect, that it generally induces sleep. In a short time the patient will become warm, and express "how comfortable is the pack;" he may be left for an hour-and-a-half or two hours.

The next process is to uncover the patient, but before doing so have ready a pail of cold water, a towel therein, and several dry towels. Remove the envelopes. If the patient is able, or prefers to do so, let him step into a sponging bath or tub, and with the wet towel freely wash the whole body, commencing with the head and chest, rub with dry towels and place the patient in bed.

In cases where the patient has not strength to get into a bath, let the cold washing be performed for him while lying down, while the envelopes are taking off from the neck and chest downwards. Should the feet be cold, a bottle of hot water may be placed to them.

Local Packing. This is often used in acute diseases, for various portions of the body, as on the stomach to check vomiting, the bowels in diarrhoea, the head when this region is affected. The process is exceedingly simple, a chamber towel being folded in several layers, is wrung out of cold water, and placed on the region requiring it, a dry towel being placed over the wet one. The indications for packing are presented in various stages of fever. It is chiefly indicated or rather it is most generally beneficial in the early stages of fever, and its benefit in such cases is immense. The writer has employed it in all stages, even where no hope of recovery existed, after the cases had been relinquished by old school physicians, the gratitude of the patient in such cases is remarkable, so refreshing and vivifying are its effects.

In exanthematous diseases, as measles, scarlatina, and small-pox, its benefit is immense; in typhus, typhoid, and bilious fevers, it is also invaluable; in measles, suppressed, with pneumonia resulting, the patient's life in jeopardy, the writer has employed it with success. In brain fever, where there was fearful delirium, the patient requiring restraint, he has also employed it with success.

Water treatment, valuable as it has been proved to be in thousands of cases, has met with bitter opposition on the part of the

medical profession, who are ignorant of its value. In fevers, especially as an adjunct to medicinal treatment, it is, although not an indispensable requisite to the homœopathic practitioner, invaluable in shortening the period of illness, cleansing and purifying the skin, and restoring its natural condition.

TO BE CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.

SORE THROAT OR QUINSY

MAY commence with slight shooting pains in the throat, extending to the ear, which quickly increase to a soreness in the throat, aggravated on attempting to swallow solids, liquids, or even saliva. Soreness and swelling is felt on pressure near the angle of the jaw under the ear. On examining the throat, discoloration and swelling may be perceived; with this state there is fever, sometimes great difficulty of breathing, and in severe cases even delirium.

A very frequent cause of sore throat is sudden change from a hot to a cold atmosphere. Muffling the throat with scarfs and wrappers is by no means preventive, but rather induces a tendency to the disease. *Where the throat is habitually exposed, and daily ablutions of cold water are resorted to, quinsy is of rare occurrence.*

In the acute form,* we use *Aconitum*, *Belladonna*, *Corallia*, *Hepar Sulph.*, *Lachesis*, and *Mercurius*. Where it is of frequent occurrence, along with the above, *Kali Bich.*, *Arsenicum*, *Kali Hydriod.*, and *Nitri Acidum* may be required. Should the disease be so severe as to induce wanderings of the mind, or delirium, *Acon.*, *Bell.*, *Lach.*, or *Mercurius* will most probably prove efficacious to relieve the disturbed state.

The choice of remedy should be guided by the symptoms taken as a whole. *Aconitum*—dryness of the mouth and tongue; scraping in the throat, with difficulty of swallowing, increased to burning and fine

*A word with regard to potency or dilution.—We have avoided prescribing any particular dilution, desiring that that which is nearest at hand be administered. The application of the law with regard to dilution differs, according to the circumstances of the especial case, and like everything else in homœopathic practice is not to be summarily disposed of. Generally acute diseases are best treated with the lower dilutions, 3, 6, &c., there are many exceptions to this rule, we have never used *Lachesis* below the 12th, rarely below the 30th. Chronic diseases require mostly 30 and still higher potencies to subdue them. Here too the rule varies, persons of a quick temperament and lively disposition may be skilfully treated with the higher potencies, whilst those of a more quiet disposition are more speedily cured with the lower dilutions.

piercing of the throat, first of *the left*, then right side of the throat; choking sensation, especially when swallowing or talking: with this state of the throat there is much general fever, with restless anxiety, thirst, and quick, strong pulse; the throat appears of a *dark red* color.

Belladonna—face red and flushed, or alternates to pallor; fulness of the head, with bright eyes and dilated pupils; the palate is raw and sore; throat is dry and burning; on attempting to spit or swallow, it appears as though there is a lump in the throat, and as if the passage is too narrow; frequently fever, with external swelling of the *right* side of the neck; the tongue is red or cracked, with red tip and white centre; the throat is of a *bright red* color. *Corallia* if, with a dry, sore throat, there is a violent spasmodic cough, which cannot be checked. *Hepar* is more especially indicated if the patient is subject to boils or gatherings of any part of the body, and where the pain in the throat is as if stinging or stitches, as though caused by a splinter; the patient is fretful and low spirited. *Hepar* is also suitable (together with *Lach.*, *Kali Hy.*, and *Nitr. Ac.*) should the sore throat have been caused by the abuse of mercury. *Lachesis*—burning in the throat, as if from pepper; swelling of the throat and tongue, with *difficulty of speech*; the soreness and burning is felt at small spots in the throat; patient feels worse after every sleep.

Mercurius—the pain in the throat is a very intense burning, as though burnt with a red hot coal; the gums are swollen, and the teeth feel loose; great accumulation of saliva in the mouth, odor from which is very offensive; the tongue is coated whitish, and appears swollen; the general fever is worse in the night, and the patient wakes sweating.

Kali Bichrom—sensation as of a hair on root of tongue, not removed by eating or drinking; smarting and tingling in the throat, which increase in intensity, and the throat becomes ulcerated; throat appears of a brightish red. *Arsenicum*—bitterness in the mouth; difficulty of swallowing; burning in the throat, which feels very dry; pulse is small and quick; the patient is feverish and exceedingly weak; *there is constant thirst, and the patient drinks but little at a time.* *Kali Hydriod*—Dull, stinging pain in the throat, only during deglutition. *Nitri Acidum* is needed if the sore throat have been superinduced by the abuse of mercury, and the following or similar symptoms present themselves: pressure in the throat, as from a tumor, with sore pain; when swallowing, the throat feels raw and as if ulcerated; scraping sensation in the throat; heat and dryness in the throat.

T.

HOMŒOPATHY IN CHELTENHAM.

CHELTENHAM in Gloucestershire, has a population of 35,051, according to the census of 1851. It has five homœopathic practitioners. Their practice is extensive; the public who patronise homœopathy increases. People of all classes, from the aristocracy to the poorest of the community, are adopting homœopathy. This extensive preference for homœopathy has offended the allopathic practitioners of the town. The fact being that Cheltenham is deluged with doctors, there being according to the Medical Directory, no less than *fifty-nine* medical men residing in Cheltenham. How such a number can live on a population of 35,000 is inexplicable, excepting on the supposition that they make work for each other, not a very unusual result of allopathic drugging.

The ire of this large and united body of doctors has very naturally become roused by the successful introduction of homœopathy, and the medical "Antediluvians" have recently, finding they cannot put down homœopathy by pooh! poohing it, formed themselves into a league, resolving to "*withhold their patronage from all tradespeople who employ a homœopathic doctor.*" In obedience to this united resolution of the body, one of their number a few days since, called on a tradesman with whom he dealt, and who he ascertained had adopted homœopathy, when the following colloquy ensued. The doctor thus addressed the tradesman:—

"Mr. — we are, at last, going to put a stop to this humbug and quackery homœopathy, many of our number having mutually determined to leave off dealing with any tradesman who is known to employ a homœopathic physician; so I give you warning!!"

Tradesman. "Dr. — you are aware that yourself and others have attended my wife and family for years, during which time my wife was unable to take outdoor exercise, I was compelled each summer to send her to the sea side, to recruit her strength after your treatment; but since she has been under the care of Doctor Hastings her health is so much improved, that she can now, without risk, go out to evening parties; so long therefore as I observe such results as this, I will employ a homœopath, neither can I think that the system which can produce such results, can justly be called a humbug, nor its practitioners quacks." After hearing a few similar observations, the allopath departed rather crest-fallen.

The tradesman has thus set a noble example to the people of Cheltenham, and if they follow his example, in withstanding the taunts of the allopaths, their vain and foolish attempts to coerce the people to swallow drugs, will speedily come to nought, and their league will be dissolved.

"Verily a man's folly is his worst enemy."—EASTERN PROVERB.

REVIEW :

Unlicensed Medicine : with a Plan for Extending Homœopathy.

By JAMES JOHN GARTH WILKINSON, M.D., Author of *The Human Body and its Connection with Man.**

MANY OF OUR readers may have read a little work entitled *War, Cholera, and the Ministry of Health*. The above is by the same author, and written in his usually happy style. We regret that space will not allow us to do more than extract briefly from the pamphlet, and hope the extracts will dispose our readers to obtain a copy of this *brochure*, which we heartily commend to all interested in the subject of homœopathic medicine.

“Don't make the mistake of thinking that with a banner uplifted among you, inscribed with a new word from the pages of truth, you can quietly settle down into your places in some of the regiments, or upon some of the staffs, of the old corporations. They won't have you. Besides which, you belong to a new fact of startling import : a fact not long born, and of course therefore small and weakly-looking ; yet with a capacity of growing world-size. That fact is, that *medicine is no longer a profession, but one of the humanities* ; and as such, freer than the winds : in short, free as only man can be. Liberal also, not in the old measure, of being more gentlemanlike than trades, as marked by daily fees instead of weekly bills ; but in the new immeasurable measure of making the public service stand always first, and the private accruings be merely its unwanted surplus : a liberality in which every honest calling may and must emulate it.”

“No calling has a lasting right to be paid on any other principle than its public merits and services ; or to degrade any other callings by an assumption of modes of requital superior to the divine law of business, the labourer is worthy of his hire. If it aspires to do this, it is a mean profession ; founding itself upon the degradation of classes. Nor can any calling of a practical nature pretend to love truth for its own sake : it must be for the sake of its application and use to man : and must therefore involve the giving the applied truth away to men's minds as fast as they are capable of taking it : in short, it must involve not only its own practice, but thereby, public education.”

“The question has been asked all round, and differently answered,—Who killed last winter's noble army of victors in the Crimea ? I reply unhesitatingly, old physic killed it. All the doctors there did their best ; and I subscribe to the monument of those of them who died, and to the praises of those who survive :

* London : R. Theobald, 26, Paternoster Row. Manchester : H. Turner, 41, Piccadilly.

yet it is not less a fact that old physic destroyed that fine army. It had destroyed hosts of armies before; yet not culpably then; because until now the new light of homœopathy had not been proffered to it, and without fairness, rejected."

"And never fear that the public will dabble too long with important cases, and that harm will accrue. All the fear at present lies the other way. Remember that your business is not to attain at once some ideal impossible standard of health, but simply to rescue far more patients than old physic saves. Statistics come in aid here; demonstrating, as they sternly do, that no-pathy is better by a long score than allo-pathy; and that homœopathy considerably eclipses doing nothing."

CASES

ILLUSTRATIVE OF HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT.

IN obedience to repeated requests, we have determined occasionally to publish in our pages the results of homœopathic treatment in individual cases. To many minds, the publication of statistical facts in reference to the comparative results of treatment in large numbers, is insufficient to produce belief in the superior efficacy of homœopathy. To such, the publication of single cases, the subjects of the cases being known either personally or relatively, is of paramount interest.

The first of the four cases recorded below is one well-known in the neighbourhood where the patient resided. The case is that of Miss Annie Abbott, of Cranford, near Kettering, Northamptonshire. She was, during her dangerous illness, kindly visited by Sir George and Lady Robinson. The testimony of such persons to the efficacy of homœopathy in "hopeless" cases of acute disease, should place the fact beyond doubt, and ought to convince the most sceptical of our allopathic opponents of the superiority of homœopathic treatment over that to which the faculty still cling with tenacity. Mr. Gibbon, the surgeon of Kettering, who had had charge of the case, and under whose debilitating treatment the patient was sinking when homœopathic aid was sought, is understood to have made a remark in reference to the treatment, which told very significantly against his own skill. His remark was, "that Mr. Pearce *must* have given *allopathic* doses, and not infinitesimal ones." The reply was and is—If Mr. Pearce did this, his skill must have been superior to Mr. Gibbon's. Mr. Gibbon

secondly remarked "that nature did much for the case, and it was nature recovered her." The reply to this is—*Why did not nature assist Mr. Gibbon's treatment?* The homœopathist answers, because nature was opposed in her efforts to cure, by destructive blistering, bleeding, and drugging. Miss Annie Abbott still lives now, three years and a half after her recovery, and lives an unmistakable testimony to the efficacy of homœopathy in saving her life.

The three remaining cases speak sufficiently, and need no remark to commend them to the attention of the benevolent. All three were treated at the NORTHAMPTON HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY, and all three had been previously ineffectually treated at the COUNTY INFIRMARY. To the attention of the Governors of that Infirmary the cases are commended—a volume of similar cases could be published. To the Governors of the Infirmary, as well as to the medical faculty, the records of the Northampton Homœopathic Dispensary are open for inspection.

CASE OF PULMONARY PHTHISIS, SEQUEL OF ACUTE INFLAMMATION OF LUNGS.

On the 1st of July, 1852, I was called to see a young lady, aged 15, residing 18 miles distant, who had been ill some two months, and for whose recovery there remained, in the opinion of the medical attendants, no hope. In fact, one of the surgeons, who had attended throughout her illness, gave his opinion that she *would not survive four days.*

The history of the case before I was called to treat her, is briefly this:—The young lady was at boarding school, and apparently in health, when being in the garden, she took cold, and was speedily seized with serious symptoms. A surgeon was called in, and she was by his concurrence removed home to the house of her parents. The ordinary medical attendant was sent for; she now had pneumonia or acute inflammation of the lungs. For this she was subjected to "Antiphlogistic treatment." She was bled, blistered, and leeches, which together with physis greatly reduced her strength. The fever which attended the disease was considerable; she existed in a desperate condition for some weeks, and after the subsidence of the fever, and the more active inflammation, she fell into a state of complete prostration. When called to see her, I found her presenting the following condition:—countenance and whole surface of body pallid, excepting her cheeks, which exhibited the hectic blush—the whole frame emaciated—the loss of strength so considerable, that she is propped up with pillows in a semi-erect position, and inclining to one side. Her pulse is 140 per minute and feeble—tongue moderately

clear, but apex and edges abnormally red and abraded—the chest expansion so defective, that only one side perceptibly moves with the acts of respiration; the other side does not expand. On percussing the walls of the chest, the whole of the right side is perfectly dull—the base of the left lung is dull also; and on passing a tape measure around the chest, only one quarter of an inch is found to be the expansion in the deepest inspiration.

The stethoscope reveals an amount of mischief which renders the case almost hopeless. No respiratory murmur can be heard in the right side, excepting below third rib, where a blowing sound indicates the existence of a cavity. Crepitation is distinctly heard in apex of left lung—the heart's action is violent, and perceptible to the eye are the successive pre-pulsions of blood from the base of the heart. She has incessant cough with purulent expectoration. She has also night sweats and diarrhœa. After every attempt to take food, there is vomiting—she can only partake of a little jelly.

Ordered *Phosphorus* and *China* in alternation.

July 8th. Visited her the second time. Since last visit, the cough is less distressing and expectoration less—she has a little more animation and strength—the sickness and diarrhœa about the same.

Ipecacuanha and *Arsenicum* were now ordered, the medicines being alternated each day.

July 15th. Some further improvement. The breathing is less burdensome. The pulse now 120. Diarrhœa has been met by the occasional administration of a powder containing two globules of *Arsenicum*. There is still regurgitation of food, but she takes more than she did. The expectoration is greenish but not so dense.

Ordered *Phosphorus*, every 6 hours, with *Pulsatilla*, one globule half an hour after dinner daily.

July 22nd. Saw her again—she is evidently improving, which improvement is more observable on some days than others. The expectoration has been much less in quantity; but yesterday she expectorated, at least, 6 oz. in a coughing fit. She takes more food. The night sweats have diminished.

July 29th to August 26th. I continued to visit her: her improvement was gradual; and although at times she presented doubts of ultimate recovery, she gained flesh and strength. The expectoration abated; and on the 17th of September I saw her so much improved as to give hope she would survive for some years. Since that period she has recovered, and her case has not only astonished all who knew her, but has astounded the practitioner who preceded me in the treatment, and who, let it be said to his credit, visited her at frequent intervals while under my care, and watched the gradual improvement, which he attributes to NATURE, being sceptical on the subject of infinitesimal doses. I saw her again in January, she continues well—she is cheerful, hearty, and plump.

CASE OF PROLAPSUS ANI,

Of eighteen months' standing, incurable under allopathy, after nine months' ineffectual treatment at the County Infirmary, three months' at the Allopathic Dispensary, and six weeks' under a private Practitioner, cured at the Northampton Homœopathic Dispensary in one month.

JULIA A., aged three years, residing in Northampton, came under homœopathic treatment August 11, 1853, under the care of Dr. Pearce.

The mother states that the child has been affected with falling of the gut—prolapsus ani—for more than eighteen months. She has been under treatment at the infirmary nine months; also three months at the Victoria Dispensary; she has also been treated by one of the medical practitioners of Northampton for a period of six weeks. That during this long period, she has taken a great deal of medicine, including castor oil.

Aug. 11th. **PRESENT STATE.** She has protrusion of the rectum, with congestion of the surrounding veins. There is, on one side of the bowel, an abscess, discharging fœtid matter: the discharge of a dark colour, and is in considerable quantity. She looks much worn and emaciated, as though she had been drenched with physic. She has profuse perspirations, scanty appetite.

Prescription, *Calcarea Carb.*, six globules of the 30th potency in the course of a week.

Aug. 18th. The child sleeps better; there is more discharge of purulent matter from the anus. The medicine states that for two days after commencing the medicine, the child was worse; but since then has been better in her health.

Prescription, *Silicea* six globules of the 30th potency in twelve days.

Aug. 25th. The child was brought again. The parts are healthy and clean; the bowel returned spontaneously, and does not now descend; the discharge has ceased, and the bowels act regularly; the night sweats have nearly left her.

Prescription, *Silicea* to be continued.

Sept. 15th. The child is quite well, for which the mother is very grateful.

CASE OF EPILEPSY,

After ten months' ineffectual treatment at the County Infirmary, cured Homœopathically.

July 7th, 1853. C. C., a female, aged 19, single, residing in Northampton, was a domestic servant, but has been an invalid during the last ten months. Came under treatment at the Northampton Homœopathic Dispensary, under the care of Dr. Pearce. She states that she has been in-patient at the infirmary six weeks, and out-patient at the same institution for a period of eight months, with no benefit. Indeed, the physician under whose care she was placed told her that he did not think he could do her any good, "she had better take plenty of fresh air."

She states that she left the infirmary nine weeks ago. She has had fits almost

daily, and on some days she has three or four. The fits first commenced while attending public worship on a Sunday evening. In the fits, her face becomes purple; she struggles violently.

She now complains of great pain in her head, as if she must lose her senses. She has also pain very bad in the hypogastric region. She now looks pallid and worn. Pulse 100, feeble; tongue coated yellow; bowels regular; appetite good, but her poverty prevents her getting sufficient food. She states that she has been regular since fifteen years of age, but that she has much leucorrhœal discharge.

Prescription, *Sulphur*, six globules of the 200th potency, to be taken in the course of fourteen days.

July 21st. Her mother came, the patient being unable to walk. She has had no fit since she came a fortnight ago, but her head is still very painful. She is afraid she will "go off her head."

Prescription, *Belladonna*, 6 globules of the 200th potency in a week.

July 28th. She came much better; not had a fit; her head is "wonderfully better;" she has more strength; she has not been "*unwell*" lately.

Prescription, *Pulsatilla*, six globules of the 200th potency in a week.

Aug. 14th. She is well. Discharged, cured.

CASE OF SCROFULOUS PURULENT OPTHALMIA,

After four months' ineffectual treatment at the County Infirmary, cured Homœopathically.

MARTHA D., aged 4, presented by a subscriber's card (Sir Charles Isham, Bart.), to the Northampton Homœopathic Dispensary, and admitted under the care of Dr. Pearce.

July 11th, 1855. She has scrofulous inflammation of both eyes, with purulent discharge and complete photophobia; cannot bear a ray of light. She was brought in despair, having been four months out-patient at the infirmary, with no benefit. She appears a poor, cachectic object.

Prescription, *Sulphur*, six globules of the 200th; to come again in a week.

July 18th. The eyes are somewhat better. The purulent discharge continues.

Prescription, repeat medicine.

July 25th. Much better. Can see a little when her back is turned to the window.

Prescription, *Sulphur*, 800th potency, one globule in powder every night.

Aug. 8th. Nearly well. The mother is very thankful, for "the child got no good at all at the infirmary."

Prescription, continue powders, one every other night.

Aug. 24th. Well. No medicine.

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MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 4.—NEW SERIES.

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TO OUR READERS.

WE are compelled for want of space to omit several communications which we have received, and to defer the promised article, No. 2, on Drugs and their Uses. The letter of our colleague Dr. Hitchman, in our present number, we trust will be read with interest. It is by constantly repeated contrasts between the old and new system of medical treatment that the people are awakened to a deep interest in the progress of scientific medicine. The great truth of homœopathy advances with conquering steps; the testimony of men of the old school to the superior efficacy of homœopathy is increasing the ranks of believers. It is for the public to help forward the cause, by lending aid in the support of homœopathic institutions, and to the establishment of hospitals.

The case has been clearly made out, that, in the treatment of acute diseases, the advantages of homœopathy are immense. It has equally been demonstrated that, on the score of expence, also, homœopathy presents claims on the supporters of public infirmaries.

A strenuous effort will be made, immediately, to establish a homœopathic hospital in Northampton, and we opine that the time is not far distant when the pressure from without will compel the medical officers of public infirmaries to give up their obstinate antagonism, and admit homœopathy to a *fair trial*. The *Governors* of our public infirmaries are the public—when these determine that homœopathy shall be tried, resistance on the part of the faculty will be vain.

FEVERS :
THEIR IRRATIONAL TREATMENT — THEIR RATIONAL
TREATMENT.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 40.)

The next subject of importance in the treatment of fevers, is that of diet. Much error and ignorance obtains in reference to the dietary management of patients.

There is, in England especially, an almost universal notion, that if a patient does not eat he will die. This, an important axiom in regard to a healthy person, is a most palpable mistake in regard to the diseased, more especially in persons labouring under *diseases of a febrile nature*.

It is a physiological fact, which has been well ascertained by the well-known experiments of Dr. Beaumont, that, *during fever, no gastric juice is secreted in the stomach*, and, therefore, *digestion is entirely suspended*. To give food in such a condition is absurd; and how a medical man can be guilty of allowing, and even ordering food, and such kinds of food as jellies, beef tea, etc., which are the most difficult to digest, during the febrile stage of disease, is mysterious, unless we assume either that he is ignorant of a beautiful law of nature, or that he has not courage to oppose the wishes of the patient's friends or nurses, who, in their mistaken kindness, urge food upon the patient. Even the infant intuitively declines to take food during the condition of fever; and if the mother, in her pardonable ignorance, insist on food being given, the child rejects it by vomiting.

It is lamentable to see a table, at the bedside of a patient ill of fever, crowded with dainties, appropriate only for an aldermanic feast; yet this I have often seen. In a case to which I was called in Northampton, where a physician, who ought to have known better, had been in attendance, I found *jelly, biscuits, beef tea, wine, oranges, grapes, and a pudding*; and, in the midst of this motley group, the filthy "mixture," with a pretty pink coloured label. The odours from these were alone enough to make the patient sick, yet each, in turn, was offered to the poor patient, whose chief desire was "to be let alone."

In the patient's room *no food should be seen, until it is required*. The apartment should be kept free from all odours, that the atmosphere may be as pure as possible. *Fruits*, when ripe, as oranges, grapes, preserves, etc., which are *non medicinal*, are allowable, when the first taking of aliments is necessary, and not until then. The popular notion, that animal jelly or gelatine is nourishing, is a fallacy. *Animal food can only be digested by a person in health*, and its administration, in fevers, not only protracts the illness, but frequently hastens it to a fatal termination. Man is not nourished, directly, by the food he receives into his mouth, but by the alimentary particles eliminated in the process of digestion, which he takes up through the

lacteal vessels into the blood. *In fever, this process cannot be carried on.*

I now come to the subject of the medical treatment followed in the homœopathic school. In doing this, I may mention, that whatever be the class of disease to which the fever belongs, whatever the age, sex, or constitution of the patient, or whatever the stage of the disease in which homœopathic treatment is adopted, the success may be depended upon, if not in the recovery of the patient, yet in the relief afforded by the treatment.

In exanthematous or eruptive diseases, as measles, scarlatina, and small-pox, the first object of importance is, the development of the rash or eruption. To do this, the wet sheet packing described above is of inestimable value, and no danger need be apprehended in the judicious use of this means. In May last, I was called to see a child of the family of Mr. Samuel Walker, jun., of Northampton, and found she had exhibited all the symptoms of measles. It was the third child in the family then attacked; the other two were in an adjoining room. The eruption had appeared but had suddenly receded. I was sent for in great haste, as it was feared the girl would die. The parents had treated the other two children successfully, directed by a "*Domestic Homœopathy*," and they had done well. This third case was one of *blue* measles, or *Rubeola Maligna*, the most dangerous, and, generally, a fatal form of the measles. The child presented symptoms of pneumonia; the cough was extremely painful, breathing hurried—120 respirations in a minute, pulse could not be counted; there was burning fever, and life was in great danger.

I immediately gave *Phosphorus* every quarter of an hour, with some improvement; two hours afterwards I packed her in a wet sheet, as before described, in which she remained two hours. On taking off the envelopes, I discovered, to my satisfaction, that the eruption was fully out. The child being washed as described above, was placed in bed; and *Bryonia* was administered to keep up the action of the skin. The case proceeded under homœopathic treatment; and, although the eruption was *purple* and the child's life in imminent danger when I was sent for, she recovered. This child had, only a few months previously, passed through a dangerous illness of brain fever, and recovered under homœopathic treatment. I adduce this case as illustrative of the efficacy of packing in the most dangerous form of measles.

In the fever attendant on measles, the most suitable remedies are *Aconite*, *Bryonia*, *Phosphorus*, *Pulsatilla*.

For scarlatina* the remedies are *Belladonna*, *Aconitum*, *Rhus*, *Opium*, *Arsenicum*. In small-pox the same treatment should be adopted as regards the packing, unless the patient is found perspiring, and with the eruption making its appearance freely. In such case the

* For the treatment of scarlatina, see *Homœopathic Record* for Dec. 1, 1852.

remedies suitable to the condition of the patient should be administered. The premonitory signs of small-pox are of longer duration generally than in scarlatina or measles. In several cases I have treated lately, in Northampton, the patient has been ill nine to twelve days before the eruption made its appearance.

For small-pox, the chief remedies are *Aconitum*, *Belladonna*, *Mercurius corrosivus*, *Causticum*, *Thuja*.

In the small-pox now prevailing in Northampton, the principal remedies I have employed are *Thuja*, *Merc. corr.*, and *Causticum*; the cases have recovered perfectly. In fevers, generally included by the terms *gastric*, *bilious*, *nervous*, *typhoid*, and *typhus*, the homœopathic treatment is simple, safe, and efficacious. The mortality under homœopathic treatment, as given by Dr. Bouth, is two per cent., and under allopathic treatment, nine per cent.; in typhus, fourteen per cent. under homœopathic treatment, and nineteen per cent. under allopathic treatment.

To enumerate the medicines employed in the homœopathic treatment of fevers, with their principal indications, is all that can be done in a short sketch like the present, and the following are the principal medicines which have been employed in Northampton during the past autumn.

Acid Muriaticum.—This was employed when the principal symptoms were referrible to disorganization of the glands of the intestines.

Aconite when great activity of the circulation prevailed, threatening to become rapidly worse; dry heat, thirst, scanty red urine, and great anxiety.

Arsenicum, when the fever has been characterized by great depression from the commencement of the illness; coated tongue, with thirst, but refusing drink; alternate heats and chills; and diarrhœa.

Bryonia when the packing was employed, and when the fever was in the early stage, with great chilliness; the gastric apparatus being involved.

Cocculus when the fever was preceded or ushered in by derangement of the bowels, spasms, yellow coated tongue, and vomiting of ingesta.

Helleborus Niger has been employed in cases of typhus cerebrealis, with marked results when effusion threatened.

Hyoscyamus Niger was given in many cases characterized by delirium, fright, and loquacity; in some cases, it was the only remedy employed.

Ignatia was used in several cases in which there was mental dejection; one in which it arose from illness of relatives, two sisters having fever at the same time. In another case the loss of a relative had induced an alienation of the mind temporarily.

Ipecacuanha in vomiting and diarrhœa, with heat and shiverings.

Mercurius corros. in mucous and bloody evacuations, with great prostration and critical sweats.

Nux Vomica in some instances has been employed as the only medicine nearly throughout the case. It has been found useful in the nervous forms of fever.

Opium has been employed as an intermediate remedy, when coma has presented itself in the serious cases of fever.

Rhus Tox. in the typhus cases, principally of a low form, rapidly becoming worse. The tongue brown, and in some cases black, with sordes on the teeth; great prostration and indifference.

China, *Veratrum*, and *Phosphoric Acid* were used in some of the cases in the convalescent stage, with marked benefit, shewing an immense advantage over the old system of administering "tonics."

In every case, the clinical experience of the action of the remedies has beautifully confirmed the law of *similia*. The choice of each remedy was made strictly in accordance with its pathogenesis, as ascertained previously by Hahnemann and his disciples, and only known in the homeopathic school.

The results are satisfactory. Of 70 cases treated, 67 recovered; only 3 died. Of these 3, one had been under the care of Dr. Bryan and Dr. Francis, of Northampton, up to the day I was called in. When she came under homeopathic treatment, she was dying; she presented, indeed, symptoms of poisoning by opium,* which had been repeatedly given by the practitioners who preceded me in her treatment.

The second case, which terminated fatally, was Mr. Brooks, aged 76, who had been two years under medical treatment for ulceration of the intestines. He died of typhus putridus.

The remaining case was a girl, who died of disease of the brain soon after she was seen by me, she being the *eleventh child of the family who had died of disease of the brain*.

Of the cases which recovered, one, Mrs. Marriott, of Far Cotton, had been attended by Mr. Flewitt, who left her *hopeless*, stating that *she must be removed to the lunatic asylum on the morning of the next day*. She was found raving mad, under the influence of an opiate, together with fever. The opium was antidoted by the administration of a decoction of coffee. The proper homeopathic remedy was then given (*Hyoscyamus*.) and she recovered.

It may be remarked, that, although several of those treated had been previously under allopathic treatment, *not a single patient left homeopathic treatment for allopathic*. Every case recovered, excepting the three above mentioned.

It is hoped that the foregoing pages will suffice to convince the

* In reference to opium and its deadly effects administered in the ordinary doses, I may mention here another case, which occurred a few weeks since. I was suddenly called on by a medical gentleman of the old school to see a patient of his in Warwickshire; at his request, I visited the patient, a lady, in consultation with him, and found her dying under the opiate administered *per rectum*. I prescribed an antidote, followed by homeopathic medicines; the lady recovered, to the delight and satisfaction of her medical attendant.

sceptical of the superior efficacy of homœopathic treatment in fevers. Many cases could have been adduced, which show the utter inefficacy of old-system treatment. The one given as having occurred in St. Bartholomew's Hospital is a fair specimen of the *irrational treatment* which still prevails in the existing schools.

TO BE CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.

THE ESSENTIALS OF HOMŒOPATHY.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

MR. EDITOR,

The philosophy of the homœopathic cure is, indeed, a development of the scientific principles of practical medicine, but knowing that as vain is it for sufferers to appeal to our infatuated enemies for an unprejudiced opinion of its value, as it would be to expect an ordinary purveyor of the flesh of animals to admit the great superiority of vegetarianism, or the adulterating manufacturer of strong drinks to set forth, in glowing eulogy, the virtues of teetotalism. I am quite certain, as I have elsewhere so often urged, that the cause of homœopathy is greatly misunderstood, and that, in order to remove such misconception, the public mind cannot be too clearly indoctrinated in the general principles and chief points of our reformed system; hence it follows that the people require concise and intelligible views of what homœopathy means, which should be as plain, self-evident, and luminous, as possible. The essentials I regard as eminently these: Every article in the *Materia Medica*, prescribed by a homœopathic practitioner, shall have been previously taken, (intentionally or otherwise) by a healthy person, and its disease producing (pathogenetic) symptoms, duly ascertained, and accurately recorded. That medicine be uniformly administered in a pure and unmixed state, singly, alone, and by itself, (or mixed with water, or an inert substance, termed sugar of milk). That the remedy in question shall be strictly homœopathic, or similar to the group of morbid symptoms presented by each individual or peculiar case. We further maintain that medicines which are injurious in large quantities will, in small ones, be found not only soothing, but generally curative, when employed homœopathically, and that our medicines to be curative by direct and positive homœopathicity, must also be efficient to produce analogous derangements in a person of sound health; our medicines are, therefore, efficient to induce, and (multiplied experience assures us) to cure, and as a general rule, to operate best, that is, in the language of Asclepiades of old, *cito, tuto, et jucunde*, quickly, safely, and pleasantly, *when given according to the right indications for their selection*, in infinitesimal, or very minute quantities. On the

subject of the psoric hypothesis, or the peculiar nature of chronic diseases, a doctrine similar to which, in all essential particulars, was held by medical professors long anterior to the time of Hahnemann, and that of dynamization, or the exaltation of latent power, elicited by long-continued trituration and succussion; notwithstanding they are in my judgment substantially correct and incontrovertible doctrines, the people are committed to their rejection, for whether believed in or not, *Homœopathy, justified by experience, remains a great fact.* Doubtless, Sir, you have often been appealed to for an answer to the interrogatory—What is homœopathy? Were we disposed to retaliate, and return evil for evil, may it not be aptly inquired—What is allopathy? the regular, orthodox, legitimate practice of medicine; in what consist *its* laws, its rules, its unerring principles, its never-failing and infallible data, from which to deduce a trustworthy guide, a beacon-light, to aid and assist us in our difficult task of healing the sick, and cleansing the leper, and making the blind to see, and the lame to walk; and as we have heard and read so much of late about the fallacies of the homœopathic faculty, and the facility with which statistics can be *cooked*, (I humbly submit they are not *cooked* with strychnine, after the manner of Palmer, of Rugeley) and made to subserve our purposes of warfare, I say, does it not become in all fairness and justice the imperative duty of opponents of the new system of mild medicine, to ask themselves whether *their* mode of practice so closely approximates perfection as to admit of no improvement. Were they to do so, I apprehend a *very* little reflection would soon convince them that there is something rotten in the state of Denmark, something more in heaven and earth than is dreamed of in their philosophy, which prejudice, or interest, (or both,) dictates to them the propriety of doing all in their power to conceal. In answer to the question—What is allopathy? emphatically the lawful and allowable method of perpetrating physis on the people of Great Britain, her army, and navy, her Crimean heroes, and brave defenders of the faith. Answer it, Sir John Forbes, physician to the Queen's household, what say you? You are a good scholar, an elaborate writer, and have grown grey in the allopathic service,—“it would fare better if all drugs were abandoned.”

Dr. James Johnson was long the talented editor of the *Medico-Chirurgical Review*, an experienced practitioner, well versed in the literature of his profession, and physician to the fourth William; though dead, he yet speaketh: “verily there would be less mortality among mankind if there were no doctors and druggists.” Dr. Reid avers that “more children are daily destroyed by the pestle and mortar than in the ancient Bethlehem fell victims in one day to the Herodian massacre.” Sir Astley Cooper was wont to remark that “the art of medicine (as generally practised) was founded on conjecture and improved by murder.” Sir Benjamin Brodie, the present serjeant surgeon to Her Majesty, has lately stated that, for many years past, he has ceased to torment his patients with “this painful and

loathsome mode of treatment," and is convinced that "the change has been attended with the happiest results." More than this, I have myself heard the late lamented Robert Liston, (second to no man that ever lived, as a skilful surgeon and a shrewd observer) tell his class that the best medicines in erysipelatous inflammation were the homœopathic, for "he had cured some of the worst cases he ever saw with them," and the surgeon in ordinary to H.R.H. Prince Albert informed me he had invariably noticed that the longer a man of science practised his profession, the smaller became his doses, for he appeared to feel that he was introducing drugs of whose beneficial properties he knew little, into an organization of which he knew less; and yet, in the face of all this, our opponents arrogate to themselves the privilege of utterly condemning the modern system of therapeutics, and maligning its supporters, as the veriest and vilest of quacks and impostors, with whom it would be derogatory to their honour to hold any kind of professional intercourse, with no adequate inquiry into its practical merits, and without any impartial examination of its claims, to be considered as belonging to that high order of science, which has sternly demonstrated "that no-pathy is better by a long score than allopathy, and that homœopathy considerably eclipses doing nothing." The principal objection of sceptics may be summarily comprised thus: Homœopathy is humbug because it pretends to cure all diseases with infinitesimal doses of (so called) medicated globules, or sugar plums. This is one erroneous impression. Another demurs that it is only a do-nothing system, with a strict regimen, almost amounting to starvation, which cures by rigid attention to an exclusive diet. Granting, for the sake of argument, that all diseases are curable by diet, or unaided nature, as some would imply, by this kind of ratiocination. Alas! for the science and art, so contumaciously upheld and adhered to by the powers that be, what can be said in extenuation of the filthy and disgusting superfluities had recourse to by the allopaths? Another class of objectors assert that recoveries are due to psychological influences, or in other words, to the effects of the imagination, a species of sophistry and subterfuge they are studiously careful to eschew and avoid, when applied either to veterinary practice or the diseases of infancy and early childhood, in which departments homœopathy stands pre-eminently high and unrivalled. Lastly, we are accused of resorting, as with the wand of a wizard, to other expedients; we are guilty, forsooth, of helping their dangerous and abandoned cases, to a restoration of health, sound and vigorous, by invoking the aid of nature—that nature which is deaf to *their* supplications, and will not assist *them*. We *must* give allopathic doses, *in tasteless and infinitesimal forms* (it is presumed if possible) thus significantly, yet reluctantly, giving us the victory, meanwhile they themselves commit suicide with their own worthless and tarnished weapons. Comparatively few appear to understand and comprehend what homœopathy *really* is; that it is a science of medicine, founded on the

discovery of a law in nature, which teaches that like should be treated by like, that it is, in fact, not necessarily so much the absolute smallness of the dose of a remedy as the appropriateness of its selection and administration, in conformity to the revealed law, that it is a scientific principle of giving medicines to the sick that are known to have the power of causing in the healthy a diseased condition, similar to that arising in the system of the patients from other causes. For example, tartaric antimony is a good remedy in inflammation of the lungs, yet, it is an indisputable fact, that nothing induces congestion and inflammation of the lungs sooner than this remedy: a weak solution of lunar caustic, or nitrate of silver, will greatly relieve an inflamed eye, which in strong solution will violently irritate a sound one. This, though homœopathic, is one of the most popular remedies at the various eye infirmaries. Alcohol, largely diluted, and externally applied, will relieve headache; when taken largely internally, will cause it, as too many practically know. Aconite, which in large doses violently disturbs the circulation, when so disturbed by disease, will, in small doses, be found most tranquilising. Belladonna, in full repeated doses, acts violently upon the throat; in small doses, under similar circumstances, speedily cures. The same plant, in large doses, will produce a scarlet rash, difficulty of swallowing, nausea, redness and swelling of the face, delirium, convulsions, and so forth, and accordingly, has very properly become a popular remedy, in some varieties of epidemic scarlatina, and, to a large extent, it is preventive of that fearful and fatal scourge. Ipecacuanha, in large quantities, distresses and sickens the stomach; in small doses, soothes and allays vomiting. The influence of this root, in exciting fits of difficult breathing, resembling asthma, is beyond all doubt, as is also its great utility in the relief of this and other affections of the respiratory organs. Nux Vomica, (with which, as well as Cocculus, publicans and sinners take the liberty of sophisticating divers sorts of nameless liquors) causes spasms, indigestion, bilious disorders, sickness, and retching, convulsions (tetanic), obstinate constipation of the bowels, hæmorrhoids (piles), headache, giddiness, and the like; given in minute doses, it affords signal relief in almost all these ailments. Corrosive sublimate largely corrodes and ulcerates the intestinal mucous membrane; in a similar condition from dysentery, proves curative. Cantharides, in full repeated doses, causes urinary affections: in small and repeated doses, allays the like disordered states to which those passages are liable. Copper, arsenic, mercury, are known to occasion violent headache, and other characteristic derangements, vomiting, diarrhœa, cutting and burning pains in the bowels, cramp-like pains in the legs, jaundice, convulsive movements, insensibility, &c., &c. Well, what then? interposes the captious disputant. Given: a poor unfortunate fellow-creature, suffering after this particular fashion, let him take a single drop, that is to say, the ten-thousandth part of a grain, of the second dilution of the drug most similar in its action to

the totality of prominent symptoms, then and there present. Well, what then? What next? Nothing, beyond the fact that this, simply this, is the sum and substance of homœopathy; this is proof positive, this is an unequivocal illustration of a great fact—that like cures like—this is the homœopathic theory and practice of physic, as will be abundantly made manifest by the subsequent cure, a happy result, seeming well nigh magical and astounding, as it ever does to the uninitiated, when this specific healing art is skilfully applied. Power and violence are different, quite different, things. *Arte, non vi*—skill, not violence—is the harmony of medicine in relation to disease; even as the drop which hollows the stone, not by force, but by frequently falling. I admit that the homœopathy of some persons is an absurdity; but not so that true, homœopathic system of medical reform, that brilliant medical philosophy propounded by the immortal sage of Saxony, which has shed a halo of undying glory around the Royal Bavarian University at Erlangen, the Alma Mater of an almost unexampled galaxy of gifted sons of Æsculapius, both in ancient and modern times. Schreger, Schelling, Harless, Schubert, Rudolphi, Wagner, Fleischmann, Heyfelder, (the continenta Liston,) Canstatt, Gerlach, Gassner, Will, Leupoldt, the homœopathic professor, *et hoc omne genus*. Yes, it was reserved for the genius of Samuel Hahnemann, one of her graduates, to establish a new era in the art of healing, the cures resulting from which should be so much more frequent, speedy, and lasting, and effected by the benign means of a beautiful harmonic medicine, more health-giving than all others, and far surpassing them in the ineffable charm of being unaccompanied with horrors, and alike free from all pains and penalties. Under its peaceful dominion, man is exempt from the life-destroying bleedings, leechings, scarifications, cuppings, with all their irreparable results, the searing red-hot irons, the scorching caustics, and burning issues; the draining, drenching, and colliquative purgings, the direful poisonings of salivary glands, and rotting of teeth, the grinding anguish of mercurial neuralgias and face-aches, the mountains of flesh-burning fire and combustible matter employed as Moxas, and other coarse measures, now fitly designated medical diseases. Hahnemann submitted his discoveries long and patiently to a severe ordeal—the searching scrutiny of an extended experience, which served but to confirm their truth and perfect adaptation to the pressing wants and requirements of suffering humanity. Truth, like the infinitely wise and gracious God, is eternal. Men may disregard it for a time, until the period arrives when its rays, according to the determination of Heaven, shall irresistably break through the mists of prejudice, and, like Aurora and the opening day, shed a beneficent light, clear and inextinguishable, over the generations of men.

The following case is taken from my note-book. It is a brief and imperfect sketch of a numerous class of extraordinary instances,

derived from dispensary and private practice, not only of recovery, but of cure, under homœopathic treatment; for, though an allopath by previous education and practice, I have, during the last five years, treated several thousand cases, medical, surgical, and obstetric, and constantly do treat, all varieties of formidable diseases, by these simple, elegant, and painless means, with the utmost satisfaction and benefit to the patients generally. The following illustrative report comprises one of the most important, because one of the most difficult and successful cases, which have come under observation during my practice in Liverpool. The remedy is, I think, almost entirely new in homœopathic practice, and I confidently recommend it to your favourable consideration, when otherwise duly indicated by symptomatology. With regard to the causes of chorea, they are, as you know, commonly ascribed to intestinal irritation from worms, or morbid accumulations, and fright, injuries to the nervous system, from blows, or falls, suppression of psoric eruptions (itch), or vicarious discharges, rheumatic metastasis to the membranes of the spinal cord, violent mental emotions, excessive sensuality, &c. Of the cause, in the instance before us, I know positively nothing; of the cure I do know something, for she is alive and well at the present time, and has had no return whatever of the complaint for upwards of twelve months. The nature of this malady, is, I think, attributable to some morbid irritability, and reflex action of some portion of the cerebro-spinal axis. Mary Johnson, aged 11 years, residing in Fontenoy Street, came under my care on Nov. 1st, 1854, suffering from almost uninterrupted attacks of St. Vitus' dance, (or the dance of St. Guy, as they term it in France, and the Dance of St. Weit in Germany) all treatment having long been abandoned, as worse than useless. She had been an out-patient at several antiquated institutions in this town, where, it may be presumed, the medical officers are too old to learn anything new, and where a practice and routine, duly appreciated, and promulgated by their forefathers, are *scientifically* carried out, as in days of yore, when men were alike in happy ignorance of railroads, electric telegraphs, and other delusions of the age, as of the refined and unfeeling mode of treating the numerous ills to which flesh is heir, adopted in this our own day.

Her parents are very intelligent, and respectable, and well able to give reliable information, (though suffering heavy penalties consequent on the crime of poverty). From them I learn that she has had "any quantity" of purgatives, including turpentine and castor oil, infusions of gentian and bark, and some kind of preparations of iron, zinc, and copper, and at one of the hospitals he believes she got arsenic on several occasions, (indeed, there can be no doubt of the fact, for the words "Fowlers' Solution" were mentioned in his hearing) not only without permanent relief, but with the allopathic effect of "making her dreadfully sick and purged." When I first saw her she was affected with strong convulsive move-

ments, and spasmodic twitches, of almost all the fingers and muscles of the face, hideous contortions of the features, extending to the voluntary muscles of all parts of the body, and those of the lower extremities so continually excited that she actually danced about in all directions, and certainly presented an irresistibly ludicrous appearance. If asked to walk to the door, her unsteady gait at once precipitated her in the direction of the window; when essaying to advance towards the fire-place, she fell headlong on the floor, in a diametrically opposite direction, the right side, however, appearing more affected than the left. There was considerable constitutional disturbance, general health much impaired from delirium, and want of sound and refreshing sleep. Moreover, from the length of time she had been afflicted, (since about the age of seven) her mental faculties were evidently beginning to suffer seriously. She had still a good deal of nausea, and was disposed to faint frequently, sharp pains (causing her to often scream and cry out) in the stomach and bowels, epigastric tenderness, tongue thickly coated, with a dense yellow fur, red at tip, and margins bright, and fiery dryness in the throat, with an insatiable desire for cold drinks; pain in the right iliac fossa, about the region of the cæcum, and commencement of the large intestine, for the most part a relaxation of the bowels, with some tenesmus; surface of the body below the natural temperature, pulse accelerated, but feeble and thready, lips covered with dark specks and visications, and interior of the mouth likewise disposed to be aphthous; appetite almost gone, depraved or capricious, micturition frequently painful and difficult. The viscera of the chest appeared to be healthy; no cough, or difficulty of breathing. I prescribed *arsenicum* in the second dilution, one drop to be taken every night and morning, out of a small spoonful of distilled water, at the same time directing that the diet should be as light, good, and nourishing as was compatible with their circumstances, and that every indigestible substance should be carefully avoided. This case, although diligently attended to, from its great and intrinsic interest, scarcely admits of further comment in the way of detail, for it gradually improved, from time to time, with no change in medicine, (with the exception of an occasional dose of Sulph. 200, at bed-time) until at the expiration of six weeks I pronounced her quite convalescent.

“ Oh, if the selfish knew how much they lost,
 What would they not endeavour, not endure,
 To imitate so far as in them lay,
 Him who has wisdom and his power employs
 In making others happy.”

Yours with respect,

WILLIAM HITCHMAN, M.D.

Member of the London College of Surgeons.

2, Daulby Street, London Road,
 January 14th, 1856.

REVIEW :

The British Journal of Homœopathy, No. LV. : London, Groombridge and Sons, January, 1856.

THE number of the *British Journal* now before us is the concluding part of the thirteenth volume of a journal of which the homœopathic body might be proud. It is valuable as it takes its place among the scientific medical journals of Europe; and, we believe, is the oldest medical quarterly in England. It has, unlike many of the quarterlies, withstood the test of time, and outlived some which promised a longer term of existence.

Although the work before us is more especially intended for the medical reader, the layman who interests himself in the progress of the science and practice of homœopathy—and we know there are many such—will be amply rewarded in the perusal of the articles in the present number.

The contents are as follows :—

“Professor Henderson on Bright’s Disease of the Kidney—A Contribution to the History of Homœopathy, by Dr. Fleischmann—Remarks on Hooping Cough, by Dr. Black—On the Legitimate Position of Homœopathy, by Dr. Tessier—Contributions from the Homœopathic Hospital in Leopoldstadt, by Dr. Wurmb—On Sepia, by Dr. Meyer.

“REVIEWS :—Report of the Committee on Cholera—Compressed Air Baths—Knaggs on Homœopathy.

“CLINICAL RECORD :—Sarcomatous Tumour, by Dr. Tuckey—Disease of Kidney, by Dr. Fearon—Pica, by Dr. Black—Inflammation of Urinary Organs, by Dr. Oehme—Mastitis Neonatorum, by Dr. Teller—Sweet Saliva, by Dr. Teller.

“MISCELLANEOUS :—On Triturations, by Mr. Turner—Allopathic Journalism and Justice—Meeting of the German Central Society at Vienna—Poisoning by Tincture of Aconite—Hahnemann’s Correspondence—Allopathic Petty Larcenies—On Nitro-glycerine, or Glonoïne—Fas est ab Hoste doceri—Homœopathy and the Empress Eugénie—The North American Homœopathic Journal—Pulse Machine—Carbo vegetabilis in Gastralgia—Wonderful Allopathic Discovery (?)—Progress towards Homœopathy.”

The able contribution of Professor Henderson, of the Edinburgh University, on Bright’s Disease of the Kidney; and that of Dr. Fleischmann, To the History of Homœopathy, in which are contained statistics of homœopathic hospital treatment of more than

seventeen thousand cases, including *seven thousand cases of fever*, 3165 being typhus; are commended to the attention of those who imagine that homœopathy is a thing only "done in a corner."

The following extracts from Dr. Fleischmann's report of the Vienna Homœopathic Hospital will shew the extent to which homœopathy is adopted in Germany.

"Treated within the hospital:—Cholera, 1202 cases.

"Erysipelas, 514 cases; cured 510, died of gangrene 4. In these cases, I found nothing but *Belladonna* and *Rhus* necessary.

"Diarrhœa of different kinds, 323; cured 319, died 3, remaining 1. The medicines chiefly used were *Ipec.*, *Acid. Phos.*, *Pulsat.*, *Merc. sol.*, and *Veratr.*

"Ophthalmias of different kinds, 130; cured 129, dismissed uncured 1. *Hepar.* and *Sulph.* were more efficacious in scrofulous ophthalmia than any other medicines.

"Inflammation of the joints, 888; cured 877, died by attacks of miliary fever (Friesel) 7, remaining 4. The best medicines against these diseases were *Bry.*, *Arn.*, *Rhus*, and *Sulphur*. The severe pains were relieved by nothing so well as by cold applications.

"Angina faucium, 920; cured 919, died 1 by gangrene. *Belladonna* and *Mercurius* were sufficient in all these cases.

"Carditis, 57; cured 56, died 1. *Spigelia* was the only medicine employed.

"Pneumonia, 1,058; cured 1,004, died 48, remaining 6. There is no medicine which has so specific and beneficial an action, according to my experience in pneumonia, as *Phosphorus*. Why it has become so distasteful to my colleagues so that they cannot endure it, I don't know. If any one will shew me a medicine which is equally useful as this, in both sexes, in all ages, and in every stage of the disease, I will, without making any fuss about it, diligently employ it, and rejoice to have made the acquaintance of a trustworthy remedy.

"Gastric fever, 1,181; cured 1,173, uncured 1, died 7.

"Rheumatic fever, 1,417; cured 1,416, remaining 1.

"Typhus, 3,165; cured 2,779, uncured 3, died 368, remaining 15. After having tried various medicines, I have always come back to *Arsenicum*, from which I have derived the most satisfactory results: after *Arsenicum* stands *Kreosote* next in order.

"Intermittent fever, 1,066; cured 1,056, died 9, remaining 1.

"Most frequently, and with the best results, I have given *Ipecac.* and *Nux v.*; to these follow *Arsen.*, *Quinine* in trituration, *China* and *Pulsatilla*. In the dropsy, so frequent after intermittent fever, even in the severest forms, I have found *Aurum* of admirable service."

THE LIVERPOOL HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

THE annual meeting of the subscribers to, and friends of, this institution was held yesterday afternoon, January 7, 1856, at the Clarendon-rooms, Mr. Yate Lee in the chair. The attendance was thin.

Mr. Capper, the secretary, read the following report :

“This dispensary was first established in 1841, and has now, therefore, been in existence fourteen years. The number of patients treated during this period has been 37,000. The number of new patients during the last year was 3,407. The total number of prescriptions dispensed in 1855 was 16,161. Throughout the year the charity has had the benefit of the services of a qualified house-surgeon, and his exertions have been attended with the greatest success. Since the 1st of March, a special register has been kept of patients, visited by him at their own houses. The number of patients thus visited has been 353, and the number of such visits paid 2,367.

“The subscribers to the dispensary will be much gratified by the following official testimony to the success of homœopathic practice in acute disease. In a return made last May to the House of Commons, of papers and letters addressed to the Board of Health relating to the treatment of cholera, which were produced, upon the motion of Lord Robert Grosvenor, the following passage occurs:—Dr. Mac-loughlin, one of the medical inspectors of the Board of Health, addressing one of the medical officers of the Homœopathic Hospital, Golden-square, says—

“‘You are aware that I went to your hospital predisposed against the homœopathic system; that you had in me, in your camp, an enemy rather than a friend; and that I must, therefore, have seen some urgent reason to come away so favourably disposed as to advise a friend to send a subscription to your charitable fund; and I need not tell you that I have taken some pains to make myself acquainted with the rise, progress, and medical treatment of cholera; and that I claim for myself some right to be able to recognize the disease, and to know something of what the medical treatment ought to be; and, that

there may be no misapprehension about the cases I saw in your hospital, I will add that all I saw were true cases of cholera, in various stages of disease; and that I saw several cases which did well under your treatment, which, I have no hesitation in saying, would have sunk under any other. In conclusion, I must repeat to you, what I have already told you, and what I have told every one with whom I have conversed, that although an allopath by principle, education, and practice, yet, was it the will of Providence to afflict me by cholera, and to deprive me of the power of prescribing for myself, I would rather be in the hand of a homœopathic than an allopathic adviser.' "

"In addition to this important testimony, the committee have great satisfaction in adding a statement of the acute cases and the results, the patients in such cases having been attended at their own houses by Dr. Gwynn, the present house surgeon, since the 1st of March last. The total number of acute cases under treatment was 204, of which 177 recovered, 2 were relieved, and 13 only died. The above evidence adduced, from official as well as local sources, is in itself sufficient to disprove the statement that homœopathy is unable to cope with acute disease."

"Russian Newspapers inform us that in Cronstadt there is a hospital containing 3,000 beds, where the treatment pursued is entirely homœopathic. To such a state of civilization we have not yet attained. Our authorities may learn something from their 'barbarian foe.' "—*British Journal of Homœopathy*.

[The following was omitted in our last number],

IN SORE THROAT OR QUINSY.

One pellet of the medicine selected should be administered every four hours until the disease is subsided.

The frequency of repetition should depend upon the amelioration following each dose. If the beneficial results have expired before the four hours have terminated, earlier repetition will be necessary.

T.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 5.—NEW SERIES.

MARCH 1, 1856.

PRICE 1½D.

TO OUR READERS.

IN our last, we intimated that an effort was about to be made towards establishing a homœopathic hospital in Northampton. Our readers will observe in our present number the report of the annual meeting of the friends of homœopathy in Northampton on the 7th of last month. At that meeting, each resolution was carried without a dissentient. Among those resolutions was one specially directed to the establishment of a homœopathic hospital in Northampton.

In the present state of medical obstinacy, there is little hope that the proposition made by one of the governors of the County Infirmary—"That a ward in that infirmary be set apart for homœopathic treatment,"—will be carried out. Under such circumstances, it behoves every homœopathist to give his or her immediate and effective aid to the collection of funds for such a benevolent purpose.

The project is practicable, as proposed by the committee of the dispensary. It is that as soon as one thousand pounds only are subscribed, operations should commence by making all the provisions required for say twelve beds, six male and six for female patients. The economy with which the hospital could be managed and carried on, will give an advantage to the subscriber and the patient. It is proposed that funds shall be furnished by the benevolent, equivalent to the purposes of beds in the first place, and in the second place for rent, firing, lighting, salaries of house surgeon, nurses, &c., being the yearly current expenses; while the patients or their friends pay

simply the cost per week of his or her board, all other necessaries being provided by the institution.

In this manner a homœopathic hospital may be conducted so economically, that it has been calculated that at least *four times the number of patients* may become inmates at the same cost incurred at allopathic infirmaries.

The committee will shortly issue an appeal, containing the result of a careful analysis of hospital statistics of utility and expenses; and we do hope, most earnestly, that their appeal will not be made in vain; but that the town and county, and *distant friends too*, will respond, by willingly and munificently contributing to so laudable a work.

SUPPRESSED CATAMENIA, FOLLOWED BY INCIPIENT PHTHISIS.

BY DR. HASTINGS, SURGEON, CHELTENHAM.

Oct. 27th, 1855. Mrs. A—, a widow, aged 37, mother of two children, consulted me. She stated that she had been under several medical men, and latterly Dr. A—, the oldest physician in Cheltenham; but derived no benefit, indeed quite the contrary. She was quite regular in her *monthly periods* up to last May, when they entirely ceased, and had not since appeared. She is at a loss to account for this, unless caused by anxiety and grief. Soon after the catamenia stopped, hot flushes and headache came on, followed by incessant cough and great palpitations, constant pain in the throat, general weakness, night perspirations, loss of appetite, pain in the chest and back, constipation, urine thick, tongue white, thirst, pulse quick, and abscess on right labia, discharging yellow matter.

PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS. Voice harsh, chest flat on right side and rather prominent on left, breathing quick, and a deep breath induced a fit of coughing; six months since she saw catamenia; hair dark, eyes dark, face red, skin rough, expectoration trifling. On percussion of the chest, there was dullness over the superior lobes of both lungs, but particularly the right. Stethoscopic signs: over superior lobe of left lung, great resonance of the voice, with slight crepitation; right lung, distinct pectoriloquy. She was pronounced consumptive by every doctor that saw her.

The medicine she was taking when she consulted me was the following destructive and caustic hotch-potch compound, prescribed by Dr. A—.

- R. Quinine Disulphate, ten grains.
- Acid Sulphuric, dilute half-a-drachm.
- “ Nitric, dilute twenty drops.
- Extract Hyoscyamus Niger, half a drachm.
- Infusion Citron, six ounces.
- Misce. Capiat Cochlear Mag. ter. die.

Besides this, she was ordered cod-liver oil three times a-day, and half-a-pint of porter twice a-day, *to keep up her strength!*

Ordered her to discontinue these nausea and noxious compounds: prescribed an *unstimulating* nutritive diet, moderate exercise, and "wet compress" to the throat every night, and

R. *Sulph.* Glob. vi. Dil. 30, in Aq. Distil. 6 oz. *Misce.*

Capiat Coch. Mag. maneque nocte.

Bread Poultrice to Labia, with Arnica Lotion.

Oct. 30th. Altogether better. *Saccar.* maneque nocte.

Nov. 3rd. Catamenia came on yesterday, and she feels to-day, to use her own words, "relieved of an intolerable burden, and quite well." Indeed, the joy and delight depicted on her countenance gave ample testimony to this. The abscess is nearly healed. No medicine. Continue compress to throat.

Nov. 16th. Did not see her until this date, when she only complained of a slight tickling in the throat, with cough. *Habeat Bry.*, maneque nocte, for three days.

Dec. 12th. Called on me to say she was quite well, save a little cough occasionally. Catamenia came this month at the regular time, and was quite natural.

REMARKS.—I consider this as one of those too numerous cases, in which medicine was precisely keeping up that which it was intended to rectify; as there can be no doubt but that such doses of *acidulated* medicine very materially tended to prevent the due action of the uterine organs.

From the state of the patient's chest, it would be too much to infer that she is quite well; but this case proves how greatly chest complaints are influenced by *uterine* derangement, and how infinitely superior the homœopathic medicine is to the allopathic in rectifying the uterine functions.

EXTRACT FROM DR. MASSY'S "ANALYTICAL ETHNOLOGY."

In speaking of the political and metaphysical characteristics of the *Celt* and the *Saxon*, he writes:—"Dr. Hahnemann, than whom there never lived a closer or more accurate observer, and who never made an assertion until previous investigation had convinced him of its truth, a Saxon, moreover, of Saxony, has observed, that no Swiss could be more attached to his mountain home than a Saxon to his country." In the same work, and under the head of the "*Mixed Race*," we noticed a very interesting sketch on the people of Norfolk; but as it is not fully suited for our pages, we can only refer to it as of interest to the investigators of archæology as well as ethnology.

THE USE OF INTOXICATING DRINKS IN INFIRMARIES.

"LEICESTER GENERAL HOSPITAL.—At a recent meeting of the subscribers to this institution, it was moved by a governor that the use of wines and liquors in the hospital be henceforth discontinued, contending that they were unnecessary and prejudicial; the medical officers, however, being of a decidedly contrary opinion, the motion was negatived almost unanimously."—MEDICAL CIRCULAR.

FEVERS :
THEIR IRRATIONAL TREATMENT — THEIR RATIONAL
TREATMENT.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 54.)

The following table of cases, which have been treated homœopathically, in Northampton, during the last autumn, will, it is to be hoped, serve to shew that the *most rational treatment is that which is in accordance with nature's law—Similia similibus curentur.*

CASES OF FEVER,
TREATED HOMŒOPATHICALLY IN NORTHAMPTON, IN THE AUTUMN OF 1855.

Patient's Name.	Age.	Sex.	Description of Fever.	No. of Days under Treatment.	Treatment and Medicine employed.	Result.
M. A.	13	F	Simple	14	Bry. Rhus tox. Nux v.	Cured
L. J.	5	F	"	9	Bry.	"
G. G.	15	M	"	12	Nux vom. Veratrum ...	"
M. D.	9	F	"	8	Hyoscy.	"
T. L.	5	M	"	9	Bry. Acid mur.	"
Mrs. B. ...	29	F	"	10	Acon. Bry. Phosph. ...	"
C. D.	5	F	"	4	Bry.	"
L. A.	15	F	"	11	Nux vom. Phos. acid	"
J. P. B. ...	25	M	"	5	Packs, Bry. Ver.	"
Mrs. C. ...	34	F	"	10	Acon. Rhus	"
E. C.	11	M	"	7	Cham. Chin. Sulp. Cal. C.	"
M. L.	6	F	Typhoid	25	Helleborus, Bell.	"
C. G.	23	F	"	11	Nux vomica	"
Master B.	5	M	"	10	Arsenicum, Hyoscy. ...	"
A. W.	36	F	"	25	Nux v. Rhus, Veratr.	"
Mrs. W. ...	25	F	"	8	Ignatia, 200	"
J. F.	16	M	"	13	Rhus	"
H. G.	60	F	"	17	Carbo veg. Rhus, Ver.	"
M. C.	55	F	"	21	Rhus, Acid mur. Nux v.	"
S. W.	28	F	"	14	Packs, Bry. Nux v. ...	"
J. B.	25	M	"	5	Nux vom. 200, Veratr.	"
E. P.	12	F	"	14	Arsen. Ignatia	"
H. G.	54	M	"	7	Packs, Bry. Ver.	"
W. G.	21	M	"	12	Packs, Rhus, Acon. ...	"
M. S.	56	F	"	20	Nux vom. Phos. Rhus	"
G. N.	52	F	"	18	Acon. Bry. Nux. Phos Acid ...	"

Patient's Name.	Age.	Sex.	Description of Fever.	No. of Days under Treatment.	Treatment and Medicine employed.	Result.
J. H.	5	F	Typhoid	23	Acid mur. & Hyos. Bry.	Cured
A. P.	6	F	"	21	Acon. Acid mur. Hyos.	"
R. H.	8	F	"	21	Phos. Bry. Hyoscy. ...	"
A. L.	22	F	"	21	Nux vom. Bell. Ver. ...	"
A. P.	35	F	"	20	Bry. Puls. Ars. China	"
K. K.	10	F	"	12	Pack and Puls. Rhus, Bry. Nux vom.	"
E. M.	24	F	"	20	Rhus. Acon. Veratr. ...	"
J. D.	8	F	"	12	Veratr. Cham. Bry. ...	"
E. P.	50	F	"	19	Acon. Mer. vivus, 200	"
L. A.	26	F	Inflamm.	9	Acon. Bry. Cocculus ...	"
S. V.	46	F	Gastric	10	Acon. Nux vom.	"
S. B.	34	M	"	12	Nux vom. 200	"
C. E.	38	F	"	16	Acon. Chin. Nux	"
E. S.	19	F	"	16	Ign. Rhus. Cham. ...	"
Mrs. D. ...	57	F	Bilious	6	Puls. China	"
E. G.	20	F	"	5	Acon. Puls.	"
E. D.	34	F	"	8	Bryonia, Puls.	"
T. D.	45	M	"	12	Acon. Bry. Hyoscy. ...	"
T. M.	16	M	Typhus Cerebr.	24	Pack, Hy. Ac. mur. Chin.	"
J. A.	46	M	"	36	Acon. Stram. Lach. Puls.	"
J. G.	50	F	"	40	Hyos. Acid mur. Rhus, China, Veratr. Ign.	"
W. R.	4	M	"	18	Acid mur. Hyos. Ver.	"
M. A. M. ...	34	F	"	28	Coffea φ Hyos. Ver. ...	"
W. N.	10	M	"	24	Bry. Hy. Ac. mur. Ver.	"
E. C.	23	F	"	13	Hy. Ign. Ars. Ver. Rhus	Died
F. H.	7	M	"	30	Hyos. Hell. Acid mur. Bry. Ver.	Cured
Miss M. ...	17	F	"	4	Bell. Stram. Helleb. ...	Died
Mrs. M. ...	39	F	with Erysipelas	23	Acon. Bell. Apis. Rhus ven. Bry. Ver.	Cured
C. M.	4	M	Typhus Abdomin.	27	Ars. Acid mur. Dulc. Phos. Merc. V. Puls.	"
M. B.	24	F	"	24	Rhus, Ars. Ign. Cham.	"
W. B.	74	M	"	13	Mer. Cor. Hyos. Kreos. Ac. mur. Secale, Lach.	Died

Patient's Name.	Age.	Sex.	Description of Fever.	No. of Days under Treatment.	Treatment and Medicine employed.	Result.
C. D.	13	M	Typ. Abd. & Ty. Cer.	30	Arsen. Bry. Hyos. Mur. Op. Hell. Mer. Ver. Pack, Hyos. Acid mur. Phosph.	Cured
E. B.	5	F	Typ. Abd.	24	Ign. 200, Rhus, Camph. Veratr.	"
S. L.	26	F	"	21	Ars. China, Secale, Ac. Phosph.	"
Mrs. S. ...	30	F	"	13	Bry. Acon. 1000, Caus. Bryonia, Ledum	"
Mrs. G. ...	64	F	Rheumat.	21	Bell. Acon.	"
T. D.	12	M	"	14	Aconite, Coffea, Pulsat. Drosera, Veratr.	"
H. C.	8	M	Scarlet	15	Acon. Bell. Verat.	"
E. M.	22	F	"	16	Nux, China	"
L. J. C. ...	7	F	"	14	Bry. Bell. Causticum, & Mer. cor.	"
A. C.	11	F	"	20	Acon. Thuja	"
E. J.	3	F	Worm Fever	14		
M. H.	37	M	Small Pox	16		
R. D.	18	M	"	18		

The Potencies of the Medicines employed were principally the 12th, 30th, & 200th.

In the treatment of these 70 Cases of Fever, not a blister, a leech, a mustard plaister, a purgative, a tonic, an alterative, a sudorific, nor any allopathic means, were employed.

AVERAGE DURATION OF TREATMENT,

From the day when first seen to the cessation of Medicine with recovery.

DESCRIPTION OF FEVER.	DAYS.	DESCRIPTION OF FEVER.	DAYS.
Simplex	9	Typhus Cerebralis ...	24
Bilious	8	" Abdominalis ...	21
Inflammatory	9	Rheumatic	18
Gastric	14	Scarlet	16
Typhoid	16	Variola (Small Pox) ...	17

The Number of Cases treated, 70. Cured, 67. Died, 3; viz., 1 previously treated allopathically for several weeks, and hopeless when homœopathic treatment commenced; 1 of Typhus Putridus, a man aged 74, previously ill of an incurable disease; 1 of Effusion of the Brain, hopeless when first seen.

ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
NORTHAMPTON
HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Institution was held on Thursday, February 7, at the George Assembly Rooms, Northampton. The meeting was crowded, exceeding five hundred, and most respectable. The audience listened in the most attentive manner to the speeches, and seemed delighted. The effect of the meeting on the enquirers into the mysteries of medicine will be long seen and felt. We could wish that the example set by Northampton may be followed by our provincial friends, wherever a homœopathic dispensary exists. Such meetings exhibit the great fact that homœopathy is taking fast hold of the mind of the public, and will lead to a complete revolution in the medical world.

SIR C. ISHAM, BART., opened the meeting by remarking that at the present time, many strange and wonderful things were presented to the public mind, and it was the duty of the public to investigate facts presented to them on behalf of such matters. It is true, he said, with respect to medicine, many doubt the truth which we are gathered together to hear about this evening—homœopathy; some preferring when ailing to leave themselves to nature, having little faith in doctors, because doctors are supposed to have little faith in themselves. He then related the following anecdote in corroboration of this latter statement. A gentleman of high reputation for his attainments in the medical profession, having been senior physician to a hospital, but who had lately given up practice, said to him: "When I was practising medicine, I felt as though I was in a dark barn, with but a glimmering of light coming through the roof; unable to reach the light, neither dare I move in the darkness towards the walls of the building in which I felt encaged. Not daring to venture out on either hand; I could but look up and catch the beams that fell my way, they were not many; so contented myself with giving as little medicine as I possibly could, in order to do as little harm and as much good as lay in my power." We are met to-night to hear of one of these wonders, which has established itself as a fact, not in a wilderness, but in all parts of the world, Europe, Asia, and especially America; and I am informed on good authority that the Russians

have an hospital in Cronstadt, containing 3,000 beds, where the patients are treated on this principle. Others, however, will follow me this evening, who from personal experience will tell you of its benefits. SIR CHARLES then called on the Secretary to read the following report :

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

"The Committee of the Northamptonshire Homœopathic Dispensary, in presenting their report, congratulate the friends and subscribers of the Institution on the success which has attended the practice of homœopathy in connexion with the Dispensary, especially in those cases in which patients have been visited at their own homes.

"Your Committee, in carrying out the resolution adopted at the last General Meeting, engaged the services of a resident House Surgeon, who is usefully employed in visiting those who are unable to come to the Dispensary.

"Your Committee, commend to your attention the Medical Officers' Report, already placed in your hands, from which it appears that during the past three years, 1584 cases have been treated at the Dispensary ; of these there were cured 1178, died 22, the mortality being only one and a-half per cent.

"Your Committee consider that this fact demonstrates the efficacy of homœopathy in the treatment of *all classes of diseases*, and thus proves it to be a blessing to the poor. Your Committee would advert to the circumstance that in this country, from the palace to the cottage, large numbers have experienced the benefits of homœopathy. That in every country of Europe, the continent of America, in Asia, Africa, the East and West Indies, homœopathy promises to become the rule of practice, there being, as recently ascertained, no less than 4000 legally qualified homœopathic practitioners in the United States alone.

"That during the present war, many of our generals and other officers have been successfully treated homœopathically.

"Your Committee, in presenting the financial report, would observe, that in the past three years, £241 15s. 6d. has been contributed by the *sick* poor themselves, being patients. That the Donations and Subscriptions from Honorary Patrons have amounted to £206 0s. 6d. The total receipts from all sources being £468 12s. 8d. The total expenditure up to 31st December last was £518 15s. 4d., shewing that a balance is due to the Treasurer of £50 2s. 10d.

"Your Committee would not fail to recognize the aid already given by the Town and County Subscribers to so laudable a purpose, but they hope that as there are many of the nobility, clergy, and gentry, who are known to prefer homœopathic treatment for themselves and families, and who have contributed large sums to the allopathic institutions of this County, that such will now come forward to aid

with their contributions the Homœopathic Institution of Northamptonshire.

"Your Committee hope that resolutions will be adopted to-night which shall bring about the establishing of a homœopathic hospital in Northampton, for the reception of in-door patients."

DR. LAURIE, rising, moved the following resolution:

"That the report now read be adopted, printed, and extensively circulated."

He remarked that he could speak experimentally of the benefits of homœopathy, for he had seen its results in acute diseases; and although he had been previously practising as an allopathic physician, he adopted homœopathy because of its being more speedy and efficacious in counteracting disease, and also uninjurious to the human frame. He would bring before the meeting the fact that the allopaths, with an evident view to exclude homœopaths from practising their system of medicine, were endeavouring to bring before parliament a bill, enabling chartered bodies and medical schools to annul any diploma or license previously granted by them to such practitioners; and restricting the practice of medicine to such only as should be declared fit to practice by a board of partial examiners.

MR. PANK seconded the resolution, which was carried

DR. SPENCER HALL moved

"That as there is a growing preference on the part of the poor for homœopathic treatment, encouragement be given to them, by extending the benefits of the Northampton Homœopathic Dispensary."

Those, he observed, who most readily embraced homœopathy were the intellectual and well-educated, who reasoned logically and deeply, or the uneducated poor, who never reasoned at all,—the former arriving at their conclusion through the rationality of the theory; the latter by a simple and unbiassed observation of its results in practice. During his residence of a year at a homœopathic dispensary in the North of England, he had seen the latter strikingly illustrated by numbers of people who were content with the practice itself for just what it was worth; seeing its satisfactory (and to them wonderful) effects on their poor neighbours, they came in utter ignorance of the theory, and were cured by its genial agency—the natural consequence of which was that others followed their example. He would be sorry to believe that allopathy had in its reign of a thousand years done no good; but when a better system than the old one had been ascertained, it behoved all enlightened men to test, and if possible adopt it. Yet this could not be said to be the course pursued by the medical profession. "Thirteen years ago," said Dr. Hall, "I came by invitation to Northampton, to demonstrate what I believed to be a great natural truth—mesmerism, and sustained a severe conflict in its behalf with your medical men. Dr. Robertson objected to it, first that it was untrue, and then that it was only imagination. I proved it true by operations upon a respectable and trustworthy inhabitant

before his eyes, and demonstrated that it was not a mental image merely—as the word imagination would imply—but a physical condition. The learned doctor then denounced the tendency and possible abuse of a power of which, just before, he had denied the existence. But in my simplicity, I asked him the analogical question—“If he would have the kitchen fire put out, because of the burning of Moscow; or denounce the use of razors, because there was occasional suicides; or prohibit medicine, because even doctors themselves had sometimes been so unfortunate as to poison their patients with it?” And though time had established mesmerism as a great fact in therapeutics—as witness the existence of the Mesmeric Hospital in London, and popular experience everywhere—the profession, as a body, were still averse to recognising it; and they were just in the same mood with regard to homœopathy, or any other improvement. Their rule was, first to deny the facts of a question; secondly, to assail the honesty of the persons concerned in it; and lastly, to deplore the tendency of that the very existence of which they had the moment before denied;—while nothing could be more manifest than the principle of progression, and that physical improvements ought to be in the ratio of intellectual and moral advancement. It was a law of nature that what was most subtle was also most potent, illustrations of which might be drawn from electricity and magnetism; and as mankind grew more pure in faith and morals, they became less gross in habit and more cognizant of recondite principles in nature. Thus, what might do tolerably well for the day when Queen Elizabeth’s maids of honour ate beef-steaks and drank ale for breakfast, would have less affinity for the spirit of the present age, and less still for the future. Dr. Holland would probably explain to them how that which influences first the vital principle and the nerves, acts in turn upon the whole organism of man; and if it could be proved that faith alone would cure, he (the speaker) for one, would have no objection to lay by even the globule. But let those who attributed homœopathic cures to faith and imagination, be at least consistent enough to prescribe the agents they contended for, instead of resorting to severer measures, which often ended in permanent injury to the system. But, for his own part, he was bound to believe in the specific action of the different medicines homœopathically applied: his own experience had for him placed that question beyond a doubt. Dr. Hall then described the steps which led to his own conversion to homœopathy, through actual experiment upon himself when seriously ill, and that apart from any faith in its efficacy. He also furnished some very interesting statements of the use of homœopathic medicines in acute diseases, and concluded by moving the resolution, remarking with John Galt, that “We never can do an act of kindness to another, but it is the benevolence of Heaven directing us to achieve some good for ourselves.”

MR. J. DERBY seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The REV. J. T. BROWNE, of St. Edmund's, Northampton, moved

"That this meeting, believing in the superior efficacy of homœopathic treatment in acute diseases, pledges itself to use every exertion to establish an hospital for the reception of in-door patients."

And said, It may be questioned why I should move this resolution. It is because I am an old votary of homœopathy. When I became a convert, for every hundred now, there was then hardly one to take up with it, and perhaps some charitable people thought its adopters fit inmates for lunatic asylums; at present the supporters of homœopathy are to be found in considerable numbers among all classes of the community. Remarking on the objections against homœopathic practice, he added, Some say that the globules are poisonous, and although they may cure now, will in time tell upon the system. Others say they are inert, and cure by the effect of the imagination. I would ask, where is the imagination on the part of horses and cattle, or infants? I have seen and personally tested the benefits in most acute infantile diseases, such as fevers generally, scarlet fever, measles, typhus fever, &c., &c., and always with the most favourable results. I became a convert from observing the homœopathic treatment of acute diseases, seeing the speediest results follow the administration of the remedies, as might be said in no time. It is with pain, all notice that the science of medicine, as generally practised, is at a very low ebb, and that it has not made that advance which might be expected from the present state of progress in other sciences. But when we look at the allopathic practitioners,—I hesitate not to say it,—men of science and learning, many of them of benevolent and most amiable character, it is surprising that they do not confer with their brethren, highly educated and respectable men, who have walked the same hospitals, attended the same lectures, and taken the same degrees, but who have become converts to homœopathy. Let these have fair play. I was very sanguine that the hospitals throughout the country generally would take up the matter; as also the Infirmary of Northampton; as this will not be for some time, and as there is not accommodation enough, for our Infirmary is at present so full that many patients are denied access to its advantages. The same may be said with regard to the Victoria Dispensary. I move therefore the resolution for a homœopathic hospital, to meet the requirements and necessities of the poor. There is room enough for all; every person should be given the choice of treatment as well as of their medical men. This is a practical resolution, therefore I with pleasure move its adoption.

DR. HOLLAND, in seconding this resolution, alluding to his presence in Northampton, stated that two years ago he little thought he should again have the pleasure to meet them, and said: I think this resolu-

tion is one which a medical gentleman is called upon to support. For my own part, I am disposed to think we are all too much inclined to over-rate the progress of the present age in intelligence. Galileo, when he requested the professors of Padua to look through his telescope and see that our earth moved, was met with the response, "Science has decreed that it does not move, and it cannot." The story is an old one, but it is one similar to many nearer the present day. But let us take a later illustration. Up to the time of Harvey, in the 17th century, the medical theory was that the blood was made in the liver, flowed from thence through the body in the day, and returned at night, and rested there; and that the arteries were filled with air. Blood was believed to flow only through the veins. Notwithstanding the demonstrations of Harvey, which went to prove the falsity of this belief, and the admirable work which he wrote, and which has never been excelled, it is said that no medical man who had attained the age of forty when Harvey first promulgated his doctrine, ever believed it. Again, I may cite Jenner and vaccination, another acknowledged fact. Still more recently, mesmerism. Mr. Ward, surgeon to the Duke of Portland, had to amputate the limb of a peasant who had met with an injury. A barrister who happened to be staying there at the time said, "If you like, I will put the man to sleep for you." Mr. W. thought it a strange proposal, but consented. The leg was amputated and dressed, and the man awakened when he was quietly in bed. The surgeon was astonished, and wrote a detailed account, which he sent to a medical society in London, thinking, no doubt, that he was communicating intelligence of importance to the healing art, and might most likely meet with their thanks and approbation. To his astonishment, he received such a reply that he was glad never to say anything more respecting the subject. At that meeting, a gentleman well-known in the scientific world for his knowledge respecting the nervous system, Marshall Hall, demonstrated to all present that the thing was impossible. He said that the nerves in the thigh were of such a description, that it was impossible to cut through any portion without the effect being communicated to the brain; and that the man must have made up his mind not to let his sufferings be known. The discovery of mesmerism has led to the use of chloroform as an anæsthetic. Thus one discovery leads gradually to another. I think persecution is a law of the human mind, and has its beneficial results; for if any great reform is to be adopted, because a few men say it is true, we might have much of what is false established as truth; whereas persecution, although to many difficult to withstand, is the grand ordeal to purify all truth. I esteem the medical profession as a body, but we have seen that they have shown no disposition to examine homœopathy. Their great objection is the infinitesimal dose. Those parties forget how many things are not less marvel-

lous. To shew what we have in nature, I may state that Dr. Daubeny, the professor of chemistry, at Oxford, was requested to analyse a spring, celebrated for the cure of glandular affections. His analysis brought to light the fact, that its beneficial results were in consequence of its containing iodine, in the proportion of one grain to ten gallons of water. Take again Sir Humphrey Davy's experiments respecting the coppering of ships' keels. It was known that copper-covered keels lasted longer than keels not coppered, but the great objection to the use of that metal lay in its being electro-positive; by which means it attracted many foreign substances, which accumulated to such an extent as to hinder its progress through the deep. Well, Sir Humphrey found that by using one zinc nail to every six feet of copper, the keel would be made electro-negative. Again, in vaccination: one drop may be diluted with two drachms of water, and each drop of that water will contain virus, capable of producing the usual pustule, and the individual so vaccinated will be effectually protected from infection. Again, the 10,240th part of the tartrate of mercury, put upon the sweet-pea just previous to blossoming, will prevent its blooming. The millionth of a grain of potassium upon a mass of mercury, will change the whole from a state of positive to negative electricity. I touch upon acute diseases with pleasure. I am not aware that I have lost a single case during a homœopathic practice extending over a period of five years, with the exception of patients suffering under consumption. There is one disease which, as an allopath, I always dreaded—erysipelas; but since my adoption of homœopathy, I am not in the least afraid of it; and when leaving a patient at night, suffering from the disease, I can predict, and with confidence, that in the morning he will be better, and soon well of his ailment. For inflammation of the lungs, and rheumatism, the treatment is plain sailing: lastly, inflammation of the heart, (fortunately of comparatively rare occurrence;) out of two cases which I have treated within the last two years, singularly enough, both induced through the *abuse* of the cold water treatment, I will merely mention one, which, in twenty-four hours, with the use of *Aconite*, was very much better, and in thirty-six hours was out of danger. In seconding this resolution, I would add that homœopathy is progressing and must progress with the public, for it is a blessing to the human race. The resolution was carried.

The REV. J. LEA, of Moulton, moved

“That the thanks of the meeting be given to the medical officers for their gratuitous labours in the service of the institution.”

This resolution, he remarked, unlike the first one, which looked to futurity, refers to the past. Although I cannot relate many marvellous things which homœopathy has done in my own person, it has been carefully watched by me for the last five years; not only cases

which have been treated as private patients, but the poor from around my own dwelling, who have experienced the blessings of the Homœopathic Dispensary. One of our villagers was very ill a short time ago, and as he belonged to a sick club, required the club doctor's certificate of his incapacity to perform his usual daily labours. With the certificate, he had to submit to the drugging of his club doctor. At the instigation of a friend, who perceived he was rapidly getting worse, he went to the Northampton Homœopathic Dispensary, and as rapidly got better—meanwhile receiving the usual visits and drugs of his club doctor. The medicines he caused to be emptied from the bottles, and the resident medical practitioner flattered himself upon his skill in the restoration of the patient, who was in reality cured by homœopathic treatment, after being made worse by allopathic drugging. In all things that relate to the welfare of humanity and the good of our race, we should lend a helping hand, so as to leave the world somewhat better than we have found it, by spreading more and more of truth.

The resolution was seconded by MR. N. FISHER, who mentioned, amongst other matters, the case of his little daughter, who had been ill of inflammation of the bowels. At the expiration of a fortnight she was still in a deplorable condition; but what frightened him more than anything else was the fact that up to that time she had not had an evacuation from the bowels. On mentioning his fears to his homœopathic medical attendant, he was told that if any purgative was given, the patient would in all probability sink under its debilitating effects. Moreover, as she had lain so long without nourishment, it was exceedingly doubtful that there was anything in the bowels that should be removed. He listened to the reasons, and was glad he had done so, for his daughter's life was saved; and he mentioned this now, to shew that the bowels are not to be roughly used in such acute diseases, and also that all who heard might in any similar case be fully aware of this precedent and the happy result. He (Mr. F.) had practised homœopathy himself among neighbours who came to him. A short time since, he met a friend in Northampton market, with green spectacles on. He said his eyes were so painfully affected that he had not had any sleep for a fortnight. He was under Dr. Smith, of Southam Eye and Ear Infirmary, who had prescribed for him something very painful on application. The pain was very severe, and from its character he supposed there was some disease of the optic nerve. He (Mr. Fisher) gave the homœopathic medicine indicated. The sufferer took it, and on meeting him the next Saturday he expressed deep gratitude for the good effected. The medicine was continued for a little longer, and then the spectacles were abandoned, the patient being cured. The person referred to was Mr. Cornfield Williams, who was doubtless well-known to many present. The resolution was carried unanimously.

DR. PEARCE, replying, said, It has fallen to my lot on this as on a former occasion, as the senior medical officer of this institution, to acknowledge the vote of thanks which has just been offered to the medical officers; and in doing this, I may be allowed to make a few remarks on the medical report which has been presented, and already placed in the hands of the subscribers to the institution, and to a few other friends of homœopathy. I am quite willing to bear the onus and whole responsibility for the contents of that report. I make this allusion more particularly because some of its contents have, I am sorry to hear, given offence to several of the governors of the County Infirmary—that infirmary which is the pride of the county, honoured as it is by so many of its nobility, clergy, and gentry. However offensive the truth may be to the medical officers of that infirmary, I here assert, without fear of contradiction, that the tabular report of cases treated at this institution, with the notes thereon, are authenticated by the book of the dispensary, which lies on that table, and which is open to the inspection of the subscribers to this dispensary and to the governors of the County Infirmary. It contains the name, age, sex, state, date of admission and discharge, the nature of the disease, the previous treatment, and the result, in the case of every patient, with the name of the medical officer. Objection has been made to the allusions to the treatment pursued at the County Infirmary, and particularly on account of the initials and address of the patients, as well as the name of the medical man under whose treatment the patients had previously been disappointed of cure. Allow me to say that this step was deemed necessary, because we, as homœopaths, have been charged with “cooking” our statistics. Cases not being authenticated by the name of the patient have been called in question; but by publishing the names our enemies are left without excuse. I have no desire to be unjust or offensive, either to the Infirmary or to my allopathic brethren; but what has been their treatment of our body? Look at the medical journals which represent the state of feeling on the part of medical men towards homœopathy. Is it not a fact that every opportunity has been seized, not only to call in question our practice, but even to jeopardize the liberty of homœopathic practitioners? Mr. Wakley, the coroner for the county of Middlesex, and editor of the *Lancet*, has attacked one homœopathist after another, by holding inquests on patients dying under their treatment; and among those attacked was my late esteemed friend Dr. Curie. The *Lancet* has on various occasions stigmatized us who have adopted homœopathy as quacks, knaves, impostors, and other epithets which I do not at this moment remember, and has called that great man, Hahnemann, “a knave, fool, or madman, and would say the same to his followers.”* The *Lancet* is not the only journal which has thus

* See *Lancet*, March 28, 1846.

vilified homœopathists. The *Dublin Medical Press* says: "Any man who turns homœopathist, takes his place at once as a *liar*, a *cheat*, and a *swindler*. But it may be objected that these writers do not fairly represent the sentiments of the profession at large. Take, however, the fact that the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, which includes some thousands of medical men, and among them several of the medical men of this town and county, some of whom took an active part at the meeting, at one of their annual gatherings unanimously denounced homœopathists in the following language: "That it is the opinion of this association that homœopathy, as propounded by Hahnemann and practised by his followers, is so utterly opposed to science and common sense, that it ought to be in no way or degree practised or countenanced by any regularly educated medical practitioner. That it is derogatory to the honour of members of this association to hold any kind of professional intercourse with homœopathic practitioners. That there are three classes of practitioners who ought not to be members of this association, viz.: "1st. Real homœopathic practitioners. 2nd. Those who practise homœopathy in combination with other systems of treatment. 3rd. Those who, under various pretences, meet in consultation, or hold professional intercourse with those who practise homœopathy. That the thanks of the association are eminently due and are hereby given to the President and Fellows of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons of Edinburgh, for their determined stand against *homœopathic delusions and impostures*. That the thanks of the association are also due and are hereby given to the universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrews, for their resolution to refuse their diplomas to practitioners in homœopathy; but the association feels imperatively called on to express its disapproval of any school of medicine which retains amongst its teachers any one who holds homœopathic opinions."* This is the treatment we have received at the hands of those who complain when we publish our statistics; and I consider it a disgrace to the profession to have ejected Professor Henderson, of Edinburgh, from his appointment of Physician to the Edinburgh Infirmary, and to have attempted, but failed, to deprive him also of the chair of professor of pathology in the University of that Modern Athens, a position he still honourably maintains. Notwithstanding that, he has for the last five years, I believe, practised homœopathy. What, I ask, after such treatment can they expect, who thus avowedly treat us with scorn? With these remarks, I beg to tender my sincere acknowledgements for myself and for my worthy colleague, Dr. Thomas, who for some time past has rendered material assistance in the gratuitous labours connected with this dispensary. For myself, I would gladly hail the footsteps of any medical practitioner

* See *Medical Times*, August 16, 1851.

who will throw off the yoke of the associations which now fetter him, and in becoming etiquette enquire into the homœopathic treatment followed at this dispensary. The medical man should be a truth-seeker; and instead of descending to the petty jealousies of a fraternity, should soar as on eagles' wings upward and heavenward to the light of truth. So long as I retain my faculties and possess my health, I purpose to employ them, so far as I may be enabled, to the gratuitous treatment of the sick poor on the principle of homœopathy.

A vote of thanks to the chairman, SIR CHARLES ISHAM, was then moved by MR. FISHER, and seconded by DR. HOLLAND, who stated that it afforded him great pleasure to second the resolution, and thanked the chairman for his noble manliness in fearlessly avowing what he believed to be true.

In acknowledging the vote of thanks, THE CHAIRMAN remarked that he did not recognise many of the county people present at the meeting, and supposed that they left homœopathy to be tried by the towns' folk, preferring to look on, and as it was proved successful, they would no doubt adopt it. He was much pleased to have it in his power to be of use to his fellow men, especially on such an important occasion as the present; and concluded by noticing that hydropathy, mesmerism, as well as homœopathy, had been mentioned during the evening, he believed they were all means of cure, and destined to do much good for mankind.

The audience having exhibited an indisposition to leave, being anxious to hear DR. HOLLAND again, he rose and stated, that fearing to trespass on their time at that late hour of the evening, and although suffering from the effects of recent indisposition, was nevertheless willing to address to them a few words on the entirely practical part of what he had previously intended to say. There is no part of the human body, he remarked, however small, which examined either by the naked eye or by the most powerful microscope, is not found in connection with nervous structure. In the least particle of organic matter we have investigated, we have been able to trace nervous matter. I have come to the conclusion that all diseases—of course excluding those arising from accident—are due to the altered conditions of nervous matter: the nervous influence regulates all the actions of the vital economy. The ordinary changes of the atmosphere produce marvellous changes in the human body: but do not suppose the nerves alone are affected, for bodily structure is also changed by the altered nervous condition. He remarked, in reference to acute diseases, instancing inflammation of the lungs, it is said by observers generally, respecting the altered action in the diseased part, that there is first, increased circulation; secondly, retarded; thirdly, congestion supervenes; and subsequently, death, if the disease is unchecked. I am satisfied this is not correct; for in the

first instance, I notice not an increased but a sluggish circulation in the parts affected, and an increased one in the surrounding healthy structure. Supposing I were called upon to attend a case, I should give in the first stage *Aconite*, which does not act upon the blood vessels, but upon every nervous fibre connected with the minute nerves, which are upon every minute blood vessel. In the second stage, I should give *Phosphorus*, because it has a tendency to stimulate the nerves upon the vessels: in consequence of such action, a few globules of this medicine will, in from 36 to 48 hours, entirely change the character of the disease. This is owing, in a great measure, to the doses being so minute, thus more readily acting upon the nervous substance. It may be asked how these remedies act specifically? There are no two medicines alike, to look at, or when analysed chemically, and no two have exactly the same action upon the body: it is quite certain that of the hundreds employed by homœopaths, no two produce exactly the same changes upon the structures each affect. It is the duty of the physician to find out how these remedies act, which is impossible, except by testing their action upon the healthy body. The law *similia similibus curantur*—likes are cured by likes—certainly at first glance seems absurd and fallacious, but most of the remedies which have cured in allopathic practice have been given, although unintentionally, in agreement with that law. In a certain skin disease, the name of which I will not mention, the sheet anchor of the allopathists is sulphur. Mercury produces those painful bone swellings known as nodes, also ulceration of the throat and many other ailments; and they use it to cure these diseases. It is well known that workers in arsenic ore are affected with cancerous sores, and the allopathic practitioner uses arsenic to cure cancers. Strychnine causes a sort of paralysis, and is used to cure paralytic affections. When a student at Paris, in 1824, under Laennec, who had under his treatment a ward of patients whose ailments entirely consisted of lung diseases, emetic tartar was used, and with great success, to cure these cases: since that time, Majendie has demonstrated that emetic tartar causes engorgement and inflammation of the lungs. Rhubarb, well known as a purge, is used to cure diarrhœa.* Thus we find that many of the remedies used in the allopathic school of medicine actually cause similar diseases to those they are used to cure. We homœopaths do not mean to say that in every case the persons taking medicines while in health are sure to be affected in a certain manner, nor is it necessary such should be the case to prove the action of different remedies upon distinct parts of the human organism.

These remarks, which terminated the proceedings of the evening, were listened to with earnest attention, and at their close Dr. Holland was warmly applauded.

SWABBING THE LARYNX.

“At a recent meeting of the Pathological Society, a very practical discussion was elicited as to the value of nitrate of silver applied in solution topically to the larynx in cases of severe cough, hoarseness, and irritation of those parts, with the Mrs. Glass sort of corollary—whether we can ever, in point of fact, catch the sponge at all in the larynx? or whether it slips out of its latitude and longitude into the œsophagus? Dr. Quain, the excellent and ever active secretary, presented a pathological specimen of a diseased larynx recently removed from a patient at Brompton Hospital; from which it would seem that at least in some forms of phthisical disease above the vocal cords, if not below this part, the sponge or its contents will be found, undoubtedly, to make its way, and act very beneficially. “Swabbing the larynx” does not sound very classically; yet it was of extreme interest to find some of our best men present—Dr. Bence Jones, Dr. Watson, Mr. Erichsen, Dr. Risdon Bennet, Mr. Arnott, Dr. Peacock—who had all seen more or less of the thing. In London, it may be not unimportant to remark, we have men of a very extensive creed, who profess to cure almost all the evils to which flesh (at least pulmonary or bronchitic flesh) is heir by swabbing out the bronchus of the right or left side, as the case may be, with nitrate of silver; and forty or fifty unhappy children of a morning, at half-a-guinea a piece, is not an uncommon thing for one *seance*, who are all brought with whooping-cough or bronchitis to be swabbed out, and their disease “rectified” by nitrate of silver. *Many of these cases, we know, end in laryngitis and death*; but if they get worse, then the disease is beyond cure—if they get better, then the “sponge,” in spite of the legitimate doctors, has cured them. Mr. Erichsen, who has given the matter considerable attention, said he did not believe the sponge got beyond the chink of the glottis. Dr. Quain thought, in several instances at Brompton, it did. As to its value in some cases of relaxation of the uvula and vocal cords, there seemed no difference of opinion; but whether, as Dr. Horace Green, of America, represents, it got beyond the vocal cords, the majority seemed to agree with Mr. Erichsen; while Dr. Peacock and Dr. Risdon Bennet thought it very fortunate it did not get into the trachea, for the mischief it already seemed to do in irritable lungs was something enormous. Some historic friend having unluckily referred to its being an old invention, and nothing new under the sun, once adopted by Sir Charles Bell, the President (Mr. Arnott) said he remembered he had been asked by Sir Charles Bell to do it for him at the Middlesex Hospital, but they never dreamt of going beyond the fauces and upper part of the larynx—a point also corroborated by Dr. Watson, as he also remembered what Sir Charles Bell thought about it. Sir Charles Bell, we need hardly say, was nothing of a practitioner, though his one physiological discovery leaves his name a household word to us all for all time. Dr. Pollock created some amusement by saying he had seen Dr. Green, this tall American, offer to try the experiment at Brompton, and, very quietly, after he had got the sponge somewhere, ask, “now take your choice, which shall I put it into, the right lung or the left.” This little sally seemed to cap the climax of the absurdity of the swabbing process, and we shall probably hear no more about it.”—DUBLIN MEDICAL PRESS.

CORRESPONDENCE :

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

DEAR SIR,—I take the liberty to send you a very interesting case of ulcer on the eye, which, I have been informed by a medical gentleman, is very rarely cured under "old-school" treatment. Residing at Garston, six miles from Liverpool, for about seven months in the year, I frequently have occasion to administer homœopathic medicines to the poor, but invariably make it a practice not to interfere with the regular practitioners ; therefore my cases are those which have not received any benefit under the old treatment.

A boy named Edwards, aged 12 years, living in Garston village, was brought to me *quite blind*, and in a very bad state of health. As he could not open his eyes, I offered to send him to the Liverpool Homœopathic Dispensary ; but having previously been dismissed as incurable by an allopathic physician in Liverpool, and having also been to the Liverpool Eye Dispensary for six months without benefit, but, on the contrary, rapidly getting worse, his mother was disheartened, and thought, moreover, her boy was too ill to undertake the journey ; therefore, I undertook the case, until he would be in a state fit to send to the Liverpool Homœopathic Dispensary. Previous to the lad's blindness, he had had a severe attack of rheumatic fever. I commenced the treatment in the following manner ; first, *Aconite* for four days, *Belladonna* six days, and *Euphrasia* for seven days ; after taking them, to my astonishment, the boy was very much improved. Leaving Garston at this juncture, I sent to him *Nux vomica* for six days, and at the expiration of that period, *Spigelia* for six days. When the medicines were finished, the boy with his mother walked to Liverpool. His health was very much benefited—he had recovered the use of one eye. I took him to Dr. Drysdale, who said the case had been a very severe one of ulcer on the cornea ; and from the time he had commenced with homœopathic medicines, his progress towards health had been very rapid. Dr. Drysdale desired that I would continue with the case, so I prescribed *Kali bich.*, *Sulph. Zinc*, and *Calcarea*. On the 26th December, Dr. D. again saw the patient, and said the whole of the inflammation had subsided. At the present time, the boy enjoys excellent health.

I am satisfied every curable disease can be cured by homœopathic medicines, having seen diseases of five, ten, and twenty years standing cured under the homœopathic treatment. Many will bless the name of Hahnemann, but those who persecute homœopathy I would refer to the fifth chapter of Acts—"And now I say unto you, refrain from these men, and let them alone : for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought : but if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it."

1, *Upper Duke Street, Liverpool.*

J. J. EDGAR.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 6.—NEW SERIES.

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TO OUR READERS.

THERE is now before parliament a "New Medical Registration Bill," which purposes, according to its promoters, to effect the suppression of quackery. If such were its real object, it should be so constructed; but after having given it a careful perusal, we are obliged to come to the conclusion that such is by no means its aim. The objects, as expressed in the bill, are simply these:

1st. To mulct the duly qualified practitioners of medicine in England to the extent of £20,000 this present year.

2nd. To impose a tax of £10 on every medical practitioner who does not register or who may enter the profession after December, 1856.

3rd. Chemists and druggists, no matter how qualified, may prescribe or practise as *they* (the chemists and druggists) see fit.

4th. Medical practitioners who may have studied in foreign universities or colleges, unless they have also passed examination and paid special fees in England; and English physicians, surgeons, and apothecaries, after passing their respective halls and colleges, unless they choose to be mulcted in the sum of one pound, if they register or enter practice before December, 1856; or should they register or enter practice later, unless they agree to be defrauded in the sum of £10; may practise: but, should they be so venturesome as

to place their well-earned titles before their names on their doors, or the letters behind it in their bills, or in anywise

“Take or use the name or title of a physician, doctor, bachelor of medicine, surgeon, or apothecary, or any name, title, admission, or description implying that he is registered under this Act, or that he is recognized by law as a physician, or surgeon, or apothecary, or a practitioner in medicine, shall, on being summarily convicted of every such offence, before any two justices of the peace for the county, city, or place where the offence was committed, pay a sum not exceeding *twenty pounds* nor less than *five pounds*, to be recoverable as herein-after described.”

Such is the import of “The Medical Act for 1856.”* Not one provision against quackery, but an evident exclusion from medical practice of all those whom this bill—alone—may make legally qualified or not, as is expressed in clause xxxviii.

“After the first day of December, 1856, the words “legally qualified medical practitioner,” or “duly qualified medical practitioner,” or any words importing a person recognized by law as a medical practitioner, when used in any Act of Parliament, shall be construed to mean a person *registered* under this Act.”

There is yet another aim intended, which is expressed in the xxix. clause.

“If any of the said several Colleges or the said Faculty shall at any time strike off from the list of such College or Faculty the name of any one of their members who has been guilty of misconduct, such College or Faculty shall signify to the Medical Registrar the name of the member so struck off; and the Medical Registrar shall erase forthwith such name from the registrar, and shall not restore such name to the registrar until he shall receive from a College or Faculty a notification that his name has been placed upon the list of their members.”†

This looks very much like a blow aimed at homœopathic medical practitioners, who may venture to labour for the good and the true in medicine.

Is the old school of physic *qualified* to use so much dogmatism against all other attempts to cure as so to endeavour to crush them? Has it, during the three thousand years of its existence, saved so many lives that else would have perished, that it is now zealous to keep to itself all the honours and emoluments accruing from the practice of physic?—Is there not expressed here the exclusiveness

* See *Lancet*, March 1, 1856, pp. 238—242.

† Already, Messrs. Lane and Lara have advertised their new directory, which is to exclude homœopaths. Need we a stronger proof of one aim of this bill?

which always belongs to those who know they are in error, and would banish all investigation from around them? Had this law been enforced twenty years ago, homœopathy in England would have been smothered. The great promulgator of the law of *similia* would have been placed in as humble, yea, more humble position than—a village druggist. Curing is no longer to be the criterion of good practice. The opinion of the people is not to have any weight. The framers of this bill will sit in judgment, and the law must obey their requests.

“Medical students! you who have studied hard, and starved your stomachs to feed your brains, who have sighingly deposited your watches to pay for your certificate of ability, you must get some more of the gold, ere ye can be ‘legally or duly qualified’ to practice what ye have laboured so hard to attain. Graduates of foreign colleges! medicine is not a science, but an art, the mode of practice adopted in your countries will not suit British constitutions. It is true ye have all produced men who have contributed their share to erect the temple of Æsculapius, but—we must have some of your gold, or you cannot have any of our qualifications. We have a word to say to you, homœopathists! and to the users of cold and warm ablutions! you have sadly rent our purses. Ye are a vile lot! Owing to your foreign teachers, we cannot prosecute our plans half to our minds. We have to reduce our doses, and sometimes to acknowledge that *nature* can cure. You forced the fact from us; but we have our ‘New Medical Bill,’ and will not have anything more to do with you. You may exist, but not with credit. If you will live, why—live in the kennel! But you, dearly beloved brethren of the pestle and mortar, may Galen send you patients! We expect great things from you. It is true ye do not know much—neither Latin nor Greek distresses your brains, but you are as dear to us as is the jackal to the lion. So go on! Practise! prescribe! In the greatness of our New Medical Act we will protect ye, for the law is mighty and shall prevail!” Such is the language of the bill, translated into the vernacular.

The *Lancet* has first kicked, but is now fast embracing this

bill, and giving it its support! The *Medical Circular* has not ceased to expose its folly and its aim. The society of apothecaries has "earnestly invited the attention of their licentiates" to the bill, with the view of preventing its becoming law. Some two or three homœopathists have taken upon themselves to represent the whole body, and have waited upon the framers of the bill. No general opinion of the homœopathic body has been expressed, and no general meeting has been called. Various petitions have been presented to the House of Commons against it, and some few in its favour.

The Association of General Medical Practitioners of Ireland have met to express their dissatisfaction with the bill :

"But while such an active opposition is evinced by the independent body of the Profession, there is no movement of the Universities and Colleges, the corporate bodies to whom the bill is so insulting. They appear as yet quite insensible of the reproach cast on them by the 31st clause of the bill, which, to secure efficiency of examination, provides for the presence of an inspector—otherwise a spy—at all examinations held by such corporate bodies; which is obviously a charge of inefficiency or corruption. If anything could justify the proposed measure, as applied to the Universities and Colleges, it would be the readiness with which they appear to yield to such degradation. In this, however, we may see a consequence of the policy of the bill, which, besides giving to those corporations two-thirds of the proposed representation, without bearing any share of the special tax, holds out also the prospect of some one or other of each of them obtaining a place of emolument for doing nothing. Hence it is probable that they as yet have given no indication of honest or independent resistance."*

The bill, although it claims to be for the profession, should not be overlooked by the people; for they will find, besides the matters already cited, that the *liberties of the subject* are attempted to be controlled in no common degree. The bill will be again brought forward on the 2nd of April, 1856.

* *Medical Circular*, March 26.

HOMŒOPATHY AND ALLOPATHY.

A CONTRAST.

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To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

MR. EDITOR,

In my last communication to your deservedly popular Journal, it may be recollected that I adverted to the essentials of homœopathy, to the harmonic *oneness of principle*; the great truth that it is not the *quantity* of a medicinal substance, but its being homœopathic, that is, producing upon a healthy organism symptoms *similar* to the existing disease, that causes the apparently insignificant quantity of a drug to become that powerful (dynamic) remedial agent, enunciated by the philosophy of Hahnemann, and which experience and observation have long assured us, is the true handmaid of nature, in the restoration of health. We know it is an axiom, that bodies can be divided without limit; that each atom or molecule has all the properties of the original body whence it came, and that affinity, or relationship, is best promoted by whatever tends to divide matter most minutely, especially mechanical *division* and *solution*. And what is homœopathy but the adoption of a principle in medicine, where there was none before, and the diminution of the dose, to a more exact point of safety and efficiency? *There is no other law in medicine*, however much its opponents may sneeringly affect to despise it, and pour the venom of their slander upon its conscientious adherents and partizans. Like will cure like. The results of the two modes of combating disease, by similars, (homœopathy) or by contraries, (allopathy) when contrasted, *will* remain, as they do, surprisingly in favour of the former; the advantages of the new *will* predominate over those of the old system. There is no help for it. It is the sole therapeutic principle, that operates immediately on the individual organs diseased, and on them only, in contradistinction to the more ordinary system, with its lancet and other lethal weapons, which destroy a large amount of human life. An art which rests on mere theory, imitated by base and mercenary quacks, with compounds dire and with effects but too deadly, which employs all kinds of violent measures in frightful profusion—outside and inside—all full—promiscuously to every part, save and except that only which requires treatment; a practice of physic the highest authorities of which have explicitly declared is one huge error—that diseases are cured by nature in spite of it, in other words, its interference opposing instead of assisting the cure. Under homœopathic treatment, on the contrary, the disease itself is specifically reached and as it were neutralized, like positive and negative electricity, which, being similar, absorb each other. In the same manner two similar diseases neutralize or absorb each other to the zero point, a state where neither exists, and therefore health. Well may Sir John Forbes exclaim to his allopathic brethren, “it is utterly impossible to disregard the claims of homœopathy as an established form of practical medicine, as a great fact in the history of our art; we cannot ignore it; we must,” reiterates the royal physician, “*volentes volentes*, consider this question, for, not only do we see all our ordinary diseases cured homœopathically, but even all the severer and more dangerous diseases which demand by the common method

prompt and strong measures to prevent a fatal issue." Who could have believed this strangeness and improbability? Is this fanaticism? *Vincit veritas*; let men investigate; there is, I trust, a brighter day dawning. God speed the right. It is often flippantly and glibly remarked, that homœopathy may be all very well for trifling or chronic ailments, when nothing is required to be done, but that it is perfectly impotent in cases of emergency and imminent danger, and utterly unable to do battle victoriously in sudden attacks of acute disease. I am fond of deeds as well as of words. Most people know that in Liverpool, during the summer of 1854, Asiatic Cholera was an appalling scourge amongst us. Take an illustration of homœopathic practice.

John Martin, aged 40, the subject of the following case, resided in Bolton-street, Copperas Hill; a tall, strong, muscular sailor, usually it was said in the enjoyment of tolerably good health, though it is more than probable that Dr. Huss, of Stockholm, would have detected in him symptoms of that peculiar physical and moral deterioration, to which he has given the somewhat euphonious appellation of *Alcoholismus Chronicus*, or the chronic alcohol disease. He became a patient of mine on the 29th of August, having been taken suddenly and alarmingly worse. It appeared that he had been ailing for several days previously with a "bad digestion," and premonitory diarrhœa, and had resorted freely to alcoholic stimulants, and different kinds of alleged never failing "stuff," patent and non-patent, regular and irregular, in the vain hope of affording himself permanent relief, in this fearfully "open state of the ports." Matters speedily assumed a dangerous and life-menacing ascendancy,—a climax came,—on the morning of that day, himself and friends determined on "further advice," inasmuch as the purging had become much worse; he grew faint and sick, well nigh unto death. At 10 o'clock he was seized with most exoruciating cramps in the legs and thighs,—the pulse at the wrist was exceedingly feeble—his heart struggling convulsively to contract and dilate, yet a little longer—the skin extremely cold, and of an unmistakably *bluish* aspect, urgent thirst, and incessant restlessness, almost uninterrupted vomiting, and purging of rice water evacuations, with painful spasms of the abdominal muscles,—features collapsed—the urine altogether suppressed, breathing hurried and laborious. *Aconite*, in saturated tincture—five drops, dissolved in ten table spoonfuls of water—one table spoonful was administered every ten minutes. In the course of an hour the cramps became less violent; he was less restless, and indeed appeared in every respect better; this state of things, however, was destined to be in some degree evanescent,—the pulse subsequently became imperceptible—his face and upper extremities cold as marble, and covered with a clammy perspiration, cadaverous and chilly to the touch. I forthwith prescribed *Veratrum* 2, followed by *Arsenicum* 3, every half hour; ice-cold water for drink. Towards evening the pulse rose, and again became perceptible; the vomiting subsided, purging much less, eyes sunken, and surrounded by a characteristic dark livid circle, cramps diminished. *Veratrum* and *Arsenicum* were now taken alternately every hour. On the 31st, at noon, all the choleraic symptoms were entirely gone, the tongue was white and coated, but disposed to clean; he had some slight pains in the legs and chest, doubtless the effects of the dreadful cramps, and severe vomiting. He wished for some food, and was accordingly allowed Sago. *China* 2, six drops, in distilled water, six ounces, were then ordered, a table spoonful of the solution to be given every three hours; and on the

first of September, I had the gratification of witnessing a most perfect and satisfactory recovery. Let your readers, Sir, look upon this picture and then upon that directed by allopathists to be used—which I give below ; and by way of contrast to this efficacious and simple, because *natural*, mode of treatment, let them decide which sort of practice to adopt, allopathic or homœopathic. The question is one of vast importance, involving, as it does, life, health, and disease ; homœopathy has nothing to fear, but every thing to court, in a fair, open inquiry. In reference to allopathy (and its relative merits), I leave that to the *Medical Times and Gazette*, ever redolent of its delicious sweets and the predictions of the downfall of homœopathy, and though sadly in want of some such pole-star of healing as is developed by the immutable principle *similia similibus curantur*, it is indignant with ire, irrepressible (it would seem) at its own imbecile and fruitless efforts, to suppress inquiry into the Hahnemannian law of cure, founded on the resemblances of a medicine to the symptomatology of a disease. On the rampant quackery practised in his own school of medical faith and therapeutics, the late editor thus edifyingly discourses : “ Let us pass in review the remedies for cholera, so as to obtain, as it were, a bird’s eye view of them. They defy classification. Omitting for the moment the complex methods by which it was to be vanquished, what were the simple specifics that were to cure, infallibly cure, the fearful enemy ? Water, of every temperature. Wrap the cholera patient in a cold sheet, says one. Dash cold water repeatedly over the sheet in which he is enveloped, says a second. Ply him well with cold water internally, says a third. Freeze him—cool his blood to 30° below zero, adds a fourth. Fools that ye are, exclaims a fifth, thus to treat the half dead with cholera ; I say, wrap him in sheets soaked in boiling water, and having thus half cooked the shivering wretch, conclude the process by placing him over the boiler of a steam engine. Sage advice, learned Thebans, the blood is dark and the surface cold ; my theory, shouts one man, is, that oxygen reddens the blood, and by its action on that blood, generates heat ; therefore, make the patient inhale oxygen. Nay, rejoins another, the blood in the lungs is too bright ; oxygen has nothing to do with the generation of heat ; stifle him with carbonic acid. There are cramps present, which cause much suffering, and therefore are they the symptoms especially to be treated. Chloroform annihilates pain—let him breathe chloroform. It is evident, avows one sapient doctor, that there is no bile in the stools, therefore calomel should be administered. It is plain, says another, that diarrhœa is the great evil, therefore, let him have opium—that is the drug which effectually prevents a free flow of bile. He is cold and depressed ; what so natural as to stimulate ? The wisdom of the proposal is proved by the numbers who recommended its adoption ; the folly of the many is manifested by the proportion who died under the use of stimulants. Give him alkalies, vociferates one man. Nay, says another, lemon juice and acids are the true remedies. It is simply a case of intermittent fever, maintain some ; therefore, they add, the drug for its prevention and its cure is quinine. Not half potent enough, whispers a supporter of the same theory ; give him arsenic. Certain fanatics refused the use of medicine, but, in the course of their religious mummeries, administered to the credulous a cup of olive oil. A patient recovered, and Eureka ! Eureka ! shout the populace. *Vox et præterea nihil*, say those who wait awhile before they decide. Opium, in one man’s mind, is a specific, in small doses—the twentieth of a grain frequently

repeated. Nonsense, says another, opium is a specific, but let it be given in doses of from six to twelve grains. The latter plan has one advantage; if the power of absorption yet remains to the stomach, the patient will assuredly be saved all further pain, and, if he be a good man, mercifully provided for in a better world. However, as the duty of the doctor is to keep men here, and not to hurry them off there, we suppose twelve grain doses of opium will not be very extensively recommended by the profession. Calomel is the specific that will stay every symptom of cholera, bring back the absent pulse, restore the genial warmth of the icy skin, bid bloom again the leaden cheek. Give it, then, freely, in large doses; give twenty or thirty grains, and see its magical effects. Do so, says an equally devoted admirer of calomel, and you will give the last blow to the dying wretch. Calomel is the remedy, but it must be insinuated into the system in small doses, frequently repeated. Bah! replies the first, if you follow this man's whim, the patient will slip through your fingers. Then come other infallible specifics, pitch, sulphur, phosphorus, and carbon, gold, silver, zinc, and lead, strychnine, salacine, morphine, and cannabine, hachshish, and zhorabia; abstraction of blood and injection of blood; perfect repose and incessant motion; to the skin, irritation the most severe, applications the most soothing; stimulants the most violent, sedatives the most powerful; inhalation, flagellation.

But if these are the simple, what *are* the complex methods of treatment, that have been proposed? A combination of all the absurdities contained in the foregoing. Let us draw the reader's attention to one compound method of treatment. Here are the remedies proposed by one gentleman: port wine, calomel, opium, sulphate of potash, powdered ipecacuanha, spirits of nitric æther, cardamon seeds, raisins, caraway seeds, cinnamon, cochineal, camphor, aniseed, benzoic acid, storax, balsam of tolu, aloe, rhubarb, sal volatile, ipecacuanha wine, biborate of soda, oxide of bismuth, spirits of wine, nitrate of silver, tartar emetic, potassa, bismuth, calumba, canella, sulphuric æther, cayenne, brandy, and benzoïn. What a divine afflatus must have distended the mind of the proposer of the above remedies, ere he could have conceived the idea of bringing such an assemblage of drugs into *one prescription!* Think of the wisdom that must have guided the selection of each and apportioned the proper dose! And then, fancy that all are to be administered to the same unfortunate stomach, during the short space of forty eight hours."

The first number of a new volume of the *Medical Times and Gazette* emphatically sets forth that this Journal is selected by the most eminent men in the medical profession, as the medium through which their latest discoveries and observations are made known, and for the publication of the official reports of the army and navy medical boards; that it has acquired a character and an influence not possessed by any other medical periodical, thus presenting a faithful record of the progress of medical science, and enabling subscribers in any part of the world to become acquainted with the *latest advances* in medical science, and every practical improvement. If allopathic assumptions were contradicted by homœopathic experience, medicine would, indeed, remain an ill fated art. But I thank God, it is *not always* (as Dickens says) "equally impossible to do the plainest right, and to undo the plainest wrong, without the express authority of the circumlocution office"—a glorious establishment, which has hitherto had its representative, not for an age, but through all time; ever beginning—ever tending to some goal, but never attaining it, stop-

ping short, as it uniformly does, at its very starting, and in the very act of progress, absorbed in the atmosphere of obscurity, which limits its mental view, and alone gifted "with the art of perceiving *how not to do it.*"

Truth we know is mighty, and must ultimately prevail. Meanwhile, homœopathy, like all other boons conferred upon the human family, must endure a large amount of misrepresentation, perversion, calumny, obloquy, and abuse, it must bide its time—nevertheless, it is giant-like, rapidly gaining ground amongst the unbiassed and intelligent of this great northern metropolis, and will, I doubt not, ere long achieve a triumphant victory over all opposition, and attain its ultimate position as the established doctrine in medical science; while the blind and empirical practice of the past, a relic-token of yet darker ages, the perverse and unenlightened system of wholesale drugging, and administering of huge quantities of heterogeneous substances, whose poisonous properties were never ascertained upon the healthy, nor sufficiently understood, shall be no more; while old allopathy, as thus practised, shall wend her way to a final resting-place in the tomb of all the Capulets, and be ranked among the things that were. For however much men may persist in closing their eyes to a knowledge of the true, homœopathy must and will progress. Its laws partake too much of universality in their application to be laid prostrate by any hostile or anti-homœopathic crusade. Like another, and yet more glorious reformation, it shall work its onward way in the righteous cause of healing the sick, and advancing the physical and moral welfare of the whole family of man. Let us strive to hasten the coming of that consummation, so devoutly to be wished for, when prizing homœopathy as her noblest wealth and best protection, this Imperial realm shall teach allegiance to her subjects, born to serve her and obey. Its advent will realize the expectations of thousands, its procrastination mar the happiness of millions.

In sincere admiration and grateful acknowledgment of your successful efforts to ameliorate the sufferings of our common humanity by the substitution of a rational system of medical discipline for mechanical force and rude violence, I subscribe myself, on public grounds,

Yours with respect,

WILLIAM HITCHMAN, M.D.

Member of the London College of Surgeons.

2, Daulby Street, London Road,
February 14th, 1856.

LOW ESTIMATE IN WHICH THE SERVICES OF MEDICAL MEN ARE HELD BY PUBLIC BODIES.

"IN a recent number of the *Times*, two advertisements appear in juxtaposition: one is from the Guardians of the Poor of the Parish of St. Marylebone, who require a person to superintend the oakum-picking by the out-door paupers, and for which service 20s. a-week are offered as wages; the next is from the Guardians of the Ampthill Union, who require a qualified medical gentleman to attend the poor of a population of about 2700, in an area of 7671 acres, and for which £50 a-year is the salary proposed. It will thus be seen that a superintendent of oakum-

picking is paid a higher rate of wages than a member of our profession ; because we presume that his services are more valuable, or the competition for the office is less. We should like to be informed whether the Clerk to the Amptill Union is satisfied with a salary of £50 a-year ; and, if not, we think it a fair subject of inquiry whether the village attorney is socially or educationally higher in rank than the practitioner of medicine ? or is the solution of the question to be found in the greater *esprit de corps* which prevails in the legal profession ?”

Not far from Northampton there resides a village surgeon, who, for his medical care of nine parishes, receives £60 a-year. A poor man, on enquiring the other day why the surgeon did not insist on better terms, was replied to thus : “ If we did not do it, another medical man might come here, and *now we do get it out of the farmers.* If another were to come, it might affect our *private practice.*”

INELEGANT EXTRACTS.

No. I.

THE *Lancet* has called Hahnemann a *knave, fool, and madman.* It has called homœopathic practitioners equally opprobrious names, *e.g., liars, cheats, vagabonds.* It has called homœopathic practitioners *knaves,* and their patients *idiots.* Its last act of abuse is directed specially to the *patients* of homœopathic physicians. Hear its anathema against you who are such :

Extract from the LANCET, Feb. 2, 1856, a Weekly Medical Journal, edited by THOMAS WAKLEY, Coroner for Middlesex.

“ When William the Third was induced on one single occasion to lay his hand on a poor wretch wishing to be cured of the King’s Evil by the Royal touch, he said, ‘ God give you better health and more sense.’ We must confess that *our wishes for the patients of homœopathic physicians* are not so seemingly merciful, and that we are prone to utter such imprecations on them as would make the shade of Ernulphus walk disturbed. **MAY YOUR VIGOUR OF MIND AND BODY FAIL, YOUR BONES DECAY, YOUR LIMBS BE EATEN BY DISEASE, YOUR JOINTS STIFFEN, AND BE EVERLASTINGLY IMMOVABLE. . . .** This stern temper, however, is not vindictive, but rather is the consequence of a firm conviction that the best way of reclaiming fools is to let them taste to the full the bitter effects of folly.”

REVIEW :

Medical Reform: being an Examination into the Nature of the prevailing System of Medicine, and an Exposition of its Chief Evils, with Allopathic Revelations. A Remedy for the Evil. By SAMUEL COCKBURN, M.D., &c. London: B. Theobald, Paternoster Row.

THE title fully expresses the contents and objects of this entertaining little work. In it the practice of medicine and its antecedents are clearly and faithfully expressed. In a style most readable to the public, it traces medical theory and practice from Hippocrates down to the fallacious methods prevalent in the present day, and combats the theories of old physic by the fact of its helplessness to cure. Medical reform now-a-days is very much talked about; still we must be allowed to say, that in our opinion, the true medical reform must begin by educating the public, that *they* may discriminate between the right and wrong—the qualified and the unqualified. This is the remedy Dr. Cockburn proposes.

“The wide-spread and almost total ignorance that prevails among the public in regard to the properties of medicine and the nature of disease, is one of the most important causes of the entire want of progress in the healing art. We have no wish that every man should be his own doctor, certainly not; but still we hold that every man ought, if possible, to put himself in possession of such an amount of knowledge of these subjects, as shall enable him intelligently to choose his medical attendant, and not to be left entirely to the tender mercies of chance and empiricism. There are thousands who will discuss for days together almost any of the most difficult points in theology, who at the same time know nothing at all about the constitution of their own bodies, or the diseases to which they are exposed, or of the means of curing themselves. Surely, if men of ordinary intelligence are capable of understanding subjects so exalted, and necessarily so difficult, they ought to be equally capable of understanding the constitution of their own bodies—the nature and principles of medical treatment. Once get the public enlightened on this subject, and their pressure will to a certainty compel the abettors of the orthodox faith to bestir themselves and keep in advance, otherwise they will be pushed aside.”

Many who are under homœopathic treatment continue so, not because they understand the theory of homœopathy, but because they personally experience the good effects of the treatment. To such we would *particularly* recommend a perusal of this book.

The small dose of homœopaths, which, in its very smallness, has proved such a “lion in the way” to the investigation of this truth, is here happily explained. We give the commencement.

“Allopaths having had *no experience* whatever in the use of homœopathic medicines, are not qualified to decide upon the proper dose of such medicines, neither have they any right to object to the doses employed by homœopaths, until they *condescend* to try them properly. Hahnemann himself, even after he

had discovered the homœopathic law, was entirely ignorant of the power of the small doses (no such doses having been used before his time); accordingly, being guided by what he had formerly learned from experience, he gave his medicines in doses quite as large as those generally employed by the old-school doctors. He soon found, however, that such doses were by far too large—that they often produced very serious consequences, and on this account he gave smaller doses.”

The facts are so plain and the reasoning so logical, that we feel inclined to present our readers with a little more from its pages. But as space will not permit, we cannot do better than recommend all who are interested in the matter to purchase the book, for the price places it within the reach of all classes of the community.

WANT OF UNIFORMITY IN THE PRACTICE OF OLD-SCHOOL PHYSICIANS.

PROFESSOR BENNETT, in an introductory lecture in Edinburgh recently, condemned the practice of BLEEDING in cases of pneumonia (inflammation of the lungs), as being utterly at variance with sound pathology. The following is extracted from the *Medical Times and Gazette* of March 8, 1856. Truly there is a shaking among the dry bones.

“The week which terminates to-day has been one of no small amusement, as well as of interest, to the Profession. In the Introductory Lecture by Professor Bennett occurred a passage of which, to the surprise of all here, no notice was taken in your review, which otherwise gave so much satisfaction. The passage is to the following effect:—

“Again, pneumonia consists of an exudation into the vesicles and tissues of the lung, which coagulates, and excludes the air. It is very doubtful whether a large bleeding from the arm can operate upon the stagnant blood in the pulmonary capillaries; that it can directly affect the coagulated exudation is impossible. *But lowering the strength and vital power of the individual, is directly opposed to the necessary vital changes which the exudation must undergo*, in order to be removed by cell-growth and disintegration. *Hence it is, in my opinion, that the mortality from pneumonia has diminished since large bleedings have been abandoned*, and not because, as has been suggested by an eminent authority, inflammations, like fevers, have changed their types since the days of Cullen and Gregory.

“Again, the absorption of a pleuritic effusion depends on the formation of new blood-vessels in the coagulated exudation which is adherent to the pleuræ. These, in their turn, are the results of cell-formation. Can such formation be encouraged, and an absorbing, instead of an exhaling, surface produced by large bleedings, or by mercury?”

“To this passage exception was taken by Professor Alison, and that veteran philosopher gave notice of his intention to read a paper at the Medico-Chirurgical Society on the Changes in the Type of Diseases.

"Accordingly, on the night of the 20th instant, the large room was crowded in every part. Dr. Alison was not able, on account of his health, to be present himself, but his paper was read by Dr. W. T. Gairdner, one of the Secretaries. It set out by quoting the above passage from Dr. Bennett, and then proceeded to show, by a reference to the descriptions of disease which are found in the older authors—especially Cullen—that the pleurisy and pneumonia then met with presented very different characters from those which the diseases called by the same names now exhibited.

"Dr. Alexander Wood animadverted in very severe terms on the absence of Dr. Bennett from this discussion. He condemned the conduct of any teacher of Medicine cramming such crude and undigested theories in regard to practice, as those of Dr. Bennett, into the heads of young men who had no practical acquaintance with disease, and then refusing to discuss them with his compeers. Dr. Wood expressed a doubt whether a great deal of our change in medical practice was not the result of fashion, and whether we were not now rushing into the opposite extreme of avoiding blood-letting too much. He then went over the substance of Dr. Alison's paper, illustrating his remarks by the results of general experience in particular diseases. He argued that *those whose experience was chiefly derived from the broken-down inmates of Hospitals were not the best judges of the employment of the lancet.*

"The paper of Dr. Bennett, (which occupied two hours in reading, although he enunciated it tolerably rapidly,) went over nearly the whole ground of the cell pathology, and ended by attempting to show *that not blood-letting alone but every species of treatment which medical men are in the habit of applying, is utterly at variance with sound pathology.* He was supported in this by Dr. Sibbald.

"Professor Blaikie congratulated Dr. Bennett on the enlightened views which pervaded his paper, and argued, from the differences prevailing among Medical men, *that all would soon be driven to embrace Hydropathy.*

"Professor Macdonald, of St. Andrew's, *used similar arguments in regard to Homœopathy!*"

RHEUMATIC INFLAMMATION.

BY WILLIAM HITCHMAN, M.D., LIVERPOOL.

RHEUMATISM is a disease often resisting the best selected remedies, and, apparently, running its course unchecked; so much so, that many authors of judgment and experience have expressed their opinion, that in most cases it will, in spite of remedies, run a course of six weeks, and that, notwithstanding many certain and speedy remedies. "There are, however, certain modes of treatment," says Dr. Barlow, the latest writer on the practice of medicine, "which deserve special notice; and some upon which, we believe, great reliance may be placed. The first indication suggests decided antiphlogistic measures, and, undoubtedly, they are not without their use; of these, the most obvious is *bleeding*—a full bleeding at the commencement of the disease often goes a great way to arrest its progress, or, at all events, to render it more amenable to other remedies." I suppose venesection is recommended to be performed because the blood is buffed, yes, buffed to the last, and *bleeding induces the tendency to fatal metastasis to the heart.* The next remedy deserving of notice, is that which is commonly known as Dr. Chambers's plan of treatment, and which consists in producing a large flow of secretions from the liver and intestines. Ten grains of calomel are given at bed-time, every other

night, and followed in the morning, with a black draught; and this scientific process is directed to be repeated several times, until a sufficiently copious secretion has been produced from the liver and bowels. *After this*, diuretics and colchicum, alkalies, diaphoretics and calomel, and opium, must be administered, in conjunction, inasmuch as they have all equal and imperative claims on our confidence.

The *grand secret* is said to be, to ensure a free discharge of all the secretions, from skin, bowels, and kidneys. The general Sebastopol-like assault is further ordered to be carried out by giving a dose of calomel and opium, at bed-time, and a saline draught, consisting of liquor ammoniæ acetatis, with colchicum wine, spirit of nitric æther, antimonial wine, camphor mixture, and to crown the whole, (one would really think to make it look more like syllabus,) a proper smattering of syrup of tolu! The draught to be taken every four hours; and when the acuteness of the rheumatism has abated, and the urine is clearing, great benefit will be derived from having recourse to bark, combined with ammonia. Should any pain be yet complained of, it must be met by increased doses of opium, the compound powder of ipecacuanha, or Dover's powder, as it is called.

The other varieties of this malady are the sub-acute and chronic, in which giuacum and stimulants are very beneficial; and it must not be forgotten that the iodide of potassium, in doses of five grains or more, with an alkali, and a bitter, three times a day, is a most elegant and efficient medicine in these cases, for "it causes a great flow of urine, in which it may be detected by the proper tests." Verily, allopathy is a most extraordinary science! and not wishing in the slightest degree to unfairly detract from its merits, I have advanced these brilliant "points of practice," from the writings of its most eminent authorities—men, practical men, learned men, instructing the medical youth of this kingdom, *ex cathedra*, to cull such remedies! and apply them, in every form of rheumatic inflammation as may seem most expedient and satisfactory!!! Surely it is awful to contemplate such a sad state of things, in this boasted age of freedom and enlightenment, sadder still, to remember that this gigantic evil is a great obstruction to the onward progress of a safer and better method—the true ministry of health, founded, not on barren and idle speculation, but on a firm and natural basis—a principle of cure, not made by man, but transcribed from that fixed, and unalterable code of laws, whose maker is God. Let sceptics, whose minds are not so prejudiced with bigotry and wilful blindness, as to be hermetically sealed against the reception of truth, see how this golden rule of medical treatment deports itself at the bed-side of the sick; and, not resting alone upon the assertions of others, examine for themselves, "prove all things, and hold fast that which is good." Without the formula, *similia similibus curantur*, expressive of the relation of the symptoms to the effects of the drug, the practice of medicine is but an incongruous art; with such a law, it at once takes rank as a SCIENCE.

Jan. 20th, 1852. Mr. T., aged 30, by trade a joiner and builder, has been the subject of several attacks of acute rheumatism, (the six weeks bugbear of our friends the Legitimates) during the last and worst (he says) of which I was requested to visit him. I found him suffering great agony from febrile excitement and excruciating rheumatic pains all over him, full-pulse, tongue thickly coated, profuse acid perspiration, scanty and high colored urine, depositing a copious lateritious, or red brick-dust sediment (purpurate of ammonia) great pain, with redness and swelling of the wrist, knee, and ankle joints, bowels relaxed by antibilious pills, and salts and senna. He was importunate to be bled, as was his wont, on former occasions. In addition to venesection, he had always been leeches freely, cupped, and blistered, and this heroic treatment was invariably followed by salivation, "to prevent its flying to the heart." The said ptyalism, or glandular storming, being brought about by sundry doses of calomel and opium, not omitting considerable quantities of digitalis and colchicum, as I have since ascertained from his former *par excellence* "regular" adviser. There was fearful oppression of the breathing, with great dulness on percussion. On further exploring his chest with the stethoscope, I found the action of the heart very

irregular, exocardial murmur (caused by the rubbing of the inflamed heart and its enclosing membrane, the pericardium, against each other) or, as Dr. Watson, of King's College, used to call it in his lectures, the "to and fro sound," which gives a good idea of its character, and distinct undulation between the cartilages of the third and fourth ribs of the left side, thus showing the presence of effusion, or in household words, water on the chest. His wife informed me that he had been exceedingly restless and delirious, had complained of feeling inwardly cold and sick at stomach, that he felt "most uncommonly queer in the head," from dizziness and want of sight, "that every thing was going to come out through his temples," and that she and her friends were beginning to despair. I desired the affected joints to be carefully enveloped in cotton wool, and prescribed—

Acon. Nap. 3, 2 drops.

Pure Water, 3 oz. mix.

One table spoonful every three hours.

Evening visit, 10 p.m. Alarming ill. The cerebral system (brain) is yet more prominently implicated. There is great heat of the external surface of the head, cephalalgia or painful congestion, redness of the face, and delirium, vociferously shouting about all sorts of imaginary animals, on the top of the new house, strong pulsation of the carotid arteries, bending the head backward, and frequently boring the head into the pillow. I ordered

Bell. 6, 2 drops.

Water, distilled, 2 oz. mix.

One large spoonful immediately, and repeated every four hours, (oftener if not better). Hot water applications to the head.

21st. Head immensely relieved, had had some quiet sleep, chest less oppressed. The medicine was ordered to be given at longer intervals, should amelioration continue, and a disposition to remain quiet and more coherent. Joints not so much swollen, tongue cleaner, fever diminished. Diet: toast water, cold water, and gruel. Continue.

22nd. Progressing favourably.

23rd. Not so well; complains of return of difficulty of breathing, sensation of fainting on lying down, sense of weight in the region of the heart, inability to retain the supine posture, weak intermittent pulse, countenance somewhat œdematous and swollen, urine scanty, bowels relieved, cough troublesome, pain in the left side, and disposition to vomit.

Bell. 3, twelve globules.

Pure water, (sufficient) mix to a wine glass full. To be given in alternation with Helleb. Nig. 3, twelve globules.

Pure water (sufficient). Mix to a wine-glass full.

A dessert spoonful every second hour. To have gruel made with strong beef tea instead of with water.

I saw him again this evening, and found that a most favourable change had taken place.

24th. Minutely examined him, and consider him decidedly better; discouraging symptoms ameliorated in every respect. To take the medicines as before only every four hours. Henceforward this gloomy looking case continued to improve daily under the influence of the medicines prescribed, although taken at much longer intervals. I saw this patient long afterwards, (my notes say Nov. 15th) and he was in robust health, better able (he says) to work hard than he has been for many years. He walked to my house, a distance of ten miles, having, he declares, never got through his illness so agreeably, as he confidently asserts that "there was nothing in the bottles but water." I ought perhaps to add, that he took the following medicine thrice:

Sulph 6, three globules.

Water (two table spoonfuls) mix.

The draught to be taken at bed-time.

I was then less experienced in the application of the homœopathic principle,

and passionately (if I may so speak) fond of the knife and the art of surgery, so that it required no small courage on my part to withstand the strong temptations to comply with such entreaties, "to bleed and do all that could be done." "Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just." Yet, though armed with the armour of allopathy, I felt my remonstrance with her to be just, and, remembering that there was also a breastplate of righteousness, failed to succumb. The issue was my reward. May we be always too fond of the right to pursue the expedient in like circumstances.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY,
 NEWLAND, NORTHAMPTON.

The DISPENSARY is open on MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, from 9 till 11; and on WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, from 12 till 3.

The Annual Subscription of One Guinea entitles the Subscriber to the Nomination of Six Patients during the Year.

Poor Persons paying 2s. 6d. are entitled to Advice and Medicine for a Month.

PROVIDENT CLASS.—Poor Persons paying 1d. a-week in health, are entitled to Medical Aid when sick, after three months' contributions have been paid.

MIDWIFERY DEPARTMENT.—Members of the Provident Class are attended in their Confinement.

Application to be made to the Secretary, Mr. A. RAPIER, at the Dispensary.

NORTHAMPTON
HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

At the Annual Meeting of the Northampton Homœopathic Dispensary, held on February 7th last, at the George Assembly Rooms, Sir Charles E. Isham, Bart., in the chair, it was resolved

"That this Meeting, believing in the superior efficacy of homœopathic treatment in acute diseases, pledges itself to use every exertion to establish a HOSPITAL FOR THE RECEPTION OF IN-DOOR PATIENTS."

The Committee beg to urge upon the benevolent the claims of the poor who prefer homœopathic medical treatment. In doing so, they would call attention to the fact which has been demonstrated elsewhere, that homœopathy is vastly superior to the practice of the old school.

There are many in the town and county of Northampton who are anxious to have the opportunity to send their servants, labourers, and others, to a homœopathic infirmary. Such the Committee trust will subscribe liberally for the realization of their wish.

The Committee make an earnest appeal to all classes for contributions, to enable them to carry out the above resolution.

Donations and Subscriptions will be thankfully received by the Secretary, MR. RAPIER, at the Dispensary; by DR. PEARCE; by either of the COMMITTEE; or by the NORTHAMPTONSHIRE UNION BANK.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 7.—NEW SERIES.

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COMPULSORY VACCINATION.

SYDNEY SMITH used to say that he did not despair to see the legislature undertake the suckling of infants. What would Sydney Smith now say of the legislative attempts to send a State Vaccinator into our houses, strip, not the sucklings only, but our grown-up sons and daughters, and, failing to find proof of previous vaccination, thrust into the skin a lancet, clothed perhaps with the virus just taken from some foul, diseased person, and in that one thrust communicate disease and suffering, to be subsequently developed and transmitted to future generations. Surely this would excite the pen of the author of the above remark, a remark which Sydney Smith made in reference to a factories bill then before the legislature.

In our last number, we felt it necessary to protest against a legislative attempt to prescribe medicine for the public, to fix upon, for all classes, the dose of deadly drug; and next, perhaps, the amount of blood which the State-made Medical Councillors should deem proper to abstract from our veins. From such legislation deliver the people of this country. Are we tending to a despotism and a centralization, only worthy of a priest-ridden Austria? For some peoples a despotic rule may be appropriate, at present, at least; but England—the glory of which is its freedom and self-government—may Heaven defend its institutions and its constitution, which, only eight years ago, when all Europe was convulsed, withstood the test of revolutionary movements. We do not like to introduce politics into the pages of our journal; but when the liberty of the subject is invaded, as in the case of the two bills now before parliament,—the “Medical Profession Bill” and the “Compulsory Vaccination Bill,” we cannot refrain from commenting on the dangers to which the

public is exposed by a too ready disposition to enforce upon them odious enactments not sought for by the people.

The Compulsory Vaccination Bill of 1854 was such a specimen of legislative tinkering, that it utterly failed in its object; and so defective was it in its provisions, even, that the bill now before the house is "to alter and amend" the bill of 1854. The said bill required medical practitioners to certify the successful vaccination of the child, at a time when no one, who understands vaccination, could decide.

The present bill provides *that every child up to thirteen years of age, now living*, shall be vaccinated, whether its parents or guardians are willing or not. It provides that vaccination failing of success, the infliction is to be repeated a second and if necessary a third time. A certificate of unsuccessful vaccination is to be furnished by the public or other vaccinator; but *no such certificate shall be in force for more than one year from its date.*" We may infer that at the expiration of a year or sooner, *if the public vaccinator think fit*, the child may be subjected to a repetition of the process.

Clause xvi. provides that the parent or guardian of EVERY CHILD IN ENGLAND, on or after the first day of January, 1857, who shall not already have been successfully vaccinated nor had small pox, shall, within four calendar months, submit to vaccination.

Clause xvii. provides, that, for every person successfully vaccinated at the residence of the public vaccinator, there shall be paid to the public vaccinator not less than two shillings and sixpence, or three shillings and sixpence if visited beyond a certain distance.

Clause xviii. provides for the payment of one shilling for every certificate of vaccination.

Clause xix. specifies the duties of registrars. Among these is one which provides that a notice shall be served on the parent or guardian of a child, within three days of the registration of birth.

Clause xx. to xxvi. contain regulations regarding registration, books, records, vaccination of schools, gaols, emigrants, &c., &c. We subjoin the following, and commend them to the serious attention and reflection of every Englishman.

XXVII. In the case of the death from small pox of any child born since the twentieth day of August, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, it shall be lawful for the Coroner having jurisdiction in the sub-district in which such death may have been registered, on receipt of a notice of such death from the registrar of such sub-district, to summon a jury for the holding of an inquest on the body of such child; and if it shall be proved on such inquest to the satisfaction of such jury that such child has not been vaccinated, and that the vaccination of such child was required by the law in force at the time of the birth of the child in the place where its birth was registered, and that the parent or guardian of the child at the time of its death is the person on whom devolved the duty of having the child vaccinated after birth, the jury shall find a verdict accordingly, and the coroner shall notify such verdict to

the guardians or overseers as aforesaid, who may thereupon proceed against such parent or guardian for the recovery of the penalty imposed by this act.

XXIX. The parent or guardian of any child born since the twentieth day of August, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, not having caused such child to be vaccinated, or not having procured a certificate of insusceptibility to vaccine disease, in the manner provided by the law in force in the place of residence of such parent or guardian, at the time of the birth of such child, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding *twenty shillings* :

Every person refusing or neglecting to comply with any requirement of this act shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding *twenty shillings*, and in the case of a continuing refusal or neglect, to a penalty not exceeding *five shillings* for every day during which such neglect shall be continued from and after the receipt of any notice from the guardians or overseers under the provision of this act :

Whosoever shall wilfully obstruct any person acting under the authority or employed in the execution of this act, or shall wilfully violate any regulation or direction of the general board of health issued under this act, or shall refuse to allow inspection by the General Board of Health or its officers of books, records, or documents kept in pursuance of the acts relating to vaccination or the making of copies or extracts therefrom, shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty not exceeding *five pounds*.

XXX. Any person who shall produce or attempt to produce in any person, by inoculation with variolous matter, or by wilful exposure to variolous matter, to any matter, article, or thing impregnated with variolous matter, or wilfully, by any other means whatsoever, produce the disease of small pox in any person in England, shall be liable to be proceeded against and convicted summarily before any two or more Justices of the Peace in petty sessions assembled, and for every such offence shall, upon conviction, be imprisoned in the common goal or house of correction for any term not exceeding *one month*, and such proceedings may be taken by the General Board of Health.

XXXI. All penalties imposed by this act shall be recoverable before any two Justices of the Peace for the county, city, borough, or place where the offence may have been committed, and the provisions of the act, of the twelfth year of the reign of her present Majesty, chapter forty-three, shall be applicable to the recovery of such penalties.

XXXII. All penalties recovered under this act shall be applied in aid of the funds applicable to the relief of the poor in the Union, parish or place, maintaining its own poor, wherein the offence may have been committed.

XXXIII. The General Board of Health shall report annually to Parliament on the execution of this act, and may for that purpose make by its inspectors, inquiry into the execution of this act, and all arrangements for the supply and distribution of Vaccine Lymph, at the public expense, shall be under the superintendence of the said board.

XXXIV. This act shall be called the "Vaccination Act, 1856," and may be referred to by that name in all legal or other proceedings.

Any who are found guilty of inoculation with small pox matter shall be imprisoned. Any child dying of small pox, not having been

vaccinated, a coroner's inquest is to be holden, and the parent or guardian found guilty of neglect to be fined.

Viewing the bill as an *AUSTRIAN measure*, it is certainly a very creditable enactment. In free England, however, we think it a disgraceful inroad on our liberties. We are not opposed to vaccination. We believe that the discovery of Jenner was a most important one, and we believe that vaccination, properly performed, is prophylactic against small pox; but we maintain that the state has no right to insist on *compulsory vaccination*, until it can make provision for the proper and safe performance of the operation. The utter carelessness which is exhibited in the performance of the operation, not only by those who are publicly appointed, but by many apothecaries; who, so long as a vesicle is produced, know little and care less whether the lymph is *vaccine lymph* or anything else.

There is no doubt that in many instances diseases have been transferred by vaccination, and the child thus vaccinated has been affected in its health through life, indeed death has been known to follow as the result of the process. Not many days since, a poor woman came to the writer, with tears in her eyes, inquiring anxiously whether the bill now before parliament is likely to pass. She stated that she had three children, all remarkably healthy, born of healthy parents. One was vaccinated. The child's health was affected by the vaccination, it became the subject of a loathsome disease, and *died*. The other two are living and healthy. These have not been vaccinated. The mother says, she will rather *die than submit her children to vaccination*. Can we wonder at the determination of the fond mother, whose maternal love prompts such resolute resistance to a *compulsory vaccination bill*?

The case of this woman is not an isolated one. Petitions have recently been presented to the House of Commons, in which details are given of actual disease and death which have resulted from vaccination. We copy the following from Parliamentary Papers on Public Petitions, March 31, 1856.

The object of the petitioners is to induce the House to reject the Vaccination Bill.

App. 361. *Dr. Michell*. Sig. 18.

6726. The humble petition of the undersigned inhabitants of Dorking, in the county of Surrey,
Sheweth,

That your petitioners most strongly object to the measure now before your honourable House entitled "A Bill to consolidate and amend the Acts relating to Vaccination."

That your petitioners are convinced from their own experience, or that of friends or their children, that divers and grievous diseases result from the practice of vaccination.

That, were vaccination a harmless and infallible preventive of small pox, your petitioners would protest against its compulsory infliction on the children or

persons of conscientious objectors as an act of flagrant persecution and a violation of parental and personal rights.

Wherefore your petitioners importunately pray your honourable House not to pass the said bill, but to repeal the Compulsory Vaccination Act now in existence.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Thomas Frost | { | Whose children were unblemished before vaccination, since which they have been periodically subject to eruptions. |
| Ann Lucas | { | Whose mother-in-law was afflicted with leprosy through vaccination, which was the cause of deafness, both complaints affecting her till death. |
| Thomas Baines | { | Whose three children have imbibed scrofula through vaccination. |
| Mary Nightingale | { | Whose three children were clear before vaccination, since which two have died; all afflicted with blotches after vaccination. |
| Alfred John West | { | Whose child was healthy before vaccination, but has never been well since, and now lies in a precarious state. |
| Edward Batchelor
Hannah Batchelor | { | Whose children were vaccinated a few weeks ago, and are now suffering from eruptions in consequence. |
| Benjamin Rose | { | One of whose children was vaccinated when three months old; is now one year and seven months; and is suffering from eruptions through vaccination. |
| Louis Randall | { | Whose child was vaccinated at three months; was quite well before, but never after vaccination; died at six months. |
| William Thomas
Jupp | { | Whose child was healthy before vaccination, since which it has been full of humours of so loathsome a character that their stench has been abominable, and it has been feared that its ears would drop off. |
| William Brooker | { | Whose child was free from eruptions before vaccination, but ever since has been full of gross humours. |
| Elizabeth Turner | { | Whose son had no blemish before vaccination, but ever since has been full of gross humours. |
| James Scott | { | Whose daughter was well before vaccination, but a few days after was afflicted with an eruptive disease which became gradually worse, till the little sufferer expired. |
| Eliza Cooper | { | Whose son enjoyed good health till he was six years and a half old; he was then vaccinated, after which he was never well, being dreadfully afflicted with eruptions till his death, which occurred six months after vaccination. |
| Frederick Boxall | { | Whose cousin, Ann Jenner, was quite clear before vaccination; has suffered from eruptions ever since. |
| Ann Taylor | { | Whose daughter was vaccinated at twelve months old; is now five years; was very healthy before vaccination; has been subject continually to inflammation of the eyes since vaccination. |
| | { | Whose son was vaccinated at three months; was unblemished before vaccination; for three months after suffered so dreadfully, that it was found necessary to pinion his arms, in consequence of the irritation occasioned by the eruptions, which covered his head and face. |

- Caroline Croucher { Whose sister was vaccinated when three years of age; is now five years and six months; was healthy before vaccination; has not been well since.
- Thomas Newman { Who was unblemished before vaccination, but since has suffered constantly from eruptions.

App. 362. *Dr. Michell.* Sig. 156.

6727. The humble petition of the undersigned inhabitants of Oughtibridge and the neighbourhood thereof, in the county of York,

Humbly sheweth,

That there is now before your honourable House a bill entitled "A Bill to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Vaccination," which, if passed, will make vaccination compulsory for all persons under 13 years of age, for all paupers, lunatics, prisoners, and emigrants; and invests the General Board of Health with undefined and dangerous power.

That many medical men admit the failure of vaccination to protect from small-pox, and others deplore the frequent evil consequences which follow the operation.

That to enforce a particular medical practice upon the person of the subject would be to outrage his most valuable rights and constitutional liberties.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray your honourable House that the said bill may not pass into a law, and that the compulsory law at present in existence may be immediately repealed.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

JAMES LEE.
CHARLOTTE LEE.
ANN PELKINGTON.
&c. &c. &c.

App. 363. *Dr. Michell.* Sig. 90.

6732. The humble petition of the undersigned inhabitants of the East of London,

Sheweth,

That there is now before your honourable House a bill entitled "A Bill to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Vaccination," which, if passed, will make vaccination compulsory for all persons under 13 years of age, for all paupers, lunatics, prisoners, and emigrants; and invests the General Board of Health with undefined and dangerous power.

That the existence and even increase of small-pox of late years in this country, and in countries where vaccination is legally enforced, and the returns of the small-pox hospital, prove that vaccination is in no sense an antidote to, or a protection against small-pox.

That, according to the published testimony of Shew and Trall, Ferguson, Bayard, Raspail and Verde-Delisle, Rublack, Reil, Lutze, Nittenger and Zimpel, Newman, Brady, Borham, Chepmell, Chapman and Johnson—American, French, German and English physicians, and many others, vaccination is the means of propagating permanent and consequently hereditary diseases, inevitably tending to the deterioration of the human race; and

That it is shewn by the returns of *the Registrar-General that vaccination is sometimes the immediate cause of the death of the vaccinated.*

Your petitioners therefore humbly entreat your honourable House that the said bill may not pass into a law, and that the compulsory law at present in existence may be immediately repealed.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

J. KENDALL.
THOMAS WHITE.
THOMAS HUDSON.
&c. &c. &c.

The petitioner John Gibbs, having carefully examined the question, is of opinion that vaccination fails as a protection from small-pox; that it propagates other diseases; that there is a religious objection to inflict disease with a view to any ulterior benefit; and that compulsory vaccination is opposed to the liberty of the subject; he therefore prays the House to reject the Vaccination Bill.

The petitioner George Boxall, states that he caught the small-pox after vaccination, and suffered very severely; that of his five sisters, two were vaccinated, and of those, one caught small-pox and severely suffered, while the unvaccinated escaped; his brother, who has never been vaccinated, but who has been exposed to infection, also escaped; from these facts he is convinced that vaccination cannot be relied on, as a preventive or mitigator; he is therefore opposed to its legal enforcement; and prays the House to reject the Vaccination Bill.

In legislating for the compulsory vaccination of "every child in Great Britain," it should be shewn that vaccination is a certain preventive of small pox. Now, that this is not the case is patent to all who have investigated the subject. In Northampton, during the now prevalent epidemic, nearly all small pox patients *have been vaccinated.*

In a letter to the President of the Board of Health, by John Gibbs, Esq., entitled "COMPULSORY VACCINATION briefly Considered in its Scientific, Political, and Religious Aspects," there are to be found an abundance of facts which prove that vaccination is at least uncertain as a prophylactic against small-pox. The letter of Mr. Gibbs does that gentleman great credit; indeed, the people of this and of every other country are greatly indebted to Mr. Gibbs for the labour he has bestowed, in the collection of statistical facts upon the subject of vaccination. He examines the present bill in all its aspects. Speaking of its social bearing, he says:

The Compulsory Vaccination Act is the first direct aggression upon the person of the subject in medical matters which has been attempted in these kingdoms. It invades in the most unexampled manner the liberty of the subject, and the sanctity of home. It not only unspeakably degrades the free-born Briton by depriving him of liberty in a personal matter, but denies him the possession of reason; outrages some of the finest feelings of the human heart, those feelings which have their origin in parental love, that still bright spark of the divine nature breathed into man by his Heavenly Father; sets at nought parental responsibility, and constrains the parent either to violate his deliberate convictions, and even his religious scruples, or boldly to defy an unjust law.

If vaccination be indeed a blessing which must needs be showered upon the land, would it not better become a wise government and a free people to commend opinions by disseminating information upon the subject than to attempt to make unconverted converts by force?

What reasons can the advocates of vaccination assign for the faith they hold? Scarcely one of them has investigated the subject scientifically, they cannot plead even the unanimity of the profession on their side. "In the public mind extensively," says the "Lancet," of 21st May, 1853, "and to a more limited extent, in the profession itself, doubts are known to exist as to the efficacy and eligibility of vaccination. The failures of the operation have been numerous and discouraging."

Vaccination, then, by the confession of the vaccinators themselves, is not an unfailing protection against small-pox. The experience of most persons will testify to the same effect, and ample corroborative proof may be found in the returns of the Registrar-general. I cannot allow myself to make use of any extracts from these important and able papers, without at the same time respectfully and thankfully acknowledging my many obligations both to the Registrar-general and to Mr. Thomas Mann, for the courtesy and kindness with which, on various occasions, they have complied with my requests. In No. 10, Vol. 15, for the week ending 11th March 1854, we find, "A grocer died in South-street, Chelsea, at the age of 50 years, 'of confluent small-pox' (14 days). He had been vaccinated 'when one year old.'" In No. 45, Vol. 13, we read: "In the sub-district of Haggerstone West, at 46, Essex-street, on the 1st of November, the daughter of a bricklayer, aged five years, died of 'variola confluens' (nine days), vaccinated with effect when six months old, marks perfect." Mr. Bowring mentions that "four out of a family of seven have been attacked, and the survivors are still suffering under the disease. All were vaccinated between the ages of four and six months; the cicatrices still perfect." He also records a death from small-pox without vaccination, and adds "a prejudice against vaccination, of which this is another instance, is gaining ground in my district." It would appear that, by a prejudice, Mr. Bowring must mean an unfavourable opinion founded on experience. To proceed: In No. 41, Vol. 13, we find, "At 82, Earl-street, Lisson Grove, the daughter of a bottle merchant, aged one year, died from 'confluent small-pox' (14 days), vaccinated seven days previously.' The medical certificate adds, "vaccinated on the 23rd of September, in two points on each arm. Small-pox first showed on the skin on the 30th. Both diseases progressed in a modified form for five days, when the child fell into a typhoid state." In this case, "small-pox and cow-pox have possession together. Which of them killed the patient? The number for the week ending 25th of March, 1854, furnishes another instance of the failure of vaccination to protect. "On the 17th of March, the son of an ostler died, aged six years, small-pox (five days), vaccinated."

The weekly return, No. 14, Vol. 15, for the week ending Saturday, 8 April, 1854, furnishes similar evidence:—

"Six deaths occurred from small-pox: three of these, of which the following are the particulars, in the small-pox hospital.

"On the 31st March, a boy, aged 10 years, from Holborn Union; small-pox confluent (12 days), unprotected.

"On 1st April, a boy from Somers Town, aged 5 years, small-pox confluent, modified (9 days). He had been vaccinated at the age of four months; one cicatrix.

"On 7th April, the wife of a labourer, from Lambeth, aged 22 years; small-pox confluent, unmodified (8 days); vaccinated in infancy, in Suffolk; two good cicatrices."

In the quarterly return, No. 20, 1853, at page 42, we find:—"Chorlton, Hulme. The mortality of last quarter has been heavy: 22 deaths have occurred from scarlatina, 16 from whooping-cough, and 7 from small-pox; 5 members of one family suffered from the last disease most severely, the father and 4 children. *They had all been previously vaccinated, and, as reported, with success. Two died;* and a boy, who had not only been vaccinated, but previously had the small-pox, and was very much disfigured, was one of the victims. This manifests a very strong predisposition in some families for certain diseases."

In No. 17, under the head of Taunton, the following appears:—"There has been one death from small-pox, that of a male, 20 years of age, vaccinated in childhood." In No. 19, it is stated, under the same head:—"Taunton. Autumnal diarrhoea has been prevalent, but not of a severe character. In other respects the district has been free from disease."

During a period of sixteen years, ending 1851, rather more than half the patients admitted into the small-pox hospital in London had been previously vaccinated;* and out of eight hundred patients admitted into the same hospital in 1852, only 230 were unvaccinated;† that is to say, five hundred and seventy, or considerably more than *two-thirds of the whole had been vaccinated.* Very defective, indeed, must be the general practice of vaccination, as is evidenced by the following statistics given in Mr. Gibbs's letter:

It is asserted that if vaccination "does not always [does it ever, except when it proves fatal] prevent small-pox, the attack is much milder." So mild indeed is it, that, in illustration it might be added on the authority of Dr. George Gregory, that out of 298 patients having small-pox after vaccination, who were admitted in the course of a year into the small-pox hospital, 31 died, and (on the authority of the Registrar-general) that, out of 432 deaths from small-pox in an epidemic season, in a period of 10 weeks, in London, 135 deaths were returned as occurring after vaccination, and this, be it remembered, in a population, of which it is complained by the advocates of this antidote (?) that it is much neglected.

Indeed so notorious are the failures of vaccination to afford protection from the ravages of small-pox, that the "Lancet" is forced to account for them by pleading that a supply of effective lymph has never been provided; that the extension of vaccination has hitherto been entrusted to parsimonious Boards of Guardians, who not only accepted the lowest tender, but were displeased if called upon to pay for many operations; and that vaccination has never formed part of the education of medical men, but that each practitioner is left to pick up his experience, how, when, and where he can. In one place the "Lancet" asserts

* *Medical Times*, August 27th, 1853. † *Lancet*, February 12th, 1853.

that "the best mode of vaccination is still undetermined;" and in another, complains of "a want of agreement in the profession as to the essentially "pathognomonic signs of genuine vaccine inoculation." Be these accusations worth what they may, they fully justify the spreading disbelief in the efficacy of vaccination.

That deaths have occurred after, or in consequence of, vaccination, is clearly evinced by the indisputable returns of the Registrar-General, thus (quoting from Mr. Gibbs again) :

In the Registrar-general's weekly returns, No. 30, Vol. 14, for the week ending Saturday, 23 July, 1853, a few days before the passing of the compulsory Vaccination Bill, we read : "In Bethnal-green, at 19, Warner-place, South, "on 15th July, the son of a cabinet-maker, aged seven months, died of vaccination, erysipelas."

In the "weekly return," No. 13, Vol. 15, for the week ending Saturday, 1 April, 1854 : "In Mile End Town, Lower, the daughter of a gentleman, aged "three months, died of 'erysipelas.' The medical man states that it super-
"vened on vaccination." In the "weekly return," No. 14, Vol. 15, it is stated that, "At the German Hospital, Dalston, both on 30th March, the son of
"a mariner, aged 10 weeks, and the son of a sugar-baker, aged 13 weeks, died
"of 'general erysipelas, after vaccination, effusion on the brain.' The medical
"attendant adds in his certificates, that 'both these children were vaccinated' on
"the same day in Whitechapel-road, and were in the hospital two days.' The
"cases appear to be such as demand investigation. In Ratcliff, at No. 2,
"Devonport-street, on 6th April, the son of a coal merchant, aged three months,
"died of 'erysipelas all over the body (one day), succeeding vaccination, which
"was considered to be fine."

"Demand investigation! Does not the whole question of vaccination
"demand investigation."

Other cases of legal infanticide are thus reported : "In Mile End New Town,
"at No. 1, George-street, on the 17th July, the daughter of a carman, aged
"three months, erysipelas after vaccination (three weeks), convulsions (24 hours.)"
—*Weekly Return*, week ending Saturday, 22 July, 1854.

"In the south sub-district of St. Giles, at No. 8, Parker-street, on 13th April,
"the daughter of a mason, aged one month, 'irregular vaccination, when a
"fortnight old.'"—*Weekly Return*, for the week ending 15 April, 1854.

"At the 'Cock and Castle,' Kingland, on 1st May, the son of a licensed
"victualler, aged four months, died of 'vaccination, inflammation of the cel-
"lular tissue of arm and thorax.' In Haggerston, East, at No. 54, Union-
"street, on 1st May, the son of a hotpresser, aged four months, died of gangrene
"after vaccination (14 days)."—*Weekly Return*, for week ending 6 May, 1854.

Were it even admitted that death never occurred after vaccination—
were it possible to prove that vaccination does effectually protect the
patient from small-pox—should we be justified in rendering the
process compulsory, when, from evidence, it has been clearly admitted
that *other diseases*, difficult to distinguish at the time of development
of the vesicle, are transferred by the process *instead* of the *vaccine*

lymph. Mr. Gibbs has collected evidence under this head also. He says :

Dr. Jones Quain, after describing the symptoms of cow-pox ("Manual of Pathology," p. 336), thus concludes :—"Every eruption after vaccine not presenting these characters is spurious."

From this it is evident that Dr. Quain discerns a connexion between vaccination and spurious eruptions. Other medical writers are more explicit.

The "Lancet" (a zealous advocate of vaccination) says :—

"There is a belief—it may be denounced as a prejudice, but it is not the less a deeply-rooted conviction, and one not confined to the poor or the ignorant—that if the vaccine disease may be transmitted by inoculation, other diseases less beneficial may be propagated in the same manner, and by the same operation. Many a parent, of high and low degree, dates constitutional disease in her offspring to vaccination with 'bad matter.' Who shall say that this etiological conclusion is always false?"—*Lancet*, 15 July, 1854.

"The poor are told that they must carry their children to be vaccinated by medical men who may be strangers to them. They apprehend—and the apprehension is not altogether unfounded, or unshared by the educated classes—that the vaccine matter employed may carry with it the seeds of other diseases not less loathsome than the one it is intended to prevent."—*Lancet*, 23 October, 1854.

"So widely extended is the dread that, along with the prophylactic remedy, something else may be inoculated, lest the germ of future diseases may be planted, that few medical practitioners would care to vaccinate their own children from a source of the purity of which they were not well assured."—*Lancet*, 11 November, 1854.

An American medical author, Dr. Shew, commenting on a case of death from vaccination which was reported in the "New York Journal, Medical and Surgical," gives a case of a lady whose health had been injured by vaccination, and adds,—

"In two other cases, large swellings took place; one in the arm-pit, the other in the neck, lasting for some days, and finally breaking out in running sores. By questioning closely, we not unfrequently find that children never enjoy good health after vaccination, however firm it might have been before."

In another place the same author says,—

"After all the recommendation that this practice has had for the last 50 years, there are yet those who entertain honest doubts as to whether it is, after all, on the whole, a benefit to the race. At any rate, the question, like all others, has two sides; both of which demand our most honest consideration. It is certainly true that vaccination does not merit the encomiums which its more early advocates put upon it; nor is it anything like capable of exterminating small-pox from the world, as was formerly maintained; but that it will, in a large proportion of cases, protect the system from variola, and that in those cases where it fails of this protection it renders the disease a much milder one, no one will pretend to deny. The only question is whether, as a whole, it is of benefit to mankind. It is maintained that vaccination, while it affords a good degree of protection from variola, yet renders the system more liable to other diseases. It is affirmed also, that other diseases are introduced into the system at the same time with the cow-

"pox. Long-continued and troublesome skin diseases appear to follow it, and in not a few cases the child seems never to enjoy good health after it has been performed. I think any one who has any considerable practice among children in any great city, will be struck with the number of cases he will find of this kind, by questioning parents on the subject. . . . Not only does vaccination cause subsequent unfavourable effects, but it sometimes endangers life at the time; and in some instances destroys the child. I have myself known most fearful convulsions to be brought on by it, and that in children apparently of the firmest health.

Again he says,—

"I have been for years so much a disbeliever in vaccination, that I would not be willing to have it practised upon a child of my own. I did not, however, know that there was high authority, even among the profession, for doubting the utility of the practice till the winter of 1850—1851. At this time Professor Bartlett, a very candid and able man, and lecturer on the theory and practice of medicine in the University of New York, quoted in his remarks on the causes of pulmonary consumption, on the authority of two French writers, Barthes and Rilliett, the following facts in regard to vaccination: In 208 children that had been vaccinated, 138 died of tubercular consumption, and 70 of other maladies; in 95 that were not vaccinated, 30 only died of tubercular consumption, and 65 of other diseases. The circumstances connected with the two classes, the vaccinated and the unvaccinated, were, as nearly as could be, the same. Professor Bartlett did not himself, in consideration of these facts, venture an opinion as to the propriety or non-propriety of vaccination, but would simply be understood as referring to them as matters worthy of serious consideration."

It is asserted that from children apparently the most healthy, diseases the most horrible have been propagated in and by the vaccine virus. A gentleman, well known in the philanthropic world, informs me that, with lymph taken from a child supposed to be perfectly healthy, his grandchild, a healthy child, of healthy parents, was vaccinated; from this child the virus was transferred to his cousin, another healthy child, the offspring also of healthy parents. Subsequently both children became afflicted with a loathsome disease, prior to the outward manifestation of which some 20 other children were vaccinated from them.

From the foregoing it may be gathered that

If every child in England were vaccinated, small-pox would still exist; or how comes it that more than *two-thirds of the small-pox patients admitted into the small-pox hospital were found to have been vaccinated, and of these so many died?* Those who advocate compulsory vaccination tell us that the diminution in the mortality from small-pox is owing to the extension of vaccination. Will the following statistics harmonize with such an assumption? The number of deaths from small-pox in London, in the years 1838-9-40-1-2, were respectively 3817, 634, 1235, 1053, and 360, does not such variation shew that vaccination could have little effect on the epidemic?

So far from compulsory vaccination being likely to exterminate small-pox, there is every reason to believe that the bare fact that the legislature enforces vaccination on the poor, will beget a resistance,

which will operate against the success of the measure. Thus would mistaken legislators bring into disrepute a discovery, which, properly developed, would be a blessing to humanity, believing, as we do, that *vaccination, properly performed with pure lymph is preventive of small-pox*. But we maintain that the state has no right to enforce vaccination, until it can provide fully for its successful performance. Even though it could do this, what right has the state to interfere with the liberty of the subject, in depriving free-born Englishmen of their power of choice? The State may *teach* medical doctrines, but not hale men and women to prison for their non-submission to those doctrines.

In a word, the bill now before the House of Commons must not pass into law; and we urge upon every lover of English liberty and justice to protest against and resist, by all legitimate means, such an infraction of the law of liberty.

POPULAR LECTURES ON HOMŒOPATHY.

DURING the past week, lectures on homœopathy have been delivered in Liverpool, by Dr. William Hitchman, surgeon, of that town, of which the leading local journals have spoken in high terms of commendation. Until within comparatively few years, lectures on medicine, addressed to the people, were discountenanced by physicians, having been considered a kind of "*advertising*," ungentlemanly, "*derogatory to the profession*." But the views and feelings of physicians and surgeons have wholly changed in this respect; popular lectures on anatomy, physiology, and the medical sciences, are *often* delivered, and the most eminent practitioners are not unfrequently selected, by literary and scientific associations, for this purpose. "The homœopathic school" has taken up the gauntlet thus thrown down to it, and the appeal is now fairly before the people, which is right and proper, and most willingly will we submit to this tribunal. An individual may cling to error all his days, but not so the people in mass; for among them there is a sort of inherent self-correcting power—a sober second thought—which corrects error, and produces that which we all seek, and at the same time all fear—public opinion;—the sovereignty of which is pretty generally acknowledged. It is necessary, therefore, for a right and proper understanding of this momentous controversy, involving, as it does, life, health, and disease, that its *genuine* merits, the scientific and practical basis of homœopathy, the phenomena of disease, the phenomena of drugs, and the *correlation* of all forces, vital and physical, should be clearly set forth; that, the people being enlightened thereon may fairly judge between *it* and the ordinary incongruous plan of treatment termed allopathy. "*Quackery thrives best in*

ignorance." Therefore, we say, enlighten the people; let them know that constipation can never be cured by cathartics and purgative medicines, "patent and non-patent, regular and irregular," and such will seldom be used. Let the people understand that there exists no such thing as "tonic" or "strengthening" medicine, in the customary acceptance of that familiar phrase; and they will no longer poison themselves, become really weak, by taking huge quantities of drugs, in the vain hope and expectation of thereby *adding* to the energy, power, or strength of the vital force. Inform the people it is absurd that "an aperient can do no harm, if it does no good," and we shall hear that oft repeated and pernicious saying no more. *Homœopathic* medicines should be given—it is not necessary to degenerate, to go back to the allopathic auxiliaries. Give them the gentle spiriting of dynamic agents—not marshal on the chimney pieces of their chambers the red republic of pill boxes, that would have prostrated Goliath of Gath as effectively as the smooth stone that sank into his forehead. Purgatives disorder, and, indeed, oftentimes *inflame* the mucous membrane of the bowels, create real disease (diarrhœa), and, not unfrequently, produce such a diseased condition, that the unfortunate and misguided victims of this rash and unwise practice find themselves with a delicate and disordered state of bowels, and have to complain of pain and inconvenience from them for the remainder of their lives. Purging is not a *physiological* state—healthy action does not produce it—on the contrary, it is a pathological state of the alimentary mucous membrane. Dynamic agents should be administered; the constipation, costiveness, or obstruction is thus specifically reached, acted upon, relieved, all difficulty overcome, and, as it were, neutralized. They should always be given with the view of *soliciting*, and not, as Mr. Abernethy forcibly expressed it, of "bullying the bowels to act." Calomel and colocynt, blue pills at night and "black draughts" in the morning; aloes and gamboge, the staple commodities, the almost invariable ingredients of the newspaper nostrums; to many of the more active and violent of which may be added scammony and tartarized antimony; whether taken as draught or pill, herb or metal, make a fearful inroad on the animal economy, bringing on structural disorder, which often leads to structural disease; and, instead of obviating the constipation, serve but to aggravate or prolong it by the disordered state of the digestive organs they maintain, or in consequence of, lay the foundation on which is raised the superstructure—other and future maladies.

Let it be known, observes our distinguished colleague, Dr. Kirby, in his popular address to the people of New York, that to cure quickly by allopathic means is, sometimes, not to cure at all; and the knowledge and skill of a physician will not be estimated by his pretensions to effect rapid cures. If the people knew that by violent medication a *revulsive* effect is likely to happen, and, thereby, a

healthy organ become diseased, (which is the fact with thousands who are afflicted with chronic affections,) and large and repeated doses of drugs would be at once refused. This is a truth of the very highest importance; there is too much reason to believe that it has not, hitherto, been investigated as its great importance demands. The many who are now suffering from chronic maladies might trace the origin of their sickness to large and repeated doses of drugs, prepared they know not of what, nor by whom. Indeed, physicians of the old school uphold and verify this practice—they seek to cure diseases by transferring, through the powerful poisonous influence of drugs, the existing disease, in one part of the body, to another, perhaps *vital* part, that is perfectly healthy. Nothing is more common than the attempt to relieve an affection of the head by irritating the bowels with drastic purgatives, or attempting to subdue an internal inflammation by the application of repeated blisters. The use of issues and setons is on the same principle.

If *real* medical reform is ever to reign triumphant and universal, it must be brought through *the hearts and minds* of the people, to their firesides and homes. They must be taught to abandon the “drugging system,”—that their health, happiness, well-being, and continuance in this mortal life, are questions intimately interwoven with its entire abnegation. The people are beginning to understand the pernicious effects of strychnine, mercury, opium, antimony, prussic acid, and some other poisons; but still there is much, yea, very much for them yet to learn, of these important matters. Public lecturers and popular medical journals must not hesitate in their duty, or shrink from its performance. They must inform the public mind—indocctrinate the people with the essentials and first principles of our reformed system; and our opponents must remember that *their* system is not condemned by us, only, but that the most severe condemnation of it has emanated from the highest and best among themselves.

In conclusion, we reiterate, let the people be taught the value and importance of medicine *rightly* administered. Let us be *understood*. Let us iterate and reiterate, in the ears of the people, *this* fact, that mercury and other drugs have the power of *suppressing* diseases; so much so, that the sick are deceived thereby, that they suppose themselves improved, because their sufferings have *changed*, whereas, by this very suppression, diseases are often rendered incurable. And *this* fact, that all which is *absolutely* essential to the existence of homœopathy is its great radical principle. “Let like be treated by like;” that it is not a mere question of *dose* or form, but of harmonious adaptation, or quality, and principle; that the *great* stumbling block, the *small* dose, is purely and unequivocally the result of after experience; so that the grievance, the sore point, the butt of the witlings, is, *after all*, but the *corollary to the problem*. While inductive philosophy, therefore, has placed, beyond the reach of

controversy, the *truth* of the homœopathic doctrine, as that of a long sought desideratum, may its career, henceforward, be yet more glorious—the career of the positive sciences.

The *Liverpool Mercury* says, “Dr. Hitchman gave an elaborate exposition of the principles, and explained the action, of homœopathic remedies, to a highly respectable audience, who listened attentively, and warmly expressed their approbation of the sentiments of the lecturer, in a marked manner. He combated the many objections and prejudices which this system had had to encounter, and gave numerous illustrations of the correctness of the homœopathic *principle*.” Other local journals say, “His remarks were of a very convincing character, and gave evident satisfaction.” We trust, therefore, Dr. Hitchman’s instructive lectures have done much good to the cause of “*Homœopathy in Liverpool*.”

THE “TIMES” ON MEDICAL REFORM.

There is so much of guesswork in medicine—the President of the College of Physicians is so nearly on a level with the meanest herbalist—the result of the longest, most varied, and most profound medical experience is so often a discovery of the worthlessness of medicine, that we are not able to attach overwhelming importance to examinations in this department of the science. Medicine is, in truth, surgery at fault, and the difference between the two is precisely the difference that there is between mathematics and metaphysics. Even admitting, as we do, that the reliable facts in medicine are very few and very simple—that the experience of a celebrated physician, who said at the close of his life, “When I began to practise I had a dozen cures for every disease; now I have one remedy for a dozen diseases,” conveys a true estimate of what the medical schools have to teach—we have not the slightest doubt that under the guardianship of a Council elected in great measure, as MR. HEADLAM proposed, by universal suffrage, the standards of examination would dwindle year by year, until they reached a tenuity suited to the capacities of every pillvender and corncutter in the kingdom. And the result of all would be, that instead of a modest and intelligent confession of ignorance, such as the highest medical authorities now make, we should have quacks with a boastful profession of omniscience. The fact is, and the House of Commons, we suppose, have recognized it by this time with regard to medicine, that restrictive legislation is the most difficult thing in the world. If any man is so foolish as to swallow quack pills and to anoint himself with quack ointment, who in the world is to prevent him, and why in the world should he be prevented? The really effective portion of any medical bill will be, not that which is negative, but that which is positive,—not that which prohibits, but that which establishes. To fine quacks and confiscate quack medicines will not go far to exalt medical science or to promote the health of the community. As lawyers have a licence over our property, and the clergy over our souls, MR. BRADY wished his profession to have an exclusive license over our bodies, so that no one out of the fraternity should have a right to administer a single dose, or so much as feel a man’s pulse. Happily, there is no danger of such a monopoly as this being established. The mere mention of the proposed clause was sufficient to send it, and the bill it belonged to, far on its way to that safe limbo—a Select Committee.—*Times*, April 3, 1856.

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COMPULSORY VACCINATION.

WE are glad to find that resistance to the bill now before Parliament, and to which we called the attention of our readers and the public in our last, is increasing on all sides. Petitions upon petitions are being presented to the House, signed both by the non-medical public, and by those medical men who have the courage to step out of the ranks of orthodoxy (for vaccination, although at one time discarded, and its discoverer, Dr. Jenner, disgracefully persecuted by the medical faculty, is now not only received as orthodox, but is forced upon the public by legislation, under the direction of a medical hierarchy.)

Since the appearance of our former article, we have been asked why we so strongly object to the bill? We reply: 1st. We protest against enforcing any medical doctrine on the British subject by state legislation. 2nd. We protest against compulsory vaccination, because we believe, that, so long as the question is undecided whether vaccination is a blessing or otherwise, no enactments should be made on the subject. 3rd. Observation compels us to believe that vaccination in childhood postpones till a later period of life the liability to small pox, and does not invariably prevent it effectually. 4th. Knowing that all diseases incident to childhood, as small pox, scarlatina, measles, whooping cough, etc., are much more severe and likely to prove fatal when occurring in ADULT life, the warding off the disease until childhood is passed is an evil. 5th. We believe it

is utterly beyond the power of state legislators, Boards of Health, or Colleges of Physicians, to banish epidemics from the land by vaccination. 6th. We have no right to assume that every one will have small pox who is not vaccinated, any more than we may assume that he **MUST** have cholera or any other epidemical disease. 7th. The mortality and the disfigurement of the patient is owing, principally, to the inappropriate—because unscientific—treatment of the disease, and not to its virulence. 8th. Vaccine lymph being a **POISON**, the state has no right to afflict humanity by enforcing the introduction of a poison into the system.

Other reasons there are for objecting to vaccination. Waiving, however, our own convictions and opinions on the doctrine of vaccination, and willing to respect the opinions of those who differ from us, we insist that to enforce vaccination upon the subject must not be endured. The public must be directed to the facts obtained from unexceptionable data; for how can a conclusion be arrived at on any question of the kind, without taking in all the circumstances? At present, the public, for the most part, have been indifferent to the bill before the House; and, but for the diligence of Dr. Mitchell, Mr. Duncombe, and a few other members of Parliament, there is every probability that the Board of Health bantling would have been, like many other bills, smuggled through the House after the hour of midnight. Those members of Parliament who have watched and are watching the “wily moves” of the bills’ promoters, deserve and will receive our best thanks.

We say that the public must be aroused to a sense of duty, in resisting the passage of a measure which will, besides infecting an immense population with disease, bring upon the country an abominable, an odious tax. Already nearly fifty thousand pounds have been expended on account of vaccination, —absorbed by placemen, who, being, like the present President of the Board of Health, possessed of friends at Court, are so fortunate as to enjoy the sinecure emoluments of office. The bill is a parliamentary “job,” and must be resisted. To be accurate on the money question, examine the following return :

Return of the Sums voted for the National Vaccine Institution since 1833, and the Appropriation, in Detail, of such Sums,

Made on the motion of Mr. Thomas Duncombe, has just been printed, by order of the House of Commons, and shews a total receipt, by Parliamentary grants, of £43,446 6s. 6d. The following is an analysis of the expenditure:—

	£	s.	d.
President of the College of Physicians, <i>ex officio</i> President of the Board	2,200	0	0
Senior Censor of the College of Physicians, <i>ex officio</i> member of the Board... ..	2,200	0	0
President of the College of Surgeons, <i>ex officio</i> member of the Board	2,200	0	0
Director, since called Inspector	4,800	0	0
Registrar	4,400	0	0
Other members of the Board and Staff	17,759	0	0
House Rent	2,602	7	6
Fitting, furnishing, and repairing House	1,030	16	1
Rates, Taxes, and Stamps	925	9	5
Coals	413	7	0
Law Expenses	44	0	0
Cutlery "Points"	2,086	18	7
"Glasses," Lymph-Holders	387	10	8
Printing	984	10	2
Stationery	276	2	4
"Disbursements by Director and Inspector"	871	9	9
Balance in hand	264	15	4
	£43,446	6	6

But this amount will be completely thrown into the shade by the future cost, if the bill pass;—a calculation has been made that £300,000 will be about the ANNUAL cost of vaccination in this country.

All this and more must be suffered by the people of England, should the bill become law. We are glad to find that London is moving in the right direction. In another part of our journal will be found a report of a preliminary meeting. A large meeting is to be held shortly, and we trust similar meetings will be held in the provinces. Let the people petition.

INFINITESIMAL.

M. ARAGO has demonstrated, that there may be 10,000 flashes of lightning while the clock ticked once; and yet not one of them begin, before its predecessor had expired. The French philosophers, M. M. Foucault and Firzeau in their electrical experiments, have been able to detect and appreciate intervals of time, corresponding to the 77 millionth part of a second.—*Chambers' Edinburgh Journal.*

BRIEF HISTORY OF SMALL POX, AND ITS HYDROPATHIC TREATMENT.

“ Quibus hunc lenire dolorem

“ Possis, et magnam morbi deponere partem.”—HORACE.

SMALL POX, according to Friend,* appeared first in Egypt; and Rhazes mentions Aaron, who practised at Alexandria in the reign of Mahomed, A.C. 622, as the first describer of its phenomena and treatment. But Dr. Mead says,† that Reiske, who understood Arabic, found in that language, at Leyden, a manuscript, asserting that small pox first appeared in Arabia the year Mahomed was born, A.C. 572, which corresponds with Aaron writing fifty years afterwards. In 1735, Dr. Hahn wrote at Wratistaw a book called *Antiquitates Variolarum*, in which he says the Greeks knew small pox. This was answered the same year by Dr. Werlhof *De Variolis et Anthracibus*, who denied it. Dr. Hahn, in 1736, wrote again, and quoted Paulus Aegineta, Eusebius, and Evagrius, to prove he was right. Dr. Triller, a friend of his, wrote two auxiliary letters to prove the same. But it still seems doubtful. It is pretty evident that small pox was in this country much earlier; but John of Gaddeston gives us the first account at all clear and distinct about the end of the twelfth century.

The cause of small pox is still more unknown than its first beginning. Sydenham says of this disease,‡ “I may be allowed to think” (I translate because many in these days have forgotten their Latin) “that certain diseases have certain periods, on account of changes hidden and altogether unknown, in the bowels of the earth itself, as it advances in age and duration; and that, as if some diseases which formerly existed, now were either entirely killed, or at least by age being spent had become worn out (of this kind are lepra and some others); so, there are some that now rage which at length decay, giving us species of whose cause it is impossible to conjecture.” Some French writers§ of great respectability suppose it is simply an inflammation, *sui generis*, which opinion is not to be “pooh-poohed;” for there is a certain connection with the opinion of other French writers, that the plague never arose from any simple contagion, but principally from the long use of bad and corrupted food; and this is also maintained by a very clever man, who says:|| “The small pox being an inflammatory disease, it is most certain the body must be disposed to receive an inflammation; and whatever cause hath power to induce an inflammation may possibly produce this species of inflammation. The disease, then, may be produced by violent exercise,

* Oper. 330. † De Variol. p. 3. ‡ Sydenham, Oper. p. 241.

§ Observations sur la Peste de Marseille.

|| An Inquiry into the Origin, Nature, and Cure of the Small Pox, by Dr. Thompson, p. 39.

change of air, particular climates, drinking spirituous liquors; for these causes, productive of inflammation in those who have had the distemper, also produce the small pox, instead of such inflammation, in those who have not had the distemper. History proves this to be true—daily observation confirms it more. Who has not observed that hard drinking, change of air, violent exercise, have produced the small pox in some subjects and not in others? the reason of which is, I must confess, as yet inexplicable to me, and will perhaps be a secret for ever to others.” The most ordinary idea is and has been that the disease arises from a specific contagion of poison floating in the atmosphere, and carried to and not generated in the individual; such as when Fuller exclaims: * “I take this virulent substance to consist of rigid, infrangible, and unaltered atoms, so subtile, pointed, edged, &c., as to be *toto genere* and wholly destructive to the blood and solids of man.” On this principle it is that Boerhaave† wished to attempt its destruction, and to counteract its poisonous effects by applying certain antidotes. Dr. Walker‡ wished it to be understood that the variolous disease was originated in the septic principle being large in the individual; and that the pus of small pox will induce the stirring-up of any septic principle, such as typhus fever, when the varioloid septic is absent. He believes Sydenham§ says the same. Rhazes, and the majority of physicians till Paracelsus, in the time of Henry VIII., believed small pox a necessity for health. Dr. Hahn,|| a hundred years ago, published the same views, for they had died out in favour of foreign poisonous particles.

TREATMENT.—The treatment of small pox has been very various indeed. Rhazes and Anicenna (Arabians of great repute, and whose practice was followed more or less closely till Henry VIII.’s time,) treated small pox by antiphlogistic regimen,—bleeding, cool air, acidulous fruits, spring water or water cooled with snow, and buttermilk. They direct the body to be kept open by juice of prunes, &c., and in general forbid animal food, but not strictly; likewise, oil, butter, and cheese, and recommend vegetables, of the cooling and subacid kind. The Brahmins in India followed the cooling process, and acted as Anicenna,** in addition to the above, desired to be done. “When the pustules have come fully out, *et pertransit septima*, and it seems that they are fully ripe, then it is necessary that they should be gently broken with a gold needle, and the moisture removed by soft cotton. Rhazes,†† however, wished the following to be done as well as the cooling process: “These accelerate the departure of small pox. You should cover the patient; then ‘*fricare corpus*,’ rub the body, in places not very cold; give cold fluids by degrees and in succession,

* Fuller’s *Exanthemata*, p. 179. † Boerhaave’s *Aphorisms*, 1390, 1391, 1392.

‡ *An Inquiry into Small Pox*, by R. Walker, M.D.

§ *Dissertatio de Febre Putridâ, Variolis Confluentibus Superveniente*.

|| *Ratio de Variolarum, &c.* ** Anicenn., tom. ii., lib. iv., feu. i., cap. 10, p. 75.

†† Rhazis de *Variolis et Morbillis*, *Comment. sextum*.

so that sweat may be promoted and elicited, for these will facilitate the throwing out of the humours to the extreme parts. Let the patient be covered with a double 'indusium,' (the under garment, as a large shirt,) and the edges brought together about the neck; then put two basins of very hot water, the one before, the other behind him, so that the vapour may fall on every part except the face. Thus the skin softens, and the humour is more readily thrown out by it." A conviction* of the hard and impervious state of the skin led the peasants who inhabit the Carpathian mountains in Hungary to have recourse to a tepid bath, and to continue that practice twice a-day, till the eruption is completed, which method is attended with the best effects.

But when Paracelsus appeared, and when a certain taste for novelty had arisen, all these modes of practice were thrown aside. Recourse was then had to the hot treatment. The patient was confined to one small apartment, every crevice in the window and door was carefully filled in, the chimney (if there was one) was as carefully stuffed up. The air became foul—the patient longed for a little pure air. The door was, perhaps, by way of a very bold rebellion against the physician's orders, opened a little for a few moments. The patient became hot and restless, would toss the clothes from the bed, endeavouring to relieve himself. The clothes were carefully, and, as they thought, kindly again spread over him. He longed for a draught of pure cold water. Not a drop might be given, except a very little warm. Calefacients were enjoined—whatever could heat; everything that could cool his burning skin or head was denied. His dry tongue might scarcely be moistened, except with the calefacients and general heating apparatus. To use the words of Dr. Haygarth, there was "a peculiar and offensive stench." But that, with abundance of medicines,—phials full, six ounce bottles full, pill boxes full, salves, poultices, washes, ointments, cataplasms, boluses, &c., were forced upon him,—and many, *very many died*. This continued long after its introduction.

But, nearly 200 years ago, Sydenham introduced again the cooling system, after this terrible period of black horror, and with the greatest success. But he was a man enlightened above the age; for mankind fell from Scylla into Charybdis. Another long night reigned over the land, I mean inoculation. Dr. Harris was so infatuated, he believed he saw the hand of Providence almost visibly stretched out, and handing from the ignorant races of Asia this awful infliction. Believing the small pox the "*dignus vindice nodus cui Deus intersit*," and, as it was often called, the "*flagellum Dei*," Timoni and Pylarini, Italian physicians, have the odium of making this supposed remedy known. Timoni addressed his account to the Royal Society from Constantinople, in 1713. He says the Circassians and Georgians had introduced it 40 years before he wrote. Pylarini's

* Comment. in Aphor. Boerhaav., 1394.

letter, in Boddam's abridgement of *Phil. Trans.*, goes back to 1701, when he allowed four sons of a Greek nobleman to be inoculated. He says it first prevailed in Greece, particularly Thessaly. About 1717, Lady Mary Wortley Montague, wife of the English Ambassador at Constantinople, had her children inoculated. After this, it was practised very extensively; and, as I state in my *Essay on Compulsory Vaccination*, with the most disastrous results. The inoculators maintained fewer died than would have died. Dr. Nettleton gave 19 out of 100 as the deaths by natural small pox; and Dr. Jenin that out of 182 inoculated, only 2 died. Dr. Scheuchzer said that out of 897 inoculated, only 17 were suspected to have died; 39 had no result; 13 imperfect small pox; 845 the small pox by this inoculation.

But, fortunately, men began to think, and this terrible injury was forbidden as a felony by Parliament. Whilst public opinion rebelled against it, and it was publicly denounced in the pulpit* as a diabolical operation, (for it was supposed Job was inoculated by the devil with small pox,) the operators were termed diabolical, veneficial, and their parents atheists. It was said, "It will be hard to produce, out of the huge system of hurtful inventions, ever an instance big with more infidelity and atheism than this inoculation." The black veil under which men's minds view it, that time seemed to be lifted; when, unfortunately for the present generation, it fell thicker, and casting a much deeper gloom. Now, it is vaccination that has plugged up the exits of man's reason; and not only that, but there is a large class clamouring with unreasoning tongues for Government to make this compulsory upon every individual. There is but one way of preventing this odious law, which is at once to petition, and make known to the world our horror and hatred of such legislation.†

Small pox incubates twelve days.‡ Then come two days of premonitory fever; but on the third day commences and on the fifth day terminates an eruption of inflammatory pimples, which, on the eleventh day, are in full suppuration. Scales are afterwards formed, which, when they fall off, leave behind certain small depressions

* Rev. Mr. Massey's Sermon.

† In order to form an enlightened view of this repulsive measure, and shameful invasion of our personal liberty, read

A Letter to the President of the Board of Health on Compulsory Vaccination. By John Gibbs, Esq. Printed by Order of the House of Commons. Hansard, Great Turnstile. Price 4d.

The Same Letter, Author's Edition, with Thirty Pages of Appendices. Willis and Sotheran, 136, Strand, and 10, Little Tower Street. Price 6d.; or the Appendices separately, price 4d.

An Essay on Compulsory Vaccination. By Hor. Johnson, M.D. Fleet, Brighton. Price 3d.

Evils of Vaccination. By Geo. S. Gibbs. J. Chapman, 8, King William Street, Strand. Price 4d.

The Hygeist, May 1st, 1856. 1d.

The Homœopathic Record, May 1st, 1856. 1½d.

‡ Cullen.

called pock marks. The small pox emits a peculiar odour, which is sometimes sufficient to identify the disease. Each pustule, when fully ripe, consists of a little independent abscess, set and fixed in the centre of the matter of a larger one, viz., of the pustule; a little bladderful of matter fixed within, and surrounded by the matter of that larger abscess, called a pustule. This little contained abscess, or independent bladderful of matter, may be dissected out of the pustule entire. On the eighth day of the eruptions, the pustules begin to burst, and to scab over. There are many other points of importance, but here is sufficient to enable me to explain the treatment necessary.

But first I must remind the world of that sentence of Celsus, whose truth no one can deny—" *Cujus rei non est certa notitia, ejus opinio certum reperire remedium non potest. Verumq; est, ad ipsam curandi rationem, nihil plus conferre, quam experientiam.*" It matters little in what way that poison has entered, whether, as Thompson says, from particular climates, violent exercise, drinking, &c.; or, as the French declare, from previous bad food; or, as Sydenham, from terrestrial changes; or, as Walker has it, from the septic principle; or, as Rhazes, Anicenna, and Dr. Hahn maintain, is engendered naturally, and, as it were, healthily; the point will still remain the same—When it is in—how can it best be got out? The idea of burking it, and endeavouring to force it to remain in by vaccination, is so palpable, so gross a folly, such monstrous nonsense, and, so to speak, such a vain hypocrisy upon oneself, it is not worthy a moment's hesitation. It is evident that the morbid particles of small pox must be received into and operate upon the system, before the disease can be produced: the different causes adduced, such as drinking, violent exercise, in short, immediate causes, could no more give existence to small pox, than barley sown in a field could produce a crop of wheat. The question is, What treatment is best calculated to throw it out?

Here I may remark, in the first place, that our countrymen may borrow a hint from those despised people, the Hindoos. I have met in my reading the following:* "At the period in which the Aughtorrah Bhade scriptures of the Gentoos were published, (according to the Brahmins, three thousand, three hundred, and sixty-six years ago,) this disease must then have been of some standing, as those scriptures institute a form of divine worship with poojahs or offerings to a female divinity, styled by the common people Gootee ka Tagoran—the goddess of spots—whose aid and patronage are invoked during the continuance of the small pox season, also in the measles, and every cutaneous eruption that is in the smallest degree epidemical."

In the next place I would observe, that the great Sydenham whose success was so great, whose practice and consequently experience was even more than can be obtained in the present day, is reported towards the close, to have still continued an attentive observer of nature; and followed her implicitly in every step. When the old

* Holwell's Account, &c., pp. 6, 7, 8.

forcing system had given way to the beautiful system of following the indications of nature, the severe cases almost disappeared, so that the malignant kinds Sydenham describes as constitutional to the years 1670-71 and 1672, when the pustules were interspersed with large serous vesicles, which upon bursting, discovered the parts beneath in a gangrenous state; or, what he terms the black small pox of 1674 and 1675, are rarely to be met with; but Sydenham, although he did much, did not altogether reform the practice in small pox. It was reserved for the far greater genius of Priessnitz, to make this thorough change; and in pursuing his treatment, he not only never lost one single patient, not only left no marks or traces of its ravages, but declared that by means of his treatment, there was not even any danger from the worst case of confluent and malignant types. In the summer of 1851, little Vincenz Priessnitz was treated by his father (the great Priessnitz), for small pox,* with such complete success, that the little boy not only recovered without a mark left upon him, but became fresher, and in more excellent health than before. Priessnitz said, "Foreign physicians, indeed, do not believe that malignant small pox ever appeared in Græfenberg, even as little will they believe the same is possible by the water system. Many doctors of medicine who were here under treatment, and whom I purposely called in, can nevertheless confirm that they have seen at Græfenberg real small pox. They can further confirm that no person under my treatment for small pox has lost his life, or even been disfigured by its traces, but have lost other morbid symptoms for which they came for treatment." When asked how he had treated malignant small pox, he replied: "Generally, I cause them to be wrapped three times a-day in cold, wet sheets, frequently changed, and then give them tepid baths (13°-14° R), wherein cold water is afterwards poured. I give them nourishing food to eat, and cold water to drink. The washing can be changed naturally, at pleasure, but the chamber window must be left open. . . . My child, at three years old, had a very great eruption of small pox on the face and arms; the waist bandage relieved the face entirely, by drawing the eruption thither. Not a mark was left." Again he said: "Small pox, instead of being suppressed, ought to be encouraged, as it relieves the system of humours that ought to be carried out." Of vaccination, he said: "The insertion of poisonous matter into the blood of a healthy subject produces poisonous consequences, is repugnant to our feelings, and at variance with the laws of nature."

The treatment, then, that I advise above all others is the following. But I must premise that in no case at all severe would I recommend any one to superintend his own treatment; nay, more, that no father or mother is justified in taking such a responsibility upon themselves for their children; and if they do, whether they succeed or not, it is **VERY HIGHLY DANGEROUS** for them. If the patient feels feverish;

* Life of V. Priessnitz, by Dr. Horace Johnson.

shivering, followed by heat, and dryness of skin; hard, quick, bounding pulse; pain at the pit of the stomach, with pain in the back; sickness and vomiting, and severe headache; and there is small pox about the neighbourhood, probably he is attacked with this disease. All these are not likely to occur together; but delirium and convulsions mark the commencement of very violent forms of disease. If there is vomiting, let him drink warm water until he relieves the stomach of the offending matter. If the bowels are much confined, let him inject warm water. Having thus washed and purified the stomach and bowels, let him rest a little while. Then, if he is strong enough, walk briskly a few minutes, and take the full wet sheet pack; being so well covered as to get warm, if the coldness he first experiences remains. If he soon get warm, let him be covered over the wet sheet, with only one blanket. But if he is not able to walk, then let the arms and legs be well rubbed for a few moments before the pack. If he very soon grows hot under the sheet, let it be changed for another wet sheet in twenty minutes' time; if he again soon grows very hot, change it again in another twenty minutes; then let him remain the third twenty minutes, and, upon getting out, enter the tepid shallow bath, and be well rubbed. But if he does not soon grow hot, let him remain in the pack for half-an-hour, and then take the tepid shallow bath. Immediately after the bath, if he is strong enough, let him walk a little; and if not, let his arms and legs be well rubbed, but softly and quickly—boys' and women's hands are better than men's. Then, also, immediately after the bath, let him drink plentifully of cold water, unless there is vomiting, then let it be warm. This may be repeated, according to the strength and the relief that follows, once or twice in the day; making two or three times altogether. The times for these baths are: best, 11 A.M., or thereabouts; next, 8 A.M.; next, 4.30 P.M. If the patient is quite weak, then at 11 A.M. He must be packed for thirty minutes; but, if very hot, for only twenty minutes. If, before the bath, he is cold in the extremities, they should be well rubbed with the hands. All rough substances are injurious. If cold after the bath, he must have friction again. Before the eruption comes out, he should wear the compress round the body, day and night. The nourishment during the fever stage must be only light, such as brown bread in milk, gruel, sago, tapioca. But if he has an appetite, he may take a little meat in the middle of the day, but it must be followed and accompanied by three or four glasses of cold water. If the head is hot and dry, the hair may be cut somewhat short, and the head well bathed in tepid water; also, a wet compress may be worn about the brows. But when he is certain that the feverishness is likely to be small pox, he had better, even if strong, remain in bed, only getting out for the bath. He must be in a very airy room, where there are no bed curtains, unless one is required on account of a draught; for the window must be left open, unless the weather is very cold. The bed

clothing should be as light as pleasure dictates—the draughts of water as plentiful, and even more so, than thirst requires. He must take no stimulants—no medicine of a violent nature, such as soporifics, &c. ; but if the bowels do not act, brown bread in milk, and greens and water, will generally move them ; but if not, then, as I have mentioned, an injection ; but if not even this, then nature demands repose, and must not be forced, fretted, and worried. This will be sufficient for the first and second day. But the third day, he should take but one pack, at 11 A.M. ; for the skin will have been sufficiently softened, and friction must cease. The pack may be from thirty to sixty minutes, or even longer, if it is found to agree. After the pack, if strong enough, he may take a tepid can douche of two cans. This day, he must drink plentifully of cold water, and be sponged with tepid water at 8 A.M. and at 4 P.M. The nourishment must not be too much restrained, for it is always of the utmost importance to keep up the strength. But we must observe the sponging should be done lightly, not to irritate too much. When the eruption has come fully out, that is, by the end of the fifth day from the commencement of fever, or the third from the first appearance of the eruption, if the fever subside, the treatment must be discontinued. If the pustules are distinct and not very numerous, all danger is now over ; and there needs no more than to keep the patient cool, the apartment well ventilated, and to nourish him with ordinary sick room slops, plentifully in point of quantity. The face may be sponged with water, as well as the whole body, two or three times a-day. Much water may be drunk, and the throat gargled with very cold water.

But if the pustules on the face be numerous and coalescing ; if the fever do not subside on the appearance of the eruption ; if there be still a hot, dry, parched skin, quick pulse, and other signs of considerable febrile excitement, then the treatment must be continued according to the strength. If, about the eighth or ninth day, the patient become restless, sleepless, and affected with tremors, then again the bowels must be clystered, if they have not acted ; warm water should be taken till he vomit ; afterwards, a little cold water, and again resting ; afterwards, he may take more food. The food should be taken at this time rather frequently than in large quantities.

If symptoms of great weakness and depression come on, and the pustules become flattened and pale, and not well filled and plumped out with matter ; then, if the bowels have not acted, a dose of castor oil may be given according to the age of the patient ; and in this stage, he will require very little water treatment, but the strength must be kept up by food as much as possible, but no wine. Even the compress must not be continued on the body ; but he may still, if he desires it, be gently sponged, but not be packed again. During the secondary fever of maturation, it will be sufficient to sponge the body frequently with tepid water. During the itching, sponging will be sufficient with water ; and if necessary, it may be sponged

frequently with hot water and yellow soap, until he is covered with a lather, and then this may be sponged off again with tepid water. By a sensible and quiet, patient treatment of this kind, the best results will follow. Many, very many, who now die from small-pox, would be saved; and it only requires to be tried by any one, to be convinced for ever that the simple treatment, following closely the footsteps of nature, is more preservative, more beautiful, and more certain than any other.

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CAUTION TO CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

On the 15th of March, Mr. Stroulger, of Kerr Street, Northampton, obtained a Dispensary card of Mr. Berry, and sent it in the evening to Dr. Pearce, with a request that he would attend to Mrs. Stroulger, who was ill, and for which he obtained a card, entitling the holder to be visited for a month for half-a-crown, and an entrance fee of five shillings. Mr. Stroulger occupying a good situation, which has enabled him for years to pay for medical attendance for himself and family, was deemed to be ineligible to become the *patient* of a charitable institution, founded for the benefit of the poor. The card was therefore recalled, and attendance very properly declined on behalf of the charity.

Mr. Stroulger failing of success, sent for an *allopathic* practitioner to his wife. Mr. Stroulger himself, also, was ill; and, matters becoming serious, he sent on Sunday, the 23rd of March, (eight days after the card had been obtained,) for the attendance of Dr. Pearce or his assistant. At this time, Dr. Pearce was ill, and declined to send his assistant, *on the ground that the applicant had attempted to impose on a charitable institution, and, his attempt failing, had sent for an ALLOPATHIC practitioner, MR. FLEWITT.* Dr. Webster was then sent for. He attended—a child of Mr. Stroulger *died.* The poor young man who, on the 23rd of March, acted as messenger for Mr. Stroulger, and who was the brother of Stroulger's wife, was also attacked subsequently with fever. *He died also,* under the care of Dr. Webster; and thus, in addition to a heavy bill for physician's attendance, two lives are lost, a life insurance company suffers a loss by the death of the young man, and the miseries inflicted by old physio treatment are experienced by the head of a family, who ought to have known better than to attempt to pervert from its proper use an institution intended for the poor who are unable to pay for medical attendance.

Mr. Stroulger's sister, who attended in the illness, took typhus fever, was treated *homœopathically, and recovered.*

MEETING IN LONDON AGAINST COMPULSORY VACCINATION.

A PRELIMINARY meeting of gentlemen opposed to the new bill now before Parliament, requiring the compulsory vaccination of every child in England, was held at Dick's Coffee-house, Fleet-street, on Friday evening, May 16, to consider what steps should be taken to prevent the bill becoming law.

MR. HENRY OTTLEY, took the chair, and explained that the meeting had been very hastily called together, the bill being considered likely to prove most injurious to society. There were great differences of opinion as to the value of vaccination, many persons believing that, even if it prevented small pox, it introduced other diseases into the system more injurious to the general health of the country. That might be a prejudice; but if it was the prejudice of mothers and fathers of families, it ought to be respected. The Act of 1853, providing for vaccination under certain penalties, allowed, when a person was once vaccinated, that he might be left alone. By the new bill, however, if the vaccine matter did not "take" the first time of vaccinating, the Government doctors were to try it again at the end of two months; and if it did not then take, the child might be once more tortured, and then a certificate might be granted that the child was not in a fit state to be vaccinated. At the end of twelve months the certificate would expire, and the same process might go on until the child arrived at the age of thirteen years; so that he or she might be punctured no less than 39 times. It was very doubtful whether vaccination was successful, as it appeared that out of the deaths in 16 hospitals from small-pox, more than half of the victims had been vaccinated. The registrar-general's returns showed that large numbers of deaths occurred from erysipelas and other direful effects supervening on vaccination. He was not going to contest the question whether vaccination might be valuable if it were properly carried out; but it was not always so, and too often the matter was bad, and produced diseases of the most injurious character. He then alluded to the injury which might be inflicted on society under the provisions of the bill, by a coroner's inquest being liable to be held on children dying from small-pox, and the parents subjected to penalties if the children had not been vaccinated.

DR. EPPS, who maintained the efficacy of vaccination when properly performed, complained that, by the system of leaving the vaccination in the hands of medical men by contract, too many medical men knew nothing at all on the subject—moved "That the public belief in the efficacy of vaccination has been much diminished of late years; that vaccination can be effectually supported only by a conviction of its efficacy being established in the public mind; and that all compulsory measures to enforce the process are injurious to vaccination itself, as well as subversive of the rights of individuals, cannot be effectually carried out, and ought not to be attempted."

DR. HOWARD JOHNSON, who was of opinion that vaccination was no longer necessary, though he admitted it might formerly have been, seconded the motion, which, after a few words, was unanimously passed.

DR. PEARCE, of Northampton, in moving that a petition be presented to Parliament against the bill, said that he had purposely come to town that evening to

attend the meeting, feeling as he did that the present attempt to enforce vaccination upon the English public was unworthy of a British parliament, and would come with better grace from a government like that of despotic Austria, which had recently ordered Italian citizens to shave off their beards. The English public must be roused; and to do this, he hoped that the present meeting would form the nucleus of a large and powerful assemblage in London, on the question of compulsory vaccination. He could not believe that the people were aware of the abominable proposals of the present bill; and he hoped that the petition which would go, he trusted, from that meeting, would be backed with such an overwhelming amount of statistical information to prove the fallacy of legislation on the subject, that opposition to the bill would be found to be irresistible. He called attention to the fact, that, wherever small pox prevailed more than usual, other infantile diseases diminished in proportion. He cited statistics from the Registrar-General's report; as, in 1838, the mortality from small pox was 3,817, from measles only 583, and from scarlatina 1,524. In the following year, small pox descended to 634, (*not by vaccination,*) whilst measles rose to 2,036, and scarlatina to 2,499—these results shewed the futility of legislation on the subject. Who can say that, if the present bill pass, we shall not be astonished, at some not distant day, at the introduction of a bill to enforce inoculation against cholera, should the Board of Health, or the President of the College of Physicians profess to have discovered a specific against cholera. But who shall say, that, because small pox was once an extensively prevalent disease, it will ever be so again? or that, because cholera prevailed in this country in 1832, and again, 17 years after, in 1849, it will again prove to be as fatal? The idea of legislation on medical doctrines he could only say was preposterous, and he trusted that the pressure from without would bring about a defeat of the measure. DR. PEARCE stated some results of his observation on the subject of small pox, as now prevailing in Northampton. He had been daily disappointed with vaccination, because the vaccinated had small pox severely in many instances, where the *unvaccinated*, in the same houses and same families, had escaped, or had it slightly. Indeed, his former confidence had become fearfully shaken, in reference to the prophylactic power of vaccination. It was with real pleasure he moved that a petition be presented to parliament against the bill.

The petition, being seconded, was carried unanimously. DR. MITCHELL, M.P., addressed the meeting briefly, and urged as many as had a grievance to record in reference to vaccination, to send individual petitions, stating such grievance.

THE INUTILITY OF INTOXICATING DRINKS IN HOSPITALS.

SOME years ago, the hospital expenses in Guernsey, for strong drink, were £231. In 1853 they were reduced to £57, and in the course of 1854 they were not expected to reach 57 shillings. One of the surgeons is a teetotaler, Dr. Cotterelle, who for 13 years has not used any strong drink in his practice, and finds cases improve more rapidly without such drinks than with them. In the above hospital, 179 out of 253 cases were the result of intemperance; and in the prison, almost all the cases of crime have the same origin.—*Temperance Chronicle.*

SAYINGS AND DOINGS; OR, NOTES OF THE MONTH.

A lengthy discussion on homœopathy has appeared in the *Torquay Directory*, a weekly newspaper, in which Sir John Forbes, Sir Benjamin C. Brodie, Dr. Radclyffe Hall, and others have been engaged. The whole shall appear in the July number of the *Homœopathic Record*.

The trial of William Palmer, for the murder of Mr. Cook, at Rugely, is proceeding while we are preparing for the press. We forbear to comment on the medical evidence, until the trial is brought to a close. The practice of medicine in the allopathic school is so dangerous to the life of the patient, that there is *but a step between allopathy and death*. The trial of Palmer will elicit this fact in so strong a light, that we apprehend the public will begin to suspect very properly that ordinary practice is not to be trusted.

Small pox still prevails in Northampton, though there is every appearance of its leaving. The mortality has been insignificant, when compared with that which has resulted from scarlatina and typhus.

Fever has prevailed in Northampton for the last nine months. Allopathy has done in such cases its usual deadly work. One case is an extremely painful one. The patient, a young man, begged for a homœopathic practitioner—it was denied him. He was subjected by an Infirmary physician to the usual cruelties of ordinary practice: *blisters, ointment, turpentine, drugs unnamed* in the shape of *mixtures, wine in wholesale quantities*. He died, the second victim to old physic in the same house.

A young man, a few days since, being taken ill, and suffering pain in a certain region, went to a druggist in Northampton, who gave him an "opiate." Getting worse, he went to an apothecary, who also gave an opiate. The patient, under this second dose, slept and slept, until the friends became alarmed. It was then discovered that the apothecary, not being aware of the first dose given by the druggist, explained that the patient had had too much opium. "*One more grain might have killed him.*"

B. B., aged 56, came under treatment at the Northampton Homœopathic Dispensary, May 15th. He states that he has lately been a patient at the County Infirmary, where he was treated for cough, with spitting of blood. He states that under one of the physicians of that Infirmary, he was for this complaint *salivated*—a process which is rendered evident by his teeth and gums, which present a sickening spectacle.

A woman presented herself for treatment, May 12th, at the Northampton Homœopathic Dispensary, who had been under allopathic treatment for chronic bronchitis. Iodine had been employed and nitrate of silver to such an extent, that her visage is *dyed* so completely, that she looks like a native of the West Indies. Another dose or two, and she would present the appearance of an African jet. Such is old physic!! When will the people be delivered?

One of the staff at one of the metropolitan hospitals, not long since, was actually required by his colleagues, on pain of being sent to Coventry, to shave off his moustache. Gentlemanly treatment this, from *gentlemen* (?) towards a gentleman! No wonder, that, with such ideas of propriety and liberty in their own order, the members of the medical profession combine to trample upon the rights of laymen.

A NURSERY.*

I lately paid a visit to one of my relations. Our conversation soon turned upon my favourite subject, children. My fair cousin (her husband very properly left her to speak) talked like a book about physical education, and made me very desirous to see her young family.

She led me to the corridor at the back of the house that abutted on the court-yard, and opened the door of a dark, low receptacle full of disgusting smells, which she informed me was her nursery.

A steaming tub in which dirty linen was soaking stood in the front of the room, surrounded by some low washerwomen, whose unmannerly chattering polluted the ear, as the vapour from the dirty hot water did the lungs. The steam condensed into drops ran down the window panes.

I expressed to my fair cousin my incredulity as to the utility of this arrangement, and hinted how much the emanations from the clothes that were being washed must deteriorate the air the little ones had to breathe, how the excessive humidity thereby engendered relaxed all the fibres of our bodies, and must consequently be doubly injurious to children of a tender age.

"Do you really mean to say," cried she "that washing causes any pollution? I'm sure I see no dirt made by it, and a little moisture can't do much harm."

"I allude to the invisible, but very injurious, deterioration of the air, the bad effects of which on such delicate creatures as children are, you must have heard of."

"Oh," she replied, "I fumigate occasionally with juniper berries, and they soon remove all impurities."

I now perceived that a learned demonstration of the difference betwixt the properties of azotic gas and pure oxygen, although they differ but slightly in odour, and not at all in appearance, would have been quite incomprehensible to my dear cousin, nor could I hope to make her understand how a prolonged sojourn in impure air acted as slow poison on animal life, especially at a tender age, and how impossible it was that children could enjoy even tolerable health in such an atmosphere, and so forth. Neither did I venture to speak of the quantity of humidity that was imperceptibly taken up by the warm air of the room from the scalding water, and equally imperceptibly absorbed by the open mouths of the absorbent vessels in the child's soft body, whereby the natural exhalations were obstructed. Nor did I attempt to prove to her by the syllogism in *Barbara*, though I had it on my scholastic tongue, that fumigation with juniper berries and such-like things would rather tend to phlogisticate and deteriorate the air, but could never transform the

* Extracted from Hahnemann's Lesser Writings: collected and translated by R. E. Dudgeon, M.D.

impure air into vital gas.—However, as I have said, I luckily suppressed my spirit of logical refutation that was about to burst forth, and endeavoured to bring forward some *argumentum ad hominem*.

“It is possible,” I said, “that I may be mistaken, and that you, my esteemed cousin, contrary to all expectation, are in the right in supposing that the frequent repetition of a washing festival in a nursery, together with the exhalations that arise from the blankets hung to dry near the stove there, may be without any unfavourable influence on the health of children, and I shall give up my point at once when you produce me your dear little children, who doubtless are very lively and stout.”

“Produce them,” she replied, “I cannot, but you may see them yourself back there. I don't know what ails my poor Freddy yonder; he is nine years old, but he cannot walk well without his crutches.”

At these words a little miserable looking figure crawled towards us with difficulty. His knees were bent inwards, and his legs completely destitute of muscle. His head drawn backwards, stuck betwixt his shoulders; his face was pale and withered; his eyes dull, but projecting beyond the prominent forehead. His large ears stuck out; his nostrils were expanded; his broad tongue always hung partially out of his half-open mouth. His emaciated arms could scarcely support him on his crutches.

He soon returned panting to his little arm-chair, to rest himself after this slight exertion.

I involuntarily shrugged my shoulders, and heaved a deep sigh.

A mixed feeling of gratitude to God and profound pity took possession of me, as I called my own rosy cheeked Fritz to my side and bade him shake hands with this innocent victim of a false and injurious method of bringing up children. My little urchin kissed this poor object affectionately, and asked him what was it he drank out of the large jug besides him. “My afternoon coffee”—was his reply, and at the same time he poured out a cup for my boy, who, however, refused it, as he was not in the habit of drinking things he was not acquainted with.

“You do not seem to approve of that,” said my cousin, “but what else can the child drink, it is the only thing that seems to do him good; he cannot enjoy any thing else.”

“Do him good?” I hastily asked, in a paroxysm of half-suppressed but extreme anger—and I turned away from the odious sight.

Oh! what an inclination I felt to give this unhappy mother a severe lecture, and to show her that a drink which sets our blood in agitation, whilst it exalts the irritability of our muscular fibre to such a degree as in course of time to render it quite lax, and to weaken it so that it trembles—which gradually exhausts our vital

heat—which, possessing no nutritive properties in itself, unnaturally stifles hunger and thirst, and which communicates a false overstrained liveliness to its votaries, who are often reduced to the last stage of weakness, that like a transient intoxication leaves behind it an opposite state of the nervous system,—how injurious such a drink must be for the delicate child, endowed as it is with great irritability, and how impossible it is that such a badly treated creature can become any thing but rachitic and cachectic in the last degree—a shrivelled diminutive of a human being, for whom death were the most desirable lot.

With all these evident truths I should have wished to fan the smouldering spark of a mother's love in her breast, but I refrained from so doing because it occurred to me that coffee was the favourite beverage of mamma herself, so suppressing my feelings, I mildly gave her to understand that in my opinion coffee should only be an occasional beverage of persons above forty years of age, or employed in certain cases as a medicine.

“I suppose my censorious cousin,” was her reply, “you would be for depriving the little creature yonder at the table of her favourite food?”

It was some kind of confectionery which the girl three years old, who could not stand on her legs and could not be taught to walk, was swallowing with a degree of greediness that excited my disgust and horror. This pale, bloated creature had a rattling at the chest, slavered at the mouth, had a dull look, a projecting abdomen, and, as I learned, little sleep, and a perpetual diarrhœa, whereby, my cousin assured me, all impurities of the body were discharged.

I begged her to try whether she herself would remain in good health if she were constantly eating sweet things, and if she would not get sour eructations, worms, deficient or excessive appetite and diarrhœa, and if so, how much more the delicate stomach of a child who is incapable of taking exercise, and in whom there was a natural tendency to acidity.

This seemed to make some impression on her, especially when I begged her to try the strength of my home-made vinegar, which was made of sugar and yeast alone.

“I wish you would advise me what to do for the miserable skeleton yonder in the cradle at the side of the stove; it has constant cold sweats, it does not sleep, and is always crying as if it were on the rack. It has fits occasionally. I wish God would mercifully take it to himself, its sufferings are so heart-rending to witness. I have already buried three boys, peace be with them! they all died of teething. The little fellow has been about his teeth these three months; he is always putting his little hands to his mouth. I only trust he has not got into this state from the evil eye of some bad people, as my mother-in-law confidently

asserts must be the case ; it was she tied the scarlet rags round its little hands. They are said to be good for bewitchment. She also often fumigates with nine kinds of wood."

"What harm," I replied, "could the poor innocent child have done to the bad people ? where are these bad people that possess the power to make ill by a few words a healthy child fed moderately on wholesome food and strengthened by exercise in the open air and cleanliness ? I am perfectly convinced," I continued with some bitterness, caused by the sight of so much misery, "I am convinced that if you left off letting the poor child suck such a quantity of chewed bread from that bag, whereby its stomach is made sour and overloaded, if you would clean and dry it often enough so that all the stench I observe about its cradle were removed, if you would not cover it up so warm, would wash it all over every day with cold water and take it away from the unnatural heat of the stove, if you would send it or better, take it yourself frequently into the open air, would never give it unwholesome food, nor overload its stomach with the most wholesome—the little creature might still be able to enjoy life, it would not have to whine so much at all the misery you heap upon it and which you attribute to teething and witchcraft ; it would become healthy and lively, in a word it would be to you a source of joy, and not, as now, one of sorrow. Believe me, teething-diseases are almost impossible, almost unheard of among quite healthy children ; this name is a mere invention of ignorant persons, and is applied by them to children's diseases which they know nothing about, and the blame of which they lay upon nature, whereas they are in reality the fault of the mothers, the nurses, and the doctors ! None of my six children have manifested any serious illness when cutting their teeth ; when I looked into their mouths I usually found their teeth as I expected, planted along their gums in an even row. Why do we hear those everlasting complaints about the pretended teething diseases of children, for which we have ourselves to blame ?"

I went on in my overflowing zeal to give her to understand, in the most decided manner, what a poisonous atmosphere the air of this low, dark, hot room was, filled as it was with exhalations of all kinds, and so often with the emanations from the dirty clothes washed in it—how well children were worth the trouble of giving them a roomy, high, bright, frequently aired and extremely clean room to stay in during those hours of the day which they do not spend in the open air, which is quite indispensable for little children.

"Come, Fritz," I added, "let us quit this wretched children's hospital and clear our lungs in the autumnal breeze outside from this bad air. God will provide for these helpless children in the cold earth, including the poor cripple whose sad state causes your tears to flow. Come away !"

My cousin was much affected, wished to have more advice from me, wished to thank me, and so forth. But I hastily took my leave, exclaiming that she had got quite enough to do for the present if she made those changes which my compassionate zeal had induced me to suggest, and away I went with my stout and healthy little Fritz.

COPY OF PETITION AGAINST THE COMPULSORY VACCINATION
BILL NOW BEFORE THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

To the Honourable the Commons in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of CHARLES THOMAS PEARCE, residing in the Town of Northampton, in the County of Northampton, Doctor of Medicine, and Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England,

Humbly Sheweth,

THAT there is now before your Honourable House a bill to consolidate and amend the laws relating to vaccination. That such bill appears to your petitioner to be fraught with danger, inasmuch as it provides for the compulsory vaccination of every child in England, up to thirteen years of age, but does not make the necessary provision for the successful vaccination of such persons with pure lymph.

Your petitioner, being a medical practitioner, has, moreover, witnessed results of vaccination, which results were much more formidable, as diseased states, than is small pox.

Your petitioner is fully convinced, by long observation, of the uncertainty of vaccination as a preventive of small pox.

Your petitioner, being a parent and an Englishman, fears that he shall be deprived of the right of exercising his own discretion on medical matters affecting the health of his offspring, and is prepared to resist, by all constitutional means, any and every attempt to deprive him of such right.

Your petitioner views with alarm any attempt to interfere with the liberty of the subject, in any case wherein such subject is not either criminal or lunatic.

Your petitioner, believing also that the bill now before your Honourable House would invest the general Board of Health with unconstitutional powers, humbly prays your Honourable House that the said bill may not pass into a law.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Signed,)

CHARLES THOMAS PEARCE.

Northampton, 17th May, 1856.

A CURIOUS FACT.—Jenner, who petitioned Parliament for national remuneration for his appropriation of the milkmaid's discovery of vaccination, and who received two enormous grants in return, vaccinated his first, but did not vaccinate his second child.

ERRATA—Last number, page 102, 3rd & 6th lines from the top, for 1854 read 1853.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 9.—NEW SERIES.

JULY 1, 1856.

PRICE 1½d.

TO OUR READERS.

PALMER has undergone the last penalty of the law, having, after what appeared to be an impartial trial by jury of his fellow-countrymen, been found guilty of the murder of John Parsons Cook, at Rugeley, in Staffordshire. The intense and universal interest which was felt in the trial, no doubt led to a proportionate attention to the evidence adduced. Most unfortunately does it happen, that, when medical evidence is given on scientific points, it is invariably found to be of so conflicting a nature, that were there no other collateral proofs of guilt, a criminal would escape punishment. On this occasion, more than on any other within our recollection, was this fact evident. Where the public expected the greatest certainty, and where it should have existed, viz., among the witnesses engaged in scientific pursuits, there was the greatest amount of discrepancy.

So far as the late recipient of the hangman's "kindness" is concerned, it is too late to bring into question the justice of the verdict; but now that excitement is abated, and the people who cried out "away with him" have become satisfied, we may deem it more opportune to offer a few remarks on some of the incidents of the important trial. Perhaps there never was more unanimity out of doors than on the subject of Palmer's guilt, nor was ever jury found more ready, on the instant, that the judge had summed up, than in this case. It has been by some inferred, that because the jury were absent about an hour-and-a-half, there was at least a dissentient among their number, or they would have arrived at a conclusion more speedily. So far, however, from there having been any hesitation in the minds of the jury, it has been said that there was perfect unanimity within a few minutes after they retired; only that they considered it an act of *propriety* to abstain from making known the result of their deliberation too readily, lest it should be thought they had come to a conclusion too precipitately. We do not quarrel with the jury—they were no doubt as well qualified as juries are generally to judge of the evidence adduced before

them, and as ready as any jury to follow the dictation of a judge, who, in our opinion, studied to make the evidence tend to *one* result only. For our own part, we deem it a misfortune that medical and chemical evidence were offered on either side, seeing that it was found more favourable to the prosecution to *discard* evidence of that nature *as soon as it offered a chance of escape* to the prisoner. The evidence upon which Palmer was found guilty was circumstantial; and, certainly, never was circumstantial evidence more connected, excepting in one or two particulars.

As we have said above, Palmer is hanged; and our animadversions on the verdict which hanged him cannot alter his fate. It is sealed; and with him it were folly to imagine that we have anything to do. His blood is not upon our head. We would not have taken his life, as we have no sympathy with a too popular belief, that *legal life-destroying* is in harmony with the Christian religion. A House of Parliament, which refuses by its vote to admit a Jew into an English parliament, which legislates for peoples of every tongue and climate, opposes almost unanimously the attempt to repeal the law of capital punishment which had its origin under a Jewish economy. We cannot consent to a belief in the consistency of a *Christian* nation employing a Chaplain to teach the Lord's prayer, and offer to a criminal salvation on repentance, while the hangman stands in readiness to put the horrid instrument of death around his neck.

To return, however. It is the medical and chemical evidence with which we have more especially to do now; and we, far from being prejudiced in favour of the culprit, cannot help coming to the conclusion that the preponderance of evidence on the subject of poisoning by *strychnine* was in *favour of the defended*. Strychnine was not found in the body. Drs. Taylor and Rees, we think, as chemical analysts, ought to have found it, if present. A new theory is offered to explain the failure, by *supposing* that the alkaloid had become *decomposed* after absorption. Is there any ground for admitting *a theory* in a court of justice? Is it not, moreover, a false step—a dangerous precedent—to actuate judges hereafter on similar occasions? We think to admit a *mere theory*, and that a novel one,—one for the *first time offered in a court of justice, and apparently invented and offered by the principal scientific witness for the prosecution*,—is a most dangerous if not an unconstitutional step. The custom, yea, the *glory of England* has been to give the accused the benefit of a *doubt*, when any existed; but, in the case of Palmer, we cannot see that it was *just* towards the counsel who defended him, to throw over the evidence for the defence, and admit that of a doubtful nature, presented on the side of the prosecution.

Let us examine the conflicting evidence of some of the witnesses. The following quotations are from the reports of the trial, as recorded in the *Daily News*.

DR. TAYLOR said: "I am a fellow of the College of Physicians, and

have lectured upon medical jurisprudence at Guy's Hospital, and I am the author of a treatise on that subject. Among others, I have made the poison of strychnine the subject of my attention. I have tried a variety of experiments upon animal life with strychnine, but *I have never witnessed its action on a human subject*. I have tried its effects upon *animals* ten or twelve times. **RABBITS ARE THE ONLY ANIMALS** I have tried it upon. I have *not* had much experience of cases of tetanus in the human subject. I saw *one* in St. Thomas's hospital last Thursday week: the patient recovered. I do not think it possible to form a correct opinion whether it would take a longer time to destroy life by strychnine in a human subject than in an animal, because the system of absorption is *very different in an animal to that in a human subject*. There would also be a difference between one human subject and another. A good deal would also depend upon the strength of the dose. I have tried experiments to reproduce the strychnine. The stomach is placed in alcohol, with a small quantity of sulphuric acid to dissolve the strychnine, and we thus get sulphate of strychnine. The liquid is then filtered, gently evaporated, and an alkali added, such as carbonate of potass, and this precipitates the strychnine, if it is present. There are other tests that are applied to strychnine, or the supposed strychnine, when detected. Strychnine has a very peculiar taste—a strong, bitter taste. It is insoluble in water, and soluble in acids and alcohol. Coloured tests are applied to the dry residue of the evaporation. A mixture of sulphuric acid, very strong, and bichromate of potass, produces a blue colour, which changes to a violet, to a purple, and passing to a red. These colouring tests are, however, very fallacious, except where the strychnine is separated, and in a crystallized state, when we have recognised the crystals by their form; and, above all, where these have produced tetanic symptoms of death by being introduced into the skin of an animal from a wound. There are other vegetable matters that would produce the same colours as strychnine, under the colouring tests. A mixture of sugar and bile would produce the purple tint exactly the same as strychnine; and, in some cases, it has been supposed that there was strychnine, when, in point of fact, the colour was derived from these substances. It also has a bitter taste, and might in that respect also be mistaken for strychnine. Vegetable poisons are always more difficult of detection than mineral ones. I have endeavoured to discover the existence of strychnine in the bodies of animals I have destroyed, in four distinct cases, assisted by Dr. Rees, of Guy's Hospital. I applied the process that I first described, and also the colour tests. I observed appearances of strychnine by the colour tests in one case, and in another there was a bitter taste, but the colour test did not apply. In the other two cases, there was no trace whatever of strychnine. In the case where strychnine was discovered by the colour tests, the examination took place two days after death. In one of the cases where a grain of strychnine had been administered,

half-a-grain only was found in the body. I consider that the poison undergoes a great change in the blood, while under the process of absorption. In the instance of the half grain being found in the stomach, I am of opinion this was in excess of what was required to destroy life; and, in the case when the minimum dose to destroy life was administered, the whole would be absorbed and have its effect, and none would be discovered in the body. *There are no processes for detecting the existence of this poison in the tissues of the body.* Half-a-grain of strychnine has destroyed life. Supposing the whole of this to be absorbed by the blood, and taking the quantity of blood at twenty-five pounds, this would give the fiftieth part of a grain to a pound of blood. A physician died from that dose. I believe that the *substance also undergoes some partial change in the blood*, and this would increase the difficulty of separating it from the tissues. The crystals produced in the use of strychnine are of a very peculiar form. There are other substances similar to them, so that a chemist would not rely entirely upon their form; but they are peculiar. After the *post mortem* examination of the deceased, a portion of the contents of the stomach was delivered to me in a brown stone jar by Mr. Boycott. It was fastened down, covered with a bladder, tied, and sealed. The jar contained the stomach and intestines of John Parsons Cook. I experimented on the contents of the jar, to discover if they contained any poison. We sought for various poisons,—prussic acid, oxalic acid, morphia, strychnine, venetia, oil of tobacco, arsenic, mercury, and other mineral poisons. *We only found small traces of antimony.* It was only a medicinal dose, and was not in any way the cause of death. Antimony is usually given in the form of an emetic. It acts as an irritant to the stomach, and produces vomiting; and, if given in excess, it would find its way from the stomach to the system. If its administration were continued until it produced certain symptoms, it would undoubtedly destroy life. I heard the account given by the female servant of the frequent vomitings of the deceased, and also of his vomiting at Shrewsbury, and the account given of his symptoms by Dr. Jones. Vomiting of such a description would be very likely to produce the symptoms I have alluded to. . . . A good deal depends, in cases of poisoning by antimony, on the manner in which the antimony is administered. . . . Some of the antimony might have been lost by vomiting; another portion might pass from the stomach; and some might have been absorbed in the system. I think I was quite justified in coming to the conclusion that *antimony* was the cause of death. . . . Cross examined,—We did not say that the deceased died from the administration of *antimony*, but we say that he *may* have died from that cause. It is not true, as has been stated, that strychnine can be discovered in all cases of poisoning by that poison. It is not true, also, that death could not be occasioned by minute doses of antimony. I stated that *the fate of the person accused was of minor importance*;

and I still think that the lives of sixteen millions of my fellow countrymen are of more importance than the fate of the prisoner. . . . As respects the effects of strychnia on the human frame, I have no knowledge of my own at all, but I have written a book upon the subject. I consider that all the symptoms exhibited by Mr. Cook are in accordance with the supposition that strychnia had been administered to him. . . . The colour tests for the discovery of strychnine are of an uncertain character. *The fiftieth part of a grain could not, probably, be discovered under any circumstances*; and on the use of half-a-grain, a good deal would depend whether there was any food in the stomach, and the quantity, and the strychnine being mixed with it. . . . Before I commenced the operation of the stomach, I was generally informed that the death had been sudden, and my attention was more attracted to prussic acid and morphia; and, upon finding the *antimony*, I and Dr. Rees agreed that this *might have been the cause* of death.

DR. G. O. REES examined, said: I am a lecturer on materia medica at Guy's Hospital, and I assisted Dr. Taylor in making the *post mortem* examination referred to by that gentleman, and he has most correctly stated the results. I was present the whole time, and at the discovery of the antimony. *All the tests we employed failed to discover the presence of strychnine*. I agree with Dr. Taylor as to the manner in which strychnine acts upon the human frame, and I am of opinion that it may be taken either by accident or design, sufficient to destroy life, and no trace of it be found after death. . . . I have no *facts* to state, upon which I formed the opinion that the poison acts by absorption.

DR. NUNNELEY, Professor of Surgery in the Leeds School of Medicine, said, "I have seen a good many cases of traumatic tetanus. Three of the cases of idiopathic tetanus that I attended, were accompanied by lock-jaw as the first symptom. The fourth case began in the body, the facility for swallowing remaining. I have made the *post mortem* examination of two persons who died from poison by strychnine within the last twelve months, and I have seen the effects of an over-dose of strychnine. I did not see either of the patients before death. I ascertained by chemical analyses in both cases, that the death arose from strychnia. In both cases I ascertained the presence of strychnia. I have examined the bodies of upwards of forty animals that have been destroyed by strychnine. I have invariably found *the heart full of blood on the right side*, very generally the left ventricle firmly contracted, and the blood generally dark and fluid. There was no particular appearance attached to the spine. I have experimented upon upwards of two thousand animals, with strychnine and other poisons, and I have written upon the subject. The blood is almost instantly fluid, in the case of an animal suddenly destroyed by poison; but this is also the case uniformly in other cases of sudden death from different causes. None of the symptoms resemble those I have seen follow the administration of strychnine

poison to animals. I consider that Mr. Cook had more power of voluntary motion on the Monday and Tuesday, than I have observed animals to possess. I allude to his sitting up in bed—to his moving his hands about—swallowing, talking, and asking to be rubbed and moved. The sudden occasion of the convulsions is also different to any of the symptoms that I have observed in cases of strychnine poisoning. The screaming and the vomiting are also unusual symptoms. I never heard an animal scream; and when strychnine has been administered, I should consider that the spasms would render it impossible for a patient to vomit. The particulars of the *post mortem* examination of Cook, differ materially from all the cases where I have made the examination after a death by strychnine. *The heart of Mr. Cook was stated to be empty and contracted.* I have examined the bodies of dead animals poisoned by strychnine at different periods, from a few hours to forty-three days, and when the body has become quite putrid; and I have never failed to discover the presence of the poison by the tests I have applied, in any case. I have experimented for this purpose in fifteen cases. In the case of Mr. Cook, if strychnine had been in his stomach, and he had died of it, I should have expected to find the strychnine in the stomach. The course I should pursue, would be to place the contents of the stomach in water with acid; then boil them a short time, filter them, dissolve with alkali, add alcohol, and evaporate the alcohol. Here he mentioned some other proceedings, and said, I should expect by this course to discover with certainty the presence of strychnine, if it existed. If Mr. Cook had died of strychnine, I consider *a trace of the poison ought to have been discovered in the liver and spleen.* I have seen it found in these organs, where the animals died of strychnine poison. I do not think the experiment would be interrupted by the existence of any other substance in the stomach that would produce the same colours. In the case of a minimum dose of strychnine to destroy life being administered, I do not believe that it would be entirely absorbed in the system, and I should still expect to find it. It has been said that as food undergoes a change in the stomach, so do substances of this description; but the change in food takes place during digestion, consequently its elements are not found in the blood; but substances of this kind are absorbed in the blood without digestion, and may be obtained unchanged from the blood. In my judgment, no amount of putrefaction within ordinary bounds would prevent the discovery of strychnine, if it had been administered. The more empty the stomach, the quicker would be the action of strychnia. I do not consider there is any peculiar rigidity after death by strychnia. In one case, as I have stated, the rigidity was considerably less. When I spoke of the feet being arched by muscular contraction, in my report upon the case at Leeds, I only referred to the ordinary rigidity after death, the ordinary *rigor mortis*. I do not agree with Mr. Morley that the rigidity after death in the

case of poison by strychnia, is much greater than in ordinary cases. I have never observed it. The fact of *the emptiness of the heart* convinces me among other things, *that the deceased did not die of poison by strychnia*. In the state of excitement in which the deceased was, *the administration of morphia would have been injurious*. If a man had taken morphia, and was suddenly awoke by a noise, the effect would be very distressing. I do not believe there was any noise, but that it was a delusion, and that he was delirious at the time. Convulsions of all kinds are attended by a stretching out of the limbs. I do not know of a single case of this kind terminating in death, or any case where death ensued when the patient was sensible to the last moment. I found my opinion that this was *not a case of strychnia poison, on the fact of Mr. Cook being able to speak.*"

MR. W. HERAPATH, said: "I am professor of chemistry and toxicology at the Bristol Medical School. I made the *post mortem* examination in a case thirty-six hours after death, and found strychnia in the urine, the stomach, the liver, and the blood of the heart. I made a *post mortem* examination in several other cases, and in every instance I discovered the presence of strychnia. I also discovered the presence of nux vomica, when that poison was the cause of death. In one case the animal had been *buried two months*. I have experimented upon strychnia purposely mixed with organic matter, and I detected it in every case. In my opinion as a chemist, where strychnia has been the means of poisoning an individual, *it must be found in the stomach*, unless it is completely decomposed, or reduced to a dry powder. I do not consider, in this case, that the condition in which the stomach and its contents were sent in the jars, presented any difficulty in analysing them, or in the discovery of strychnine, if any had been contained within. If the strychnia is pure, and unmixed with organic matter in the stomach, I believe that the 50,000th part of a grain could be discovered. I have placed two grains in a gallon of water, which is one in 70,000 parts; and from one 10th part of a drop of the water, the presence of strychnia may be ascertained."

DR. HENRY LETHEBY said: "I am a Bachelor of Medicine, and professor of chemistry at the London Hospital. I am also medical officer of health to the City of London. I have been engaged for a considerable time in the study of poisons, and have often been engaged on behalf of the crown in cases of this description. I have been present during the examination of the medical witnesses on this trial, and heard the symptoms described as attending the death of Mr. Cook. I have been present at several cases of poisoning by nux vomica, one of which was fatal, and I have seen many animals die from strychnia. The symptoms in my opinion, do not accord with those spoken to in this case. I consider that strychnia is the easiest of all poisons to detect. I have discovered it in the blood

and tissues of animals. The longest period I have examined a body after death has been one month. The animal was in a state of decomposition. I have succeeded in detecting very minute portions of strychnine. When pure it can be detected in so small a quantity as the 20,000th part of a grain. I can detect the 10th part of a grain in a pint of any liquid, and whether the liquid is in a pure, or in the most filthy state. In my opinion, if there had been strychnine in either of the jars that were sent to Dr. Taylor, I could have discovered it. I have never failed. I have made *post mortem* examinations upon the animals I have destroyed by strychnine, and I have invariably found *the right side of the heart filled with blood.*"

An attentive perusal of the foregoing evidence, will convince any unprejudiced mind of the fact we stated above, that the medical evidence was most conflicting. Drs. Taylor and Rees tested for strychnine—they failed to find any. Dr. Nunneley, Mr. Herapath, Dr. Letheby, and several others equally qualified, at least, if not better than the two witnesses for the prosecution—assert, that strychnine ought to have been detected, if present. Dr. Taylor asserts, that there are "no processes for detecting this poison in the tissues of the body." The following account which appeared in one of the daily papers, on the 16th of June, shews, that strychnine was discovered in all the tissues of the body, notwithstanding that the animal had been dead a whole year.

"INDESTRUCTIBILITY OF STRYCHNINE.—Professor Rogers, of the St. George's School of Medicine, and Mr. Girdwood, of the Horse Guards, have performed experiments, which now place beyond all doubt, the inutility of the proposition that strychnia is lost in the act of poisoning, or that time can efface the detection of the alkaloid so long as any of the muscular tissue of the person or animal poisoned by it remains. A dog, which had been poisoned by mistake with strychnine, and had been buried in May, 1855, was dug up on Saturday week. The strychnine was found in all the tissues, and experiments are still in progress to find it in the bones. The medical gentlemen confidently anticipate that even these osseous substances will yield traces of poison.

"They have also experimented upon rabbits, previously prepared with antimony, and they declare it a disgrace to the merest tyro of chemical science to assert that antimony can in any way prejudice the result of operations in the detection of strychnia, inasmuch as before strychnia is sought for all other substance must be cleared away, and antimony being of a ponderous character, is got rid of more readily than almost any other substance, unless of a like character."

It does seem that the means employed by Drs. Taylor and Rees, were defective if there was strychnine; and the question still suggests itself, whether the prisoner had the "benefit of the doubt" afforded to him.

To strengthen, or, at least, to give plausibility to that portion of the evidence for the defence which attempted to account for the tetanic convulsions and death from other causes than that of poisoning by strychnine, the following appeared in a daily paper on the 18th of June, four days only after the execution of Palmer :

“DEATH FROM TETANUS AT THE LONDON HOSPITAL.—Yesterday (Monday) morning, a singular case of tetanus, or lock-jaw, terminated fatally at the London Hospital, under the following circumstances :— It appears that a German, named Francisco Trancellon, aged 37 years, a commercial clerk, had been an inmate of the institution for a few weeks, with a malignant attack of syphilis. He had been placed under the care of Mr. J. B. Ross, the house-surgeon, who rendered every possible assistance to the deceased that medical skill could suggest ; but, notwithstanding, symptoms of lock jaw supervened, which puzzled Mr. Ross and the other gentlemen connected with the hospital. The best efforts were brought into operation, but the poor fellow expired from the fatal effects of the attack.”

We do not say, not being prepared to dispute the circumstantial evidence, that Palmer was an innocent man. We are inclined to the belief that Palmer did by some means intentionally destroy the life of his friend for selfish purposes ; whether he effected his purpose by the employment of strychnine alone or combined, still to our minds remains an open question. Only two circumstances appear to favour the conclusion that he did ; viz., the purchasing of strychnia just prior to the death of Cook, and the symptoms of which he died having *resembled* those of strychnine poisoning. We say that strychnine not being found in the body, ought to have thrown doubts on the subject ; more especially as the *theory* advanced by Dr. Taylor, viz., *that strychnine undergoes decomposition after absorption in the body*, and defies detection, is a novel one, and for the first time introduced in a court of justice.

The double tragedy is ended. Cook died a sudden and unexpected death, when, to all appearance, death was most unacceptable ; and Palmer has ended his unhappy career—a career fraught with innumerable dangers, alas ! to many of his late associates in the *crime*, to use no harsher term, of gambling, in its most tempting form—a practice too rife among the young aristocracy and gentry of our land ; whose example is, unfortunately, all powerful in betraying their inferiors in rank, even their own household servants, into a similar train of successive crimes of which Palmer was guilty, and but for the commission of which, he had never been led to the scaffold, and ended his life in that most ignominious manner. Whether Palmer died “a murdered man,” as he asserted in almost the last sentence he uttered before his execution, is only known to Him who knows the inmost recesses of every heart. He made no confession ; but when asked by his clerical attendant and the officers of the goal on the subject, he coolly replied, “*Cook did not die from Strychnia.*”

HOMŒOPATHY AT TORQUAY.

WE have much pleasure in inserting in the columns of the *Record* the following correspondence, a portion of which recently appeared in the *Torquay Directory*, on the subject of homœopathy. We do this the more readily, in consequence of the paper referred to having declined, for reasons best known to its editor, to publish the letter of "Common Sense," in answer to the letters of Dr. Forbes and Sir B. C. Brodie. Homœopathy has certainly nothing to fear from such opponents. The mere assertions of Sir B. Brodie, and the quibbles and evasions of Dr. Forbes, will not fail to produce an effect on the public mind, anything but favourable to the old school. It is gratifying to hear that homœopathy, notwithstanding the misrepresentations and secret opposition of the allopathic practitioners, is making very considerable progress amongst all classes, in Torquay and its surrounding neighbourhood; and that numbers of the poor have such an aversion and horror to submit themselves, or those dear to them, to the barbarity and fearful uncertainty of the old drugging and bleeding system, that they resort from great distances to the homœopathic dispensary at Torquay, where, under the kind and skilful treatment of Dr. Mackintosh, many of them derive the greatest benefit and relief from suffering and disease, after having sought it in vain from allopathic treatment, whilst they frequently express their gratitude for the blessing of homœopathy. We urge upon the attention of our readers a perusal of the subjoined letters, feeling convinced that all who take an interest in the subject will be edified.

To the Editor of the Torquay Directory.

SIR,—Having noticed in your paper of Wednesday last the extract from the *Lancet*,* communicated by "J. T. C.," assailing the adherents of homœopathy in language which, notwithstanding its author in adopting it, speciously attempts to guard himself against the charge of vindictiveness, of which his own conscience evidently convicted him,—it is only too apparent, was the effusion of sheer malignancy—the ravings of an individual blinded by prejudice, frantic with malice, and totally ignorant of that which, in his folly and coarse brutality, he presumed so sweepingly to condemn;—I say, Sir, having read that precious extract, or as "J. T. C." aptly terms it "the curse of Allopathy," and believing that such things are of too serious a nature, and involve too great an offence against the public, and too gross an outrage on suffering humanity, to be dismissed summarily, or receive no further notice than that bestowed upon it by "J. T. C.;" especially as they, when considered in conjunction with the oppressive nature of the provisions contained in the so-called Medical Reform Bill, recently introduced into the House of Commons, unmistakably evince a desire for *power* to crush homœopathy by systematic oppression and persecution, and thus to invade the rights and liberties of subjects,—I am, as a "patient of a homœopathic physician," naturally enough prompted to revive the subject; and I venture to ask the practitioners of the old school, who stigmatize us (who have adopted homœopathy) as *fools, impostors, knaves, quacks, liars, cheats, and swindlers*,—those men who have constituted themselves the revilers and judges of homœopathsists—to them I venture to put the startling question—*What is Allopathy?* Is it a system so beautiful, so

* See *Homœopathic Record* of April 1st, page 94.

harmonious, so perfect, so complete, so infallible in itself, that it may with consistency and justice condemn all, "curse" all; who differ from it? Suffer its own most enlightened advocates—if they can be termed advocates of that which they condemn—to tell the sad tale; a tale which makes the heart to sicken, the cheek to blanch, and the blood to chill, whilst the public, I trust, will mark the emphatic sentence which *they* pronounce, and thereby be induced narrowly to watch any attempts which may be made by the allopaths to crush by legislative enactments, all those enlightened men who have conscientiously rejected their fallacies and their frauds.

Sir Benjamin Brodie, serjeant surgeon to Her Majesty, stated on a recent occasion that he has ceased to torment his patients "*with this painful and loathsome mode of treatment*;" and Sir John Forbes, Physician to the Queen's household, has declared that "it would fare better if all drugs were abandoned;" Dr. James Johnson, Physician to William IV., averred—"Verily there would be less mortality among mankind if there were no doctors and druggists;" whilst it is asserted by Dr. Reid that "*more children are daily destroyed by the pestle and mortar than in the ancient Bethlehem fell victims in one day to the Herodian massacre*;" and the bitter affirmation of Sir Astley Cooper was—"the art of medicine (as generally practised) was founded on conjecture and improved by murder."

Such is a description of *allopathy* as rendered by those most competent to judge of its merits; and it would be a difficult matter indeed for homœopathists to pourtray it in more fearful colours. And yet the advocates of this wretched and "loathsome" system dare even, lacking truth and argument, to utter such violent imprecations against those who differ from them, as were quoted from the *Lancet* by "J. T. C.," already alluded to. Thank God, Sir, the power of allopathy in this country—a power which it is freely admitted by its own advocates has sacrificed myriads of human lives on its bloody altars,—is rapidly on the wane; and these attacks of the *Lancet* will not fail to hasten its more speedy and entire annihilation, for they will only tend to convince the discriminating portion of the public that the allopathic craft is in danger to be set at nought; whilst those who have perhaps never thought upon the subject before will be led seriously to enquire:—What, if after all, there is truth—stern truth—dread certainty—terrible reality—in *homœopathy*?

As for the foul and abusive epithets which the *Lancet* and other medical journals so unsparingly hurl at homœopathy, their malignancy highly constitutes their harmlessness; and yet there is some truth in what *Punch* declares in the following extract:—"We are quite sure that legislation would be as well employed in guarding against the more specious quacks, who get into one's house under the guise of regularly qualified medical men, as in attempting to protect those simpletons who will go on swallowing cures for every disease, and rubbing in ointment by the half-hundred weight on the faith of some miraculous restoration of some mythic leg of some imaginary guardsman. Everybody knows that in the medical, as in every other profession, he is always called a quack who makes the first bold step out of the ruts of routine; and the most rapid advances in any science are due to the men who in their own days were always denominated quacks by those who were being left in the back ground. We would support any measure of medical reform which should really be calculated to put down quackery; but, in trying to first "catch your quack," it is as reasonable to look for him in the ranks of the regularly-qualified practitioners as among the advertisers in the newspapers."

Begging your kind insertion of these remarks,

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

Torquay, April 18th, 1856.

A CONVERT TO HOMŒOPATHY.

SIR,—Your correspondent "H" having submitted to your readers a communication from a foreign journal on the subject of the Homœopathic treatment of cholera, with the object of impugning it, may I beg your insertion of the following official testimony to the success of Homœopathy in this terrible disease, in order that the public may hear both sides of the question, and judge for themselves :—

"In a return made last May to the House of Commons, (states the Report of the Liverpool Homœopathic Dispensary presented to the subscribers in January last.) of papers and letters addressed to the Board of Health relating to the treatment of cholera, which were produced, upon the motion of Lord Robert Grosvenor, the following passage occurs :—Dr. MacLoughlan, one of the medical inspectors of the Board of Health, addressing one of the medical officers of the Homœopathic hospital, Golden-square, says, "You are aware that I went to your hospital predisposed against the Homœopathic system; that you had in me, in your camp, an enemy rather than a friend; and that I must, therefore, have seen some *urgent reason* to come away so favourably disposed as to advise a friend to send a subscription to your charitable fund; and I need not tell you that I have taken some pains to make myself acquainted with the rise, progress, and medical treatment of cholera; and that I claim for myself some right to be able to recognize the disease and to know something of what the medical treatment ought to be; and, that there may be no misapprehension about the cases I saw in your hospital, I will add that *all I saw were true cases of cholera, in various stages of disease; and that I saw several cases which did well under your treatment, which, I have no hesitation in saying, would have sunk under any other.* In conclusion, I must repeat to you what I have already told you, and what I have told every one with whom I have conversed, that although an Allopath by principle, education, and practice, yet, was it the will of Providence to afflict me by cholera, and to deprive me of the power of prescribing for myself, *I would rather be in the hand of a Homœopathic than an Allopathic adviser.*"

Such is the impartial testimony of an *Allopathic* practitioner to the success of the Homœopathic practice in cholera in our own country, and of one whom your correspondent "H" will, doubtless, allow is equally as competent to form a correct opinion on such a subject as the "T. Bouquet, D.M.P.," whom he quoted.

Now "T. Bouquet, D.M.P.," himself admits that of twenty-five patients treated "by the usual (Allopathic) remedies" *only eleven died*; whereas it appears from a statistical table carefully prepared by Dr. Hayle, of Newcastle, that out of 81 cases of cholera treated homœopathically within the towns of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Gateshead, during the months of September and October, 1853, only sixteen died; whilst out of 261 cases of Diarrhœa there was *not a single death!* and Dr. Elliott, another Homœopathic practitioner in Newcastle, gives the following summary of patients treated by himself:—

	Patients.	Recovered.	Died.
Diarrhœa.....	120	120	0
Cholera	40	84	6

As the foregoing figures clearly demonstrate, and it would be no very difficult matter to produce a multitude of others attesting the same truth, Allopathy has every reason to fear a fair and strict comparison with Homœopathy; for I venture to predict that the result of any such comparison would inevitably be to establish the truly erratic nature and empiricism of the former, and the truth and reality of the latter. And I submit that it is a very important sign of the times—a sign which may reasonably be taken as denoting a glorious future for Homœopathy, and a not far distant day of reckoning for those who would now, if they did not happily lack the power, persecute its disciples,—that such eminent men as Sir John Forbes, physician to her Majesty, should be found uttering such startling sentiments as the following :—"It is utterly impossible," exclaims the royal physician, "to disregard the claims of Homœopathy as an established form of practical medicine, as a great fact in the history of our art; we cannot ignore it; we must, *volentes volentes*, consider this question, for not only do we see all our ordinary diseases cured Homœopathically, but even all the severer and more dangerous diseases which demand by the common method prompt and strong measures to prevent a fatal issue."

With what consistency, after the utterance of such sentiments, can the name of Sir John Forbes be retained on the *Allopathic Medical Directory*, whilst those of Homœopathic practitioners are excluded? "H" will perhaps answer the query.

Torquay, April 18th, 1856.

M.D.

SIR,—In some correspondence which has recently appeared anonymously in your paper, signed "A Convert to Homœopathy." (in the Paper of April 23rd,) and "M.D.," (in the Paper of April 30th,) it is attempted to be shewn that Homœopathy can lay claim to some support from Sir Benjamin Brodie, Bart., and from Sir John Forbes, M.D.

I have no wish to discuss such a subject as Homœopathy in a popular Journal, but as it seems desirable that the public should not be misled respecting the real opinion of men so eminent in the ranks of Rational Medicine as the two referred to, I append two letters which will speak for themselves.

I am, your obedient servant,

C. RADCLYFFE HALL, M.D.

Plymwood, Torquay, May 5th, 1856.

14, Savile Row, May 8rd, 1856.

MY DEAR SIR,—If you wish to know my opinion of what they call Homœopathy, you need only refer to an article which I wrote some years ago for the *Quarterly Review*, and which appeared in the 141st number of that Journal, (December, 1842.) No one who has taken the pains to inquire into the subject can doubt that it is a mere imposture, which some day or other will disappear, but only to be succeeded by some other imposture equally absurd.

That the public should be thus imposed upon is not perhaps much to be wondered at, if we bear in mind—first, that every sick person wishes to recover, but that our art cannot cure everybody;—secondly, that in a great number of instances, patients will recover of their complaints by a natural process, without any treatment at all, and that under these last-mentioned circumstances any remedy that is administered may obtain the credit of having effected the cure. Allow me to add that the delusion as to Homœopathy would, I doubt not, have vanished long ago if it had not been for the clamour raised against it by the medical profession,—a clamour which has (not unnaturally) been attributed to jealousy, and which has given it a notoriety which it could never have obtained otherwise. It is absurd to argue gravely against such nonsense as this really is; and our brethren would have acted more discreetly if they had let it take its course and never made it a subject of serious discussion.

As to any penal enactments to prevent homœopaths or any other irregular practitioners from interfering with the Medical profession in their private practice, the thing is altogether out of the question; and indeed I can conceive nothing that could be more detrimental to the profession itself, than to be bolstered up by an act of parliament, instead of having to depend solely on the skill, character, and conduct of its members.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

B. C. BRODIE.

To Dr. Radclyffe Hall, Torquay.

12, Old Burlington-street, May 2nd, 1856.

MY DEAR SIR,—I am much obliged to you for calling my attention to the paragraph in the Torquay Journal of April 30th in which I am represented as a favourer of Homœopathy. If the quotation there given be copied correctly from any of my writings, I must plead guilty to having used the expression "*cured homœopathically*" in a loose and equivocal manner. If, as more accurately expressing my meaning, the words "*get well under homœopathic treatment*" be substituted for that expression, I abide by the statement there given.

Every reference made by me to Homœopathy, in any of my writings, has had for its object to show the power of *Nature* to cure many diseases, both slight and severe, without any aid from *Art*; believing, as I have always believed and still believe, that *homœopathic treatment is utterly impotent*, and consequently, that the beneficial results obtained under

it, are entirely due to Nature. I have always referred to the "Cures" of the Homœopaths as unequivocal proofs that the diseases treated according to their method were cured by Nature.

It is of little moment to the profession or the public, what my opinion of Homœopathy, as a code of medical principles and a system of Therapeutics, may be; but all those who have read what I have written on the subject, must be well aware that I have ever regarded it as one of the greatest—though certainly not the most injurious—of the many delusions that have dishonoured medical science since its origin.

Believe me, my dear Sir, yours faithfully,

JOHN FORBES.

To Dr. Radclyffe Hall, Torquay.

SIR,—I have no wish needlessly to trespass upon your columns by prolonging the discussion on homœopathy; but the letters which appeared in the *Directory* of Wednesday last, communicated by Dr. Radclyffe Hall, and respectively subscribed "B. C. Brodie" and "John Forbes," are such a flagrant outrage on the common sense of your readers, that I must, reluctantly, beg your permission to offer a few remarks upon them.

In the first place, the letter by "A Convert to Homœopathy," (in the *Directory* of April 23rd,) alluded to by Dr. Radclyffe Hall, does *not* attempt, as he asserts, to shew "that homœopathy may lay claim to some support from Sir Benjamin Brodie, Bart., and from Sir John Forbes, M.D.," but simply quotes the former individual to shew the sentiments which he had expressed concerning *allopathy*; for it is apprehended that *his* opposition to homœopathy is too notorious a fact for any one to expect him to say or write anything in favour of it. So, likewise, the extract from Sir John Forbes was evidently *not* intended, as is insinuated by Dr. Hall, to "mislead" the public, as to the "real opinion of men so eminent in the ranks of rational medicine" on the subject of homœopathy, but more immediately to demonstrate, from the expressed opinions of *allopathic* practitioners themselves, the almost universal dissatisfaction, dread, and uncertainty which prevails respecting the drugging and bleeding system of the old school, most ludicrously and unmeaningly termed by some people "rational medicine;" and to bring before the public, for the public good, the fearful fact that there *must* be some truth in, and some cause for, the assertion of that eminent physician Dr. Abercrombie, "that the *allopathic* practitioner is perplexed at every step with painful doubts, and is obliged to grope and guess his way in darkness;" and that, *if there is to be any legislative interference at all*, it is high time, in the words of Frank, that the "Government should at once either banish medical men and their art, or they should take proper means that the lives of the people may be safer than at present, when they look far less after the practice of *this dangerous profession, and the murders committed in it*, than after the lowest trades." Sir Benjamin Brodie is peculiarly unfortunate in coming before the Torquay public, through the agency of Dr. Radclyffe Hall; for, whilst declaring "it is absurd to argue *gravely* against such nonsense as homœopathy, he very amusingly refers his readers to "an article which he wrote some years ago for the *Quarterly Review*," containing *his* opinions on homœopathy! But surely those opinions would hardly repay one for the trouble of a reference, inasmuch as the author of them could scarcely be guilty of the *absurdity* of writing anything *gravely* on such a subject; and it is almost superfluous to add that if the opinions therein expressed are merely characterized for their levity, they are not entitled to much consideration or respect.

It is a very easy matter—very simple and child-like indeed, for Sir Benjamin Brodie, in answer to the statistical arguments of "M.D.," to content himself with the mere abuse of homœopathy: any illiterate street-sweeper can cry "Imposture! Nonsense! Delusion!" Easy it is indeed for some people to overlook the circumstance that stone throwing by those who live in glass houses is an extremely hazardous experiment; but as it is not a very dignified occupation, even though

indulged in by a royal physician, I willingly leave Sir Benjamin Brodie to the enjoyment of the undivided honour, merely observing that the acknowledged eminence of an individual does not necessarily dignify or justify acts and opinions which are derogatory to the high position he is presumed to hold; or, of a consequence, effect such a conversion of things, so directly opposite in themselves, as to render that which is palpably untrue true, or *vice versa*; and directing the particular attention of the public to the important fact that Sir Benjamin Brodie does not contradict the opinions respecting *allopathy* attributed to him by "A Convert to Homœopathy," *ergo*, he tacitly allows that it is "a painful and loathsome mode of treatment."

Sir John Forbes does not deny the statement respecting homœopathy attributed to him by "M.D.," though he makes a futile attempt to explain its meaning—a quibble which may satisfy Dr. Radclyffe Hall, but will not, it is imagined, serve his purpose with the discriminating portion of the public; or, in their estimation, leave its author in a very enviable position. It was also quite unnecessary on his part; inasmuch as the extract in question, even suppose it does not, or rather *should not*, say anything in favour of homœopathy, *does mean* something against the so-called "rational medicine."

This gentleman expresses his *belief*—only his *belief*, he does not and *dare* not assert it for a fact—"that homœopathic treatment is utterly impotent, and consequently that the beneficial results obtained under it are entirely due to Nature." But, sir, Dean Swift somewhere says, "fine sense, and exalted sense, are not half so useful as common sense;" and what says "Common Sense" in reply to Sir John Forbes? First of all it asks, What does his *belief* amount to on such a subject, when the probability is that it has never been practically and experimentally tested; and is controverted, beyond the possibility of truthful contradiction, by the published statistics of homœopathic physicians, as well as by the testimony and experience of thousands who have been recovered from dangerous sickness and disease by homœopathic treatment; and the opinions of men, who, however much their opponents may affect to despise them, are nevertheless not one whit inferior to themselves either in talent, learning, skill, experience, or ability. It is a solemn farce—a mockery on "Common Sense," to tell people that because they have recovered from disease under the homœopathic treatment, they *must necessarily have been cured by nature alone*.

"Common Sense," whilst admitting that *nature does* cure many diseases, if not crippled and interfered with by wholesale drugging, finds it so very difficult to believe that he really cannot believe it at all, that *absolutely the whole* of the 261 cases of diarrhoea which recovered out of that number of patients, and the 65 of cholera which recovered out of 81 cases treated homœopathically at Newcastle, referred to by "M.D.," were cured by *nature alone*, and "without any aid from art." Such a thing is perfectly incredible to "Common Sense;" hence, Sir John Forbes is placed in this dilemma: either the statistics given by "M.D." were fabricated by the compilers of them, Drs. Hayle and Elliott; or else, the cases recorded were cured by *nature alone*; or else, the *belief* of Sir John Forbes, that "homœopathic treatment is utterly impotent" is a "delusion which dishonours medical science," and there is, of a consequence, *truth* in homœopathy. There are three alternatives. Which will Sir John Forbes accept? If the *second*, as most in accordance with his *belief* in "nature," and it should be really true that diseases of so serious a nature as those alluded to, do recover without any aid from art, in the same ratio to the number of patients as that above given, then is it true that the legislature should interfere, not for the suppression of homœopathy, for, according to Sir John Forbes, it is "utterly impotent,"—but to protect the public against that system of "rational medicine," which stalks into the chambers of the sick and afflicted, armed with a mode of treatment the very opposite of "impotent," "painful," and "loathsome," with which, alas! in too many instances, nature cannot long contend—from which she rapidly becomes exhausted, and finally succumbs;

painfully verifying the horrifying words of Frank : " *thousands are slaughtered in the sick room ;*" and confirming the affirmation of Dr. James Johnson : " *I declare my honest conviction, founded on long observation and reflection, that if there was not a single physician, surgeon, man-midwife, chemist, or druggist on the face of the earth, there would be less sickness or mortality than now obtains.*"

" Thus, with our hellish drugs, death's ceaseless fountains,
In these bright vales, o'er these green mountains,
Worse than the very plague we raged.
I have myself to thousands poison given,
And heard their murderer praised as sent by heaven,
Because with nature strife he waged."—GOETHE'S FAUST.

It may be, however, that Sir John Forbes may doubt, with apparent consistency, the correctness of the statistics quoted by " M.D. ;" for what sensible person thinks of believing *homœopaths* in such matters, who are (according to the *allopathic* press) simply " *fools, impostors, knaves, quacks, liars, cheats, and swindlers ?*" so to afford him an additional proof of the fallacy of his belief in *homœopathic impotency*, I beg to refer him to *Wilde's Austria: its Literary, Scientific, and Medical Institutions*. He (an opponent to *homœopathy*, and therefore can hardly be supposed to exaggerate) writes, that " upon comparing the report made of the treatment of cholera in the *homœopathic* hospital at Vienna with that of the same epidemic in other hospitals in Vienna at a similar time, it appeared that while *two-thirds* of those treated by Dr. Fleischmann (a *homœopath*) recovered, *two-thirds* of those treated by the ordinary methods in the other hospitals, died. This very extraordinary result led Count Kolowrat (Minister of the Interior) to issue an edict revoking the former prohibition of *homœopathy*. On Dr. Quin's leaving Tischnowitz in Moravia, (Dr. Quin is a physician now practising *homœopathy* in England,) a letter of thanks was written to him by the magistrates, expressive of their gratitude for his services. Shortly after, a tabular result of the various modes of the treatment was drawn up by the authorities, and attested by the chief magistrate, as follows :

Cholera Patients treated at Tischnowitz, from the 7th of November, 1831, to February the 5th, 1832.

	PATIENTS. CURED.		DIED.		
Treated allopathically	331	...	229	...	102
Treated homœopathically	278	...	251	...	27

Will Sir John Forbes venture to question the correctness of *these* figures, or assert that the whole of the above cases, which recovered under the *homœopathic* treatment, were cured by nature alone, and " *without any aid from art ?*" If he cannot—and I challenge him to it—what (and I put the question to the " *Common Sense*" of your readers) what becomes of his vaunted belief " *that homœopathic treatment is utterly impotent ?*"

Your insertion of these remarks will oblige, Sir,
Yours obediently,

COMMON SENSE.

Torquay, May 10th, 1856.

THE COMPULSORY VACCINATION BILL.

The 42nd report on parliamentary petitions, lately issued, gives a total *against* the Bill, of 108 petitions, and 5,776 signatures—still let the number be increased.

STRYCHNINE.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE—RECOVERY UNDER THE TREATMENT OF A
HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIAN.

A CASE of poisoning, or rather attempt at suicide, was made at Doncaster a few days back, which, at the present time, is sufficiently interesting to prevent the necessity of an apologising for giving it insertion; the more interesting to us, because, as it was treated by one of our homœopathic colleagues, it will tend to dispel the ridiculous slanders that the allopathic practitioners are so fond of indulging in, when safely and pompously dilating, to a large and ever increasing class of those who are enquiring into homœopathy, upon the shortcomings and dangers of trusting to homœopathic aid in the most dangerous cases; interesting, also, from some facts, which, *if borne out by further experiment*, places an antidote at our disposal, at once easily administered and efficacious in its effects.

On the 5th inst., a little after 12 o'clock, mid-day, Dr. Dunn, of Doncaster, was summoned to attend Mrs. M——, aged 34, mother of six children. Dr. Dunn not being in at the moment, his head assistant visited the patient; and on his arrival, was told that Mrs. M. had taken poison. He administered an emetic of the sulphate of zinc, which instantly caused the contents of the stomach to be evacuated. Just after the vomiting ceased, Dr. D. arrived; and, finding the patient very weak and low, he gave a little sherry wine, when the patient was immediately seized with the most violent spasms of the muscular system, the patient became rigid, the head drawn back, the face livid, the hands clenched, the body fixed, the legs stiff, the calves of the legs very hard and in lumps, as in cramp. She was laid on the carpet. The pulse was gone, and to all appearance she was dead; in about a minute or minute-and-a-half she again breathed, and very slowly recovered. Dr. Dunn then administered the compound tincture of iodine, in doses of fifteen drops, every fifteen minutes. From the administration of the first dose of iodine, the spasms became less and less severe, until about 5 o'clock, when she had one more severe, but not nearly so bad as the one she had at 1 o'clock. After this, the spasms were very slight, up to 9 o'clock, when they entirely ceased. The *chemical antidote* was then administered, and the patient had a quiet night. In the morning, June 6th, she complained much of headache, numbness of the whole body, and she was unable to use her lower limbs. Dr. Dunn then administered the *dynamic* antidote (*Opium*), in infinitesimal quantities, every three hours. The headache (after the first dose) was relieved, and she passed a good night; and on Saturday morning, June 7th, she expressed herself as much better, and asked permission to go home (she had taken the poison at a friend's house). She could now stand, but still felt great numbness of the legs; by evening she could walk, and went home, a distance of three hundred yards. On Sunday, she still complained of numbness; the bowels acted slightly. The *Opium* was still given, three globules

of the sixth dilution every four hours. On Monday she took a short walk with a friend, and said that she was nearly well, but complained of a bad taste in her mouth. *Pulsatilla* was then given, and in a day or two the patient was well.

From the symptoms that set in with such violence, Dr. Dunn at once pronounced the poison to be strychnine; and he wisely bought, at the same druggist's shop where the four witnesses had purchased, two packets of the same poison, viz., Battle's Vermin Killer, the active ingredient of which is strychnine; the one he retains, and the other is under analysis—not to find out if there be strychnine, which is certain, but to ascertain how much is contained in each threepenny packet; as this knowledge, with further experiments which Dr. Dunn intends to institute, will prove whether iodine be such an antidote as professional men may depend upon in the hour of need. Dr. D.'s patient swallowed a threepenny packet, and the paper in which it was contained.

In the case of Mrs. Dove, who was poisoned by strychnine, the medical men suspected what had been taken; we ask, might not that poor lady have been saved, had Mr. Nunnally or Mr. Morley acted as Dr. Dunn acted? We wait for further experiments, before pronouncing for or against; but, from the experiments of the French chemist, Monsieur Donnè, we incline to the opinion that iodine is the chemical antidote to strychnine, and ought instantly to be given, should strychnine have been taken purposely or by mistake.

The very reprehensible practice of selling poisons, which prevails in our druggists' shops; the still more dangerous practice of leaving the sale of such deadly articles to boys, without knowledge and without responsibility; not to mention the criminality of selling pure strychnia to a known bad character, as was done by Mr. Morley's dispenser to Mr. Dove; these things surely call for some careful supervision. But, as homœopaths, we declare that such poisons, whether sold by druggists or doctors, are not only injurious, but dangerous; as the public may learn from the recent revelations how much it behoves them to avoid drugs and druggers.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—Will you allow me to say, that the analysis in your current number of the grants of public money since 1833 to the Royal Vaccine Institution, represents but a fraction of the cost of the vaccine delusion to the country.

Parliament voted two grants, amounting (I think) to £30,000, to Dr. Jenner, in reward for a discovery which he did not make.

There is a large annual expenditure under the Poor-Law Board, for fees to public vaccinators; last year it amounted to £45,728.

There are also two heavy items in connection with the Registrar-General's Department, for printing, and fees to Registrars, the amount of which I have not ascertained.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN GIBBS.

St. Leonard's-on-Sea,
June 4, 1856.

THE NEW MEDICAL BILL.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—I shall esteem it a favour if you will allow me to invite attention, through your columns, to a new Medical Bill (the third this session,) entitled "A Bill [as amended by the select committee] to alter and amend the Laws regulating the Medical Profession." It might, with propriety, be styled "A Bill to enforce uniformity in Medical Practice."

Although in principle this bill ignores the qualifications of intellect, and admits only the inferior qualifications of a diploma, it does not contain so many obnoxious clauses as its predecessors; but it has a novel feature especially inviting comment and opposition. Whereas the previous bills proposed that the expenses attending a system of registration of medical practitioners should be met by fees payable by practitioners, this bill proposes to tax the public instead of the profession, as may be seen in the following clauses:—

"VIII.—There shall be paid to the members of Council, except the President of the General Board of Health, such remuneration and such reasonable travelling expenses as shall from time to time be appointed or allowed by the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, out of any moneys which may from time to time be provided by Parliament for that purpose."

"XX.—The President of the Board of Health shall from time to time appoint, from among persons qualified to be registered under this Act, a Medical Registrar for the United Kingdom, and one Assistant Medical Registrar for Scotland, and one Assistant Registrar for Ireland, and also shall appoint a Treasurer, and such Clerks and other Officers as the said President of the Board of Health may deem necessary, and may from time to time remove any Registrar or other person so appointed; and the salaries of the said Registrar, Assistant Registrars, Clerks, and other Officers, shall be fixed from time to time by the said President of the Board of Health, with the approval of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, and shall be paid, together with all reasonable expenses incurred by the Medical Registrar in the execution of his duties under this Act, out of any moneys which may from time to time be provided by Parliament for that purpose."

In these clauses it is proposed to confer much patronage upon the President of the Board of Health, and to create a number of snug berths for hungry expectants. Such an expenditure of public money would be unjust, and would open a door to a system of enormous jobbery. Why should the *public* have to pay the expenses incurred in "regulating" the medical profession? If that profession need the "regulating" control of the President of the Board of Health and a Medical Council, the Members of the profession should themselves pay the attendant expenses.

Clause XXI. threatens the punishment of erasure from the Registry for the commission of undefined transgressions.

Clause XXXV. enacts that—"After the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, no person shall hold any appointment as a physician, surgeon, or other medical officer, either in the military or naval service, or in emigrant or other vessels, or in any hospital, infirmary, dispensary, or lying-in hospital (not supported

wholly by voluntary contributions,) or in any lunatic asylum, gaol, penitentiary, house of correction, house of industry, parochial or union workhouse or poorhouse, parish union, or other public establishment, body, or institution, or to any friendly or other society for affording mutual relief in sickness, infirmity, or old age, or as a medical officer of health, unless he be registered under this Act."

Why should any distinction be made between "any hospital, infirmary, dispensary, or lying-in hospital," supported by voluntary contributions, and any "other public establishment, body, or institution, or any friendly or other society for affording relief in sickness, infirmity, or old age," likewise supported by "voluntary contributions?" And why should men be deprived, when associated, of the right each individually enjoys to choose his medical adviser without hindrance or molestation from the State?

Clause XLII.—"After the said first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, no person shall be entitled to recover any charge in any Court of Law for any medical or surgical advice, attendance, or for the performance of any operation; or for any medicine prescribed, administered, or supplied by him, unless he shall prove upon the trial that he is registered under this Act."

This clause will operate to encourage dishonesty (by releasing from legal liability for their contracts, even those persons who may knowingly employ unregistered practitioners,) and confiscate the rights (of remuneration for services rendered) of dentists, corn-cutters, mid-wives, nurse-tenders, bath-servants, and bone-setters, persons very useful, and some of them indispensable to the poorer classes, especially in remote districts. The vested interests of patent-medicine venders, for which they are highly taxed, are also unceremoniously confiscated. The rights of "chemists and druggists" are conserved in Clause LII.

Clause XLV. deprives the practitioner of medicine or surgery practising without a diploma, of his right to style himself physician or surgeon. A diploma may *create* a doctor or bachelor of medicine, but it cannot *make*, and the want of it should not *unmake*, a physician or a surgeon.

If the registration of medical practitioners be a State want, then *all* practitioners alike, with or without diplomas, should be registered as whatever they may be.

If exclusive registration be essential to the interests of that portion of the medical profession possessing diplomas, what is to prevent them from arranging, with each other and with their respective colleges and licensing bodies, a system of registration, and an annual publication of the registry, *at their own cost*.

The public do not need medical registration and uniformity. There cannot be too many competing licensing bodies. Free competition in the practice of medicine, as in other things, is essential to the advancement of science.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBS.

Maze Hill Cottage, St. Leonard's,

June 18, 1856.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 10.—NEW SERIES.

AUGUST 1, 1856.

PRICE 1½D.

TO OUR READERS.

So the "Compulsory Vaccination Bill," the "Medical Profession Bill," the "Board of Health Bill," and the "Burial Acts Bill," have shared each a similar fate. They are lost. Each deserved its fate, for each, whether intended or not by the President of the Board of Health, provided for the centralization of power in the government of the country, destroyed the power of local self-government, and last, not least, endangered the liberty of the subject. We have before commented on two of the above bills, viz., the "Medical Profession Bill" and the "Compulsory Vaccination Bill;" and our readers will find, in the speech of Mr. Cowper, a reiteration of the views we have expressed on former occasions—views founded on indisputable data, and presented to the promoters of the bill in our pages and petitions. Mr. Cowper may thank us, and particularly our esteemed correspondents, Messrs. Gibbs and Dr. Horace Johnson, for much new light which he has acquired. The young man really appeared to be very ignorant of the subject which he, as "President of the Board of Health," undertook to introduce and to advocate. Mr. Cowper still requires to be enlightened, for one observation which he made on the 10th of July betrayed an ignorance of the real state of things in regard to small pox. He stated that "one out of three who had small pox without vaccination, died." Such cases may have occurred here and there; but it is far from the truth when the subject is considered on an extensive

scale. Mr. Cowper knows, as every one knows, that every child, even in a family of six, has died of scarlatina ; in another family, five ; in another, four ; in each case every one attacked proved fatal, but these, happily, were exceptional cases ; and, moreover, we believe that when homœopathic medical treatment is universally adopted, the mortality in scarlatina and small pox, as in every other disease, not excepting Asiatic cholera, will be immensely diminished.

However, Mr. Cowper, if he continue to hold his present office, will have charge of another and similar set of bills next session ; and we trust, by that time, we shall be prepared by organizing our forces, to offer to Parliament, though we may claim to be heard at the bar of the House of Commons, such an amount evidence against the dicta of half-informed " Boards of Health " and " Medical Councils," as shall convince the house and the country of the utter fallacy of legislating on matters affecting the health of the British subject, against the declared will of such subject.

DRUGS AND THEIR USES.

BY CHARLES T. PEARCE, M.D., NORTHAMPTON.

No. 2.*

NUX VOMICA.

STRYCHNOS NUX VOMICA, the poison-nut tree, is a native of the Coromandel coast, Cochin China, and several parts of the East Indies ; is a magnificent tree, a member of the natural order (jussieu) *apocynæ*, or *strychnæ* of Candolle ; class, *pentandria digynia*. The fruit is about the size of a St. Michael's orange, with a bitter astringent pulp, and containing several seeds. The yellow-white kernels consist of two hornlike seed lobes, of faint, peculiar smell, and exceedingly bitter, long-lasting taste. Its taste can be detected when dissolved in 600,000 times its weight of water.

The following extract from the last edition of the *Homœopathic*

* For No. 1, on *Cocculus Indicus*, see *Homœopathic Record* for December 1, 1855, p. 23.

*Pharmacopœia** will show the mode of preparation: "The nuts are cut with a root-cutting knife into very thin slices, which, after having been dried previously with a gentle heat, may be reduced easily into a sufficiently subtle powder, and then set aside in alcohol, in a glass vessel, well secured with a piece of wet bladder, to be extracted for tincture. Ten grains of the powder are digested with 1000 drops of alcohol." A tincture thus prepared has a vivid straw-yellow colour and very bitter taste.

The tincture thus prepared, and called the matrix or mother tincture, is for medicinal uses diluted with alcohol and water in certain proportions, again and again, according to the mode prescribed by Hahnemann, who was the first to demonstrate that the curative power of medicinal substances depends not on the *quantity*, but on the law of *similia*, and the infinitesimal subdivision to which medicines are subjected, developing their forces.

The foregoing is the mode adopted by the homœopathic chemist in the preparation of the medicine known so universally as *Nux vomica*. Hence it will be seen that the homœopathic preparation of this, as of every other medicine employed in homœopathic practice, is much more consistent with nature's indications than the ordinary method of submitting the seeds of the plant to *chemical* decomposition, in order to obtain, not the medicinal property in its simple state, but an "*active principle*," so called because deadly in its effects on the animal system. Admitting that the whole tree—its bark, its wood, and roots, as well as its seeds,—are intensely bitter to the taste; and admitting also that some of the symptoms produced by the active principle *strychnia* resemble those which are common to the whole tree; a distinction must be made between the *naturally presented* condition and the *chemically obtained substance*.

The following is an account of the mode of preparation of strychnia, the "active principle" of *nux vomica*, which, in ordinary practice, has well nigh superseded the employment of *nux vomica*. It is taken from Ballard and Garrod's *Elements of Materia Medica*, the class book of the London University Medical School.

"*Strychnia*."

"**PREP.**—Strychnia exists in the seeds in the form of an *igasaurate*; and the process adopted by the London College for its extraction is as follows: spirit is repeatedly boiled upon the bruised seeds, so as to dissolve out the *igasaurate of strychnia*, and is then evaporated to an extract.—This is dissolved in cold water and strained, and, after being again evaporated to the consistence of a syrup, the *igasaurate* is decomposed by means of *magnesia*, which takes the acid, forming an insoluble *igasaurate of magnesia*, leaving the *strychnia* free and precipitated along with the latter salt.—After separation of the compound precipitate by subsidence and pressure, it is boiled with

* Edited by Carl Ernst Gruner, Dresden. Published by Arnold, Leipzig, 1855.

spirit, which dissolves out the strychnia; and the solution, being filtered and evaporated, has diluted sulphuric acid added, which combines with the alkaloid, and, after some hours, the *sulphate of strychnia* crystallizes out.—The crystals are freed from the liquid by pressure, dissolved in water, and decomposed by addition of ammonia; *strychnia* precipitates, and is afterwards taken up by boiling spirit and set aside to crystallize.

“CHEM. COMP. AND PROPS.—When pure strychnia crystallizes in small octohedrons, requiring 6500 parts of cold and 2500 parts of boiling water to dissolve them; little soluble also in absolute alcohol, but soluble in weak spirit.—*Formula*, $C_{14}H_{22}N_2O_4$.—Its solutions have an alkaline reaction, and an intensely bitter taste. They are precipitated by *tannic acid*. *Pure* strychnia is *not* coloured by nitric acid, but the commercial strychnia is so from its admixture with brucia. Strychnia forms crystallizable salts with the acids, which are much more soluble in water than the alkaloid itself, and which might with great advantage be used in medicine.

“(Brucia is found combined with strychnia in the nux vomica, St. Ignatius-bean, and bark of the strychnos antidysenterica. It is more soluble in water and alcohol than strychnia, by which property it may be separated from the latter. Its solutions are very bitter, but not so intensely so as strychnia. Anhydrous brucia crystallizes with great difficulty, but a hydrate can be readily obtained in oblique 4-sided prisms.—*Formula*, $C_{14}H_{22}N_2O_7$.—It is distinguished from strychnia by giving a red colour with nitric acid; and from morphia, which is also coloured red by nitric acid, by becoming violet on the further addition of protochloride of tin.)

“OPERATION.—We have before referred to this alkaloid, as affording one of the purest examples of a medicine which operates as a special stimulant to the spinal cord. Its administration in moderate medicinal doses is sufficient to manifest this mode of action, being followed by convulsive twitchings of the voluntary muscles, particularly when the influence of the will is withdrawn by sleep or palsy. In the latter case, the paralysed parts are the first and always the most powerfully affected. There is no certain information that it acts at all as a general stimulant. In larger doses, the above effects occur in a more exalted degree, and reflex phenomena become readily produced under the influence of excitory impressions, which naturally would be very insufficient for the purpose, issuing at length in paroxysms of general tetanic rigidity. When strychnia or nux vomica are about to prove fatal, these increase in intensity, and, affecting the respiratory muscles, death occurs by asphyxia, brought about by their prolonged spasmodic contraction. During the whole progress of poisoning, the intellect remains entire. In minute doses, it is reported tonic, but in our hands has proved very far inferior, in this respect, to quina, the most obvious effect which it has manifested being improvement of the appetite.

"Uses.—The principal use to which strychnia is applied, is the restoration of power to *paralysed* parts; but since paraplegia and hemiplegia take origin for the most part in some hyperæmic or hæmorrhagic condition of the nervous centres, such a remedy as this is plainly inapplicable to their recent forms. It is when all inflammatory action or congestion has been removed, yet without return of power in the paralysed limbs, that strychnia is indicated for employment. Very chronic cases are thus sometimes benefited by it, and *paraplegia* more frequently than *hemiplegia*. *Local palsies* are frequently cured by its endermic use. The dropped face from palsy of one portio dura, often a consequence of exposure to a draught of air, is very commonly rectified in this way, all vascular excitement having been previously removed by general or topical depletion. It has been recommended also in *paralysis of sensation* and *amaurosis*; but its employment in these cases, has not been followed by any very favourable results. It is sometimes serviceable as a tonic in *dyspepsia* and *pyrosis*.

"DOSE.—Gr. $\frac{1}{10}$ th or $\frac{1}{4}$ th given in the form of a pill, or $\frac{1}{10}$ th administered in solution, a form in which it appears to present considerably greater activity. These doses may be repeated, and very gradually increased, till twitchings of the palsied parts are produced; from which time recovery often dates its commencement. As a tonic the dose should commence with the $\frac{1}{10}$ th or $\frac{1}{16}$ th of a grain."

With such fearfully dangerous preparations the homœopathic physician has nothing to do. It is maintained that the physician has no right, in order to cure his patient, to risk his patient's life.

Is it possible that the all-wise and beneficent Creator could have left man without the means of cure for the ills his flesh is heir to, until modern chemistry, after a lapse of centuries, had discovered a mode of extracting the most deadly portion of the plant by chemical decomposition? No! Rather let us assume the more probable inference that nature in her simplicity presents the means of cure. Man, if he were purely an instinctive animal, would find in the most ready and unerring manner the remedy for the sickness of his flesh; and the farther man departs from simplicity in the practice of medicine, the more dangerous does his practice become; hence we believe that the homœopathist, in selecting and employing remedies in nature-given states, and in employing such individually, is much more in harmony with nature, and hence more successful in practice, than the old-school physician, who seeks the *killing* (active) principle, and thus hopes to effect the recovery of his patient, employing remedies valuable indeed in their original state, but absolutely dangerous to handle, in their *artificially produced* state. We maintain that all "active principles" should be at once and for ever discarded from the practice of medicine, such practice being full of danger to the life of the patient, who, by accident or ignorance, takes an over-dose of the remedy.

The homœopathicity of nux vomica and of strychnine to certain states of paralysis, is borne testimony to by those who discard homœopathy as a system of cure. Take, for instance, the following account of the effects of strychnia, as described by an allopathic authority, Dr. Thomson, in his *Materia Medica* :

“Strychnia, in all its forms, pure or combined, is a powerful excitant, displaying its influence, first, by an increased energy of the whole system; and, next, chiefly on those tracts of the medulla spinalis which give origin to the motor nerves. The nerves of sensation, however, are also involved in this action; for, along with the muscular contractions and convulsions which supervene, the surface of the body is so morbidly sensitive, as to be susceptible of the slightest impressions: even the motion of the air becomes a source of uneasiness, nearly as considerable as in hydrophobic cases. Before any twitchings or tetanic convulsions, also, are excited during the administration of nux vomica and of strychnia, sensations of heat, prickings, formications, and other uncomfortable feelings, are felt in the limbs. Neither these sensations nor the irregular muscular actions proceed with an unvarying intensity; they increase at one moment, and subside in the next, keeping pace, as it were, with the changes which supervene in the power of the irritations impressed on the medullary matter of the spinal cord.

“On the stomach, the first obvious effects of the administration of strychnia, in any form, is an increased energy in the digestive powers; the appetite improves, assimilation is better effected, and the person becomes fat, more healthy in appearance, and stronger. Although the circulation is not perceptibly affected, yet, if the dose be large, the respiration soon becomes oppressed, the respiratory muscles suffer a clonic contraction, and the person feels as if about to be suffocated. The urinary organs are little influenced; but the cutaneous system, besides the increased susceptibility of impression already noticed, has its capillary vessels also powerfully excited, and copious perspirations occur during the operation of strychnia.

“Such are the physiological effects of strychnia. Before noticing its therapeutical employment, it may prove useful to take a passing view of the effects which it has produced upon the lower animals; for, by having a complete knowledge of the power of any medicinal agent, *when the dose is carried to its utmost limits*, we are enabled to reason more correctly upon its powers, and to *avoid errors in practice which could only be learned after events that are always to be regretted have occurred*, and which might be prevented by studying the effects of the medicine upon quadrupeds.*

“When dogs swallow from twenty to thirty grains of powdered nux vomica, they are quickly attacked with all the symptoms of

* How much more accurate would be the knowledge of the properties of medicines, if obtained by provings on healthy men, as first suggested and carried out by Hahnemann!

tetanus, distention of the limbs, tremors, convulsive movements of the face and eyelids, immobility of the eyes, and a complete rigidity of all the muscles of the body. There is, also, an involuntary emission of urine. The convulsions are renewed by sudden noise or the slightest touch; but there is no delirium; and, if we may speak of the mind of a dog, the mental faculties remain entire. Many other animals, cats, rats, foxes, and some birds, are similarly affected; but some animals—hogs, for example, and goats—eat the nux vomica with impunity. M. Desportes found that it produces very little effect upon poultry.

“Desportes, Delile, and Majendie, applied the nux vomica and its extract to wounds, and to mucous and serous surfaces. M. Delile injected a solution of twelve grains of the extract into the pleura of a dog: tetanus supervened in less than a minute, and the animal soon died. Applied to wounds, it produced the same effect: but no convulsions followed when it was applied to the sound skin. One grain-and-a-half of the resinous extract were smeared on a small piece of wood, and a dog wounded with it in the thighs; tetanus supervened in seven minutes, and proved mortal in five minutes after the first attack. Introducing the watery decoction of nux vomica into the circulation, by injecting it into the jugular vein, produced immediate tetanic symptoms, which rapidly proved fatal. *Post mortem* examinations did not display any inflammatory appearances in the stomach; yet the poison has always been found in the stomach or the duodenum. One appearance, however, invariably presents itself, whatever may be the surface to which the poison is applied: that is, there is a general contraction of the whole arterial system, which is so obvious in the large vessels, that, in my experiments with strychnia, I have found the aorta of a strong dog reduced in diameter to the size of a crow quill; and black blood in all the arterial cavities.

“Strychnia produces the same effect on man as on quadrupeds. This fact is of importance in two points of view: it leads us to be guarded in the administration of this substance, when its exciting influence only is required; and it enables us to take advantage of even its deleterious properties, and to turn them to account in the cure of diseases. In doses from gr. ss to grs. iv of the extract of nux vomica, prepared according to the formula of the Dublin College, it produces some degree of nausea, a sensation of weight at the epigastrium, occasionally colic, and irritation at the anus. These symptoms are followed by weight in the head, giddiness, pain of the eyes, a sensation and pricking in the urethra, prostration of strength, and apathy; and if the dose be carried beyond grs. iv, tetanic convulsions supervene.

“Accidents, and a variety of circumstances, evidently affecting the spinal marrow, early demonstrated the fact that paralysis of the lower extremities may occur without any affection of the brain; and

led pathologists to refer this disease, under all circumstances of its occurrence, to some morbid change, or impression on the motor tract of the spinal cord. It is not necessary, for our purpose, to enter into a discussion of the argument whether it is ever produced by diseased impressions on the brain itself—an opinion which was entertained by Dr. Baillie and Sir James Earle, and is still maintained by several distinguished physicians; and which, if it be correct, does not affect our position, that some morbid change or impression on the anterior portion of the spinal cord is the most general cause of paraplegia or palsy of the lower extremities. It is often induced by powerful sedative impressions on the extremities of the nerves supplied by the intestinal canal, as in painter's colic produced by the carbonate of lead taken into the stomach; and, as this palsy is cured by strychnia, it affords another proof of the truth of my opinion, that this alkaloid operates through the medium of the intestinal nerves. Supposing paraplegia, therefore, to depend on a paralysis of the anterior nerves of the spine, and knowing the influence of nux vomica on this set of nerves, Dr. Fouquier, of the Hospital de la Charité in Paris, was induced to try its effects as a remedial agent in this disease. He administered it both in the form of powder and that of extract with decided advantage. In the dose of gr. ii of the extract, it sometimes produced contractions in the paralysed muscles, more or less permanent: sometimes these were sudden and transient; at other times they were more slowly induced, and several doses of the extract were required; but a more permanent effect was the result. It is a curious fact, first remarked by M. Fouquier, that the paralytic parts appear always more sensible to the action of nux vomica than the sound parts.

"The success of M. Fouquier's treatment, induced physicians in different parts of Europe to try strychnia; and, from the whole of the experience recorded, although *mischievous effects have occasionally resulted from its injudicious and indiscreet employment, yet, there is ample authority for regarding it as a most valuable excitant in palsy of the lower extremities.* As far as my own experience authorizes me to form any conclusions on this subject, I am disposed to regard strychnia, or the extract of nux vomica, most useful in those cases of palsy that proceed from sedative impressions on the intestinal nerves; such, for example, as occur when carbonate of lead is taken into the stomach; and, indeed, in every case of palsy of the motor nerves only, which is readily known by the sensibility of the paralytic limb remaining after the power of motion is lost, and by the entire state of the sensorium commune."

The same author observing upon the curative properties of strychnia in paralysis, gives the following case:

"Mrs. R., a widow lady, aged seventy, of a spare habit, and delicate frame of body, was attacked, 1830, with hemiplegia of the right side of the body. She was attended by a respectable general

practitioner, by whom she had been very judiciously treated prior to my advice being requested. I found that Mrs. B. had lost the power of motion in the whole of the right side of the body; the mouth was drawn to the opposite side of the face; the upper eye-lid on the affected side was depressed; and the articulation was so much impeded, that her answers to my questions were scarcely intelligible. The sensibility, however, of the paralyzed side was entire, and its temperature not lowered; the pulse was quick, but feeble; and, although the bowels were torpid, yet they answered to the stimulus of purgatives; whilst the bladder performed, naturally, all its functions. After freely evacuating the bowels, the acetate of strychnia was prescribed, in doses of one sixteenth of a grain, to be continued at intervals of six hours, and the dose gradually increased until it amounted to a quarter of a grain. In a few days after the administration of the acetate had been commenced, the patient regained the power of raising the arm at the shoulder joint; in ten days she could move the affected leg; the drawing of the mouth disappeared in this time, and she articulated her words distinctly; in three weeks she could use the fingers of the paralyzed hand; and, in another week, she was able to walk about the room with the assistance of a servant. After the tetanic convulsions occurred, and the medicine was discontinued, she improved so rapidly that she was able, before the end of December, to get into her drawing room; and, before the 21st of February, 1831, she walked out, and had nearly as much voluntary power over the muscles of the affected side as she ever enjoyed."

Numerous have been the experiments made by Dr. Marshall Hall and others on the lower animals, all tending to prove that strychnia has a powerful effect on the spinal cord, producing convulsions, tetanus, and death.

But we have no faith in experiments on the lower animals. Such are only the inflictions of cruelty, and lead to no beneficial result in regard to man. Can there be a greater proof of the inutility of such cruelties than in the recent case of Palmer's trial for the murder of Cook by strychnine? The evidence adduced was of so conflicting a nature, that the jury were compelled, in duty bound, to discard from consideration entirely the medical evidence presented to them by the witnesses on both sides. The following quotation from Teste's* *Materia Medica* shews the utter futility of experiments on the lower animals:

"Doctor Desportes, who was one of the first in France that experimented with the nux vomica, found, to his great surprise, that whilst fifteen to twenty grains of this poison were sufficient to kill a dog of the middle size almost upon the spot, *three times* this amount did not affect in the least a *goat*, and that ninety-two times this amount was required to poison a hen. At the present time, it is well

* Dr. Teste is a homoeopathic physician of Paris, of whom and of whose writings France will one day be proud.

known that the vomit nut, which acts so mildly upon animals of the *ruminating* and *gallinaceous* species, is, on the contrary, a most virulent poison for the *carnivorous* species, with a tenacious vitality." Dr. Teste goes on to say that "no general conclusions with reference to man can be drawn from the provings of poisons on animals. If, one day, we should be able to explain why the ox eats with impunity the water hemlock, which poisons the horse, whereas the horse eats without inconvenience the wild chervil and the water parsley, which destroy the ox; why several of the ruminating animals eat without injury the berries of the mezereum, belladonna, hemlock, which are so dangerous to man; why the dog can bear enormous doses of the mineral kermes; why the pheasant digests the seeds of stramonium, the starling those of the laurocerasus, the partridge those of the ivy, the parrot the berries of the manchinella, etc.; if, I say, we should one day discover the reason of all these peculiarities, I should not be astonished if such a discovery should advance a good deal the cause of therapeutics."

Whenever the *materia medica* of the old school of medicine is contrasted with that of the homœopathic school, how fearfully defective does the former appear! What a paucity of real knowledge which is of utility to the physician, and yet what an abundance of labour has been expended by physiologists on the obtainment of results which are to be regarded as little more than useless cruelties!

The former or allopathic school see in *nux vomica* nothing more than an excitant of the spinal column; hence is it employed almost exclusively, and in dangerous doses, in cases of paraplegia, hemiplegia, or diseases of the nervous system, characterized by convulsive or spasmodic action. This is the sum total of all that the allopathic schools can teach of the therapeutic or pathogenetic properties of *nux vomica*; and yet, knowing this, this boasted scientific (?) school spurns the writings of a man which would deliver them from their cherished ignorance, and lead them from their black darkness into the realms of day. Let but that school follow the teachings of Hahnemann, the greatest medical philosopher who ever lived—let them but study to obtain an exact knowledge of the properties of medicines by proving them on the healthy man, and soon will they be delivered from that idol worship of creeds which have been handed down to them through successive generations, through an empirical medical system. And here let me remark that it is not too late to examine into the system of Hahnemann. Begin by *proving one single remedy*. Let that remedy be *nux vomica*; and if you find not a correspondence to the results of hundreds of provings recorded in our *materia medica*, scatter it to the four winds of heaven. We challenge you to make one experiment—we fear not the result.

In the *materia medica* of Hahnemann, no less than *thirteen hundred symptoms* are recorded as having been experienced by persons subjected to experiment while in a healthy state. These provings, since

Hahnemann left this world, have been submitted to experiment again and again. Such an amount of actual knowledge as we possess of one single remedy is not possessed by the whole body of allopaths, including all the medicines which ever entered their pharmacy. Hahnemann's provings of nux vomica occupy sixty-eight octavo pages of small type. To produce that much in this article were needless. We refer the medical inquirer after knowledge to the writings of the great master. Go, allopath! sit at his feet! Throw aside your prejudices, and, with the humility of a philosopher, draw from the fountain of scientific truth, which knows no sectarian, but whose portals are open to the native of every clime, tongue, and people.

The following symptoms are extracted from the *materia medica*, in order to furnish an idea of the manner in which the student of homœopathy has treasured up for him that knowledge which tendeth to make him an efficient physician; and, without such accurate information, no man can be a successful practitioner of medicine. All empirical knowledge is worse than vanity.

TO BE CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

VACCINATION BILL.

Monday, July 7.

MR. T. DUNCOMBE asked the Right Hon. the President of the Board of Health, if he could fix any time when the Vaccination Bill would be brought on?

MR. COWPER said the bill was one in which members did not take any great interest. It was one of that class of bills which was usually taken at a late period of the evening; and he hoped the hon. member would not object to its being taken at the same time as other bills similarly situated. (A laugh.)

MEDICAL PROFESSION BILL.

MR. SPOONER would be glad to know whether the Medical Profession Bill was likely to be brought on to-night?—It would lead to considerable discussion and opposition.

MR. COWPER replied, that at this period of the session it would be in vain to endeavour to induce the house to agree to the bill, and therefore he was prepared to move the discharge of the order. (Hear, hear.) The bill—the third during the present session—is therefore lost.

PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

Tuesday, July 8.

On the order of the day for going into committee on this bill,

MR. KNIGHT moved that the house resolve itself into committee this day three months. This bill was virtually a breach of contract made with the House of

Commons. In 1854 it was fully understood that this subject should receive a thorough re-examination. Last year Sir Benjamin Hall proposed a bill which was referred to a select committee, of which he was one. They worked hard, and produced a bill, but it was then too late in the session to carry it. This bill, in many points, contradicted that bill. It was true that it contained many of the clauses in the bill drawn up by the committee, but it contained many most objectionable clauses. That some amendment of the law was required he admitted, as many of the towns which had come under the old act had spent all the money they were empowered to raise, and the works were left half finished. The proper course was to enable those particular towns to raise more money, but this bill enabled all the towns in England to raise double the amount they could raise before. Another objection he had to this bill was, that it repealed the 145th clause of the old act, which was the only means at present by which the public could protect themselves, and prevent the old streams from being turned into open sewers.

MR. PALK thought it was the duty of government, when they brought forward a bill of this kind, to bring it forward at a time of year when it could receive due consideration. The question of the Board of Health had been brought forward several times in that house, and it had always met with one result—defeat, because it sought to establish a despotism.

MR. G. LANGTON concurred in many of the observations which had been made. He was bound, however, to say that the city he represented had been under a local Board of Health since 1851, who had given great satisfaction. He should therefore vote for going into committee.

MR. COWPER said the hon. gentleman who had moved the amendment objected principally to the clauses. He would not go into them, as they could more properly be discussed in committee. The hon. member wished to have "the bill, the whole bill, and nothing but the bill;" but there was no chance of getting the whole bill this year, and the present bill was therefore confined to amendments on the working of the present act, and the carrying of this bill would advance the object which the hon. member had in view, to effect an organic change. He did not think that any of the clauses would create difficulty, or cause much discussion, but if they did they might be postponed for another year. He thought the bill would effect an improvement in the act of 1848, and it must be remembered that the local Boards of Health constituted the only local government in 209 towns, and that they were desirous that some defects of the act of 1848 should be remedied.

MR. HENLEY said the hon. gentleman had not thought proper to reproduce the bill of the select committee; and the only reason he assigned was that it would be easier to pass the present bill. He thought the hon. member should have introduced his bill earlier, and have referred it either to the same or some other committee. If this bill passed, he did not think there would be any chance of a comprehensive bill on the subject. The local Boards of Health were creating nuisances all over the country, turning the filth into the small streams. The courts of law had interfered and prevented this, in all the cases that had been brought before them. He should vote against going into committee.

MR. BAINES said he trusted the house would not consent to the view promulgated by the right hon. gentleman who had just sat down. His hon. friend had

said that those clauses which would lead to much discussion should be postponed, but there were other clauses which would pass without opposition. One of these clauses provided for the continuance of the General Board of Health for another year, and if the bill contained that clause alone it ought to pass.

MR. GREENE said, if the house suffered these continuance bills to pass, they would never have the whole subject brought before them. There was no reason why the whole question should not have been brought forward at an early period this session.

MR. BARROW was strongly against going into committee on this bill. The house owed it to its own dignity to throw the bill out altogether.

MR. T. DUNCOMBE said he was much of the same opinion as the hon. gentleman who had just sat down. He could not give his vote for the bill on the ground laid down by the hon. member opposite (Mr. Greene)—namely, that the Board of Health would expire next year. The hon. member for Leeds had endeavoured to alarm the house by representing that some dire calamity would befall the country if the Board of Health were altogether to expire. Before, however, the house or the country felt any alarm upon the subject, it would be well to inquire what that board had done, what it had cost the country, and what it proposed to do. During this session he moved for a return, in order to ascertain what the board was about. Since 1848, the act was applied to nearly 300 towns, during the five years for which that act was passed. The act was then renewed for another year, and to the end of the next session of parliament. In 1853, the act was applied, by order of the General Board of Health, to six towns, and by order of the Privy Council to three towns, making together nine towns; in 1854 and 1855 the act was applied, by order of the board, to thirteen towns, and by order of the Privy Council to six towns, making altogether twenty-eight towns from 1853 up to the present year; and the expenses incurred amounted to £36,000, being a very pretty sum to be dealt with for these towns. It was now proposed to continue the board for three years longer. The last bill did not propose to renew the board for more than two years, one of which had already expired. He did not know whether there was any member present who was what is called an administrative reformer. He did not see the honourable and learned member for Sheffield. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) That honourable and learned member was going to reform the Administrative Reform Association itself (hear, hear); he ought, therefore, to be here. He is going to set us all to rights; not only in Leadenhall Street, but in New Palace Yard, at Somerset House, at the Admiralty, at the Horse Guards, and at Downing Street. But if the honourable and learned gentleman would come to this neighbourhood, he would find in a corner of a street a little hole called the Board of Health (laughter), and where he would find comfortably ensconced a near relation of the Prime Minister, a brother of a Cabinet Minister, and the relative of another Cabinet Minister—all very snug berths for Ministerial patronage to bestow. (Hear, hear.) No wonder Ministers want to continue the Board of Health. (Hear, hear.) The honourable member for Lancaster says, "Continue the board for another session." Why, I undertake to say that before the discussion closes, the right honourable gentleman below me (Mr. Cowper) will jump at the proposition, and be anxious to accept the boon for another year. But if the Chairman of the Administrative Reform Association would just call in at the Board of Health, he

would find those three gentlemen I have named sitting there; and if he were to ask them what they were about, and say to them—"You cost the country a great deal, and we have a right to ask you what you are about?" I am sure the right honourable gentleman the member for Hertford would reply—"That is the great difficulty. (Cheers and laughter.) We have nothing to do; we want to know what we are to do, and how we are to humbug and delude parliament, in order to get it to continue the board. We have one plan in our head; we are going to adopt the cowpox throughout the country, and we mean to superintend it. (Laughter.) We had also another plan, which we tried to accomplish; we proposed that the president of the Board of Health should be president of the new council of medical men." But that bill (said the honourable member) has all of a sudden dropped; so that one of their supports is gone. But there is one more chance, and what, the House will ask, is that? Why, the Home Department proposes to transfer the administration of the Burial Act to the Board of Health (laughter)—a very pretty sequel! First, you superintend the general health of the people: next, you promote vaccination; then you would preside over the medical board: and then, when the curtain drops, you come to the Burial Board—the last shot you have. (Loud laughter.) I am against all the powers which this bill confers. Let the people do the work themselves. I oppose the board on any terms. It has got one year to live; I hope it will be its last, and that we shall never hear of it again. (Loud cheers.)

The House then divided, when the numbers were—

For going into committee.....	61
Against it	73
Majority.....	—12

The bill was consequently lost.

MR. COWPER said, that under the circumstances, he should adopt the suggestion of the right honourable gentleman the member for Lancaster, and propose a continuance bill for one year. The statement of the honourable member for Finsbury as to the expenses was not correct. He could assure the House that the only desire of the Board of Health was to do some work (laughter) for the benefit of the public.

DEATH OF THE VACCINATION BILL.

Thursday, July 10.

MR. COWPER said, with regard to the Vaccination Bill, he might be permitted to say that the whole subject was one of very great difficulty. There were three acts of parliament now on the statute book on this question, but the legislation hitherto had been anything but satisfactory, and the present law was in such a state that it could not continue as it was. It provided that there should be vaccinators throughout the country, *but there was no security that these vaccinators should be competent to discharge the duty which they undertook.* The country was divided into districts, but there was *no security that the lymph should be of a healthy character.* Then some districts were too small, and, on the other hand, there were others which were too large. Then there was a very elaborate system of registration, an attempt to register all the cases of vaccination in order to discover

the cases of omission, but the register was not complete. One of the provisions of the law was, that every surgeon should register all cases successfully vaccinated by him, but the surgeons were not remunerated for it, and consequently they did not send in the cases. *Then a penalty was imposed on every person who disobeyed the law, but there was no one called on to prosecute.* The law being thus defective, it was urged upon him that he should endeavour to amend it. Last year a bill was brought in on the subject by the hon. member for Leitrim, which provided that the General Board of Health should take the superintendence of this matter. Now he was not one of those who was in favour of centralization, though it might be supposed that he was, in consequence of his holding the office he did. He was in favour of local self-government. In this bill he had endeavoured to meet the defects in the law. The bill also provided to make some improvements in the size of the districts. By this bill they would be made conterminous with the registration districts. Then there was a clause which would render the registration more complete and satisfactory. Then he provided that the boards of guardians might charge upon the poor rate the expenses of prosecution in those cases in which they thought it necessary to prosecute. In the bill he had retained the obligatory or compulsory clauses, and that he found, was one very great objection to the bill. He believed that small pox was more fatal, in proportion to the numbers attacked, than any other disease. It appeared that one out of three who had small pox, without the protection of vaccination, died. It seemed to him that there was no fair constitutional objection to compelling parents to adopt means to prevent their children taking the small pox. He believed there were many countries in which vaccination was enjoined by law. Therefore if the only objection to the bill was that vaccination was compulsory, he should not think that it was a valid objection against the bill; but there was another objection, which was, that vaccination was not a remedy for the disease. That was against the general opinion of the medical body; but there were some medical men who were of opinion that other diseases were propagated by vaccination. Mr. Marston, however, of the Small Pox Hospital, said he was not aware of more than one case in which evil results had followed vaccination. But he (Mr. Cowper) was quite ready to admit that it was a subject on which they should enquire. In 1806 there was an inquiry by the most eminent medical men of that day, and they reported that no instance had arisen of other diseases having been propagated by vaccination. One doctor said he had witnessed spots which had arisen after vaccination, and that they had hairs like cow hairs upon them, and that he thought the tendency of vaccination was to cause cow hairs to grow on the human body. Medical science at the present day, however, entirely repudiated the notion that other diseases might be contracted by vaccination, if properly performed. He believed that among the higher classes it never occurred that other diseases were thus contracted, but it might happen among the lower classes, among whom the operation might be performed with less care. But this bill applied to the lower classes. He had therefore thought it right to adopt the suggestion to refer this matter to a select committee, and next year he intended to move the appointment of a select committee on the subject. Under these circumstances he now moved that the order for going into committee on the bill be discharged.

MR. T. DUNCOMBE said he thought the course proposed by the hon. gentleman

was a very judicious one. The first legislation on this subject was in 1840. At that time Sir Robert Peel expressed great doubts whether there should be legislation on the subject, and he said it had been proposed to him to make vaccination compulsory, as it was in despotic countries, and his answer was that he should oppose any such measure, believing that it would be contrary to the habits and feelings of the people, and to their freedom of action. In 1853 the Compulsory Vaccination Bill was smuggled through the house. Nobody knew anything about it till it had passed. Fortunately it was a dead letter. It was proposed this year to make it more stringent, and he was happy to find that the bill was not to be proceeded with. He believed that the present law had created a great objection to vaccination itself. He believed there was great good in vaccination, but the people should be induced to adopt it by reason and not by force. He was glad that the matter was to be referred to a select committee. He would venture also to express a hope that the bill for giving to the Board of Health the superintendance of burials would likewise be withdrawn.

After a few observations from Mr. Henley, Dr. Mitchell, and Mr. Tollemache, The order was discharged.

BURIALS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

SIR G. GREY said, as there seemed to be an objection to transferring the powers of the Home Department to the Board of Health with reference to burials, it would not be proceeded with this year.

The order on the bill was subsequently discharged.

MEDICAL LIBERTY AND THE GENERAL BOARD OF HEALTH.

To the Editor of the Homeopathic Record.

SIR,—The cause of medical liberty has signally triumphed in the successive defeats of the Medical (No. 3), Public Health (No. 2), Vaccination (No. 2), and Burial Acts Amendment Bills. To you and your labours is due much of this success.

It is to be hoped that next session will find us in some degree of *organization*, in defence of our medical rights and liberties. Upon the re-assembling of parliament, let us endeavour to strengthen the hands of friendly members, by loading the table with petitions against the infamous Compulsory Vaccination Act of 1853. Testimony to the inefficacy and evils of vaccination should be sedulously collected, to lay before the Select Committee. Pray beseech our friends to be earnest and active in this matter.

We must also be prepared to resist every attempt to organize the medical profession in the hands of a minister of the crown.

Great praise is due to Dr. Mitchell and Messrs. Duncombe, Grogan, Barrow, Henley, Brotherton, Miall, and other members, for the efficient support they have accorded to our cause.

With many cordial thanks for the aid you too, with other brethren of the press have given.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBS.

*St. Leonard's-on-Sea,
July 14, 1856.*

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MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

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TO OUR READERS.

ANOTHER murderer has suffered the extreme penalty of the law. We allude to Dove, who was recently executed at York for the murder of his wife by strychnine at Leeds, in that county. In reading carefully the history of the case as reported at the trial, we cannot help being forcibly struck with the danger consequent on the too positive evidence offered by medical men at this as well as some others of the recent criminal trials.

Dove appears to have relied on Dr. Taylor as an authority on poisoning. He hoped, indeed he was confident, that strychnine cannot be detected after death. The surgeon's assistant with whom Dove conversed on the subject assured him that he was wrong. No! said Dove, Dr. Taylor's evidence was admitted in the case of Palmer, to the exclusion of the evidence for the defence. Dr. Taylor *did not find strychnia* in Cook's body. Dr. Taylor being an admitted authority, therefore, strychnine cannot be detected.

Poor, infatuated man that Dove was! Had he studied the evidence adduced on Palmer's trial, he would have known that a multitude of evidence was offered to prove that if Cook was poisoned by strychnia, it ought to be in the body; and, being in the body, ought, said several scientific witnesses, to be *detected*. Dr. Taylor's opinion was the most acceptable to Dove—it favoured his wicked designs. He administered strychnine, no doubt with the full intention to slay the partner of his bosom, whom he had sworn to protect.

The accounts we have heard and read of the "confessions" of Dove, his interviews with the philanthropist Mr. Wright, his statements to his solicitor, and his account of Harrisson, are sickening. The wretch, even a few hours before his last moments, charges upon another the guilt of being an accessory. This statement, though believed to be true, because offered by a "suddenly-made saint," is withheld from publication; the criminal is hanged; and thus the chief witness against the man Harrisson is dead.

The *Leeds Mercury* contains a letter from Henry Harrisson, in which he sets forth that "Dove's villanous habit of lying followed him even to his prison and to the scaffold. I can give you ample proof of the truth of my assertion that not one-tenth part of Dove's statement in his prison is true." . . . "I, Henry Harrisson, would have been horrified at the very thought of Dove resorting to poison to get rid of his wife—a most amiable and lovely woman, too good for such a wretch as him, who has, I am sure, died *with a lie in his mouth*. Gentlemen, I know that you have been imposed upon by the made-up tales of Dove's defence. Your better nature has given way to the bland remarks of the 'mad doctors,' who have charmed and bound you with a spell."

In a postscript to his letter, Harrisson appends the following :

"Dove declares that he had not seen me from *January to the 6th of March*. Then he says that he met me in my warehouse in *February*, and there I promised to make him some belladonna. I solemnly declare that I never saw Dove from the first week in January to the sixth of March. . . . Dove declares that he never gave his wife the strychnia for the purpose of taking away her life! He said he was 'muddled' in his brain before giving her that deadly poison."

"Muddled" by *strong drink!* to which he appears to have long given himself up. Step by step, from the "first drop" he advanced the downward road until he reached the scaffold—another lesson for those who deal out from day to day the pernicious alcoholic drinks—the bane of England, the "curse of Britain." How long shall the "state" license the sale of alcohol? A Christian nation deriving a revenue on one hand from the sale of poisons, and spending a large portion of that revenue on *prisons* and penal settlements. To this

subject we purpose to revert in a future number: at present we remark that the cases of Palmer and Dove present fearful precedents for future trials. We maintain that the country ought not to rest satisfied until the body of Cook has been again exhumed; for either Cook did not die of strychnia, or, if he did, Dr. Taylor's skill as a toxicologist appears to the medical world to be doubtful.

In the case of Dove, fortunately, the jury did not acquit the murderer on the ground of insanity, of which acquittal there was great danger, owing to the evidence of Dr. Forbes Winslow, one of the "mad doctors" (lunacy doctors) alluded to by Harrison. Difficult as it is to understand how a *sane* man can commit murder, let us not give way to a maudlin sentimentality lately exhibited, and assume that a man whose whole career is wicked is to be irresponsible for his acts on the ground of imbecility. If *Dove* was imbecile and incapable of governing his actions, shut up in asylums the whole community of those who daily "*muddle*" their heads with intoxicating drinks.

DRUGS AND THEIR USES.

BY CHARLES T. PEARCE, M.D., NORTHAMPTON.

No. 2.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 168.

SYMPTOMS OF NUX VOMICA,

FROM PROVINGS.

(Translated from the *Materia Medica of Hahnemann.*)

HEAD. 1 Stupefaction of the brain. 5 *Fits of vertigo, sensation as if his brain turned in a circle, with momentary loss of consciousness.* 6 Vertigo, as if he neither heard nor saw anything, and as if he would fall; it is felt while sneezing and coughing, or when rising again after stooping low. 16 Vertiginous wavering when walking, as if one would fall to one side or backward. 21 *Intoxication.* 22 *Cloudiness of the head, as from intoxication.* 24 Dreary feeling in the head, as from nightly revelry. 26 *Gloominess of the head after dinner, returning in 24 hours.* 29 Whizzing and whirling in the brain and ear. 30 Humming in the forehead, afternoon and evening. 33 Stupid feeling in the head, when holding it erect; when stooping with the head, he experiences a sensation in the forehead as if some-

thing heavy descended in it. 35 *Giddiness and heaviness in the head early in the morning, as from intoxication.* 37 Headache when stooping, as if something heavy were falling into the forehead. 39 Headache after dinner, consisting in heaviness and pressure, especially when moving the eyes. 46 *Aching pain in the occiput in the morning, immediately after leaving the bed.* 47 He wakes early in the morning, and, while his eyes are yet closed, he feels a pain in the middle of the brain. 48 Drawing pain, deep in the head, in the region of the vertebra, with pressure from above downward. 52 *Clawing headache.* 54 Headache, a pressing in the occiput from within outwards, in both sides of the occiput, as if the skull were pressed asunder, with heat in the brain: the pain is momentarily relieved by pressing the parts together with the hands, for twenty-four hours. 61 Headache, as if the brain were cleft. 63 Tearing pain in the head, extending to the root of the nose, and the upper jaw aggravated by walking. 65 *Drawing, tearing headache.* 71 *Drawing pain.* 76 Groaning and shaking sensation in the brain, when walking and running. 89 Hemicrania in the afternoon (from 4 o'clock until night), accompanied with faintness and weariness. 93 The scalp on the top of the head feels bruised when touched. 94 *The scalp feels painful, more so when touched.* 95 Pain in a rough wind, as if the scalp were sore; nevertheless, that portion of the scalp is not painful to the touch.

FACE. 101 Itching and crawling in the face, as if fleas were walking over it, going off by scratching, but returning shortly. 105 Jerking in the right side of the face, as if one were pulling a thread, in the evening. 106 Jerking in the facial muscles, in the evening, after lying down. 107 Tingling in various parts of the cheeks, which are red and hot. 110 Red, swollen countenance.

EYES. 112 Pain of the right eyebrow, when touching it. 113 Drawing, tearing pain in the eyelids. 114 Twitching of the eyelids. 115 Closing of the eyelids, as if the upper eyelid were too heavy, accompanied with an effusion of tears. 122 *The inner canthus is painful, as if made sore by friction.* 123 *Suppurating canthus.* 127 *Smarting in the eyes, especially the outer canthus, as if occasioned by salt; with lacrymation.* 129 Burning in the eyes, without any inflammation. 133 Itching of the eye-ball. 134 Itching of the eyes, relieved by friction. 138 Exsudation of blood from the eye. 139 Glistening, staring eyes. 143 Intolerance of the light of day, early in the morning, with obscuration of sight. 144 Complete obscuration of sight, for a few hours, like amaurosis. 146 The objects appear brighter than usual. 149 Contraction of the pupils [the first hours.] 150 Dilation of the pupils, with very slow breathing.

EARS. 152 Itching in the inner ear, through the tube of Eustachius, obliging him to swallow frequently, and disturbing his night's rest. 153 Creeping titillation and itching in the inner ear.

159 *Tingling hissing in the ears.* 150 Chirping in the ear, at night, as of a cricket. 161 *Ringing in the ears.* 162 [Humming and buzzing in the ears, as of bees.] 165 Hollow sensation in the ears, early in the morning, causing one's own words to resound in one's own ears, disappearing after dinner. 166 When chewing and compressing the jaws, he feels a stitching, drawing pain towards the inner ears, almost like cramp.

EXTERNAL MOUTH. 168 He drew his mouth to one side. 169 Lockjaw, with perfect consciousness. 170 Sensation in the muscles of mastication and jaws, as if lockjaw were coming on, or as if the jaws became closed, although their motion was quite easy. 171 Drawing pain in the muscles of mastication. 173 *Painful peeling off of the lips.* 180 Rhagades in the middle of the lower lip. 182 One single hair of the beard, over the lip, is painful to the touch, as if a splinter were sticking in the flesh.

JAWS AND TEETH. 183 A blotch in the skin of the lower jaw, which is painful only when touched. 186 *Swelling of the gums.* 187 Painful swelling of the gums, with painful pimples on the inner surface of the lip and on the tongue, as in mercurial pytalism. 189 Swelling of the gums to the size of a finger, with throbbing pain as in an abscess, hindering eating for five days. 193 Swelling of the gums, with toothache, commencing with pressure. 194 Toothache early in the morning, as if the gums were sore. 196 Constant toothache, when walking in the open air, like a quiet feeling of soreness, especially when opening the mouth. 200 Toothache after dinner; at first it is felt like a blow or stitch in the tooth; this is followed by a humming in the tooth, or a sort of painful roaring, extending as far as the eyes, and aggravated by walking in the open air, continuing from time to time until deep in the night, when it abates by wrapping up the cheek very warm; when, returning again, it commences with prickings. 203 *Drawing toothache, with stitches in an uncertain tooth.* 206 Drawing pain, now in an upper, now in a lower molar tooth, followed by drawing in the remaining molar teeth in the direction of the front teeth, especially immediately after dinner and supper, red, hot spots appearing upon the cheeks and neck, and the mind being full of despair and disposed to indulge in reproaches. 210 Boring, gnawing toothache, neither aggravated nor diminished by contact or mastication, abating upon the inspiration of cold air, but increased by the warmth of the room. 216 *Vaccillating teeth.* 218 Falling out of sound teeth which had never been loose before. 220 Drawing pain in the cervical muscles.

INTERNAL MOUTH. 221 White tongue. 222 Difficult speech. 223 She is not able to talk aloud. 225 Dryness in the mouth, without thirst, early in the morning, as when one takes spirits the evening previous. 229 Painful vesicles on the tongue.

PHARYNX AND ŒSOPHAGUS. 232 *Pain in the throat as if rough and sore,* near the palate; slimy, raw, and sore feeling, as if occa-

sioned by an acrid substance, in the mouth, gums, tongue, and palate. 234 Swelling of the velum pendulum palati, with aching pain, also between the acts of deglutition, and a smarting sensation behind the velum pendulum palati. 236 Sore throat, as if caused by a swelling in the region of the palate, not perceptible while drinking. 237 Sore throat; pressure in the throat, perceptible only when swallowing the saliva, not when swallowing the food. 242 Stitching in the uvula and the sub-maxillary glands during deglutition, with shuddering in the day-time, sweat in the night, and headache. 243 Aching, stitching sore throat, as if a plug were lodged in the throat, more felt between than during the acts of deglutition. 248 Burning in the throat at night; she has to sit down; when lying down, she feels worse. 250 *Heartburn*. 252 Rancid heartburn, as if one has eaten too much rancid grease. 253 *Scraping, scratching sensation in the throat, as after an attack of heartburn*. 255 *Frequent accumulation of saliva in the mouth* (the first twelve hours.) 256 Copious water flows out of the mouth when stooping, without nausea. 257 Frequent discharge of watery saliva from the mouth (water-brash). 259 Sanguinolent saliva. 260 Expectoration of blackish, almost of coagulated blood, at first at two o'clock in the morning, afterwards at two o'clock in the afternoon, with a peculiar taste in the mouth, and a smell of blood in the nose; a little blood coming out of the nose when blowing it.

TASTE AND APPETITE. 262 *Sour taste in the mouth*, especially early in the morning. 266 Bread tastes sour to her, no other kind of food does. 268 Milk seems to sour upon his stomach. 270 He hawks up a saltish mucus from the fauces. 272 Disagreeable taste and smell in the mouth and nose, almost like sulphur. 275 Disgusting, herb-like taste in the fauces, almost like the herb of carrots. 281 *Putrid taste low down in the pharynx, when hawking up mucus*. 288 Putrid taste in the mouth early in the morning before breakfast, going off after breakfast. 285 *Putrid or bitter taste in the mouth early in the morning, nevertheless food and drink have a good taste*. 287 Bitter taste in the mouth, not of the food. 288 Bitter taste while spitting. 297 *Aversion to food* (immediately). 299 Aversion to bread. 300 Aversion to rye bread; it causes water to accumulate in his mouth. 310 Desire for tobacco (in the first hours). 312 Hunger, nevertheless aversion to food. 313 Disagreeable sensation in the stomach and abdomen, as if they were empty, accompanied with hunger, an hour before dinner. 315 He is hungry, but even if he eats ever so little, he feels at once full in the mouth.

GASTRIC SYMPTOMS. 317 Pressure at the stomach after a meal, with return of the herb-like and metallic taste. 318 Dissatisfied and sad after a meal. 319 Hypochondriac after a meal; the least cause affected him. 321 Chilliness after dinner and supper. 322 A good deal of heat after dinner, especially in the face; the heat seemed to arise from the abdomen; the most sweat was on the whole

of the back. 323 Heat and redness of the cheeks after a meal, with dulness of the head. 326 Heat in the head during dinner. 329 After dinner he felt suddenly qualmish; afterwards he was attacked with vertigo and fainting turns; lastly eructations without taste or smell. 336 *Gulping up of a bitter and sour fluid.* 340 *Frequent hiccough,* without any apparent cause. 134 Hiccough after dinner. 342 Thirst without the body being hot; nevertheless the stomach is incommoded by the beverage. 344 Nausea. 347 *Nausea early in the morning.* 350 Qualmish and anxious, nauseated and sick after a meal, as if one had taken a drastic; the sensation arose from the pit of the stomach. 357 Inclination to vomit immediately after a meal. 366 Vomiting of sour-smelling and sour-tasting mucus towards evening, with headache, being a sort of tearing (?) around the lower portion of the skull.

STOMACH. 368 Vomiting or gulping up of blood from the stomach. 370 Scraping sensation in the pit of the stomach. 372 The region of the stomach is very sensitive to the pressure; he could not let his hand remain upon the stomach, lest he should feel nauseated. 376 Pressure in the stomach, as of a stone. 378 Aching pain in the region of the stomach, directly after a meal, as if he had eaten too much. 379 Pressure in the pit of the stomach and abdomen, with distension, after a meal. 313 Pressure below the pit of the stomach, especially after walking in the open air; when sitting it does not abate until a quarter of an hour has elapsed. 384 Chronic pain in the stomach and epigastric region. 386 Pressure in the epigastrium as of a stone, increased by walking, diminished by sitting down. 394 *Contractive, clawing pain in the stomach.*

ABDOMEN. 397 *Contractive pain in the hypochondria.* 398 *Contractive pain in the abdomen.* 399 Repletion in the abdomen after eating but little, and even when scarcely beginning. 401 *Distention of the pit of the stomach, which is painful to the touch.* 408 Gurgling in the side of the abdomen, with anxiety. 405 Beating sensation in the region of the stomach, after supper, most perceptible when touching the part. 406 Beating pain in and below the region of the liver, as if an ulcer were forming. 407 Jaundice, with aversion to food and short fainting fits; afterwards weak and sick feeling. 408 *Fine, pricking pain in the region of the liver.* 413 Gripping and pinching around the umbilicus, after eating something. 416 Burning in the region of the orifice of the stomach. 417 Burning sensation in the pit of the stomach, coming from below. 419 Burning pain in the pit of the stomach, and lower down, shortly after supper, with anxiety. 427 *Flatulent colic in the epigastrium, in the evening, and after lying down.* (a. 5, 10, 13 h.) 428 *Ascension of flatulence in the abdomen, and incarceration of that flatulence under the short ribs.* (a. 20h.) 434 *Flatulent distention of the abdomen after a meal.* 435 *Flatulent distention immediately after drinking.* 437 Flatulent pressure in the various parts of the abdomen, with anxiety. 439

Movement of flatulence in the abdomen early in the morning. 440 Croaking in the abdomen, as of toads. 441 Grunting and rumbling in the abdomen early in the morning, when in bed, accompanied with spasmodic and pinching flatulent colic, heat in the palms of the hands and bottoms of the feet. 448 Colic, with sensation of dryness on the lips, and heat in the face. 449 *Painful prickings in the abdomen.* 455 *Cutting colic, with inclination to vomit.* 460 *Colic, in the open air, as from a cold.* 462 *Pinching in the abdomen.* 466 *Pinching, tearing pain in the abdomen, towards the chest.* 468 *Drawing, tearing colic.* 476 *Sensation and indications of inguinal hernia.* 478 *Twitching of the abdominal muscles under the skin.* 482 The abdomen is painful when touched.

STOOL. 485 Diarrhœa, especially early in the morning, and after dinner, dark coloured. 490 Discharges of thin, green mucus.* 495 *Colic, succeeded by discharge of dark-coloured mucus, causing a smarting burning in the anal region.* 501 Constipation. 502 Constipation, with congestion of blood to the head. 503 Constipation, as if the intestines were inactive. 506 *Ineffectual desire for stool.* 510 At stool he feels as if something remained behind, and as if he could not expel a sufficient quantity of fœces, with a sensation as if the rectum, not the anus, were constricted. 511 Stool every day, but with a colicky feeling in the abdomen; after stool she feels as if something remained behind. 513 When going to stool, the pressing bears more upon the uterus than the rectum (as if she were in labour-pains). 516 Hæmorrhoids. 519 Blood is discharged with the stool. 521 Stool lined with blood and mixed with some mucus. 522 Discharge of clear blood with the stool, accompanying a sensation of contraction or narrowing of the rectum during stool. 523 Discharge of blood from the anus. 528 Pain in the rectum, as if costive, after supper, the pain being relieved from time to time by emission of flatulence. 530 Violent, aching pain in the rectum, arresting the breathing, about midnight. 532 Contractive sensation in the rectum, sometimes resembling an urging for stool. 533 Contraction and narrowing of the rectum, hindering the expulsion of stool. 539 Creeping and-titillation in the rectum and anus, as if caused by ascarides.

URINARY ORGANS. 547 Urging desire to emit urine. 548 Painful ineffectual desire to urinate. 556 *Burning and tearing pain in the neck of the bladder during micturition.* 560 *Itching in the urethra during micturition.*

CORYZA, CATARRH. 623 Pain of the borders of the nostrils, as

* Continued copious diarrhœic stools—or diarrhœa properly so called—are no primary effect of *Nux vomica*, as far as I have been able to observe; the diarrhœic stools mentioned in these symptoms are either very small discharges of mucus with the stool, and accompanied by pressing, or else, if the discharge was one of loose fœces, it was a curative effect of *Nux vomica* in a patient affected with costiveness and constipation and ineffectual urging for stool.

if sore and ulcerated, when moving the nose, especially in the evening. 624 *Ulcerated pain of the anterior corners of the nostrils*, and as if a wound were cut into. 626 She imagines she smells rotten cheese all around. 628 *Sanguineous nasal mucus*. 630 Discharge of coagulated blood from the nose, early in the morning. 631 Discharge of an acrid humour from the nose. 633 The interior of the nose is dry, although he is able to breathe through it. 635 Copious discharge of mucus from both nostrils, although they feel as if obstructed by catarrh. 637 Dry coryza early in the morning, with excessive dryness of the mouth. 631 Fluent coryza early in the morning. 641 Real catarrh, with scraping in the throat, tingling and scraping in the nose, and sneezing. 642 Frequent sneezing. 643 Sneezing early in the morning when in bed, with sudden flow from the nose after rising. 645 *Itching of the obstructed nose, as in dry coryza*.

LARYNX AND TRACHEA. 654 Dry, painful catarrh in the larynx in the evening, before going to bed. 656 Roughness of the throat occasioned by a catarrh. 657 Tightness of the chest; he is unable to get anything loose by cough. 659 Early in the morning the chest feels as if lined with fur; the chest feels hoarse, and that part of the trachea where the mucus is detached feels sore; relieved by rising. 665 Roughness and scraping in the larynx, inducing cough. 666 Itching in the larynx, inducing cough. 670 Cough, when moving the body. 671 Tickling in the trachea, brought on by an expiration, and occasioning cough. 676 Violent fits of dry cough in the evening, after lying down, and early in the morning. 679 Cough in the night; his chest feels tight. 680 Cough until midnight; after midnight she slept soundly. 686 *Acrid sensation in the throat*, only while coughing, and causing a pain in the pit of the stomach.

CHEST. 694 *Asthmatic, constrictive sensation transversely through the chest, when walking or going up stairs*. 700 Anxiety in the chest. 710 Disagreeable feeling in the pit of the stomach, moving up to the larynx, producing a suffocative sensation, and arresting the breathing. 715 Tension and pressure in the outer parts of the chest, as if oppressed by a weight, and as if the side were paralyzed. 721 *Asthmatic constriction across the chest when walking and going up stairs*. 726 Drawing and burning tearing in the left side of the chest, early in the morning. 741 Palpitation of the heart when lying down after dinner.

BACK. 758 When turning the upper part of the body to one side, he feels a long stitch in the small part of the back, arresting the breathing. 764 A draft of air occasions a pain in the small of the back, as if it would break; she had to walk crooked. 768 Bruised pain in the small of the back, when stooping too low or bending backward considerably, but more when stooping. 773 A somewhat aching pain from the loins to the spinal column (early in the morning), immediately after drinking; afterwards the pressure

is felt in the hypochondria, as if flatulence had become incarcerated in that region. 774 Pulling and tearing in the lower part of the back, when walking or sitting, but not when lying down. 776 Drawing pain in the back. 779 *Burning, tearing pain in the back.* 791 Constrictive pain between the scapulae. 800 *Tearing pain in the nape of the neck in the evening in paroxysms.*

SUPERIOR EXTREMITIES. 806 Indescribable pain in the shoulder joint, of that side upon which he is lying early in the morning, gradually disappearing after turning to the other side, and accompanied with general exhalation. 867 Paralytic pain in the shoulder joint, and the whole arm felt tired and heavy, both when sitting and walking; after moving it for a while, he is unable to hold the arm up. 814 Sensation as if the arm had gone to sleep, but without any prickling, followed by a contractive sensation. 820 *Sudden sensation of loss of strength in the arms (and lower limbs) early in the morning.* 832 Every morning, or every other morning after rising, the forearm goes to sleep as far as the hand, as if dead, with coldness, but without distention of the veins. 835 Deadness of the hands; *they go to sleep.* 838 Pain in the nape of the neck when walking in the open air, the pain afterwards moving into the wrist joint, a sort of paralytic pain; he had not strength enough to grasp firmly; the pain went off in the evening when lying in bed. 845 Profuse sweat of the palms of the hands when walking in the open air. 856 In a mild season of the year, the fingers are red and swollen in various places, and affected with a burning itching when entering a warm room or getting into bed. 858 The fingers go to sleep during the night sweat. 860 Cramp in the fingers after midnight, when in bed.

LOWER EXTREMITIES. 851 Pain in the right glutei muscles, as if the flesh had been severed from the bone by blows. 865 Jerking in the hip joint before dinner. 868 Jerkings in the muscles of the thigh. 869 Jerking sensation in the right side of the thigh, as if one were pulling at a string. 878 Paralytic drawing in the muscles of the thigh and calf, painful when walking. 875 Paralytic pain in the head of the femur, extending to below the knee, when walking. 894 *Vacillation and unsteadiness of the lower limbs.* 898 *Sudden sensation of weakness in the upper and lower limbs, early in the morning.* 905 *Vacillation and sudden bending of the knees.* 909 *Sensation in the bends of the knees, as if they were too short, when rising from a seat.* 910 *Stiffness and tension in the bend of the knee, especially after standing.* 921 After sitting, the legs go to sleep when walking or standing. 927 Pricking in the calf when the cold air blows upon it, as if the leg had been to sleep. 931 Cramp in the calf in the evening, when in bed, when stretching the leg. 933 Cramp in the calf after midnight, when in bed, when drawing the leg up and bending it. 934 *Tensive pain in the calves.* 944 *The feet go to sleep.* 961 *Itching burning of the toes, as if frozen, in a*

mild season, especially when he enters a warm room, or gets into bed.

GENERAL SYMPTOMS. 967 In the evening, the pains became intolerable. 968 The skin of the whole body becomes sensitive, as if sore; when touching any part of the skin, it felt as if it had gone to sleep. 971 Itching eruptions. 174 Burning itching all over the body, in the evening, when in bed. 975 Burning itching of the upper arms, thighs, abdomen, and back, early in the morning when dressing, in the evening when undressing, even at night. 980 Single stitches in the affected part from time to time. 981 Single long stitches in various parts of the body, characterized by a sore pain. 982 *Dartings in various parts, concussing the whole body; they seem to dart through the whole body.* 983 Dartings in the limbs in the evening, when in bed.

WEAKNESS, FITS. 984 Trembling. 985 Trembling of the limbs and palpitation of the heart. 985 Tremulous sensation through the whole body, early in the morning. 988 Tension and stiffness in the limbs. 996 *Violent, contractive, painful sensation through the whole body.* 997 Painful, contractive sensation through the whole body, accompanied with a weariness in the limbs, scarcely permitting him to drag them along. 998 Sudden fit; the body is spasmodically contracted on one side, the hands making unsuccessful efforts to keep the body erect; this is followed by vomiting and involuntary sudden expulsion of stool and urine, with full consciousness. 999 *Sensation in the muscles of the limbs, back, scapulae, &c., as if something were moving to and fro in those parts; the pain is rather spasmodic than intense.* 1012 Sudden paroxysm shortly after dinner; pale countenance; nausea rising from the pit of the stomach; anxiety all over, with trembling and tremulous sensation through the whole body, accompanied with increase of weakness, obliging him to lie down. 1020 *Great exhaustion and laxness of all the limbs, after a walk in the open air.* 1022 Vacillating gait, with apprehension of falling. 1025 His limbs feel so weak that he is unable to stand. 1026 Weakness in all the limbs, especially after going up stairs. 1021 *She grows thin.* 1030 Sensation of sudden, almost paralytic weakness in all the limbs, even when sitting, but most during motion. 1031 Qualmishness about the heart. 106 *The pains abate by lying down.* 1038 Wants to lie down again after getting up in the morning.

SEEP. 1040 Dislikes to get up, without knowing why. 1041 Feels more weary in the morning, after getting up, than he did the evening previous. 1044 Constant disposition to sleep and yawn during daytime. 1045 Excessive drowsiness in the day time, as if the head felt stupefied. 1046 Drowsiness when walking in the open air, followed by palpitation of the heart, and great anxiety, with swelling of the veins of the hands, without any heat. 1047 Disposition to sleep before dinner (about eleven o'clock.) 1048 Irresis-

tible drowsiness after a meal, for several hours. 1054 Uneasiness of the arms at night; they require to be alternately covered and uncovered. 1057 Very pleasant, irresistible, late morning slumber. 1061 Starting when going to sleep. 1065 Start and jerk throughout the whole body, during the siesta, affecting him like an electric shock, as if he should fall down. 1069 Frightful visions in a dream. 1084 Moaning during sleep. 1093 When sleeping he inclines to lie on his back, the head being very low. 1095 Loud blowing through the nose during sleep, before midnight. 1096 Whizzing and whistling breath through the nose, when sleeping. 1097 Early in the morning, when in bed, he does not feel very well; he fears to rise, as if he had performed a fatiguing journey on foot; this feeling goes off after rising.

FEVER. 1099 A good deal of yawning and stretching in the afternoon. 1104 While yawning, early in the morning, the eyes are filled with water. 1112 Chilliness of the back and over the arms (not the hands), in the evening, after lying down. (a. 3 h.) 1114 Tossing about and coldness at night; the coldness does not yield to the bed. 1115 Violent chilliness in the bed, at night; the sweat breaks out towards morning, preceded by creeping in the skin. 1120 Shuddering and horripilations, early in the morning. 1121 Chilliness for several days in succession, early in the morning, after rising. 1123 Shuddering and chilliness after drinking. 1129 He dreads the open air. 1132 He cannot get warm. 1134 Coldness of the whole body, the skin being blue. 1135 The whole body feels cold, the hands being blue, without goose-skin. 1137 Violent chilliness, with chattering of the teeth. 1139 Sensation of chilliness about the head from time to time. 1140 Feeling of chilliness around the head and face. 1141 Chilliness of the feet, as if cold water were poured over them, with trembling. 1144 Desire for beer, during the shuddering. 1145 Desire for beer during the chilliness. 1147 Intolerable drawing pain in the upper and lower limbs; he does not know how to find ease; at two o'clock in the night, with thirst. 1148 Febrile paroxysm at three o'clock in the night; the chilliness is preceded by an intolerable drawing pain in the thighs and legs, obliging him to draw them up and stretch them out alternately. 1149 Although he experiences neither thirst nor heat, and is, on the contrary, frequently affected with a feeling of chilliness, yet the whole body is excessively hot to others, and the cheeks are red, except the hands, feet, and hairy scalp; these parts being cold. 1152 Chilliness at six o'clock in the morning, occasionally mingled with heat and drops of sweat on the forehead; the chilliness returns in the evening. 1158 Coldness of the feet, followed by dry heat in the face. 1160 Hot cheeks, with internal chilliness. 1165 At night he feels chilly externally and hot internally, the mouth feeling dry, accompanied with aversion to drink. 1170 Unusual warmth early in the morning, with desire for water. 1172

Febrile heat, more internally ; sensation as if smoke issued from her throat ; she drank a good deal. 1175 External heat, with a red cheek, and sensation of anxious, intolerable internal heat (in spite of which he covers himself with great care) ; the mouth is filled with saliva, nevertheless the lips are dry, and there is no thirst, or rather he desires drink, but he declines drinking when the drink is offered—he does not like it ; sleeplessness accompanies the heat ; he lays his arms under his head ; after the heat, he has a desire for beer. 1176 At night, he has heat without thirst, and almost without sweat. 1177 Anxiety at night ; while sleeping, he had cast the bed cover off. 1178 Violent thirst. 1186 Flushes of heat, and heat of the cheeks when performing the least motion or exertion. 1194 Sensation of burning ; intense heat through the body. 1202 Fetid sweat the whole night. 1204 Cold sweat. 1206 Sweat on one side of the head, hairy scalp, and face. 1211 Sweat after midnight. 1213 Morning sweat. 1218 During the morning sweat, all the parts upon which he lies are painful. 1220 Colic during the morning sweat, when uncovering himself ever so little, as if occasioned by a cold. 1221 Great heat and sweat under the bed-cover ; he shudders when raising the cover ever so little. 1229 Nausea and hurried breathing after the anxiety ; the nausea excites dry cough, inclination to vomit, and vomiting.

MORAL SYMPTOMS. 1230 Uneasiness, with great dilatibility of the pupils. 1231 Anxiety in the evening, after lying down, followed by a sweat after midnight. 1232 Anxiety ; he was unable to remain quiet anywhere. 1233 Apprehension, oppression, and as if intoxicated in the evening, when walking. 1234 Anguish and solicitude, as if some important event were to be apprehended, early in the morning, when waking, and in the afternoon. 1235 Anxiety, as if he had committed an evil deed. 1236 Great anguish ; he has no rest, and prefers death to life. 1240 Suicide ; she throws herself from a height. 1241 Excessive anguish. 1245 He apprehends death. 1246 Silent grief. 1247 Sadness. 1243 She is sad, but is unable to weep. 1251 When beholding any disagreeable object, her lower limbs and then her whole body become affected, and she almost loses consciousness. 1253 Even the least ailments affect her beyond measure. 1255 Anxious solicitude and irresoluteness. 1256 Anxiety, especially in the hours after midnight, originating in a suspicious and apprehensive state of mind. 1258 He weeps when people do not do exactly as he wishes. 1260 She weeps aloud and moans. 1264 She is very much disposed to quarrel and to feel vexed. 1265 She is very much disposed to reproach others with their faults. 1266 He quarrels, reproaches, uses insulting language from jealousy, mixing it with impure expressions ; sometimes he howls or weeps aloud. 1267 Quarrelsomeness, even increasing unto violence. 1269 He is hasty, looks at everybody who asks him a question in an angry manner, without answering, as if he had to make an effort not to

insult the questioner ; he is so irritated that it seems as if he would like to beat any one who asks him a question in the face. 1270 He is strongly affected by every impression made upon him. 1271 He cannot bear strong odours and bright lights. 1272 He cannot bear any noise or talk ; music or song affects him too much. 1274 Even the softest step and the least shaking of the floor are painful and intolerable to her. 1276 Hypochondriac sullenness. 1278 He knits his brow and crosses his arms. 1279 Taciturn, as if everything were disagreeable to him. 1289 He imagines he does not succeed in anything. 1290 He does not succeed in anything. 1292 He is awkward ; he easily stumbles against something or upsets things. 1295 Dread of composing literary articles in the morning. 1298 He is incapable of thinking correctly. 1299 He frequently makes mistakes in speaking. 1300 Has great troubles in finding the words, and chooses expressions which are not suitable ; he makes mistakes in quoting weight and measure. 1301 He easily makes mistakes in reading or writing ; he omits even whole syllables and words. 1302 Early in the morning, after rising, he is scarcely conscious of himself, on account of a multitude of ideas crowding upon his mind.

Such are the leading symptoms produced by *Nux vomica*, when taken by persons in health. They will give an idea of the superiority of the homœopathic materia medica over that of the allopathic school.

Numbers of cases might be adduced here, which would shew the clinical application of *Nux vomica*. Cases of paralysis have been and are frequently cured by homœopathic practitioners, by means of the above remedy ; but, while the old-system practitioner prescribes it without a law to guide him, and employs it in all cases of paralysis indiscriminately, the homœopathic practitioner employs it only when he discovers a suitability, by a correspondence of the symptoms of the remedy to the diseased state. The homœopathic cure is thus effected more certainly, because scientifically. The allopathic cure, if effected, is effected empirically, yet only successfully when *perchance* he prescribes it homœopathically, because similar to the symptoms of the patient.

Again, the homœopathist employs the remedy in infinitesimal doses, incapable of producing effects, except on those rendered susceptible by disease to the operation of such doses. The allopathic practitioner gives large doses, capable of producing paralysis and other consequences where before they existed not, and often increases the dose of the medicine when no benefit results, because of its non-homœopathicity not being chosen in accordance with the law—the only law of healing—*similia similibus curentur*.

ON INFANTILE CONVULSIONS.

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CONVULSIONS are so frequent in young children, so terrible and alarming in their nature and aspect, and so often fatal, that it becomes a matter of great moment both to parents and practitioners to seriously consider whether their *treatment* is sufficiently and properly understood. Convulsions vary much in their degree and duration. In a severe case of convulsive attack there is a universal spasmodic contraction of all the voluntary and many of the involuntary muscles of the body, accompanied by foaming at the mouth, protrusion of the tongue, staring of the eyes, distortion of the eye-balls, laborious and obstructed respiration, sometimes accompanied with a violent redness of the face and scalp at the beginning of the paroxysm, followed by a purple colour of the congested body at the termination of it. Generally the child is seized suddenly, with a spasmodic twitching of the muscles of the face, arms, or legs, which are restlessly agitated to and fro, the little hands are clenched, the body bent back, the features distorted, the eyes open and staring, with a fixed, importuning, horrific look, dilated pupils, and a face alternately pale, wan, flushed and livid. - A paroxysm of this kind may prove suddenly fatal, or it may continue for a few minutes, gradually subside, and never recur; on the other hand, it more frequently returns at uncertain intervals, varying from a few days to several weeks, or even longer. As a rule it is admitted by the best authorities, that the longer the paroxysms and the shorter the interval, the greater the danger, and the more fatal the issue.

The occurrence of paralytic symptoms denotes extravasation of blood, or exudation of serum, in a word, hydrocephalus, or water in the head. The most familiar instances occur in the convulsions arising from gastric irritation and teething in children, the result of abnormal excitement of the excito-motory system *strumous*, children in whom there exists great constitutional weakness, with more or less of chronic swelling of the absorbent glands, with frequent tendency to imperfect suppuration. Children, too, who suffer much from conjunctival inflammation, attended with erysipelatous redness and swelling of the eye-lids, with formation of pustules; such little patients are afflicted with more than ordinary inflammation of the gums in dentition, and are exceedingly apt to be convulsed from the slightest irritating cause, gastric derangement from mesenteric disease, the disagreement of the maternal pabulum, or over-loading their stomachs with too much, or indigestible food; in such cases, we have irritable bowels, sometimes constipation, in alternation with diarrhœa, a reddish tongue, tumid abdomen, quick pulse, obviously the result of what is technically termed *peripheric*, or peripheral irritation, an influence transmitted from the nerves of particular and distant parts of the body to the centre of the nervous system, the brain and spinal cord. What are the indications of treatment? What are the best practical suggestions? In children so predisposed there is frequently inflammatory action in the encephalon, the contents of the cranium involving the cerebrum or brain proper, the cerebellum or lesser brain, medulla oblongata, or upper enlarged portion of the spinal cord *and the membranes*; in others frequently the converse. How shall we accurately diagnose? *When* cerebral erethism, bespeaking *Aconite*, *Belladonna*, *Hyoeyamus*, &c., and cold affusion? *When* cerebral exhaustion, crying aloud for a diametrically opposite course of proceeding—wine and milk, *Ammonium carbonicum*, or *Arsenicum*, and *China*? When lance the gum deeply and freely? When eschew it, and refrain? These are vitally interesting points of practice. Let us briefly enquire into their circumstances, with a view to a fuller and more satisfactory elucidation of them. The same diagnosis will apply, as regards our therapeutics, whether the convulsions are the concomitants of small pox, measles, croup, scarlatina, hooping cough, or other diseases of children. The brain "*sympathizes*" strongly with many affections of the skin. The irritation, which should

have been fixed on the skin, may be transferred to the brain, and become the exciting cause of dangerous cerebral disease; the convulsions will then be severe and frequently repeated, and, unless checked by skilful and *timely* homœopathic interference, may ultimately prove fatal. Diseases the most acute have sometimes terminated, by sudden transition, in attacks of chorea, epilepsy, and other convulsive maladies, the subsequent prognosis depending much on the nature of the treatment to which they may happen to be subjected. I shall adopt for my present remarks the simple division of *increased* and *diminished* sensibility, with paralysis or convulsions.

A child is attacked (after the existence, perhaps, of some unnoticed precursory signs) with strong and violent convulsions, great heat of the head, and cerebral congestion; with headache, manifested by the inability of holding its head upright, by leaning it on the shoulders, or burying it deeply in the pillow, with great heaviness; pulse quick and hard; skin hot and dry, and the bowels obstinately constipated; tongue loaded and parched; face flushed; veins turgid; *fontanelle* elevated; stomach irritable; vomiting produced on the child changing its position; the child rolls its head about on the pillow, and raises its little hands perpetually to its head; the pupils are contracted; the brows are knit, with intolerance of light; and last, though not least, the urine is scanty and high-coloured, passing from the patient like drops of scalding water. If the process of *dentition* is going on in this case, we should be overlooking an essential part of the treatment if the hot and inflamed gums were not freely and extensively scarified; and here also is peremptorily demanded *Aconite*, *Belladonna*, *Hyoscyamus*, cold affusion to the head, cold water on the face, a warm bath, with, perhaps, pounded ice applied to the scalp, clysters of warm soap and water, together with the foot bath, some mustard flour being added to the water. Should the abdomen be greatly distended with air, the belly must be rubbed gently with the hand, or with any gently stimulating application—brandy, spirit of wine, or æther. These auxiliary measures, however, it is right to add, are very seldom necessary, owing to the signal relief which the appropriate homœopathic medicine rarely fails to afford; but, nevertheless, an experience of twenty years has taught me that it is right occasionally to employ them, inasmuch as I have found them useful as a temporary means of alleviation, in some peculiar and pressing cases of exigency.

The above is a case of *increased* sensibility; on the other hand, it is very common to meet with violent convulsions, where the child is pale and weak, although the countenance is at times flushed, and there may be superadded an external inflammation, with great heat of the head and face, &c., drowsiness, stupor, a *dilated* pupil and squinting, with congested vessels of the scalp. In this case, there is impending death from cerebral exhaustion, the fontanelle being *depressed*. This is not a state of vascular energy, or plethora, yet the child is unable to hold its head up, and the breathing is embarrassed, irregular, difficult, and sighing. The grand distinctive mark is that the fontanelle is sunken. The space left in the head of the child, where the frontal and occipital bones join the parietal, is *concave*, as opposed to *convex*. This is a very important guide, though not usually noticed in professional or domestic books. This is a case of *diminished* sensibility, with convulsions—a morbid condition but too often induced by the allopathic routine practice of abstracting blood, and a hasty recourse to purgatives and those many other exhausting “*means*” which appertain to that perverse and unenlightened system. Many of the advertised nostrums, too, termed “soothing powders,” consisting of opium, chalk, and some aromatic ingredients, doubtless contribute largely to the extension of these evils. *Arsenicum*, *China*, *Ferrum*, *Anmonium carbonicum*, (in the domestic form it may be of a few drops of *Sal volatile* and water,) beef tea, a small spoonful of sherry in a glass of fresh cow’s milk, a tea-spoonful being administered at discretion, and *swarmth*, are amongst the best remedies for this dangerous and frequent malady. Worms, also, and the imprudent drying up of cutaneous eruptions and discharging sores upon the head and behind

the ears, blows on the head, and the constant administration of poisonous and undiluted drugs, may be considered among the most powerful causes of infantile convulsions, and those occurring in early childhood. If properly interpreted, the condition of the anterior fontanelle, therefore, forms an indication of great practical value in the treatment of children. When the arterial circulation is in a natural state of vigour and activity, the anterior fontanelle is observed on a level with the surrounding parts. If, from some cause, the circulation be unduly excited, it is raised, or rendered more tense and prominent; but if, on the contrary, the circulation be enfeebled, it is lowered and depressed below the contiguous structures. In his lectures on the cranium, Mr. Hilton, surgeon to Guy's Hospital, says: "I know, in fact, of no sign that so clearly and correctly estimates the state of the vital powers of the child as this easily recognizable condition of the anterior fontanelle. If, on a tactile examination, it be found considerably depressed, it forms one of the strongest marked indications that can be encountered of feebleness and debility, because it is an evidence of the power at the centre of the circulation being inadequate to the supply of the cranial contents with their normal and healthy quantity of blood."

I have but too often been "called in," in cases of infantile convulsions, under the following painful and deplorable circumstances: A fine, strong and previously healthy child, is suddenly seized with convulsions, and he undergoes the regular, orthodox, legitimate, stereotyped, *murderous* process of bleeding, or cupping, and leeches, or, most commonly, all three consecutively; the convulsions in some degree subside, and then recur with unabated violence; the child is cupped to fainting during this severe convulsive attack, having, of course, been duly purged and blistered in the interim. "Our doctor, who stands, you know, deservedly high," has done all that can be done, aided by others, in this mangling business, and the child is left for me to *look upon*, (and furnish a certificate of the cause of death,)—left bleached and blanched, with a depressed fontanelle; another and more violent paroxysm of convulsions takes place, from which no human power can rescue it. The child dies of three physicians and an apothecary.

Without hesitation, it may be stated, says Dr. Locock, physician-accoucheur to her Majesty, that practitioners have been by far too apt to generalize, in the treatment of infantile convulsions; and their practice has consequently degenerated into routine, and "THAT OFTEN ON MISTAKEN PRINCIPLES." He then details the following case—that of one of his own patients: A child of TWO MONTHS old was seized with violent convulsions suddenly, the bowels having been disordered from bad breast milk for a few days previously. The convulsions lasted SEVENTEEN DAYS, sometimes occurring three or four times in an hour, and never ceasing for more than four or five hours at a time. The fontanelle was depressed and concave *always*, in the intervals of each paroxysm, and no blood was taken in consequence; the treatment consisting of antispasmodics, (such as assafetida mixture, ammonia, camphor, æther, musk, valerian, and even opium,) external applications also, together with clysters, purgatives, and opiates. One drop of the common strong tincture of opium (i.e., laudanum,) was administered every hour, for a considerable number of doses, inasmuch as this treatment was pursued for a fortnight, but with no permanent improvement. *Eheu!* On the seventeenth day, the bad success of the previous REMEDIES (!) induced the Queen's accoucheur to try the proper homœopathic remedy, *Ferrum carbonicum*, a small dose of which was at length judiciously given every second hour, for a couple of days only, and thus saved this poor little infant's life. After the second dose merely, says Dr. Locock, the face became florid, the fontanelle elevated, and the convulsions ceased. In the intervals of the fits, the child partook of breast-milk, by means of a spoon, during the whole period, and, after a change in the medicine, made a perfect recovery. This very important and instructive case, homœopathy versus allopathy, ought to be printed in letters of gold, and dedicated to Her Most Gracious Majesty, worthily beloved as a Queen, a wife, and a mother.

Dr. Wilson, physician to St. George's Hospital, states that the ordinary treatment of convulsive disease is often carried to a mischievous extent. Under all methods of treatment, be it remembered, the healthy nutrition of the frame is the end proposed. The power of *Arsenicum*, he says, in the control of convulsive disease, is established in his mind, by the record of many cases, in many years, as one of the strongest truths of practical medicine. That *infinitesimal* quantities of this mineral, in solution, have often lessened the severity and shortened the duration of convulsive disorder, there can be no doubt. And this, we should remember, is effected by a dose that is *infinitesimal*. Let no physician, adds Dr. Wilson, refuse this phrase—it implies the principle of the vaccine virus, with that of small pox fever—of marsh miasma, as of plague by contagion. Of elements electro-chemical in their relation, by air or food, with the blood, who may presume to declare how little is essentially necessary for the production of disease, or of the actions which are its cure? In that mass of the blood, by function as in composition, a slight re-agency may suffice for the greatest ulterior change. That the little, squalid, emaciated subjects of a convulsive malady should recover from the exhaustion of its spasm, and literally fatten on small doses of *Arsenicum*, is a truth far beyond our apprehension, and inconceivable, except as a fact (says Dr. W.) established by repeated observation. It is impossible, indeed, to examine the periodical and other medical works of Great Britain and Ireland, as I have done, without being forcibly struck (as Dr. Frank and others have been in their researches into the allopathic literature of France, Germany, and other countries of Europe, and America) with the curative results mentioned in the different allopathic records, and the striking illustrations they afford of the *truth* of the therapeutic principle, developed by the genius of Hahnemann. "Those who have ever considered the minute exactness," says Professor Paget, in his admirable lectures at the College of Surgeons, "which must exist in health between the blood and the tissues, will not be surprised that any, even the most minute alteration of this adaptation may become a source of disease;" why therefore, may not any, even the most minute, quantity of the appropriate remedial agent, so adapt itself [homœopathically] to this morbid change, as to become a source of health? *Homœopathy, justified by experience, assures us that such is the fact. Ars medica est tota in observationibus.*

2, DAULBY STREET, JULY, 1856.

MEDICAL LEGISLATION.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—We read your address in this month's "*Record*," also the letter from Mr. Gibbs, both calling on us to defend our medical rights and liberties "and to keep them in our own hands apart from a government medical clique.

Dr. Ozanne * points out the danger of the XXI article in the *New Medical Bill* to *homœopathic* practitioners against which we should petition. To all practitioners the *expense* of registration becomes a very serious call of £ s. d. The *Nonconformist* describes the danger of such legislation: "It provides for the creation of an oligarchy, under the name of a Medical Council, to consist of sixteen persons appointed by certain medical corporate bodies, and of eight members elected by the world at large, constituting virtually a self-elected medical vestry. The power of this new State-created organisation are to be made of the most despotic character. All existing medical and surgical institutions are deprived of their rights, and compelled to abdicate their authority in favour of a body whose behests they must obey. Under its auspices is to be established a registry of all medical men throughout the country. Every physician and surgeon who is already in possession of a diploma, and every future member of the profession, is declared

* *The Monthly Homœopathic Review*, page 50.

incapable of holding any, even the meanest, public medical appointment in the United Kingdom, unless he shall first cause himself to be registered by the State Registrar. Up to December 1st of the present year, a fee of £1 will be exacted; after that period £10. It will not suffice that any person wishing to enter the profession shall have taken a degree as a graduate in medicine in some University at which he has passed his examination; he must also be examined (and pay for the privilege,) by this State-constituted corporate body, whose qualifications are as likely as not to be inferior to those of the examiners of the University in which he has obtained his degree. The physician who has gained his registry is not even then free, but is obliged to 'cause himself to be admitted' a member of the Royal College of Physicians—a monkish institution, which has almost died of inanition, whose mission, for the two or three centuries of its existence, seems to have been to obstruct the progress of medical science."

The *Westminster Review* opposes "*Medical Despotism*" in the following words: "We protest against Mr. Headlam's Bill, because it is contrary to the principle of local self-government; because, in the important respects which we have indicated, it violates the personal freedom of the public and of the profession; because it would tend to establish medical uniformity of doctrine and practice, and thus encourage conversation, frown on genius, oppose new ideas, and sanction persecution: because the constituent elements of medical science (so called) are for the most part too crude, incoherent, and even antagonistic to admit of organisation into a system, to be exclusively taught as orthodox; because any attempt at such organisation would infallibly retard the progress of medical knowledge; because all experience proves that no council is competent to represent the interests of truth, while the history of all authoritative councils is a history of the consolidation and sanction of error; and finally, because while State-registered diplomas would be no additional guarantee of professional skill, they would, nevertheless, greatly foster the dangerous habit, already far too prevalent, of relying exclusively on their testimony of competency, and hence charlatans would derive from their possession additional facilities in practising on the credulity of those who put their trust in such parchment assurances.

Sir Geo. Grey will have nothing to do with Mr. Headlam's bill, nor with the "*discordant views*" of old physic. The *Westminster Review* wishes each method of cure to "emulate the other, by putting forth all its powers to ensure in its graduates the best possible education. Each would flourish and become influential in proportion only to the public favour bestowed upon it; and consequently all would appeal to the public to judge of the comparative excellence of their diplomas as tests of scientific knowledge and practical skill. The public, called upon to arbitrate and to distribute its patronage as the reward of merit, would at length slowly awaken to the conviction of its incredible folly, in having hitherto persisted in ignorance and indifference concerning the education of the men to whose keeping it entrusts its very existence; it would gradually accustom itself to scrutinize more and more closely the workings and effects of each medical school; it would learn to assign to diplomas their exact worth and no more; and finally, to investigate the character, ability, knowledge, and experience of individual men before employing them."

With best wishes for the cause of truth,

Worcester,
August, 1856.

I am, yours faithfully,
MEDIUS.

A POOR MAN'S COMFORT.—"It is a blessed thing for a poor man to have a contented wife; one who will not wish to live in a style beyond her husband's income, just because her next-door neighbour does; one who can be happy in the love of her husband, her home and its duties, without asking the world for its smiles or its favour."

REVIEWS :

The British Journal of Homœopathy, No. LVII., for July.

THE above reputable quarterly has reached the fourteenth year of its existence, and does credit to the homœopathic school. For so small a body as the homœopathic is, compared with the medical profession generally, it may be surprising to many, that nearly two hundred pages of homœopathic literature can be produced quarterly, consisting principally of original matter contributed by medical practitioners, mainly for the benefit of the professional reader. The journal, however, commends itself as well to the general reader, whose library reading is of a scientific character, as to the professional inquirer. The number before us, like most of its predecessors, is full of interesting matter; and though we cannot approve of the occasional leaning of the editors towards illiberality, we wish they may continue to employ the same talent which they have hitherto displayed in the editing of the journal.

The number before us contains a report of the last meeting of homœopathic practitioners in annual congress. The address by Dr. Scott appears *in extenso*; but we regret that little more than three pages are occupied with the report of the proceedings. The apparent paucity of information brought together on that occasion is cause for regret; there appears to be a growing indifference on the part of the great majority of our body to the annual assembly of practitioners; we regret this, as we believe that nothing would tend more to the development of homœopathy than well ordered discussions.

The journal contains a paper on some affections of the nerves, by Dr. Russell. There is an excellent article, entitled "Allopathic Homœopathy," shewing that the doctrines first promulgated by Hahnemann are gradually becoming recognized and adopted by the old school; particularly is this the case with the French school.

Dr. Chapman is the contributor of a long paper on gymnastics, which is worthy a perusal. The remainder of the journal is occupied by miscellaneous intelligence, report of the London Homœopathic Hospital, &c., &c.

The Monthly Homœopathic Review, edited by John Ozanne, M.D.
Headland, Prince's Street, Hanover Square. Pp. 48.

WE hail with pleasure the appearance of this little review. The homœopathic body required a "monthly;" and that before us, edited by the talented Dr. Ozanne, of Guernsey, bids fair to deserve patronage. Two number shave appeared; and we hope those which will follow will contain as much information. We commend the review to our readers, and we wish the editor all success.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 12.—NEW SERIES.

OCTOBER 1, 1856.

PRICE 1½d.

TO OUR READERS.

THIS present number completes the first volume of the "new series" of our monthly record of homœopathy; and we would not close this volume without expressing our gratitude to the patrons of our efforts to promulgate a truth, than which only one greater has been ushered into the world. What Christianity is to the soul of man, homœopathy is to the body. The two great truths co-existing, will, in proportion to their prevalence, change the face of society. What the new testament enjoins, homœopathy effects—the abstinence from those things which interfere with man's social advancement. Homœopathy, properly practised, is a handmaid to religion. It enforces sobriety, cleanliness, regularity. Instead of *polluting* the body, as does old physic, it inculcates *abstinence* from everything calculated to interfere with the regular fulfilment of God's will in the performance aright of every function—it uses, but not abuses.

It has been our aim as well to teach what homœopathy is not, as what it is. We are often misrepresented by the enemies of progress; but, taking courage by the success of our periodical, and relying on the power of truth to outlive all opposition, it is not without feelings of satisfaction and delight that everywhere we behold the gradual decline of allopathic practice, and the extension of the principles we hold dear. Soon will it be said in reference to the practice of medicine, "Old things have passed away, behold all things are become new."

OUR readers will observe in another portion of our pages some interesting facts contributed by Dr. David M'Connell Reed, lately engaged in the Crimea and in Turkey as physician to the railway corps, and subsequently surgeon to the "Irregular Cavalry of the Turkish Contingent." We insert Dr. Reed's communication, feeling as we do that justice should be done to one who has, in our opinion, been grossly treated by the government of the day. We reserve our comments until the whole case is before our readers; and we do this in the hope that some step will in the meantime be taken by the homœopathic body to demand an investigation, in order to obtain redress from the proper quarter.

Here is an instance in which a homœopathic practitioner becomes a victim of persecution by the medical authorities in the army, notwithstanding (perhaps *because*) that his success in homœopathy in treating the sick soldiers was infinitely superior to the orthodox practices.

Dr. Reed deserves, and will receive, we hope, the sympathies of every homœopathist in Her Majesty's dominions.

Lord Panmure must be addressed; and, redress failing to be obtained, an appeal to Parliament must be made as early as practicable.

OFFICIAL INJUSTICE, AND SYSTEMATIC OPPOSITION TO THE TRUTH,

Illustrated by a Series of Letters, and the Acts of the Military Chiefs of the Turkish Contingent, at the Dardanelles and at Kertch, confirmed by the Acts of the Minister of State for War in England.

Communicated by Dr. M'Connell Reed, 42, Gloucester Place, Hyde Park Gardens, London.

THE author of this communication was appointed physician to the Crimean Railway Expedition, January 26, 1855, during the Ministry of the War Department by the Duke of Newcastle, under a special agreement with Captain Andrews, the managing director, acting for and on the behalf of Messrs. Peto and Betts, now Sir Samuel Morton Peto and Mr. Betts, which left him, *free from red-tape restrictions*, to do his best, as an experienced civil practitioner of medicine and surgery, for the benefit of the men employed in the expedition.

While engaged in the discharge of his official duties, he did his best, not only to recommend the practice of homœopathy to the surgeons of the expedition, six in number, but he also practised it himself; and, although some of the surgeons, blinded by prejudice, endeavoured to oppose his efforts and to discredit his proceedings by the circulation of injurious reports respecting the motives of his conduct in the Crimea, still, their malignity being detected and exposed, the following testimonial was ultimately forwarded to him by the managing director :

*Crimean Railway Expedition, 84, King William Street,
London, January 29, 1856.*

"This is to certify that Dr. D. M'Connell Reed was employed in the medical department of the Crimean Railway Expedition, and that I have a very high opinion of his ability as a medical man, and of his experience of the treatment of persons subject to exposure in a foreign or bad climate.

"We received very valuable suggestions from him for the sanitary improvement of the expedition, and had every reason to be pleased with his uniform kind and general good conduct.

(Signed)

"W. S. ANDREWS,"

(The Managing Director.)

Having returned to England, May 26th, 1855, with Captain Raymond, the marine superintendent, some other officers, and the first detachment of men no longer required to complete the objects of the expedition, he stated the fact in a letter to the Minister of State for War, enclosing testimonials, and offered his services in any department of the public service in which they might be thought useful to the people. In reply to this application, he received a letter from Mr. Crooms, the chief clerk at the War Department, dated 8th June, 1855, several days after his appointment (March 31, 1855) as surgeon to Major General Beatson's irregular cavalry, (which he obtained on presenting the certificate of Dr. Andrew Smith, the Director General of the Army and Ordnance Medical Department, addressed to his Excellency the Turkish Minister, by a personal application to Dr. M'Pherson, the Inspector General of Hospitals of the Turkish Contingent,) stating that Lord Panmure had no opportunity of employing his services at that time; but that, if he would forward a satisfactory testimonial from Messrs. Peto and Betts, his Lordship would cause a note of his application to be made, in case a vacancy should occur at the seat of war.

Previous to his departure for the Dardanelles, he had an interview, by appointment, with Lord Palmerston, during which he told his Lordship, that, as he was going out to the East a second time, in an official capacity, he should like to be made generally useful to the soldiers of the army and to the natives of the country in which he might be stationed, in connection with the clergy and other in-

fluent persons in the army, as his professional experience was more in harmony with the experience of some of the clergy and other officers of the army, than with the practice of the generality of medical officers. In support of this assertion, he shewed Lord Palmerston a letter which he had received from Major General Estcourt, the Adjutant General, in answer to an application to Lord Raglan for a ward in the General Hospital at Balaklava, for the purpose of treating patients according to the homœopathic principle, and a manuscript pamphlet, by a clergyman, on the treatment of cholera, which Lord Palmerston returned without reading, as it was not printed; but he read General Estcourt's letter, which is as follows:

"Head Quarters Camp, April 6th, 1855.

"DEAR SIR,—Your letter, which I have had the pleasure to receive, has been laid before Lord Raglan; but *I am sorry to tell you that his Lordship does not feel himself at liberty to accede to your proposal. He is much obliged to you for your desire to be of service to the sick men of this army*; but he does not think it would be consistent with his duty to direct the adoption of any particular treatment in the hospitals, unless by the recommendation of the principal medical officer.

"I have the honor to be, dear Sir,

"Very faithfully yours,

(Signed) "J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT,
A. G.

"D. Reed, M.D.,

*"Physician to the Crimean Railway Expedition,
"S. S. Hecla, Balaklava."*

After reading the above letter, Lord Palmerston returned it, rose from his seat, gave the writer his hand, and directed him to see Lord Panmure on the subject of his application. As he was under orders to embark for the Dardanelles at Southampton in forty-eight hours, he lost no time in calling for Lord Panmure, first at the War Department, and then at his house in Belgrave Square, where he left his card, and again at the War Department, where he addressed a letter to his Lordship, stating his interview with Lord Palmerston, his application, and the result, which he expressed his hope would not be without good results to others, although he had failed to see Lord Panmure personally. This letter to Lord Panmure was dated "Waiting Room, War Department, July 9th, 1855," and a copy of it was sent to Lord Palmerston, enclosed in a note dated "Steam Transport 'Candia,' Southampton, July 11th, 1855"—the day of the departure of that vessel, with the writer, a staff surgeon, four other legally qualified and duly appointed British regimental surgeons, and eight acting-assistant-surgeons, all attached to Beatson's irregular cavalry, for the Dardanelles, where the Major General

had established his head quarters. After passing Malta, Surgeon Pennington, one of the regimental surgeons, was severely attacked by cholera; and, as neither the staff surgeon nor any of the other regimental surgeons seemed disposed to do anything for his relief till the writer had begun to treat him homœopathically, he declared his firm belief to the staff surgeon, all the other surgeons, and to the patient himself, who had great doubts of his own recovery, that if the treatment were not interfered with he would recover, but not otherwise. He was therefore allowed to proceed with the case; but he was required to report the result of the treatment officially to the staff surgeon, each day, before twelve o'clock, which he accordingly did. A copy of the report of this case has been since communicated by the writer to Dr. Epps, the editor of the *Notes of a New Truth*, who did him the favour to publish it in the fifth and eighth numbers of that periodical, together with his Register or Report of cases treated in the hospital of the 2nd regiment of Beatson's Horse, in the month ending September 6th, 1855; Dr. Cockburn's, the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, letter to the writer; and his letter to Major General Beatson in reply to the letters of Dr. Cockburn, and, lastly, the writer's letter to Dr. Epps, dated "42, Gloucester Place, Hyde Park Gardens, August 9th, 1856," concluding with a copy of General Beatson's letter or testimonial to "Dr. M'Connell Reed," dated "United Service Club, July 9th, 1856"—just one year after the writer had been directed personally by Lord Palmerston to see Lord Panmure on the subject of his personal application to the Government, through the first Lord of the Treasury, to be permitted to make himself generally useful to the soldiers of the army and the natives of the country in which he might be stationed while officially employed for the second time in the East, which request he repeated to General Beatson and Mr. Calvert, the British consul, on his arrival, July 26, 1855, at the Dardanelles, and obtained their official concurrence and assistance, and also the concurrence and assistance of the Pacha or Turkish Governor of the Dardanelles; until, at the instigation of an allopathic staff surgeon, he was peremptorily required to leave the Dardanelles, where the Pacha or Turkish Governor had placed a house at his disposal, for the purpose of making his services available to the inhabitants, and to go and reside under canvass in camp with his regiment; in which, however, there was at the time no immediate call for his professional services. This will clearly appear in the succeeding number of this journal, from official correspondence between General Beatson and the undersigned,

DAVID M'CONNELL REED, M.D.,

*Late Physician to the Crimean Railway Expedition, and
afterwards Regimental Surgeon to Beatson's Irregular
Cavalry at the Dardanelles.*

THE UNCERTAINTY OF THE RESULTS OF OLD-SCHOOL PRACTICE, ARISING FROM THE ADULTERATION OF DRUGS.

It is a recognised fact throughout the profession that no dependence can be placed by the physician on the preparation he prescribes, owing to the discrepancies of the authorized works on pharmacy, and principally to the unhappy circumstance that the drug trade is so corrupt that it is difficult to obtain an unadulterated article. The public have been led to believe that there are certain establishments wholesale and dispensing, where the drugs vended are in a tolerable state of purity. There has existed also for many years an establishment in London, styled the "Apothecaries' Hall," the property of a company which existed as a guarantee that the drugs sold thereat were pure. Such may be the case at that and other similar warehouses; but the fact is startling, and not the less true, that, go where you may into an ordinary druggist's shop, the chances are against your obtaining *pure* the article you seek. It is true that many of the drugs thus adulterated, may be less harmful by such adulteration; but still the fact remains, that there is scarcely a drug employed in old-school practice, which is not to some extent adulterated.

Very lately, we have received a circular issued by a new company in course of formation, and we believe already at work, with the view of supplying *pure drugs* and *chemicals* to the profession and the public. The title of this company is the "The General Apothecaries' Company, 1856, (limited.) We hope they will do good service in supplying the public and the profession with pure drugs, so long as there shall be found physicians who will persist in the unnecessary and destructive prescribing of hurtful materials, which we maintain human stomachs were not destined by the Creator to receive. The directors of the company have issued a circular address "To the Medical Profession." There being no reason for disputing the truth of their assertions, we quote the following from the said *Circular* :

"The enquiry instituted during the last and present session of parliament (1855-6) has brought prominently before the public a very general prevalence of adulteration and sophistication of the drugs and chemicals employed in medicine. This had long been suspected, and from time to time statements were published to justify the suspicion; but the evidence of the witnesses examined by the Committee of the House of Commons, has incontrovertibly established the fact, and shewn that this nefarious practice has extended so widely, as seriously to compromise the character of the profession and to involve in doubt the whole art of healing. It was broadly stated by one eminent chemist, as the result of many enquiries and experiments, *that when a physician writes a prescription,*

he must be altogether uncertain whether the medicine, when prepared, will contain the materials or elements he has specified.

"The testimony of many further proved, that, when the public purchase medicines without the intervention of a prescription, it is always extremely uncertain whether they obtain the substance they demand or some substitute, more or less worthless.

"Thus, citrate of iron and quinine is found in one shop to contain one grain of quinine in five, in another only one-tenth of a grain in five grains; *in a third no quinine whatever, but in its place some bitter*—quinidine, an alkaloid obtained from cheap and spurious barks, is substituted for quinine.—This is believed to have only the properties common to bitters, and to be destitute of antiperiodic powder. Of this, very large quantities are made in England, and it is chiefly used to adulterate quinine.

"Extracts of sarzæ and chamomile are often nearly or wholly spurious.

"Sarsaparilla root is boiled in water, dried, and sold after being deprived of the best part of its extractive matter.

"Cinchona barks and opium are exhausted of the alkaloids upon which their value depends, and sold to retailers.

"Powdered opium seldom contains any morphine."

To warrant the above company in establishing as they have done what promises so far to be a useful institution, the directors have also furnished to the profession "An Abstract of the Evidence given before a Committee of the House of Commons, respecting Adulterations, Sophistications, and Substitutions of Drugs, Chemicals, and Medicinal Preparations"—an embodiment of facts which cannot fail to startle the public.

"ALKALOIDS.—The vegetable alkaloids bear a very high price; they are adulterated with more or less worthless materials, often to the extent of 50 per cent. *Vide Quinine; Morphia.*

"BALSAM OF COPAIBA is mixed with fixed oils. Capsules pretending to contain copaiba often contain nothing but linseed oil.

Mr. Postgate.

"CALOMEL is adulterated with chalk, sulphate of baryta, and white lead.

Dr. Normandy.

"CANTHARIDES.—The powder is adulterated with euphorbium.

Dr. Pereira.

and glass
with other coloured insects.

Mr. Mackay.

Pharm. Jour.

"CARBONATE OF SODA, OR BICARBONATE OF SODA.—The latter is usually intended, when prescribed, or purchased for saline drinks. The former, a far cheaper substance, is mixed with it, also sulphate of soda to a large extent.

"CAYENNE.—Soluble cayenne is adulterated with vermilion and rose pink.

Mr. Maurice Scanlan.

- " **CAYENNE PEPPER.**—Of twenty-eight samples twenty-four were adulterated, twenty-two with mineral substances, red lead, vermilion, and ferruginous earth, brick-dust, and red ochre; also rice flour. *Dr. Hassall.*
- " **CINCHONA BARK** is exhausted of its *quinine*, dried, and sold entire, or in powder. *Institute, Vol. I.* comparatively worthless substitutes are mixed with, or sold for, the true barks. An immense amount of such spurious barks are imported into this country. *Vide Imports.*
- " **CINNAMON.**—Cassia is substituted for it. Of nineteen samples bought for powdered cinnamon, three consisted entirely of cassia—ten were adulterated with baked wheat flour, or sago meal. *Dr. Hassall.*
- " **COD LIVER OIL** is adulterated with all kinds of oily materials. Much that is sold for Cod Liver Oil is not that oil at all. No tests can detect the difference, if the sample contains 5 per cent. of the real oil. It is entirely a question of confidence. *Mr. Robt. Warrington.*
- " **CONFECTION OF SENNA** scarcely ever contains the proper ingredients. Rotten apples, jalap, treacle, and other objectionable substances often are employed in fabricating the lenitive electuary for retailing. *Mr. Bastick.*
- " **CURRY POWDER** is usually a mixture of ferruginous earths, rice flour, and the seeds proper to curry powder. *Dr. Hassall.*
- " **ESSENTIAL OILS** are adulterated with oil of turpentine, alcohol, or the more expensive with cheaper oils. Also with fixed oils. *Mr. Postgate.*
- " **EXTRACTS.**—Extracts are made of very variable activity and composition; sometimes stronger than when made according to the pharmacopœia, but more frequently weaker, and oftentimes totally inert. Every pharmacist has his secret method of preparing them, some using so-called improvements, others sophisticating them with less expensive materials. *Mr. Bastick.*
Ex. anthem., and
Ex. sarzæ, often contain nothing of the substances they represent. *Mr. Thos. Bastick.*
- Ex. of colocynth of commerce* is often inert. *Mr. Postgate.*
- " **GINGER POWDERED.**—Of twenty-one samples examined by *Dr. Hassall*, fifteen were adulterated with sago, flour, ground rice, turmeric, &c., in various proportions; in the majority, constituting the principal part of the article.
- " **HYDRARGYRUM PRÆCIPITATUM** is mixed with chalk. *Dr. R. D. Thompson.*
 or chalk and magnesia, to the extent of 65 per cent. *Mr. Postgate.*
- " **IODINE** is adulterated with black lead, and water and sulphate of antimony, sometimes to the extent of 25 per cent. *Dr. Normandy.*

"IPECACUANHA is largely adulterated with inert woody fibre, tartar emetic, starch, and chalk. *Dr. Hassall.*

"JALAP.—Of thirty-three samples from various shops, examined by *Dr. Hassall*, fourteen were adulterated with powdered wood. Some to the extent of one-third. Jalap powder is adulterated with guaiacum raspings.

Mr. M. Scanlan.

Also with "jalap tops," cuttings of the tree, which are inert.

Mr. Thomas Herring.

"LINSEED MEAL is adulterated with bran, clay, and sawdust.

Dr. Normandy.

The cake, after the oil is expressed, is powdered, and mixed with, or sold for it.

"LIQUORICE POWDER is made up of sugar, barley meal, and turmeric, *sometimes without a particle of liquorice.*

Dr. R. D. Thompson.

"MERCURIAL OINTMENT is mixed with blue clay. *Mr. Postgate.*

"MORPHIA is mixed with powdered opium, which is only a fourth of the strength. *Sir John Gordon, P. O. Pharm. Journal.*

"MEDICATED WATERS are made with the essential oils and river water, passed through a filter and magnesia; oil of cassia is used for cinnamon water.

"MUSTARD is often so much adulterated as to produce no effect on the skin when applied as a poultice: *a serious disappointment in emergencies.* *Dr. Challis.*

"OPIUM.—*Dr. Hassall* procured thirty-two samples of powdered opium from various wholesale and retail chemists; only ONE was found to be genuine. He states that the insoluble residue left in preparing the tincture is ground up and sold as powdered opium.

Dr. Dundas Thompson says that extract of senna is sold for extract of opium.

From the extensive adulterations practised with opium in substance or powder, no certain reliance can be placed on the effects of this remedy administered according to any fixed scale of doses. Moreover, all the medicinal preparations into which opium enters, must be uncertain in strength and power, as *tinctura opii*,—*tinct. camphora comp.*,—*vinum opii*,—*pulo. creta comp. cum opio*,—*pulo. ipecacuanha comp.*,—*pulo. kino co.*,—*pil. sapon. co.*,—*confectio opii*,—*extractum opii*,—*enema opii*,—*linimentum opii*,—and *emplastrum opii*,—P.L. Also *tinct. opii ammoniata*,—*acetum opii*,—*pil. opii*,—*pil. calom. et opii*,—*pil. plumb. opiat*, *electuarium opii*, and *trochisci opii*.—P.E. and P.D.

(To be continued in our next.)

POPULAR POISONS.

THE following appeared in a tract in America. We commend it to the attention of our readers :

“ IS THE COMMON USE OF TOBACCO A SIN?—*An Appeal to the 80,000 Clergymen in the United States.*

“ Men, Brethren, and Fathers,—Some of you abhor tobacco, and manfully express your abhorrence ; some of you, I regret to say, are abject slaves to it, and are sensible of your bondage ; whilst some of you do little more than trifle with this gigantic evil, when brought to your notice.

“ In my Anti-Tobacco Mission, I often submit resolutions for your action which denounce this habit as pernicious and decidedly sinful. As a resolution was lately under discussion, said a titled divine, ‘ I believe this is an idle, dirty habit, but not a sin in any sense,’ and his juniors of the association concurred in this opinion. You generally do not regard it as an offence demanding discipline or pulpit rebuke, but a foolish habit, which may be trifled about with impunity, or gently censured, as suits convenience. And this ‘ Master in Israel’ substantially expresses your views, or the views of an overwhelming majority, by calling it ‘ an idle, dirty habit, but not a sin.’ I assume nothing by treating your views as practically identical, and therefore I raise the issue on this point,

“ *Is the Common Use of Tobacco a Sin ?*

“ Come, let us reason together respecting this fashionable evil, as becomes ministers of Christ.

“ You concede too much, my brethren, when you say this is an idle, impure habit, and deny its sinfulness. You surely ought to have known that filth and sin have a strange affiliation. God has settled this point, by demanding a cleanly priesthood and people, by making a difference between the clean and unclean, and expressing an everlasting abhorrence of impurity in all forms. How can you maintain the sinless character of this habit, with the Old Testament, with all its rituals and economies, against you, and coming down on your position as an avalanche ?

“ I doubt whether your ground is any more tenable under the Christian economy. Physical impurity is rebuked in all those passages which bid men crucify the lusts of the flesh and cleanse themselves of all filthiness. The apostles were men of common sense ; and when they denounced filth, I suppose they denounced sin. Whitfield maintained that cleanliness was next to godliness ; and Mahomed, in harmony with Bible sentiments, anathematizes impurity, and in his fifth commandment says, *Keep thy body clean.*

“ Do you know the deadly effects of this drug ? That, as a narcotic, a cathartic, an emetic, a life-destroyer, chemists place it on the same shelf with arsenic, prussic acid, and poisons the most virulent ? Do you know that a few drops in condensed form, will speedily dispatch

man or beast; and that the evidence is painfully conclusive that hosts of 'chewers and smokers' die annually by the poison? Many a tobacco sot 'dies and gives no sign.' He drops dead in the busy walks of life, or he lies down at night and rises not, 'till the heavens be no more.' Did you know that physicians of profound research, 'whose little finger is thicker than our loins,' in matters of this sort, pronounce tobacco as decidedly injurious to body, mind, and soul? I beg you, bestow a glance on the pages of Cooper, Bell, Brodie, Paris, of other lands; and on those of Rush, Muzzey, Warren, Twitchell, and Beck, of our own, and no longer trifle with the ravages of this poison.

"Tell me, my brethren, do you see no sad effects of this drug around you? Nothing like delirium tremens, dyspepsia, consumption, and other ghastly diseases, in this connection? Have you no victims in your churches, who are strangely sottish, dumpish, and devoid of religious sensibility? Have you no friends in the wide circle of friends, loved once, loved now, who are maniacs from this source? Have you no dolts around you, once lively and enterprising, but whose activity is turned into smoke? Alas! you must often see those who are living corpses, long since murdered by this drug, whose epitaph you may write, *dead, but not buried!* I do not pretend that tobacco injures everybody alike. Some men have but little to injure. The tobacco-worm and rock-goat are not injured by it, it is said; and 'some men,' says an ingenious friend, 'are very goatish in their nature, and, as the goat prevails, tobacco injures less and less.' 'I think,' says a profound philosopher, 'it will injure everybody but a fool!'

"*The common use of tobacco, like alcohol, is a violation of the laws of life, and assails body, intellect, and soul.*—What right has a man to whip himself into the use of a nauseous, noxious poison, which, in time, will blunt the acumen of all his five senses, disturb his appetite, diminish nutrition, muscle, strength, and all his capacities to serve God? Is it no sin to rob God? What right has a man to use a drug which disturbs the healthful action of his mind, disposes it to be irritable at one time and sottish at another, and, in cases sadly numerous, smites it with forgetfulness, idiocy, or outright insanity? Is it no sin to destroy intellect?

"What right has a man to enslave his soul? This drug, by *narcotising, debilitating, and sensualizing* the soul, binds it in chains, and makes it an absolute slave. I speak with reverence. If the eye of God sees a slave on earth, in the way of eminence, he is probably made such by the potency of this drug. Is it no sin to enslave the soul?

"Man's organic structure, my brethren, is perfect, for God is its author. God's will is as manifest in this organism as in the ten commandments. Whoever injures this 'divine workmanship' by the use of a deadly thing, plants his will in conflict with God's will.

What is this but man striving with his Maker? What is this but rebellion? What is rebellion against God but sin? In your pulpits, many of you ring the changes on the exceeding sinfulness of sin, the world over and elsewhere. But sin is no undefinable phantom. Sin is *the transgression of law*, written by the finger of God on the whole organism of a man, as well as in the Bible—a transgression which usually carries conviction to the soul, unless stupefied by abuse. The common use of tobacco is *in all cases a violation of physical law*. The victim may or may not have come to a knowledge of this violation; if he has not, with him it is no sin, or merely a sin of ignorance. But the moment he becomes conscious of this violation, the violation is no longer simply physical, but moral; the act becomes a sinning act, a sin, and the actor a sinner. Millions sensualized by this drug are mournfully defective in moral discrimination, but this is not true of all its devotees.

“I knew one who said, ‘Sir, I can hear no more, for all you say on this drug is true, and cuts me to pieces. I have been a slave to it twenty years, and shall die a slave; but, if my son uses it, I will disinherit him!’ Here was consciousness of slavery and of sin.

“I knew an excellent deacon, who was an inveterate ‘chewer,’ who, on reading the passage which bids us glorify God, whether we eat or drink, said to his wife, ‘I cannot glorify God in the use of this poison.’ He dropped it, once for all, and became a holier and a happier man. Here was the consciousness and renunciation of sin. A ceasing to do evil in one form.

“I can name a clergyman who was much enslaved to his snuff; he sometimes reprov'd a neighbour who was a drunkard. At length the drunkard said to him, ‘If you will give up your snuff, I will give up my rum.’ The bargain was made. But, within forty-eight hours, the clergyman was in perfect anguish for his snuff. He set a spy over the drunkard, to watch for his downfall. When told that the fatal cup had passed his lips, he flew to his snuff-box with the fury of a maniac, made himself idiotic, and died a fool! Tell us which was the greater drunkard? Or, as sin is the point in debate, which was the greater sinner?

“The time would fail me to tell of men, Christian men, and Christian ministers, who have renounced this sin as they renounce other sins, and who, with rejuvenated health and jubilant hearts, bless God for their escape from these ‘bonds of iniquity.’

“You, my brethren, do not believe the common use of tobacco is a sin. Your hearers, I can assure you, if properly addressed, would have a different opinion. Let the affinities of this habit be portrayed before them,—its tendencies to *indolence, poverty, strong drink, and crime*,—let them see that the habit does a well man no good, but much harm; that it wastes time, invaluable time; that it squanders a frightful amount of property; that more is paid for it than for education or religion, the army or navy, and they will promptly ac-

knowledge it to be a sin. Beseech your young men to 'do themselves no harm.' Assure them that this habit tends to make them lank and lean, sallow and sickly, and is a violation of the laws of life, and they will acknowledge it to be a sin. In a fraternal manner, remind some in your church that this drug is their idol; that it has their last thought at night and their first in the morning; that they shorten their prayers in their families and closets to reach it; that they are wretched in prayer-meetings without it, and often much stupefied by it; and they will probably believe all you say, acknowledge the habit to be a sin, and make tearful efforts to relinquish it.

"As I now write, I receive a letter from a missionary in the Sandwich Islands, which states that the churches there consider this habit as sinful, demanding discipline, and act accordingly. How long shall churches in pagan lands excel ours in purity of doctrine and practice?"

"Ah! my brethren, deal with this sin with half the plainness with which pulpits deal with foibles which should be beneath their notice; beseech men to abstain from this, as a fleshly lust, which wars against the soul: beseech them to present their bodies holy and acceptable unto God, which is not done while thus defiled! Urge upon them the great command to love God with all their soul, and shew them that this is not obeyed by the inebriate on tobacco, any more than by the inebriate on alcohol, and your hearers will respect your logic and fidelity, and you will soon see that this habit is a sin; for whole congregations which you address will pronounce it such. This fashionable, all-pervading habit is a *great sin*. It is destroying millions of men! It is stealing the march on our whole race; and Turkey, Holland, and Mexico, are going down under its withering power, and God forbid that America should follow in the mournful track!"

"I devote my time and my humble acquisitions to the thankless task of calling attention to this evil.

"I make no apologies, brethren, for this boldness of speech. I assail a nauseous, noxious abomination, at war with christianity and civilisation, and which springs from the depths of heathenism. God of heaven! deliver churches of Christ from 'filthy dreamers, who defile the flesh and spirit' by this polluting drug. Purge, O! purge American pulpits from this impurity! Then a ministry of less smoke, and more fire, shall assault this iniquity and other iniquities with success, achieve more for the nation, for God—and man.

"Yours fraternally,

"GEO. TRASK.

"*Fitchburg, (Mass.) 1855.*"

"A congress of homœopathic medical men was to meet at Brussels on the 23rd inst., when the most eminent homœopaths of Europe were expected to take part in the proceedings."

REVIEW :

Popular Tracts on Homœopathy. Manchester: H. Turner, 41, Piccadilly.

UNDER the above title, a series of very useful papers, very curtly written, are in course of publication. Nos. 1 to 6 have appeared, and we are much pleased with their contents. There is much to be done in the direction of homœopathy by the circulation of tracts and short treatises; and we have long hoped to see a "Homœopathic Tract Society," which, supported by the million who have embraced homœopathy, would prove a formidable array against old physic. In this age of intellectual growth, it is not enough to tell men to swallow a bolus, nor to demand their blood blindly, as heretofore. The thinking patient will seek a reason for the demand; and we opine that the chief cause of the fall of old physic will be found in the coming universal desire of every man to have a reason for the faith that is in him.

Besides this, the advocates of existing error—the "sticklers for orthodox medicine"—who are ever and anon offering their puny opposition, at one time are charging homœopaths with the guilt of "doing nothing," at another attributing their cures to "nature;" to-day wilfully misrepresenting homœopathy as a system of poisoning, to-morrow ridiculing the infinitesimal doses; lastly, falling back upon "imagination" to explain the *modus operandi* of cures effected by homœopathic practitioners. On this last head the author of the tracts before us has ably commented. No. 6 of the above tracts is entitled "The Theory of Imagination;" and we with much pleasure quote the following:

"Now, homœopathy does not believe in the imaginative theory at all. They cannot themselves rely on it, and consequently prescribe what they consider suitable medicines to the case in hand; and if their patients are capable of placing such implicit faith in their treatment, it is certainly more than can be said of the other, and even this is something. But how are we to account for the fact of infants being cured? I could adduce instances in my own experience; but, for the sake of better authority, as well as for brevity's sake, I would simply recall the case quoted from Dr. Sharp, in my last tract. Unless the theory of the fœderal relation of parents to their children be adopted, and the mother's faith be held to stand good in lieu of the child's, I cannot explain it. To avoid even this last supposition, I shall quote a case recorded by Dr. Marsden:

"The last case which I shall now mention," says he, "is one in which I have every reason to believe imagination could have very little effect, whatever the opponents of homœopathy may say about it. My horse was not quite well on starting one afternoon from Exeter to Torquay; at night the groom brought word that he would neither eat nor drink. I determined to try the effect of globules upon him. On going to the stable, I found his throat was tender

upon pressure, his mouth hot, his pulse high. I gave him fourteen globules of *Belladonna*, and wrote to London for advice how to proceed. About three hours after the first dose, he drank water and ate a little hay. The next day, the Torquay veterinary surgeon declared he was dangerously ill; a veterinary in Exeter, whither he was led home, considered he had an abscess in the lungs, and recommended setons and boluses, and I know not what besides. Under the directions of the London homœopath, he took mercury, sulphur, and sulphuret of lime, and in a week he was at work again, though rather out of condition from the illness.'

"Take another example, which I find recorded in the third report of the York Homœopathic Dispensary:

"The C troop of Royal Horse Artillery wintered lately in Leeds. Upwards of seventy of these horses were treated homœopathically by Mr. Haycock (veterinary surgeon) of Huddersfield. After the departure of the troop from Leeds for head quarters, Captain Warde (the captain of the troop) sent the following letter from Woolwich to Mr. Haycock:

"DEAR SIR,—I have great pleasure in complying with your request, and in certifying that you treated between seventy and eighty horses, which were under my charge, on the homœopathic system of medicine, for a period of eighteen months. There were some acute and dangerous cases, and others of chronic character; and I have no hesitation in testifying to the perfect and complete success of your treatment under both circumstances. I have amply tested the system in my own stable for many years, and am perfectly satisfied of its vast superiority over the old mode of treatment in every way. You are at liberty to make any use you may think proper of this certificate, and I am your sincere well-wisher,

(Signed) E. WARDE, Captain.

'Royal Horse Artillery, Woolwich, May 19, 1853.'

"Now, hath it ever been heard that horses and cows are eminent for their faith in medicine, or for the higher flights of imagination?"

DANGERS OF ALLOPATHIC PRACTICE.

WE have often called the attention of our readers to cases occurring in the practice of "old physic," in which death has resulted from "mistake," "neglect," or excessive doses. The following is another, which occurred a short time since:

"CASE OF ACCIDENTAL POISONING BY STRYCHNIA.—Another example of the lamentable mistakes which occasionally occur in the composition of medicine took place on the morning of Sunday, July 27, in the workhouse of the Bailieborough Union, in the county of Cavan, Ireland. The victim on this occasion was a little boy, aged eight years, an inmate of the institution, to whom a powder, supposed

to consist of calomel and jalap, was administered by his mother at about ten minutes before seven o'clock on the morning of the above-mentioned day. From the mother's testimony before the coroner, it appeared that, in a very short time after swallowing the powder, the child worked in fits, and shouted out, 'Oh! they are coming for me!' He had no appearance of locked jaw: he swallowed everything he got. The mother immediately ran for Dr. Clarke, who saw him without delay. Dr. Clarke states that he found the deceased sensible, and speaking rationally. He was labouring under very violent tetanic convulsions. He had no vomiting. The extremities, upper and lower, were perfectly rigid and extended. The patient was trembling violently, and was one shaking mass in constant motion. The pupils of the eyes were dilated to their fullest extent. The eyeballs appeared to be protruding out of their sockets. Dr. Clarke immediately went to the surgery for an emetic, and on his return the boy was dead. On *post mortem* examination, strychnia was discovered in the contents of the stomach. Part of the stomach appeared as if it had been sprinkled with red ink—the rest was healthy. The liver and other abdominal organs were healthy. Strychnia was likewise discovered in a second powder, which had been given to the mother along with that administered to the child. On the inquest, it appeared that Dr. Wright, who was acting during the temporary absence of Dr. Taylor, the medical attendant of the workhouse, had, in compounding the medicine for the child, used a portion of the contents of a bottle on which were two labels—one before and one behind—marked strychnine. Dr. Wright stated that he was guided by the back label, the inscription on which was somewhat imperfect, and was read by him as 'submurias hydrargyri.' The jury, after a lengthened consultation, agreed to the following verdict: 'We find that the deceased came by his death on the morning of Sunday, the 27th of July, in consequence of strychnine prescribed [dispensed] by Dr. Wright in mistake for calomel, and administered by deceased's mother, and we are perfectly satisfied that he had no evil intention.' Dr. Wright, who was under arrest since the day of the death of the child, was subsequently admitted to bail, to stand his trial at the next assizes."—*Medical Circular*.

MORNING SICKNESS.

DR. KUECHENMEISTER (*Journal des Conn. Med.*) contends that the distressing morning sickness which occurs in the early months of pregnancy results from emptiness. He proposes that all breeding women should take their breakfast in bed, and not rise for two hours afterwards. As the stage which precedes the vomiting bears some analogy to syncope, the repose in bed until after the morning meal is not an irrational suggestion.—*Medical Circular*.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 1.—VOL. 2.

NOVEMBER 1, 1856. NEW SERIES.—PRICE 2D.

TO OUR READERS.

WITH this we commence a new volume of our new series. We have to thank our friends for the patronage bestowed, and we have now a favor to ask of those who read our monthly—that they commend it to others, be they converts or be they not. Without boasting, we have done our best in the past year to make our pages useful and instructive. We have endeavoured to set before our readers the truth, have furnished intelligence of its progress, and, though some few have complained of our being harsh in our language towards the old school, we have by the majority been complimented on the utility of our periodical, and a willingness has been very generally expressed to pay sixpence a year for more matter.

Our readers must be aware that the object in providing the people with a periodical devoted to the elucidation of homœopathy is not that of *pecuniary gain*; on the other hand, there is a loss entailed on the proprietor by its publication. We do not think that, with a million of adherents to homœopathy in the United Kingdom, there should be any loss; and we feel certain, that, if all who read it were to take the slight trouble of introducing and recommending it where it is not known, our circulation would be multiplied ten-fold.

It would be too much to expect that our pages *please every one*. We do not seek merely to *please* men, but to enunciate a great truth—a law of the Creator; and if, in the advocacy of that truth, we draw down upon ourselves contumely, so let it be. *Onward!*

is the word of progress, and, careless of the results, indifferent to the tender feelings of the upholders of error and cruelty, we are resolved to spare no pains in rendering to allopathy its due, while we advocate the new truth in medicine, *similia similibus curentur*. We shall do this, in future, we trust with credit, not only to ourselves, but also to the name of him to whose persevering industry and patience we are indebted for the possession of the right method of healing diseases—we mean Hahnemann, a name that in future ages will be revered by the descendants of those who now scorn!!

LECTURES ON THE VARIETIES OF CONTINUED FEVER
AND THEIR DISCRIMINATION;

DELIVERED AT ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL,

BY

THOMAS B. PEACOCK, M.D.,

Assistant Physician to St. Thomas's Hospital, etc.

LECTURE VII.—GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF TREATMENT.

It was not my intention in these lectures to have spoken of the treatment of the disease, but as the subject would be incomplete without some allusion to this point, I shall very briefly refer to the general principles which should guide us in our practice.

The first question which arises is *can we arrest or cut short an attack of fever?* This question must be regarded as a purely practical one, to be decided by experimental investigation. We have sufficient proof that those forms of febrile affection which follow the most definite course—the eruptive fevers—may be cut short, as variola;—by vaccination, and, in some cases, by vaccination practised after the receipt of the variolous contagion; and, though the cases are not precisely analogous, there seems no reason why similar results should not ensue from the employment of remedial agents; and in typhus and typhoid, as well as in other forms of fever.

I. The means by which the arrest of fever has been attempted have been, 1st, Cold affusion; 2ndly, Remedies acting upon the secretions; and, 3rdly, Specific remedies.

1. At the time when Dr. Currie's work had attracted much attention, the plan of employing cold affusion was much had recourse to in the treatment of all forms of fever—more especially in the early stage—in the hope of arresting the progress of the disease, and there is reason to believe that the remedy was occasionally, at least, successful. The prostration of strength which it occasioned was, however, sometimes so serious, that the risk more than counterbalanced the advantage, and the practice was abandoned. Cold bathing is still,

I believe, used by the hydropathic practitioners as a means of checking the course of fever, *but I know not with what result.*

2. Remedies which act upon the secretions have been employed for the arrest of fever, under the idea that as the subsidence of some forms of the disease is attended by so-called critical evacuations, such remedies may be the means of eliminating the poison from the system. Thus, as one of the most common symptoms which attends resolution in some forms of fever is profuse sweating, diaphoretics have been exhibited to promote perspiration, and so to bring about resolution. This is, however, an entirely erroneous view. In many cases the occurrence of sweats during fever, especially when only partial, so far from causing the subsidence of the disease, is followed by serious or even fatal prostration of strength. On the other hand, in cases in which the perspirations are most profuse, as in relapsing fever and sometimes in typhoid, the occurrence of the perspiration, so far from eliminating the poison, does not prevent the occurrence of the future paroxysms in the one case, or cut short the progress of the disease in the other. We can, therefore, only regard the occurrence of perspirations in these cases as indications of the resolution of the fever and not as its cause. Again, we sometimes see febrile attacks subside on the occurrence of spontaneous vomiting or purging; but it by no means follows, that the occurrence of these symptoms is the cause of the subsequent resolution; and even were sweating, vomiting, or purging proved to be the means by which nature endeavours to eliminate the poison from the system, it would still not follow that it is sound practice for us to imitate.

Of the remedies of this description upon which the most reliance has been placed as useful in arresting fever, emetics occupy the first place. It is quite possible, that, exhibited quite at the commencement of an attack of fever, before the chain of diseased action has been fully established, they may, by exciting powerful re-action, arrest the further progress of the disease. In the employment, however, of these remedies *great caution should be exercised*; the more depressing emetics, such as the tartarized antimony and James's Powder, are of very doubtful usefulness, at least in the low forms of fever which we are called upon to treat in this metropolis. *They may excite irritability of stomach*, which is often a troublesome symptom, as in relapsing fever, and which it may be *difficult afterwards to check*; or they may *cause great depression*, if given in cases which are attended with much prostration, as in typhus; or they may *excite diarrhœa*, if given in typhoid. The objections do not, however, apply to the milder emetics, as ipecacuanha, or, at least, not to the same extent.

In the exhibition of purgatives *yet greater caution is needed*. In typhoid, diarrhœa is often present from the commencement of the disease and at all times it is very prone to occur—and active purgatives may excite very undue action; indeed, *I have seen them give rise to uncontrollable diarrhœa and so occasion death.* During

the progress of typhoid it is always necessary to exercise the greatest caution in the exhibition of aperients; and in cases where the bowels have been confined for several days and where some interference becomes unavoidable, the *action of mild aperients will sometimes prove injurious*. In taking into consideration the propriety of having recourse to any of these remedies, with the view of cutting short an attack of fever, it must be born in mind, that, at the commencement of an attack of fever, when only they could be exhibited with the probability of accomplishing that result, it is impossible to know what will be the character of the disease, and, consequently, to decide as to the special applicability of the remedy to be used.

3. Mercurials were much employed in the treatment of fever a few years ago, under the idea that they might destroy the poison existing in the system or assist its elimination; and also with the view of preventing what was regarded as a complication of the disease—the inflammation and ulceration of the mucous glands of the intestines. It was even contended, that if the system could be brought under the influence of mercury, the patient always recovered. While, however, there is little doubt that in fever the influence of the mercurial remedies is resisted, **THERE IS NO PROOF THAT WHERE THE SYSTEM IS BROUGHT UNDER THEIR INFLUENCE THEY PRODUCE ANY BENEFICIAL EFFECT**; and, practically, their use has been almost abandoned, except for the relief of accidental complications of an inflammatory character.

4. **THE ONLY REMEDY WHICH HAS RECENTLY BEEN REGARDED AS POSSESSING ANY SPECIFIC POWER IN ARRESTING FEVER IS BARK**, and especially its alkaloid, quinine. This power has been supposed to be exerted, when quinine is exhibited in large and frequently repeated doses, so as to produce a sedative operation on the nervous system, indicated by well marked symptoms—vertigo, headache, tinnitus aurium, and depression of the force and frequency of the heart and arteries. To this condition the term *cinchonism* has been applied. During the last autumn, I entered into an investigation of the claims of quinine thus exhibited to its asserted power of arresting fever. I found that the reports of the different practitioners who had made trial of the remedy were so varied, that they could not be referred to as affording any satisfactory rule of practice. In our own hospital, I ascertained that of thirty-five cases of fever of all kinds treated during two years with quinine, in doses of 8 to 10 and 15 grains, repeated three, four, six, eight, and twelve times daily, *the mortality was somewhat greater*, and the duration of residence in hospital of the cases which recovered was very nearly the same, as in the other cases of fever treated by the ordinary means. I further found, that in trying the remedy in large and repeated doses, in particular cases of fever of ascertained character—typhus and typhoid—in some, while the

physiological effects were fully manifested, NO REMEDIAL INFLUENCE WAS EXERTED; in others, the USE OF THE REMEDY ADDED GREATLY TO THE PROSTRATION OF STRENGTH, AND WAS OBVIOUSLY INJURIOUS; AND IN ONE ONLY, OUT OF FIVE CASES, DID IT EXERT ANY BENEFICIAL INFLUENCE; AND IN THAT IT OPERATED ONLY IN ASSISTING THE FAVOURABLE PROGRESS, NOT, CERTAINLY, IN ARRESTING THE DISEASE. From these facts I inferred, that quinine, thus exhibited, did not possess the asserted power of arresting the progress of fever. An investigation of this kind is one of much difficulty; for it is evident, that, if the remedy to be tested be not applied at the commencement of the disease, it is not likely to check the progress of the attack; and, if so applied, as we cannot *a priori* with certainty ascertain the form of disease which is commencing, so we cannot decide, if the attack subsides rapidly, whether it has done so in obedience to the natural law of the disease, or as the effect of the remedy employed. We, consequently, are in many instances left in doubt as to whether the remedy has, or has not, proved beneficial. It is only by repeated trial and careful observation that we can arrive at a satisfactory conclusion.

PRACTICALLY, IN THE TREATMENT OF FEVER, WE MAY DISMISS FROM OUR MINDS THE ENDEAVOUR TO ARREST THE PROGRESS OF THE DISEASE, AND MUST BE CONTENTED TO AIM AT CONDUCTING THE CASES TO A SUCCESSFUL ISSUE.

Such is the orthodox treatment of continued fever in 1856. Our readers will remember the illustrations of the treatment of fever, as practised in the wards of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London.* In that case it was confessed the treatment "hastened the man's death." We now present to our readers the treatment followed at another of the large Metropolitan Hospitals, viz., St. Thomas's. The above extract is from the *Medical Times & Gazette*. The *Medical Circular*, another allopathic weekly, says, "Dr. Peacock continues his *able* lectures on continued fever," and quotes from the *Medical Gazette* in commendation of Dr. Peacock.

The confessions contained in Dr. Peacock's lecture illustrate the utter inefficiency of the ordinary medical practice of the present day. Enumerating the various *remedies* (?) employed, he mentions diaphoretics, emetics, purgatives, mercurials, bark and its alkaloid quinine, chlorate of potash, anodynes, opiates, astringents, Dover's powder, hydrocyanic acid (prussic acid), effervescents, counter-irritants, blisters, turpentine fomentation, antiphlogistics, cupping, leeching,

* See Pp. 19 to 23, *Homœopathic Record*, December, 1855.

antimony, &c., &c., &c.!! And what is the result of such treatment? Verily, that of leaving it an open question "*whether we can arrest or cut short an attack of fever?*" After two thousand years of experience, the *art* of healing is confessed to be so defective that the utility of all means hitherto tried is called in question.

Let us, however, do justice to Dr. Peacock's lecture, and to the views he sets forth. Speaking of cold ablution, as practised by Dr. Currie some years ago, he says "There is reason to believe that the remedy was occasionally, at least, successful. It is used, I believe, by hydropathic practitioners, as a means of checking the course of fever, but I know not with what result." If Dr. Peacock were to take the trouble to enquire, he would find that the hydropathic treatment of fever is more successful than any of the modes of treatment with which Dr. Peacock is practically acquainted. Hydropathy, however, is not employed in the hospitals of London, and hence hydropathy, as a curative means, is excluded from the students of medicine in those hospitals.

Dr. Peacock next notices *diaphoretics*, or medicines which produce diaphoresis (perspiration), because sweating has occurred occasionally in the crisis through which a fever patient passes, sometimes to recovery, sometimes to death. Dr. Peacock very judiciously adds, that, even though sweating, vomiting, or purging occur in the efforts of nature to relieve the patient, it does not follow that it is sound practice for us to imitate, that is, to produce an imitation by artificial means.

Of *emetics* Dr. Peacock says, "These *may be* useful in the *early* stage of fever, but in the employment of them *great caution should be exercised*, because they excite irritability of the stomach, which it may be difficult afterwards to check, and may cause great depression, or they may excite diarrhœa."

Of *purgatives*, says Dr. Peacock, "Their exhibition requires *yet greater caution*." "I have seen them give rise to uncontrollable diarrhœa and SO OCCASION DEATH." . . . "Even mild aperients *will sometimes prove injurious*."

Of *mercurials*, Dr. Peacock says, though employed to such an extent under the "*idea*" that they *might* destroy the poison existing in the system, "*there is no proof that they produce any beneficial effect*."

"THE ONLY REMEDY possessing any specific power in arresting fever," says Dr. Peacock, is *bark*, and especially its alkaloid *quinine*. "The power of arresting fever is *supposed* to be exerted by quinine, when exhibited in large and frequently repeated doses, so as to produce a sedative operation on the nervous system, indicated by *vertigo, headache, noises in the ears, depression of the heart's action and of the arteries*;" that is, a diseased state is produced by quinine, to which the term "*cinchonism*" (from cinchona) has been applied; so that Dr. Peacock confesses, that, in order to cure a fever, another

disease, a *drug* disease, called "cinchonism" is produced, and with what result? Dr. Peacock shall answer in his own language.

"In our own hospital (St. Thomas's), I ascertained, of thirty-five cases of fever of all kinds treated during two years with quinine, in doses of eight to ten and fifteen grains, repeated three, four, six, eight, and twelve times daily. **THE MORTALITY WAS GREATER,** and the duration of residence in hospital of the cases which recovered was very nearly the same as in the other cases of fever treated by the ordinary means."

Witness the unscientific character of such practice, viz., the administration of quinine to "*all kinds of fever,*" in such enormous doses, and so oft repeated, that a drug disease is produced, and the *mortality increased.* Is not such practice quackery in its grossest form?

Dr. Peacock "found, however, that in *trying* the remedy in large and frequently repeated doses, in *particular* cases of fever of ascertained character—typhus and typhoid—in some, while the *physiological* effects were fully manifested, **NO REMEDIAL INFLUENCE WAS EXERTED**; in others, *the use of the remedy added greatly to the prostration of strength, and was obviously injurious.* "From these facts," says Dr. Peacock, "I inferred that quinine did not possess the asserted power of arresting the progress of fever."

Observe, reader, the concluding remark of this authority of St. Thomas's Hospital: "*Practically,* in the treatment of fever, we may dismiss from our minds the endeavour to arrest the progress of the disease, and must be contented to *aim at conducting the cases to a successful issue.*" How this aiming at a "successful issue" is to be performed, Dr. Peacock says "we should be guided by the principles laid down by Dr. Alison. We must remember that the different forms of fever are dependent on poisons, which can operate on the system for a *certain length of time only,* and consequently that they will terminate favourably, *provided the strength of the patient lasts a sufficient length of time.*" This is *teaching* with a vengeance! The disease can only last a certain length of time, and if the patient be strong enough he will recover, if he is not he will die.

The following letter is addressed to Dr. Peacock, in the hope that he will direct his attention to a superior mode of treatment to that which he follows.

DEAR SIR,—The foregoing comments on your lecture were written for a periodical called the *Homœopathic Record*, a monthly, devoted to the cause of reform in medicine; a periodical not strictly professional like the medical journals, but intended to popularize the principles and practice of rational medicine. Since medical associations and societies have excluded, by almost unanimous vote, all who practise homœopathy from membership; since medical journalists refuse the

contributions of the school to which I have the happiness to belong; since medical directories deny to the body of homœopaths, as to individuals, an equal right to record their works; and since members of the medical profession, with few exceptions, treat with scorn those who have conscientiously left allopathy for homœopathy, it remains to me, as one of the despised and rejected, to do all that I can individually to place before a discerning public the contrasts which exist between that system which you advocate and the one which I hold to be superior. Confident I am that much, if not all, of the opposition of the faculty to homœopathy arises from ignorance of its value and indifference to its claims. I deem it my duty to call your attention to your own lecture, lest, in delivering yourself of it, you should have imagined that you were usefully educating your pupils. Would that they listened to more definite instruction in healing, which ought to be a science instead of a mere "art"—an art demonstrated by yourself as being empirical in its practice, injurious in the use of its means, and destructive in its results. May the time soon arrive when the "*general principles of treatment*" which obtain in your school shall give place to a superior method, having a *law* to guide the student of medicine in the good work of administering healing to the sick.

If any inaccuracies occur in the report of your lecture, let the *Medical Times and Gazette* bear the onus.

But why, Dr. Peacock, believing what you teach, do you advocate the use of quinine, when the "*mortality* under its use is *increased*?" Why give emetics, when they are "found to excite irritability of stomach, difficult to check, with great depression? Why give purgatives, when you have seen them give rise to uncontrollable diarrhœa, and so occasion death?" Why give mercurials, when you know that they do not produce any *beneficial* effect? You *know that they produce injurious* effects, which you dread when you prescribe them.

Is there *no* remedy for such a state of things? no remedy for the admitted fact that allopathy can do nothing to arrest the progress of fever? Is the patient to continue to be consoled only by the axiom you lay down, that "if his strength lasts long enough he will recover?" That which you suggest, viz., "stimulants" and "food," afford but a broken reed for the patient to lean upon. To give food to a patient who cannot digest it, is to hasten him to a fatal termination—to cheat the patient with stimulants is cruel. *First cure the patient, then feed him.* This will, to a far greater extent than you calculate, be effected by the means which homœopathy presents, aided by appropriate applications of that element which the Creator has so bountifully provided and employed as the emblem of purification, viz., water.

Let me ask you, Dr. Peacock, why, knowing as you do the utter inefficacy of all the means in ordinary use to check the progress of

fever, do you neglect to *try* those means which homœopathy presents? The scientific practitioner does not give one medicine in "*fevers of all kinds*"—only the quack does this. The homœopathist gives not a single medicine to a patient until he has become acquainted with the real properties of such medicine. The homœopathist would deserve all the contempt and ridicule which are heaped upon him, if he did as do you, that is, try experiments on the sick. He knows in what particular kind or form of fever quinine is curative; he knows, moreover, that quinine *will*, and that it can, *only* cure the particular fever to which it is similar in its pathogenesis. You, Dr. Peacock, are acquainted with a few of the pathogenetic symptoms of quinine—you know that it acts as a *sedative*, that it produces *vertigo*, *headache*, *tinnitus aurium*, that it also produces depression of the force and frequency of the heart; learn now something more of its properties. Take, yourself, the doses you give to your poor, suffering, fever-stricken patient—keep a diary—watch carefully, each day, as you repeat the dose (yourself being in health), the disturbances produced in your organism by the drug—note down in accurate and well defined language your symptoms (you will be sure to suffer)—and, having done this, apply your knowledge—take the category of symptoms you have yourself suffered while taking bark, and let this knowledge guide you in administering the drug to patients.

This did Hahnemann. He has left to you, if you will receive it—a record of his personal suffering, not only in relation to bark, but to many other drugs. In 1790, Hahnemann tried cinchona upon himself, for the sake of ascertaining the relation existing between intermittent fever and the pathogenetic action of cinchona. Let me commend to you, Dr. Peacock, with all the earnestness which should characterize the lover of his species, the writings of that great man. Let me adjure you to examine the materia medica of Hahnemann. Give it your serious attention—you will not be disappointed. Let me assure you that your experience in the treatment of diseases, taking the law of *similia* as your guide, will be more productive of happiness to yourself as well as to others; you will, while you pursue your calling, derive a pleasure from the practice of your profession, which you never have derived hitherto. This has been the experience of many: it is mine: it may be yours.

I write this not in vain glory—not for any selfish purpose that I have in view. I write it for you—for the profession—for the public. It is high time that the art of healing were raised from its impotent empiricism to a science.

I am, Sir, with every respect as a member of the same profession, and with all deference to your influential position,

Yours sincerely,

CHARLES T. PEARCE.

Northampton,
Oct. 21, 1856.

EXTRACTS FROM ALLOPATHIC JOURNALS.

UNDER the above heading, we purpose from time to time, as occasion recurs, to present our readers with "*petits morceaux*" from the writings of our opponents. The following is quoted in illustration of the circumstance that all attempts on the part of medical legislators to *rule* the profession, as to the dose to be employed in the treatment of the sick, must be futile as well as unjust.

From the "Lancet," October 4th.

ON THE REMOVAL OF GOUTY DEPOSIT, BY WM. THORN, M.D.

"A female patient of mine, once highly hysterical, having been the frequent subject of that species of paralysis, became, at forty seven years of age, a complete martyr to gout in one elbow and both hands, the deposits being so large that they interfered most seriously with her sewing and domestic avocations. I gave her liquor of potassa, twenty minims three times a-day, in water; and spirits of nitric ether, twenty minims three times a-day, in water also. These remedies, however, were given alternately, so that the surplus urea should be combined with the potash given as one dose, and eliminated by the nitric ether given as the other. This plan, being persevered with for about two months, answered most completely, the gouty deposits having steadily disappeared; a *curious effect of the treatment* being, however, *that the doses ordered were found far too large, the patient being only really benefited where each remedy was reduced to five drops only for a dose.* This was done because the twenty, fifteen, nay, even the ten drops produced sickness or headache, just as the potash or nitric ether was given.

"This case goes to illustrate that gout, or some analogous blood poison, was the cause of hysteria in the female while young; the confirmation of this view being, that after the grand climacteric was passed, gout was developed in a violent degree. This doctrine has been already demonstrated by Dr. Laycock, in his truly philosophical work on the "*Nervous Diseases of Women.*"

HOMŒOPATHY IN THE CAPIA HILLS.

EXTRACT from a letter from the Rev. W. Pryae, dated April 7, 1856, Sylhet, East Indies:

The cholera has again visited our town, and has been very fatal in the villages round about us during the last month. The second of our little company has sickened this afternoon. The first attacked is now quite recovered. We use the homœopathic system of medicine. I do not speak in its favour from prejudice, but from conviction of its superiority. Messrs. Steinforth and Skipworth very kindly presented us with books on this system of treatment to the amount of ten pounds, and Mrs. Skipworth furnished us with medicine to the amount of from five to six pounds. Scores of the poor Bengalees bless her and her medicine. From ignorance on these matters I cannot speak of its success in England, but of this I am happy to say that it has not failed in *any one instance* when I have made use of the medicine in time. "*This is from the Lord,*" and He keeps us all from fear of evil.

SALE OF POISON IN PRUSSIA.

IN these days of free trade in poison, and when killing is no murder, the following extract from a letter of a young gentleman, botanising in West Prussia, will be perused with interest: "The other day I wanted some corrosive sublimate to dress my dried plants, to prevent the ravages of insects; I got it from Stargardt, but there came with it a giftechien—a paper specifying the name of the chemist who sold it, the quantity bought, and the date, and this I had to sign and seal and return, when it is sent to the Bureau de Police; so that no use could be made of it by me without its being easily traced. The chemist is also bound to put on it a distinctive label, stating that it is poison; the one he put on was ornamented with a death's head and cross bones in the middle, and a little monumental cross on each. Would it not be a good plan to be adopted in England?"—*Bedford Mercury.*

**OFFICIAL INJUSTICE, AND SYSTEMATIC OPPOSITION
TO THE TRUTH,**

Illustrated by a Series of Letters, and the Acts of the Military Chiefs of the Turkish Contingent, at the Dardanelles and at Kertch, confirmed by the Acts of the Minister of State for War in England.

Communicated (in continuation of this article in our last number) by Dr. M'Connell Reed, 42, Gloucester Place, Hyde Park Gardens, London.

(*Dr. Reed to General Beatson.*)

"Dardanelles, 11th Sunday after Trinity.

"MY DEAR GENERAL,—On arriving here, I put myself into immediate personal communication with you. My first visit was very short, as I did not wish to trespass too much upon your time; but I think I said that, just before leaving England, I had had an interview with Lord Palmerston, to whom I had made a proposition bearing upon the general health; into which he made some enquiry, and then recommended me to see Lord Panmure, and to report what I had said to him. With this he gave me his hand, and I retired, intending to do as he had said. But, as my departure from London took place the following Monday, my interview with Lord Palmerston having been on Saturday, I did not see Lord Panmure before my departure, although I called and left my card at his house. But I stated in writing, for his information, what had passed between Lord Palmerston and myself, expressing a wish to be sent on to the Crimea as soon as possible, in order that I might have opportunities afforded me there of carrying out my views. With the same object, while here, I requested you, as Lord Panmure's representative, to

exempt me from residing under canvass in camp, and to permit me to reside in the town, in a house provided for me by the Pacha, through my representation of my intentions by an agent of the Consulate, after I had had interviews with yourself and Mr. Calvert (Her Majesty's Consul at the Dardanelles) just after my arrival.

"Dr. Smith was privy to these transactions, and was, in some degree, aiding and abetting therein; therefore, he and Dr. Stewart accompanied me when I waited upon you, *personally*, to request that I might be exempted from the general order for the medical officers to go into tents. Your words upon that occasion were these: 'Gentlemen, you may consider the matter as settled;' upon which we made arrangements to reside in the town, for the general good, not only of our countrymen, but also for that of the native and other inhabitants who might wish to consult us. Many of the latter, I am happy to say, have taken advantage of the circumstance to consult us, and have expressed their gratitude for services rendered; and, as there is no serious sickness in the camp at present, there is no call for us to reside there which cannot be answered by the presence of our assistants, while we ourselves pay a morning and evening visit to see that all is going on right, it being easy to attend to any express call which may arise in the meantime.

"Dr. Stewart has since seen fit to go and reside with his regiment; but Dr. Smith and I are still of opinion that we can do our duty as principal medical officers of regiments, and still be of service in the town, if we are permitted peaceably to take advantage of your order, which seems to have been entirely forgotten, as well as the circumstances which gave rise to it, when the Brigade order of yesterday's date was issued.

"It is as follows:

" 'Camp, Dardanelles, Aug. 18, 1855.

" 'By authority of the Major-General commanding, Surgeon Smith, 4th regiment, and Surgeon Reed, 2nd regiment, are directed to reside with their respective regiments, in camp.'

"I beg to know if that order originated in an oversight?

"I remain, my dear General,

"Yours faithfully,

"DAVID M'CONNELL REED, M.D.

"To MAJOR GEN. BEATSON,

"*Head Quarters, Dardanelles.*"

(*General Beatson's Official Reply, through Captain Burton.*)

"Camp, Dardanelles, 19th Aug., 1855.

"SIR,—I am directed by the Major General to inform you that he has not forgotten the permission accorded you to reside in the town. At the same time, your presence in camp being *judged necessary by the chief of the medical staff*, the Major General *regrets*

that he is unable to rescind the order of Brigadier General Brett.

"I have the honour to be your obedient servant,

"RICHD. F. BURTON,

"*Captain and Asst. Military Secretary.*

"D. REED, ESQ., M.D."

Finding thus, that, without being amenable to the charge of military insubordination, there was no possibility of evading the general order emanating from an allopathic and inimical source, of which he was perfectly aware, Dr. Reed gave up the house which had been kindly placed at his disposal by the Pacha, for the purpose of making himself generally useful in his profession, and went to reside with his regiment in camp, under canvass. Here General Beatson sent him a public invitation to dinner by one of his Aides de Camp, the Hon. Major Whymys, requesting that he would also ask his friend Dr. Baxter, one of his brother officers, to accompany him. This invitation to dine at the General's table was afterwards declared by him to be a general one; and it was in this understanding that the following letter, to be forwarded to Lord Panmure, was addressed, by permission, to General Beatson:

(*Dr. Reed's Second Letter to General Beatson.*)

"Camp, Dardanelles, Aug. 23, 1855.

"MY DEAR GENERAL,—In reference to the letter which I had the honor of addressing to you *on the 11th Sunday after Trinity*, respecting the means of carrying out my proposal to be made generally useful (so far as time and opportunity may permit) to the inhabitants of the places at or near to which we may be stationed during our operations in the East, I beg leave to suggest, that, if you would kindly recommend me to Lord Panmure for promotion to the rank of first-class Staff Surgeon, I should in that capacity be better able to carry out the objects of my proposal, without subjecting myself to the charge of neglecting regimental duties or disregarding military order.

"As the medical department of our corps is now constituted, there is a Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals on his way out, whose duty it will be to communicate directly with the Inspector General of Hospitals at the Seat of War; a first class Staff Surgeon, acting as Inspector of Hospitals on the spot, whose duty it will be to report to the Deputy Inspector General, when he arrives, if it be not also his duty to report to the Inspector General of Hospitals, in his absence.

"In the meantime, the principal (if not the only apology for a) regimental hospital in the corps is under my immediate charge; and it is in such a dilapidated state, requiring repair, that it is scarcely worthy of the name; notwithstanding which, I have been requested, this morning, to receive into it a patient belonging to another regiment, requiring particular care, which I have consented to do,

not feeling myself at liberty, under the circumstances, to decline complying with the request; so that, in fact, I am in charge, as the surgeon of the 2nd regiment, of all that there is, *pro tem.*, for a general hospital. Hence it is clear that I am doing the duty of a Staff Surgeon of the first class, with the rank of Regimental Surgeon; while there are four Surgeons and four Acting Assistant Surgeons attached to regiments, and three Surgeons and their Acting Assistant Surgeons unattached, besides the first class Staff Surgeon and his Acting Assistant Surgeon on the spot. For these and the reasons already stated, I repeat that, if you will kindly recommend me to Lord Panmure for promotion to the rank of first class Staff Surgeon, I shall have it more in my power to carry out the views which I have had the honour already to propose. Besides which, two or three experienced Staff Surgeons, of the first class, will not be more than sufficient for the discharge of duty in the general hospital, should there be one, corresponding to the growing importance of this corps, immediately set on foot; which *I would officially recommend*, were I authorized; for it is, in my opinion, better to be amply provided, before sickness breaks out, with hospitals and hospital necessaries and comforts, than to have to seek these things after the event.

"Allow me to submit to your inspection a letter (enclosed) which I received before I left the 'Candia' transport, from the Admiralty Agent (Lieut. Shaw, R.N.) on board.

"My testimonials are registered at the War Department, and my name is before Lord Panmure as a candidate for responsible employment under Government; so that, should you see fit to recommend me for promotion in this service, there is little doubt on my mind but that your tried and valuable influence will have its effect.

"I have the honour to be, my dear General,

"Your faithful servant,

"DAVID M'CONNELL REED, M.D."

Not long after this letter had been forwarded to General Beatson in the simplicity of the writer's heart, the former was superseded in the command of the Irregular Cavalry at the Dardanelles by Major General Smith, under whose regime, and by whose representation, at the instigation of Dr. Kalazdy, a foreign allopathic Staff Surgeon, and Major Brett, the following document reached him:

(Extract from General Orders.)

"Head Quarters, Kertch, 8th November, 1855.

"No. 3. On a representation made by Major-General Smith, Commanding the Irregular Horse attached to this force, the Lieutenant-General commanding has deemed it necessary to remove from the service Surgeons David M'Connell Reed, M.D., and J. W. D. Brown attached to the Irregular Horse—the *insubordinate and litigious spirit* displayed by both these Medical Officers, rendering their continuance in the Service impracticable.

" Major Brett will see to the adjustment of the accounts of these officers, and will communicate to them this order.

" True copy,
(Signed) " E. CREWE, LIEUTENANT COLONEL,
" D. A. G.

" TO MAJOR BRETT, &c., &c., &c., *Pera*.

" True copy,
" E. SMYTHE, CAPTAIN,
" *Staff Officer at Pera*.

(*Endorsement.*)

" Received, 20th November, 1855, from which date these officers will cease to draw pay and allowances.

(Signed) " R. B. BRETT, MAJOR.

True copy.

" E. SMYTHE, CAPTAIN,
" *Staff Officer at Pera*.

Three more letters will shew how this case terminated :

(*Mr. F. Peel to Dr. Reed.*)

" War Department, 12th Feb., 1856.

" SIR,—I am directed by Lord Panmure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th inst., and to acquaint you that you can be allowed no pay subsequently to the 8th Nov., the date of the General Order removing you from the Osmanli Irregular Cavalry. Should Major-General Smith apply to have you restored to the force, His Lordship will not object to re-appoint you, on a vacancy recurring ; but I am to add that there is at present no opportunity of employing you.

" I have the honor to be, Sir,

" Your obedient, humble servant,

" F. PEEL.

" DR. D. M'CONNELL REED, &c., &c., &c."

(*Dr. Reed's Reply to Mr. F. Peel's Letter.*)

" 42, Gloucester Place, Hyde Park Gardens,

" February 19, 1856.

" SIR,—In answer to your letter of the 12th instant, I beg leave to state, for the information of Lord Panmure, that I had an interview with Major-General Smith on Saturday, when I delivered to him the inclosed letter, written by a gentleman conversant in law.

" The Major-General read the letter attentively, and compared it with the printed agreement. He then said, that he had carefully considered my case ; and also, that he did not appoint Dr. Kalazdy to the rank of Staff Surgeon ; but that finding him in that station

when he assumed the command of the Force, and I refused to receive orders from him, he had felt it to be his duty, for the purpose of maintaining discipline, to deal with the matter upon military principles—hence the reason of his representing the case to Lieutenant-General Vivian; after giving me an opportunity for consideration.

“The Major-General declines making a direct application to Lord Panmure for my restoration to the Force, as he states that it would be a bad precedent. He, however, informed me, that Surgeon Brown, who was removed at the same time, and for the same cause as myself, either has been, or is to be, restored to his post, at the wish or request of Lieutenant-General Vivian and Dr. Cockburn.

“The Major-General has authorized me to state that he sees nothing to militate against my obtaining another appointment, as my testimonials are highly satisfactory; and that during the short time in which he had an opportunity of judging of my conduct, he discovered nothing derogatory to my character and abilities, and that if he should be referred to, he would be happy to express this opinion upon the subject; but that he does not see how he can, with propriety, make a direct application to his Lordship for my restoration.

“I have the honor to be, Sir,

“Your most obedient, humble servant,

“DAVID M'CONNELL REED.

“F. PEEL, Esq.”

Mr. F. Peel's Reply.

“War Department, 27th February, 1856.

“SIR,—I am directed by Lord Panmure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th February, applying for re-employment in the Osmanli Irregular Cavalry, and to express his Lordship's regret, that he can only refer you to the letter from this Department of the 12th instant.

“I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

“F. PEEL.

“DR. D. M'CONNELL REED,

“42, Gloucester Place, Hyde Park Gardens.”

The letter of the gentleman conversant in law addressed to Dr. M. Reed, which was shewn to General Smith at the War Department, and afterwards forwarded to Mr. F. Peel (on the margin of which the Under-Secretary of State for War has written, “*this is absurd*”), is now enclosed to the Editor of the *Homœopathic Record* for publication, as a popular supplement or commentary on the acts of the Military Chiefs of the Turkish Contingent at the Dardanelles and at Kertch, confirmed by the acts of the Minister of State for War in England :

"9, New Boswell Court, Lincoln's Inn,

"15th February, 1856.

"MY DEAR SIR,—Agreeably to your request, I have attentively read the agreement under which you were induced to join Beatson's Irregular Cavalry, as surgeon to that force; and I am clearly of opinion, that, had the agreement been between individuals, instead of the Government, you would have a right of action, in damages, for the loss you have sustained by reason of your illegal removal; and I shall very shortly state my reasons for this opinion. At the beginning of the agreement are these words: 'We' . . . 'engage to enter upon the discharge of our duties, to be defined by the Medical Superintendent for the time being, upon the following conditions.' The seventh condition runs thus: 'Promotions from Surgeon to Staff Surgeon, and from Assistant Surgeon to Surgeon, will be made on the recommendation of the Inspector-General, merit and good conduct guiding the selection.' The true construction of this condition, both in the letter and in the spirit, is, that the appointment of Staff Surgeon would take place from among the medical gentlemen who had signed the agreement; and I conceive that any appointment made at variance with this construction is unjust towards those who gave up their practice to embark in this service.

"It further appears that Dr. Cockburn the Inspector-General did not 'recommend,' and therefore the appointment of Dr. Kalazdy was not within the words of the agreement, which are, 'on the recommendation of the Inspector-General,' for it seems that Dr. Cockburn knew nothing of this gentleman, and so stated to Major-Gen. Smith. My opinion, therefore, is, that, as the appointment was given to a gentleman who had NOT signed the agreement, and had NOT been recommended by the Inspector-General for the post of Staff Surgeon, it was a clear breach of the agreement, and would have rendered any INDIVIDUAL liable to proceedings at law or in equity. Then comes the question: Is military discipline to be a shield to protect injustice? This, I apprehend, won't be pretended. The authorities ought not, and, I believe, do not desire, to stand in any better position than the meanest of Her Majesty's subjects; and if you could obtain damages from a jury against an individual, it is surely not too much to say that you are entitled to the same measure of justice from any other body, and this would involve restoration to your position, and the receipt of compensation. The illegality of your removal is further proved by reason of the Inspector-General not having signed any Certificate (as required by the fourth condition) as to your inefficiency or as to any misconduct. Courts of law, even in the midst of peace and comfort, often err, and are set right on appeal to the superior courts; and it cannot be supposed that the judgments of the Military Authorities, amidst the din and strife of battle, are less fallible.

"As you will see, I have looked at the agreement as if it were one between individuals, in order to discover what your rights would be in such a case, and, by consequence, what they are as between yourself and the Military Authorities; and, looking at the facts in this point of view, I think the conclusion to be drawn from them irresistibly in your favour. Under all the circumstances, I strongly advise you to again represent the matter to Major-Gen. Smith, and point out to that gentleman the very great hardship of your case—the being deprived of your appointment because you conceived you were acting WITHIN the terms of your agreement—that you gave up your practice at home to embark in this service—that, even supposing the Authorities still think themselves right in the conclusion to which they came, the punishment is out of all proportion to the offence, viz., at most, an error in judgment—and that, having a wife and large family to provide for (and having incurred a serious illness in the service) that the ruin or welfare of yourself and family depends on his decision. Should you be restored to your position, I am convinced that your commanding talents and high moral character will redound to the advantage of those who may be entrusted to your care.

"From what I have already stated, you will perceive that I entertain the opinion that you are entitled to your full pay, and, at all events, to such a sum of money as is paid to officers of your rank on sick leave—namely, three months' salary.

"Believe me, my dear Sir,

"With many wishes for your success,

"Yours very truly,

"THOS. C. LE NEVE.

"DR. D. M. REED."

THE UNCERTAINTY OF THE RESULTS OF OLD-SCHOOL PRACTICE, ARISING FROM THE ADULTERATION OF DRUGS.

(Continued from Page 194.)

"POWDERS.—*Mr. B. D. Thompson* states that there is a dealer who undertakes to furnish *any powder* that is asked for at 86s. per cwt.

Mr. Gay, of H.M. Victualling Yard, formerly a drug-grinder, during a long experience, had not one customer who did not either send spurious articles to be ground with his drugs, or require *Mr. Gay* to adulterate them.

"QUININE.—Sulphate of quinine is adulterated with 50 to 60 per cent. of quinidine, a comparatively worthless article. Sulphate

of quinidine is manufactured in England to a large extent.

Mr. H. Lethaby.

There is no doubt of this spurious article being furnished to retail chemists and surgeons—the latter consequently have to give double and treble doses of the mixture to produce the desired effect. If they pay 12s. per ounce, this increases the price of the quinine to 24s. or 36s. the ounce. Much sulphate of quinine is adulterated with salicine.

An impure and uncertain preparation of quinine, termed hospital quinine, is found in many shops. This is used when quinine is prescribed, and it is probable that even medical men themselves are not aware how large a proportion of it is worthless. It is a poor economy to use it because its price is less than the pure disulphate.

“**SARSAPARILLA.**—The true root is boiled for extract, and then dried, and sold to retailers and surgeons. The roots of two other plants at least are substituted for the *similax sarzæ*, the *Hemidesmus Indicus* and *Aralia Nudicaulis*; the price of the latter being far below that of the true *sarzæ*.”

“**TINCTURE OF OPIUM** is usually far weaker than the pharmacopœia directs, often to the extent of one-half. *Mr. F. C. Calvert.*”

The directors, moreover, who issue the above statement on the authority of parliamentary investigation, make the following remarks :

“Irrespective of fraudulent adulteration, a considerable proportion of medicinal preparations, as they reach the patient for whom they are prescribed, are either wholly inactive, or in some respects far from answering the intention of the practitioner who prescribes them. It is scarcely possible to look into any work on medicine without meeting with great discrepancies of opinion respecting the physiological action and medicinal efficacy of even the most common drugs. How far this uncertainty may depend upon adulteration and sophistication, and upon malpractices in preparing medicines, the reader may himself judge. In reference to the latter point, a small *brochure*, published a few years ago by a respectable chemist, and little noticed at the time, may be quoted, as it will serve to enlighten the profession in this matter.

“‘In no country in the civilized world,’ says our author, ‘is the state of pharmaceutical science in so low a condition as in Great Britain. Nowhere is the systematic sophistication of drugs, chemicals, and pharmaceutical preparations carried on so extensively and with so much impunity. In short, the pharmacopœia is a dead letter, an obsolete work of medical legislation.’”

“After noticing the permission of the College of Physicians for any process to be followed in making *chemicals*, provided the result be the production of the precise substance intended, he proceeds: ‘It is also notoriously the practice of pharmacutists almost in-

variably to depart from the instructions given in the preparation of those bodies which do not possess a definite composition, and which are mostly of animal and vegetable origin.' In these cases it is difficult, if not impossible, to detect by analysis or otherwise the violation of the rules laid down by the pharmacopœia. 'The cause of these malpractices is the universal employment of private formulæ by the chemists and druggists in the place of those of the pharmacopœia. It may be stated without exaggeration that those private receipt books, together with that much read initiator into the art of adulteration—Gray's *Supplement to the Pharmacopœia*, would, if dragged forth as witnesses, unfold many mysteries in the operation of medicines, and explain the cause of not a few deaths.'"

A few years since, a society was formed, called the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, which was to correct the evil of ignorant druggists by licensing such only whom the said society deemed fit, first having obtained powers by Act of Parliament to determine on the fitness or unfitness of drug sellers. Alluding to that society, the directors of the General Apothecaries' Company make the following statement :

"A vague opinion exists that the Pharmaceutical Society would have some influence in abolishing the practice of adulteration, and securing the proper preparation of medicines. This, however, would appear to be a fallacy. That society scarcely comprises one-fifth of the chemists and druggists; and although an Act of Parliament has been passed empowering it to appoint examiners to ensure the due education of its members, and inflicting a penalty on persons assuming the title of pharmaceutical chemist without being a member of the society, the act is so loosely worded, that several hundred persons have been admitted members since the law was enacted, *without any examination whatever, and the only condition of membership fulfilled by all, except a very few, is the payment of an annual guinea.*

"What guarantee this can afford to the medical profession or the public for the qualification, or character of its members, we must leave to others to explain.

"Medical men, moreover, cannot fail to have observed, that the members of the pharmaceutical society do not refrain from preparing and recommending their own nostrums as remedies against all diseases; a practice so reprehensible and general amongst chemists and druggists.

"The remedy suggested for the public grievance thus exposed, is the appointment of inspectors by the Government; but, unless a corps as numerous as the officers of excise in the time of Pitt are charged with this function, it will scarcely avail."

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

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NEW SERIES.—PRICE 2D.

CASE,
ILLUSTRATIVE OF HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT.

[We are averse to the publication of cases, though frequently solicited to do so. We have no objection, however, to yield to the wishes of our readers, if the publication of a case serves to illustrate the law of "*similia*" in such a manner that the general reader may apprehend it. The mere "exhibition" of cases we are unwilling to indulge in.]

CASE OF DISEASE (NECROSIS) OF THE JAW BONE.

By C. T. Pearce, M.D., Northampton.

LOUISA C—, aged 9, residing in the town of Northampton, was brought by her mother to the Northampton Homœopathic Dispensary, June 2, 1856. The patient of a strumous diathesis, fair complexion, and bespeaking a suspicious constitution, her father having died of phthisis four years ago; her mother by no means strong or healthy. Had been taken to the Northampton General Infirmary, and was there seen by the senior surgeon, who examined her mouth, and, as I was informed by the mother, addressing the "young doctors" (students) near him, said, "It is one of those cases for which nothing can be done, but to remove a portion of the jaw by operation." This remark being sufficient for the mother and the patient, they left the Infirmary, and, by the advice of a lady, the girl was brought to the Northampton Homœopathic Dispensary.

On examining the jaw, I found a most offensive exudation of purulent matter, the odour being sufficient to prevent any one approaching the patient. A part of the jaw bone—about two inches—was diseased, and it was difficult to ascertain to what depth the disease extended. The parts were ordered to be frequently washed with tepid water, and the following recipe given:

Prescription, *Aurum fol.*, 200th, 6 globules in a fortnight.

June 16th. It was found to be in about the same state, only that it was cleaner.

Prescription, *Phosphorus*, 30th, 6 globules in a fortnight.

June 30th. There was a perceptible improvement. A line of separation was established between the healthy and the diseased portions.

Prescription, *Phosphorus*, 200th, 6 globules in a fortnight.

July 15th. It is in about the same state: the disease is not extending: the girl's health is better, the discharge being less offensive.

Repeat medicine.

August 4. Removed two teeth, to give free exit to the matter. The removal of the teeth gave no pain, the portion of the jaw in which they were inserted being dead.

Repeat medicine, and come again at the end of a week.

Aug. 11. The mouth is very much better; discharge is much diminished in quantity, and is not offensive. She takes food better, and is now lively.

Repeat medicine.

Aug. 18. Still better. On attempting to remove the dead bone with the fingers, to-day, slight hæmorrhage occurred, and I desisted.

Prescription, one dose of *Phosphorus*, 200th, and come again in a week.

Aug. 25. Going on well.

Prescription, continue medicine.

Sept. 17. The piece of dead bone will soon come away. The other parts of the jaw and mouth now look healthy.

Prescription, one dose of *Phosphorus*, 200th.

Sept. 29th. The piece of bone was easily removed by the patient herself.

No medicine.

Oct. 5. The whole of the mouth and the cavity left by the detached bone has granulated healthily; her health is good.

Prescription, *Phosphorus* one dose, 200th.

She is discharged cured.

The above case is especially interesting to the scientific practitioner, as the remedy chosen, *Phosphorus*, was known to be homœopathic to the diseased state. I have observed several cases of disease of the jaw bone occurring in those engaged in the manufacture of lucifer matches, the disease being produced by the inhalation of the fumes of *Phosphorus*. In one case I saw at one of the London hospitals, not a vestige of the lower jaw remained. The recollection of this fact led me to the choice of the remedy, *Phosphorus*, the diseased state presented in the above case being *like* or similar to the diseased state produced by *Phosphorus*.

The advantage of being guided by a *law* of healing is evident in the above case.

Had the allopathic *surgeon*, by *surgical means only*, removed the bone by sawing it out, a painful operation, and attended sometimes by frightful hæmorrhage, the diseased state would not have been removed; only the result of the diseased state, the dead bone, would have been removed, and probably a recurrence of the condition in some other bone would have taken place. The *mere surgeon* employs the knife, the saw, or the bone forceps; he gets rid, for a time, of the *effects* only—the homœopathist, guided by a divinely instituted *law*, cures the diseased state, thus removes the *cause*, and the *effect* ceases.

MEDICAL JOURNALISTS AND HOMŒOPATHY.

ON several occasions we have directed the attention of our readers to the animus which is exhibited by medical journalists on the subject of homœopathy—among these are the *Medical Times*, the *Medical Circular*, the *Dublin Medical Press*, and the *Lancet*. This same *Lancet* has made use of very discreditable language towards those medical practitioners who have embraced and now practice homœopathy—failing to make any impression on the practitioners, it has anathematized their *patients*; and to keep before our readers, thus disgracefully treated, the history of our progress, we reproduce here the following from our number for April last:

“The *Lancet* has called Hahnemann a *knave, fool, and madman*. It has called homœopathic practitioners equally opprobrious names, *e.g., liars, cheats, vagabonds*. It has called homœopathic practitioners *knaves*, and their patients *idiots*. Its last act of abuse is directed specially to the *patients* of homœopathic practitioners. Hear its anathema against you who are such.

Extract from the LANCET, Feb. 2, 1856, a Weekly Medical Journal, edited by THOMAS WAKLEY, Coroner for Middlesex.

“When William the Third was induced on one single occasion to lay his hand on a poor wretch wishing to be cured of the King’s Evil by the Royal touch, he said, ‘God give you better health and more sense.’ We must confess that *our wishes for the patients of homœopathic physicians* are not so seemingly merciful, and that we are prone to utter such imprecations on them as would make the shade of Ernulphus walk disturbed. **MAY YOUR VIGOUR OF MIND AND BODY FAIL, YOUR BONES DECAY, YOUR LIMBS BE EATEN BY DISEASE, YOUR JOINTS STIFFEN, AND BE EVERLASTINGLY IMMOVEABLE.....** This stern temper, however, is not vindictive, but rather is the consequence of a firm conviction that the best way of reclaiming fools is to let them taste to the full the bitter effects of folly.”

So much for the homœopathic practitioners and their patients!

We have now to present our readers the last scintillations of the *Lancet*, published November 15th, 1856.

Ever actively engaged in opposing the free course of homœopathy, and finding that some of the old school practitioners are in the habit of occasionally meeting in consultation homœopathic physicians, the *Lancet*, desirous of echoing the sentiment of its medical readers, now attacks those who have entered into what its editor is pleased to call an "unholy alliance" with homœopathic practitioners.

That the charge against allopathic practitioners is founded in fact appears from the threat held out in the concluding remarks of the *Lancet*: "on a future occasion we may refer to *persons* in illustration of our views of the duty of the great body of the profession with regard to the delinquents."

That there are some of the most eminent men in the profession practising in the metropolis, who do occasionally meet in consultation homœopathic physicians, we know is no novelty in London, strange as it may appear to our provincial readers. The late eminent surgeon, Mr. Liston, not unfrequently met one of the leading metropolitan homœopathic physicians—indeed Liston himself, guided by a homœopathic physician, employed *homœopathically homœopathic* medicines in the wards of the hospital in which his talents shone so brightly and so eminently—Liston indeed carried in his pocket homœopathic medicines and administered them occasionally to his patients—Liston was an inquirer after truth, and not long before he died, and in his last illness, he expressed his intention to have homœopathic aid in his own case.

The *Lancet*, in 1856, conveniently forgets what it recorded in Liston's life time, at that time the *Lancet* recorded the cases contributed by Liston, and we quote, for the gratification of the editor of that journal, the following extracts from Liston's contribution to its pages.

Of Erysipelas, Liston says: "In the case of a woman, a patient in the hospital (University College Hospital), I found under allopathic remedies she was *between eleven and twelve weeks recovering*, whilst under the remedies prescribed under the homœopathic principle, she was reported convalescent on the *fourth day* from her admission." Speaking of aconite, he said, "It has superseded bleeding in many cases at this hospital."

In a clinical lecture to the students, *also published in the Lancet*, Mr. Liston observed, referring to the recent successful issue of homœopathic medicine in curing ulcerations on the leg of a man, "Of course we cannot pretend to say positively in what way this effect is produced, *but it seems almost to act by magic*, however, so long as we benefit our patients by the treatment we pursue, we have *no right to condemn* the principles upon which this treatment is recommended and pursued."....."Without adopting the theory of

this medical sect (the homœopathists), you ought not to reject its doctrines without due examination and inquiry." Such was Liston's advice recorded in the pages of the *Lancet*. Liston was a thinker; the *Lancet* is a servile sycophantic craft-server, it is fed by the antagonists of truth, it is the old tale with editors of periodicals, it worships the *majority*. Whenever the time comes, and come it will, that homœopathic principles preponderate in the profession, the medical journals will change their tone.

As we said, the journals echo the sentiment of "the profession." Witness the following:—The *Dublin Medical Press* says, "Any man who turns homœopathist takes his place at once as a *liar*, a *cheat*, and a *swindler*."

Take also the fact that the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, which includes some thousands of medical men, and among them several of the medical men of this town and county, some of whom took an active part at the meeting, at one of their annual gatherings unanimously denounced homœopathists in the following language: That it is the opinion of this association that homœopathy, as propounded by Hahnemann and practised by his followers, is so utterly opposed to science and common sense, that it ought to be in no way or degree practised or countenanced by any regularly educated medical practitioner. That it is derogatory to the honour of members of this association to hold any kind of professional intercourse with homœopathic practitioners. That there are three classes of practitioners who ought not to be members of this association, viz. :—

1st. Real homœopathic practitioners.

2nd. Those who practise homœopathy in combination with other systems of treatment.

3rd. Those who, under various pretences, *meet in consultation*, or *hold professional intercourse with those who practise homœopathy*.

That the thanks of the association are eminently due and are hereby given to the President and Fellows of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons of Edinburgh, for their determined stand against *homœopathic delusions and impostures*. That the thanks of the association are also due and hereby given to the universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrews, for their resolution to refuse their diplomas to practitioners in homœopathy; but the association feels imperatively called on to express its disapproval of any school of medicine which retains among its teachers anyone who holds homœopathic opinions.*

All these invectives are directed against homœopathic practitioners, and after such treatment what do homœopathists deserve who coquette in their writings and their demeanour with those who have *personally* scorned, maligned, and libelled them?

But to return to the *Lancet* in November, 1856. It now turns

* See *Medical Times*, August 16, 1851.

its attention to its own friends the "regulars," the "orthodox," the "only legitimate practitioners of medicine," as the *Lancet* has oftentimes termed them. Some of these so called regulars are become irregular, the holy have associated with the unholy, the orthodox with *quacks, cheats, swindlers, liars, knaves, fools, madmen, impostors*. Such epithets the *Lancet* and other medical journals have called the homœopathic practitioners of Great Britain. Such language is worthy of the "*professional morality*" of which the *Lancet* in the article quoted below boasts. We give the article *in extenso*, lest we should be charged with unfairness in selecting fragments of passages. In doing so, and in thus bringing before our readers the language of allopathic writers, we, once for all, disclaim the practice of calling each other names, only worthy of pothouse brawlers; indeed we can scarcely imagine it possible for a *sober* editor to pen such language as we have quoted, yet so it is; of the early antagonists of Christianity it is recorded, "they were drunk with the blood of the saints"—men are carried away captive by their bigotry, until the coarseness of their language knows no bounds. What responsibility rests on those who discard the voice of reason, and who spurn the teaching of nature's laws!

From the LANCET, Nov. 15, 1856.

A JUDICIOUS writer on politics once observed, that states, in order to prosper, should occasionally refer to the first principles of their constitution. The wisdom of this maxim is apparent when it is remembered how apt, not only first principles, but principles of any kind, are to be lost sight of amidst the exigencies of state craft, and the mazes of diplomacy. Maxims of great wisdom most generally will bear a far wider application than their authors ever intended, and this is dependent upon their harmony with those moral and intellectual workings which determine alike the conduct of the peer and the peasant.

In our own profession, it is not possible to steer our course aright without a constant reference to first principles. The promptings of interest, the suggestions of expediency, and the secondary arguments of lay persons require constant comparison with principles of action which, being absolute and irrefragable, cannot be overridden by any other considerations, however specious.

The question to which we now desire to direct attention is the relation in which professors of legitimate medicine stand to one prominent class of quacks, *et id genus omne*. No doubt can be entertained as to the disgrace which attends meeting such persons in consultation, and professedly the existence of the "pathists" as scientific professional men is ignored. But facts have from time to time come to our knowledge, which place it beyond a doubt that homœopathists can and do procure, not only the assistance, but the countenance and support, of individuals concerning whom bet-

ter things might have been expected. The support afforded to homœopathists by persons whose example cannot be without its influence renders it necessary to advert to the question openly, to expose the fallacies by which such conduct is defended, and to enumerate some of those obvious considerations which, being nevertheless too easily lost sight of, should suffice to justify us, both to ourselves and the public, for *utterly refusing all communion* with the persons in question. It must not be supposed that any personal motives weigh with us, we have no desire to drag anyone through the mire, nor to hold up anyone to his professional brethren as a backslider. The medical press is, however, to a certain extent, the custodiers of *professional morality*, and as in virtue of this capacity we contend more for principles than persons or parties, the fault cannot escape notice, whatever befalls the offender.

The arguments commonly used in justification of the "*unholy alliance*" in question are, first, that mere professional etiquette ought not to stand in the way of a patient's welfare; secondly, that refusing to co-operate with the person seeking assistance is morally to become answerable for any damage which may accrue to the patient; thirdly, that where assistance is sought for purposes of *diagnosis only*, no possible objection can be urged against giving that assistance; fourthly, that if A refuse to see the case, B is quite ready to meet the man of globules; and lastly, there is a most potent argument understood, though not expressed, which resolves itself, upon most careful research, into what *Iago* advised *Roderigo* to put in his purse. The last of these arguments is, we fear, the real and substantial one; the others are shams and pretences put forward to cover the grossness of the great motive; they are, in short, the appearances by which vice pays homage to virtue. With regard to professional etiquette proving inimical to the welfare of sick persons, it must be remembered that the more important points of professional etiquette are not mere conventional rules, but have their basis in well-defined moral principles, and that no considerations whatever can render it our duty to violate these principles. Happily, however, the difficulty which is presented for solution has no real existence, for if the aid of the legitimate practitioner be *necessary*, the homœopath is *unnecessary*, and being a superfluous actor in the scene, might as well retire as not; it is clearly the latter who stands in the way of the patient's welfare; if the two practitioners are incompatible, the necessary one should remain, he who has confessed himself incompetent should retire; it needs but little dialectical skill to determine this point. And the second argument is disposed of in the same manner, for the responsibility vanishes when the dilemma is proven to be a false one. Diagnosis, again, which leads to the adoption of rational means of cure, is nothing more or less than scientific trifling.

But graver considerations than the foregoing attach to the ques-

tion before us. It is utterly impossible that there can be any real co-operation between the legitimate practitioner and the homœopath; there are no points of contact either in the theory or the practice of the parties; there is no common ground upon which they can meet. Where two systems are not merely different, but diametrically opposite, the one must be laid aside, and the other repudiated; if this be done with the knowledge of the patient, professional courtesy is abandoned; if he is led to suppose that any compromise between the two can be effected, a *fraud* is perpetrated. What an enticing alternative is here for a high-minded member of our noble profession!

It has been well said, that members of a profession are deeply its debtors. How little of all the physician knows has been acquired by himself—how small is each man's contribution to either theory or practice! Does not this imply an obligation to preserve intact the honour of the calling by which we live?—to guard with jealous care the fair inheritance left us by departed worthies?—to transmit to our successors a profession unstained by any act of ours—one which they may enter upon, as we have done, in the full assurance that honour may be earned in its ranks?

To those who either carelessly or deliberately have trafficked away their principles for a few paltry fees, we would say—Can you possess any scientific belief? Does it consist with common honesty that A should endorse the statements and support the reputation of B, while assured in his own mind that B is either the victim of a delusion or a swindler? Is it honourable to undertake joint charge of a patient with one who, by the terms of his own creed, stigmatizes legitimate medicine as a gigantic fraud, as inoperative for good, as 'productive of evil only? How can you conscientiously and soberly confer upon a patient *in extremis* with a man who holds that latent psora is the essence of nearly all the ills that flesh is heir to? Is the degradation diminished by any conceivable number of guinea fees?

Thus far we have referred to *principles*. On a future occasion, we may refer to *persons* in illustration of our views of the duty of the great body of the profession with regard to the delinquents.

SIR JOHN FORBES, physician to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, said: "It is utterly impossible to disregard the claims of homœopathy as an established form of practical medicine, as a great fact in the history of our art we cannot ignore it; we must, *nolentes volentes*, consider this question, for not only do we see all our ordinary diseases cured homœopathically, but even all the severer and more dangerous diseases, which *demand by the common method* prompt and *strong measures* to prevent a fatal issue."

FATAL ADMINISTRATION OF CHLOROFORM AT ST.
THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.

Mr. William Payne, the coroner, has held an inquest recently at St. Thomas's Hospital, on the body of John Gilling, whose death was occasioned in that hospital by the administration of chloroform, preparatory to undergoing amputation of a joint of the finger.

It appeared from the evidence that the deceased was a seafaring man, residing before his death in Whitechapel. About seven weeks ago he struck his wife in the mouth, and injured one of his fingers against her teeth. Mr. Rawle, surgeon of the Minorities, dressed the wound several times, but erysipelas came on, followed by an attack of delirium tremens. On Saturday last deceased went to St. Thomas's Hospital, when an incision was made in the finger, from which, according to Mr. Rawle, deceased subsequently lost three pints of blood. Deceased, who had been advised by one of the senior surgeons at St. Thomas's Hospital to have the diseased bone removed, went on Tuesday morning to the hospital for that purpose.

Mr. J. T. Fowler, house surgeon to the hospital, said—The deceased came on Tuesday morning to undergo the operation, and expressed a wish to have chloroform administered. Witness requested Mr. George, another surgeon, to administer chloroform, which he did, and witness stood by, superintending the operation. Mr. George had had some experience and practice. Soon after he began to administer the chloroform witness was called into the next room to see an accident. Mr. George gave up the chloroform, and came to witness to ask if he should discontinue it. As the accident was slight, witness returned to the room and ordered the administration of the chloroform to be continued. The patient was then partially sensible, and he began to spit as if about to vomit. He was violently convulsed throughout his whole frame, and the chloroform was discontinued. He had to be held by three men to prevent him from falling on to the floor from the chair on which he was sitting. He was placed in a horizontal position, when his breathing was laboured, and the pulse almost ceased. The tongue was drawn out of the mouth by forceps, and artificial respiration resorted to. Ammonia was held to his nostrils, and he appeared to rally a little, so as to be able to breathe without assistance, but almost immediately he relapsed into his former condition. The galvanic current was passed to the regions, but in a minute or a minute and a half life appeared to be extinct. The galvanic action was kept up for half an hour, and he was made to breathe oxygen gas by means of artificial respiration, but it had no effect. His death undoubtedly was occasioned by chloroform. A good deal of additional evidence was gone into, bearing principally upon the state of health in which deceased was before and at

the time of the administration of the chloroform. Mr. Whitfield, the secretary of the hospital, said such accidents had occurred to the first surgeons in the land, and could not be prevented occasionally, however cautious they might be. He also ridiculed the idea that three pints of blood could have been lost from deceased's finger owing to the operation on the previous Saturday. The coroner and jury seemed to think that in cases where chloroform was administered, questions should be put to the relatives of the patient, eliciting his state of health, and that had such a course been pursued in deceased's case, the attack of delirium tremens, and the loss of blood by which his system had been weakened some days before, would have been discovered and the operation postponed. Ultimately a verdict was returned exonerating the medical men.

MORE DEATHS FROM CHLOROFORM.

To the Editor of the Medical Circular.

"Sir,—As a further verification of the dangers of death from chloroform while the patient has a tendency to "delirium tremens," denied by Messrs. Solly and Simon on the St. Thomas's Hospital inquest, it may be stated that in 200 patients lately in America, in an asylum, not one was cured or relieved by chloroform and 2 were killed by it. The patient at St. Thomas's it now seems had delirium tremens not once but three times.

"Yours,

"ICE v. CHLOROFORM."

November 15, 1856.

SULPHURIC ETHER v. CHLOROFORM.

From the Western Times.

Sir,—Now it is a matter of such common occurrence to resort to the use of chloroform in every surgical operation, whether serious or trifling—the amputation of a leg or the extraction of a tooth—it has become a very important question how far it is a safe agent for producing insensibility to pain and whether or not it is the best known medium for that purpose. I would then just ask your medical readers to peruse the following extract from the *North American Review*, of July last. It is taken from an article entitled *Surgical and Medical Miscellanies*, and after speaking of the advantages of the knowledge of an agent by which operations may be rendered painless, proceeds as follows:—

"Sulphuric ether, of pure quality, in sufficient quantity, and properly administered, is entirely safe. It has been successfully

given at all ages, from that of seven weeks to seventy-five years, in every variety of constitution, and in almost every state of system. Its great advantages are its safety, and the ease with which it may be administered; its only disadvantages, immense in the eyes of some, are its penetrating odor, and the occasional trifling irritation of the air passages.

"Chloroform was first used as an anæsthetic agent, by Professor Simpson, of Edinburgh. Its needful dose is less, its odor more agreeable, and its power greater than that of sulphuric ether. On the contrary its great disadvantage is the danger to life from its use. There are on record in various parts of the world, at least one hundred deaths from this powerful poison. Some have occurred in this city, (Boston)—one during the past January. In view of such cases, Dr. Hayward says, 'I know not how a conscientious man, knowing this fact, can willingly take the responsibility and expose his patient to this fearful result.' Chloroform is a poison, and the insensibility produced by it, is only the first stage of its poisonous action; it is impossible to arrest this action in all cases, at the precise point of safety; and a few seconds beyond this point, have caused, and may again cause death. Since we have a sure and safe agent in *sulphuric ether*, we are of opinion that the use of *chloroform* ought to be forbidden by law; and that after what is now known of its danger, any one who uses it to the destruction of life ought to be indicted for manslaughter. *One might as well tie a rope around a person's neck and strangle him to insensibility, trusting to luck to restore respiration before life has entirely fled, as to give chloroform, with death, like the hair-suspended sword of Damocles, distant it may be only a second of time!*"

The article then goes on to condemn the use of chloroform, by dentists and others, as criminal, and to express astonishment that Europe should persist in its use "with its victims in every city"—and adds, "it really seems as if an envious unwillingness to make use of an *American* discovery influences the minds of *European* surgeons in this respect—as we have seen a similar feeling in our Southern cities in regard to a Boston discovery, petty jealousy being stronger than respect for human life"!!

Rather a sweeping charge this! What have your medical readers to say to all this, on behalf of themselves and their European brethren? The point in dispute cannot but be one of great interest to all your readers, whether of the medical profession or not, and I am sure you will readily open your columns to any of your readers of the profession who may think it worth their while to enlighten us who are ignorant of the respective merits of these rival anæsthetic agents and to break a lance (query—*lancet*) with brother Jonathan in behalf of European medical reputation.

Your obedient Servant,

AUDI ALTERAM PARTEM.

Exeter, 8th Sept., 1856.

TESTIMONY OF THE LARGE DOSE SCHOOL TO THE ADVANTAGES AND EFFICACY OF MINUTE DOSES.

The following extract from a recent paper, as it appeared in the *Medical Circular* of Oct. 22, 1856, entitled "*On the Efficacy of Small Doses of Morphia (as opposed to the use of Expectorants) in the Treatment of Hooping Cough, Chronic Bronchitis, and Phthisis.*" By Edward Smith, M.D., &c.

"In the following communication, I purpose to state the results of my practice in reference to the exhibition of small doses of morphia, and to indicate the pathological conditions under which the remedy has been employed. The observations have been made, during several years, both in private and in hospital practice, and have sufficed to establish a firm conviction, in my own mind, of the practical value of the remedy, and the physiological correctness of the principle adopted in its employment.

"The dose to which I refer, is from the 1-64th to 1-24th of a grain, in an infant and young child, and from 1-20th to 1-12th of a grain, in an adult; and the frequency of the administration is from 3 to 6 times in the 24 hours. The class of cases in which I have used it, is such as exhibit local nervous irritability or spasm of the air-passages and adjoining structures, and in which that condition is either the essence of the disease, or an accident, which adds to the distress of the patient, and more or less prolongs the disease. The principle involved is the removal of the spasm or nervous irritability by direct means, and in such a manner, that the effect shall be very slight at first, but progressive, with the repetition of the remedy, yet never to the extent of influencing the sensorium. This is effected by commencing with a very small dose, and increasing it according to the effect, both on the disease, as showing the necessity for its continuance, and on the sensorium, as limiting its action. The effect thus produced is doubtless the same in kind as when the large dose of $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ of a grain is administered; but there is this great practical distinction, that, whilst the latter would, in such cases, defeat its object, by producing an effect so violent, that it could not be well borne, or be repeated often, in the former, the effect is gentle and agreeable, and may be so sustained by repetition, that the diseased condition shall be first got under control, and then entirely removed, at least for that attack. I must, therefore, beg that the effect, which I state to result from the frequent employment of the *minute doses*, may not be criticised by knowledge obtained from the use of the large and detached doses only.

"I have not found any ill effects follow its employment in patients of the tenderest age, even of only a few weeks old; but it is manifest, that care is called for on the part of the practitioner, that the nurse may accurately ascertain the dose, and be able as accurately, and on

a system, to increase it. This will imply the use of a graduated measure by the nurse, and the knowledge to use it properly. As an illustration, I may state that, when I prescribe it for infants or young children, I order 1 gr. of the salt of morphia to a 2 oz. mixture, and of this 15 minims is the 1-64th of a grain, and 30 minims the 1-32nd of a grain; and by taking the precaution to instruct the nurse in the use of the minim measure, the 64th, 48th, 38th, or 32nd of a grain may be given correctly, by giving 15, 20, 25, or 30 minims for a dose. I have never found the slightest difficulty, but I have had the most reason to be satisfied, when I have had to do with intelligent people. The same end may be attained by prescribing the remedy of any other strength, but in all cases I direct the use of a graduated measure, in preference to the indefinite quantities of tea spoonfuls."

THE DRUG TRADE.

A Joint Stock Company has recently started, entitled the "General Apothecaries' Company," with a capital of £10,000 subscribed, with power to increase to *one hundred thousand pounds*. The following is taken from a circular issued by the company. An over drugged community needs to be protected against the adulteration so generally practised.

"It has originated with Professional men, desirous of obviating the uncertainty attaching to the practice of Medicine, from the gross adulterations and sophistications practised by dealers in Drugs and Chemicals, and from which Pharmaceutical Chemists and Druggists are unable to protect themselves, or the Public."

We think that the best protection from impure drugs is to resolve *never more to swallow them*.

THE "WESTERN TIMES" ON HOMŒOPATHY.

The *Western Times* in reviewing Dr. Pearce's Letter to the Governors of the Northampton Infirmary, on the statistics of Allopathy and Homœopathy, makes the following appropriate remarks:

"At present the medical world is divided into two grand sections—the Allopaths and the Homœopaths; but the Allopaths vastly outnumbering their rivals, establish their opinions as the standard of knowledge in medical science, and cast contumely on the Homœopathic doctrines. In this case, it really seems that authority is pressing rather hardly on legitimate inquiry. If, as the Homœopathic doctor contends—the small dose doctrines are logical and sound, and if the practice on such principles is successful: why should

the Allopath continue to cry down the doctrines as fallacious, and the success as fortuitous? There are men of great learning, transcendent ability, and unquestionable virtue, ranged on both sides of the question; this fact should beget mutual respect, for unyielding partizanship ought not to impede the investigation of hygeanic rules, more than that of other pursuits of knowledge. We are very far from pronouncing on the merits of the two systems; but on the principle of fair play, we cannot see why the Allopaths should so doggedly lord it over the Homœopaths. The latter may, however, take this consolation to themselves—that if their system is well founded, it will open a way for itself in spite of resistance. We believe there is irrefutable evidence that they have benefited thousands of patients.”

CRIMINAL RESULTS OF STRONG DRINK.

DURING one year, the *Alliance Weekly News* recorded two thousand, two hundred, and eleven cases of casualties or violent deaths. They have been as follow: 711 brawls and violent assaults, including many cases of stabbing, cutting, and wounding; 294 robberies, being upon drunken persons; 237 cases of atrocious cruelty upon wives and children; 166 serious accidents; 162 actual or attempted suicides; 520 horrible deaths; and 121 murders or manslaughters. In every case the party or parties were under the influence of alcohol. Every case was of recent date, and occurred within the United Kingdom. Such has been a part of the results of the traffic in strong drink, as recorded in a single weekly journal!

REVIEWS:

External Remedies. By Henry Thomas, M.D. Third edition, enlarged and illustrated. Chester: Edward Thomas, Pepper Street.

THIS little brochure is one of those useful manuals of the homœopathic school which every house should possess. It is so simplified and condensed, that the whole of that portion which is useful in emergencies may be easily committed to memory. *Cuts, bruises, burns, stings, bites, blows, scalds, chilblains, chapped hands, and contusions* are provided for by the author. One advantage it possesses over some other homœopathic writings is, that the medicines are judiciously diluted. The coloured illustrations of the plants is a return to the good old practice of Culpepper.

The Lung Disease of Cattle, or Pleuro-pneumonia, curable by Homœopathy. Pp. 20. Manchester: Henry Turner, Piccadilly.

THE above pamphlet is one which was much required. It not only states the fact that pleuro-pneumonia destroys large numbers of cattle, especially cows, but it demonstrates by indubitable evidence that such mortality is unnecessary. An eminent veterinary surgeon and writer on the subject says, "About the same number recover when left to themselves as when treated according to the usual plan." Homœopathy, on the other hand, cures a vast number which would, treated in the ordinary way, die. The testimony to the value of homœopathic preparations in the diseases of cattle is to be found now among the most experienced veterinary surgeons of the day.

The following quotation from the pamphlet before us is worthy the attention of owners of cattle :

"Peter Stuart, Esq., of Ditton Lodge, near Warrington, a very zealous and successful homœopathist, states that he has treated upwards of one hundred and eighty cows labouring under the prevalent malady, and of these *one hundred and thirty were saved* by homœopathic treatment. (See Appendix A, page 14.) Mr. Stuart remarks that "those that died under homœopathic treatment, died apparently without much suffering; the parties who had cows die under both modes of treatment, expressed their astonishment at the ease with which those died that had homœopathic treatment, compared with the state of those that died under the common system of treatment."*

"The following account is abridged from the *Homœopathic Times* for September 28th, 1850, and is interesting as showing the gradual progress of conviction in the mind of one who at first would not believe that the disease *could* be cured, but who was at length fully convinced by the cure of several of his own stock :—

"A gentleman who knew the value of homœopathy, and its power to cure many diseases incurable under the ordinary treatment, was visiting with a farmer-friend, and seeing some cows stalled by themselves, enquired the reason, and was told by the owner that they were

* "Handbook of Veterinary Homœopathy," by J. Rush, V.S.

affected with pleuro-pneumonia, and that there was no hope of their recovery; in fact he said nothing could do them any good, and they were only worth just what could be got for them for the shambles. The visitor, on hearing this, pressed his friend the farmer to adopt the homœopathic treatment with them—a recommendation which was at first only laughed at as a good joke, and left but little hope of succeeding with him; however, he urged, that, as no harm could result from a trial, and much good might, that he would give consent to make an attempt to save them. At length consent was given; and the gentleman, on returning to town, sent some *Bryonia*, *Phosphorus*, and *Sulphur*, homœopathically prepared, with directions to give in the first stage *Bryonia* every three or four hours, in the second stage *Phosphorus*, and for the third stage *Sulphur*, in the same way.

“‘On the second day of giving the medicine, the farmer wrote, reporting ‘a little improvement;’ at the end of a week, he said they were certainly ‘much better,’ and added that he had turned one of them out again, the cough having left her; and four days later, he reports the other ‘cured;’ and respecting this case he admits, that, when he began the treatment, it was ‘the most desperate case he ever saw.’ He at the same time mentions four other cases which he had treated homœopathically, ‘all of which recovered.’

The pamphlet describes the symptoms and treatment of the disease of which it treats; and it does this in so condensed and precise a manner that he who runs may read. We earnestly commend it to our readers, and recommend every farmer, indeed every one who keeps a cow, to procure a copy. A shilling would be well spent in its purchase.

Application of the Sirene to count the Rate at which the Wings of Insects move.—The buzzing and humming noises produced by winged insects are not, as might be supposed, vocal sounds. They result from sonorous undulations imparted to the air by the flapping of their wings. This may be rendered evident by observing that the noise always ceases when the insect alights on any object. The sirene has been ingeniously applied for the purpose of ascertaining the rate at which the wings of such creatures flap. The instrument, being brought into unison with the sound produced by the insect, indicates, as in the case of any other musical sound, the rate of vibration. In this way it has been ascertained that the wings of a gnat flap at the rate of 15,000 times per second. The pitch of the note produced by this insect in the act of flying is, therefore, more than two octaves above the highest note of a seven-octave pianoforte.—*Lardner's Handbook.*

Printed by J. Taylor & Son, at their Offices, situate in Gold Street, in the Parish of All Saints, in the Town of Northampton, in the County of Northampton.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 3.—VOL. 2.

JANUARY 1, 1857.

NEW SERIES.—PRICE 2D.

THE NORTHAMPTON HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

THE question so frequently discussed by the friends of homœopathy in the County of Northampton will receive its solution, we hope, in a few weeks. If homœopaths, *i.e.*, those who have adopted homœopathy as their medical treatment, do their duty—if all contribute to the fund for its establishment, there is no doubt whatever that Northampton will possess the blessing of a homœopathic hospital before the year upon which we this day enter is closed. Will this duty be performed? We believe it will. The adherents to the system are numerous—among the wealthy not a few, of the middle and working classes a large number. There are those who we know are zealous in the advocacy of homœopathy, who daily recommend it to their friends, but who have not the power, though they possess the will, to help us with gold. Of such we do not expect large sums. But even these can give something; and, however small the sum is, it is a portion of the whole. There are, we rejoice to know, many who can give, and who have promised to do so. Some *have given*. The esteemed president of the Northampton Homœopathic Dispensary has given *one hundred pounds*—a noble example, worthy of imitation. We hope it will be followed. But the majority in the cause are not *rich*; however, five twenties make one hundred, and so will ten tens; ten hundreds make one thousand, and this sum is all that the committee ask, that the project may be carried out. Twelve beds for the reception of in-door patients are to be provided. Some of our friends

may be willing to give a bedstead, others, it may be, would give blankets or sheeting. Such donations will be received. All that is required is a strong, determined effort—a general canvass for subscriptions in aid of the benevolent undertaking.

There are many who, not yet having adopted homœopathy, are willing that an opportunity should be given to fairly test its merits in a public infirmary; and, until the proposition to set apart a male and a female ward of the Northampton Infirmary for homœopathic treatment is carried, it is desirable to have an institution wherein the system may be practised in acute diseases. The county calls for this. There are many adherents who are anxious to send the sick poor to a homœopathic infirmary, and who cannot. Such, it is hoped, will not fail to lend their aid.

One word to those in the county, however; who, while believing allopathy to be false and homœopathy to be true—who adopt in *every case* for themselves and for their dependents the superior mode of medical treatment—still help to sustain with their gold that which they believe to be false, and withhold their patronage from homœopathic institutions for the sick poor. Some there are also who subscribe annually to the County Infirmary their two, three, five, and ten guineas, and yet send a half-crown to the Homœopathic Dispensary, to obtain medical aid for a domestic. Now of such we expect better things. If all those who now subscribe to the old infirmary, and are favourable to homœopathy, were to give that help to the latter, we should, before another year, have a homœopathic hospital of fifty beds. Nothing is required but their contributions; and if Northampton have not a homœopathic hospital within the next twelve months, it will be the fault of the *friends* of homœopathy and not of its enemies.

At the forthcoming annual meeting of the dispensary, about the end of the present month, the subject of a homœopathic hospital will be discussed and advocated. Let us hope that at that meeting the £1000 will be realized. We know that many are willing and

waiting to give, when the object is accomplished. Let such as have no faith in its accomplishment be assured that the result is certain to be successful.

Donations and subscriptions will be thankfully received by the president, SIR CHAS. ISHAM, BART., the members of the Committee, or the Medical Officers of the Dispensary.

SILICEA.

We extract a few notes from cases illustrative of its (*Silicea*) absorbent power, from the pen of Dr. Tuthill Massy, formerly of Worcester, now removed to Sydenham. "The action of *Silicea* on tumors is frequently marked with striking results. A lady about the middle period of life discovered a small tumor in her right breast, for which she consulted two eminent men of the old school; both pronounced it of a serious nature, and advised its immediate removal with the knife. Previous to the operation, she expressed a wish for my opinion, when I advised the internal use of *Silicea* and the external application of a *wet compress*—the one to cause absorption, the other to soothe and comfort the nerves. In about two months the tumor disappeared. The second case was almost identical in history, appearance, and medical advice, and also in my medical treatment and successful issue. Both patients are now well and happy. The former attributes the cure to the *magnetism of my touch*. The latter attributes the result to the new treatment." Dr. Massy goes on to say: "Two gentlemen consulted me for those small, painful, nervous ganglions, and I adopted the same treatment with the same success; also, a housemaid's knee; and in the enlargements which occur in and about tendons and their sheaths, *Silicea* will be found an excellent remedy."

"Medicine is one of those sciences, the principles of which ought to be very generally distributed amongst the people. If any knowledge can be called useful knowledge in a special manner it is medical knowledge. It ought not to be a mere Latin bible in the hands of a priesthood, but a vernacular book which people may read and understand."—*Family Herald*.

IS HOMŒOPATHY QUACKERY ?

THE editor of the *Lancet* is still disposed to call homœopathy, a scientific system of medicine, "Quackery." The influence of the writer on the medical profession generally may thus become injurious; as any practitioner, naturally looking to editors of medical journals for a truthful representation of any discovery or system, would be deterred from examining into any system which savoured of quackery.

Thus wrote the *Lancet* on the 29th of November last: "The present Emperor of Russia has evidently taken warning by the fate of his father, who is understood to have favoured homœopathy, and to have been attended by a homœopathic physician—*hinc illæ lachrymæ*. He has prohibited quackery and quacks throughout all the Russias, with an imperial disregard to the vested interests of the undertakers. At a medical meeting recently held in Paris, a vote of thanks to the Emperor Alexander for setting so good an example was proposed, and, after some opposition, carried. It was to be accompanied by an honorary diploma of fellowship! We anticipate the reply will somewhat resemble that of King Agesilaus, as Plutarch tells the story. 'Menecrates the physician, having succeeded in some desperate cases, got the surname of Jupiter. In his vanity he wrote a letter to the king: 'Menecrates Jupiter to King Agesilaus: health.' The answer began thus—'King Agesilaus to Menecrates: his senses.'"

"The Emperor of Russia has prohibited quackery and quacks throughout all the Russias." We may hope, if this prohibition is carried out, we shall soon have to record the passage of the last allopath to Siberia, or some other suitable place. The *Lancet* attempts to convey an intimation that homœopathy is driven out of the Russian dominions. It reasons thus: Russia has prohibited quackery and quacks; homœopathy is quackery; *ergo*, homœopathy is prohibited. Lest such a conclusion should be received by our readers and the friends of homœopathy, through the medium of unreformed practitioners,* we have quoted the following, from the *Monthly Homœopathic Review* for December. So far from homœopathy being looked upon as quackery in Russia, homœopathic dispensaries and hospitals are flourishing, Cronstadt having a homœopathic hospital of 3000 beds, and Nishni-Novgorod its hospital.

"*Report of the Cases treated in the Homœopathic Hospital of the Imperial Appanage Domains at Nishni-Novgorod, (Central Russia,) from the 1-12 November, 1854, to the 1-12 November, 1855.*† By DR. C. BOJANUS.

"With the hope that it will be interesting to our colleagues in the south to receive an account of the actual working and of the propa-

* A physician in Northampton recently announced that homœopathy was driven out of Paris, because several physicians were expelled from a medical society for practising homœopathy. Homœopathy flourishes in Paris.

† From the "Homœopathische Vierteljahrschrift," third part, 1856.

gation of the new doctrine in these parts, I have undertaken to furnish a report of what has been done in our homœopathic hospital; but, before I enter into the matter, it is necessary that I should say a few words respecting the town of Nishni-Novgorod.

"It is situated in lat. 56° 19' N., long. 44° E. of Greenwich, at the confluence of the Oka and Volga, and on the right banks of both these rivers. The town consists of three parts; one of which, containing the buildings used for the fair, is situated on the peninsula formed by the confluence of the two rivers. The second part, called the upper town, is upon a high hill. The third, the lower town, is built upon a narrow strip of land, constituting the true banks of the Volga and Oka. The buildings in which the fair is held [and which consist of vast iron and stone bazars, erected by the emperor Alexander—Ed.] are only inhabited whilst the fair is being held—that is to say, from the 15th July to the end of August. [The population of the town then increases from 25,000 to between 200,000 and 300,000—it is the largest fair in the world—Ed.] At this time, this part of the town is connected with the two others by means of a bridge of boats. Each of the rivers may, in ordinary states of the water, be from one and a half to two versts broad. But, in the spring, the rivers overflow their banks, and inundate the whole of the lower town, which is devoted to the fair, thereby presenting to the observer an expanse of water, about 40 versts broad, and constituting a truly imposing spectacle when seen from the upper town. The ceaseless movements in all directions of sailing vessels, steamers, and fishing boats, combined with the budding green of spring, which unfolds itself in numberless gardens in all parts of the city, make us forget for a few moments that we have scarcely emerged from the icy winter, with its accompaniments of storms, snow, and 25 or more degrees of cold.

"Each of the imperial appanage domains, scattered throughout the different governments, has a board of administration at the principal town of the government in which it is situated. An administrator-in-chief, and several assistants, together with other officials, are appointed to each of the boards of administration (which we call appanage-comptoirs.) Each board of administration has its physician, and to almost every appanage-comptoir is attached a hospital, which is devoted to the reception of appanage-peasants either belonging to the district itself, or who have come from other governments.

"The state-councillor, Dr. Von Dahl, administrator-in-chief of the Nischegorod Appanage domain, and most honorably known as an author in the field of Russian literature, succeeded in obtaining from the minister, Count von Peroffsky, that the treatment followed in the Nishni-Novgorod Appanage hospital should be exclusively homœopathic. For when this state-councillor, V. Dahl, still followed his medical career, he had become convinced of the superiority of the new doctrine, and it is to this conviction that the existence of this hospital is due.

"The hospital contains 36 beds, which are distributed in six roomy,

well lighted, and lofty wards. Attached to the physician in charge of the sick, and living in the same house, are six apprentice surgeons, who not only attend to the patients and perform other minor duties concerning the hospital, but receive also from the physician the medical instruction necessary to render them, at the expiration of the five years' course of study appointed for the purpose, fit to treat easy cases homœopathically. At the expiration of their course of study, they are subjected to an examination, after which each of them is appointed to some district for his sphere of action, in one of the governments in which the domains are situated.

"Since there is at Nishni-Novgorod no homœopathic pharmacy, we are ourselves obliged to prepare our medicines. The chemical substances necessary for our preparations were obtained from my friend, the professor of chemistry at Kasan; the mother-tinctures were procured from the central homœopathic pharmacies at Petersburg and Moskow.

"The number of patients under treatment during the year amounted to 261, of which there were

Men, from 18 to 35 years of age	195
" 35 to 70 " 	52
Women	10
Children	4

The following tables present a synopsis of the cases, as well as of the results of the treatment :

DISEASES.	Number of Cases.	Recovered.	Remaining under Treatment.	Much improved.	Left uncured.	Died.
Angina inflammatoria faucium	13	13	...	...	...	...
" gangrænos.	1	...	...	...	...	1
Blepharophthalmia chronica	3	3	...	...	...	...
Bubones	1	1	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis acuta	1	1	...	...	...	...
Calculus vesicæ urinariæ	1*	1	...	...	...	...
Chorea	1	...	...	...	1	...
Congestiones ad caput	1	1	...	1	...	...
Catarrhus pulmonum acutus.....	3	3	...	...	...	...
" bronchialis.....	3	3	...	...	...	...
Caries	4	2	2	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	6	6	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis	1	...	...	...	...	1†
Erysipelas	6	6	...	...	...	...
Empysema scroti	1	1	...	...	...	...
Fungus oculi	1	...	...	...	...	...
Febris rheumatica	7	7	...	...	...	...
" biliosa	1	1	...	...	...	...
" intermittens	9	7	2	...	...	...
" gastrica nervosa	26	26	...	...	...	...
" gastralgia.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Gonorrhœa	6	6	...	...	...	...

* Cured by operation.

† Brought in dying.

DISEASES.	Number of Cases.	Recovered.	Remaining under treatment.	Much improved.	Left uncured.	Died.
Gonitis.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Hemicrania.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Hæmatemesis.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Hydrops.....	4	2	...	...	...	2
Hypochondria.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Herpes.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Ischias rheumatica.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Laryngitis.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Lumbago.....	4	4	...	...	...	...
Luxationes cum fractura.....	2	2	...	...	...	...
" sine fractura.....	4	4	...	...	...	...
Ostitis.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia catarrhalis.....	6	6	...	...	...	...
" rheumatica.....	2	2	...	...	...	...
" blenorrrhica.....	2	2	...	...	...	...
" arthritica.....	4	4	...	...	...	...
" iritis.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Otorrhoea.....	6	5	1	...	...	...
Otitis.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Orchitis.....	7	7	...	...	...	...
Panaritium.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Paresis.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Parotitis.....	4	4	...	...	...	...
Periostitis.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Prolapsus ani.....	2	1	1	...	3	...
Polypus auris.....	1	...	...	1	...	...
Pthisis pulmonum.....	3	...	...	...	...	3
Pleuritis.....	4	4	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia.....	14	14	...	...	...	...
Rubeolæ.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Scabies.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Surditas rheumatica.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
Syphilis.....	20	17	3	...	...	...
Tetanus.....	1	...	...	...	...	1*
Typhus abdominalis.....	11	9	...	...	...	2
" cerebralis.....	7	6	...	...	...	2
" petechialis.....	2	2	...	...	...	...
" icterodes.....	1	1	...	...	...	...
" pneumotyphus.....	7	6	...	...	...	1*
Ulcera varicosa.....	4	4	...	...	...	...
" gangrænosa.....	3	3	...	...	...	...
" phagedænica.....	4	4	...	...	...	...
" scrophulosa.....	2	2	...	...	...	...
" artificialia.....	3	3	...	...	...	...
Urticaria.....	3	4	...	...	...	...
Variola.....	2	2	...	...	...	...
Vulnera varia.....	9	6	3	...	...	...
TOTAL.....	261	234	12	2	1	12

" Of these 261 cases, 234 recovered, 12 died, 12 remained under

* Brought in dying.

treatment, 2 were much improved, and 1 left uncured; the proportionate mortality was 4·977 per cent. It should be taken into consideration that, for the most part, the patients admitted were affected with acute diseases; and hence the small proportionate mortality acquires a still greater signification."

PUBLIC RECOGNITION OF TALENT IN DONCASTER.

THE late election of Mayor for the Borough of Doncaster has ended in a triumph on the side of progress. Unlike many other towns, Doncaster has thrown aside party political feeling, and elected a gentleman to fill the office of Mayor, on grounds more creditable to a Christian community. Dr. Dunn is a homœopathic physician in extensive practice, and has built the first hospital in that town for the reception of the sick and injured, within the walls of which homœopathy is the system of medicine followed. Dr. Dunn is well known as a promoter of the health of the people, by the adoption of sanitary reform; like a wise physician, he advocates measures for the *prevention* as well as the cure of suffering. Dr. Dunn is a known advocate, also, for the discontinuance and suppression of the liquor traffic; the abolition of drinking customs—the bane of England.

The people of Doncaster may be complimented on their choice of a man, *known to hold* views which are in advance of the age, at least of the majority. It is appalling to witness the misery, the wretchedness, the *crime*, which result from the liquor traffic. Into whatever town the traveller sets his foot, the bribery of the electors by strong drink, the patronage given to such practices even by ministers of the gospel at municipal and parliamentary elections, is a disgrace to every town where the practices are witnessed; and whether it be right or wrong to legislate for the suppression of the sale of alcoholic beverages, every right thinking man must admit, that England cannot pride herself in the drunken scenes which always attend '*electioneering*.' For ourselves, we think that parliament has as much right to prohibit the sale of alcohol as arsenic; for while few commit suicide by taking arsenic, no less than 60,000 persons die annually, in this country, of drunkenness. Yet there are to be found many who think it right to prohibit the sale of arsenic, even though less than one hundred die in a year from over-dosing by it, while they oppose a prohibitory measure to prevent 60,000 deaths from alcohol. We will not, however, at this moment, go into the arguments in favour of prohibition, at a future time we may do so. The speech of Dr. Dunn on the occasion of his recent election so agrees with our sentiments, and, we believe, the sentiments of our readers, that we quote it from the *Doncaster Gazette*.

THE ELECTION OF MAYOR.

Alderman Sir Isaac Morley said—Mr. Mayor and gentlemen: It affords me great pleasure to comply with the wishes of my friends and those around this council table, to propose to you a gentleman to succeed you, Mr. Mayor, in the civic chair you have occupied for the past two years. In doing so, I feel it the greater gratification, because the gentleman is one whom you all honour; because he is a gentleman whom I am sure you will approve of and give him your cordial support, and I can assure you it gives me much pleasure to nominate him. I allude to Mr. Councillor Dunn. (Hear.) Although Dr. Dunn is not a native of Doncaster, still he has been long resident here—ever since the year 1833, and on four or five occasions he has been returned by the burgesses of the West Ward to represent them at this Council. Therefore, as far as the burgesses are concerned, that return on so many occasions stamps Dr. Dunn as a gentleman well worthy of receiving honour at the hands of this Council, of which he has for so many years been an active, intelligent, and independent member. It is on these grounds that I ask your support for his election to the office of chief magistrate, and I believe I am justified in hoping that he may receive a unanimous vote. (Hear.) In speaking of that profession to which Dr. Dunn has turned his attention I can say but little, but I can say what are my views—and which are I believe those of the town—that as to his fitness for the office of mayor, I believe, especially in a sanitary point of view, that he will make an exceedingly good and able mayor. (Cheers.) I will not enter into the particular part of the profession to which Dr. Dunn has devoted himself, as that is not our duty, but I will say this, that when I find a gentleman coming forward to found an hospital where to receive cases of accidents as Dr. Dunn has done, he deserves not only the thanks of the town, but of the neighbourhood. (Hear.) I will not detain you longer with any other observations, but will sit down by once more remarking, that, believing as I do that the election of Dr. Dunn to the office of mayor of this borough will be approved of by the town, believing that it will receive the sanction of the neighbouring gentry, and believing that it will be cordially received by the magistrates of the borough, I beg to propose that Dr. Dunn be elected chief magistrate for the ensuing year. (Hear.)

Mr. Alderman Dunhill—Mr. Mayor and gentlemen: I have great pleasure in seconding the nomination made by Sir Isaac Morley. I remember a few years ago, it fell to my lot to nominate a gentleman to fill the civic chair. The gentleman was elected, and I was proud to see him pass through his year of office, with credit to himself and satisfaction to the town. At that time I felt great regret that another gentleman was put in nomination, and I expressed my regret to him, and said that upon a future occasion I should have great

pleasure to give him my best support. That gentleman was Dr. Dunn—(hear.)—whom I thought at that time, and have thought since, was in every way qualified to sustain the office. It gives me great pleasure to second him on this occasion; satisfied as I am, that he will go through his duties with every satisfaction to the Council and the Borough; and thus at the same time I shall be redeeming the promise I made to support his election at a future time, and of which this is a fitting opportunity. (Hear, hear.) I beg to second the nomination.

The Mayor asked if any other gentleman had a person to propose.

No answer being made,

The Mayor then announced Dr. Dunn to be unanimously elected. Addressing the Mayor elect he said—Dr. Dunn, I call you to my seat.

The Mayor elect advancing was met by the retiring Mayor, and the chain of office, and the seals of the office were delivered to him at the same time.

The Mayor elect having signed the usual declaration, took his seat amid much applause, and the ex-Mayor retired to the seat at the Council table vacated by Dr. Dunn.

The Mayor, in returning thanks, said—Sir Isaac Morley, Mr. Alderman Dunhill, and gentlemen of the Council: Allow me to thank you sincerely for the kind and flattering manner in which you have recorded your votes for me on this occasion. I scarcely know how to reply to the flattering terms which Sir Isaac Morley has been so kind as to make use of when nominating me to the office. It has always been my endeavour ever since I came into this Council to do something to benefit and improve the sanitary condition of the town. (Cheers.) And in so doing I may say, that if I have not at all times taken a wise course, I have ever endeavoured to take an independent and an honest one. (Cheers.) Sir Isaac Morley has alluded to St. James's Hospital which was founded by me some three years ago, and I am gratified in being able to say, that my most sanguine expectations are more than realized. I stated at its inauguration that I trusted it would prove the germ from which an institution would spring sufficiently large to meet the requirements of the town and neighbourhood for many, many years to come. In the sanitary state of the town, I have ever taken a warm and deep interest; indeed, my only object in seeking admission to this Council in 1845, was in the hope that I might aid in improving the sanitary condition of the town; and ever since, I have laboured to that end. On the 26th of October, 1847, long before sanitary reform was talked about, I ventured to implore the council of that day to set about the work, and make this a model town in sanitary matters; and if you will refer to the *Doncaster Gazette* of the 29th October, 1847, you will find that I foretold that if the necessary measures were not taken spontaneously by the council, that some one from government would come down, at great cost to the borough fund, and

rob the council of all credit in the matter. Three things are essentially requisite to secure good health, viz.: pure air, filtered water, and good unadulterated food. It is in the power of this council to accomplish the two first, and to demand a law which shall secure the last. Pure air can only be obtained by making good drains, trapping the grates, and removing all nuisances. This you have done, if not in all parts of the town, at least in all those parts that stand in most need; and doubtless you will complete this good work when your funds will allow. Pure water is as essential to health as pure air; and though I have laboured long, I have hitherto failed to convince this council of its paramount necessity. You have only to look at the bills of mortality; you have only to read the very valuable reports of the Registrar-General, to be convinced of this important truth. It is a melancholy fact that the great mortality at Newcastle when cholera broke out, was mainly owing to some impurity in the supply of water; and in London, even at the west end, cholera was most fatal where the water was impure. I now come to the vital question of unadulterated food, which I am sorry to say is not yet under our control. We shudder when we hear of a wretch who poisons his victim by administering a deadly drug; but the wholesale poisoner in the shape of a dishonest trader in articles of daily consumption, walks the streets with impunity, attends church or chapel regularly, and may be a preacher, a teacher, or a class leader. This is no imaginary, and I am grieved to say, no uncommon case; it is difficult, indeed, for the poor, who buy small quantities of those articles of food which they believe to be cheap, to get anything that is not shamefully adulterated. If such unprincipled sophistications are not soon made away with, by stringent laws and public condemnation, it will end in our better halves treating ourselves and friends with luxurious gastronomic entertainments, in which flint stones, lime, sloe leaves, and sand, will form the chief ingredients of the family spread; and we shall be enabled to ask our particular friends to come and take a cup of sloe tea, with a little 'toast and flint,' gravel, constipation, and diarrhoea included. (Hear.) If the excise be cheated out of the duty on a ream of paper, or a few shillings on contraband or adulterated tobacco, the law comes down with scourging vengeance on the culprit. Surely the health and lives of the people ought to be, to say the least, as jealously guarded. There can be no excuse for this negligence. Modern chemistry, aided by the unerring microscope, leaves nothing to be desired in the way of detection; and the punishment should fall both on the retail and the wholesale trader: the retail trader if he buy an article, which he must well know from the price current cannot be genuine; for example, if cocoa be quoted at one shilling per lb. at the outports, how can he buy the manufactured article for 8d.? It is well known that cheap rock and other cocoas are made up of clay, ochre, and suet. Now let us imagine a sick child. The medical

man, knowing the importance of diet, orders the parent or nurse to give the patient a cup of cocoa. It is anxiously sought for at the nearest shop. If it be pure cocoa, the child is better for the draught; but should it be a vile compost, the child falls a sacrifice to the cupidity of the trader. It will be dangerous to eat or to drink unless some law is immediately passed to punish the fraudulent; and if the different municipal bodies petition parliament, and speak out on this or any other social grievance, depend upon it, it will be attended to. Whilst on the subject of food and drink, I cannot avoid the opportunity of uttering my protest against the dram shop—that Upas tree that poisons all that pass under its baneful shade. Is there one medical man in the kingdom?—is there one writer?—is there one sane man who will have the hardihood to say that dram drinking is not an unmitigated evil. The very fact of these shops being generally so placed that persons may steal in and out without attracting attention, is sufficient to show that it is a shameful act, and one that betokens depravity. It is the first step to destruction. Now what every one knows to be evil surely ought to have no encouragement; nay, no existence; and churches, chapels, and schools will be powerless for good, so long as these places that deal out damnation are allowed. One bishop proved strong enough to frighten the minister out of Sunday music in the parks, which might not be unmixed good, but was ennobling to the listeners. I wish that the whole bench of bishops may use their efforts and prove strong enough to close the gin shop, which every one knows to be an unmixed evil. You must not infer from my strong aversion to the deadly dram shop that I am in any way opposed to hostelry. The well conducted inn is as necessary in a country like ours as is the private residence, and I could say much in favour of the tavern had it not been said by far abler men. The hotel is the rich man's haven of rest and refreshment, and the poor man's mansion; and I may just remind you that had our neighbour, Mr. Whitaker, found the tavern open in lieu of the dram-shops, his life would have been preserved. (Hear.) Now, if the law confers on the magistrates any power to close the dram-shops, it shall have my earnest support; but I should like to see equal justice in this respect done to all.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

Billing Road, Northampton,

July 4th, 1856.

SIR,—I beg pardon for troubling you, but as I understand your purpose to have an hospital soon, I am desirous of recommending myself to your notice. I am a two-quart bottle, and for some time

have held a position of importance in a public institution. My duty has been to accompany patients leaving the establishment, cured, but requiring a little "strengthening medicine," just to help them to pick up their crumbs, and give some tone to their system. By this you will understand that I am not like one of those six or eight ounce fellows, who carry the scouring liquor about the house to wash out the bowels of the patients, &c. I am a superior officer to any of them, and only used to the convalescent work. As I have been pretty well used up here, and have some idea that the house may some day fall about my ears, I am anxious to provide for my safety and look out for a better place in time. If you can hold out any prospect of an individual like myself being of any service to you, I don't mind changing hands; for, to tell you the truth, the stuff they put into me at times is not so agreeable as the feelings of a decent bottle could wish. I have travelled over the whole of this county, and fancy I can tell a tale or two about my contents from time to time. There are some hundreds of us here; so, if you require a few old hands well up to the duties of their office, I have no doubt we can suit you.

Be so good as not to inform anybody of this communication.

Sir, yours honorably,

A TWO-QUART BOTTLE.

P.S. My friend Mr. Box, who has been used to carry out three or four dozen full sized pills at once, would not mind a change for the better.

Q. B.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

"Who can decide when doctors disagree?"

SIR,—It may be interesting to some of your readers to peruse what Dr. Richard Reece, in his excellent journal entitled *The Monthly Gazette of Health*, and one which advocates (the best means of treatment, as far as then known), says, upon the certainties of the healing art, as employed by the profession:

"STATE OF MEDICINE.—Mr. Thompson, in his defence of the practice of Dr. Baillie, Dr. Sims, and Sir Richard Croft, on a recent melancholy occasion, observes 'that the more able and experienced the physician is, the less reliance he places on remedies; and that in treating diseases, he proceeds on principles which the science and the excellence of the art teach him.' The following case, which lately occurred in our practice, is certainly no proof of the art being brought to such a degree of perfection as Mr. Thompson wishes to induce his readers to believe, or that physicians have established a principle on which all agree.

"Mrs. —, a lady of respectability, after a slight puerperal fever,

was frequently afflicted with distressing headache, confusion of ideas, nausea, flatulence, and general lassitude. Receiving very little benefit from the medicines she took under the direction of her accoucheur, she consulted Dr. C——ie. The learned doctor, after hearing her case, feeling her pulse, &c., positively declared his opinion that all her complaints arose from the irregular action of the liver. He accordingly prescribed calomel with bitters. After giving his mode of treatment a trial for a month without experiencing any benefit, she applied to a Dr. T——l. This physician pronounced her disease to be an affection of the brain, and privately intimated to the lady who accompanied her that it would terminate in insanity. He condemned in strong terms the use of calomel and stomachics, recommending an aperient saline powder, a blister to the nape of the neck, and the use of the shower bath twice a-week. By this treatment she was relieved during the first week. The symptoms, however, returning as violent as ever, she applied to Dr. L——w. The doctor, after questioning her respecting the quantity of urine passed, and its appearance, assured her that her complaint was incipient diabetes. He ordered her to lose a pint of blood, to confine her diet as much as possible to animal food, and to take a draught of decoction of bark and ammonia twice a-day. The loss of blood afforded some mitigation of the pain in the head; it was accordingly repeated in a week. After following this doctor's advice a month, and finding herself worse rather than better, she applied to Dr. H——r; who, after patiently hearing her narrative, declared that there could be no doubt that the seat of her complaints was in the uterine region, and that the affections of the head and stomach were symptomatic of it. His plan of treatment being similar to that suggested by Dr. C——ie, she did not give it a trial.

“Now Mr. Thompson cannot be ignorant that cases similar to the above occur daily in the practice of every medical man of any repute in London; how, then, can he have the effrontery to say that physicians proceed on scientific principles, or a knowledge of the animal economy; and that such is the perfection to which they have brought the art, that ‘they often turn aside the fatal dart already levelled?’ So far from agreeing with Mr. Thompson, that the advantages of medicine to mankind are too evident to be concealed, we firmly believe, that, practised as it is in this country, more lives are shortened by it than are prolonged—more destroyed than saved. The ruling passion of most of our own fashionable physicians is unquestionably to accumulate wealth. To give a physician consequence in London, a splendid establishment, and particularly a carriage, is necessary; and to support them is the chief object they have in view. To them the *vital principle* is the *fee*; and to ensure this trade they have recourse to the meanest artifices. We are told that if we continue to comment with such freedom on the qualifications of *eminent* physicians, a medical work will be instituted in opposition

to *The Gazette of Health*. When we threw down the gauntlet, it was in the thorough conviction that no one dare take it up; and we shall really be very glad to meet with a professional man bold enough to do it, for we are desirous to hear his defence, if defence he can make. No such threats will deter us from speaking our mind frankly. Our voice is for war, and we shall be pleased to see them in the field. We assure them that we will continue the contest until error and absurd prejudice, however consecrated by ancient custom or laws, hide their heads. To us the party is by no means so formidable as they imagine; on the contrary, it is contemptible in the extreme. To pay due homage to science, in whomsoever found, will ever be our pride, and we are perfectly indifferent to any resentment we may meet with in the conscientious discharge of our duty."

Who, after carefully reading through this paper, and observing the quantity of medicine given, and its injurious effects, can wonder that it takes time to cure patients who have been so drugged, by hydropathic or homœopathic measures. Indeed, it is a matter of astonishment that any of them come round at all. I have noticed for years that those who have been too much bled do not recover from their long-standing diseases by the methods of treatment I have named; and for this reason—that with the loss of blood, the vital principle, the sap of the tree, so to speak, is gone, and the poor sufferer, in this (to him) dreary world, looks like a leafless, withered tree in winter, as it bends its attenuated form to every cold, dreary blast which it encounters.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WM. FORBES LAURIE, M.D.

Hydropathic Establishment,

Dunstable, Bedfordshire, Dec. 4, 1856.

INFORMATION FOR THE FRIENDS OF HOMŒOPATHY.

THE Northampton Homœopathic Institution is about to open branch dispensaries in the neighbouring towns and villages.

KETTERING branch is already open, attendance being given at Mr. Robinson's, High Street, from 11 till 1 every Friday.

ROADE branch is open every Monday morning.

TOWCESTER branch will be opened as soon as the necessary arrangements are made.

It is intended to carry homœopathy into all the principal towns and villages within twenty miles of Northampton, by opening branch dispensaries. It is hoped that the homœopathic public will sustain the efforts, by contributing to the funds of so useful an institution.

PROGRESS OF HOMŒOPATHY.

It is encouraging to find the clergy uniting in their Christian mission the healing of the sick with the preaching of the gospel. Many are thus usefully engaged. The following extract from a letter from a minister in Norfolk is interesting and worthy of imitation :

“ On Wednesday last, December 17th, I gave the first of my two lectures on homœopathy to our Mutual Improvement Society. The meeting was well attended ; all appeared interested ; and most, if not all, had, to say the least, their prejudices shaken. There are now in Swaffham between 150 and 200 who have espoused the system, including a good many who are heads of families. Nearly 130 persons have been to me during the past year ; and, had I but more skill and more time, the number would be greatly increased. I have two or three cases that I am not equal to, but I am doing my best, as they are not in the position to obtain other advice, and to *old physie* they *will not* resort. Still hoping that your efforts to open the County Infirmary may be successful, and that homœopathy may continue to grow in your hands, I am, &c., &c.”

In another part of England, Derbyshire, a clergyman extensively and successfully treats the sick poor of his parish homœopathically. Numerous instances there are, also, of the ladies of the clergy administering homœopathy to the sick poor successfully. The fact is that a benevolent hearted man or woman, having benefited by homœopathy, cannot refrain from doing good to their suffering neighbours, acting thus the part of the good Samaritan, pouring oil and wine into the wounds of the sick.

The ground, however, upon which such tread is dangerous. The licensed practitioner becomes envious, we fear, of the layman who thus benefits his fellow sufferers, by administering, under the guidance of books, or it may be of a homœopathic practitioner, the tiny but potent globule. Such an one as the above lives at a village called Roade, near to the town of Northampton. His wife, sinking under ordinary treatment for chest disease, came under homœopathic treatment, and, to the surprise of the whole village, recovered her health, resuming her avocations. The husband, grateful for the unexpected recovery of his wife, studies how best he may help his neglected and overdrugged neighbours. He procures books, provides himself with medicines, and, in obedience to a divine commission, “ heals the sick.” The ire of the “ village doctor,” who had looked upon the population of the village as his property, is excited, and warnings are given to the man who dared to make inroads on his territory. Not many days elapse, when, behold, a letter is received by the innovator, cautioning him against *doing good* any longer, he not having “ a license to kill” — *i.e.*, a diploma.

The following is a copy of the warning letter :

"Apothecaries' Hall, London, Dec. 4, 1856.

"SIR,—It is represented to the Society of Apothecaries whom the legislature has especially appointed to carry into execution the provisions of the "Act for better regulating the Practice of Apothecaries throughout England and Wales," that you are practising as an apothecary, not being legally qualified to engage in such practice; and the society have been called upon, in the discharge of their public duty, to enforce the payment of the penalties which you are alleged to have incurred.

"The society have directed this communication to be made to you, in the hope that you may have it in your power to satisfy them that the representation which has been made to them is incorrect.

"I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

"ROB. B. UPTON,

"Clerk to the Society.

"To Mr. James Kightley,

"Roade, near Northampton."

Who prompted the Apothecaries' Company we leave our readers to guess.

Poor old allopathy! it is dying out, and needs, like all fallacies, the protection of the State to sustain their vested rights and privileges—demands of parliament an exclusive right to physic the whole community. Truth needs no "State protection," and error has no claim to it. The nation *can* dispense with "Apothecaries' Companies," and will do so soon. It is too late now to legislate for the sustenance of a medical priesthood.

HOMŒOPATHY AT BALAKLAVA, IN THE CRIMEA.

By the Editor of "*Medical Despotism, or Official Injustice.*"

NO. 1.—INTERMITTENT FEVER.

LUKE WATERS, aged 30, of robust frame and irregular habits, a sailor on board the American barque *Sylphide*.

Balaklava, March 15th. Gave of *Arsenicum*, tinct. 3, gutt. iij., aquæ ʒiv.; ʒi every third hour.

18th. Gave of *Arsenicum*, tinct. 3, gutt. ij., aquæ ʒiv.; ʒi every hour.

20th. Patient reported to be well, and at work.

22nd. Patient was attacked with ague about 2, P.M., and the attack lasted about 2½ hours.

Take of *Cinchona* 12-3 globules, three times daily.

24th. Skin cool; pulse quick, weak, and irritable; bowels regular; tongue smooth, rather rosy, and moist; urine free.

Take of *China*, tinct. 3, gutt. ij., aquæ ʒiv.; ʒss. every hour.

25th. Attack lasted about three hours yesterday. Has taken all the medicine.

Take of *Cinchona*, 30-3 globules.

29th. Take of *Antimonium crudum*, *Calcarea carb.*, and *Capsicum*, of each 12 globules of the 12th dinamization; and give of each, successively, 3 globules night and morning, for three days, allowing three days to intervene between the cessation of one medicine and the commencement of another.

This last prescription was given just before the departure of the *Sylphide* (on board of which the patient was serving as an able seaman) from Balaklava for Constantinople, on the 30th of March, 1855. On the 12th April the supercargo of the vessel wrote to the writer, in reference to this and the following case (No. 2), including his own, from Constantinople, as follows:

Dr. Reed, Balaklava, Crimea.

Dear Sir,—Your patience has been tried by my long silence, which I hope you will excuse. The cook's leg is much better. He can walk very well, and I have no doubt in a short time his system will be entirely free from the disease.

Luke Waters has gone to the hospital. His medicine I gave him till he arrived here, and he said he was no better. In fact, *he only turned out once during our run down.*

I myself am not so well as when I left Balaklava. The small eruptions on my skin are more frequent and larger. I expect to take the barque to Alexandria, and load for Europe. If you feel inclined to write to me, you will please address my letter in care of John Brown, Esq., United States Consul, Constantinople. Hoping your health is good,

I remain, dear Sir,

Yours respectfully,

RICHARD WALL.

American Barque Sylphide.

N.B. It may be remarked, in reference to this case (No. 1) of ague, that the patient had the character of being lazy and given to the abuse of spirituous liquors, when they were within his reach—obstacles in the way of successful homœopathic treatment, which, humanly speaking, are insuperable.

The following case, treated on board the same vessel in Balaklava harbour, to which Mr. Wall, the supercargo, also alludes in his letter from Constantinople, was more successful; although, from its nature, it was also very tedious, the patient being an old African of the negro tribe, and of a very indolent, phlegmatic temperament.

NO. 2.—ŒDEMATOUS ERYSIPELAS OF THE RIGHT FOOT AND ANKLE.

THOMAS NEWTON, aged about 60, cook on board the American barque *Sylphide*, of a phlegmatic temperament and indolent habit of body. The patient has been long subject to similar periodic attacks.

Symptoms: Swelling (which *pits*) of the right foot and ankle, attended with sharp, lancinating pain. Appetite bad; rest at night good; bowels nearly regular; tongue rather white.

March 20th. Gave of *Arsenicum* 6-3 globules, three times during the day, with homœopathic diet and cold foot-baths.

21st. Patient better.

Gave of *Arsenicum*, 12-3 globules at once. Continue diet and foot-baths.

24th. Patient better; bowels regular; appetite bad; rest at night good; tongue white and furred; pain of foot worse in the morning and evening; pulse regular and full; skin dry; urine abundant.

Gave of *Cinchona*, tinct. 3, gutt. ij, aquæ ʒ iv.; ʒss. three times during the day.

25th. Pain of foot and swelling continue. Has taken 4 doses.

26th. Pain and swelling continue.

Gave 2 tablespoonfuls of medicine last prescribed, night and morning.

28th. Foot and ankle still swollen and painful.

Gave of *Cinchona* 12-3 globules three times to-day.

29th. Patient better. Foot and ankle easier; but he complains of heaviness in the head.

Gave *Sulph.*, 12 and 30; 3 globules every ten days, until 3 doses of each are taken, allowing 3 days to intervene between the cessation of the first and the commencement of the second named potency.

The vessel left Balaklava for Constantinople on the 30th March, and the supercargo's report, above recorded, was dated thirteen days afterwards, shewing the treatment in this case to have been as satisfactory as could have been expected under the circumstances.

The supercargo's own case was one of cutaneous eruption of the psoric kind; for which the writer had directed him to take *Sulph.* 30, 3 globules every tenth day, and to attend to his diet and the functions of the skin by practising the cold ablution, with dry friction, every morning. The report, therefore, which he gave of himself, 13 days afterwards, may be considered, according to homœopathic principles, to have been of a favourable nature; the indication being to discontinue the *Sulphur*, and to use warm baths, instead of the cold ablution, with cold water for drink; and, in the case of continued inactivity of the bowels, to take of *Nux vomica*, 6-12; 3 globules occasionally.

INFINITESIMAL.

BRIEFLY considering the animal kingdom in its wonders and uses, we cannot but conclude that the mighty works of nature are effected by the most apparently insignificant and obscure forms of life; and

that not only does man, as the head and archetype of creation, derive most benefit, but may sustain and has experienced greatest injuries, from the little things of this life. Whether we consider the locust in its devastations, the zimb of Bruce in the most terrible majesty of its littleness, or the land and water compensating adjustment of the little coralline, we are constrained to admit that such are to man more formidable and important than the lion, elephant, or tiger; and also to believe that "greatness or littleness make no difference to God in His creation or in His providence," for "magnitude is nothing in His sight who is pleased to frame and regard the small and weak as benignly and attentively as the mighty and massive."

In the present time of research and industry, when the study of natural history is within the convenience of every sweat-crowned "bread winner;" now that games of physical prowess are being replaced by diligent studies and patient investigations; when, moreover, the race of leeches is becoming extinct in this land, and homœopathy, with its truthful disdain of brute force, and in the use of gentle but efficient means, is spreading widely through the length and breadth of "merry England;" in such times, to quote as illustrations of great *littlenesses* the fact that forty-one billions of flint-clad and exquisitely organised animalcules, each possessed of separate identity, yet all of them only occupying a space equal to one cubic inch—such a fact, which would have been hailed twenty-five years back as speaking volumes for the small dose of homœopathy, must now give way to others still more wonderful, and which, existing at the present day, and within the observation of all, serve to prove that the day of small things (even in this external meaning) which Holy Writ forbids us to despise is now come.

In illustration of the truth of the above, we quote the following remarkable fact, which has been proved true by many and repeated experiments:

"Reaumur has proved, that, in five generations, one aphid [plant-louse] may be the progenitor of five billions, nine hundred and four millions, nine hundred thousand descendants; and it is supposed that in one year there may be twenty generations; and what is most remarkable and without parallel, the sexual intercourse of one original pair serves for all the generations which proceed from the female for a whole succeeding year."*

Here is a problem, which, ably and correctly worked out, will outvie Dr. Simpson's abstruse and rather absurd calculations respecting the small dose of homœopathy, and which shall abundantly satisfy any doubter in the power of decillionths of a grain, for it transcends decillions just as much as the *ordinary* doses of homœopathy do those of old physic.

BELLIS.

* Kirby and Spence's Introduction to Entomology, 7th ed., p. 96.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

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TO OUR READERS.

THERE was a time when medicine, as an art, was the common property of the people; every town and village, and almost every hamlet indeed, had its traditionary knowledge of certain means of healing diseases, of mitigating pain, of soothing the dying. Civilization has produced numerous changes. For many of these we are thankful. Art has developed new means of alleviating suffering, and doubtless of saving life. Knowledge of the structure—the anatomy of the human frame, has led to the science of surgery. Morbid growths are now removed by the skilful surgeon, which formerly were the lasting appendages to the body through life. Surgery may be said, indeed, to be a modern science; it is not very many years since Ambrose Paré proposed the ligature of arteries after amputations, instead of the universal practice of applying melted pitch and other substances to the bleeding stump, to staunch the blood. It was long before Ambrose Paré was looked upon as a benefactor. Anatomy is a science; surgery is a scientific art; medicine, therapeutics that is, is a mere traditionary art, as generally practised. As a proof that it is but an art; that the ordinary school possesses no law of healing; that it is custom, which guides the faculty in the practice of medicine, no better evidence can be furnished than the fact, that, when cholera prevailed in this country for the first time, the Royal College of Physicians confessed, that it had no suggestions to offer for the successful treatment of the “new disease,” as physicians had had no experience of the disease. The College

of Physicians, an EDUCATIONAL institution, one would expect, sought to be itself educated by the practitioners of medicine, whom it professed, by its license or diploma, to qualify for the work of healing. It issued a circular to the faculty, soliciting a return of the cases of cholera, their treatment, and results. The faculty, every where left to do as each pleased, had recourse to everything which imagination suggested. Astringents, purgatives, bleeding, blistering, cupping, leeching, sweating, rubbing, burning, every TORTURE which anyone could suggest was, BY WAY OF EXPERIMENT, had recourse to; still the patients died. In some cases, BOILING WATER was injected into the bowels, the hands of the operators being scalded in the experiment; cloths soaked in spirits of turpentine were made to envelope the naked body, the TURPENTINE being then IGNITED,—horrible though it be to relate it, such was the fact. Drugging was carried on to a fearful extent; still the mortality was not DIMINISHED. There is reason indeed to conclude, that, had nothing been done for the patients, the mortality would have been far less, and the patients would have died, spared from the tortures to which they were submitted. All this was done, the College (?) of Physicians!! looking quietly on, hoping that something would “turn up” for the benefit of the college.

The following extract from a circular of the College of Physicians, shows the utter ignorance which prevailed of the disease and its treatment:—

* College of Physicians, Oct. 20.

In reference to the means to be adopted in the treatment of this disease, it is necessary to state, that no specific remedy has yet been ascertained; nor has any plan of cure been sufficiently commended by success to warrant its express recommendation from authority. The Board have already published a detailed statement of the method of treatment adopted in India, and of the different opinions entertained as to the use of bleeding, emetics, calomel, opium, &c. There is reason to believe that more information on this subject, may be obtained from those parts of the continent, where the disease is now prevailing; but even should it be otherwise, the greatest confidence may be reposed in the intelligence and zeal, which the medical practitioners of this country will employ in establishing an appropriate method of cure.

HENRY HALFORD.

President of the Board.”

So the people not only died without successful help, but were put to the rack by the faculty, privileged by Royal Charter to supersede nature-made doctors and doctresses of our loved England. So it is. In the more recent visitations of cholera to this country, the same ignorance in its treatment was manifested by the diploma'd faculty.

The people died in some districts, drunk of brandy, and comatosed by opium; many were "slept" by opium to wake no more; MANY WERE BURIED ALIVE. The great mortality, even in one small town in this County of Northampton, was mainly, if not owing to, under the treatment of the orthodox practitioners, while many of their neighbours recovered under the administration of nature's simples, by the hands of the "unlicensed."

We desire not to be misunderstood; we do not under-value learning; but education will not necessarily GIVE talent, it will DIRECT it. All honour we say to those, who, having received a liberal education, pursue a calling, a profession, or a trade, with credit to themselves and benefit to humanity. What we maintain is, simply, that all the good that is done, is not done by the educated. Prejudices are strong among those who are educated IN A CERTAIN DIRECTION. The practitioner of medicine thinks he honours his ALMA MATER, rather by continuing in the prescribed path, than in seeking knowledge and skill from extraneous sources. Affection for his "college," his "professors," his associations, prevents his reception of doctrines, however consistent and rational, which are not already recognised at his ALMA MATER.

How long shall such a state of things continue? how long shall the people in the towns and villages of this country be calling for the help of homœopathy, and the faculty refuse? Shall they wait while the faculty ask, as in the advent of the Author of Christianity? have any of the Rulers or of the Pharisees believed on him? Let it not be. We opine that the people, the poor especially, will remain without the blessing of homœopathy half a century longer, if the conversion of their medical attendants is to be the first effected. Shall they thus wait? No.

While the poor have their choice only between the club doctor, the parish surgeon, and the vendor of nostrums in the form of pills and quack medicines, shall we not provide help for those who desire it of homœopathy? How can such help be afforded? We answer, by adopting a plan which the Church has happily adopted, viz., the employment of LAYMEN; men known to be specially fitted by nature and by education, to fulfil the duties which they self impose; prompted by no sordid interest, impelled by the promptings of a loving heart, and an earnest soul, visiting the sick and doing deeds of mercy, which those of a higher grade cannot, by reason of other duties, entirely fulfil. Let the homœopathists of this country encourage similar efforts; let us, having selected fit and proper men for the office, qualify them by imparting all necessary knowledge to fit them for the good-work of "HEALING THE SICK;" an office not under-valued by the Founder of that religion, which taught charity as one of the essential elements of christian society.

To this end we want men and means; the latter consisting of opportunities to teach the necessary elements of the medical sciences. The nucleus of a medical school already exists. The Homœopathic Dispensary at Northampton, affords opportunity to study diseases and their treatment, to an extent little thought of by many; the increase in the number of patients is a hundred per cent over last year; every variety of disease is treated; men, women, and children, suffering under whatever complaint, are treated and VISITED AT THEIR OWN HOMES whenever necessary. To clinical experience are added opportunities for studying the structure and organization of Man; a museum of anatomy, &c., is in course of formation, and if the efforts of the committee of the institution are successful, Northampton will shortly possess a HOSPITAL FOR THE RECEPTION OF IN-DOOR PATIENTS FROM THE COUNTRY. Let this object be earnestly sought by the friends of homœopathy; let subscriptions be entered into throughout the county; let each give something towards the establishment and support of a hospital for the homœopathic treatment of the sick poor, WHO prefer it; then shall Northampton be able to

send forth to the towns and villages, men, qualified to heal the sick, without endangering the lives of their patients, by the cruelties of allopathic ignorance.

SUSPENDED ANIMATION FROM DROWNING, ETC.

Our readers may be already aware that Dr. Marshall Hall, one of the most able and scientific physicians in this country, has devised and made public in the medical journals, and through the daily press, means of the most effectual nature of restoring asphyxiated persons, and at the same time so simple that any one possessing an ordinary amount of intelligence may fully acquaint himself with the process. We apprehend that few, very few, of those who have seen and read the instructions of the author of this new process, have taken care to preserve the accounts which they have seen, to make themselves fully acquainted with the process.

It is with a view that our readers may furnish themselves with the information, which shall enable them in an emergency to put in practice the process, that we reprint Dr. Marshall Hall's papers.

We have delayed doing this until we were provided with the results of the experiments. Since the process was made public, it has been put to the test by medical men in various parts of England and elsewhere, and these tests have satisfactorily shown that the process is superior to everything which had been practised or suggested.

We recommend our readers forthwith to make themselves acquainted with the instructions by committing the "rules" to memory, and to do this effectually it would be well for several persons in a company to go through the movements, each in turn submitting to the prone (on face) position, and each also manipulating until he has become intimately acquainted with the process.

There is no doubt whatever that many lives will be saved by the adoption of the discovery than would otherwise occur. It is a lamentable reflection that many have been killed by immersion in the warm bath, who otherwise might have been recovered, had the new means been resorted to.

One word to those who may chance to become the happy instrument of attempting to save a fellow creature from death. That one word is **PERSEVERE**. Cases of resuscitation have occurred, when the patient has been submerged half-an-hour; the recovery has been the reward of diligent perseverance in the use of the means continued for several hours.

In addition to the mechanical measures, we would suggest that *Lachesis*, if at hand, or can be obtained from a homœopathic chemist, or perhaps a domestic case of globules, be administered, by placing a few, four or six, globules on the tongue, and injecting, say fifteen

globules, in a pint of water into the rectum; the patient, of course, being put to bed as early as possible after the process.

THE READY METHOD IN ASPHYXIA.

By MARSHALL HALL, M.D., F.R.S., &c.

A young friend of mine has proposed to designate the postural treatment of asphyxia the *ready method*, no apparatus of any kind being required. I have adopted the suggestion.

Several important additions and improvements having been made in this mode of treatment, I think it right to lay the last and best form which it has assumed before your readers.

It will be obvious to all, that our main objects are—to renew respiration and improve the circulation. Our *means* are physiological and physical; our *RULES* as follow:

All obstruction of the glottis being removed by placing the patient in the *prone* position, in which any fluids and the tongue itself fall forward (*Rule I.*) our *first* effort is to *excite* respiration physiologically (*Rule II.*); our *second*, if this fail, is to *imitate* the acts of respiration mechanically (*Rule III.*); our next object is to endeavour to improve the circulation, which is done by promoting the flow of the venous blood, and to restore warmth in the limbs (*Rule IV.*); we again, as we proceed, revert to the physiological principle of *exciting* respiration from time to time (*Rule V.*)

RULES.

1. Treat the patient *instantly, on the spot, in the open air*, freely exposing the face, neck, and chest to the breeze, except in severe weather.

2. Send with all speed for medical aid, and for articles of clothing, blankets, &c.

I.—To Clear the Throat,—

3. Place the patient gently on the face with one *wrist* under the forehead;

[all fluids and the tongue itself then fall forwards, and leave the entrance into the windpipe *free*.]

II.—To Excite Respiration,—

4. Turn the patient slightly on his side, and

(i.) Apply snuff or other irritant to the nostrils, and

(ii.) Dash cold water on the face previously rubbed briskly until it is warm.

If there be no success, lose no time; but,

III.—To Imitate Respiration,—

5. Replace the patient on his face;

6. Turn the body gently, ~~but~~ *completely, on the side and a little*

beyond, and then on the face, alternately; repeating these measures deliberately, efficiently, and perseveringly, fifteen times in the minute, *only*;

[when the patient reposes on the thorax, this cavity is *compressed* by the weight of the body, and *expiration* takes place; when he is turned on the side, this pressure is removed, and *inspiration* occurs.]

7. When the *prone* position is resumed, make equable but efficient *pressure along* the spine; removing it immediately before rotation on the side;

[the first measure augments the *expiration*, the second commences *inspiration*.]

IV.—*To induce Circulation and Warmth*,—

continuing these measures :

8. Rub the limbs *upwards*, with *firm pressure* and with *energy*, using handkerchiefs, &c.

9. Replace the patient's wet clothing by such other covering as can be instantly procured, each bystander supplying a coat or a waistcoat.

Meantime, and from time to time,—

V.—*Again*,—*to Excite Inspiration*,—

10. Let the surface of the body be *slapped* briskly with the hand; or,

11. Let cold water be *dashed* briskly on the surface previously rubbed dry and warm.

The measures formerly recommended and now rejected by me are,—removal of the patient, as involving dangerous loss of time; the bellows, or any *forcing* instrument, and the warm bath as positively injurious; and galvanism and the inhalation of oxygen, as useless.

The inhalation of dilute pure ammonia has in it more of promise.

For the treatment of stillborn children, excitement of the skin, the alternate cool and hot bath (the temperature being 60° and 100° Fahr.), postural respiration, and rubbing with pressure upwards, are *the* remedies; but I propose to treat this subject more at length hereafter.

October, 1856.

THE "READY METHOD" IN ASPHYXIA.

SUCCESSFUL RECOVERY AFTER ORDINARY MEANS, TRIED
FOR AN HOUR, HAD FAILED.

By A. LEGAT, M.D., SOUTH SHIELDS.

Having had occasion to visit a lady, three or four miles distant, on the 3rd instant, as I drove to the door I was requested to go immediately to the coach-house to see an "extreme case." On entering the harness-room, I saw stretched *on his back* before a

warm fire, partially enveloped in blankets, a muscular-looking young man, surrounded by four or five others, one of whom was supporting his head. The lips and face were blue, the surface quite cold, and the body so rigid that the right hand, which rested over the pubis, and the left arm, bent at right angles over the chest, could not without difficulty be changed from their position. There was no pulse, and no respiration could be detected. A slight quivering was observed throughout the body for an instant, and in this movement seemed the only hope that life might be restored. Exactly an hour had elapsed since he was taken out of the sea, and at that time he spoke a few words. Blankets were taken down to the beach. He was well rubbed. An attempt was made to administer brandy, which it would appear he could not swallow, and he was then carried about four hundred yards to the room where I found him. He had been lying here about half an hour, *during which time he had not spoken*, and for the last ten minutes of it he had been in the condition above described. Those around him told me "they feared it was too late to be of use to him." I felt there was no time to be lost. The window of the room was ordered to be thrown open, and placing my watch on the floor before me, for the purpose of correct observation, I knelt down, and with my right hand on his left shoulder, and my left on the side of his chest, commenced the movements described by Dr. Marshall Hall. He was rolled gently over on his face, (the mouth and nostrils being carefully kept free,) and then back again on his side "and a little beyond" every four or five seconds. About seven minutes had elapsed when I heard more than one of the bystanders say "it was of no use;" but the movements were steadily persevered in, accompanied with occasional slappings with the open hand over the back of the chest, and rubbing of the limbs upwards by two assistants. *In twelve minutes* I first detected indications of returning respiration, and *in six minutes more*, accurately noted, the breathing was natural. I then made him swallow a little brandy, and saw him again in half an hour, before I left, perfectly safe.

Remarks.—Three months have just elapsed since the short but excellent rules, from the able pen of Dr. Marshall Hall, for the restoration of the drowned appeared in the *Lancet*, and now the second instance of remarkable recovery by their means is recorded. I could conceive no case which could put this new method more severely to the test than the present one. Every attention had been paid to the man from the moment he was removed from the water—warm blankets, continued rubbing of the body, the application of mustard, the administration of brandy, removal to a warm fire, &c.; and yet, notwithstanding all this, instead of getting better, he grew worse, and must inevitably in a few minutes more have been beyond all reach of art. And why? Because his kind and attentive neighbours, although doing their best for him, had been pursuing a plan

opposed to his recovery. Three causes evidently operated against the poor man—1st, the attempt to give brandy, which he could not swallow; 2ndly, the carrying him nearly four hundred yards; and 3rdly, the placing him *upon his back*, all of which, in his enfeebled condition, must have tended to re-produce and prolong the asphyxia. An hour elapsed, postural respiration was tried under this disadvantage, and in eighteen minutes the respiration was free!

It would be well if the Royal Humane Society would withdraw their old "rules," so liberally scattered about, and replace them with the concise and simple instructions of Dr. Marshall Hall. Ordinary intelligence and perseverance, with a knowledge of such rules, I feel certain, would be the means of saving very many lives.

I beg also to suggest to my professional brethren this plan for the purpose of resuscitating patients thrown into a critical condition from the administration of chloroform. The present method of seizing the tongue with forceps to pull it forward will be unnecessary, and command over the respiratory organs will be found to be surprisingly great.

In addition to the foregoing, Dr. Hadden, of Skibbereen, has sent to the *Lancet*, the following interesting case:—

"Skibbereen, Co. Cork, July 21st, 1856.

MY DEAR SIR,—I think it right to inform you, that within the last few days, I have had an opportunity of trying your new method of inflating the lungs, and I am happy to say the result has been most successful.

The case was that of a boy, about thirteen years of age, who, when bathing, got a cramp in the right leg, and after struggling for a considerable period, sank exhausted. He remained under water for nearly twenty minutes, and when brought to land appeared quite dead.

I happened to be passing at the time, and immediately put your plan into operation, and after continuing it for more than a quarter of an hour, he began to show some symptoms of returning animation.

His recovery is the most remarkable I have ever witnessed, and must have been impossible if treated according to the methods heretofore in use.

With much respect, I am, dear Sir, very truly yours,
DAVID HADDEN, M.D.

Dr. Marshall Hall."

To the above details the following were afterwards added:—

"Skibbereen, August 12th, 1856.

MY DEAR SIR,—I must rely altogether on the statements of others as to the exact time during which my patient was under water; but, from a variety of circumstances, I believe he could not have been less than from fifteen to twenty minutes completely sub-

merged after he had risen to the surface for the last time. The account is, that he breakfasted at nine o'clock, and immediately afterwards went to bathe, in company with another boy, about his own age. He had not been long in the water when he complained of cramp in his leg, and called for help to his companion, who immediately went to him, but had not strength to render him effectual assistance, and with difficulty escaped being dragged to the bottom by him. The alarm was then given, and assistance procured from a distance of at least an eighth of a mile, but when this arrived the body could not be seen. A man undressed, and dived in the place where the boy was last observed, and after much trouble succeeded in bringing him to the surface.

I was driving near the place at ten o'clock, and saw the body taken out of the water, and so completely was animation suspended, that even his own father, with other bystanders, thought it quite useless to attempt any remedial measures. However, I immediately spread a woollen cloak on the ground, placed the body in the prone position, and commenced the rotatory movements, having given directions that a careful person should support the head, while others were employed drying and rubbing the legs and entire surface. The sun was very hot at the time, and I left the body uncovered, to facilitate the rubbing. I also held liquor ammonia under the nostrils, and rubbed it over the region of the heart.

For fifteen minutes every exertion appeared useless. There was *then* a kind of respiration established. The breathing soon became loud, and accompanied by a kind of moan, which continued for several hours. At eleven o'clock, there was an attempt at vomiting, which was near frustrating all our exertions, as a portion of food got into the larynx, and had almost produced suffocation. At half-past eleven he was taken home. From that time there was some return of consciousness, but during the entire day he had considerable pulmonary and cerebral congestion, and this was followed by a severe attack of fever, which continued for ten days.

I am happy to say he is now completely recovered.

I am, dear Sir, very truly yours,

DAVID HADDEN.

To Marshall Hall, Esq., M.D., &c., &c."

MELANCHOLY EFFECTS OF OPIUM-EATING.

The *Daily News* of January 12th contains an account of the suicide of Mr. Higgs, coroner for the Duchy of Lancaster.

We quote the following account :

On Saturday evening Mr. Adamson, one of the summoning officers for Lambeth, received information that a gentleman had been found dead in bed at No. 7, Crosier-street ; and on proceeding to the place he

at once had his attention directed to the strong smell of the essential oil of almonds which pervaded the bedroom, and which became stronger as he approached the body. The unfortunate gentleman proved to be Mr. Thomas Higgs, her Majesty's coroner for the Duchy of Lancaster, and formerly for many years deputy-coroner for Westminster. There is little doubt that the deceased has for some years laboured under some delusions of mind, and has, it is stated, been for the last twenty years an inveterate opium-eater. "He was exceedingly partial," says the *Observer*, "to reporters for the press, and formerly his office in the Cloisters, Westminster Abbey, was open to them for information as to where his inquests were to be held, and, should business take him away, in order to accommodate them he posted his list in the window. He was very eccentric, and on one occasion, producing to a reporter a small preparation about the size of a pea, and having a hammer in the other hand, he seriously assured the party that, if he were to strike it but one blow, it would have the effect of hurling the cloisters and Westminster Abbey high into the air. On another occasion, a report having appeared of one of his inquests in the papers, which gave him some offence, on a reporter calling upon him for information as to that day's inquests, Mr. Higgs handed him a large hammer, saying, 'Sir, take this, and you will do me a great favour by knocking out my brains, for the papers to-day containing the report of my inquest yesterday have brought me into ridicule with the Queen and the public generally.' A more liberal or kind-hearted gentleman than Mr. Thomas Higgs could scarcely be found."

The following letters and other documents, found in the deceased's bedroom, will show that the unfortunate gentleman had for several months at least been a severe sufferer, both bodily and mentally:

A sheet of note paper contained the following, written in pencil by the deceased:—"As far as I can recollect my ideas, I think my affliction arises from the effects of the attack of paralysis when at Captain Meriton's, Lea Place, Kent. My memory at some times is very defective, and my great despondency is otherwise unaccountable. I frequently attend church and study the scriptures, with the prayers, 'Blessed Almighty God; and Jesus Christ our Saviour.' The grace of God and of our Saviour means favour."

At the corner of an old book was written, also in pencil, by the deceased, the following:—"In the event of my being taken ill, please send a messenger to my relation, William Green, Esq., at the House of Lords, or 89, Eccleston-square. If my wife disturbs me in my last illness, what I have left her will be forfeited. She is prohibited from interfering in any way."

An indented inquisition paper, such as the jurors sign at inquests, was found hanging to the top of deceased's bedstead, which contained the following, in the deceased's handwriting, which showed that the unfortunate man had suffered most acutely in bodily health:

"20th of August, 1856.

"I am dying from colic, with stoppage in the bowels of long standing. In the event of my being unable to transact business at inquests, please refer the constables to my deputy, John Payne, Esq., 2, Tanfield Chambers, Temple. The inquests account is in small boxes in the back room. Taplett's Charity papers in boxes, one in front room, the other in the back room. My friend I know would gladly see to my papers. The general and some principal papers are in drawers on the sideboard. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts will attend to my wants in emergency. (Signed) THOS. HIGGS.

"Born 7th of February, 1787. Appointed Deputy Coroner for Westminster in 1818. Appointed to the Duchy of Lancaster by patent, dated the 17th March, 1828; second patent, October, 1830."

The melancholy event has created a most painful sensation throughout the parish of Lambeth, owing to the respect the deceased was held in by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

Mr. W. Carter, coroner for Surrey, assembled a jury yesterday afternoon, at the Mitre Tavern, Bishop's-road, Lambeth, to investigate the circumstances attending the death of Mr. Thomas Higgs, for many years filling the office of coroner for the Duchy of Lancaster, and formerly deputy coroner for the City of Westminster.

Mrs. Anne Roberts, of No. 7, Crozier-street, Lambeth, said the deceased gentleman had occupied the first floor of her house for about two years, during the whole of which period he had been in an ailing state of health, frequently complaining of intense pain, and expressing fears that his mind would become affected by the severity of his bodily sufferings. He was of eccentric habits, and seldom allowed witness to enter his apartments, preferring to make his own bed, and generally to wait upon himself. Witness last saw him alive about half-past 7 o'clock on Friday evening, at which time he left home to post some letters. He returned directly, and passed a restless night, a fact which witness knew from having several times overheard him walking to and fro in his bedroom. Finding he did not get up at his usual hour on Saturday morning, witness had his bedroom door forced open, when the deceased was discovered lying in bed upon his right side as if asleep. On examination, he was found to be quite dead, though the body was not yet cold. A six-ounce druggist's bottle labelled "Ol Amygd. Essent.," in printed letters, and having the words "Essential Oil of Almonds" written thereon in ink, was found upon a table at the foot of deceased's bed, and upon a chair at his bedside was a large tea-cup, which had evidently contained a quantity of the oil.

Mr. Nicholls Miskin, surgeon, of No. 7, York-road, proved being called in and having found deceased quite dead. He had since made a *post mortem* examination, from which he was enabled to say that

death had resulted from the deceased swallowing essential oil of bitter almonds, half an ounce of which witness had found in a pure state floating in his stomach. There were traces of chronic inflammation of long standing about the upper hemispheres of the brain to such an extent as to be likely to occasion restlessness and uneasiness, and it might be aberration of mind. The right lung was adhesive to the side, and so much so, that witness had no doubt deceased must have occasionally suffered acute pain in this region.

Some instructions in the handwriting of deceased, which had been taken possession of by the summoning officer, were here produced. They were dated so long since as August last, and merely contained directions as to what the unfortunate gentleman would desire should be done in the event of being seized with sudden illness.

Corroborative evidence as to the unsound state of mind of Mr. Higgs, alluded to by the first witness, having been taken,

Mr. W. J. Payne, jun., barrister-at-law, of Tanfield Chambers, Temple, said he knew the deceased very well, and since 1849, in consequence of his bad state of health, had acted as his deputy in holding inquests in the Duchy of Lancaster. During last week witness received two letters from the deceased, complaining of illness, which he acknowledged on Thursday. On Friday, Mr. Higgs again wrote to witness as follows:—

“Mr. Higgs, with extreme feeling, thanks Mr. Payne for his last kind letter. Mr. Higgs is at present just able to be about, but he is very unwell.—7, Crozier-street, Lambeth, Jan. 9, 1857.”

Mr. Payne added that about two years ago Mr. Higgs, while suffering from severe illness, asked whether witness saw any harm in a person, whose life was a burden to himself and of no use to others, shortening his existence?

The Coroner having remarked on the melancholy nature of the case, paid a well-deserved tribute to Mr. Higgs's memory, and left the case to the jury, who instantly found a verdict of “Temporary Insanity.”

Thus it appears that the poor man whose death he himself caused, was in the practice of opium-eating.

The report states, “that there is little doubt that the deceased has for some years laboured under some delusions of mind, and has, it is stated, been for the last twenty years an inveterate opium-eater.”

Whether the delusions of the mind were attributable to the eating of opium, is an interesting question; we believe that they were.

He had been the subject of great bodily pain; his sufferings were often extreme; and it would appear from evidence produced at the inquest, that he had been in an ailing state of health for some time.

Deceived into a belief, too popular a belief, induced by the knowledge that medical men are in the constant habit of administering opium for the relief of painful symptoms, Mr. Higgs had recourse to

the dangerous substance in the hope that it would mitigate his sufferings; he was no doubt further deceived at finding that the relief he obtained was of a temporary duration only, and that when the effects of the opium subsided, his returning suffering demanded a still larger dose of the deadly drug.

That opium powerfully affects the brain, we have ample evidence afforded in the records of cases of poisoning by opium in Christison and other authors. The homœopathic *materia medica*, in addition, furnishes an amount of information of the mental and moral symptoms of pain, which have been observed by those who have proved the drug in health.

That the eating of opium habitually, induced a state of disturbance of the mental faculties, which led to the commission of the tragic act which terminated his sufferings, and with it his bodily life, there is, we think, no doubt, and it is lamentable to think of how many there are, even in this country, who habituate themselves to habits and practices of imbibing poisons.

Hahnemann thus describes the state of the habitual eater of opium: "The oriental opium-eaters are constantly in a state of the secondary effects of opium, after the effects of opium have subsided; *their mental powers are very much weakened* by the continued use of that drug; chilly, pale, bloated, trembling, low-spirited, weak, stupid, and with an evident feeling of internal discomfort and anxiety, does the opium-eater stagger to the opium shop in the morning to swallow his number of opium pills, in order to accelerate the course and restore the warmth of the blood; to raise his sunken spirits; to animate his cold and barren imagination with a few ideas; and to rouse for a time the activity of his paralytic muscles."

Constipation is one of the leading pathogenetic (disease producing) properties of opium, and from this condition it appears the late Mr. Higgs frightfully suffered.

The effects on the brain were evident by the appearances found at the *post mortem* examination of the head.

Opium, like strong drink, is a mocker; and "whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

DEAR SIR,—My acquaintance with homœopathy is but of recent date—scarcely of six months' standing—yet in that short space of time I have been enabled to do much good by means of its minute but potent remedies, among the poor of the small parish, of which I have the charge; and I am persuaded, even from the little experience that I have had, that it might become, in the hands of the

clergy, a most powerful instrument of doing good amongst their poor parishioners, and that too at no great expense, and without intruding to any great extent into the sphere of the medical man. For all who have any acquaintance with the poor must be aware that many among them often go on suffering from day to day with ailments for which they never think of calling in medical aid; either because they cannot afford to do so, or because they do not consider the case serious enough to require it. In such cases they often fly for relief to various nostrums, and quack medicines, or perhaps apply to the druggist for a powder, or a "penny-worth of pills,"—means from which, too often, instead of obtaining any alleviation of their case, they but experience an aggravation of it, and are fortunate if they do not add other ailments to that they are already suffering from.

Now if the clergyman of a country parish were to restrict himself to such cases alone, he might be the instrument of doing a vast amount of good, without *reasonably* exciting the jealousy of the medical man. In numerous instances he might be the means of conferring health and vigour, and of rendering life a source of happiness and positive enjoyment, instead of its being, as is too often the case, a burden wearisome to bear.

He would moreover be enabled to accomplish all this good without being harassed by the dread of doing any great mischief through mistakes; for even if he gave a wrong remedy in any case, no mischievous consequence would result,—so I conclude at least from the nature of the medicines, as well as from my own experience,—for although I have given them to people of all ages, from the infant of a week old, to the adult of three score and upwards, yet in no one instance have I found any evil consequences to arise, but on the contrary, in almost every case, positive benefit and alleviation of suffering.

By way of illustrating what I have above stated, I will briefly describe two or three cases in which I have given the homœopathic medicines. Almost the first case in which I gave them was that of a young man of my parish, a miner and labourer, who had been suffering for nearly two years from the consequences of a strain in the back, brought on by suddenly catching at a heavy mass that was falling towards him. The pain was at first confined to the back, but latterly it had extended to the side also, and he began to feel very uneasy about it, and to suspect that an internal abscess was forming, or something else equally dreadful. I gave him eight or ten globules of the *Rhus tox.* 6, and directed him to dissolve them in about half a tumbler of water, and take a dessert spoonful night and morning. I enquired about a week after whether he was any better, and was surprised to hear that the pain had wholly disappeared in two or three days, and that although he had for some days been engaged in extra hard work in rick making, yet the pain

had not returned at all, nor has he felt anything of it again to this day.

The second case I will describe was that of a family of children with highly inflamed and ulcerated mouths. On calling at the house where they lived I found the four children gathered round the fire; the eldest had been attacked more than a week before and his mouth was by this time nearly well, but he was still in a feverish state, and was suffering from alternate heat and chills; the other three had been suffering but a day or two; the whole interior of the mouth, as well as the tongue, was highly inflamed; the tongue, especially the under-side, was covered with small yellow ulcers, some as large as the circumference of a pea; the breath was hot and very offensive, and externally the glands of the neck were much swollen. For the eldest boy I left a few globules of *Aconite*, and for the others some globules of *Sulphur* and of *Mercurius solubilis*, with directions to give a dose of the first at night, and of the other in the morning. This was on the Sunday. When I called again on the following Wednesday I was pleased to find that all four were quite recovered and were out working or playing as usual. The three youngest therefore were cured of the disease in three or four days, and felt relief almost from the first dose; whereas the eldest, who had been treated merely with a little cooling or opening medicine, as it is called, was still far from well after nine or ten days suffering, and for how much longer he might have remained so I know not, if he had not had the *Aconite*; but this almost immediately dispelled all the feverish symptoms he was still suffering from, when I first saw him.

About three months ago the measles broke out in the parish and neighbourhood, and are still prevailing. During their prevalence I have treated many cases with homœopathic remedies, and always with signal success. Although the season has been by no means a favourable one for the disease, yet in almost every case where these remedies have been given, it has passed off in less than a week, without leaving any unfavourable symptoms behind, and in a few cases where a cough was left, two or three doses of *Phosphorus* or *Causticum* have sufficed to remove it.

I could mention many other cases in which I have given the remedies with beneficial results, and may perhaps at some other time describe some of them in detail, but I will now conclude with one not very important in itself, but somewhat amusing from its absurdity. A farmer came to me a few weeks ago and asked me whether I had anything that would cure tooth-ache, as he had long been suffering from it and could find nothing to give him relief. On enquiring what was the character of the tooth-ache he suffered from, he informed me that he did not feel it while out in the cold air, but that it almost invariably came on when he was in a warm room; I gave him some globules of *Pulsatilla*, and told him that

they would be almost certain to give him relief. Meeting him again about a fortnight after, I asked him how the tooth-ache was? He replied that it was well; but that he did not take the medicines at first, for he thought such little things could do no good, and that after suffering from his tooth for a few days longer he had had it taken out. This process effectually cured its aching; but (*horribile dictu!*) the next tooth now began to ache quite as bad; the aching seemed to be not the personal property of the deceased tooth, but to descend by entail to its next of kin. In this predicament he fled to the globules, and was agreeably surprised to find all the aching disappear after taking two or three doses, and he has had no return of it since. If I had known of it before, said he, perhaps I might have saved several teeth which I have had removed on account of their aching.

I have written sufficient I think at present to show that homœopathy might prove a great blessing to the poor in the hands of the clergy, or of any benevolent and intelligent persons in country parishes or elsewhere. For myself, the more I become acquainted with this system of healing, the greater is my confidence in it, and the more am I persuaded that its law is a law of nature—a law of healing established by divine benevolence—why so long concealed to human understanding is a mystery, but why so obstinately resisted when known is a greater mystery still.

I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

F.H.B.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

DEAR SIR,—The enclosed note came before me now, and I thought it might be of interest to some of your readers. It is so unusual for the *lumbricus*, or round worm, to appear, except as a solitary occupant of the intestinal canal, that I think the case worth recording. I fully explained to the anxious prescriber the action of *Cina*, and its incapability of producing or reproducing worms. I recollect the action of a few doses of *Sulphur* on one patient, (a woman of about 37 years). She expelled several feet of the tape worm, and appeared greatly alarmed at our little doses. In the *ascaris*, or thread worm, I have found *Arsenicum* most useful, but the *tænia*, or tape worm, yields in general quickest before *Sulphur*.

I am yours faithfully,

B. T. MASSEY.

Sydenham, S.E., January, 1857.

Pershore, Worcestershire, 29-12-56.

ESTEEMED FRIEND,—May I, at thy convenience, ask a question; or rather have it answered. A poor child was brought home for

diarrhœa. The case seemed very unsatisfactory; I, for nearly three weeks, gave three different medicines usually beneficial, without effect: I then concluded, the presence of worms must be keeping up the irritation, and gave *Cina* for six days in succession night and morning, prefacing it with *Aconite*. In that time, thirteen large round worms passed; five at one time, and seven since. The mother brought the result to be seen, that it might be believed. I confess, I was frightened at the result, fearing, whether by overdosing I had produced the disease. When the mother came two days ago, she said the diarrhœa had subsided, and the child appeared better. I have not seen her since; but gave very small doses of *Ipecacuanha*, night and morning, thinking it might be restorative, and still keep the tendency to the disease in view. Could such a startling result be from overdosing? Of course I did not suggest such an idea; but it has rather haunted me, and it would be a great satisfaction to know it was improbable. I never heard of such a case in a child four years old. If thou kindly answerest this, may I, now and then, (I will not be troublesome), ask thee as I used to in W.? I should be so grateful.

Ever sincerely,

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—I am, comparatively, a recent convert to the doctrine of homœopathy; this to me, especially as the father of a family, most desirable event, was brought about from actually witnessing its beneficial effects, and by studying and appreciating its simple and rational principles.

I need not, to your readers, enlarge on this; I would simply add, that I embrace every reasonable opportunity for commending the results of my own experience to the consideration of my friends; and it gives me pleasure to record that in one instance, this has helped to an event which I deem to be of importance, as manifesting the progress which homœopathy is quietly, but certainly making.

In the West of England there exists a large, flourishing, and rapidly extending Provident Institution, for affording in almost every known form, and suitable for all the industrial classes of society, provision in sickness, at death, old age, &c. I had the honour of being intimately associated with its formation and its growth up to last year, and therefore feel peculiar pleasure in knowing that the Board of Management, consisting of most intelligent and practical men, representing various grades of the wealthy, as well as the industrial classes, have recently *unanimously* elected a homœopathic practitioner, as one of its medical officers at the head office. His duties consist not only of medical ex-

aminations of applicants for admission, but also of attending in sickness or incapacity, those who may require medical assistance.

I am happy to learn further, that this gentleman's services are in active requisition, and that the field of his operations is already greatly extending, both in immediate connexion with the society, and the collateral results arising therefrom.

This simple fact is submitted to you, without further comment, for insertion in the *Record*, should you deem it of sufficient importance.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

“VERITAS.”

January 22, 1857.

EFFECTS OF OLD PHYSIC—THE MISERY IT SOMETIMES PRODUCES.

THE following is an extract from a letter recently received by Dr. Pearce from one who resides about thirty miles from Northampton. The misery inflicted upon him under orthodox physic is heart-rending:—“Being a neighbour of Mrs. D., and once in a respectable sphere of life, though ruined by doctoring, I have been averse to apply to you without the customary fee, but necessity has compelled me to apply somewhere, and from what I have read in the different papers lent me by Mrs. D., I have a strong desire to try homœopathy. . . . It is quite certain that the allopathic doctors have completely ruined me, I feel quite sure, without the least chance of entire restoration. You will know that *I have been poisoned by Mercury*. I read of your application for part of the Northampton Infirmary—may I ask if you were successful? and if so, how are the patients admitted?

My only apology is my pitiable state, which I will now describe if I can:—both legs are contracted as when sitting; the right one is ulcerated from the ankle to the knee; swelling of the bones about the joints; acute pains in every joint, and scarcely one that is not injured; *the palate of the mouth decayed*, and part of the bone gone, leaving a hole as large as a florin; both my leg and mouth are very offensive, when my bodily health is bad.

Dear Sir, may I trouble you to tell me if there can be anything done for me as five years and more have elapsed since the mercury was administered. I have been nearly six years unable to earn a living, and pitifully helpless during a great part of that time.” Such are some of the effects of mercury in allopathic treatment.

It is to be regretted that Northampton has not a homœopathic hospital for “incurables.”

REVIEW.

A Dialogue on the Theory and Practice of Medicine between an Allopath and a Homœopath. By HUGH HASTINGS, M.D. Aylott & Co., Paternoster Row.

THE volume before us is one of the most inviting treatises we have seen. It gives a popular exposition of the leading features of homœopathic medicine, and in the most happy and pleasing manner contrasts the two systems of medical practice—allopathy and homœopathy. For railway-reading it is most admirably suited; and we hope the author will supply every book stand at the railway stations. It deserves indeed to be classed with the shilling series, and a good shilling's worth too.

The scene of the dialogue is laid in a railway carriage, between the author—a homœopathic physician—and an old fellow-practitioner. The two combatants had not seen each other for a few years, and in the interim, one of them, the author, had become a convert to homœopathy; the other, his friend, still walking in the old paths, annoyed and confounded though he had been by losing a considerable portion of his practice through the success of a trespasser in the person of a homœopathic practitioner in his neighbourhood, whom the vicar had introduced on account of his lady having been brought through a dangerous illness, while in London, by a homœopathic M.D.

The dialogue discusses the leading fallacies of old physic and exhibits the advantages of the new. The author's reply to the sceptic concerning the *modus operandi* of infinitesimal doses is ably given. Space at present will not permit us to quote largely. We give the following from the thirtieth page of the hundred the book contains, and we may notice the volume on another occasion; but we strongly recommend our readers to purchase the book, it will do them good and their sceptical acquaintances also.

“Well! there seems to be a great deal of sound sense in what you say, but upon my honour, I cannot understand how either the millionth, much less the decillionth of a grain of medicine can do this, or how it can cure a case of inflammation. This fairly puzzles me, Hugh.”

“But surely James, you never mean to say that because you don't understand such a thing you don't believe it? If this be your idea, I fear you believe very little, as I am satisfied that you don't understand one in a thousand of the phenomena, which are occurring in your own mind and body, and which surround you on every side. Tell me! O tell me! dear boy, if you can, what are *thoughts*? Whence come they? Whither go they? What are they? and pray tell! O do incredulous James! how my indignation, two or three minutes ago, made my blood to boil in my veins, crimson my cheek, parch my tongue, when I *thought* of allopathic practices and how a few minutes of calm *thought* subdued all my feverish state, and produced a calm.

“I cannot tell you.”

“Neither tell I thee, by what power homœopathic medicines subdue Inflammation; sufficient for me to know that when it is given according to the law of *similia similibus curantur*, it quells in a few hours, the majority of all inflammations.”

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 5.—VOL. 2.

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NEW SERIES.—PRICE 2D.

TO OUR READERS.

“HOMŒOPATHY is going down,” said a physician of the old school very lately. It is going down—not, however, in the sense he wished. It is going down in the minds of the public. Everywhere the people direct their attention to the subject. They try it—they adopt it as their medical creed; and if not acquainted with the scientific characters of homœopathy, they at least recognise in it a power to heal, more pleasant, more speedy, more effectual. All classes of society are awaking to a sense of the absolute danger of physic as it is. They are, so to speak, becoming emptied of the old leaven. The physician, the apothecary, and the druggist are alike becoming materially affected by the progress of homœopathy. Some of them admit it, others readily confess it; their antagonism, therefore, is natural. When the pocket of an Englishman is touched, he is no longer sleepy. In this country upwards of a million of persons have adopted homœopathy. They patronize some hundreds of qualified medical practitioners. In all the principal towns, Homœopathic Dispensaries are flourishing. In London there are many. Hospitals for the reception of in-patients are multiplying. London, Manchester, and Doncaster, have each a Homœopathic hospital. Northampton, Birmingham, and Liverpool will soon also possess similar institutions. We mention these facts that our readers may be prepared when they hear the above reiterated phrase “going down,” to treat it as it deserves. The meeting in Northampton reported in our present number

was an important one. Such meetings truly indicate the feeling of the people on a subject affecting their best physical interests—their health. The meeting, successful as it was, and admirable as were the speeches, was not so complete as the managers wished. Several gentlemen were prevented by professional engagements, or the whole subject of Hahnemann's system of medicine would have been elucidated. As it was we hear that universal approbation was manifested. Many have remarked that they would gladly have remained longer, although the meeting occupied three hours and a half. The hospital question is now thoroughly on foot in Northampton, and it is earnestly hoped that every friend of homœopathy will cast each his and her gift into the treasury, that the object may be forthwith accomplished.

Just as we are going to press, we have received a report of the monster assembly in St. George's Hall, Liverpool, in aid of the Homœopathic Hospital fund in that populous seaport town. An oratorio was given, and the building was densely crammed in every part. Our readers shall have a report in our next.

At the same moment we received the following extract from the will of a late friend of homœopathy. This is encouraging, and we hope that the example will be followed by affluent adherents to homœopathy.

"I leave to the Trustees of the Homœopathic Hospital at Birmingham, if established at my decease, or if not then established, I leave to Dr. Fearon, of 9, Calthorp Street, Edgbaston, Birmingham, the sum of five hundred pounds, in trust, to be employed by him for the benefit of any Homœopathic Establishment he may think fit to give it to. I have such confidence in his honour and discretion that I feel sure he will make the best use of the same.

In case Dr. Fearon should die before me, I declare my will to be, that I leave the said five hundred pounds to the Trustees of any Homœopathic Hospital, in London, to be applied to the benefit of that Institution, as the Trustees of that Hospital think fit, of course with a view of increasing the usefulness of that Hospital so as to allow of the admission of more patients."

POPULAR EXPOSITIONS OF HOMŒOPATHY.

After numerous efforts to write down homœopathy, the *Lancet* has given up the task as a hopeless one, finding homœopathy similar in constitution to some patients, who, often bled, increase in proportions, and at last get quite plethoric.

Homœopathy has proved itself too big to be killed with such a ridiculously insignificant weapon.

The endeavour to smother homœopathy by alarming its practitioners having significantly failed, the plan now adopted to kill the new system of healing is by misrepresenting it, and so endeavouring to frighten it out of the laity who have profited or may be benefited by its healing powers.

The most objectionable popular exposition we have lately seen is the one in *Household Words Almanack*. The mixture of ridicule and untruths in the professed explanation, and the considerable number of the *Almanack* sold, render it our duty to expose its untruthfulness, and repudiate its errors.

In the second paragraph of the article homœopathy, under the head of *Serviceable Information*, p. 11, the writer quotes Hahnemann's directions for shaking the dilutions, thus: "I have been forced by experience to reduce the number of shakes to two, of which I formerly prescribed ten to each dilution." Now we should naturally suppose, as Hahnemann has some years since passed on to a higher state of existence, that any writer, professing to present the public with a truthful expression of Hahnemann's doctrines, would give his last conclusion. The above is not such, for after this was written, we find Hahnemann, in the 3rd vol. of his *Chronic Diseases*, writing, "I have found that ten strokes are *not* too many, and that it becomes therefore my duty to recant the doctrine which I have promulgated on this head." We rather feel veneration for the carefulness of the Master in these little matters, which the curative action of infinitesimals taught him, as it should teach us, not to despise.

In the fourth paragraph of the article homœopathy, it is stated, "Andral, a great French physician, being in good health, tested homœopathy by taking *Quinine*—the undoubted remedy for ague, in the requisite quantity—without giving himself ague, and that he tried publicly homœopathic treatment upon one hundred and twenty or one hundred and thirty patients, in the presence and under the direction of the homœopaths themselves, without being in any one instance successful."

As it is exceedingly difficult to prove a negative, we shall not now enter upon the trials of Andral with *Quinine*, as he has not made the matter public beyond his own statement—reliance upon which we shall leave to our readers to please themselves respecting, after they have perused the following. Here let us however state, that

we do not expect *Quinine* to produce ague, neither is it necessary to the truth of homœopathy that it should.

The experiments* of M. Andral were made in the Hôpital de la Pitié, at Paris, in the year 1834, and published in the *Bulletin General de Therapeutique* of September, 1834, in which only fifty-four experiments were made. M. Andral made many others after the publication of this article, but did not publish any account of them; indeed he probably had not the means of doing so, for so loosely had every thing been managed, that, when giving his evidence on the subject before the academy, he was unable to state the number of patients he had treated. See Leon Simon, *Lettre a M. le Ministre de l'Instruction Publique*, Paris, 1835.

The experiments were not made in the presence, and under the direction of the homœopaths themselves, as is too evident from the report of M. Maxime Vernois "interne" to M. Andral. In this report, it is stated, (p. 319) that a faithful application was made of the "principles and ideas" of Hahnemann; and the diet such as he prescribes. The report states that out of fifty-four patients, eight permanently recovered. This does not altogether prove the writer of "serviceable information," a writer of truthful information. Out of the fifty-four experimented upon, the result of treatment, in nineteen instances, was not published. Why? Perhaps the writer of the report had a dislike to truthful information, and preferred serviceable information, *i.e.*, information that would serve his purpose.

With respect to diet; the same page of the "bulletin" which says the diet was such as Hahnemann prescribed, says, wine was administered to all the patients who could eat; and we further learn, salt was entirely prohibited. Amongst the thirty five cases we notice seven of fevers-or inflammations, such as acute inflammation of the joints, four of consumption, one of congestion to the head, four diseases of the heart, one paralysis, four bronchitis, one defective vision, four inflammation of the stomach, one pleurisy, one lumbago, four uterine diseases, &c., one diarrhœa, one constipation, one mercurial disease.

Serious cases most of them, some of months and years standing; yet we find *none* of them received more than one dose of the homœopathic remedy, the administration of which was followed by some days of inaction, and then, if not cured, they were turned over to allopathy. Such treatment is not "according to Hahnemann's ideas," nor those of his followers.

With regard to treatment, we find Andral displaying much originality in this matter. In one instance of disease of the heart and uterus, he selects the medicine by reference to a state of the bowels; in another, a case of consumption, he gives a remedy

* For the information respecting M. Andral's experiments, we are indebted to Dr. Irvine's article in the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, vol. ii.

on account of giddiness; and Andral selected the remedies, *not* as the writer of "serviceable (?) information" states, "under the direction of the homœopathists themselves," but according to the dictates of fancy. The only work, having in it the provings of medicine, at that time translated into French was Hahnemann's *Chronic Diseases*, containing accounts of provings of twenty-two valuable remedies; the other work of provings, *Materia Medica Pura*, not being then translated into the French language; yet we find M. Andral, instead of seeking amongst the twenty-two remedies for curative agents, did not in any one of the cases use a single medicine of which he knew the provings, for he did not understand German. On this account M. Vernois, in his tract on "*Homœopathie, &c.*," endeavours to excuse his blunders, by admitting his incapacity to perform the experiments, through ignorance as to the action of the medicines, and says it was unavoidable (ignorance obligée). Oh, Mr. Serviceable Information! Are we to let you off on so light a plea? You don't deserve it—for such ignorance either in Andral or yourself, or in any one, who attempts to explain that which he wots not of is *unexcusable*.

All who desire, can, with little trouble, possess themselves of a correct idea of homœopathy.

To those not desirous of entering minutely into matters, we would offer the following exposition of homœopathy, and the small dose, as explained by the late Rev. T. B. Everest.

"Let us take a medicine, any one, *Aconite* for instance. If I give sufficient of it to you and twenty others, all of whom are in health, it will make you all thirsty, hot, feverish; it will give a parched tongue, a hot and dry skin, and a full feverish pulse. Well now reverse the case. If you and the same twenty people are ill, and you complain of thirst, heat, fever, parched tongues, hot and dry skins, and full feverish pulse; why if you and the other twenty take *Aconite*, it is very clear that it will then act on the organs which are already affected. Well, you say, so far is very simple and easy. Proceed, what next? What next? nothing! I have told you the whole story. Dear me, you answer, quite mystified, what do you call this? why a *BABE* could have found this out! I don't know that! the medical profession have been 3000 years about it, and we call it homœopathy."

"But homœopathy is generally understood to mean small doses; this is not the meaning of the word at all. But as a sick man can't carry a sack of flour as easily as he could when well; as a man with a leg lately broken cannot bear his whole family on his knee as he used to do; as a man who has the gout in his toe cannot bear to have the toe trod on without roaring out; so your inflamed organ whatever it be, cannot bear the same load of medicine. Experience alone has brought us down to these little doses. The good old system which acts on any organs but those that want to be acted on,

was not troubled with any niceties in the business. But the new system, having to convey its medicines to organs already highly irritated, was obliged to modify its onslaught, for it required but little to make the irritated organs roar again. In short, the maxim of the new medicine is to cure 'safely, quickly, and pleasantly;'—act directly on the disturbed organs, and no other, with the least possible doses:—after all, the discoveries of Hahnemann have taken the question out of the old route. It is no longer a question of more or less matter, but of elective attraction, whose intensity is not measured by weight or size."

Others, desiring more thorough acquaintance with the truths of this system of medicine, cannot do better than thoughtfully read the lucid and comprehensive tracts on homœopathy, written by Dr. Sharp, of Bugby:—a work which, in this country, has reached its seventh edition, and of which tens of thousands of copies have been printed and circulated in America.

One popular exposition of homœopathy, lately printed in a neat little work, called "*The Interview*," we quote with a feeling of pleasure, particularly as it is written by a member of the allopathic body.

"Homœopathy.—The practice of dividing medicines infinitesimally, is *not* an essential principle of homœopathic practice, which is founded upon the principle, *similia similibus curantur*. The method consists essentially in the administration of medicines which are presumed to excite in healthy persons symptoms similar to those of the disease. Thus, eruptions of the skin being produced by sulphur, sulphur is applied as a cure; *Quinine* producing intermittent febrile symptoms, is used as a specific for ague; and arsenic, in minute doses, being found to give rise to symptoms analogous to those of cholera, is indicated as the specific for that frightful disease. Though disciples of the allopathic school, we cannot deny that singular success has attended homœopathic practice on several occasions; as, for instance, in the treatment of the cholera in England and Russia; and still more singularly, in the treatment of the destructive typhus, which contributed to the depopulation of Ireland. As with phrenology and other sciences, the professors of homœopathy have been too often its greatest enemies, by claiming for its practice, &c., higher value than really belongs to it. A large proportion of those who practise homœopathy adopt the plan of administering medicine in a state of minute subdivision, on the ground that medicines so presented to the absorbing surfaces of the body more rapidly pass into the blood; but we have never heard any person argue that 'the smaller the dose the greater the effect.' Mr. Sampson's work is the best popular treatise on the subject, we believe."

BELLIS.

(To be continued.)

ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
NORTHAMPTON
HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

The Annual Meeting of the Northampton Homœopathic Dispensary was held at the George Hotel Assembly Rooms, on Thursday Evening, February 12th, 1857. There was a much greater attendance than on any previous occasion, the room being completely thronged. The audience was of a most respectable character, and was of itself a sufficient testimony of the interest which homœopathy is exciting in the town and neighbourhood. Sir Charles Isham, Bart., the President of the Society, occupied the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the meeting, said that, since the institution of the Homœopathic Dispensary in 1851, much had been accomplished. It had been useful in a two-fold manner; for it had not merely been successful in relieving the wants of many who had sought its aid, but it had also brought the subject of homœopathy before the attention of many who otherwise would never have taken the trouble to investigate it. They had met that evening, however, with the special view to obtain a fuller explanation of homœopathy itself. Upon so apparently mysterious an agent, a little more knowledge would be extremely useful, and even necessary; and he hoped that the speakers who were to follow would confine their remarks more particularly to an elucidation of the important truth. He then called upon the Secretary to read the report.

Mr. RAPIER read the report as follows:—

The committee of the Homœopathic Institution congratulate the subscribers and the working classes on the progress of the dispensary since it was first opened, in the year 1851. The prospectus issued in that year set forth the objects of the institution as being—
1st, To give relief to the poor, as out-door patients, who are unable to pay the usual fees. 2nd, To provide attendance on patients at their own homes. 3rd, To receive into the house those suffering from acute diseases, as soon as the funds of the institution will permit. 4th, To afford opportunity to the members of the medical profession, who may be desirous of witnessing the practice of homœopathy in a public institution, for which every facility will be given by the committee and medical officers. The third object, viz., The providing beds for the reception of in-patients, has not yet been accomplished.

Opportunity has been, and is, afforded to the members of the medical profession to witness the practice of homœopathy in this institution. The committee regret, however, that the medical men of the town and county have not availed themselves of the opportunity thus presented to them. The committee take this opportunity of reminding the friends that the institution is sustained in three ways, viz.,—1st, By honorary contributions—yearly or otherwise. 2nd, By the small payments, monthly, of the sick. And 3rd, By the payments of one penny per week of the working classes in health, entitling them to medical advice and attendance when sick. Your committee would call attention to the increased attendance of patients. The admissions during the past year have considerably exceeded those of the previous year; and, since the 1st Sept., 1856, the date to which the medical report is made up, the admissions have been 497, being an increase of more than 100 per cent. over the corresponding period in last year. The provident department of the institution, only recently commenced, exhibits the growing preference of the working classes for homœopathic treatment, the weekly payments being gradually and constantly increasing. Your committee in noticing the fact that the interested opponents of homœopathy are busily engaged in mis-representing the facts, by stating that homœopathy is going down, would call attention to the progress of the institution, unknown in Northampton until six years ago. Your committee consider the best answer to the objections of the sceptic to be the fact, that since the establishment of the institution, upwards of *three thousand, three hundred* patients have been admitted to the benefits of homœopathic treatment; such patients suffering from every variety of disease, acute and chronic; very many of them having been attended at their own homes by the honorary medical officers and house surgeon, the time of the latter being engaged principally in visiting such as are unable to come to the Dispensary. Your committee in presenting the financial report, congratulate the subscribers on the increased amount of annual subscriptions, the receipts and expenditure being larger in the year just ended than in any other year since the institution was opened. In the past year the poor have contributed no less than £95 10s., while the honorary subscriptions and donations have amounted to £103 8s. The receipts, including £1 9s. 3d. from money boxes, amounted in the past year to £200 7s. 3d.; the disbursements to £211 16s. 9d., leaving a balance against the institution of £11 9s. 6d. The institution having commenced the year with a debt of £50 2s. 10½d., due to the treasurer, is in debt on the general account £61 12s. 4½d. This amount your committee trust will be promptly liquidated by additional subscriptions and donations, believing as they do that there is a large number of adherents of homœopathy in the town and county who have not yet contributed to the support of so useful an institution. In calling attention to the balance

sheet, your committee would not fail to point out the great difference in the cost of medicines between allopathic and homœopathic institutions; for while at the Northampton General Infirmary, in the past year, the medicines cost 2s. 6d. per head, in the Northampton Homœopathic Institution the cost was only 1s. per head, including the expenses of dispensing during four months; while by the recent adoption of the plan of dispensing at the institution, the present cost of medicine for each patient is only 6d. per head, being less than one fifth the cost at the General Infirmary. 3066 patients, treated in the past year at the General Infirmary, cost for medicines £400; the cost for a similar number treated homœopathically would not amount to £50, effecting a saving of £350 a-year in medicines alone. The number of prescriptions dispensed in the past year was 8657, shewing the appreciation of the working classes of the blessings of homœopathic aid. The number of patients admitted to the institution last year was, men, 115; women, 367; children, 178; making a total of 660; 460 being town residents, and 200 from parts of the county comprising 63 towns and villages. As a county institution its utility is seen in the fact, that within a period of four years, 600 patients have been admitted from 110 towns and villages comprised in a radius of twenty miles. And the committee, knowing the difficulty which the sick experience in visiting the institution, more especially in inclement weather, have, with the assistance of the medical officers, opened branch dispensaries in Kettering, Roade, and Hanslope, which the residents have availed themselves of with success. Regret is often felt by the medical officers that many cases, fit objects for an hospital as in-door patients, have been driven, against their will, to allopathic infirmaries; for the relief of such it is earnestly hoped that the committee may be enabled to provide beds for their reception, and the committee respectfully and urgently entreat those who have experienced in themselves and families the superior efficacy of homœopathic treatment liberally to respond to the appeal for donations and subscriptions, that a homœopathic hospital may be forthwith opened.

The Rev. T. HUTTON, of the County Gaol, Northampton, then moved the first resolution,—

“That the report just read be adopted.”

The Rev. T. Hutton, in moving this resolution, said he considered the report was admirably drawn up, beside being most satisfactory and encouraging. He only hoped every successive year would prove equally progressive and equally gratifying.

Mr. P. P. PERRY, of Northampton, seconded the resolution, which was unanimously carried.

The Rev. J. TURNER, of Tiffeld Rectory, then rose to propose the next resolution,—

“That the increasing desire shown by the working classes of the town

and county to have the benefits of homœopathic treatment be encouraged by the establishment of branch dispensaries in various towns and villages, where practicable."

He remarked that he was not in the habit of attending, much less of speaking at, public meetings, but that now he felt under special obligations to do so. When Dr. Pearce, on the previous Saturday night, invited him to attend, he was suffering from severe inflammation of the throat; and he considered it a good joke to be asked to address a public meeting, when he was scarcely able to articulate a syllable. At that time he was writing a sermon, with the most forlorn hope of ever being able to preach it. Dr. Pearce gave him a homœopathic medicine to relieve his disorder; and, to his astonishment, his voice was sufficiently restored the very next day, that he was able to deliver his sermon with comfort. He thus felt bound to use his recovered organ of speech, in saying a few words to that assembly on the value of the homœopathic system of medicine. In doing so, he was glad to be able to speak unprofessionally; for, in common with other clergymen, when adverting to anything connected with religious topics, he was told that he spoke "according to his trade." But, under the circumstances in which he then stood before them, this could not, he was happy to feel, be urged. His conversion to homœopathy took place sixteen years ago; but at that time he did not embrace the whole of the tenets which it propounded, and it was only six years ago that he became a thorough and loyal believer in its truths. It had been said, that if you wish to appeal to an Englishman you should touch his pocket; and with a sense of the benefits which homœopathy had conferred upon him in this respect, he could speak experimentally. His family consisted of five or six children, and he had never been obliged to call in surgical aid, except on one or two occasions, and then only to enquire what was the matter with the child. And its beneficent results were not confined to his own family; for, if any one was ill amongst the residents of his little parish, it was the custom to apply to him for advice, which he never scrupled to give. He then read a list of the cases which he had treated; some of which were of a very acute nature, and others of long standing; but in all he had arrived at a more or less successful issue. "I shall never forget the day," he observed, "in 1854, when the cholera raged so fearfully at Towcester. I can assure you my people never went into the town, a distance of about two miles, without saying they had the belly-ache on their return. When any symptoms of the fatal disease did arise, they immediately sent for me; and, by the administration of homœopathic medicines, they were promptly and effectually subdued. On one occasion, in particular, an old lady sent for me, just as I was setting out for the train, to see her son. I told her it was perfectly impossible—were I to do so the train would be gone. 'Oh! but,' she said, 'do come

and look at him.' I protested that I could not, but asked her to describe his condition. She did so, as well as she was able; I prescribed one drop of *Ipecacuanha*, and the disease was at once subdued. In measles, too, I have been equally successful. You all know how greatly children are exposed to the damp and wet in the month of November,—how, especially in country places, they may be seen leaving their beds as early as five o'clock in the morning, to stand at the street door, and thus be open to all the injurious effects of a foggy atmosphere. In this month, then, I was called to visit a number of children, in one family, who were suffering from an acute attack of the measles. I administered *Pulsatilla* and *Aconite*, and, afterwards, *Sulphur*, to remove the dregs of the disease, which are often more dangerous than the disease itself. In a very short time they all recovered. I relate these circumstances, not to glorify myself, but merely to show how mighty an agent we have at our command, when efficiently wielded. I will now say a few words on scarlet fever, whose fatal tendencies must be familiar to you all. It pleased God to visit my wife with this dire scourge; and, during her illness, I attended her, nursing and doctoring her entirely myself; and, by God's mercy, she also recovered. Only two of my family were attacked with it—the one but slightly, the other, as Dr. Pearce can testify, very severely; but even the latter, in a few weeks, was restored. At this very moment I have children lying ill of the same epidemic. An allopathic friend—a person whom I much respect—as he witnessed the favourable progress of one of my little girls, candidly admitted that, as she appeared to be going on so well with my medicine, she had no need of his. There is one circumstance which has occurred in my family, which has deeply impressed upon my mind the value of homœopathy. It was, indeed, partly to relate it that I came forward this evening. One of my sons was afflicted with a dreadful disease—malignant scarlatina; so loathsome as to cause an insufferably fœtid smell to fill the chamber where he lay, and to render him almost unapproachable. Purulent matter poured from his nostrils. In fact, it was nearly allied in its symptoms to that frightful disorder to which horses are subject, and which is the precursor to their being shot by the hand of their owner. I mean glanders. I applied to Dr. Pearce, and I cannot speak too highly of his skill and kindness. After observing the condition of the child, he gave me a remedy, whose name he dared scarcely to whisper in my ear. What was it, then, that saved this victim of the terrific glanders? It was nothing less than an infinitesimal dose of the pus or matter taken from the nostrils of a horse which had died of that disease. In eight hours after the remedy was administered, the whole symptoms were changed; and in forty-eight hours the patient was out of danger. I need say but few words further upon the merits of homœopathy, after relating this fact." The speaker then remarked upon the advantages which would accrue

to the public by the establishment of dispensaries, or the settlement of practitioners in some of our smaller towns, as being the radiating points to which the neighbouring villages might more conveniently apply. The readiness of procuring a properly-qualified medical attendant, the less inconvenience he would have to sustain, by travelling shorter distances, and the smaller charges which he would in consequence demand, were all mentioned. "We unprofessional men," he proceeded to observe, "are a kind of pioneers or jackals. We make people sensible of the benefits of homœopathy, and thus open their way to the lions of professional men. Stepping from the ranks of orthodox opinion, we are like emigrants in a strange land. It is for this reason that I have furnished myself with a large edition of an extensive work—'Laurie's Domestic Medicine,' in order that, isolated from my friends and neighbours, I may have a ready work for reference in cases of emergency. In the days of our Saxon forefathers, the barons used to send for the missionaries from the towns, as they required them, for their serfs; and thus, little by little, the leaven of Christianity was spread throughout the land. Thus were the parishes formed and supplied as we now see them, each with its attendant minister. In homœopathy it will be the same. I hope every market town, and every hamlet, will be efficiently supplied from the regular medical staff of the cities. I believe that the time will soon come, when there will not be a man in any village, however small, who will not reap the benefits to be derived from the immortal truth brought to light by Hahnemann."

Mr. N. FISHER, of Milton, in seconding the resolution, said he trusted it would meet with the unanimous wish of that meeting that an institution of that kind should be established in every county town. He had no doubt that great benefit would result to the adherents of homœopathy.

Dr. LAURIE, of Dunstable, supported the resolution. He said that he had, a short time before, received a letter from the Luton Union, informing him of a vacancy for a medical officer, and appointing a day for applications to be sent in. He wrote to enquire in return, whether hydropathy and homœopathy would be allowed to be practised as curative means? Although it was a serious matter if the medical man, who was practising in a poor-law institution, was to be prevented from carrying out his conscientious views, his answer was, that the Poor Law Board had refused to allow such a practitioner in the case of the Shields Union, and there could be no doubt that the same refusal would follow in this case. He mentioned that, a short time since, a patient, who had been consulting him at Redburn, had been salivated by the old-school practitioners, and had, in consequence, lost all her teeth; which, being perfectly sound and good, she was anxious to have shown, as an evidence of the evils of allopathic treatment. [He exhibited

them to the view of the audience, and left them before them for inspection.]

The Rev. J. T. BROWNE, of St. Edmund's, Northampton, moved the third resolution :

"That this meeting, believing in the superior efficacy of homœopathy in all diseases, resolves that steps be taken forthwith for the opening of a county hospital, for the reception of in-door patients."

He said : " My own increasing knowledge and experience of homœopathy for sixteen years have been sufficient to convince me, as the resolution states, of its superior efficacy, and of the many advantages it possesses over other systems of medicine. That general conviction is not growing weaker upon the subject is evident from the numbers who are continually flocking to its standard. There are, indeed, many advantages attached to it, which are obvious at a first glance, and which may be specifically stated. 1st, The absence of those violent remedies which characterize the treatment of other systems; such, for instance, as the severe tortures inflicted by the lancet, mustard plaisters, and those filthy blisters, which make the adage, 'The remedy is worse than the disease,' true, that a man would rather submit to the horrors of disease, than consent to suffer their infliction. 2ndly, As far as my own experience goes, it does not induce any debility to the patient, other than what the disease itself brings about. Many an unfortunate and hapless one has fallen a victim to the evils which the medicine produces. The third superiority would be very intelligible to all nurses and mothers. It is that the medicines themselves are so tasteless, that the little children do not shrink from taking them. When an unfortunate child was taken up to be dosed under the old system, the mother was obliged to coax it, and to wheedle it; to state that the medicine was very sweet, when in reality it was very bitter; and, perhaps, ultimately to throw the little victim on the bed, in order to force the physic down; when a part would be squirted on the mother, a part on the bed-clothes, and a very little actually go down, which was no sooner down than it came up again. (Laughter.) The only remedy was to repeat the dose, when the same phenomena would naturally recur. I would observe, in conclusion, that I merely express a conviction which is dear to me when I assert, that the proposition for a county hospital cannot be deferred for a long time, at any rate; and we hope that there are many in the county of Northampton who would willingly support this resolution."

The Rev. T. HUTTON then seconded the resolution.

Mr. ANDERSON, of London, rose to support it. Before he proceeded to address them upon the subject which was more particularly engaging their attention, he could not forbear expressing the pleasure he felt in visiting the town of Northampton once more. He had already had the pleasure of delivering two courses of lectures

in the town; it was, therefore, with much gratification that he accepted the invitation he had received to be present at that meeting. "The particular line of remark," he said, "to which I shall limit my observations this evening, will be chiefly in reference to objections to homœopathy; and I had intended to confine myself to the consideration of one objection, which is, in fact, *the* objection to homœopathy, viz., the small dose. But there is one other objection which has occurred to me through the remarks made by the gentlemen who have already spoken, of which I would fain disabuse the public mind; viz., that no previous medical education is required, to prepare a man to become a homœopathic practitioner. There are many who have come under my own observation, who believe the system to be good, but who have not the opportunity to test it as they would desire, because they cannot procure the services of a regularly educated practitioner. I say that all the attention a man can give, and all the aids he can procure, will be required to treat his patients under the homœopathic system. We invariably find when we go to the bedside of the sick that the whole of our regular knowledge is needed, and often a great deal more than we have been able previously to acquire. I was greatly struck with the remarks which were made upon the treatment of the little child; and, with reference to the medicine employed, I would observe, that the same remedy has been used in many similar cases. There is a bare possibility that in some other serious diseases it will be productive of a beneficial result. I myself was once called out to visit a patient who appeared to be dying, and who seemed exactly like a person under the influence of chloroform. Struck with the idea, I immediately despatched a messenger to obtain some as a remedy, administered it, and the sufferer in a short time recovered. With these few remarks, I will address myself to the objections to homœopathy. As a system which is comparatively new, and the treatment of which is so entirely different to that of the current system, it would be remarkable if no objection were brought against it. But I think I am right in saying, that that which is most frequently urged as a proof of its absurdity, is its small dose. If there was something more sensible, something more to appreciate, the human mind would yield a readier credence to homœopathy. I may remark, however, that homœopathy is not a question of the smallness or largeness of its doses. You will ask, then, in what does it consist? I simply reply, in a recognition of the law *similia similibus curantur*. There are, however, certain points involved in a recognition of that law, which must also be attended to; such as, first, that only *one* medicine should be given at a time; secondly, that such medicine should be rightly chosen; and thirdly, that that medicine must be given in doses comparatively small. I use the term '*comparatively*' small with reference to the doses of allopathic practitioners. But allow me for one moment to illustrate. Suppose we are called to

the bedside of a person affected with erysipelas, and the medicine *Belladonna* is chosen as a remedy for that disease. The symptoms which *Belladonna* produces are not absolutely those of erysipelas; but that they are very similar to it, may be proved not only from the materia medica of Hahnemann, but from that of Pereira and others. Now, as this medicine has a direct and powerful action upon the part affected, and as this part is very susceptible to the action of that medicine, you would caution me at once to take care not to give too large a dose of it, lest it should seriously injure the morbid part. Let us take another illustration. Let us be called upon to treat a case of constipation—which I mention in order to introduce opium. Would any one ask for a dose of laudanum to cure it? Would he not rather ask for epsom salts? But the principle being admitted, we find that opium is really antagonistic to the disease; and even a child would see that a small dose of it must be taken. Many natural objections may indeed be raised. The mind is so predisposed to take up the idea of massiveness, that we must make allowances for its prejudices. And in doing this I will not be harsh. I will freely acknowledge before you this evening that when, many years ago, I began studying homœopathy, the greatest difficulty was to unlearn what I had previously learned, and to remove the prejudices which clung to my early associations. Still I must say, that our opponents entertain very many prejudices which are absolutely ridiculous. We see the corn springing up as a result of the sowing of the seed, but we cannot comprehend the working of the process. Here, then, is an operation of every-day life which we believe but do not understand. The conduct of our opponents in not coming forward fairly to investigate the matter, forcibly reminds me of the story of the professor of Padua, whom Galileo invited to look through his telescope to see the moons of Jupiter, that he might himself be satisfied of the truth of the philosopher's statements. 'Science,' he said, opposed the new theory; and the professor would not look through the telescope, lest he should see the moons. Let us now look at some of the evidences which we have from analogy. How many influences are there at work silently amongst us, those to which we ourselves shall own we are subject, medical, non-medical, and morbid! Will any one deny that electricity and galvanism exercise a great effect upon the human frame? But, infinitesimal particles of actual medicines have, in extraordinary instances, been known to produce striking results. I will refer you to *Ipecacuanha* and *Mercury* alone—the more so, because *Ipecacuanha* is not by any means a powerful medicine, and is, therefore, so much the more wonderful. A chemist's apprentice, having been subject to the action of a minute quantity of this medicine, suffered severely from it, and the wives of two medical men nearly died in consequence. The same with *Mercury*. A gentleman, who is acquainted with a patient of mine, happened one day to be talking about homœopathy

and homœopathic medicines, when he said he did not for a moment credit their efficacy, and offered to take any quantity of them, to convince his friend. He, unfortunately, happened to take up a tube full of globules of *Mercury*—unfortunately, I say, because he was peculiarly susceptible to its action—and he swallowed the whole phial full. The consequence was, that he became salivated, and was seriously ill for several days. When I was visiting Northampton some years ago, at the time I was studying homœopathy, Dr. Pearce will remember that he took me to see a girl who was affected with incipient salivation, the consequence of inadvertently taking a number of *mercurial* globules; and a patient of my own has been since affected in a similar manner, by a few drops of the third dilution of the tincture. The microscope supplies us with invaluable evidence of infinitesimal existence, and brings before us much important collateral evidence. When we look into a drop of water, and observe the little animalculæ swimming about in all directions, or look upon even the tongue of a common fly, we must conclude that the power and kindness of the Deity are shown in a more striking degree in the littleness than in the greatness of his created works. There are things which we can see and appreciate through the microscope which are smaller than the little monads; and these little monads themselves are only the 2000th of a line in diameter, so 500,000,000 of them may be contained in a drop of water, and yet occupy only one-fourth of that drop. We sometimes ask what is smaller than a mite's mouth? and the reply would be, that which goes into it. Yet these little creatures are twenty-seven million times smaller than a mite. A thousand millions of them are not greater than a grain of sand, and 180 millions weigh no more than a single grain. The polishing slate of Austria—the tripoli of Africa—the Turkey stone—and the Bolton stone, of commerce, are but the *debris* of fossil animalculæ; and the quadrangle of the Royal Exchange is paved with the skeletons of these minute beings. Returning, however, to our infinitesimal dose, I should endeavour to make you clearly understand that there is a difference of opinion as to the exact quantity of medicine which should be given. Thus, it may range in extent from a whole drop to the 1000th or millionth part of a drop; yet it is still infinitesimal, when contrasted with the doses of our allopathic brethren. I may say that, for my own part, I give a dose, which, according to the scale just laid down, would be equal to one drop. I simply want to let you know precisely the strength of dose I give myself, that you may know what is my own experience upon the subject. Homœopathy is not, as I before observed, dependent upon the strength of its doses. One drop of what is called the tincture of the third decimal dilution contains but 1000th part of a drop of the pure or mother tincture. Is there, then, you will ask, any part of the medicine in these infinitesimal doses? I reply that there are

three medicines which I myself have tested, at their first, second, or third dilutions—*Arsenic*, *Mercury*, and *Copper*. These dilutions may be tested by any of the ordinary chemical tests; so that, if I am about to administer one drop of the medical preparation, I know by my tests that I am giving a portion of the medicine itself. Dr. Pereira avers that the 400th part of a grain of *Arsenic* can be discovered by the hydrogen test, and the 1000th part of a grain of *Mercury* by the galvanic test. We have also a valuable agent as a test of the presence of the medicines in the microscope. Dr. Mayrhofer has brought out the result of some very curious investigations, lately carried on by its aid. *Platina*, *Gold*, *Silver*, *Mercury*, and *Tin* were examined by a power of 150 to 300 diameters. The particles of metals were discovered as high as the tenth and fourteenth dilutions. He found that the size of the smallest particles was the 2000th of a line—the size of a monad; yet these particles were 64 times less than the size of the blood corpuscle; and thus where the blood globule can penetrate, things yet smaller can certainly make their way easily. The atom in the sac of the monad is twenty-four times smaller than these metallic particles. A single grain of the third trituration of *Arsenic* will contain 576,000,000 particles, only 76,000,000 more than are contained of our little friends the monads, in a drop of water. Thus, we contend that there are things in nature still smaller than our infinitesimal doses. Dr. Pereira himself says that a crystal of *Arsenic* 1-4000 inch, can be seen by the microscope. By a few instances of mechanical minuteness I might, perhaps, astonish you. You would scarcely believe that a man could write the Lord's Prayer upon a space no larger than the head of a pin, and that this can be seen distinctly, by the aid of a microscope; that nine portraits can be engraved upon the small fraction of an inch, and that a picture of Shrewsbury Church, done upon the same space, is rendered so distinct by the agency of the microscope, that the very stones of the building, and even the hands of the clock, may be separately seen. Yet all these I myself inspected the other night." The speaker then went on to show that, from allopathic sources themselves, he could prove that diseases could be produced and cured by minute doses of medicine, and quoted several illustrations. He then continued: "By thus imbuing your minds with things which are small, I have endeavoured to show that there are other agents in nature still smaller than the small dose of homœopathy. Will these doses, then, be of any service in the treatment of disease? and, especially, are they of use in the treatment of surgical cases? I have tried their effects in some thousands of cases, and I have never had occasion to draw a single drop of blood, to administer any allopathic remedies, or to use a single blister. But it may be asked, 'Is the system efficient in acute diseases?' I answer, it is more efficient in acute diseases than in any other form. I have seldom known the treatment,

properly handled, to fail; and my testimony is of some value, for I am dependent upon my profession for a subsistence. People say the public are so humbugged. I hate the term, but I cannot think of a better. But is this a fact? The wonderful cure and authority of yesterday will not be a guarantee for the treatment of to-day, nor will it be so accepted by the public. I will not, of course, say that I have been successful in every instance. Death is the inevitable fate of every one. But I will assert that I have been more successful under homœopathy than I could have been under the old system. I still say, that you may in homœopathy meet with all the success which a sanguine mind can hope for; and I commend the system to your notice as one deserving investigation, encouragement, and support." The gentleman sat down in the midst of applause.

Dr. DUNN, the mayor of Doncaster, in supporting the resolution to open a homœopathic hospital, said that he would much rather have sat to hear a continuation of the previous speeches than intrude any of his own observations upon the meeting. He believed that, if the medical profession would not take up the subject of homœopathy, it would be for such men as Mr. Turner and Mr. Browne to heal the sick; that it was the necessity of their position; and that it would make their labours ten thousand times more valuable than at that time they were. "Mr. Browne," he said, "very truthfully told you of some of the horrors of allopathic doses. But these doses, as he remarked, are not only a punishment to the child who has to take them, but to their mothers, nurses, or attendants. It is necessary for delicate children, especially if they have a careful mother, to have a doctor called in upon any slight indisposition. I was once thus called in to attend a family of six children, who were attacked with the measles, and the mother declared to me that it was her entire day's work to give them their medicine; for, as it had to be administered every two hours, they had scarcely done struggling through one course before another commenced. Now, what a difference did the homœopathic globules produce, put into a glass of water. The children not only came voluntarily to take their doses, but asserted their right to seniority in the matter: the eldest came first, and would insist upon his equal share, and so on with the others in order. There are some persons who cannot get far into homœopathy. They can comprehend no more than the use of the single dose of *Aconite*, and there they rest, believing it will cure all diseases. This, of course, is a mistake. I aver that the clergyman of every church, if he had the intelligence of Mr. Turner, would very soon spread the knowledge of homœopathy broadcast over the land. We are but pioneers, who would clear the way that the people may help themselves to a knowledge of medicine and the cure of disease. And do not imagine that this is peculiar to homœopathy. Is there one creature in the three kingdoms, who,

if you met him in the street, would not give you a dozen remedies for every disease you might mention? If you took all the doses which were recommended to you, depend upon it you would have a stomach full before you arrived at the end of your journey. Coming down in the train to-day, I saw a clergyman of my acquaintance—a scientific man, who had embraced homœopathy; and, as a matter of course, asked him how he got on with it? ‘Not very well,’ said he, ‘I have lost a case.’ ‘Oh, indeed!’ said I, ‘what was it?’ ‘A case of croup,’ he replied; ‘I treated it with *Aconite* and *Belladonna*.’ ‘No wonder,’ I observed, ‘you lost it—they are not specific remedies.’ ‘But, I had no time. I was called in at seven o’clock, and the patient died at ten.’ ‘Well, but it may be cured in an hour.’ And this was true. The homœopathic dose acts instantaneously. If you put a drop of *Spongia* upon a child’s tongue, the child will be at once relieved in its breathing, and, when it awakes, it will find itself cured. Ask an allopath for his remedy in such a case, and he will direct you to bleed, leech, and use antimony; for he must use “*violent remedies*,” since it is a “*violent disease*.” And what is the consequence? At the end of twenty-four hours the child is a perfect wreck. If it is a scrofulous child, the probability is it will never be perfectly well again. But we have spoken of *Spongia*—how does it act? How is it that, if you touch the electric wire at Edinburgh, *that instant*, notwithstanding the immense distance which intervenes, the message you wish to convey may be read in London? This is electricity. Now what are the nerves, but a similarly connected chain, equally able to convey delicate sensations to any part of the body? Every nerve is associated with another; so that, wherever a nerve is presented, it stands in immediate connection with the diseased part. The moment, therefore, that a dose acts upon the tongue, it acts upon the whole chain of nervous filaments connected with it. *Allopathy* may, indeed, cure the disease of croup, but it leaves the child in a shattered condition, and frequently requires the aid of a nurse, as well as its mother, to bring it back to a state of health. I hope that the public have arrived to such a state of knowledge that they may ask, ‘What do the medical men torture the human body for?’ Everything else has improved—why not medicine? The inmates of lunatic asylums are treated with all possible kindness—why should the allopathic medical practitioner be the only man who scourges his patient? Now, I suppose there are no allopathic practitioners present to-night. This, indeed, is the very evil which we most deprecate; that they will not meet us in open controversy. And this would be one of the advantages of a county hospital. If the governors of your public infirmary will not open their wards to receive your patients, you must of necessity open a hospital of your own, where the patients may recover so much quicker than under their system. Allopathic practitioners are

continually stating that we are 'quacks'—'pretenders'; that our statistics are not to be depended upon; but, unfortunately for them, they never come forward to argue the point; and, therefore, it strikes me that what they so strenuously protest against us they scarcely believe themselves. There is no more comparison between allopathy and homœopathy than there can be between Paganism and Christianity. Everything, recollect, emanating from the Giver of all good is divine and beneficent; then, do you believe that the means for the restoration of the health of the body is to be the only scourge in the world? I will relate a little circumstance, as it occurs to me, relating to this mild treatment of allopathy. A public servant, at Doncaster, was some short time ago affected with congestion of the lung. He had but little confidence in his physician, and so determined upon trying the more celebrated practitioners of the metropolis. When he sought their advice, each in his turn ordered him to be bled; and, on his refusal, declined to treat him. He was a man of about sixty years of age. At last, by the advice of a third very eminent man, whom he consulted with the other two, he consented to be bled, and, as a natural consequence, died. There are, in fact, two schools of medicine in London, following different courses; the one vigorously preaches up bleeding—the other energetically decries it; and, between the two, the practice of medicine is like a shifting sand—there is no certainty in it. But what connection can we, as homœopaths, have with its leaders? The journals are closed against us, and so is every other medium of popular discussion. How, then, are they to be converted? We say by you. If the public become homœopaths, the medical profession will not be long in the rear. Upon the surgical part of homœopathy I can especially speak, as I have built a hospital for the reception of accidents and acute diseases, at considerable expense, at Doncaster. Since the period when it was erected the Great Northern Railway have brought a station to the place. I have already contrasted allopathy with homœopathy—I will pursue the comparison. Suppose a man is brought to you nearly insensible, covered with blood, torn and mangled in a frightful manner. Were he taken to the allopathic hospital, there would be five or six doctors round the bedside, and he would receive the most marked attention. So far good. But if he lay five or six days insensible, he would receive no medicine. But the beauty of the homœopathic system is this: the moment you place the medicine into the mouth it is in connection with the system. How I longed that the Earl of Harewood could have a drop of *Arnica* upon his tongue, after his late sporting accident! The results are apparent. The homœopathic patients are healed in one-fourth the time which is occupied by those under the old system. A man was brought into our hospital, while I was absent, in a frightful condition; his thigh broken, his skull fractured, and the wheel of the vehicle had passed

over his instep. The nurse immediately said: 'I will go and get some *Arnica*—they don't die here.' Her expectation was fulfilled; in six weeks he was healed, and walked out of the hospital. In your county infirmary he would have been, perhaps, cured, but not in so short a time; and time, you know, is very important in any proceeding, more particularly in those with whom we have to deal. Your secretary, in his report, read the cost of drugs, but did not note the advantage in point of time which you have gained. If you multiply the difference in the average number of weeks between the time a single patient is retained in your dispensary and those of a patient of the infirmary by the number of patients you annually receive, what an amount of time is brought together! Since the Great Northern came to Doncaster, a society of the workmen employed has been formed, and they wished to elect a doctor. Against me, I must premise, the proprietors had a violent prejudice. The workmen went in a body to the Chairman of the company, Mr. Denison, M.P., and told him that, if he had no objection, they wished to elect me for their physician. 'We have heard,' said they, 'that he is a quack, that he has no diploma, that he gives no medicine.' 'Well,' said Mr. Denison, 'my wife is under his care, (and I believe she has an ordinary capacity for intelligence;) I am not, because I want no medicine.' The employers remained in the room at the time of the election, and said that if I were elected, the workmen should be at once discharged. They elected me, notwithstanding. (Great cheering.) I have remained their doctor from that time to this, although I have made no effort to be so. Well, last time, when it came to the re-election, the masters themselves came to me, and said, 'Dr. Dunn, we expect they are going to elect you for their physician the fourth time. Now, we appeal to you—don't you think it would be better for one allopathic practitioner to be elected with you?' I remarked that it was contrary to their rules; 'however,' I said, 'as you say there are a few discontented ones amongst them, and as I do not wish to enforce my medicines against any man's conscience, let him be elected in spite of the rules.' He was accordingly made my colleague. At the end of the first quarter his numbers fell very materially. At the commencement of the third quarter they were less, and at the fourth scarcely any were left. When I built my hospital, I said that the allopathic surgeons of the town might have half of it, but they refused it with contempt. Lately they came and asked me for it; but 'No! No!' I said; 'now I have had the trouble of its erection and furnishing, you wish to have half of it, but it shall be a wholly homœopathic building.' (Cheers.) I will not impugn the consciences of the allopathists, but I say they want the right tools to work with. But if they talk about us and malign us, as we have before observed, they make it a rule never to notice our replies. I dare say they do not read the *Homœopathic Record*, but

they do the *Lancet*, fulminated by Thomas Wakley, who has doomed you all, you, the patients of homœopathic physicians, to the shade of Ernulphus. I was once called in to see a little boy, the son of a chemist named Hooper, who had whooping cough. He was within two hours of his death, when his mother insisted that I should be sent for. I went down and found him gasping in the agonies of death, oppressed with a double pneumonia, as it is called. I ran for my case, and put a drop of *Phosphorus* upon the tongue of the child. As I was sitting watching the effect, in walked the allopathic practitioner. He looked at the child, and then said, 'There is nothing can be done for him except the usual remedies—ammonia and blisters; don't you think so, Dr. Dunn?' 'No, I don't,' I replied. In twenty-four hours that child was taken into the country. I have no doubt that in two hours it would have been a corpse. This is a proof that in acute diseases the homœopathic medicines are instantaneous in their action. They are as instantaneous as the electric shock. In the establishment of a homœopathic hospital in Northampton, there will be many difficulties to be met and obstacles to overcome. If you will weigh the matter, I think you will do wisely to begin upon a small scale, and thus convince those governors of the County Infirmary who object to receive you into their wards that there is more gained on all hands by homœopathic than by allopathic treatment. This, I believe, is your object. I have shown you that I have no objection to work bed by bed with allopathic practitioners. Let us have two patients, affected with the most dire diseases, placed side by side, the one being treated allopathically and the other homœopathically, and I am sure your homœopathic practitioners will never suffer by the comparison. I shall be surprised if the governors, being thus convinced, do not open their doors to the homœopathic treatment. We know that upon you every available engine is brought to bear. If we are called quacks, you are called fools." Passing on from noticing that many homœopathic medicines were used in the allopathic pharmacy, the speaker proceeded: "There are now three hundred homœopathic practitioners in England. I hope I shall live to see the day when every minister of the gospel will be also a dispenser of homœopathic remedies. You will probably ask, Why will not the allopathic practitioners embrace the new system? I will answer by proposing another question: How was it that Christianity was taken up by the priests last of all? I began my medical career at fifteen years of age; I was in most of the hospitals in Europe, and was then greatly prejudiced in favour of the old system; but I saw that there was something in it which was most unsatisfactory. Thus did Hahnemann, and retired to study chemistry; and his labours ended in the production of that mighty system which will be the wonder of all time." He concluded by passing a few remarks upon the insignificance of the greatest results which could be attained under the allopathic system, when compared

with the glorious light which homœopathic truth was calculated to throw upon the investigation of their causes. The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

Mr. N. FISHER, of Milton, moved :

"That the thanks of this meeting be given to the medical officers, for their services during the past year."

He related the case of his daughter, who had been ill of the gastric fever, since the last annual meeting, and who, while affected with that disease, "had passed three weeks without an action of the bowels. This," he said, "would formerly have caused him great alarm, when he was unacquainted with homœopathy, and he should at once have taken means to obviate it. He had been speaking to an allopathic friend on the affair, but the opinion of the other might easily be gathered from his turning off the subject as soon as broached. He did not stand there to advocate homœopathy, for the sake of it, but he did not see any use in giving it up. He was very glad to see so many ladies present, because it is they who have principally to do with the sick. His principle was, to "prove all things, and to hold fast that which is good."

Dr. PEARCE, in responding on behalf of the medical officers of the institution, said: "This is the third occasion on which it has devolved upon me to return thanks for the compliment paid to-night; but I am not the only person to whom, happily, the thanks of this meeting should have been presented. Mr. Clifton has been my colleague in the labours of the dispensary for some months. You have heard to-night that we are not even satisfied with the progress we have made; but that we are anxious to carry the benefits of homœopathy to the dark villages which surround the town. I say *dark*, because they are, where homœopathy has not shed its lustre, like the darkness of night, ere the glorious sun sheds his bright beams, and chases it away. Allopathy will not bear the test of rigid inquiry, if that inquiry is conducted upon scientific principles, and consonant with the laws of our being. The man who applies a blister to his patient's skin, or who thrusts the lancet into the vein, and takes away the blood, which is the life of the flesh, is not fit to practise. In having recourse to such means, he makes a confession that he is unable to cure. But when we witness, in such institutions as our county infirmary, the blood drawn like water from a water butt, one cannot help feeling that the man who takes that blood is responsible to his Maker, and to the world, for the guilt of that act. I say *guilt*, because, when any one obstinately refuses to investigate a better system, when it is so plainly brought before him, he is guilty of a crime. It has been mentioned, this evening, that it is desirable to try the efficacy of allopathy side by side with homœopathy. We have not in this town such an opportunity; but statistics have been collected of the results of the two systems of treatment—allopathic and homœopathic, which afford evidence of

the superiority of homœopathy. For instance, the mortality in inflammation of the lungs, under allopathic treatment, is 23 per cent., while, under homœopathic treatment, it is only 5 per cent. In pleurisy, 13 per cent. under allopathy, and only 3 per cent. under homœopathy. Inflammation of the bowels: 13 per cent. and 4 per cent. respectively. Dysentery: 22 per cent. and 3 per cent. In Asiatic cholera, under allopathy, two-thirds died, while, under homœopathy, two-thirds recovered. In scarlet fever, under allopathy, 20 per cent., under homœopathy, 3 per cent. Although, then, we have not had the opportunity of placing the patient side by side with his allopathic friend, we have the testimony of our opponents, with Dr. Routh among them, to the superior efficacy of homœopathic treatment. Seeing that this is the case, we are warranted in asking you for an opportunity to be afforded us to treat patients, residing in the county, within the walls of our own institution. I hope that time will come, and I believe it will. We have been gratified by receiving replies, from various friends, to the applications made for funds for this purpose, and I have here a rough list, which only comprises a portion of the sums promised. I think I am right in saying that £300 has been promised in donations, and nearly £300 in annual subscriptions, including present subscribers. We have asked for £1000, but we should be glad of £500. We shall not, indeed, wait for £1000 to be entirely made up, ere we commence carrying out our design. We frequently receive replies to our applications for donations couched in terms like these: 'We have not sufficient confidence in the accomplishment of the object.' In speaking of our present list of contributors, I would not fail to mention that our worthy president, Sir Charles Isham, has kindly headed it by a donation of £100, and other friends have given sums of £21, £10, £5, &c. The expenditure of the county infirmary last year was over £4000, of which the principal items were food, medicine, stimulants, &c. I find in the last annual report of that infirmary that food cost £1239 Os. 2d.; medicines, £400; and stimulants, wine, beer, &c., from £300 to £400. In three years the cost for stimulants alone was nearly one thousand pounds! I have made a calculation that, for a hospital capable of holding 12 beds, we should require about £400 per annum, exclusive of food for the patients. I mention this, because I think it no hardship, as the patients have to be supported at home, that they should support themselves while they are inmates of the hospital. One of the most pleasing features connected with this movement is, that we have not merely had contributions from the upper and middle classes, but working-men have also paid in their weekly subscriptions to aid us. A patient—a woman, too—brought me a card the other day, with ten shillings and sixpence, the savings of two children, who had voluntarily abstained from sugar in order to assist the cause. This shows what may be done when the will

is properly directed. I will just mention one circumstance, which, if a false impression go abroad, may disturb the minds of some who are present; viz., with reference to Mr. Turner's observations upon the introduction of the new medicine into the homœopathic pharmacy, for the cure of the diseased state which he aptly compared to the glanders. Now, the glanders is a dreadful poison, and it is quite natural that some may shudder when they hear that we would give it to a child affected with a similar disease. Homœopaths were not the first to give poisons to cure disease which is a poison. Even Shakspeare says:

'Take thou some new infection to thine eye,
And the rank poison of the old will die.'

Shakspeare was, in this sense, a homœopathist. Now, the potency of the dose which I gave to Mr. Turner's child was the sixth. Were I to give a grain of this glanders poison to any person, it might produce disease. But the medicines which the homœopathist administers act only through the nervous system; and this sixth potency, or trituration, contained only one-billionth part of a grain of the poison. For, at every trituration, the medicine is reduced to one-hundredth of its previous quantity; and thus, at the end of the sixth repetition of the process, the quantity of the original substance would be but a billionth of a grain. Now I think you may go home comfortable after this explanation; and if you hear of a patient taking *Glanderine* in future, you need not be afraid that he is poisoned. The other day I was told by a friend of mine that his physician, when speaking of homœopathic medicines, had assured him that, though small, they would accumulate in his system, and in two years produce a fatal result. This same physician said to another patient, only a day or two subsequently, 'Oh, don't take those tiny nothings—they are of no utility!' When I began the study of homœopathy there were only seventeen homœopathic physicians in this country; there are now three hundred—seventy of whom practise in the metropolis alone. A computation has been made of the number of persons who have adopted homœopathy in England, and it has been shown that more than one million have embraced it. I will relate to you one little occurrence with reference to the antagonism which allopaths exhibit towards us, which Dr. Dunn narrated to me. He had agreed to purchase a piece of ground at a certain fixed price, for the erection of his hospital at Doncaster. When the allopathic practitioners of the town discovered that Dr. Dunn was determined to build, they went to the proprietor of the ground, and offered him a greater price for it. A little time after the Doctor met him. 'I think,' said the owner, 'we agreed for half-a-guinea a foot.' 'Yes,' said Dr. Dunn, 'and I suppose you have been offered a greater sum for it?' 'I have,' replied the noble-minded owner, 'but

I will not accept it. You have been persecuted so disgracefully that I have made up my mind to *give* you the land.' And thus was the projector of the hospital saved £270, in the very commencement of the work, by the opposition of the faculty."

Dr. DUNN moved a vote of thanks to the noble Chairman; and in doing so, related the manner in which homœopathy was introduced into England, showing that it was to a member of the aristocracy—the Earl of Shrewsbury, who brought over the first homœopathic physician from the continent—that they were indebted for so early a knowledge of its merits.

Sir C. ISHAM, in reply, said one almost felt so much a homœopathic influence, that he could wish to have an ache or pain, in order to be cured by them. With a notice of the numberless inventions and discoveries which were being brought before the public, and a hope that future anniversaries of the Dispensary might be attended by as goodly numbers as had been present that evening, he then concluded the meeting amidst shouts of applause.

The meeting, which occupied three hours and a half, then dispersed; many expressing, as they left, their willingness to be listeners for an hour longer.

THE following branch dispensaries have been opened in and near the County of Northampton :

ROADE.

Attendance every Monday, from 9 till 11, at Mr. B. Foddy's.

HANSLOPE.

Attendance every Monday, from 1 till 3, at Mr. Stephen Branson's, Castlethorpe Road.

TOWCESTER.

Attendance every Tuesday, from 2 till 5, at Mr. Bodhouse's, Stationer.

KETTERING.

Attendance every Friday, from 11 till 1, at Mr. Robinson's, High-St.

The sick poor are entitled to advice and medicine on payment of one shilling each consultation. Patients having honorary subscribers' cards are eligible on payment of one shilling and sixpence per month.

Other branches will be opened as soon as the necessary arrangements are completed.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE

OF THE

NORTHAMPTON HOMOEOPATHIC DISPENSARY,

FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1866.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
To Donation	21	0	0	By Balance due to Treasurer	50	2	10½
Cash received from Patients, inclusive of extra Payments for Visits	95	10	0	Rent	30	0	0
Cash received from Honorary Subscribers	82	8	0	Rates and Taxes	6	5	9
“ “ Money Boxes	1	9	3	Gas and Water	5	5	8
Balance due to Treasurer	61	12	4½	Salaries of House Surgeon, Dispenser, &c.	83	11	8
				Coals	7	16	11
				Medicines	35	3	4
				Advertising	2	2	2
				Printing and Stationery	21	13	0
				Expenses of Annual Meeting	10	14	0
				Midwifery Fees	6	16	6
				Sundries	2	7	9
					£261	19	7½

HOMŒOPATHY IN LIVERPOOL.

FROM THE "*LIVERPOOL CHRONICLE*."

The sublime production of Haydn, "The Creation," was performed last evening in St. George's-hall, in support of the Homœopathic Free Dispensary, and towards the funds for building the proposed hospital. The peculiar treatment adopted at the Homœopathic Dispensary has evidently been so successful that the members of the Liverpool Festival Choral Society kindly gave their services last evening in behalf of the object for which the oratorio was given. We are glad, too, to state that the noble hall upon the occasion was densely crowded; and the manner in which Miss Santley acquitted herself in the parts apportioned her elicited the warmest applause. The full band and chorus were well led by Mr. G. Eyton, both of which were repeatedly applauded, and with the performance of Mr. Best on the grand organ, together with the assistance of Mr. C. B. Herrman, as conductor, a most successful oratorio was performed, and in a manner that afforded every gratification to the very numerous assemblage present.

"Here was the medicine; the patients died,
 And no one asking 'who survived?'
 Thus did we rage, with hellish drugs and pills,
 All o'er these happy valleys, o'er these hills;
 Till we death's standard had sublimely raised.
 To thousands I dispensed the deadly poisoned doses;
 I saw these wither like decaying roses,
 And live to see the murderous leeches praised."

Goethe's Faust, p. 70.

ADVANTAGES OF ABSTINENCE FROM THE BLOOD AND FLESH OF ANIMALS.

The Jews, Turks, and Arabians, and all who observe the precept of avoiding blood and swine's flesh, are said to be more free from disease than the Christians; more especially as they escape from the opprobria of the medical art, scrofula, gout, consumption and madness.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 6.—VOL. 2.

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TO OUR READERS.

THE late Annual Meeting of the Northamptonshire Homœopathic Institution has excited considerable interest far and near. One of the rev. gentlemen who spoke to the efficacy of homœopathy in acute diseases, and to the prevalence of the law of *similia*, mentioned the fact that a child suffering, sinking, under a loathsome, malignant scarlatina, was saved by the administration of a preparation lately introduced by Dr. Wilkinson into the homœopathic materia medica, that medicine being prepared from the pus of a glandered horse. The name of glanders was enough to raise a cry among the allopaths, ever ready to make use of any straw which they can, like drowning men, catch at, to lift themselves up out of the waters in which they are sinking, by ingratiating themselves and depressing their supporters.

The cry has had effect—the attention of the intelligent has been directed to the subject of the medicine and of the dose. It is amusing to watch the proceedings of the faculty. The first cry was *Poison!* deadly poison!!! When the *dose* was explained, they cried Nothing! Nothing! Absurd! Preposterous! So they proceed, avoiding investigation and condemning without trial.

The *Northampton Herald* has published correspondence on the subject of the dose, which our readers will find in another part of our pages. We record that correspondence, as it will be interesting a few years hence to look back at the way in which homœopathy struggled into universal reception.

THE HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT OF BURNS AND SCALDS,
WITH ILLUSTRATIVE CASES.

BY HENRY THOMAS, M.D.

Nearly sixty years have elapsed since Edward Kentish, Surgeon, of Newcastle, published his improved treatment of burns; advising the use of irritating substances in preference to the then prevailing and injurious method of treatment with ice, cold water, and other refrigerants. In 1816 Hahnemann published two interesting articles on the treatment of these injuries with heat, and heat-producing substances, wherein he quoted as a proof of the truth of the law of likes, Kentish's treatment, and its superiority over the old treatment of contraries. Since then the knowledge of curative agents has been extended, and practice has confirmed Hahnemann's injunction, that "likes should be treated with likes." In the following treatment the symptoms produced by the remedies indicate their probability, and practice their certainty to cure quickly, safely, and pleasantly.

Injuries from fire resolve themselves into two divisions—burns, or injuries from heated solids, and scalds, or injuries resulting from heated liquids.

Burns frequently extend deeper than scalds, which more generally affect the skin only. Children, on account of their nervous excitability are not so well able to withstand the effects of scalding, as are grown-up persons. Burns on the abdomen are often fatal, because of the inflammatory action likely to be set up in the stomach, bowels, or other important organs, beneath the burned surface. Burns on the scalp may communicate their injurious effects to the brain. Injuries from fire occurring on the face and upper extremities are less dangerous than those occurring on the lower extremities. If more than one half of the surface of the skin be deeply scalded, recovery will be doubtful; but even in such case the treatment here recommended offers the most likely chance of recovery, and will at least alleviate the intense sufferings that would otherwise prevail.

TREATMENT.—If the clothes have caught fire the first thing to be done is to put out the fire. This is easiest done by rolling the individual firmly upon the floor,—if any woollen or linen garment, (cloak, shawl, table cloth, &c.) be at hand, it should be firmly and tightly wrapped round the patient,—thus the flames will be readily extinguished. Be very careful to avoid creating a draft by rapid running or walking, and be particular to roll the patient on the floor, as the upright position favours combustion. After the fire has been subdued, gently disengage the clothes from around the burned surface. Should a portion of the dress or clothes stick to the burn, do not attempt to remove them, but cut the clothes from around that part.

If the individual is scalded, the clothes being wet will generally be readily disengaged. Here caution is required, for the skin is for this reason easily pulled away with the clothes.

The treatment should be both mechanical and specific, the former in preventing access of air to the injury, the latter in aiding nature more readily to restore health to the parts. There is no difference between the treatment of burns or scalds, except as they may affect the skin or deeper tissues; for this reason the treatment is divided into that of superficial and deep-seated injuries.

§ 1. If the injury be superficial, little else than the skin being affected. Take a piece of cotton wool, or wadding, or cotton or linen cloth, a little larger than the surface injured, saturate it with *Cantharis* liniment,* and apply it over the injury, covering the dressing with a piece of oiled silk or with additional folds of dry cotton or linen cloth, bandaging up the whole with a roller in order to exclude the air. As soon as the application becomes dry, again saturate with the liniment, without taking the cotton from off the burn, or scald. Internal treatment, one globule of *Cantharis* every hour. As soon as the pain has ceased, or, in from one to eight hours time, (according to the extent of the injury,) the part may be examined, and if necessary the treatment is to be continued.

Or proceed as directed in § 3.

§ 2. If the injury has extended deeply, which will generally be known by the skin being burnt through, or, if scalded, by its coming off: proceed as above, except that *Arnica* liniment should be substituted for *Cantharis* liniment. The layer of cotton nearest the injured part should be kept well moistened with the liniment, but should not be taken off until at least twenty-four hours have elapsed after the first dressing. Internal treatment, one globule of *Arnica* every hour for the first six hours; the interval should then be lengthened as improvement advances, and the pain is relieved.

§ 3. After the lapse of twenty-four hours, or, if the injury is very extensive, after the extreme burning pain has yielded to the treatment and there remains a feeling of soreness with slight burning pain, the local treatment should be as follows; next the skin a piece of fine linen, perforated and saturated with simple cerate, over which place a layer of cotton wool moistened with almond oil; this again is to be covered with a linen bandage—renew the application twice or thrice in the day. The internal treatment should be *Sulphuris* tinct. 30, one globule two or three times in the day, for the first few days, but as improvement advances the frequency of the dose should be lessened. This treatment hastens formation of new skin.

§ 4. For burns in the mouth or throat, caused by inhaling steam or taking hot food. Three drops of *Arnica* liniment should be taken every ten, fifteen, or twenty minutes. The liniment will act specifically upon the injured nervous system and compose the sufferer.

§ 5. Sometimes from burns over the tendons or extremities of muscles (as at the wrist, and other joints), lock jaw may be produced, or from burns

* Liniments are preferable to lotions on account of their containing soap dissolved in spirits of wine, which is in itself beneficial to injuries resulting from fire,—they may be obtained from any homœopathic chemist.

extending over the sheath of nerves, severe nerve pains may be developed. It frequently happens that after a very severe burn, the muscles (under the skin) contract, and cause a very distorted appearance, which it is not always possible to prevent. As these matters do not happen before medical assistance can be obtained, should any such consequences be apprehended, no time is to be lost in seeking advice. The treatment just given, should in the meantime be persevered with, and if any symptoms of lock jaw present themselves, a globule of *Ignatia* may be given every half hour.

If in young children spasms should occur, a globule of *Chamomilla* should be given every one or two hours. The modes of treatment here recommended for burns and scalds, will in most cases prevent any development of Erysipelas—should any symptoms of that disease manifest themselves they will be safely controlled by a globule of *Rhus*, alternately with the other internal treatment employed.

The above treatment is given as the best under any circumstances, but as serious injury may happen, and none of these remedies be within reach, (although every family in which homœopathic medicine is used, should be prepared for such emergencies,) let me repeat, that the whole aim in this treatment is first to exclude the air from the injury, and next to act medicinally and curatively upon the part affected. Where the liniments cannot be obtained, cotton wool well saturated in oil should be used, or a liniment extemporised by making soap into a lather, and applying upon the linen, and then the air effectually excluded by additional bandages. An excellent substitute for *Arnica* liniment in scalding of the mouth or throat, may be made by dissolving soap in spirits.

A most primitive yet very effectual remedy in the treatment of burns and scalds is cow-dung, and, from its being so rich in phosphorus, must exert a specific as well as a mechanical action to cure injuries resulting from fire. I mention it here, having known several severe burns and ulcers to be promptly and successfully cured by its use, and in order to make this article useful in all circumstances. I think it would hardly be complete without reference to this cure.

Cases illustrative of the Homœopathic treatment of Burns and Scalds.

1. A young lad aged fifteen, delicate, and whose flesh is not apt to heal kindly, was scalded on the right leg from near the knee down to the instep. In taking off his stocking it was noticed that several blisters had formed, one very large one round the heel, and three smaller ones. A piece of skin came away from one when taking off the stocking. He was treated as advised in § 1, with *Cantharis* liniment. For the first hour he was very thirsty and feverish and drank freely of cold water. This state gave way to the treatment, and the pain entirely disappeared in an hour's time after the application of the dressings. As no pain remained in twenty-four hours time after the accident had occurred, the parts were examined. "No fresh blisters, and in those already formed, with the exception of the large one around the heel, the fluid is absorbed. The raw surface looks red and

angry. The other parts of the leg seem to be not much affected." Treatment now to be *Arnica* to the large blister, and *Arnica* plaister to the raw surface. Internal treatment, one globule of *Arnica* every four hours. In four days his leg was quite well and he attended to his work as usual.

2. A little girl two years old fell with her right arm upon a hot poker, but as the skin did not appear much injured, and she soon ceased crying, little notice was taken of the circumstance. The next day she was very feverish, and complained much of her sore arm, upon which *Cantharis* liniment was now applied, and *Cantharis* given internally. This treatment considerably lessened the pain and reduced the fever, but owing to the child's restless habits, the air was not thoroughly excluded, and a few pustules were observed round the bandage, which when taken off exposed deep ulceration of the skin, that extended nearly the whole length of the under part of the forearm. From the apparently slight injury this was not anticipated, (it should teach that promptness and care are very desirable in these matters.) The treatment now adopted was the same as described in § 3, which quickly healed the ulcerated surface. No trace is left of the injury.

3. A lady after a burn upon the knuckles had ulceration of the skin which threatened to extend and prove very troublesome. Some years back she used to be much troubled with whitlows of a very ulcerated character, which entirely ceased after the exhibition of one dose of *Sulphur* 30. This case was treated as described in § 3 to which treatment it quickly yielded.

IODINE.

EXCEPT mercury, no medicine has been so lauded by the profession, none so universally administered, none so fashionable, as iodine. Externally used for swollen glands, for enlarged joints, for tumours, in fact, of all kinds and in all situations, iodine has been applied, and the injurious consequences have been seen, alas, too often, and pointed out by practitioners of homœopathy. For this we have been sneered at, or unheeded. A very sad picture might be drawn, faithfully representing the terrible consequences of even the external application of iodine. The writer of this once had a narrow escape from destruction by iodine, internally administered by one of the most eminent surgeons of the day.

It is amusing though discouraging to find men like Professor Champouillon asking at this day the "natural question," "whether it has been well and truly ascertained that one and the same substance can cure affections that in their nature differ so widely from one another." The lecturer goes on to say: "The thing asserted is by no means probable; but there are, among junior practitioners more especially, [pity they are not only 'juniors'—Ed.] minds easily led away—that believe everything on the bold and reckless affirmation of their teacher."

When will men think independently in matters of science, if not of faith? It was the independent thinking of Hahnemann which led him to the law of *similia*. It is the independent thinking of the great majority of the homœopathic practitioners which made and makes them what they are. Even in the ranks of orthodox medicine, the independent thinker is the progressive man.

Professor Champouillon yet lacks one thing: he lacks that knowledge to guide him in the administration of remedies which is only to be obtained accurately by studying to ascertain their pathogenesis in the healthy person. Champouillon confesses to what homœopaths painfully witness daily, that tubercular phthisis or consumption is called into activity, by the ignorant and indiscriminate administration of iodine, leading the patient to an untimely end.

CLINICAL REMARKS ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF IODINE.

BY M. CHAMPOUILLON, OF THE HOSPITAL OF VAL DE GRACE.

No medicine has yet, with the exception of sulphate of quinine, acquired such general reputation as iodine. If its use was in former times restricted almost exclusively to cases of engorgement of the thyroid body,* it has now rapidly become extended—not only to diseases of the glandular system, to those of the serous membranes, and to pulmonary and abdominal phthisis, but also to the syphilitic, scrofulous, and herpetic cachexies, to rachitism, &c., &c.; and we are not without expectation of hearing to-morrow perhaps, that it has acquired new triumphs over white swelling and cancer. It is fatiguing even to enumerate the many instances of its success; and though doubts may again and again rise up, yet as all the instances have been guaranteed with such confident affirmation, it is not difficult to understand the general confidence they have inspired. It seems but natural, however, to ask—since we do not admit of any alchemy in therapeutics—whether it has been well and truly ascertained that one and the same substance can cure affections that in their nature differ so widely from one another? The thing asserted is by no means probable; but there are, among junior practitioners more especially, minds easily led away—that believe everything on the bold and reckless affirmation of their teacher. The practitioner who carries about with him a consciousness of having been often deceived, if he become at last wary and circumspect, suffers the current to pass by, while he steps aside to examine deliberately, and to ascertain, if possible, and distinguish such conclusions as have been fairly sanctioned by experience, from such as have not this impress of legitimacy. And would we draw a broad line of demarkation between the real and pretended virtues of iodine, it is to experience likewise

* Derbyshire neck

that we must have recourse. While clinical observation daily adds to the reputation these preparations have attained, there are facts also, on the other hand, that show in the most peremptory manner, not only the powerlessness of this medicament in certain cases, but the inconveniences also that may possibly arise from its use.

Case 1st.—In the early part of November, 1855, M. D'A., aged twenty-six years, of a slightly bilious temperament, was attacked with *rupia* on the anterior surface of both thighs. Iodide of potassium, which alone was employed in this case, was prescribed in doses of 2 grammes daily. At the end of three weeks, when the patient had taken 38 grammes of the iodide, he experienced headache, difficulty of deglutition and of phonation, to which gradually succeeded palsy, almost complete, of the tongue, the retina, the superior and inferior extremities, and the muscles of the chin. The appetite had become much impaired, and digestion slow and painful. In this state he was brought to the hospital of Val de Grâce in February, 1856. A regimen consisting of light ailments, combined with attempts to establish elimination by the intestines, the skin, and the kidneys, was followed by such satisfactory results, that this young man is now in the enjoyment of excellent health, but the *rupia* has not been cured.

It would be unreasonable, from this single case to draw any general conclusion as to the action of iodine on the human organism; but we may, nevertheless, from this example conclude—1st, That this medicament, in doses of two grammes daily, has no constant efficacy in cutaneous diseases;—2nd, That it irritates the stomach, and affects the nervous centres in such a manner as to induce dyspepsia, and to occasion morbid perversion of the functions of the motor nerves.

Case 2nd.—M. G., twenty-two years of age, in the enjoyment, usually, of excellent health, and of a robust constitution, contracted in May, 1855, an indolent gonorrhœa. Disquieted beyond measure on that account, and fearing the future consequences of syphilitic poisoning, this officer began the use of iodide of potassium, in doses of 5 decigrammes daily. At the end of a month of such treatment, M. G. found his digestion so impaired, that the only aliments he could make use of were *potage au lait* and baked fruits. Everything besides gave rise to retching, which frequently terminated in vomiting or lienteric diarrhœa. Of his own accord he now abandoned the use of iodine, when the digestive organs gradually recovered their wonted force.

It is well known that the iodide of potassium, in its action on the mucous membrane, exerts an extraordinary degree of energy; and it is not difficult to imagine that in doses of even one gramme, it would disturb, if not occasionally annihilate, the functions of the stomach. In this case, the dyspepsia was evidently owing less to the quantity than to the nature of the medicament.

Case 3rd.—In 1847, M. C., a surgeon and pupil of Val de Grâce, twenty-one years of age, tall, and of a feminine temperament, had

suffered for some months from a sub-acute blennorrhagia, which had at first been treated with antiphlogistics, but in vain, and afterwards with cubebs and copaiba. Wearied out with the obstinacy of his disease, and without consulting anyone, he had now recourse to iodide of potassium in doses of 5 decigrammes night and morning. Under the influence of this medicine, the urethritis quickly took on the acute form; but this did not deter the patient from continuing its use till the twelfth day, when an attack of fever of extraordinary violence was followed in a few hours by general lymphangitis, the most intense that can be imagined. Every lymphatic vessel of the trunk and extremities was seen in relief—red, and highly painful to the touch, and on the least movement. But the glands were more especially the seat of intolerable lancinating pains. In spite of copious bleedings, general and local, the use of tepid baths, and emollient applications to every part where the application was practicable, these symptoms did not subside but with a certain degree of slowness.

Whilst the exciting and deobstruant properties of iodine may be turned to such excellent account in surgery, here we see exemplified the deplorable consequences that may follow the internal use of this therapeutic agent, even in moderate doses, in cases where the lymphatic system predominates. Iodine has certainly for a length of time occupied a prominent place in the treatment of scrofula; but when we look more narrowly into its mode of action, it is seen to be entirely confined to cases of glandular enlargement, and that beyond this iodine possesses no specific virtue against that disease. Where is the physician who would undertake to prove that this medicine is capable of correcting the scrofulous diathesis?

Case 4th.—M. B., a training captain in a regiment of cavalry, forty-seven years of age, of a robust, plethoric constitution, had enjoyed excellent health during his whole life, excepting that, for the last two years he had experienced some difficulty in voiding his urine. An examination of the urinary organs *per anum*, discovered a considerable enlargement of the prostate gland, brought on, it is highly probable, by too much horse exercise. A course of iodide of potassium was now commenced, and in three weeks eight grammes had been absorbed, when the patient was attacked with amygdalitis, diarrhœa and bronchitis accompanied with a sensation of heat and constriction under the sternum. The use of iodine was now suspended, when the diarrhœa soon ceased; the tonsillitis resisted longer, but the bronchitis continued obstinate under every sort of treatment. The cough, at first dry, became moist with an abundant expectoration, at first nummular, and then purulent. Without appetite, and exhausted by nocturnal sweats, M. B. was thus brought in less than forty days, into the last stage of pulmonary consumption. A few hours before death, this officer confessed that, during the course of his last illness, he had clandestinely taken every evening two decigrammes of the iodide in a glass of barley-water. The autopsy showed remarkable

hypertrophy and induration of the prostate gland. The upper third of the left lung was strewed with tubercles in different stages of development, and in the centre of the same region was seen a cavern of medium dimensions. The right lung was perfectly sound, and so were all the other viscera.

From January 1849 to December 1852, eighty-eight adults, affected with pulmonary tubercles, were submitted at the Val de Grâce, to treatment with iodine, which consisted of potions with the iodide frictions with the tincture and inhalation of the vapour. To such treatment was submitted every form of phthisis, excepting tubercles with fever, and the iodine itself, was exhibited in all cases with a prudent reserve. But of all these patients two only were benefited by the treatment, which soon effected a diminution of the catarrhal expectoration of some months standing. In twenty-nine of these tubercular patients, the iodine was borne without any manifest effects. Its use, however, had to be suspended in fifty seven others, in most of whom it produced a *decided increase in the violence of the cough and in the progress of the disease*, while in others it occasioned headache, diarrhoea, coryza, or a disagreeable and troublesome flow of saliva. Of all these patients not one was rescued from the lamentable and all but inevitably fatal consequences of phthisis.

It will suffice to glance at the many inquiries that have been made into the nature and development of pulmonary tubercles, in order to appreciate the pretensions that have been advanced in favour of iodine as a remedy for this disease. According to Vanderkolk and Rochoux, rudimentary tubercles have the appearance of reddish granulations composed of coaguable lymph, and adhere to the pulmonary parenchyma by a multitude of vascular tomentous filaments. Lebert found in tubercular matter, in its first stage, globules of peculiar description as well as an interglobule hyalin fluid, furnished by the cellular tissue which surrounds them. It is to this mucosomembranous covering that Kuhn gives the name of tuberos tissue, what it afterwards becomes is well known. Dalmaronne, Baron, Vogel and Nathalis, Guillot, adduce similar evidence as to the mode of formation and nutrition of the tubercular matter. Tubercle, then, has no sort of resemblance to a gland with which it has so often been compared, since the gland is an organ, and tubercle a morbid production.

Iodine belongs to the class of irritants, but is distinguished by its special action on the glandular system. All that can be conceded to it theoretically, as regards tubercle, is, that it promotes, in a certain measure, the antiphlogistic method of treatment directed against chronic inflammation of the bronchial mucous membrane, or of the pulmonary parenchyma surrounding the tubercular mass. But beyond that the most liberal induction does not advance one step. Can iodine, then, lay any further claim to the favour in which it is

held by its partizans? The illustrious Laënnec informs us that he made use of iodine in several cases of phthisis, without the least degree of success. Cooper and Bardsley were not more fortunate under similar circumstances. The iodide of iron, praised by Dupasquier, in pulmonary tubercles, completely failed in the hands of M. Louis. Bandelocque declares that at the Hospital des Enfants *iodine appeared to him to be more hurtful than advantageous*. Mérindec Laënnec and Flaudin have, on their part, made a similar remark. Recamier has seen scrofulous subjects when treated with the preparations of iodine, become phthisical with a degree of rapidity which plainly showed the pernicious influence of the medicine. Behold, then, a medicament, boasted of as an antidote to tubercles, but which may, to a certain extent, be the very instrument of calling tubercles into a state of active development! Is it not high time to stay and consider the propriety of a practice which every day brings with it such deplorable results? The question is one that well deserves consideration. If the utility of iodine, as a topical remedy in surgery, be well established, by observation, its reputation in the practice of medicine *up to this moment has no other basis than the hypothetical importance it derives from blind imitation and prejudice*.

YELLOW FEVER PREVENTED BY INOCULATION.

ACCORDING to a statement made in the 'Gazette Médicale,' the yellow fever may be prevented in the majority of instances by previous inoculation with the diluted virus of a reptile. The statement is made by Dr. Lucien Papilland, who at the period of the announcement had performed no less than 2,477 inoculations on persons living in districts ravaged by yellow fever, and with the most satisfactory results. Only 288, or 10 per cent. of the number inoculated were subsequently attacked by yellow fever, though exposed to its influence; 68 per cent. of the total number, or $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., died; and 2,247, or 90 per cent., were altogether protected. Dr Papilland calculates that no less than 16 per cent. of the total population of a region infested by yellow fever may be preserved by his mode of preventive treatment. The history of the discovery is not a little singular. Some time since Dr. G. Humboldt announced the fact that the inhabitants of Central America were liable to be bitten in the feet and legs by a reptile of undetermined species. Many died in consequence, but those who survived remained singularly free from the ravages of yellow fever. M. Papilland inoculates with the diluted poison of the reptile, which he irritates until it bites a piece of sheep's liver; and the juice of the latter thus impregnated is the material employed for inoculation.

"THE BILLIONTH OF A GRAIN."

UNDER the above heading a discussion has been carried on in the pages of the *Northampton Herald*, which we republish in our pages, as the subject is occupying at the present moment so much of the attention of the thinking public.

One of the great difficulties in receiving homœopathy is the minute dose generally prescribed. So long and so universal has been the association in the mind of power, and quantity, that one cannot be surprised at the suspicions which are entertained of the efficacy of homœopathically prepared medicines. The idea of combating an acute disease by the administration of a portion of medicinal substance so excessively minute as to elude the eye of the microscope, the taste, smell, and apprehension of the patient, is so contrary to all existing notions and teachings, and practice too, that there is no wonder that the cry of "nothing" should be put forth. Still the fact that power is not necessarily the constant associate of quantity is demonstrable.

That matter is infinitely divisible, and that there exist living creatures so small that five hundred millions may exist and move freely in a single drop of water, has been shewn five years ago in the pages of the *Northampton Mercury*, and recently by Mr. Anderson at the late meeting of the friends of homœopathy in Northampton. The great physical fact that the process of subdividing matter develops enormous forces has been demonstrated by Professor Faraday by direct experiment—experiments which have been a thousand times repeated by the leading electricians and natural philosophers in Europe and America.

The decomposition of one grain of water elicits a force equal to eight hundred charges of a powerful electrical machine, or a quantity of electricity equal to that of a heavy flash of lightning.

Those like "X. Y. Z.," who indulge in imaginings instead of experiment, had far better bear in mind that the only real measure of medicinal power—the only instrument with which it can be fairly tested, is a living animal; whose nervous system is so sentient as to recognize impressions which are even immaterial. A word, a sudden emotion will convulse a nervous system—quicken the circulation by increasing the heart's action. Causes existing only in the psychical world will powerfully affect even a healthy man: how much more one who is ill, and whose nervous system is so much more exquisitely sensitive!

Our space will not allow us to enlarge. The whole subject of homœopathy—its law, its dose, its efficiency, deserve and demand investigation. It is the question which will ultimately lead to a revolution in medical things.

As we said, we publish the correspondence, being interesting; and

especially so because the writers do not all belong to the profession of medicine. We rejoice that so many of the clergy are engaged in the investigation and practice of homœopathy. When such men of education, talent, and moral rectitude are satisfied that homœopathy is *the truth* in medicine, the faculty will not long burke enquiry, nor shun the company of those who would make them more successful practitioners and thus happier men.

To the Editor of the Northampton Herald.

SIR,— It is not impossible that the delicate sensibilities of some of your readers may have been slightly shocked by the mention that was made in your paper lately of the administration of glandered matter from a horse to a human subject. No doubt to an arithmetician considerable relief will have been afforded by the subsequent explanation, that the quantity exhibited was only the billionth of a grain— $\frac{1}{1,000,000,000,000}$ gr.

To those less fond of numbers, allow me to offer this suggestion. Suppose the delicate matter in question to be soluble in water; then use the following prescription:

℞ Glanderine, 1 grain.

Water, pure, 200,000 hogsheads.

Mix. Take one drop (or minim) every hour, until relief is obtained.* Label this, "A harmless mixture for obstinate defluxion." Let it stand where made, as the vessel might be difficult to move.

One gallon contains 76,800 minims; one hogshead of 63 gallons, 4,838,400 minims. It will take, therefore, more than 200,000 hogsheads of water in order to make the mixture of that particular strength, or weakness, that one drop may contain no more than the quantity prescribed.

I am, Sir, your faithful servant,

A. B.

To the Editor of the Northampton Herald.

Northampton, March 4, 1857.

Sir,—A letter which appeared in your last week's number signed "A. B.," has no doubt amused some of your readers, while it has furnished the devotees of large doses, those who believe that *power* necessarily involves *quantity*, with an old argument against the infinitesimal doses of homœopathic practitioners.

"A. B." though a man of letters (he conceals his name) and a man of figures, too, evidently does not know the A. B. C. of homœopathy, or he would not have fallen into the error of stating that 200,000

* It is uncertain how far this desirable consummation may be attained.

hogsheads of water were necessary to make the sixth dilution, or the billionth division. I beg leave, as briefly as possible, to explain the real mode of arriving at the "billionth of a grain" in the preparation of homœopathic medicines.

Your correspondent would appear to intend to convey to your readers an idea of the improbability of the dilution named being arrived at. So far, however, from 200,000 hogsheads of water being necessary, *only 595 drops, or about 10 drachms*, are necessary to arrive at the state of division which he mentions.

To explain—one of the processes employed by homœopathic chemists is the following:

One grain or drop of a *medicinal* substance is mixed with 99 grains or drops of another, a *non-medicinal* substance, the whole being triturated until the one grain is distributed by the process among the whole quantity; this being done, it is evident that each grain or drop of the hundred, contains one hundredth part of the original substance; this is called the *first centesimal* trituration, or dilution; one grain of this is treated as before, by thoroughly mixing with 99 other grains, to produce the second dilution; each grain or drop will hence contain the ten thousandth part of the original grain or drop; the process again repeated the third dilution will contain one millionth; the fourth the hundred millionth; the fifth, the ten thousand millionth; the sixth, *the billionth*. In this process *less than 600 grains or drops* of the vehicle is the quantity employed, 99 fresh drops being required at each dilution.

It will be seen, therefore, that the quantity of the original substance is diminished by each successive dilution, for ninety-nine parts of each hundred may be thrown away, unless each dilution is preserved; ninety-nine hundredths of the original substance being left in the first dilution, the quantity of the medicinal substance being reduced by one hundred times at each dilution, in which process the potency of the remedy is enhanced by each successive subdivision of the medicinal substance.

I trust your correspondent and numerous readers whose attention has been thus drawn to the subject, will see that so far from requiring "200,000 hogsheads" of liquid to prepare the 6th potency, or the billionth of a grain, only ten drachms by weight or measure as the case may be, (the medicine may be a solid, a metal, or a liquid, the juice of a plant,) is the quantity employed.

I have thus endeavoured to make the explanation as plainly and as briefly as possible, and shall be happy to *shew* your correspondent the process if he will favour me with a call.

*I much regret that homœopathy is not understood, but I still more regret the indifference with which the faculty as a body treat a subject not only of the utmost importance in the treatment of disease, but one which presents so many points of interest to the

* These *ten* lines were omitted by the Editor of the *Northampton Herald*.

scientific investigator. I think it was Sir William Hamilton who said that "truth is like a torch, the more it is shooed the brighter it shines." So it is with homœopathy. The truth in medicine—the *law* of healing established by a beneficent Creator, hence an effectual law when properly applied in the cure of man's bodily ailments. "Oh that they (the faculty) were wise, that they understood these things."

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

CHARLES T. PEARCE.

To the Editor of the Northampton Herald.

Tiffield Rectory.

Sir,—A. B. is very merry, at my expense, for having publicly stated my belief that one of my children, when suffering from an attack of malignant scarlatina, which had assumed a "kind of human glanders," was mercifully cured by the administration of a billionth of the matter taken from the nostrils of a glandered horse.

They say that "those may laugh who win." This we *matter-of-fact* homœopaths do, and so can well afford to be laughed at by *abstract* mathematicians like A. B.

The arithmetic of A. B. reminds me of the story of, I think, James the 1st, who, when some of the literati of his court had been engaged in some abstruse calculations whether a bucket of water weighed most with a fish in or out of it, shrewdly advised them to go and weigh it. I need hardly mention what was the practical Q.E.D. If A. B. instead of indulging in the same kind of *a priori* calculations about the unreasonableness of homœopathic medicines, would only be persuaded to put them to the same reasonable proof, I am as much convinced as I am that the fire warms, that he will find there is a vast deal more in them than he has ever yet "dreamt of in his philosophy."

How beside the mark those calculations are will at once be seen by the following extract from one of Dr. Sharp's Tracts on Homœopathy, respecting the mode of preparing the medicines :

"In reply to the assertion of the improbability that it is practically possible to divide anything into a decillion of parts, it can be shewn that nothing is more easy. Suppose we take 30 new and clean half-ounce bottles, and place them in a row and put corks in them and mark the corks with the numbers from one to thirty; and put into No. 1, ninety-eight drops of alcohol, and into each of the remaining bottles ninety-nine drops of alcohol, and put into No. 1, two drops of the 'mother tincture' of any liquid medicine (which consists of the juice of the plant and alcohol in equal parts), and shake this bottle well, and put one drop of this first dilution into the bottle marked No. 2, and shake it well, and put one drop of No. 2, into No. 3, and shake it, and proceed in the same manner through the 30 bottles. By this

time we shall have divided the original drop of the medicine, so that the 30th dilution contains a decillionth part of it. This proceeding will not have occupied an hour, and the quantity of alcohol consumed will have been about *six ounces*; instead of the oceans of spirit required according to the calculations of mathematicians and doctors."

So far, then, from the billionth part of any given medicine being as good as *nowhere*, from being lost in a quantity of liquid sufficient, I have heard it said, to fill St. Giles's church, it might for certain be pronounced to *be* in what would not half fill "A. B.'s" slop-basin.

I think I may now say with Horace, "Solventur risu tabulæ," and remain,

Your obedient servant,

J. T.

P.S. For a solid the mode of preparation is not less simple, though a little more laborious. A grain is to be carefully triturated with ninety-nine grains of sugar of milk, in divided portions, for an hour; a grain of this first trituration in a similar manner for the second; and a grain of the second for the third trituration. After this the substance becomes soluble, and the remaining dilutions can be made, as in the case of the tinctures; twenty-seven bottles being required to obtain the thirtieth dilution.

To the Editor of the Northampton Herald.

Northampton, March 11, 1857.

Sir,—The homœopathic proposition that the potency of a medicinal agent in its action upon the human body is inversely that of its quantity, and that the more minutely it is divided by trituration with inertmatter, and the smaller the dose given, the greater will be its effect in curing and arresting diseased action, is at first sight so startling, so different to what we have been accustomed to believe and act upon, that no one ought to be surprised at its accuracy being questioned. Indeed, when we find highly educated men, clergymen of the Established Church and others giving their sanction to homœopathy, and advocating it as being the true system of medicine, it behoves us to pause and to enquire upon what grounds they arrive at a conclusion so opposed to old and established ideas, and to the accepted axioms of the medical art. I have done so, and I must confess that I am unable to give anything like a reasonable explanation of this great medical heresy, as it has been called by some. The love of mysticism is abroad. We have mesmerism, electro-biology, table-turning, spirit-rapping, &c., &c., continually brought under our notice. We know that many estimable individuals are convinced that there is truth—and perhaps something more—in these mystifications. But their convictions may be founded in error.

The rector of Tiffield appears to consider the homœopathic theory of medicine a divine truth. He is, therefore, satisfied of its correctness and efficacy. No wonder that he should avail himself of it. He however, although a self appointed Levite in the homœopathic temple, requires, it seems, occasionally the assistance of the high priest in cases of unusual difficulty and danger. The doctrine of the billionth is no mystery to him. Is it so to us?

Let us examine what a billionth part really is, and, in doing so, we will avail ourselves of "A. B.'s" formula. We would, however, extend its application to solids as well as fluids. Before doing so we would do Dr. Pearce the justice to acknowledge that his process for obtaining the mysterious and potent billionth is clear, concise and practical. But it gives us, who unfortunately are not accustomed to think in figures, a very poor idea of what is meant, and, therefore, we prefer "A. B.'s" method, the result, recollect, being precisely the same.

1st, as regards fluids. A billion drops of water will rather more than fill 241,126 hogsheads of 54 gallons each. Imagine one drop of any medicated liquid diffused through this amount of water, and then imagine, if you can, what effect a single drop, or billionth of this mixture, will have upon your system, supposing even that the drop of medicated liquid be the most concentrated poison, or, indeed, glandered, or any other abominable matter.

2nd, as regards solids. A billion grains will weigh rather more than 59,311 tons. Triturate one grain of mercury with 59,311 tons of chalk, and when the two substances are most intimately blended, you may prescribe a single grain of the preparation, and this would be what is termed a billionth.

Such is "A. B.'s" proposition, and it has this advantage over Dr. Pearce's, that by it we may realise to ourselves the probable effect of medicine given in such very minute doses. The truth is, very few of us are much in the habit of dealing with millions and billions, and, therefore, we require to reflect and to compare before we become conscious of what these terms represent. I therefore give the foregoing calculations as much for the benefit of those addicted to homœopathy as to those who are sceptical of its merits. The term infinitesimal also appears to me to be incorrect. What relation is there between a finite atom and the infinite? No one questions the divisibility of matter to an indefinite extent, but infinite division implies a quality in matter which we cannot concede. Dr. Pearce and the Rector of Tiffield may, however, be able to decide this to the satisfaction of their followers.

In discussing this question of homœopathy, I have only touched upon the dogma of the billionth. I trust, however, I have made myself understood, and in animadverting upon what I cannot but consider an erroneous system of medicine, notwithstanding what its advocates affirm in its favour, I do hope in my observations, that I

shall have caused offence to no one. I desire to avoid this. It is farthest from my wishes and intentions. I seek the truth, and that only. In philosophy, faith must give place to reason. Wishing to remain as I am, an unknown quantity,

I beg to subscribe myself, Mr. Editor,

Your obedient servant,

X. Y. Z.

To the Editor of the Northampton Herald.

Tiffield Rectory, March 17th.

Sir,—“X. Y. Z.” is “startled” by a ghost of his own raising when he talks about “the potency of a medicinal agent in its action upon the human body being *inversely* that of its quantity, and that the more minutely it is divided by trituration with inert matter, and the smaller the dose given, the greater will be its effect in curing and arresting diseased action,” for I am not aware that either of these are propositions generally maintained by homœopathsists. On the contrary, there is a great diversity of opinion among them about the potency of the medicines which it is most advisable to give, for it must never be forgotten that the *size* of the dose is by no means an essential constituent of the great principle of “like cures like.” Every gradation of potency is in fact employed, from the globules in the higher attenuations to the powerful mother tinctures, which is Dr. Kidd’s usual practice in London. As a general rule, the lower potencies are given in acute cases—the higher in chronic ones, where a more subtle and sustained action on the system is required.

“The love of mysticism is,” indeed, “*abroad*,” if homœopathy is to be reckoned as one of its forms, possessing, as it does, upwards of thirty professors in various European universities, nearly fifty medical and court councillors, and at least twenty court physicians in all the continental nations; boasting, in North America alone, of 4,000 legally qualified practitioners, numbering its patients by millions; and being considered even in our own country, which has been one of the last to adopt it, of so much importance as to have formed the subject of a grave memorial, signed by twenty-two peers, forty-nine members of the House of Commons, seventeen generals, thirty-three field officers, and forty-three other officers of the army, two admirals, fifteen captains, sixty-five clergymen, forty-five justices of the peace, barristers and solicitors, three hundred and fourteen bankers, merchants, and others; and headed by that most acute-minded man, Archbishop Whately, to the Secretary of War, praying for the establishment of a homœopathic medical staff, for the treatment of those forms of disease in the Crimea, during the late war, which were so fearfully destructive of life under the

old system of medicine. Can mesmerism, electro-biology, table turning, spirit rapping, point to anything like the same striking testimony to their *practical* value? There is no "mystification" about homœopathy; all is plain and above board. "Enter our hospitals—see the preparation of our medicines—examine our patients; or let us lay them side by side with yours in the wards of the same County Infirmary." This is the invitation—this the challenge given by homœopathic practitioners to the medical faculty and the public in general; and then see whether you will not be forced to admit with Dr. Macloughlin, the medical inspector (known to be strongly opposed to homœopathy) appointed by Government during the last severe visitation of cholera in London to collect information respecting the different modes of its treatment, "that there may be no misapprehension about the cases I saw in your hospital (the London Homœopathic), I will add that all I saw were true cases of cholera in the various stages of the disease, and that I saw several cases which did well under your treatment, and which I have no hesitation in saying *would have sunk under any other.*"

I do not understand what "X. Y. Z." means when he says—"The Rector of Tiffield *appears* to consider the homœopathic theory of medicine a Divine truth." Appearances are deceptive. I need hardly say that a belief in its Divine revelation is no article of my creed; but that it *is* a general LAW of healing, and therefore is to be taken as an expression of the will of the Great Creator in the constitution and order of His works for the benefit of His creatures—to this I devoutly subscribe. There is, indeed, "no wonder that I should avail myself of it," when I have for so many years had the most convincing proofs of its wonderful power to cure, even when wielded by such unskilful hands as my own. Nothing can shew this more, than that I have preferred being my own humble "Levite" in the medical temple to calling in an allopathic high priest (albeit a most kind and competent one was close at hand) to preside at the bloody sacrifice, with leech and blister, and nauseous draught.

At the same time, I am quite ready to confess that "the *doctrine* of the billionth,"—the theory according to which it cures, is as much a mystery to me as to "X. Y. Z." The fact that it *does* so is as clear as the sun in the heavens above.

And this brings me to the point on which I take the most serious exception to anything that has yet been advanced by either "A. B." or "X. Y. Z."

But I have already trespassed too much; I fear, on your valuable space, and therefore must reserve, with your permission, what I have to say on it till another week, and remain,

Your obedient servant,

J. T.

P.S.—In reply to "A. B.," I have only to add that these words of his first letter—"It will take, therefore, more than 200,000 hogs-

heads of water in order to make the mixture of that particular strength or weakness, that one drop may contain no more than the quantity prescribed," did certainly imply that he supposed it was necessary to employ such a quantity of water. The joke about the vessel which contained the prescribed quantity being difficult to move confirmed the impression. Hence the necessity of explaining the real process of preparation. The ultimate proportions of the quantities employed must, of course, be the same. A billionth is a billionth all the world over, whether it be arrived at by the more scientific method of centesimal progression adopted by the homœopaths, or the wholesale one prescribed by "A. B." The result, however, would be very different. It is by no means clear that "A. B.'s" new formula of expression, "that the dissolving of one grain in upwards of 200,000 hogsheads of water would provide each drop of the fluid with the quantity required," is correct.

No one could for certain predicate that the billionth of a grain was equally diffused through such an unmanageable mass of liquid, so that whoever took a drop of it would take a billionth part of the given medicine. No one, on the other hand, can reasonably doubt that such a billionth must be an integral part of the homœopathic form of dilution.

The following Appendix was intended for the "Northampton Herald," but did not appear, owing to the discussion being closed by the editor.

"X. Y. Z." says he "has paused and enquired" into the truth of homœopathy. Will he oblige me by explaining in your next number what has been the nature of such *deliberate* enquiry. Has he made any experimental investigation of its merits, and what time and trouble has he employed in doing so? For the ascertainment of physical truth demands practical investigation. To theorize about tendencies—to talk of what is "probable"—to ask others, twice repeated—to "*imagine*" what kind of effect would be produced, is altogether misplaced. It is to substitute assertion for proof. What is called *a priori* reasoning is all very well to account for a well-established fact, to explain how it probably *does* take place; it is quite inadmissible to disprove its doing so. For as no mere argument can make a positive fact known, so none can set it aside. The fact must of course be determined by the value of the evidences in its favour; and I quite agree with Dr. Sharp, in saying, that "if the nature of the evidence, upon which the truth of homœopathy now rests, be not sufficient to establish it, then nothing can be established as true upon any evidence whatever." The established proof of this assertion, though it would require some space, might be readily furnished.

In conclusion, I must demur to the statement of "X. Y. Z.," that "In philosophy, faith must give way to reason." There is a fallacy in this use of the word faith—for true philosophical enquiry, according

to the Baconian system of induction, consists in the conduct of experiments to ascertain facts, and in the selection and combination of such facts with a view to obtaining valuable conclusions. These conclusions must be submitted to our bodily senses, to which, after taking every possible care that they may not deceive us, we must ultimately *trust* in judging of the properties and effects of things around us. Now the principle of trust is of the very essence of faith. When faith is said to be a religious principle, it is the things believed, not the act of believing them, which is peculiar to religion. No one can, indeed, form within himself the principle of faith in the Divine *objects* of revelation, except it be *given* him of God; but everyone ought, because everyone can, exercise the same most *rational* principles in trusting his own senses, his own memory, the report and testimony of others respecting the truth of facts, which are daily and hourly being multiplied on every side. Let "X. Y. Z." do this, and though he may prefer removing such himself, the evidence in favour of homœopathy will no longer be to him, as at present, "*an unknown quantity.*"

I will only re-echo "X. Y. Z.'s" wish that I may not have given, as I am sure I have not taken offence at anything that has been said, and with thanks to yourself, Sir, for having opened your columns for the temperate discussion of a subject which, for the most part, has been conducted with too much acrimony on both sides,

I remain, your obedient servant,

*Tiffield Rectory,
March 17th, 1857.*

J. T.

SALE OF POISONS.

A FEW weeks ago, a servant-of-all-work, named Anne Boxall, resident in the house of Mrs. Adams of Petersfield, committed suicide by taking a dose of "mouse powder," (Buttle's "vermin killer,") which contains the deadly drug strychnine. It was purchased by a fellow servant at a druggist's shop. The doctor found the wretched girl in a state of spasm. On endeavouring to raise her head, (to which she strongly objected,) in order to introduce the tube of the stomach pump, he found it impossible to force open her mouth. She repeatedly expressed a wish to have her legs rubbed, and also her feet. He was about to use chloroform, when she expired in great pain. The stomach was found to be very much inflamed, and showed the results of an active poison.—*Sussex Express.*

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HOMŒOPATHY IN FRANCE.

INTERESTED, but not interesting, opponents of homœopathy are very prone to misrepresent the real facts of homœopathy. Hence, when a few months since one of the medical societies of Paris expelled from membership three physicians, *because they had embraced homœopathy*, one of the Northampton physicians spread a report that homœopathy was turned or “kicked” out of Paris. So, because a medical clique or society, pretending to be “*savans*,” excommunicates from membership men who have the honesty and the moral courage to avow their convictions of the superiority of science to empiricism, of light to darkness, the truth, the quackery say these *savans*, is dead. Why, they little think that if the four hundred medical homœopathists in England were put to death at once, homœopathy would still live in the minds and the hearts too of a million of English people, who have embraced the great medical truth, and thrown to the winds the fiction, the “sacrificing” practice of old physic. “Great is Diana of the Ephesians” is the revived cry of the devotees of allopathy.

But to return—Is homœopathy kicked out of Paris? Let the Emperor Louis Napoleon answer the question. The Empress Eugénie has been under homœopathic treatment, and it is believed that the possession of a prince of the house of Napoleon is due to the restoration to health of the Empress under homœopathic treat-

ment. The Emperor, after the recovery under homœopathic treatment of Marshal St. Arnaud, who subsequently fell at Alma, would have established a chair, a professorship of homœopathy in the University of Paris, but the faculty, to a man, threatened resignation if it were done, and for the present, the subject is postponed. The Emperor, however, has done justice to a homœopathic physician, he has done that as an *Emperor* which England's *monarch* cannot do without the consent of others—he has created Dr. Mabbit a *Knight of the Legion of Honour*, as a reward of distinguished success in his treatment of cholera.

The *Moniteur*, the organ of the French government, publishes the following statement of his cures in comparison with those effected under allopathic treatment :

Treated homœopathically	2,289
Cured	2,069
Died	170
	————— 2,289
Percentage of deaths	7½
Treated allopathically	405,027
Cured	254,788
Died	240,239
	————— 405,027
Percentage of deaths	40

Under homœopathic treatment, therefore, the advantages are immense, the mortality being seven-and-a-half per cent., while under ordinary treatment the mortality was forty per cent.; in other words, of the 240,239 who died under allopathy, *two hundred thousand persons died unnecessarily.*

The Emperor has done justice to the man. Dr. Mabbit deserves the honour conferred upon him as the happy instrument of saving the lives of so many, notwithstanding the ready excuse for allopathic manslaughter made by a dissenting minister a short time since, viz., "No man *can* die before his time."

DETECTION OF ARSENIC AND ANTIMONY.

Dr. Odling has ascertained that 1-500th grain of arsenious acid may be detected with certainty by means of Reinsch's test, and that the metallic deposit, crystalline sublimate, and yellow sulphide may be obtained successively. He gives the preference to fine copper gauze for the precipitation of the arsenic, and conducts the sublimation in a hard glass tube, two inches long, $\frac{1}{8}$ inch diameter, sealed at one end, and drawn out at the other end to about an inch, almost capillary. He finds that decisive results are obtained when the dilution amounts to 2,250,000 times the weight of arsenious acid. Protracted ebullition seems to be a necessary condition of the deposition of arsenic, particularly when the quantity is small or the degree of dilution great. It has been urged as an objection to Reinsch's test, that during the ebullition with hydrochloric acid, arsenic is volatilized as chloride; but Dr. Odling does not consider this fact is of any consequence in practice, as the loss is inappreciably small, and might be provided against by using a small retort for the operation. It is generally believed that Reinsch's test is applicable only for the detection of arsenical compounds that are dissolved by dilute hydrochloric acid. In cases of poisoning, it is not unfrequent that the whole of the arsenic is converted by the decomposition of the tissues into tersulphide, which is generally represented as being insoluble in dilute hydrochloric acid, and consequently the arsenic would not be extracted from the organic substance and tissues by boiling with dilute hydrochloric acid; however, Dr. Odling has found that the precipitated tersulphide of arsenic is readily dissolved by very dilute hydrochloric acid and even by boiling water, to a much greater extent than was observed by Dr. Christison. He finds also that the deposits obtained from arsenic and antimony resemble each other very closely, but that this is not of any consequence in practice, owing to the ease with which the arsenical deposit is distinguished from that produced by arsenic. With regard to the detection of antimony by means of Reinsch's test, he finds that bismuth, and even tin, will yield metallic deposits which cannot safely be distinguished from that obtained from antimony, by the appearance only. The characters of the bismuth deposit are somewhat peculiar; when thin it approximates closely in appearance to that obtained with antimony. The deposit obtained with tin differs much according to circumstances; when thin it has a peculiar dotted appearance—sometimes it is almost black, sometimes steel-blue. When heated it sometimes appears to diminish considerably. It would, moreover, be produced only when the amount of metal in solution was so large as not to present any difficulty in detecting it.

Dr. Odling suggests the following as a delicate method of confirming the indication of antimony: The coated copper is covered

with a solution of one grain permanganate of potash in fifteen ounces of water, a drop or two of potash solution added, and the whole boiled. In a few minutes the permanganate is decomposed, the antimony passes into solution, and may be precipitated by means of sulphuretted hydrogen from the solution acidulated with hydrochloric acid.—*Pharmaceutical Journal*.

THE APOTHECARIES' COMPANY & HOMŒOPATHY.

IN our January number we alluded to the progress of homœopathy in the villages of Northamptonshire, and to the circumstance that lay practitioners were extending the system, to the detriment of old physic. On the above-named occasion we alluded to the fact that the Apothecaries' Company had taken alarm at the spread of homœopathy in Roade. In that place a very successful instance of the efficacy of homœopathy was seen in the recovery of the wife of a small tradesman from a wasting disease. The husband being an intelligent man, and industrious too, took up the subject of homœopathic medicine, and, in the absence of a legally qualified homœopathic practitioner, has been useful to the poor of the place especially. It was not long before the enmity of the "old-fashioned" surgeon of the place became evident, the result being the action of the Apothecaries' Company. The object of the company was two-fold; firstly, to prohibit the 'unqualified' from doing good, and secondly, to prohibit, if possible, by intimidation, a diploma'd surgeon from acting as an apothecary—a thing which he desired not.

The correspondence we give below. The effect of the interference on the part of the Apothecaries' Company has been to excite attention to the subject, to promote enquiry into homœopathy, and to establish it in the minds of many more. Mr. Clifton still successfully practises at Roade. Mr. Kightley, his intelligent agent there, still cures the people of their ailments, and the Company of Apothecaries have wasted paper and postage stamps in warning homœopathy.

The following is the correspondence alluded to, which we "record" in connection with the history of homœopathy in the county of Northampton:

"Apothecaries' Hall, London, Dec. 4, 1856.

"SIR,—It is represented to the Society of Apothecaries whom the legislature has especially appointed to carry into execution the provisions of the "Act for better regulating the Practice of Apothecaries throughout England and Wales," that you are practising as an apothecary, not being legally qualified to engage in such practice; and the society have been called upon, in the discharge of their public duty, to enforce the payment of the penalties which you are alleged to have incurred.

"The society have directed this communication to be made to you, in the hope that you may have it in your power to satisfy them that the representation which has been made to them is incorrect.

"I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

"ROB. B. UPTON,

"*Clerk to the Society.*

"*To Mr. James Kightley,*

"*Roade, near Northampton.*"

"Northampton, Dec. 21, 1856.

"Sir,—Mr. Kightley, of Roade, has put into my hands a letter he received from you a few days since; and, as he acts as my assistant, I answer it for him. I am a Member of the College of Surgeons, and practise at Roade; and, in my absence, Mr. Kightley has visited my patients, and communicated with me. With this explanation,

"I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

"A. C. CLIFTON.

"*Robert Upton, Esq.,*

"*Apothecaries' Hall, London.*"

"Apothecaries' Hall, 2nd January, 1857.

"Sir,—Your letter of the 21st ultimo affords no information which would justify Mr. Kightley's practice as an apothecary. You do not even state that you are yourself qualified to practise as an apothecary.

"I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

"ROB. B. UPTON,

"*Clerk to the Society.*

"*A. C. Clifton, Esq., Surgeon,*

"*Northampton.*"

"Northampton, January 14, 1857.

"Sir,—Your letter of the 2nd inst. was duly received; and in answer would say—

"1st. I could not *intend* 'to justify Mr. Kightley's acting as an apothecary,' for he had not done so.

"2nd. I did not intend either to state that I was qualified 'to practise as an apothecary.' The system of medicine which I have adopted is that developed by the immortal Hahnemann—I mean *homœopathy*, professedly disregarded by "the Society of Apothecaries."

"The society not having recognised the medicines which homœopathic practitioners employ so effectually in the cure of disease, it cannot be expected that such can seek to become qualified by a body,

which, being chartered, claims for its members and licentiates an *exclusive right to physic the people of England*, and rejects the materia medica of homœopathists.

"If the 'worshipful Company of Apothecaries' deny that homœopathists administer *medicines*, on the ground that the chemical analyst of the company cannot detect medicinal substances in the preparations of the homœopathic school, how can a homœopathist be charged with acting as an apothecary? I shall be glad to be informed on this point at your convenience,

"And beg to remain, yours respectfully,

"A. C. CLIFTON, M.B.C.S.Eng.

"*To Robt. B. Upton, Esq.*

"P.S.—I beg to enclose a tube of globules of the dilution I daily employ,* that your analyst may exercise his powers to detect the medicinal substance contained therein."

"Apothecaries' Hall, January 23, 1857.

"Sir,—I am in receipt of your letter of the 16th inst., in reply to which I have only to state that if evidence is laid before the society of either Mr. Kightley or yourself attending patients afflicted with diseases requiring medical treatment, and of your administering medicines for their cure or relief, and the society is called upon to sanction the institution of proceedings for the recovery of the penalty you will have thereby incurred, the society will not hesitate to sanction such proceedings, after the warning which is now given to you.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"ROB. B. UPTON,

"*Clerk to the Society.*

"*A. C. Clifton, Esq., Surgeon,*
"*Northampton.*"

MISAPPROPRIATION OF CHILDREN'S FOOD.

THE most appropriate—the principal food of children, is *milk*. The milk of the cow suitably follows the milk of the mother; it contains the elements of nutrition, it builds up, so to speak, the human frame. Yet how scarce is this most important and natural article of food. In sickness, or in the state of convalescence, especially in children, the physician deems it the most desirable food. In many localities where one would expect it to be most easily obtained,

* Opium.

viz., the agricultural districts, it is most difficult. Enquiry has recently been made into the cause of such scarcity, and our readers, we apprehend, will be struck when they are told the cause :

Animal food is in great demand. Flesh meat is dear. When mutton and beef are dear, an artificial value is set upon the flesh of *swine*—pigs' meat or pork is in demand; to supply this demand, the farmers breed pigs extensively, and these are fed with the food of children, that is, *milk*. A. C., residing at Paulerspury, near Towcester, states, that she cannot get milk, the farmer refusing to sell it to the poor, as "he feeds the pigs with it." Mrs. D., of Shutlanger, states, that her children have tea and coffee *without milk*, as no milk is to be had there, for "the farmers give it to the pigs."

Thus are England's children wronged—disease and debility engendered, while their parents pollute their bodies and their offspring with the flesh of swine, declared by an all-wise and beneficent Creator to be "unclean."

We will recur to this subject in a future number when statistics have been obtained.

THE FACULTY UNDETERMINED ON THE TREATMENT OF EPILEPSY.

VIEWS OF MR. SOLLY ON BLEEDING.

THE following quotation is from a lecture by Mr. Solly, an eminent surgeon at one of the metropolitan hospitals, and author of a monograph on the brain. The cautions against blood-letting are valuable—not to the homœopathist, as he would not bleed in epilepsy—but to those medical practitioners (and there are many of them) who still use the lancet too freely.

"Here, gentlemen," says Mr. Solly, "we had to combat with a fearful complication of his maladies. Epilepsy, that strange, mysterious disease! how little do we know of its proximate or ultimate cause, and consequently how empirical is our treatment of it! There is, however, one point in its pathology regarding which I have no doubt, namely, that it is essentially a disease of debility, and that all blood-letting does harm. In thus decidedly stating this opinion, I ought, however, to observe that some physicians of great practical experience do not agree with me, and I have heard them relate cases in which they consider that local depletion has been attended with benefit in epilepsy. Of course there is no rule without an exception, and every man must use his judgment in the treatment of each individual case. I think it necessary to warn you against blood-letting in epilepsy, because, unless you approach a case of epilepsy with this impression regarding depletion, you would be tempted to employ it.

At the time of an epileptic fit, and for some time after that, there is every indication of congestion of the brain, varying in intensity in different patients and in different attacks of the same patient; but symptoms of congestion of the brain are never absent altogether. If, therefore, you see a case immediately after the convulsive stage of the fit has passed off, you will be tempted to pull out your lancet and relieve the struggling and oppressed brain of the load which bears upon it; and with this little instrument you may relieve it for the time, but with the certainty—at least so my experience has taught me—of causing an earlier repetition of the fits, with increased severity.

“I remember some years ago being tempted, from the signs which I have detailed to you, to use the lancet. My patient was a stout, strong-built, plethoric man, in other respects apparently in rude health; a man to whom you would have thought the abstraction of a little blood would be no loss, but a gain. It was not so: the blood-letting was followed by a rapid succession of attacks, such as he had not previously been liable to.”

WONDERFUL—IF TRUE.

A SERIES of experiments have recently been made by Dr. Pollock, an oculist of this city, says the *Chicago Press*, of the 17th ultimo, to test the truth of an article published some time since by a celebrated physician in England, which alleged that the last scene viewed by a dying man would remain impressed upon the retina as does the impression upon a daguerreotype plate. In each experiment that Dr. P. has made, he has found that an examination of the retina of an eye with a microscope reveals a wonderful as well as a beautiful sight, and in almost every instance there was a clear, distinct, and marked impression. The recent examination of the eye of J. H. Beardsley, who was murdered in Auburn, discovered in the pupil the rude, worn away figure of a man, with a light coat, beside whom was a round stone, standing or suspended in the air, with a small handle stuck as it were in the earth. The remainder was debris, evidently lost from the destruction of the optic nerve and its separation from the mother brain. Dr. Sandford says—“Had we performed this operation when the eye was entire in the socket, with all its powerful connection with the brain, there is not the least doubt but that we should have detected the last idea and impression made on the mind and eye of the unfortunate man. The thing would evidently be entire, and perhaps we should have had the contour, or, better still, the exact figure of the murderer.”

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—After the lapse of more than half a century, Jenner's discovery is again upon its trial. Its defenders continually shift their ground. Time has vindicated the opposition of Goldson, Brown, Birch, and others. Objections which were met at first with unqualified denial, are now generally accepted and palliated. Vaccination engages the thoughts and pens of deep, earnest, and independent thinkers, especially in France and Germany. Drs. De Lisle, Bayard, Anceton, Monsieur Carnot, Drs. Nittinger, Gleich, Steinbacher, Klöber, Krüger, Ennemoser, Stendel, Schanfeld, Bez, Durr, Lutze, Zimpfch, Winter, Kranichfeld, Hamernick, &c., on the Continent, and in England Drs. Mitchell, Johnson, Mr. Geo. Gibbs, and others, are examining the subject in various aspects, in independent publications, and in the columns of the "Revue Médicale Française et Etrangère," "Journal des Connaissances Médico-Chirurgicale," "L'Union Médicale," "Die Gesundheit-Wächter," "Gazette des Hôpitaux," "Journal des Connaissances Médicales," "Med. Corresp. Bt.," "Medicinishe-Briefe," "Wienes Med. Wocherschrift," &c., &c.

In examining the pretensions of vaccination, one question prominently presents itself—How does the practice affect population? This question received but little attention from Jenner and his immediate disciples. They satisfied themselves with asserting, in an offhand way, that, as small pox yearly slew some 40,000 victims, vaccination would yearly preserve that number of subjects to the state; but, ever since, they have neglected to show that their prediction has been fulfilled, and we vainly enquire for that 40,000 and natural increase thereof during half a century. Indeed, we were told by that vigorous vaccinator, the late Dr. Geo. Gregory, that they are not to be found, having been disposed of by "the law of vicarious mortality"—that is, killed off by other causes. But thoughtful enquirers do not rest satisfied here: they ask, Is there not something more than the law of vicarious mortality at work? Does not vaccination itself react injuriously upon population? Does not the unnatural practice of puncturing healthy bodies and impregnating them with an animal poison produce effects prejudicial to health and longevity? This question, which has many branches, could never occur to the thoughtless and headlong; even now, it will not be entertained by those who cleave to authority, and who hate the trouble and responsibility of thinking; but it has ever presented itself, *in limine*, to thoughtful minds, uninfluenced by prejudice, self-interest, or vanity. Accordingly, it could not escape such a mind as that of Kant, and therefore we learn without surprise from De Quincey that—

"As to Jenner's discovery of vaccination he (Kant) appre-

hended dangerous consequences from the absorption of a brutal miasm into the human blood, or at least into the lymph."

Is there no reason to admire the sagacity of Kant? French and German authors deplore the injurious influence of vaccination upon their respective countries. The proofs are too manifold to recapitulate here. I will only refer to an article published at Paris, in 1854, in the "Revue Médicale Française et Etrangère," and translated, in 1857, into German, and printed at Stuttgart, under the title—"The Vaccine Poison at the Tribunal of Arithmetic," in which Mons. Carnot has advanced and proved this theorem:

"In every locality, where the population does not vary in a marked degree, in consequence of immigration or emigration, in time of peace, under the operation of similar laws, all things being equal, when the fruits of marriage augment or diminish in a certain degree, it has been proved that the mortality of women married and at the productive age diminishes or augments in an inverse ratio."

Applying this theorem to a comparison of the mean condition of England at an interval of sixteen years, we arrive at the following conclusions:

Mean of the Yearly Fluctuation of Population in England & Wales, from 1821 to 1856 inclusive.

PERIODS COMPARED.	MEAN YEARS.	DEATHS.	BIRTHS.	MARRIAGES.
From 1821 to 1840 (20 yrs.)	1831	253,115	434,855	99,108
From 1838 to 1856 (18 yrs.)	1847	383,406	559,400	139,078
Difference	16 yrs.	130,291	124,545	49,970

Excess of births over deaths..... { 1st period 181,740
 { 2nd period..... 175,994

Deaths compared with 1000 births ... { 1st period 582
 { 2nd period..... 685

Births compared with 1000 marriages { 1st period 439
 { 2nd period..... 404

Diminution in results of marriage in 16 years..... 35

Average diminution of ditto 8 per 100

GENERAL DEDUCTIONS.—The fruits of marriage have diminished in England at the rate of 8 per 100 in 16 years; that is, $\frac{1}{2}$ per 100 yearly. In France the diminution is double, or 1 per 100 yearly, from 1831 to 1847.

Hence it results that the mortality of women at the productive age has increased in England in the proportion of 92 to 100, that is, 87 in the 1000; while in France the increase has been in the proportion of 84 to 100, that is, 190 in the 1000.

In fine, the condition of England is less calamitous than that of France, in the proportion of 87 to 190, or, nearly, of 5 to 11.

Here it should be observed, that, owing to the arbitrary measures of the French government, the practice of vaccination in France has greatly exceeded, probably doubled, the practice in England.

Moreover, on comparing London with Paris, we readily observe that, while the infant population suffers more, the adult population suffers less, in England than in France, from small pox.

England has therefore yet time to stop on the edge of the precipice to which the credulity of its men of science has led it, but from which the good sense of its people as yet recoils. As to France, after nine years' warfare with paralogisms and absurd hypotheses, scarcely less than a miracle can arrest her ruin.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBS.

St. Leonard's-on-Sea,

March 31, 1857.

HOW HOMŒOPATHY IS GOING DOWN.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

DEAR SIR,—A curious and satisfactory illustration of the above assertion was lately related to me by Mr. T., an intelligent tradesman, with whom I am acquainted. Whilst travelling in a railway carriage, some remark started a discussion on the merits of medical science, between Mr. T. and an Irishman who was seated by his side. The latter inveighed, in no measured terms, against the whole profession, declaring that all was uncertainty and guess-work in the practice of medicine, and gave his own case as an instance. "I once had," said he, "an attack of inflammation on the lungs. I consulted three different medical men and received a prescription from each of them. The prescriptions were all different. In my perplexity I took them all to a druggist, and discussed their merits with him, and by his advice had the mixture prescribed in one of them, made up by him, but in a much weaker degree than was prescribed. This I own did me good; but still, is not all this a proof that the doctors not only work in the dark, but also that they greatly over-dose us,

when they do happen to hit upon the right thing?" Mr. T., who has lately adopted homœopathy, enquired whether he had ever heard of this mode of cure. "Yes," he said, "he had; but he thought it as great a humbug as every other method, for he could not think it credible that a *single infinitesimal dose* of medicine should cure acute disease." Such was his idea of the *practice* of homœopathy; and of its *principles* he appeared to be quite ignorant. But at this stage of the discussion, a person who was sitting on the opposite seat joined in, and expressed his firm belief in homœopathy, and his conviction that it was accomplishing a vast amount of good and was destined to accomplish a vast deal more. "Can you give any instances?" enquired the Irishman. "Yes," replied the other, "I can give you myself as an instance. The first time I experienced the benefits of homœopathy was in a violent attack of cholera, of which it cured me speedily and completely. Some time after that I was cured, in an equally satisfactory manner, of an attack of typhus fever by its means; and since then I have experienced its benefits from time to time in various attacks of illness; and I have here in my pocket," he added, "a small case of the medicines, which I carry about with me, and which I would not part with for a thousand pounds if another could not be obtained." A fourth person now took part in the conversation—a dissenting minister, who was sitting in a corner of the same carriage. He, also, declared himself a firm believer in the truth of homœopathy, and stated, that he not only had experienced its benefits himself, but that he also practised it among the members of his congregation with a satisfactory degree of success.

The point worthy of observation in all this, is the remarkable fact, that in a chance gathering of people, in a single compartment of a railway carriage, so many should be found who had adopted the homœopathic system and experienced its benefits, and were ready to advocate its cause. And why should this chance gathering be different in this respect from that found in any other carriage on a railway? Should not such an instance be taken as a fair sample of what is generally to be met with in like circumstances, and therefore as a presumptive proof of the wide-spread hold that homœopathy is taking amongst the people? a proof that it is, indeed, "going down"—striking its roots deep into the soil of the popular mind; to uproot it from whence, will require something mightier than the flimsy *a priori* reasonings about the smallness of the dose, &c., with which its opponents so often assail it: a single fact of experience will, in the mind of every unprejudiced man, outweigh a bushel of such reasonings.

Believe me, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,

F. H. B.

To the Editor of the *Homœopathic Record*.

Riga Cottage, Blackheath Road, Kent,
January 16th, 1856.

MY DEAR SIR,—I herewith send you a continuation of "Homœopathy at Balaklava, in the Crimea," by the editor of "Medical Despotism, or Official Injustice," to be continued in future numbers of the *Record*. I may take this opportunity of informing you that I have transferred my residence to the above address, where I have opened the Greenwich and Deptford Homœopathic Dispensary, of which I will send you a prospectus shortly. Any thing which you can do to advance the cause of homœopathy in connection with this institution will be thankfully acknowledged by

Yours, very truly,

DAVID M'CONNELL REED, M.D.,
M.R.C.S. Edin., &c.

Medical Officer to the Greenwich and Deptford
Homœopathic Dispensary.

HOMŒOPATHY AT BALAKLAVA, IN THE CRIMEA.

(Continued from the January number by the Editor of "Medical Despotism, or Official Injustice.")

No. 3.—DIARRHŒEA.

JAMES WHITE, age about 28, spare, active habit and nervous temperament, seaman on board the barque *Joseph*, of Belfast, moored in Balaklava harbour, had taken allopathic medicine without relief.

March 15th. Gave *Arsenicum*, tinct. 3, gutt. i., in a wine glass of water.

17th. Patient is better, but complains of headache, and is feverish.

Take of *Aconite*, tinct 3, gutt. i., water ℥ii.; a table-spoonful every two hours.

20th. Patient reported to be well.

No. 4.—QUOTIDIAN AGUE.

CHARLES BURKE, aged 18, robust frame, phlegmatic temperament, and indolent habit, seaman on board the *Joseph* has had allopathic medicine for some time without relief.

March 15th. Gave *Arsenicum* tinct. 3, gutt i., in an ounce of water at once.

17th. Ague still continues. Give of *Aconite* tinct. 3, gutt. ij., in water ℥ij.; a table-spoonful every two hours.

20th. Reported to be well.

21st. Still suffers from ague. Give of *Arsenicum* tinct. 3, gutt. ij., water ℥ij.; a tea-spoonful every two hours.

24th. Still has ague daily for three or four hours. Pulse regular, soft and weak; tongue white; bowels regular; no appetite; has had headache of late after each attack of fever. Give of *Cinchona*, tinct. 3, gutt iv., water ꝑxvi.; one ounce every two hours.

25th. Give of *Cinchona* 30-3 glob. at once.

26th. Give of *Cinchona* 12-12, water ꝑiv.; a table-spoonful every four hours.

28th. No better. Give of *Aconite* 24-6, water ꝑij; a table-spoonful every four hours.

30th. Fever worse to-day. Tongue very white. Take of *Antimonium crudum*, 12-3, night and morning for three days.

A few days after this the captain of the *Josepha* told the writer that the patient had taken some quinine, prescribed during his absence, in the ordinary dose, by the surgeon of the *Orient*, (a Government Transport,) and that he was then quite well. The captain of the *Josepha* also said, that he was directed by the surgeon of the *Orient* to report the fact to the writer. The writer therefore feels bound to register the circumstance with this observation: The extremely small dose, or what is called the infinitesimal quantity of the appropriate medicine is not always essentially requisite to the success of homœopathic treatment; but patience and perseverance, with truthfulness and honesty, are requisite to the prosperity of every good work.

Before the writer's departure from Balaklava, for London, he had been informed that Captain Chrystie of the *Orient*, the superintendent of transports at Balaklava, had died at Camiesh on his way to England; and after his departure from Constantinople, he heard that Captain Ayre, of the *Candidate*, the steamer in which the writer proceeded from England to the Crimea a few months previously, had also died of cholera. Not long after his departure from Constantinople, for Camiesh, the *Candidate* having been in the mean time engaged in the French transport service at Malta, the following cases occurred on board the *Candidate*, while the writer was residing on board of her in Balaklava harbour:

NO. 5.—RHEUMATIC GOUT.

MR. THOMAS, the owner and supercargo of the *Candidate* while employed as a transport in the Crimean Railway Expedition; of a robust frame, bilious temperament, and active habits both of body and mind; complained of very acute lancinating pain of the great toe, foot, and ankle of the right inferior extremity, which were neither red nor swollen at first. The bowels were, however, inactive; the tongue furred; the skin hot and dry, with considerable thirst and anorexia; the pulse being accelerated, and the patient extremely nervous, and restless at night. His bowels were habitually costive, for which he had been in the habit of taking opening medicine, according to the allopathic principle; but during the passage from England to Balaklava, the writer had cautioned him against the

continuance of such an injurious practice; which, however, he had so far disregarded, as not only to take opening medicine himself, but also to give it to his son, in direct opposition to the writer's express advice, February 25, 1855, on the evening of the first Sunday in Lent, after returning from a long walk, from Balaklava to the *Tross*, during which their bodies had been very much heated. It was not, however, till the afternoon of the 8th of March, eleven days afterwards, that the patient suffered under the symptoms above recorded, which were attended by the most acute agony while they lasted. The writer was sitting at the table, in the saloon of the *Candidate*, when the patient began to complain; and it was some time before he could make up his mind to offer advice, thinking that it might be rejected. But for this time he was in error; for he no sooner offered his services, than they were accepted, and his advice strictly followed, so far as it was insisted on, until the patient had quite regained his health, and left Balaklava, for England, in a very grateful and hopeful state of mind with respect to homœopathy, and quite satisfied that purgative and laxative medicines are not necessary for the removal of constipation.

The following was the treatment pursued, and although not purely homœopathic, it was as much so as the prejudice of the patient and his friends would admit of.

March 8th. Take of *Aconite*, tinct. ʒ, and *Arsenicum*, tinct. ʒ, of each 2 drops in two separate tumblers, each containing four ounces of water; of which give a table-spoonful alternately, every quarter of an hour, patient being allowed, according to an ancient prejudice and his own wish, to have sinapisms applied to the foot during the continuance of the most intense pain.

9th. Patient's foot is still very painful and swollen, and the general symptoms continue; but in a modified degree. Take *Opium*, tinct. ʒ, gutt. ii., to be followed by *Sulph.*, tinct. ʒ, gutt. ij., in water two ounces, a table-spoonful every three hours, with cold foot baths and cepious draughts of rice-water, three times a day; together with a farinaceous diet.

10th. Patient is rather better, but his foot is still painful, and bowels confined. No appetite, skin cool, pulse moderate, and tongue furred. Take of *Sulphate of Quinine*, two grains, in the aqueous solution of *Camphor*, eight ounces, a wine-glassful three times a-day. Continue farinaceous diet with diluents.

This mixture of *Quinine* in the aqueous solution of *Camphor* was taken for about three days in succession, when it was stopped and the cure completed by *Nux vomica*, 6-12 and 30, one dose, 3 globules, morning and evening, in succession for three days more, sustained by a nutritious fresh meat and a vegetable diet, with two glasses of sherry after dinner.

NO. 6.—TYPHUS FEVER WITH CONGESTION OF THE BRAIN.

WILLIAM BARRETT, aged about 35, of a nervous bilious temperament, and

active habits, seaman on board the *Candidate*, had been previously subject to attacks of fever with affection of the brain.

March 20th. Complains of great restlessness during the day and sleeplessness at night, with general uneasiness and wandering of the mind, after taking *Aconite* and *Arsenicum* in succession two days previously for a severe pain in the head with febrile symptoms. His eyes now water, pulse weak, skin dry, heat moderate, bowels confined, urine moderate. Take of *Arsenicum*, tinct. 3., drops iij., water four ounces, two tea-spoonfuls every hour, with rice-water for drink. Cleanse the surface with yellow soap and water. At night, take *Bell.* tinct. 3-1, drop in water ʒi.

21st. 8 a.m. Patient slept a little, pulse stronger. Complains of griping in the bowels. Take of concentrated tincture of *Camphor*, gutt. x. in two doses, on a lump of sugar, at intervals of five minutes. 1. p.m. Patient has slept a little, griping pains continue. Take *Bell.* 12-3, at once. Half-past eight, p.m. he is still restless and complains of a pain in the bowels and back. Take *Bell.* 30-3, at once.

22nd. After taking the above the patient became very restless and delirious about midnight. The writer then gave him concentrated tincture of *Camphor*, gutt. x., not long after which he vomited and passed the remainder of the night very quietly. This morning he is quite insensible, with dilated pupils, and inability to speak. The writer now gave him *Ol. Ricini*, ʒvi. in *Aceti*, ʒj., and directed his hair to be cut short, and the head to be bathed frequently with cold water, and enveloped in cold compresses afterwards. Patient was also removed into a more airy berth, and took *Opium*, tinct. 3, two drops, in water four ounces, two tea-spoonfuls every half-hour. But the drowsiness and insensibility continuing, the *Opium* was stopped after the lapse of one hour and a half, instead of which the patient took *Carbo vegetabilis*, 30-3, at bed time.

23rd. Patient passed a restless night, but seems better to-day. Tongue and lips getting dry, skin yellow, pulse pretty regular, expression of countenance calmer, pupils not so much dilated; but the patient is very irritable and *pushes away the hand that would sponge the surface*. Continue to apply cold compresses to the head after bathing it and sponging the surface with vinegar and water. Take *Mero. viv.*, tinct. 3., gutt. 3, in water ʒij. at 7 a.m. At 10 a.m. *Nux v.* 6-3. At 11 a.m. *Nux v.* 12-3, every hour. At 1 p.m. *Nux v.* 30-3, at once. At 5 p.m. *Sulph.* 30-3. At 9 p.m. *China*, tinct. 3, gutt. ij., in water ʒviii. ʒj. every hour during the night.

24th. Patient passed a quiet night. Appears better this morning; but cannot protrude the tongue (although he tries), which seems to be paralysed also the right side of the face. Pulse regular, soft and moderate. Pupils still somewhat dilated; bowels still confined; skin dry. Sponge entire surface and head with cold water. Continue *China*, tinct. 3., two drops, water ʒviij.; one ounce every two hours. Give a spoonful of thin arrowroot or sago occasionally during the day, with rice-water for drink; at one p.m.

give *Cinchona*, 12, three globules at once; at a quarter past four p.m. give *Hyoscyamus*, tinct. 3, four drops, in water eight ounces; one ounce every half-hour.

25th. Passed a quiet night; kidneys acted once yesterday and the day before. Patient seems more intelligent, but he cannot protrude the tongue, although he tries; bowels have not acted for many days; skin dry; pulse regular, soft and moderate. Sponge the surface all over with cold or tepid water, and give *Aconite*, 24, three globules at once. At half past one p.m. the *Candidate* left Balaklava on her return to England, with the patient on board, the Captain being directed to give him *Aconite*, 24, six globules in two ounces of water; half an ounce every four hours, for the remainder of the day—to be followed,

26th, *Nux vomica*, 30, six globules, in water two ounces; half an ounce every four hours, and, 27th, by *Cinchona*, 30, six globules in two ounces of water, half an ounce every four hours, which was to be repeated.

28th. The diet during this time was to consist of arrowroot, or sago, with rice-water for drink, given in small quantities, every four hours, at intervals of two hours after each dose of medicine—the surface of the body and the head being also bathed twice or thrice a day with cold or tepid water, and attention paid to the proper ventilation of the berth, and to allowing the patient the facility of evacuating the bowels, by lifting him out of the bed and placing him at regular intervals upon the night stool, during the day and night. N. B. The captain of the *Candidate* (since dead), on leaving Balaklava, promised to see that the above instructions were carried into effect, until he had placed the patient under the care of another medical man, and to acquaint the writer with the result; but, as has been already stated, he did not proceed direct to England. The vessel having been engaged in the French transport service at Malta, he returned to Constantinople, and died of cholera on his way to Cameish, without communicating with the writer as he had promised to do. The result therefore of this very interesting case is not certainly known to the writer, but he has heard that the patient was transferred to another ship at Malta and reached England in safety—at all events the writer has not been able to obtain any positive account of his death before or after he reached Malta, although he made some inquiries at Constantinople on the subject.

(To be continued.)

THE MAINE LIQUOR LAW.

THE daily papers have recently called attention to the existence of a society called "The United Kingdom Alliance," to procure the suppression of the traffic in all intoxicating liquors.

The object of the alliance is shown by the title, and a most patriotic work has that alliance set about effecting. The great, the principal cause of crime in this as in every other country is strong drink. Crime bears a proportion to the number of drinking houses, as has been ably shown in a chart published by the alliance. Education has failed to diminish the amount and also the nature of crime. Alas! the highly educated are not free from crimes of the blackest dye. It is the mocker wine—it is the raging influence of strong drink that has caused our jails to be overcrowded.

We are not among those who complain that a prohibitory law for the prevention of crime would infringe on the "liberty of the subject." We say that prevention is better than cure. It is no less true in matters of morals than in matters of physical health.

We cannot, in our limited space, enter fully into the discussion of the subject, but our present object is to direct the attention of our readers, especially the clergy and the magistracy, to the fact that a weekly paper, published every Saturday, is issued by the "Alliance," at the trifling sum of one penny, which fully and ably discusses the whole question in all its bearings.

The arrival of NEAL DOW, the projector of the Maine Law in America, will create a good deal of excitement, as he purposes to visit the chief towns of Great Britain and Ireland in connection with the alliance. NEAL DOW has reached Liverpool; and, as the daily papers within the last few days have contained a statement that the celebrated orator in the temperance cause, Mr. Gough, had declared the Maine Law to be a failure in America, we are pleased to be able to publish the counter-statement of the Hon. NEAL DOW, as it appeared in the report of the meeting and his reception in Liverpool on the 20th inst. :

"The Hon. Mr. Dow said, he was greatly surprised at hearing of the letter of Mr. Gough, because he was a man whose name stood high, and one who should be supposed to know the facts; but he was the more surprised, because he felt that Mr. Gough, had he only taken the trouble to enquire, would have found that what he had stated was contrary to the facts. He denied that New York had rejected the Maine liquor law, or that it was more intemperate than before. There was, certainly, some reaction—there was reaction in every state. But to say that the temperance reform was dead in New York, was not the fact; he was very confident in this, and he stated it without hesitation or qualification whatever. (Hear, hear.) A few years since, the question of the law was put to the decision of the electors of that great state—the wealthiest, and most powerful, and populous on the continent; and, by a majority of nearly 100,000 votes, they adopted it. No question had ever been carried in that state by a majority so overwhelming, and there was no question to which the people of that state were so deeply committed and bound as to that law.

And when he says—

“ Mr. Pope here interrupted the hon. gentleman, and read for him the passage as it appeared in the *Temperance Record*, and from which it had been copied into the *Times* and the local papers, obtaining thus a world-wide circulation to a statement to which the name of Mr. Gough gave authority. The passage was as follows: ‘The temperance cause in the United States is in a most distressed state. The Maine liquor law is a dead letter. There is more liquor consumed now in New York state than I have ever known; more in Massachusetts, and more everywhere.’

“ Mr. Dow proceeded to observe that in a portion of Massachusetts, in Boston, for example, the law had never been in force; and he quoted several instances in other states where the law was only partially in operation; but he denied that in any instance there were grounds for the passage in Mr. Gough’s letter, which had caused such a sensation. He stated that Mr. Gough had but lately returned from Indiana and the western settlements, where there was a great deal of intemperance, more especially amongst the Irish. The Irish and the Germans everywhere were the greatest practisers of intemperance. In Indiana they had corn and potato spirits as plentiful as water—indeed, more so; and the Irish and Germans indulged in drinking to excess. Mr. Gough had just come from Chicago, where the Germans and Irish thus indulged, and where this intemperance caused vice and crime and poverty everywhere they were found. This was what probably gave occasion to the statement.

“ In answer to an inquiry whether the cause was progressive in the slave states,

“ Mr. Dow said it was. The slave-owners knew very well that intemperance damaged the value of human flesh. There was a vast difference between a drunken slave and a temperate one. A slave who practised sobriety and the gospel was worth 1,500 dols.—a drunken slave not more than 400 dols. Thus they who did not do so from other motives, still, for interest’s sake, advocated temperance. But many did so from higher motives.

“ The Rev. Mr. STEINTHAL inquired how the principle of the Maine liquor law operated at the elections in the United States.

“ Mr. Dow entered into various details, shewing that the principle was active then; and in 1856, in Maine, a party having got into power who supported the licensing system, they swept them all out, and of those who supported it, either in the House of Representatives or the Senate, only six were re-elected—the rest were swept off. He was himself elected mayor of Portland by the largest majority ever obtained, and they swept the grog-shops clean off. The morning he left home a Maine law man was elected mayor by a sweeping majority. They asked him would he not wait for the ballot? He said, ‘No, you have votes enough,’ and they telegraphed the result.”

THE DWELLINGS OF THE POOR.

THE daily papers have lately contained reports of the condition of the poor and their lodgings in London. Appalling, indeed, does it appear, is the condition of many of the unseen habitations of the metropolitan working classes.

But we have a word to say on the condition of the villagers of Northamptonshire. We have visited places within a few miles of where we write, which present a similar condition. "Cottages" of two rooms, the lower one on the ground, the flooring damp, often wet, the upper one built, one would infer, for the dormitory of a Lilliputian ancestry, in this no stove for fire, nor even chimney for ventilation, a casement sufficient only to make darkness visible. In such a hovel we have found a numerous family, and in such have found the sick, and have had to cross the *nests* (*beds* we cannot call them) of others, to reach the sufferer in one corner. That sickness has been fever; it has naturally spread to the other occupants of the hovel, and we have seen five fever-stricken patients—a mother and four children; the only help, the occasional visits of a neighbour who has the hardihood to risk her own health, perhaps her life, in administering to the wants of the dying.

London is not the most unhealthy place—on the contrary, it has been shown to be the most healthy city in the world.

The property owners in our agricultural districts have much to account for. There are some landlords, happily, who do attend to the habitations of the poor. All praise is due to them, but there are many who do not.

Another subject which deserves investigation is the limitation of building. Proprietors there are who interdict the building of cottages on their estates. The labourer has to walk several miles to and from his labour. In some cases this has arisen from the demolition of cottages. Such acts, without substituting new buildings, such a mode of driving the labourer, through whose exertions, often ill paid, the landowner is enriched, is, to say the least, unjust to the poor. Property has its duties as well as its rights, and these duties it were much better to perform voluntarily than under compulsory legislation. We will return to this subject.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

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TO OUR READERS.

PARLIAMENT has assembled—a new one in respect to many of its members. Each session we are called upon to watch its proceedings. Every year attempts are made to legislate for the “faculty” of medicine, under a mere pretence of benefitting the people by regulating the profession—every year those attempts have deservedly failed. Hitherto the whole body or “bodies” have been incapable of regulation—there has been want of union, except for one object, viz., “state protection.” Were the practice of medicine what it ought to be, were it scientific, effective, in harmony with the laws of man’s being, it would need no protection. That which is false, inefficient, and opposed to the laws of the Creator, *needs* protection. Truth wants not, seeks not, protection. Error deserves it not. But, say the bill-mongers, the “public need protection,” the public want qualified practitioners. Yes, ’tis true they want, they are greatly in need of, men qualified by *ability*. There is no lack of men who are “qualified” *legally*. Will the bills now before parliament supply this want? No—emphatically, no! The bills are not sought by the people. *Nowhere* have the people asked for legislation on the subject. They only want to continue to possess, what they have in all ages, viz., the right to choose whom they please. The people can recognize good done by men, aye and women too, who, in the work of healing, outstrip the “legally qualified.” If those who seek state protection were capable, if they could cure effectually, whence came patent medicines? For what came Holloway’s pills and ointment? Came they not for the *incurables*?—for those thousands who have suffered “many things of many physicians”? How have Morison, Cockle,

Worsdell, Blair, and a thousand other pill-mongers prospered? They have grown fat literally on the utterly hopeless of old physic. Can the state give to an effete few who seek it, the exclusive right to drug an English people? Shall the state interdict the people from choosing their adviser, be he a medical botanist, a homœopathist, a mesmerist, or a hydropathist? Yet the bills before parliament seek to obtain by legislative enactment for a certain few medical coteries the right to deal as these deem best with the bodies of Englishmen. We will not occupy space nor the time of our readers with an analysis of the bills; but suffice it to say that the attempts to enforce, by parliamentary enactments, pains and penalties on all whom the newly constituted board may think proper, is an interference with the rights of Englishmen which will never be borne.

Last year we called attention to the vaccination bill then introduced, which, if it had become law, would have *compelled* every parent in England to have his children vaccinated, whether he would or no. The bill was happily lost. Should the concoctors of that tyrannical measure re-introduce it, we trust the good sense of the house of Commons will at once condemn the bill and reject it.

CASE OF MALIGNANT SCARLATINA, RECOVERED UNDER HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT.

F. B. T., aged 5½ years, was attacked on the morning of Sunday, the 25th of January, with scarlatina. A brother one year and a half older was attacked also at the same time. A younger sister, aged two years and a half, had been attacked eighteen days earlier and was recovering.

The attack commenced with the usual symptoms—vomiting, inflamed throat, flushed face, skin hot and dry, pulse quick; the eruption quickly followed these symptoms and appeared to be pretty well developed on the evening of the 27th. In both cases there was the usual symptom—nightly delirium; the elder child appeared to suffer most. As the symptoms, though severe, presented nothing of an unusual character, *Belladonna* and *Aconite* were the remedies administered, until the morning of Thursday, the 29th; when after a most restless night, the breathing, usually rather thick in this patient, became unusally so; he seemed to snore as he lay awake, he became unusually heavy, the bowels became relaxed, and the nostrils commenced discharging; there was no particular difficulty in swallowing, and as it was thought he had taken cold, *Mercurius* appeared to suit the symptoms and was given.

Friday the 30th. The alvine discharges had become green and offensive, the breathing became thicker and the nasal discharge of a burning corrosive nature; *Arsenicum* was administered: the diarrhœa became less frequent, but on Saturday, the 31st, the symptoms became more alarming, and a messenger was despatched to Northampton, a distance of about eight miles, with a request that Dr. Pearce would visit the patient.

Up to this time, the parent, a clergyman, had treated the child, as well as others of his family, administering homœopathic medicines. He had on a former occasion, also, successfully treated his lady and several members of his family; he having for some years made homœopathy his study, and successfully treated a variety of diseases of both acute and chronic natures occurring among his parishioners.

When seen by Dr. Pearce, on the night of Saturday, the 31st of January, the patient presented the following state:

He was lying in bed, insensible to sounds; the breathing stertorous, eyes half closed; from his nostrils purulent matter poured down the left cheek as he inclined to that side. The fetor arising from the breath was so offensive that Mrs. T., the mother, was compelled to leave the chamber. The child's face was flushed, head hot, sordes on teeth, lips parched, intense thirst; the head, chest, and trunk were hot; the legs and feet icy cold, the skin dry and rough, the abdomen greatly distended, tympanitic sound on percussion of abdomen and chest, the stools mucous and passed involuntarily, pulse wiry and quick—he was verging on a state of collapse. Wet sheet packing, nearly cold, was applied to the trunk; his feet and legs washed with hot water; a bottle of hot water placed to his feet, and these enveloped in flannel; the head enveloped in a wet bandage, cold, the packings to be repeated during the night and cold water to be given frequently. The case had assumed a desperate character and there was really little chance of recovery. The most appropriate remedy appeared to be *Glanderine*; two pilules* of the sixth potency were dissolved in half a tumbler of water, a dessert spoonful to be given every second hour. The child was placed in a separate part of the house, lest the fever, being of so malignant a character, should attack other members of the family or of the household. The following morning there was manifest improvement; the discharge from nostrils had considerably diminished in quantity, and the fetor had to a great extent subsided. *Glanderine* was continued.

February 2nd. He was better—the breathing improved; he had taken food, was more conscious, and his hearing had greatly improved; the bowels better, head cooler, but still his case presented unfavourable features. The emaciation had increased; food was given

* The pilules of *Glanderine* and *Farcine* are prepared with gum, and these are the only *pilules* ever employed by Dr. Pearce. *Globules* are preferred to pilules, and are efficient: *pilules* are unnecessary and objectionable.

more generously—beef tea, &c., being administered. From this date his improvement continued, and in a few days he was out of danger, and speedily recovered his health and strength.

The foregoing case is cited in illustration of the homœopathicity of *Glanderine* to diseases of this type. In all probability, had he not had relief speedily, he would have sunk. The case having been alluded to at the last annual meeting of the friends of homœopathy in Northampton, considerable interest has been excited, and the subject of treatment been fully discussed. It has been objected that the case was not one of malignant scarlatina at all, that it might have been mistaken; the real nature of the case being simply an abscess in the fauces or elsewhere which opened and discharged. This "begging the question" is a frequent "dodge" of the sceptical. Men of the old school flatter themselves that they only can diagnose the condition of a patient in acute disease, and would have the public believe it. Hence, when cases under homœopathic treatment recover in a striking manner, say of pneumonia, bronchitis, enteritis, and other acute diseases, the objecting say "the case was not so serious," or "it was something else." So, also, when a patient dies under homœopathic treatment, he is "killed," or has "fallen a martyr to homœopathy;" but, if fifty die under orthodox treatment, such only "die" of course. And had the subject of the above case died, no doubt the old cry would have been immediately raised, "What could you expect when you trusted to the airy nothings of homœopathy?"

A few words as to the remedy employed, and the rationale of its action.

The homœopathist, who never administers a medicine until the properties of that medicine have been well ascertained, and being guided by the law of *similia similibus curantur*, is much more likely to be successful than he whose mode of practice is empirical, who not only never studies the pathogenesis of medicines, but ridicules those who do. The homœopathist, guided by an unerring law, which the Creator has stamped, so to speak, on the remedy, is prepared to apply such remedy, even for the first time, most successfully. Such was the case in this instance; the child's symptoms were like, or similar (not identical) to those of persons, grooms, and others, suffering from the poison of glanders. The recognition at sight of similar symptoms, led to the administration of the remedy; not waiting like his neighbours until some leading professor or hospital physician had published a "*grand discovery*," (how many such have lived and died!) he forthwith applies an infinitesimal dose of the homœopathic remedy, and he is rewarded by witnessing the speedy benefit of his work.

But how, say objectors, comes it that if the human stomach can digest substances with impunity, which would, if administered by inoculation, produce a diseased state or even death, how comes it

that the administration of an infinitesimal portion of glanders, as in the above case, by the *mouth*, could have had any beneficial or curative effect, admitting the law *similia similibus curantur*? The answer is simple. While the fact is admitted that a considerable quantity of animal poison may be innocuous when mixed with food in the human stomach, the person being in health, the most minute portion conceivable of such poison, when subjected to the process of trituration, followed by homœopaths, will produce marked effects when the patient is suffering from a disease, similar in its character and symptoms to that presented in the substance employed. If medical sceptics would only *study* the subject *without prejudice*, instead of spurning that and those with such marks of disdain, the difficulties would soon be cleared away. If they would only bear in mind the important physiological fact, *viz., that in disease the body is extremely sensitive to minute causes of disturbance*, the difficulty would vanish. Ask them for evidence of this fact—a thousand illustrations might be adduced. Let one simple instance suffice. A part, say a finger, is burned, inflamed—a whitlow, how exquisitely sensitive is it to touch? In health, a hearty shake of the hand excited pleasure; now mark how the other hand is offered by your friend, and, if the sufferer be a child, close your ears while you examine or touch the “gathered finger.”

Look at that dear little one whose toes are frost bitten. See in the evening of the day how restless he is—how he shuns the fire. Why? Because such is the exalted sensibility of the diseased part, that an *infinitesimal quantity of heat excites anguish*. This law of our being is universal. The very susceptibility excited by a diseased state renders that sufferer amenable to curative action without violence. The allopathist offends a beautiful law of the Creator when he *does violence* to his patient, his means being disproportionate to the end. Such acts can be compared to that of the idiot, who would use a poker in preference to a needle to take out a splinter, because power or quantity is considered before adaptability.

POPULAR EXPOSITIONS OF HOMŒOPATHY.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 82.)

IN addition to the popular explanations and expositions of homœopathy mentioned in our last, two other modes of bringing before the public mind the great truth of *similia* are deserving of our notice. The first, homœopathy as expressed in novels or tales; the last and more conclusive, because more real, the new method of cure as set forth in public dispensaries and hospitals. In the present paper it is our intention to allude to the former method only.

Some few years since, a book entitled “Confessions of a Homœo-

pathist" was published, in which the practitioner of the new system of medicine was described as a most successful charlatan and swindler; the book, though of a scurrilous character, was speciously written, but failing in the least to shake public belief in the truth of homœopathic principles (for its aim was evidently more against men than measures), it has never been reprinted, but has sunk into that oblivion which it so truly merited. Sir Edward Lytton Bulwer, in "My Novel," brings upon the scene Dr. Morgan, a homœopathic practitioner, whose oddities fail not to provoke a laugh in the readers of that well written work.

The world-renowned "Fanny Fern," in her equally noted book, "Ruth Hall," introduces homœopathy in a most truthful and agreeable manner. Before quoting from the work, we must just prelude that little Nettie is very ill in bed, moaning with pain. In the morning, early, Ruth leaves her chamber to seek advice, when on the entry common to the lodgers she encounters Mr. Bond.

"'I beg your pardon, madam; the entry is so very dark I did not see you,' said Mr. Bond; 'you are as early a riser as myself.'

"'My child is sick,' answered Ruth tremulously; 'I was just going out for medicine.'

"'If you approve of homœopathy,' said Mr. Bond, 'and will trust me to prescribe, there will be no necessity for your putting yourself to that trouble; I always treat myself homœopathically in sickness, and happen to have a small supply of those medicines by me.'

"Ruth's natural independence revolted at the idea of receiving a favor from a stranger.

"'Perhaps you disapprove of homœopathy,' said Mr. Bond, mistaking the cause of her momentary hesitation; 'it works like a charm with children; but if you prefer not to try it, allow me to go out and procure you whatever you desire in the way of medicine; you will not then be obliged to leave your child.'

"Here was another dilemma—what *should* Ruth do? Why, clearly accept his first offer; there was an air of goodness and sincerity about him, which, added to his years, seemed to invite her confidence.

"Mr. Bond stepped in, looked at Nettie, and felt her pulse. 'Ah, little one! we will soon have you better,' said he, as he left the room to obtain his little package of medicines.

"'Thank you,' said Ruth, with a grateful smile, as he administered to Nettie some infinitesimal pills.

"'Not in the least,' said Mr. Bond, 'I learned two years since to doctor myself in this way, and I have often had the pleasure of relieving others in emergencies like this, from my little homœopathic stores. You will find that your little girl will soon fall into a sweet sleep, and awake much relieved; if you are careful with her, she will, I think, need nothing more in the way of medicine, or if she should, my advice is quite at your service;' and, taking his pitcher of water in his hand, he bowed, and wished Ruth good morning.

“Who was he? What was he?—That he was a man of refined and courteous manners, was very certain. Ruth felt glad he was so much her senior; he seemed so like what Ruth had sometimes dreamed a kind father might be, that it lessened the weight of the obligation. Already little Nettie had ceased moaning; her little lids began to droop, and her skin, which had been hot and feverish, became moist and cool.

“‘May God reward him, whoever he may be,’ said Ruth. ‘Surely it *is* blessed to *trust!*’”

Although homœopathy in practice is so powerful to restore health, its blessings may be delayed and its healing be adopted *too late* after “old physic,” with its blisterings and bleedings, its emetics and other abominations have had full course for evil. Homœopathic aid may be sought, but—sought too late. It has been our lot in common with other homœopathic practitioners to be summoned to the bedsides of our fellows after lancet, leech, and opium, calomel, blistering, and port wine, had done all that could be done to destroy life; and then we have been requested to cure, to restore that blood which had been so freely taken away, to give back its white serum that blistering had disorganized, to restore vitality to parts lacerated and destroyed by foul measures and unfair means; in short, we have been asked to perform miracles—oh! how great is the faith of the drowning that a straw will save—yet in such cases, homœopathy has enabled the poor body, previously rendered a worthless receptacle of the spirit, more composed, and a calm mind has claimed pre-eminence, and instead of a maniacal delirium, resulting in the final agonies and groans of death, quiet has reigned and there has been a calm and manly meeting of the conqueror, a quiet slumbering as the patient has sunk to the vale of rest.

Such a history has been ably depicted in “*Horæ Homœopathicæ*” (which has been, in a great measure, reprinted in the *Homœopathic Record*, No. 13, vol. ii., old series); we would invite our readers attentively to peruse it, and say if such cases have not indeed happened “in his own city, in his own village;” and if it be not high time that the truth of healing as expressed in the formulæ “Likes shall be treated with likes,” should be made known and acted upon throughout the length and breadth of this land.

BELLIS.

(*To be concluded in our next.*)

A QUESTION FOR SIR JOHN FORBES.

“INFINITESIMAL doses are quite incapable of acting on the human body in health or disease.” *Nature and Art in the Cure of Disease*, by Sir John Forbes, M.D., &c., &c.

Now, Sir John, are you not ashamed of yourself to say such a thing? Did you ever try them? Oh no, of course not! it would not do for an old gentleman like you to give your patients any globules, or else they might say you had turned homœopathic practitioner, only fancy! Now that would be too bad. Why you would be as bad as Dr. Routh, who actually treated one or two cases according to the homœopathic principles, and then said, "so far as I had gone with the trial it was satisfactory," but to carry it out any farther would be ridiculous. "*Still smaller doses could not do any good.*" He was a clever old gentleman because he knew all about it, and it would not do for you not to know as much as Dr. R., and a great deal more. I suppose that the way you ciphered up the matter as to disease and then as to health. Somebody no doubt told you of the student at our hospital, who, with tremulous hand and pallid visage swallowed a phial of globules of *Belladonna*, phial and all, in the presence of two other students and a host of young admiring friends, who further wrote down half-hourly bulletins that "no head symptoms have as yet appeared" for two weeks, and then desisted from the tiresome job—I say, perhaps, that's the how in health, for you merely give the bare assertion in your book—and men who can write M.D., F.R.S., &c.,* after their names, have given contrary statements with the reasons. You say in your book you "have practised upwards of 50 years;" and have you not during that time met with the reasons that you should make such a statement? If not, and because you do not give them, I must, as a poor, hard-working man, use my reason "when doctors disagree;" that reason says, why, Sir John Forbes, you ought to be ashamed of yourself for not backing with facts or reasons, an assertion that gives the lie to living men as clever and learned as yourself; and such as Hahnemann, of whom you have said, "no careful observer of his actions, or candid reader of his writings, can hesitate for a moment to admit that he was a very extraordinary man. He was undoubtedly a man of genius and a scholar; a man of indefatigable industry, of undaunted energy, surpassed by few in the originality and ingenuity of his views; superior to most in having substantiated and carried out his doctrines into actual and most extensive practice. It is but an act of justice to admit that there exists no grounds for doubting that he was sincere in his belief of the truth of his doctrines, that many at least of his followers have been, and are, sincere, honest, and good men."

Now Sir John, are you going to recant your belief in his sincerity and that of "many" of his followers, or will you recant the unsupported doctrine at the head of this note of mine?

A WORKING BUT THINKING MAN.

* See Dr. Sharp's Tracts, Lectures on Homœopathy by Dr. Dudgeon, Hahnemann's Mat. Med., Hull's Jahr, &c., &c.

CORRESPONDENCE.

COWS AND COW POX.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—Allow me to thank you for inserting my note of the 31st March, and to request permission to offer some further remarks upon a subject of growing interest and vast importance.

Not long since, when an opinion was expressed that the Jennerian practice might prove injurious, the sceptic was encountered with the dogmatic assertion, that, even when fevered with disease and foul with pustules, the blood of the cow was purer than that of man in the normal state. He was reminded that he ate her flesh and drank her milk, and was told that therefore inoculation with her morbid secretions should not disgust and could not injure him. And this was accepted as science and logic!

How idols fall! The health-giving cow, of late the theme of song, is now an object of terror. State and medical authorities sound the alarm. The legs of this pure-blooded animal rot off in London stalls; her lungs waste away in one district, the murrain consumes her in another. Her milk is poison. Her flesh is deadly carrion. Yet, strange to say, both medical and state authorities, opposing nature, still combine to saturate us with the morbid secretion of her filthy sores. Stranger still, they would force upon us this seed of disease, not by the ordinary inlet of food and physic, but, more unnaturally, through the punctured skin. And yet those same authorities are aware that an animal poison taken into the system by the mouth and stomach is harmless compared to the same poison when imbibed through the wounded cuticle.

In Russia, as well as in France, population declines. Würtemberg mourns over fifty years' poisoning of her sons. The declension is manifest amongst ourselves in proportion to the extent of the cause. Dr. Farr states that "there is a constant tendency in the mortality of the country to an increase." Dr. Letheby finds, in the metropolis, "some lurking but all-powerful influence that is at work in undermining the strength and vitality of the population." The *Medical Times* of this date says:—"Since this period (1837), every physician is well aware that a peculiar 'epidemic constitution' has prevailed. It has been characterized by peculiar and very marked symptoms in many diseases. Not only have we been visited by diseases to which we had hitherto been strangers, but every known and familiar disease exhibited itself under an aspect of malignancy quite new to it." The *Medical Times* might trace this "epidemic constitution" to an earlier date; indeed it notices the "malignancy" of the "epidemic" constitution of 1823. Where vaccination is much

practised, *there* also are the symptoms of decay, and there men of science grope for the cause, which lies potent and unheeded upon the surface.

Amongst the results of this deterioration of the constitution, dentists observe the prevalent decay of the teeth in very early life. Vaccination was to preserve the beauty of woman. But is there an admirer of the sex who would not prefer, to the nicest handi-work of the dentist, a healthy mouth, snowy teeth, and ruby lips, even if accompanied by a few extra dimples?

Infants die of erysipelas, gangrene, or convulsions, caused by vaccination. Horrible and deadly diseases, we are told, are transmitted with the virus of diseased children. Other diseases are evoked by the action of the vaccine poison. Two-thirds of the patients admitted into the Small pox Hospital have small pox after vaccination. Adults who have been vaccinated die of small pox. The general mortality is not diminished, it is only displaced. And yet the constant cry is, vaccinate—vaccinate—vaccinate!

What folly! Is it any wonder that the ignorant still believe in fortune-telling and witchcraft, while the educated trust to specifics and prophylactics?—those modern substitutes for the *elixir vitæ*, or the more ancient dip in the Styx.

Ah, but, we are told, by an authority great with the unthinking, "small pox is the virus of the camel, and it is neutralized by the virus of the cow." How scientific! Where is the virus of the camel? Does it lurk in the blood of the human race? If so, would not the wise and obvious plan be to eliminate it as soon as possible? But, if in the blood, how does it happen that the vast majority of mankind lived and died, live and die, without having either cow pox or camel pox? If not in the blood, is it in the atmosphere? Then, in the name of all that is absurd, neutralize it there—do not experimentalize upon our bodies, but saturate the atmosphere with cow pox!

But they, who talk so sagely about the virus of the cow and the virus of the camel, ignore, or do not know, that Jenner and some of his disciples employed the virus of the horse, the dog, the pig, the goat, and other animals, as well as that of the cow, and, as they state, with precisely similar results.

Could such tampering with the secret springs of life result otherwise than in a host of deadly diseases transferring to adult life the debt of infancy? Could it be otherwise than that diseases, once comparatively harmless, should assume a deadly type?—that the virus of small pox (repelled by vaccination), or the virus of cow pox itself (a cognate disease), should fall upon the inner membranes, imparting a fatal virulence to various infantine disorders, as hooping-cough—causing a vast increase of other diseases, as consumption, with us, and typhoid diseases, as noticed by French physicians?

It is curious that diseased lungs should be so prevalent and fatal

amongst cattle, and that Jenner's first vaccinated patient, Phipps, and also his eldest son, Edward, whom he swine-poxed, should both have become victims to pulmonary consumption.

The Jennerian struggle has had a long reign ; but, forced by State patronage—by forgery, fraud, bribery, and coercion—by every means, legal and illegal—and opposed by the natural instinct and good sense of the masses, it never had any real vitality, and there are indications that it will soon be numbered with effete medical superstitions, and furnish a new theme to the historian of extraordinary delusions.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

Maze Hill Cottage,

St. Leonard's-on-Sea, May 2, 1857.

JOHN GIBBS.

REVIEW.

Practical Observations on Health and Long Life. By ELLEN EPPS.
London : Piper, Stephenson, & Spence, 23, Paternoster Row.

THE above little brochure does credit to the authoress. Never was title more appropriately adhered to than in the pages of the little pocket volume before us. It is practical, and written in so inviting a style that the reader thirsts for more. The following subjects will give an idea of the value of the book. There is a chapter on each of the following : The search for truth—The study of mind—Medicine—Diet—A word about nurses and the sick room—Cleanliness—Religion—Temper—Work—Play. Never were a hundred pages more worthily occupied than are these. The morale of the book may be gathered from the preface, from which the following is extracted :

“But good and useful things cannot be said too often, more especially if they are said at right times, and in the right manner ; it is desirable that they be continually sounded in the ears, and dwelt upon till they become a part of the very being ; so that man cannot act but in accordance with the doctrines which they support.”

“It is much to be desired that all such matters be regarded as moral, and even as religious duties, and that in this manner the scripture recommendation be carried out, ‘Whether ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.’ Assuredly this can be the case only in conformity with His requirements,—requirements made known through what is called *nature*, or the laws established for the regulation of man's life and conduct, and the want of conformity to which has made and kept him the imperfect being he must, at present, be considered.

“That man should live with a view to the enjoyment of life, with a view to the full term of life, and with a view to life beyond the present, because otherwise he is not living as his nature fits him to live, and cannot be happy, are propositions which constitute the subject of all subjects.”

The chapter on medicine contains some very appropriate observations, as the following quotations shew :

“ In order to live happily and long, the views formed with regard to *medical treatment* are of considerable importance. This is a subject which, like all other subjects connected with man's well-being, should not be left, as people are apt to leave important subjects, until a bed of sickness unfits them for mental exertion, and renders them, perhaps, indifferent as to what plans should be adopted with reference to their diseased condition. Every question of this kind should be grappled with in the period of mental vigour; and, on the subject of remedial means, truth should be sought most ardently, since on such means, in all probability, will depend the favourable or unfavourable issue of that affliction, to remove which its assistance is resorted to.

“ The Creator has evidently appointed means suited to every necessity of His creatures—remedies for every diseased state of which fallen humanity is heir. These remedies are so many truths to be revealed by human agency: and in medicine, as in other matters, truths are but slowly arrived at. Many truths, however, *have been* arrived at; truths variously affecting the happiness of man, and universally acknowledged—to reject them would be considered extreme folly. Nor will any one, it is presumed, venture to assert that in *medicine* alone nothing remains to be discovered: that with respect to the alleviation and the cure of bodily suffering, nothing more is to be hoped from science—from the human mind in relation to man's physical evils and their remedies. Yet, how many there are, who, while acknowledging what has been done, and what still remains to do, refuse to make use of that lesson which the past is intended to teach, arguing as though the Laws of God, as regards medicine, had been exhausted, and all future efforts should be discouraged! *These are not the lovers of truth for its own sake: they love their own wills and prejudices the rather, and will not even so much as look at that which will give them the trouble to think out of the usual course, or which may in any degree compromise them in the eyes of another.*”

“ With respect to those great truths which Hahnemann has placed on so scientific a basis that the thought occurs in connection with them ‘none can, after strict examination of the subject, avoid the recognition of them *as truths*, and as, therefore, necessarily tending to happiness, and closely connected with long life.’ ”

“ Homœopathy presents science, order, fitness, without forms of destruction and of death. It economizes life, never trifles with it: it gives to nature every chance to carry on her operations, and directs her according as she makes demand for help, which she does by means of what are called *symptoms*. Homœopathy adopts *no means to exhaust* the system: the leech, the lancet, the blister, *et hoc genus omne*, distressing to the disordered condition of being in which man is so frequently placed, it *utterly repudiates*; it allows of a nourishing

though not of a *stimulating* diet, restricting only as reason dictates, viz., in cases of fever, &c., or where the stomach *rejects* food, and clearly has not the power to digest it; in which case it cannot be other than injurious.

“Having become convinced of the truth and beauty of such a mode of treatment, no rightly thinking man will try to conform *it* to the old system practice: to do *so* is a serious mistake, and one fraught with evil. In a question of this kind there must be no compromise: it is like every other question in which truth is concerned, all consideration but the *one* must be sunk.”

“Decision commands respect—it marks knowledge; experience, mastery of a subject. *That* man cannot command respect, cannot be supposed to be a man of decision who is found practising both homœopathy and allopathy. It is naturally enough concluded that he who thus seeks to accommodate himself to the *two* states of mind, has no real belief in either system of medicine; and certainly he cannot have acquainted himself with homœopathy. His mode of proceeding in the matter is like a dabbling in two businesses, a plan which may be all very well as a speculation or an amusement, where money is to be thrown away; but which, when life is the stake, becomes a serious consideration. A medical man is not to be visited as one visits the tailor or the dress-maker—to learn the fashions, and to be influenced by what is the whim of the day. He is sought, or should be sought, for his superior knowledge of medicine, for his experience in the various diseased conditions of the human being, and for his skill *in applying truth* for the alleviation of suffering. An individual who can profess to adopt two modes of treatment so opposite as are homœopathy and allopathy, is, in all probability, deficient in one or all of these qualifications.”

“Every one has been told,” says the authoress, “that experience is the best teacher, and although in early days this maxim may have been laughed at, as somewhat old-fashioned and meaningless, it contains a truth which time renders more and more manifest.

“Experience might lead all men aright on the subject of *diet*, if experience were coupled with *knowledge*: but man without knowledge—unacquainted with *causes*, fails to work out adequate good from experience, as also his mere knowledge without experience is frequently a dead letter to him.”

The chapter on diet is most instructive, and we could wish that this chapter were reprinted and possessed in every family. The authoress is thoroughly practical, and would honour the fraternity of female physicians.

“Diet has been pronounced by some to be ‘everything.’ It *is* a very important thing, although *but one thing*. An individual may be most careful in dieting himself, who is adopting some other course with respect to himself, quite contrary to what is reasonable and beneficial, or who is omitting to do what is of essential importance

in his care and guardianship of himself. Thus may he fail in his great object, while on the one point of *diet* he is extremely rigid.

"Diet, however, although not 'everything,' not of itself sufficient to restore the disordered organs to their healthful activities, is a matter which should occupy the serious attention of all, and especially of those requiring medical treatment, or suffering from chronic diseased conditions. There can, in fact, be little doubt but, were due attention given to this subject, and were its regulations fully carried out, a great mass of disease in the human family might be avoided—and even the amount of vice in our world might be lessened.

"One of the greatest difficulties which medical men encounter in treating their patients, is in regard to this point of diet; people 'cannot' give up this, that, or the other, and in many cases, *will not*, and *do not*. Consequently it happens, however, that they are not cured of their disease—they feed and foster it; and vainly does the doctor labour to restore healthy action. They clog up the delicate machinery which he is labouring to clear and set right; often, not only is he, by the patient's means, defeated in his object, but death is the result. And this merely for the sake of a trifling indulgence of appetite—a pleasure but of a few minutes duration! this kind of sacrifice at the shrine of the low appetites—*low*, when active against common sense and reason—is alas! but too common."

"The homœopathic diet table is so liberal, that even the healthy would be more likely to preserve health and to attain long life by adhering to its recommendations. There is an old saying which may be remembered in connection with this subject; '*Let those laugh who win*;' for they who by attention to certain simple rules win health, or preserve it, can well afford to be ridiculed, and can laugh in their turn with an excellent grace. Game, good beef and mutton, most fish, milk, eggs, cocoa, fresh vegetables, ripe fine fruits, in fact all that is *nourishing*, without presenting undue and feverish *stimulus*, are not a fare on which to pine away; and if wines, beers, spirits, coffee, tea, spices, unripe fruits, flesh not come to its perfection, such as that of calves and chickens—pork, goose, salmon, and other things, confessedly eaten by most healthy people at their peril, are to be given up, there is a profitable exchange made. The stomach, which by the free use of some of these articles, has lost what is called its *tone*, regains that tone; it is not over-taxed by having presented to it matters requiring a healthy state—a strong digestive power, in order to their becoming directed to their various uses in the system (by that means alone prevented from injuring it). It thus gradually recovers from its languid, or worse than languid condition, and can again perform with ease those functions, without the healthy performance of which life becomes a burden, and its term will in all probability be shortened. If the strong coffee and tea are given up—those favourite and most cheering beverages, which might have

been thought at one time never *could* be given up except with life itself—the *trembling*, the *sinking*, the *fainting*, and numerous other symptoms indicative of disease, are found to disappear. If wine, beer, spirits, &c., are renounced, a strength and vigour are at hand which will not prove delusive, and which will supersede any fancied necessity for those famed, and by some beloved, potions. It is well known that those who *drink*, as it is called, *eat less*—a very striking fact in point. The over stimulated organs destined to effect the appropriation of those foods without which the various deposits requisite to the maintenance of healthy existence cannot be formed, have lost in power, and are too languid to perform their offices. *Stimulus* stands in the place of nourishment, and injury to the system is inevitable.”

“The fear of starving the sick, and the practices thence proceeding, are, it is to be hoped, fast disappearing—driven back by the increased intelligence of the age. It is a fear which need never occur to either the patients or their friends: the greatest danger to be apprehended is that from *eating*. Comparisons must not be drawn between the condition of the sick, and that of the healthy—there is no analogy between their conditions. As one remarks, whose judgment on this subject may be well relied on: ‘*Starvation* is a term not to be applied to the sick: it has reference to absence of food in connection with a person in good health, but has no reference to one in a state of disease. *Abstinence* is the proper phrase applicable to the latter.’

“When persons are very ill there is no need of much thought as to *what they shall eat*; it must be a matter of serious consideration to prevent their taking anything beyond a little well-made and *fresh* toast and water; and, when the stomach can bear more than this, to be careful that nothing but what is light and easily digested enter it. Whatever is given should be of the *very best* quality, and prepared in the very best manner.”

We cannot omit the following apposite remarks on the sick room and nurses:

“A nurse, if fit for her post, should have *authority*: if not a hired nurse she naturally takes it. Her judgment, her decision, must, next to the medical man’s, be definite. One of her duties is to check the selfishness as well as the thoughtlessness and the ignorance, of friends and acquaintances. She must do this at the risk of being misunderstood, and blamed. Her immediate reward will be found in her consciousness of right; the reward from without will eventually follow.

“The mental and emotional drawbacks to a patient’s recovery are very many, and are precisely those which have not generally excited sufficient attention. Unguarded communications made, for instance, will destroy a week’s, a month’s, or perhaps a longer period’s work on the road to health; and excitement of any kind, pleasurable as well as painful, may, in certain states, remove very far off the

probabilities of recovery. The visit of an indifferent person, or of one whose voice is loud, whose manner is intrusive, or who, from any circumstance, brings before the patient's mind associations—painful or otherwise—of too exciting a nature, should be avoided. A real concern for the sick person might keep away every friend until it should be ascertained that the visit could be borne with safety. Could they see their friend '*just for one minute,*' it would be '*so delightful!*' To themselves possibly: and in that one minute—generally extended to an hour, there is no saying what mischief may have been done to the *friend*. Sometimes the visit is one of *business*, but this can do no harm since it is *their* business! they have merely *one* question to ask, or one little piece of advice to seek; and it is of so much importance! Inquire into the matter, and it will be discovered that this important matter could very well have been arranged without the aid of the unfortunate invalid; or, in such an emergency, might have stood over. The visitor goes away, it may be, ignorant of the injury inflicted: but the nurse knows full well; the nurse marks the effects produced: she sees the feverish excitement—bordering perhaps on insanity, or the utter exhaustion, bearing him down almost to the grave, from which the favoured and beloved friend suffers in consequence of this one minute's comfortable arrangement!"

"The tendency over the sick, is alone sufficient to render advisable a removal from home associations as soon as possible; and when the patient can be safely removed is precisely the time he is likely to have business matters intruded upon him; for few would be so barbarous as to intrude them when he is writhing in agony, or apparently drawing his last breath. When he seems to be improving it is argued that he may be safely referred to; and there is such a temptation, while he remains at home, to run up to him in any emergency, and to say it will only amuse him a little! all this kind of reasoning is erroneous: in proportion as the business is one compelling *thought*, anxiety, the feeling of responsibility, is it so much the more to be carefully held back from the sick person. The occupation of a medical man, for instance, should be entirely avoided by him when he is sick. His duty is at all times of the most trying nature; and tormenting to an extreme degree must it be when his own health is suffering. He is, however, more likely than any other man to be exposed to this species of torture. On a dying bed some have been allowed to see their patients: it was perhaps a dying bed to them *because* they were so allowed."*

"A source of much evil to the sick exists in the endeavour made by friends to induce them to change their medical man. It is an endeavour which should not be made without considerable judgment

* The death of the late lamented Dr. Curie may be attributed to such a cause.

and care. There is generally a great attachment felt to a medical man who has been long in attendance on a family: he is a personal friend and confident: he cannot be dismissed without an effort made which might be of consequence even to those in better health, and which it is cruel, either by over-persuasion, or by frightening them as to consequences, to compel the sick to make. The endeavour on the part of friends is often made by the over zealous, with but little ground in truth and reason for taking so important a step; and perhaps, by their importunities they are doing more harm than could be overbalanced by the good which any fresh doctor might be able to effect.

“As a patient should not be subjected to this kind of persecution, neither should he be tormented about trying remedies other than those prescribed by his doctor; while to induce him to take *opiates* because he is in great pain, or cannot sleep, is to incur the liability of doing him serious harm. It is true his pain may be *lulled*, but it is at the expense of what little restorative power remains in him—at the expense perhaps of reason. Friends say, ‘As he *cannot* live, why not give him relief?’ But even supposing it might with certainty be predicated he *cannot* live, how could it be ascertained that, although benumbed, his brain does not suffer? and why becloud his last moments, or cause delirium, and horrors beyond imagination—beyond the power of depicting? He himself would prefer the pain to this. It cannot, however, be ascertained how long he may yet linger—he may rally, and if so, how will he thank his friends that they have not, by the administration of medicines acting powerfully on the brain, prevented his enjoyment of what of life yet remains for him.”

These extracts must conclude our notice; and we cannot dismiss the subject without recommending our readers to purchase the inexpensive volume.

VACCINATION.

THE following queries have been addressed, on behalf of the General Board of Health, to the French Government, and to various foreign medical societies and continental physicians:

1. Whether vaccination, in most cases, protects from small pox, and, at all events, prevents death thereby?
2. Whether individuals who have been vaccinated, and are consequently less liable to small pox, become more susceptible to typhoid fever and other zymotic diseases, or to scrofula and phthisis, or exhibit any other injurious consequences?
3. Whether, in the lymph of a genuine Jennerian pustule, the seed of a syphilitic, scrofulous, or other constitutional disease can be

conveyed and inoculated through vaccination, and whether a skilful physician can commit the error to take from a vaccinated arm any other morbid secretion than the vaccine lymph for further transmission?

4. Whether, if every necessary precaution for the proper performance of the operation be taken, and that in the individual case no reasons against it be present, the universal vaccination of children is to be recommended?

Translated from the Vienna "Medicinisches Wochenblatt."

THE FIFTH REPORT
OF THE
YORK HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

THE York Homœopathic Dispensary was instituted for the benefit of the poor and working classes of the city and its neighbourhood. Now that the superiority of this system of treatment is acknowledged, there is not the same amount of intimidation, nor of ridicule,—openly manifested against it, but secret hostility and misrepresentation exist as before, and those parties who feel their "craft to be in danger," lose no opportunity of showing their hatred to it. The Institution is now under the patronage of the good and great, of the influential and intellectual of the city and county, parties well known, who have given their names as its supporters, because they have had sufficient proof afforded them, that homœopathy is neither the delusion nor the imposture which its interested opponents declare it to be—that it is not merely a question of globules and infinitesimal doses, but that it is a question of principle or rule by which medicine ought to be administered to the patient—the quantity being a subordinate and an open question to be determined by the nature of the disease, and the constitution and susceptibility of the patient. Homœopathy is believed to be the most certain indication yet discovered for the proper treatment of disease by medicines. In the last Report of the Dispensary a full exposure was made of the discreditable conduct of certain medical men in London, who wilfully concealed the returns of the London Homœopathic Hospital, which returns had been sent in to Sir Benjamin Hall, along with returns from the other metropolitan hospitals. This has been the usual course adopted by the interested opponents of every great truth, (Christianity not excepted.) At first they affect to ignore the existence of homœopathy, and of its advocates; next, when they feel its reality—they conceal or misrepresent it and vilify its practitioners. It is scarcely necessary to add that no stronger evidence of the truth of this system can be afforded than the manner by which it is opposed by members of a

profession called liberal and learned but who, for many centuries have never failed to evidence their liberality and their learning—by a bigoted opposition to each and every discovery, tending to increase the practical benefits of the medical profession. For example—the rejection for a lengthened period of the proofs of the circulation of the blood, and the persecution of the illustrious Harvey, the discoverer of the circulation. The reception by the profession of the ligature of arteries for the purpose of arresting the flow of blood in wounded parts, thus superseding the barbarous practice of cauterising—the abuse poured upon Ambrose Paré, the great Parisian Surgeon, who first employed the ligature—Harvey and Paré were called Quacks—their medical brethren ought in addition to have hissed, they would then have proclaimed their own names, which the reader can without difficulty supply.

Six hundred and twenty-eight medical and surgical affections have been treated at the Dispensary, of which the following is a summary :

Name of Disease.	No. of Cases.	Name of Disease.	No. of Cases.
Abcesses	3	Diabetes Mellitus	1
“ Lumbar	1	Dysentery	1
Amaurosis	4	Dysmenorrhœa	2
Amenorrhœa	15	Enuresis	1
Asthma	21	Epilepsy	7
Anomalous Affections	29	Epistaxis	1
Atrophy	1	Erysipelas	2
Bladder, Irritability of	2	Eyelids, Affections of	1
Bowels, Affections of	3	Fever	5
Bronchitis, Acute	9	Fistula	2
“ Chronic	6	Fits	6
Cancer	2	Glands, Swelling of	13
Caries	2	Goitre	4
Catarrh	7	Gonorrhœa	5
Cataract	2	Hæmorrhoids	2
Cholera	7	Hæmoptysis	3
Chlorosis	1	Headache	19
Constipation	1	Hooping Cough	14
Contusions	2	Heart, Palpitation and Affec- tions of the	18
Cornea, Opacity of	1	Hypochondriasis	1
Cough	8	Hydrothorax	1
Convulsions	1	Hydrocephalus Acutus	1
Cramps	1	“ Chronic	2
Crustea Lactea	6	Hysteria	1
Deafness	5	Knee Joint, Diseases of	6
Debility	1	Lachrymal Sac, Affections of	1
Dropsy	2	Liver, Disease of	1
Dyspepsia and Derangement of the Bowels	153	Leucorrhœa	10

Name of Disease.	No. of Cases.	Name of Disease.	No. of Cases.
Laryngitis	1	Secondary Syphilis	2
Lumbago	3	Spinal Disease	4
Lupus	3	Spasms	1
Mania	3	Scrofula	5
Mercurial Cachexia	2	Spleen, Affections of	2
Mesenteric Disease	1	Skin, Affections of	11
Mouth, Ulcers of	2	Tinea Capitis	7
Necrosis	1	Tongue, Ulcers of	2
Neuralgia	2	Tonsils, Swelling of	1
Nostrils, Disease of	1	Throat, Disorders of	2
Ophthalmia	12	Teething	1
" Tarsi	8	Tumors	1
Paralysis	5	Vertigo	14
Pleurodynia	4	Vomiting of Food	3
Phthisis Pulmonalis	19	Ulcers	15
Pleuritis	8	Uterus, Diseases of	10
Pneumonia	1	Whitlow	7
Rectum, Diseases of	7	Worms	4
Rheumatismus	22		
Scarlatina	12		
Sciatica	3		
		Total Number	628

Of whom were discharged—Cured	368
Improved	168
Unaltered	27
Lost sight of, results unknown	38
Died	6
Remaining under treatment	21

628

All Contributors to the funds of the Institution, not being themselves Recipients of its benefits, shall be styled Honorary Subscribers and shall have the privilege of sending Eight Poor Patients for every Guinea subscribed or contributed annually, or Four Poor Patients for every annual Donation of Half a Guinea; and each of these Patients shall receive (at the dispensary only) advice and medicine, Gratis, for three months.

SALE OF POISONS.—Parliament is attempting to regulate the "sale of poisons"—to prohibit their sale, excepting under certain yet to be determined on *restrictions*. Alcohol is not included in the list of poisons, being too tardy in killing, and also too yielding to the state revenues to lose. Take away allopathic *prescribers* and you take away the poisons. *Allopaths are the national poisoners.*

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 9.—VOL. 2.

JULY 1, 1857.

NEW SERIES.—PRICE 2D.

THE TRIUMPHS OF INDUCTION OVER THE METAPHYSICS OF CONCEIT & MEDICAL INSTILLATION.

TRUTH may be balked for a while, but finally she is triumphant. The bones in the valley of error may appear *dry—very dry*—as if the last sap-drop had gone for ever, but there are always influences in the surrounding elements pregnant with vitality, whenever the fitting time and the appropriate conditions arrive. The ample foliage on the tree of truth may be occasionally scathed with the lightning-shafts of error, but the latent vitality roused by the shock pours forth fresh streams of new life, causes branches to become trunks, which germinate and extend with the formation of every new offshoot, until, under this great banner, thousands and tens of thousands of truth-loving sons may find a shelter and a home.

Dr. Horner, the senior physician of the Hull Infirmary, has just struck his colours. Tired with the uncertainties of old physic, which an extensive public and private practice has afforded, he has shewn the members of the profession the glorious path by which he advanced from the allopathic quagmire of error into the bright and cheerful domains of truth. Dr. Horner has acted like a man. He felt that old physic was without a principle—constant failure forcing this upon him, that, under the name of science, it was really arrant quackery, and that, though sanctioned by law, it was merely a legalized form of medical rack and butchery. Such being his painful experience, to remain *in statu quo* was impossible. The nature of his mind was such that he liked things to be called by their right names. His experience told him in unmistakeable terms that old physic was nick-named—that it was *in-orthodox* in the court of nature and *ir-rational* in that of common sense and logic. Time-honoured though it may be, and

blazoned though its members are with knighthood and baronetcy, and girded round by prejudices hoary with age, Dr. Horner's practice led him to the conclusion, from which there was no escape, that allopathy was not based on the eternal rock of truth, but on the slippery sands of expediency and uncertainty; and, to prevent its downfall as science was evolved and generally diffused, must of necessity be upheld by *law*.

Would that every medical allopath, for his own credit's sake, adopted the plan taken by this enlightened physician. Convinced that there was something wrong in the system in which he had been educated, and by which he has lived, Dr. Horner overleapt at once the metaphysics of the question, and, like a true Baconian, neither questioned the truthfulness nor the falsity of the law of *similia*, nor the potency or *im*-potency of that transcendental infinitesimalness—the decillionth of a drop, but at once went straight to work, and tested the homœopathic remedies on his own patients, as every man of common sense—not to say philosopher—would be expected to do. He tried the homœopathic remedies on patients of all ages, in every possible variety of disease which an infirmary and a large private practice would necessarily furnish. Most of the cases were first treated by him with all the allopathic skill which he could bring to bear; and it was only when the body had been poisoned by physic, and the vital forces reduced to a minimum point of reaction, that homœopathy was called into play, and in these untoward circumstances did his patients ride triumphantly to a state of health.

These experiments were spread over a wide range of cases, and with a uniformity of success. After this Baconian fashion did conviction steal over the mind. What could Dr. H. do, though he *was* senior physician to the Hull Infirmary? Was he to support a lie because of position? Was he to go on with medical butchery when he knew a method by which life could be saved? Was he, for the sake of *caste*, to writhe under the daily stings of conscience, and let his patients die a kind of living death, when he felt the conscious power of rendering relief or may be of restoring his patients to a joyous state of health. Forbid it, humanity, that such a monster could be found! Others may play the sycophant, and make patent the blockheadism of not having the power to think an original thought, or of uttering a word not contained in the *bond*. Not so Dr. Horner—*ad hoc genus* he never had the slightest affinity or relationship. Dr. Horner has shewn himself to be a man—a true man, and, as *such*, he could only do what he has done, *i.e.*, upon conviction, renounce

his former faith, and give a reason for the new one which he has avowed. "This is noble, and bespeaks a mind proud *not* jealous of the blessing."

Dr. Horner's pamphlet on *Rational Medicine* ought to be in the hands of every intelligent person; because "facts are stubborn things," and belief arising from carefully conducted experiments is lasting, as it is the belief of the intellect. The tract is well written. There is no cant about it. It is a calm trial of experiments in the search of truth, and carried on, too, as carefully as the most enthusiastic Baconian could desire. We hail Dr. Horner to the homœopathic ranks. The signs of the times are ominous.

The medical heavens present some curious appearances, evidently prognostic of unusual phenomena. Not one star alone shall rise to gratify the medical astronomer, but galaxy after galaxy, brilliant and more brilliant, will shortly garnish the heavens, and shed upon earth's inhabitants influences at once healthful, recuperative, and life-extending.

POPULAR EXPOSITIONS OF HOMŒOPATHY.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 151.)

THE most universal exposition of homœopathy is that of its daily missions among the sick. But as its efforts (though eminently successful) to cure in private practice are private, and are not made known beyond the family circle, except where an occasional case, from its remarkable character, may have occasioned an extraordinary amount of interest, it would not have become so popular as it has done. We believe its popularity to be entirely owing to the vast benefits which poor persons have reaped from the homœopathic dispensaries which exist in most towns where homœopathy is practised. The triennial report of the Northampton Homœopathic Dispensary bears testimony to the superiority of the treatment there used over that of any allopathic institution, large or small, that ever published a statement of its treatment with results. This is a bold statement, but *the facts* bear us out as to the truth of it. Many beside ourselves, though distant from Northampton, are anxiously looking forward to the opening of a homœopathic hospital in that town—to the time when the town and county shall unite to share the honour of maintaining a hospital there, even though it be for incurables.

Often have homœopathic and allopathic statistics been contrasted. We here subjoin some of the most valuable we have lately seen. They are extracted from a tract published by Dr. Tessier, Hôpital Ste. Marguerite, Paris, a homœopathist, who has lately gained an

acknowledgement from the Emperor Napoleon for his skilful treatment of disease.

HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT.

1849.					
Of 870 men admitted	780	went out,	or 89.65	per cent.	75 died, or 8.62 per cent.
" 422 women "	378	"	89.57	"	51 " 12.08 "
" 1292 men & women	1158	"	89.62	"	126 " 9.75 "
1850.					
" 966 men admitted	896	"	92.75	"	63 " 6.52 "
" 711 women "	632	"	88.88	"	75 " 10.54 "
" 1677 men & women	1528	"	91.11	"	198 " 8.22 "
1851.					
" 1085 men admitted	997	"	91.89	"	70 " 6.45 "
" 609 women "	558	"	91.62	"	65 " 10.67 "
" 1694 men & women	1555	"	91.79	"	135 " 7.96 "

" During the three years 1849, 1850, and 1851, there were in the homœopathic wards, 399 deaths, out of 4,663 admissions, or 8.55 per cent., or 85 per 1,000.

ORDINARY TREATMENT.

1849.					
Of 689 men admitted	595	went out,	or 86.35	per cent.	87 died, or 12.62 per cent.
" 398 women "	316	"	79.39	"	82 " 20.62 "
" 1087 men & women	911	"	83.80	"	169 " 14.71 "
1850.					
" 754 men admitted	692	"	91.77	"	61 " 8.08 "
" 441 women "	394	"	89.34	"	46 " 10.43 "
" 1195 men & women	1086	"	90.87	"	107 " 8.99 "
1851.					
" 901 men admitted	828	"	91.88	"	77 " 8.54 "
" 541 women "	467	"	86.34	"	58 " 10.72 "
" 1442 men & women	1295	"	89.30	"	135 " 9.36 "

" During the years 1849, 1850, and 1851, there were in the allopathic wards, 411 deaths, out of 3,724 admissions, or 11.03 per cent., or 110 per 1,000.

" The mortality in the year 1849 is high, being, under allopathic treatment, above 12 per cent. among the males, and above 20 per cent. among the females. In the homœopathic wards, although proportionately smaller than in the allopathic, it is higher by about 2 per cent. than in the two following years. It is sufficient to say, in explanation, that this was the cholera-year."*

And now what more need be added? Is it not sufficiently plain that homœopathy is popular *because its expositions are true?*

BELLIS.

* From the *Homœopathic Review*, June, 1857, edited by Dr. Ozanne, Guernsey.

ON THE USE OF CAUSTICS INSTEAD OF THE KNIFE IN BOILS AND CARBUNCLES.

B. TRAVERS, ESQ., JUN., is, through the pages of the *Lancet*, resuscitating the treatment proposed and adopted by the late Dr. Physick, of Philadelphia, for the cure of boils and carbuncles. Mr. Travers writes—

“The notion which I am especially desirous of seeing exploded, is, that deep cutting can under any circumstances become either requisite or safe. An incision to include the base of the swelling must in carbuncles be very extensive. It is not denied that it is impossible to calculate the amount of blood which may be lost in cutting a large anthrax [carbuncle] upon the nape of the neck. Many old people have never rallied after such an operation. They do not die immediately, but the local process of dissolution thus acquires an impetus which they are wholly unable to resist.”

Again he says—

“There is nothing of which nature is more impatient than any interruption to the course and final purpose of the adhesive process. Frequent cutting interferes with that barrier, production of lymph, which waits upon all local inflammation not terminating in a present resolution. Hence suppuration and sinus; and, having retrograded to that extent, it may be said that the work of repair must commence afresh. Lastly, the period of cicatrization is materially influenced by the use of the knife. I have seen the entire cheek seamed as it would be by a deep sabre cut, and the patient frightfully and permanently disfigured by his inability to close the eyelids after repeated incision of the cheek *secundem artem*, &c.”

One of the great advantages of the caustic potash is that it leaves a smoother and less perceptible cicatrix. We think the use of potassa fused might often be substituted for the knife in abscesses as well as in carbuncles or boils. The two following cases prove that caustics may take the place of the knife in very serious operations:

“*Amputation of the arm by means of caustics.*—The *Art. Medical*, March, 1857, alludes to a memoir published in the *Union Medicale*,” by MM. Salomon and Maunoury, which contains an account of two successful amputations of the arm by means of caustics. They propose the operation in this form, in certain cases, in order to avoid the accidents which follow some injuries of the limbs.

“*Case of extra-uterine pregnancy.*—*Removal of a fœtus of ten months by gastrotomy, performed by means of caustics.*—In this case the caustics applied were the caustic potash (twice) and Canquoin’s paste (three times). The fœtus was removed and the patient recovered. The case is too long to allow us to give it in full.”*

* From the *Homœopathic Review*, June, 1857.

MEDICAL NEWS.

The treatment of Cancer at the Middlesex Hospital, London, by Dr. Fell, of New York.—Dr. Fell has at last published his *Treatise on Cancer and its Treatment*. His method consists in producing ulceration of the tumours by destroying the skin with nitric acid, and then applying one of the following prescriptions on strips of linen to the exposed surface, and removing by the knife or cutting into the tumor:

℞ Sanguinariae Canadensis, ʒ ss. vel ʒ i.

Chlor. Zinci, ʒ ss. vel ʒ ij.

Aqua, ʒ ij.

Pulv. Sem. Tritic. Hibern. q. s.

Mix, and form a paste the consistence of treacle.

℞ Sulph. Zinci, ʒ vi.

Sanguinariae, ʒ ij.

Myricæ Ceriferæ, ʒ j.

Extr. Opii (aquos)

Extr. Conii, aa ʒ vi.

Ung. Cetacei, ʒ vi.

Mist. et fiat ungt.

In conjunction with this preparation, he employs an ointment made with iod. of lead, glycerine, and spermaceti.

The cases given only date from 1855. Some of them are anything but satisfactory. In one, the disease returns in a short period, and the patient dies; in another, the patient dies, probably of cancer in the lungs; another case, which he does not give, we find applying to the Cancer Hospital, as his treatment, instead of acting curatively, enormously increased the disease (cancer of the tongue). We cannot give him credit as being more successful than any other "cancer doctor." Cases of cancer are on record under allopathic treatment, but the diseased state might, and most probably did in most instances, again return. We have many very satisfactory cases of cure under homœopathic treatment. It may not be out of place to notice the remedy Dr. Fell considers so all essential in his mode of treatment. It is the *Sanguinaria Canadensis*, and has been in use by the profession in America for fully forty years, probably for a longer period. As a curative agent in many ill-conditioned ulcers, polyypi, &c., &c., it is invaluable. There is a very fair proving of it in Jahr's New Manual. Botanically, the *Sanguinaria* is nearly allied to the *Chelidonium*. Like the *Chelidonium* it emits a coloured juice when broken, but of a much darker colour, nearly allied to red. The symptoms of the two medicines may with advantage be compared by the student of homœopathic materia medica.

1855

AN UNDELIVERED SPEECH.

READER! did you ever prepare a speech for a public meeting? No doubt you have, and you can well remember what an exceedingly effective speech it was; how ornate and flowing were the sentences, how keen and trenchant the satire, how perfectly satisfactory the process of reasoning, how crushing the sarcasm which you had prepared for some real or imaginary foe, some truculent assailer of the glorious society or noble institution whose claims you were advocating! How you anticipated the "loud cheers," and appreciative "hear, hears," and the thrilling "sensation," or the flattering "roars of laughter," which were to stimulate your eloquence and decorate the report the next week in the widely circulating columns of the *Blankshire Press*. You thought of the respectful attention with which your dignified exordium would be listened to, the rise and swell, the ebb and flow of feeling which would mark the varied attractions of your oration, as it proceeded; the breathless hush of interest at the peroration, and the rapturous and long continued applause under which you would resume your seat. You saw yourself then with a graceful and becoming embarrassment looking for your chair, which some eager stranger had appropriated while you were on your legs, and then you saw the urbane and courteous secretary resigning to you his own seat, next that of the noble lord presiding on the interesting occasion. Well, reader, how did the speech actually "come off?" Were any of these bright anticipations realized? We venture to say they were not; you probably forgot all you had intended to say,—or, if you remembered any, you delivered it in a tame instead of an eloquent way, perpetrated blunders which made you nearly bite through your lips with mortification afterwards. In fact, you felt yourself fairly snubbed on finding that all your rhetoric had evaporated, and that you had made the most flat, meagre, vapid, jejune, insipid, emaciated, wishy-washy display (for you were very savage, and abused your poor performance perhaps in rather an intemperate way), that ever appealed to the forbearance or commiseration of an audience.

Perhaps the indulgent (or impatient—but no! *our* readers are never impatient: well then, indulgent) reader is asking with more or less emphasis what we are driving at? We will confess then to an editorial emergency. We are sorry to inform our readers that the editor of our *Record* is prevented by illness from giving them the results of his musings this month, and another *we* suddenly finds himself mounted on the editorial stilts. The printer's devil is inexorable, and clamorously insists on an article in a few hours. Perhaps then our *gentle* readers will not make any very severe reflections on our *amour propre* if we give them the benefit of a speech which we prepared some months ago for a homœopathic meeting, but which really was never delivered—a circumstance which the fancy-sketch from real life we have already given will partly explain. Here then is what we intended to have said but did not:

“ Mr. Chairman,—Ladies and Gentlemen,—The resolution which I hold is as follows: [but we don't intend to give the resolution; first, because it contained allusions which would not interest the readers of our *Record*; secondly, because the speech had very little to do with the resolution, and only referred to it in a few words at the beginning. We shall omit these few words; also, the customary modes and complimentary remarks, which of course were introduced to put the chairman and audience into a properly patient and complacent mood. After this suppressed prelude, the speaker is supposed to proceed in the following glowing and Demosthenic style:] There is no disguising the fact that homœopathy is rapidly assuming a position of dignity and importance in public estimation. Every one who possesses and uses his eyes and ears knows perfectly well, that there are thousands of people whose sanity is unquestioned, and who really do not walk the streets in motley, who believe that infinitesimal doses of well-selected remedies can cure desperate and horrible diseases. And it is impossible to blink the fact, that large numbers of thoughtful men—men whose reputation is colossal—men whose large and penetrating intelligence should command respect for any opinion which they espouse—men whom only those can sneer at who have lost the faculty of blushing, and possess no standard by which they can estimate what is select and superior in character and attainment—men of the highest order, of the choicest gifts and keenest insight, princes in nature's aristocracy—I say it is notorious that such men as these believe that the true law for the selection of a remedy, is that law of similarity which Hahnemann discovered and expounded. Those who believe in homœopathy are becoming justly fortified in their belief, by finding that their convictions are shared with them by those whom to mention is to claim alliance with all the qualities that can dignify and endow human nature. And it is, therefore, evidently desirable, for this, if for no other reason, that all traces of the apologetic, beg-pardon air should be banished from our professions of adherence to homœopathy, and that we should claim the place which it will very soon take in general regard. I don't think even the *Times* will find it politic much longer to ignore the system—and I almost think it has given up abusing it. There was an article in the spring of 1856, which I know, from my own observation, made some of the orthodox medical grandees grind their teeth very uneasily. I cannot quote the words, but I know it affirmed that the resources of medical art are most uncertain and unsatisfactory; and that so little science is there in the administration of drugs, that the most experienced and erudite practitioner has very little, if any, advantage over the crudest medical tyro, and that the issue of a long course of experience and study is too often only medical scepticism and despair. This is the substance of what the *Times* declared in the article I allude to. Learned professors could not deny that it was, in the main, true; but thought it very injudicious, and wondered whether it had been written by some rascally homœopathist, who had managed to insinuate himself into the very strong-

hold of orthodox physic. There is no doubt that article belongs to us, and it may be questioned whether it ought not to appear in our report as a document likely to be of historic interest—the first step towards the recognition of homœopathy by the *Times* as a great fact. It is very difficult to estimate the progress which any system makes in a short time; but I think we may conclude that we are gaining ground when we find that the ideas and facts of homœopathy, are being talked of more familiarly in general society—recognized as having taken their place in the list of admitted social powers, to which the franchise of honest thought and inquiry may no longer be denied, and when we see that only those revile it whose inveterate hostility can be explained by causes which have no possible relation to the truth of that which they oppose.

“As homœopathy is thus advancing in breadth, it is of course desirable it should also advance in depth, and that those who expound and practise it should be educated and capable men. It is inevitable that a new system should be frequently adopted by men without conviction or conscience, merely for the sake of trading with a novelty. We cannot help that—homœopathy is not responsible for the charlatanry of some who practise it, and its truth is not affected by their falsity. We know perfectly well that all who choose to enquire into its real merits, and have sense enough not to find stumbling blocks in the folly or vice that gathers around it, but is perfectly adventitious and accidental to it, will find in it enough to occupy their reason and conscience. But we also know this, not only that there is no sympathy between homœopathy and the mere art of money-making—the tricks of schemers to “raise the wind” and make a fortune as speedily and indolently as possible, but that homœopathy necessarily discourages such adherents. It does this by its stern verity, by its constant demand for earnest and patient thought and investigation, by the severity and exactness of its scientific method, by the utter impossibility of doing justice to its resources without giving to it the service of a studious, conscientious, persevering mind. I believe no man can seriously enter upon the career of a homœopathic practitioner, without feeling almost oppressed with the weighty demand that is made upon every faculty and power of his mind and soul. There are such vast and ever accumulating materials, and such an absolute necessity, that the thing should be done well or not done at all, such an uncompromising presentation of the dilemma, ‘do everything or nothing’—be either a power for incalculable blessing, or be a cypher and lose your self-respect, and stand as an inglorious obstruction in the way of those who can and will work—that one may well shrink from the responsibility of assuming such a position; and I believe that in process of time, when its claims are more generally understood, the idle, the feeble, and the vicious, will drift away from it by a natural and necessary law of repulsion. I do not mean to say homœopathy is inoperative unless it is wielded by thoroughly skilled and medically educated men. But I believe that in process of time, popular knowledge and skill will be such as to bring a constant

critical discrimination to bear upon the practitioners, and that a professor will find that he cannot sustain his position or wield his art unless his knowledge is deep and extensive, and his habits those of an earnest, persevering student, and that thus the difference in level between the professional man and the public must become a real difference—a difference attained by long and resolute toil, and not merely the nominal difference of one who has a diploma and settles the question of competency by a red lamp. It is not here as with old physic, for here there is a large graduated scale of differences between a crude tyro and an experienced and accomplished master of his art. It is, then, necessary that homœopathy should be well supplied with men of vigorous native powers and cultivated minds: men who are at once students, men of general culture, and gentlemen. I do not wish to cast any ungenerous reflections on our medical brethren when I say that their art demands from them more of thought, study, and general cultivation than they have ever given to it, or, perhaps, considering their age and opportunities, ever can give to it.

Perhaps, however, it is hardly possible that we can yet have all the faculties which are required by a thoroughly accomplished practitioner of homœopathy. It is a long time before a great and fruitful scientific art takes full hold on the public mind, and moulds the thinking power of men into the exact form which its own characteristics require. We find that there is a process of action and reaction going on constantly between the discoveries and the thinking of an age—as nature is explored, so the treasures which it discloses react upon the minds which are exercised upon them, and render them more fit to enter into full possession of these treasures, and to carry the efforts of practical science forward in the direction indicated by the new impulse which it has received. And thus it is that the novelties which the science of an age produces often so occupy its wonder that their full, available utility is missed. The eye must exhaust itself in astonishment and admiration before it can be sufficiently calm to guide the hand to the steady and detailed application of the new agency presented to it. But I believe more is implied than this. Homœopathy has not yet had time to exert all its specific power on the minds of those who practise it. It must educate us itself, as every great method and discovery does. It demands and will create a new type of medical manhood, a new variety of mental structure. The new astronomy of Copernicus could not receive full justice from those who had been educated in the Ptolemaic system, however heartily they might believe in it; and those whose ideal of locomotion had been formed only on the model of stage coaches, were a long time before they could recover from the uncomfortable mental vertigo which the idea of a railway train caused—and perhaps we are hardly convalescent yet. And so it is with homœopathy; we must train its best disciples for itself, and its best results cannot be expected till it can operate upon a virgin soil, one which has not been pre-occupied and partly exhausted by the blighting influence of old physic. **Physicians must now** feel like those who have been

suddenly raised from poverty and obscurity to influence and wealth. They are dazzled by the palatial splendour that surrounds them, and embarrassed by the vastness of the domain which they must rule. Only gradually can they learn that when all the powers and instruments of life are brought under the control of a disciplined intelligence, and harmoniously united under one organizing system, it is not more difficult to use large powers and instruments than small ones, just as certain insects can walk as easily with a hundred legs as we can with two."

This, kind reader, was the speech we intended to deliver. Perhaps, after all, our rhetorical ambition may not be entirely disappointed of a few approving "hear, hears," and we may now retire from the platform without being chilled by the oppressive and uncomplimentary silence with which the unfortunate substitute for our discourse was received. But, however that may be, other experiences than the practice of homœopathy have taught us that a faithful worker needs no applause, and that devotion to truth and duty is attended by higher rewards than the most flattering human approbation can bestow.

THE DAILY PRESS ON
MR. HEADLAM'S AND LORD ELCHO'S MEDICAL BILLS.

THE two bills for the regulation of the medical profession now before parliament have not received that attention from the public which their high importance merits. It is a gross blunder to imagine, as many, however, do, that they concern the faculty exclusively, or at all events much more than the public in general. It is we who are most interested in the question; it is we who suffer by the errors and ignorance of the professors of the healing art; and we are most concerned that the legislature shall defend us from being practised on by quacks and empirics.

But we are also concerned that there shall be no proscription of medical doctrines, no erection of a despotic medical board who shall practically assume infallibility and refuse diplomas to those who teach new systems or vary from the established practice. The *odium theologicum* is no doubt the bitterest of all the passions which disgrace the human heart, but the gentle healing art is sometimes discredited by the narrow-mindedness and intolerance of its votaries. The two greatest lights of medical science, Harvey and Jenner, were insulted by their own craft, and narrowly escaped being hounded out of the profession. Sydenham and Mason Good were rejected by the College of Physicians. Fellowships are given by favour, and the colleges (as the evidence before parliament teaches us) are managed in the secret and irresponsible manner of clubs. Let us, however, while rectifying

these abuses, and giving a new position and more definite standing to the medical man, take care not to overshoot the mark, and arm him with a scourge over us. Let not the orthodox or allopathic practitioner enjoy a monopoly to the exclusion of the water doctor or the homœopath. We want more medical science, but we want no medical inquisition which shall refuse diplomas and registration to all who differ from the established practice.

How stands the case at present? The profession is totally disorganized, and is naturally anxious to be reconstituted. There are no less than nineteen licensing bodies, and no two of them have the same standard of qualification, or the same curriculum of study. They rather run a race which shall make the attainment of a diploma the easiest. Every rejection of a candidate is a pecuniary loss. The public have not the slightest knowledge what amount of medical or surgical science is indicated by the different degrees with the attached letters. The high standard of a few of these licensing bodies is rendered useless by the slippery and mercenary easiness of the remainder. On the principle that the strength of a beam is its weakest part, so here the unscrupulous colleges, which on the many, depress the general body to their own low level. An ignorant or dull student easily finds a college, which cares more for fees than qualification, the public neither knowing nor caring where he got his license. It is high time that this chaotic state—where system there is none—should be swept away, and that there should be one licensing college or medical council for the United Kingdom, with, of course, branch boards to conduct the examinations in distant localities, but amenable to and acting under the rules of the Supreme Board, so that the qualifications for the testimonials may be uniform throughout the kingdom.

So far the two bills, one of Mr. Headlam and the other of Lord Elcho, agree; but they differ widely as to the constitution of the general council. Mr. Headlam's bill is the favourite of the colleges and the close medical bodies, and that makes us suspect that it will be worse for the public. Be it remembered too, that the general body of practitioners detest the two London colleges of physicians and surgeons, and with reason, for they know them by long experience to be narrow, jealous, and exclusive corporations. An examination of Mr. Headlam's bill confirms our suspicions. According to it the general council shall consist of twenty-three persons, seventeen of whom are to be chosen by the present close medical corporations, and only *six* are to be nominated by government—that trustee for the public. According to Lord Elcho's bill the general council will consist of thirteen persons—all appointed by the crown, the president of

the board of health being one of them. Mr. Headlam's bill gives an entire ascendancy to the colleges—those close, jealous, and self-seeking bodies; whereas Lord Elcho's bill gives the entire nomination to the crown, with the further proviso that four of the number need not be medical men at all. This infusion of the lay element is a wholesome check against that narrowness and pedantry which more or less besets all professions. We would much rather trust the government than the colleges, for the public health is quite out of the domain of politics, and whatever may be the complexion of the ministry we need not fear the infusion of any party feeling in the nomination of the general council.

According to both bills, the council is invested with absolute power over medical education throughout the three kingdoms; it is to prescribe the course of study and appoint the examiners, and no one who practises without their certificate of diploma can recover in a court of law for medicine or attendance. What if the scheme of examination is such that no medical heretic—hydropathist, mesmerist, or homœopath—shall be able to go through the ordeal? Let the public look to this in time. This is not a scientific journal, and we profess no medical opinions. But we do demand that we be allowed to choose our doctors for ourselves, and that no despotic tribunal shall be erected which may establish a medical orthodoxy, and subject all who refuse to conform to it to the pains and penalties, to the insults and exclusion, of medical heresy. Assuredly the established or orthodox practice is not so brilliantly successful—the most eminent of the faculty themselves being judges—that any board, no matter how constituted, should be entrusted with the power of refusing degrees or registration to any professor of doctrines which they dislike or desire to silence. We are glad to find a clause in Mr. Headlam's present bill which was not in his last. The 34th clause provides that "the name of no person shall be erased from the register on the ground of his adoption of any theory in the practice of medicine or surgery." This is satisfactory enough in regard to a name once on the register, but we desire some security that neither shall the adoption of any theory operate against the obtaining a diploma and the consequent insertion of a name on the register. We require security for the future as well as the past. Let a similar clause, therefore, be introduced in regard to future admissions.

The examining board have a right to ascertain that the candidate has a full knowledge of what we will call the orthodox practice, but they have no right to bind him not to adopt a different one. The practice of medicine has been greatly modified of late years, and it is still in a state of transition.

Science is not to be stereotyped and prevented from making further advances. The recently published work of that eminent physician, Sir John Forbes, testifies to the uncertainty of the art, as well as to the widely diffused want of confidence in its resources. New methods of cure have been introduced of late years,—the public have a right to form their own estimate of these new methods. They will think for themselves. And there is nothing which would more surely make the water-cure and homœopathy to flourish—be they quackeries or be they true science—than an attempted proscription of them by the hand of power.—*Morning Star*.

THE COMPULSORY VACCINATION BILL.

THE bill brought forward in the house by Mr. Duncombe for the repeal of the compulsory vaccination act, of 1853, will be on for a second reading on July 1st. All petitions in support of that bill must be sent in before the 30th of this month.

MEDICAL REFORM.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—As a constant supporter of the *Homœopathic Record*, which is a living evidence of the soundness of free trade, and of the downfall of monopolies, allow me to protest against all medical bills whatever: all bills which pretend to legislate for science, and to fix nature to the decisions of colleges.

What the medical profession wants, as a first step, is an entire severance from state protection. Let parliament cut the cables which bind the colleges to the state; and after that, competition will do all the rest; evolving skill and effort in this case as in every other. We have established right of dissent in religion: shall we have only right of orthodoxy in medicine?

You dislike quackery. What is quackery on the greatest scale? Pretending to know everything, and to have nature bottled into a pharmacopœia; ignoring new discoveries; pooh-poohing things without examination; sitting in the highest seats with the lowest and most worldly aims. That is desperate quackery.

No legislation, and no registration, are needed. Leave the medical profession to itself. Let twenty medical professions arise: the more the better. The public will reap skill from their competition; and the twenty professions science from their division of labour and intellect. And the world will not be slow to gather the result.—Your constant reader,

JAMES JOHN GARTH WILKINSON, M.D.

*St. John's wood,
May 27.*

THE NEW MEDICAL BILLS AND THE GENERAL BOARD OF
HEALTH BILL.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—The medical liberties of the people are again assailed. There are now before parliament three medical bills, numbered 1, 2, and 3. Of No. 2, not having seen it, I shall not speak. Numbers 1 and 3 bear the same title—"A bill to alter and amend the laws regulating the medical profession." There are at least eleven acts of parliament already "regulating" the profession. However, these new bills appear under a misnomer. Were they what they pretend to be, we might wonder why the profession should need so much "regulating," but could have no motive to interfere in a matter not of general concernment. The sponsors of these bills affirm that they do not in any degree trench upon private or popular rights; but, notwithstanding, they confiscate, in a measure, the right to labour—that is to live—and the right to employ—that is to purchase needful service. As a rule, the state should not interfere between the employer and the employed, unless there be something criminal in the relation between them, or that interference be desired by one or both of them.

Bill No. 1 enacts that a medical council, having extensive powers, be formed with branch councils, and that every medical practitioner in the united kingdom, having certain qualifications, shall pay certain fees and cause himself to be registered in manner provided, under pain of being treated as an unqualified practitioner liable to certain penalties. If the gentlemen of the medical profession choose to submit to such thralldom, for the benefit of a few hungry place-seekers, no one has a right to remonstrate. But the bill further enacts (section xxxiii.), that any person taking or using "any name, title, admission, or description implying that he is registered," shall be liable to certain penalties. This clause is very insidious. The word "implying" may be tortured by legal ingenuity to create a multitude of offences. For example: any person now legally entitled to call himself "surgeon," though not entitled to be registered, who, after the passing of the act, should continue to use an appellation distinctive of his calling, might be brought within the penalties of the act. It would be about as wise and just to punish a man for acting as and being called a carpenter, unless "legally qualified." But the clause might be made to take a wider scope. Even you, sir, might be entangled in its meshes. It would only need that some person should address a letter or packet to you, adding "surgeon" to your name, and that you should receive it. This may seem

an improbability; but, judging from analogous facts, it might well happen. A gentleman lately received two accounts, one from a country tradesman, who addressed him as "Colonel," and the other from a London bookseller, who addressed him as "Reverend." Now, legal ingenuity might construe the receipt of those documents as "implying" an "admission" that the receiver was a "Reverend Colonel." But what would the tradesman have thought and done if their letters had been returned to them marked "refused?"

Section xxxi. enacts that, after a certain date, "no person shall be entitled to recover any charge in any court of law for any medical or surgical advice, attendance, or for the performance of any operation, or for any medicine prescribed, administered, or supplied by him to his own patients, unless he shall prove upon the trial that he is registered under this act." This clause directly confiscates the right to labour in a useful calling, and to seek remuneration for services rendered. It requires no proof of false pretences—no complaint on the part of the person served. The service may be *bona fide*—it may be the skilful extraction of a tooth or a corn, the setting of a broken bone, the reduction of a luxation, the staunching of a hæmorrhage, the cure of a scald or a burn, attendance as a midwife, the administration of a bath, of galvanism or of mesmerism—it may extend to the saving of limb or life, perhaps when no other means of salvation were available; and yet the person benefited would be justified by law in refusing remuneration, although it might have been promised. What is this but to encourage dishonesty by act of parliament?

Bill No. 3 has similar provisions. Section xlii. corresponds to section xxxi. of bill No. 1; section xlv. corresponds to section xxxiii., but is more explicit and directly forbids the use of the designation surgeon, except by registered persons. Section xxxv. forbids the employment of unregistered practitioners, not only in any public office, but even by any "friendly or other society for affording mutual relief in sickness, infirmity, or old age;" thus again unduly interfering with the rights of the employer and the employed, while respecting those rights as regards "any hospital, infirmary, dispensary, or lying-in-hospital," wholly supported by voluntary contributions. The corresponding section (xxxii) of bill No. 1 goes further, and enacts that no unregistered person "shall be capable of holding any office or appointment, either by direct or indirect terms confined to legally qualified practitioners."

If, for the "legally qualified," acts of parliament could always give us the really qualified, there might be some excuse for legislation; but the

objects of these bills are evidently to crush all independent practitioners, and to create a number of lucrative and influential offices.

The General Board of Health Bill is entitled "A Bill for transferring the powers of the General Board of Health to a Committee of the Privy Council." Last year, parliament and the people having condemned the Board to extinction, in consequence of the incompetency and meddlesome and jobbing spirit which it betrayed, this is an attempt to revive and prolong it under a new name. It would be a work of supererogation, and would fill too much space, to recapitulate the failures, extravagances, and imperinences (from the Board of Health 'malaria at Croydon to the ruinous litigation in so many places) of this bantling of centralization and jobbery, which, having little to do for its £18,000 a year but to concoct blue books, and only kept "alive by giving it the administration of small acts of parliament," after a private meeting of its officials "to consider what they should do to give an appearance of importance to their sinecures" (*Engineers and Officials*, p. 159), sought "to centre in its own hands the control of the whole local government of England and of the metropolis, including water supply, gas, funerals, and burials, and aimed at extinguishing all progress in engineering works, by forcing on all places, under all circumstances, one fixed stereotyped and empirical system" (*ib.*, p. 227); to which may be added, the regulation of the medical profession and the forcible vaccination of the whole population. Had the Board succeeded in perpetrating these jobs, it is not improbable that it would next have demanded to regulate our daily exercise, and food, and clothing; and it might not have disdained to take in hand the pap-spoon and the nursing-bottle. It must be confessed there was method in the plan. It would be fitting that, being killed, we should be buried, by authority, and no doubt the great undertaking establishment would have known how to cut out work for itself. But, happily, they failed to make us "believe that the men, who have made old England what she is, live, not on bread and beef, earned by industry, but on acts of parliament, with the help of official commissioners; that no one is capable of taking care of himself, that every community requires the horn-book and rod of a salaried professor, like he of the Black Rod who starved the governor of Baratraria to save him from indigestion."

Having slain the monster, it behoves us to take care that he does not revive to devour us under another name.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBS.

St. Leonards-on-Sea,
May 20, 1857.

SALE OF POISONS BILL.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—This bill contains some provisions which probably will not be considered unobjectionable by some of your readers.

Section III. defines "poison" to be "any drug, or substance referred to in the Schedule (A) to this Act, and also any compound, preparation, or mixture containing any such drug or substance, except only such compounds, preparations, or mixtures as are specified in the Schedule (B)."

Section IV. empowers the Privy Council to order that any other "drug or substance," not mentioned in the schedule (A), which, in their opinion, may require it, shall "be subject to the restrictions of this Act."

Section V. provides that "No person shall sell any poison, on any pretence whatever, unless the sale be made to a person of full age, and in the presence of a witness of full age, who is known to the person selling the poison, and to whom the purchase is known, and unless there be produced and delivered to the seller, before such sale, a written certificate, signed by the clergyman of the parish or district, or a legally qualified medical practitioner, or a Justice of the Peace acting for the county or place, and dated, stating that the person giving such certificate knows the applicant, and believes that the poison may be safely supplied to him, and is to be used for the purpose of his trade, or for some other lawful purpose," &c., &c.

Section X. provides that the gift of any poison, "whether gratuitously or in exchange for any other article or thing, shall for the purposes of this Act, be deemed a sale," and subject the giver to the penalties of the Act.

The other sections may be passed over as requiring no special comment.

Several drugs, prohibited in the Schedule (A), are in use as homœopathic medicines, but the only preparations of them exempted in the Schedule (B), from the provisions of the bill, are those according to the three Pharmacopœias. Surely the preparations, according to the homœopathic formula, are quite as harmless and incapable of being abused to improper purposes, and therefore equally entitled to exemption.

Section V. seems unnecessarily stringent. It may operate to prevent a patient from obtaining some wanted medicine on an emergency. He may be taken ill in some quarter where he is entirely unknown, and it might be very inconvenient to him to call in and fee a strange physician. Might it not be remitted to the discretion of a chemist to supply such a passing customer, evincing symptoms of indisposition, with such a dose, to be then and there taken, of his usual medicine, as may be considered an ordinary dose? A similar exemption should be made in favour of any kind Samaritan sharing the contents of his medicine chest with any sufferer, known or unknown, in a case of need. Why should a penalty of fifty pounds be held up *in terrorem* to quench one of the gentle charities of life?

In Schedule (A) is prohibited lobelia, which, rightly or wrongly, is held by many to be a safe and salutary medicine, and is used as such. The claims of this drug should be freely examined before including it in the schedule.

The power proposed to be given to the Privy Council to insert any other "drug or substance" in the schedule (A), is exorbitant and unnecessary. Under such a clause, what would there be, except the love of revenue, to prevent them from putting alcohol, tobacco, or any thing else, into this schedule, at their own pleasure, or at the request of Neal Dow? Should it hereafter be necessary to amend the schedule, Government should be obliged to appeal to Parliament for the purpose.

Stringent as the bill is, it is doubtful if it embraces, in its penal clauses, those cases in which, through carelessness, stupidity, or ignorance, a drug is given in too large a dose, or one drug substituted for another, to the injury of the patient.

On the whole, it is to be apprehended that the measure, if it pass, will disappoint public expectation. The best security against poison, as against other dangers, is in knowledge, watchfulness, and self-reliance. The law can really do little more than punish the administration of poison, whether through design or culpable ignorance, unless an Act of Parliament could be framed sufficiently strong to put down the familiar poisons that grow so lawlessly in the fields and hedgerows.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBS.

St. Leonards-on-Sea, June 1, 1857.

THE MEDICAL AND SURGICAL SCIENCES BILL.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—The partizans who desire a state-endowed "Priesthood of Science," are more than ordinarily active this session. Besides the measures already noticed in your columns, and the new (coming) Compulsory Vaccination bill, they have brought in "A bill for securing the more effectual promotion of the Medical and Surgical Sciences in the Queen's University in Ireland, by enabling the ratepayers of the Unions of Cork, Belfast, and Galway respectively, to provide for the enlargement and better maintenance of certain hospitals, in the said cities and towns; and for the further extension of the provisions of the act of the eighth and ninth years of her present Majesty, to endow new Colleges for the advancement of learning in Ireland."

The framers of this bill cannot be accused of having "seen double;" but they must have had strange visions, prompting them to imagine that three are at least four, when reciting one city and two towns as "the said cities and towns."

However, the bill has a purpose, and proposes to empower a majority of ratepayers in all or either of those places to levy rates, to provide hospitals, each to contain "not less than one hundred beds for interne patients" (sec. xiii.); and to admit students "to the wards of the said hospitals for the purpose of receiving clinical and other instruction from the medical officers of said hospitals," who are to deliver lectures.

The other provisions of the bill do not require present notice.

At first sight it may seem that this bill can not much concern us at this side of the water. But vicious legislation in any part of the united kingdom concerns the whole; and a bad precedent can readily be made to apply.

This bill has other objects than those which are avowed. One is to promote the private interests of certain medical officers and professors, at the public expense; another is to establish a convenient precedent. The taxation of a few places, in the name of science, under the pretext of the general good; would soon be discovered to be partial and unjust, and could only be regarded as a step to the long and much-coveted establishment of a state-endowed "Medical Priesthood." That is the "promotion" which is really desired. Therefore, it is to be hoped that persons who, on broad grounds, are opposed to such legislation, and ratepayers, who wish to maintain principles of economy, will successfully resist this innovation.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

St. Leonards-on-Sea, June 6, 1857.

JOHN GIBBS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—A few years since, after a severe attack of acute rheumatism, as I was recovering, I derived so much benefit from eating a few strawberries every day that I considered they must possess some medicinal virtues. Would you kindly insert the following extract in your valuable periodical, and could you throw any light on the subject in an homœopathic view, you would oblige

A CONSTANT READER.

Strawberries deserve all the good things that can be said of them. They are beautiful to look at, delicious to eat, have a fine odour, and are so wholesome that they are said to agree with the weakest digestions. It is recorded of Fontenelle, that he attributed his longevity to them, in consequence of their having regularly cooled a fever which he had every spring; and that he used to say, "If I can but reach the season of strawberries." Boerhaave looked upon their continued use as one of the principal remedies in cases of obstruction and viscosity, and in putrid disorders. Hoffman furnished instances of obstinate disorders cured by them, even consumptions; and Linnæus says that by eating plentifully of them, he kept himself free from the gout. They are good even for the teeth.—*Leigh Hunt.*

DURING the last week or two, many fabulous reports with regard to the illness of Dr. Pearce have been circulated in Northampton. The real cause of it was a poisoned wound. We are happy to say, on going to press, that he is progressing favourably.

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MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

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THE REAL MEDICAL REFORM
REQUIRED FOR THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

CREATED in the image of God, MAN is a noble being, whether in a physical or spiritual point of view. Surrounded by influences, some in harmony with his present condition, and others adverse to it, he is endowed with intellect to trace out relations which either tend to his good or lead to an opposite result. The laws of nature encircle him on every side: obedience to which secures pleasure, disobedience entails pain. In spite of reason, man often prefers the evil and rejects the good; but pain, the penalty affixed to violated law, is ever at hand, alike to punish and to warn. A weakened power in organic function soon announces disturbed action. The vito-nerve force begins to move imperfectly along, or transmits its undulations in an irregular manner. Invisible pellicles, in delicately formed nerve-strands, thus lose their power of undulatory transmission; and the slightest deviation from a pre-ordained natural condition, is, *de facto*, DISEASE. The greater that deviation, the more intense will be its form. Disease, however, is not some distinct and separate entity. There is not a *thing* called *disease*, and a *deviation from normal function* besides. The deviation is the disease; the disease is the deviation. They are equivalent forms of language, and may be considered as convertible terms. To view disease as a distinct entity, a something *within* the impenetrabilia of the body, and yet distinct *from* it, capable of being hunted after through muscle, blood, nerve, and tissue, and,

when met with, poisoned *right out* with pill or bolus—the too common notion—is clearly the height of folly, and the quintessence of quackery. Man-made doctors may saddle their donkeys and hunt beside bloody streams, and turn off, every now and then, the sluice-cock; cross crag and bony ridge; get jostled off into quagmires of muscles and cellular tissues, and lie, *all fours*, in unctuous infiltrations and fatty depositions, in search of that impossible-to-be-found sort of thing, *disease*; but the *God-formed* doctor, NEVER. Man may *make* a doctor, but God *creates* him. Corporations can give diplomas indicative of the recipient's having galloped through medical routinism, but the power of keen observation, of patient thought, of tracing out resemblances, of pointing out differences—that characteristic of genius—qualities so necessary to an enlightened practitioner, is a gift beyond the range of corporations to bestow. A diploma *without* these endowments is valueless; *with* them, it is nothing worth beyond a legal voucher.

Well, then, what is to be done, when the balance between the physical and the spiritual man—disease—is developed? The brain, as a necessary consequence, will either secrete too large or too small a quantity of the *nervo-vital* fluid, or there will be a mal-distribution of that which is normally generated. Herein really consists the origin of every form of disease, by whatsoever name it may be called. From the nature of the case, the recuperative agent will be found amongst the "*imponderabilia*" in some form or other. The remedy must be infinitesimal in its action, and in harmony with a God-formed but proven therapeutic law, in order that vital electricity, the connecting link between the spirit-form and the body-man, may act upon it. Since that which is acted upon are structures and forms of an evanescent character, the remedies applied must of necessity be of the same class of agencies. The *natural appliances of cure* are—the light of heaven; the constant inspiration of electricity, which constitutes the life-power of the solar ray, and whence is derived the motive influence by which the human mechanism is carried on; the imbibition and lavement of water, a compound of oxygen and hydrogen gases; with that kind of food which would furnish a supply equal to the waste, and of the very materials, too, which require renewal. The artificial agents for restoring the body to its normal state must be some form of attenuated matter. The mesmeric pass, by the transmission of an invisible fluid from the healthy to the unhealthy, is a fine recuperative agent, and beautifully adapted to restore the lost equilibrium between the spiritual and the physical man. The taking of a medicine, on a well ascertained therapeutic law, whose particles have been dynamized to such an extent as to render them capable of being acted upon by the *nervo-vital* fluid or *od-force*, will be another mode of cure; as that which *acts* will be as infinitesimal as that which is *acted upon*. The infusion into the system of the galvanic fluid, or the decomposition of the vital

electricity by the same agency ; the application of the electric shock, or that of the biologic and psychologic influence, are all means, by their imponderable nature, highly fitted for acting on those attenuated and delicate forms and structures, in which is centred the cause of every disease, whatever form it may assume.

The application of substances more material and more gross, on delicate and often invisible structures, is clearly without the domain of *cure*. Large doses of *crude matter* cannot reach tissues of so fine a nature. The particles of which they are composed are too large to admit of contact. It is only the *spirit* of a drug—that which is developed by trituration and succussion—which has the power to affect forms, aerial in their nature, or spider-web in their character. If the drug ever act at all, when given in the crude mass, it is in consequence of the absorption of evanescent particles which the system has not ejected. In this case, the dose is homœopathic, both as to size and dynamization, and will consequently cure, if given according to the law of *similia*. That drugs have the power to cure, when given in the crude form, and without a therapeutic principle to guide in the selection, the experience of more than two thousand years has demonstrated to be an impossibility. Yet this is the allopathic or old school practice ; to perpetuate which, and to render illegal every other form of remedial agency, is the object of the medical bills at present before parliament. If the science of medicine (so-called) had attained to the perfection of some of the other sciences, there might be some shew of reason and of common sense in making allopathy, *by law*, the only legal form of practice, and in imposing penalties on parties who choose to violate that law. But, as it is, “old physic,” according to Sir John Forbes himself, is worse than useless ; and patients had much better depend on nature’s unaided efforts than upon the most scientific help which allopathy can afford. As a system, says Dr. Rush, it is no better than “an unroofed temple, cracked at the sides, and rotten at the bottom ;” and physicians, according to Lord Bacon, “have always reasoned in a circle, and not in a line.” The present attempt, therefore, at establishing a kind of state medical priesthood, and of compelling all to worship at the shrine of this tumble-down temple, is a piece of arrogant impudence, which the intelligence of the people will not tolerate nor will parliament sanction. We are too far advanced in the nineteenth century to have thrown around us the trammels of corporate bodies, in order that error may be upheld with the greater ease. It is too late in the day to stereotype a practice which centuries have shewn to be rotten to the very core. The scope and tendency of the medical bills are *beside the question* of the kind of medical reform which the intelligence of the times requires. Allopathy has been tried long enough, and is found inadequate to cope satisfactorily with the diseases of the people. Hence the reason of the rampant quackery which has always stood side by side the legalized

practice of medicine. Within the last thirty years, other modes of cure, as homœopathy and hydropathy, have come into operation, and can boast of thousands of practitioners, and millions of patients, who will tolerate no other kind of treatment. The "old school" has taken the alarm, and is determined to put down all other kinds of practice by the strong arm of the law. How? By compelling every man to study the dogmas of old physic; to acquire, and thoroughly to master forms of language which are known to be *signs of error*; to crack nuts which contain no kernels, but stinking dust instead withal; and to pass examinations on subjects, which to forget would be a blessing alike to patient and to practitioner. A diploma from *that quarter alone* is to be considered legal: any other, whether from foreign or homœopathic universities, how gifted soever the individual may be who holds it, will be reckoned of no account. "Are you one of us?" is to be the only passport to practise.

The object of the present Medical Bill is to draw the cords of restriction tighter still, and to render allopathic routinism indispensably necessary, in order to *practise medicine at all*. Any deviation from the prescribed code will be viewed in the light of a felony. What openheartedness! What expansive benevolence! How thrilling the emotions for the universal good! Is it come to this? We have state religion and state education—are we to have state physic? Are such restrictions, as the medical bill sets forth, in accordance with the freethinkings of the present age? Does the "old school" think that members of parliament will sanction error, and render illegal homœopathy and hydropathy, from which they and their families have derived and still derive so great benefit? Will the aristocracy pass a bill, just to please a few old corporations, whose members can neither see the altered phases of society, nor that they are surrounded by a new order of things? Is it to be supposed for one moment that Her Majesty will sign a bill that would render *illegal* a mode of practice adopted in the royal household, and sanctioned by most of the crowned heads of Europe? Impossible. Let the allopathic corporations remain by all means *as they are*, crusted over with the prejudices of ages; and let students graduate and be dubbed with an allopathic "M.D.ship"—the symbol of therapeutic knowledge long since effete; but, in the name of *ADVANCE*, let us open wide the sources of competition, and establish and render legal other medical schools, whose views are more in accordance with the altered state of public opinion, and of the more rational views now entertained in respect of hygiene and therapeutics. If the M.D. title were to represent the homœopathic and the hydropathic as well as the allopathic practice, the people would then have a choice in the mode of treatment, and physic be placed on the thriving principle of competition. The God-created, and well-educated doctor, aided by the organic laws, and a well-selected course of hygiene, would most certainly carry the palm; while the man-made doctor, though

diploma in hand he may have, struggling against natural principles and adhering to antiquated error, would sink to his proper level, and live "alike unknowing and unknown." Free trade in physic is the medical reform required by the age—anything else is a sham and a cheat. Open separate homœopathic and hydropathic schools of medicine, or colleges, in the three great capitals of the British empire, London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, with a well-selected staff of professors, at once, with power to grant legal diplomas, and a new era in the science of medicine would at once be inaugurated. The prestige of the old corporations would be gone; and, as professors died off, men with more enlightened views would be elected in their place; and thus a more rational system of medical education would universally obtain. In time, the effects of an improved kind of treatment would be visible on every side. There would spring up a more hardy race; health would be the rule, not the exception; and life be greatly prolonged.

If men are honest in aiding the onward march of improvement, why cannot such a step be taken? Who dares stand forward like a medical Canute, and say, "Thus far shall medical reform go and no farther"—at this point shall every innovation stay? Not one. On the other hand, who will lead the way in bringing about the real medical reform required? Here is a fine arena for garlanding a name for the temple of fame. A thorough medical reform has been accomplished in America, why not in England? America has already established three homœopathic colleges, which give to students a first class medical education; the homœopathic M.D. diploma in that country being as legal as the M.D. of the old school. In addition to the homœopaths who practise with an allopathic M.D. license, these universities are sending forth, annually, great numbers of graduates with pure homœopathic M.D. diplomas into every part of the Union. Nay, more; not contented with spreading far and wide the glorious doctrine of *similia similibus curantur*, the legislature has lately granted a charter of incorporation for the establishment of a hydropathic university, under the designation of the "New York Hygeio-Therapeutic College," in which students obtain a thorough medical education, graduate for a water-cure M.D. diploma, and ultimately go forth, "armed and equipped" according to law, to the great battle of *physical regeneration*. This is noble, and reflects the highest honour on the foresight of the American mind. What a mighty change will twenty years effect in the bodies of our transatlantic brethren, from the wide diffusion of hygienic principles, and the constant use in sickness of the contents of a NATURAL PHARMACŒPEIA.

What has been done in America may be done in England. The will-power in the British mind is strong and irresistible, when exercised. Have Englishmen not suffered enough at the hands of medical theory? Are not the effects of the bleedings, the mercurial-

izations, the vaccinations, &c., &c., sufficiently visible to rouse the public to a higher and a safer style of medical practice? Talk of poisoning! Millions have been poisoned, *according to law*, at the shrine of medical theory, and the verdict of manslaughter has not even yet been brought in against it. "Things cannot be worse," says Sir John Forbes; "they must either end or mend." A revolution in the practice of medicine is inevitable. The stamina of the Englishman is becoming feebler and still more feeble. The nerve element, by the worry and excitement of competition, in every department of social life, is in the ascendant; while the muscular and the vascular parts of the frame, by the absurdities and follies of the *medical art*, are enfeebled with congenital and superinduced disease. The prowess of the Briton will, ere long, be lost, and be as "a tale of the olden time."

The medical bills at present before parliament are an insult to the intelligence of the nation, and fitted only for the stereotyped notions of a mediæval age. Rouse ye "to the height of this great argument,"—free trade in physic—*some man in power—some medical Cobden*—and generations yet unborn will bless your name.

N.B. Since the above was written Mr. Headlam has withdrawn the Bill. Who will introduce one in harmony with the medical genius of the age.

HAMAMELIS VIRGINIANA.

"IN the *Monthly Homœopathic Review* for December, 1856, Dr. Thomas directs the attention of the profession to the anti-hæmorrhagic virtues of the *Hamamelis virginiana* and the *Acalypha indica*. Neither of these remedies have been adequately proved, yet sufficient results have been obtained to show that they have certainly the power of causing hæmorrhage from various organs. The *Hamamelis* has been found useful by Dr. Preston, of Rhode Island, in epistaxis; active uterine hæmorrhage caused by a fall; passive uterine hæmorrhage; vomiting and purging of blood; mælena; chronic varices, and many cases of bleeding piles. Dr. Okie, of the same State, found it useful in a case of congestion and inflammation of the internal genitals in a girl, caused by a blow on the region of the left ovary; also in bleeding or painful piles characterized by burning, soreness, fulness and rawness of anus, with a feeling of weakness or weariness in the back, as if it would break. He has further found it of use in epistaxis, hæmoptysis, phlegmasia alba and varicose ulcers. Dr. Belcher, of New York, gave it (along with other remedies) in a case of variola, accompanied by epistaxis and purpura, and he conceives with good effect. Dr. Hering, of Philadelphia, has given it successfully in severe pleuritic stitches accompanying phthisis.

He calls it a 'a union of Aconite and Arnica.' He also employs it in some inflammatory affections of the eye.

"The *Acalypha indica* has been successfully used by Dr. Tonnerre, of Calcutta, in hæmoptysis, which symptom he alleges it produced on his own person. We think it right to call the attention of our colleagues to those two remedies, as lately we observe there has been rather a tendency on the part of some of them to fall back on styptics, and other more injurious allopathic appliances, in cases of hæmorrhage."*

Dr. Thomas, in continuation of *Hamamelis*, in its uses to cure, quotes a case of phlebitis as being cured under its use; also, two remarkable cases of hæmorrhage from the lungs which yielded very promptly to this remedy. He further adduces evidence to shew its uses in carbuncles, boils, and pycmia, and now writes of two very dangerous cases of uterine hæmorrhage yielding to its exhibition, after *China*, *Arnica*, *Puls.*, and *Sepia* had failed to relieve.

FURTHER RESPECTING STRAWBERRIES.

IN ANSWER TO "A CONSTANT READER."

THE strawberry, in a medical point of view, has not received that attention which it certainly deserves. As a diet in fevers, it is worthy great attention, not only on account of its agreeable flavour, but also because of the large amount of water which enters into its composition. We have seen an orange at once put an end to a low fever, and can mention some gracious things in their behalf. As the strawberry is now the fruit under investigation, we confine our notice to it, and conclude by the following pointed extract from the 1st booke and 15th chapter of *The Diet of the Diseased*, by James Hart, Doctor in Physicke: London, 1633:"

"The strawberrie cooleth, moisteneth, and qualifieth hot distempers, and therefore good in *fevers*, all manner of *inward inflammations*, hot and cholerick constitutions. They are of themselves no enemy to the stomacke, unless it be very moist and phlegmaticke. Their stilled water is very usefull for all internall heates, and to cleanse the kidnies and urinary passages. In hot stomacks and like constitutions of body, they may safely be used, with rose water or the like. Some use them with creame, whereof I advise weake, cold, and phlegmaticke persons beware. And yet this is a dish wherein our gentle-women doe much delight, howsoever not so agreeable to their constitution of body. Some use them again with a little claret, wine, and sugar; which, in such constitutions, is to be preferred before the former. The strawberry is also accounted cordiall, for the which cause it may

* British Journal of Homœopathy, part lix, p. 168.

well be used in all cordiall juleps, where cooling especially is required. They are to be eaten before other food."

It will doubtless be unnecessary to say the above is to be taken for just what it is worth. In a great measure, Dr. Hart leads us captive by his wisdom. We especially agree with him that strawberries "are to be eaten before other food," and object only to this measure when there is not a sufficiency of the fruit, or the "creame," for so, with the addition of sugar, we prefer them.

"*Melusach na'r mel.*"

BELLIS.

ANALYSING HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES.

AFTER the late controversy on *Glanderine* in the sixth dilution, and the supposed number of gallons of water required to make it, the above heading may provoke the risible capacities of our readers. The analysis was conducted by a French chemist residing in New York, by desire of a Dr. Parker of that city. The idea is a surprising one; but, when we consider that the "Yankees are bound to go ahead in all matters," we need not be much astonished. The richest part of the joke is, that in medicines of the sixth dilution, minerals that allopaths in general, and the chemist Liebig in particular, can in no wise dissolve in spirits of wine, were found in great quantities *dissolved* in the spirits. Thus we find, amongst other medicaments, one twenty-fifth of a grain of *Silica* in *solution* in one hundred grains of spirits of wine, one grain of mercury in a similar quantity of spirits, with other equally ridiculous findings. The making out their error is not very difficult, as Dr. Peters remarks—

"It is impossible to prepare tincture of silica, baryta carbonica, calcarea carb., simple arsenicum, or carbo vegetabilis, stronger than the third dilution, [*i.e.*, in proportion of one of any of these minerals in the crude state to one million drops of alcohol.] Hence the "experienced French chemist" could not possibly have detected the quantities of these articles, which he claims to have done. The plain truth is, that he had sufficient confidence in the honesty of the homœopathic pharmacist not even to dare to suppose that the tinctures contained any other medicines than those indicated by the corks and labels on the vials; and has contented himself with calculating the residue left after evaporating the alcohol, which residue was simply the sugar of milk used in preparing the fourth, fifth, and sixth dilutions from the third, plus the vegetable remains of the alcohol."

The conclusions drawn by Dr. Parker are that we really employ large doses (in some instances) of drugs, and consequently cure otherwise than by imagination. He is so much pleased with the

neatness by which he presumes these medicines to be disguised, that he endeavours to persuade his brethren to initiate what he erroneously supposes our mode of action. As, however, his method would be an improvement in gentleness upon the one at present in use, and he does not scruple to say whence the idea was obtained, we quote him :

“ But the lesson is most important with reference to powders. For adults, solid substances can usually be given in pill form, but there is no necessity of rolling them in powdered aloes. To this day I cannot rid myself of the remembrance of the disgust with which I used to swallow pills so coated, and with difficulty convince myself that the druggists now use only liquorice or more tasteless powders. Still, for these pills we need not select the most bulky drugs. The active principles of plants, when isolated, aid us in diminishing our pills, and will still more *when their powers and properties are FULLY TESTED.*”

There is a great deal in the above little sentence—“ when their powers and properties are fully tested.” Why, he seems to have had a sort of hankering thought after the homœopathic *materia medica* when he wrote that. He has much to learn—may he do it meekly, and then he will come to learn the truth. Another quotation, which is pregnant with thought, and we leave him here, trusting that next time he will try the analysis of the medicines himself, and then analyse the homœopathic system.

“ Children, however, do not readily swallow pills, and agreeable powders are often a great desideratum while treating them. *A child's life may depend upon his taking remedies willingly and without compulsion.*”

A SIMILE.

WINTER is past, spring is ended, and summer, with its bright flowers and blue skies, comes speaking of a fruitful autumn. The woods, “ God's earliest temples,” now “ arrayed in living green,” invite contemplation on the goodness of God as shewn in matters of worldly prosperity. The seasons of the year are typical of the stages through which all truths pass before their general reception by the world.

The blustering, cold winds of ridicule, the ice-like indifference, and the hail of contemptuous scorn and indignation; yet through this winter the truth lives on, more fitted for the spring unfolding of leaves, for the very snows, though crowding on as if to starve its soul by intercepting the rays of heavenly succour, serve to foster it from the nipping cold east wind of fury and destruction—they help to cherish by keeping in its own heaven-derived warmth of life. The pelting rains of spring—the jeers of those who could not appreciate the truth—still more develope its nature, for now and again come

bright, sunny rays of approbation, and mother earth has a genial bosom to nurture the true and the right. The truth still grows, still moves,

“E pur se muove,”

Said Galileo, as his truth was threatened with extinction, and so all truths say when threatened. “Still it moves.” Onward and upward, as though pointing whence it came, and whither it tended. It expands in all directions, and claims the bright, pure sunlight as its own. It flowers and blossoms, sure pledges of fruit; yet even now an occasional cold wind blows and showers descend, but the truth enjoys the breeze and the rain, and deems them needful as growth promoters and provocatives to farther good. To such a summer has the truth homœopathy advanced, and promises a good fruit-time. The autumn of its days, when, in fulness of use, its leaves will be for the healing of the nations—the autumn which is to be the autumn of all good things, when knowledge of all that is good and true shall cover the world as the waters cover the mighty deep—such a time Christianity promises, and all that is gentle and true shall aid her. God speed the time.

*

COMPULSORY VACCINATION ACT.

SIR ROBERT PEEL, “when some one proposed to make vaccination compulsory, as it is in some despotic countries, objected, remarking that such a proceeding would be so opposite to the mental habits of the British people, and the freedom of opinion in which they rightly gloried, that he would be no party to such compulsion.”

[*Royal Jennerian Institution's Report, January, 1854.*]

Three years after the death of that great statesman, the Compulsory Vaccination of 1853 was smuggled through parliament. The working of this act is exemplified in the following extract from a letter dated “Barnsley, May, 5, 1857,” and signed “Æneas Daly:”

“Mr. Joseph Frith had a child vaccinated in 1848, which died in fourteen days, from the effects of vaccination. He was summoned by the Registrar in January last. He told the magistrates that he had one child killed by vaccination, and he feared, that if forced to vaccinate another, it also would be killed. He was forced to comply, and in less than three weeks, the child, though previously perfectly healthy, died of fits, similar to attacks to which some of the family of the child from whom the vaccine matter was taken were subject.”

This, unhappily, is not a solitary instance—similar cases of enforced infanticide have come to the writer's knowledge—but, crushed by the tyranny of parish doctors, unchristian ministers of Christ, and other petty despots,

bereaved and indignant parents are forced to weep in secret, and dare not openly complain—dare not even to make known their grievous wrongs, to their representatives in parliament.

JOHN GIBBS.

*Maze Hill Cottage, St. Leonards-on-Sea,
June 24th, 1857.*

REVIEWS.

Analytical Ethnology: the Mixed Tribes in Great Britain and Ireland Examined, and the Political, Physical, and Metaphysical Blunderings on the Celt and the Saxon Exposed. By R. TUTHILL MASSY, M.D. London: H. Baillière.

Cambridge Essays for 1856. No. 2. On English Ethnology. By J. W. DONALDSON, D.D., late Fellow of Trinity College. London: J. W. Parker & Son.

THE science of ethnology, or the history and characteristics of the various races of men, is of the highest importance to every student. Whether his delight be in history, science, or literature, whether he study with more interest mankind in the mass or in detail, this subject of the origin and distribution of the human species cannot fail to come home to him. Its personal interest, moreover, is not slight. No intelligent schoolboy can have failed, at one time or another, to have felt his sympathies roused in favour either of the eager, desperate tribes who rallied round Uthyr Pendragon,* or the calm-browed warriors who sailed with King Cerdic. And if a difficult, perhaps an impossible task, it is at least an interesting speculation to determine whether his partizanship of Briton or Saxon is an offspring of the ardent impulses derived from Celtic forefathers, or of the generous high-mindedness of the Teuton race. Yet, up to a very recent period, this delightful science, absolutely necessary to be looked into by those who believe that

“The proper study of mankind is man,”

has been quite overlooked. Until the reign of the first Edward, there is little doubt but that the broad distinctions of Briton, Saxon, and Norman were pretty accurately kept up in the popular traditions. After that time, however, and especially during the bloody wars of the Roses, distinctions of race came to be well-nigh obliterated and forgotten; and it was not till the time of James I., when Richard Verstegan, the father of British ethnologists, published his famous book, entitled *A Restitution of Decayed Intelligence concerning the*

* The Cambrian name and title of King Arthur.

most Noble and Renowned English Nation, that any rational work appeared on the subject. The struggles between King Charles and his parliament, and the busy times of the Commonwealth, then interposed to turn men's minds to politics and theology, to the exclusion of every other study. During the degenerate period of the restoration, and the so-called Augustan age that began with Dryden and ended with Johnson, mere verbiage and the effete literature of Rome were studied, to the neglect of everything else; and it is only from the present century that we can date the systemization of this most interesting of sciences.

This spirit of inquiry into the history of our own country, considered not as a record of successive dynasties and governments, but as a history of the people, their changes, their moral and social condition at various epochs, might not have taken the form of ethnological research, had it not been for the new awakening of the national intellect consequent on the outbreak of the first French revolution. From that epoch dates the rise of the new school of historians, philosophers, and poets, who courageously shook off the trammels of old systems of literature and science, and pressed forward in tracks that had been untrodden for centuries. The revival of classic literature consequent on the reformation, rich boon as it was to the world, was yet fraught with no small danger to English language and literature. For, henceforward, for nearly four centuries, our noble mother tongue took the place of a mere slave to a dead Latinity. Fortunately, this backward movement has been at length checked, the capabilities of our ancestral Anglo-Saxon have been anew discovered, and at the same time has arisen a spirit of enquiry into the origin and history of that sturdy race whose language we speak and whose name we bear. And now, the geographer, the physiologist, the antiquarian, and the philologist, having gone hand-in-hand throwing light on each other's labours, at length, in the midst of seemingly hopeless darkness and confusion, a beam of light has shone, favoured by which a path has been made through the trackless waste, and the chaotic masses of facts have crystallized into shape.

The following is a summary of the fruits of half-a-century's research into the peopling of our land:

Prior to the historic period, the British Isles, in common with the rest of Europe, were peopled by a small, swarthy race of men called Celts or Kelts. Their condition was the rudest possible, being more like that of the African bushmen than any race at present existing. The time when this people flourished is not defined with accuracy, but it is called by ethnologists the Age of Stone, because all their weapons and tools were made of that material. Afterwards, a new race appears on the scene. It is the Cymri or Cambrians, who correspond to the modern Welsh. These people introduced the art of working in bronze, and brought with them a better knowledge of the arts of life, a more elaborate theology, and some approach to a

literature. It was they who became eventually masters of nearly the whole of South Britain, including the Lowlands of Scotland, and even made small settlements in Ireland. It is a fact well-known to ethnologists that the Cymri were not identical with the Gaels or Celts of Scotland and Ireland, but were a far superior race; and, though their language has considerable similarity to Gaelic, it is indisputably proved to have been a different dialect of it.

Either anterior to or contemporary with this second immigration, came the trading expeditions of the Phœnicians, who not only traded in Britain, but are supposed to have founded colonies in Cornwall and Ireland. Then, previous to the Roman invasion, there were communities of Frisians on the South and East coasts.

Next in order of time comes the landing of Cæsar, the particulars of which are known to all. It is unnecessary to tell how the best and largest portion of Great Britain was eventually subdued and to a great extent civilized by the Romans. Every schoolboy has likewise read of the terrible doings of the Angles, Jutes, and Saxons, who took advantage of the weakness of the undefended Britons to subjugate their country. It is now, however, known that the Teutonic races were not such strangers to the British as our venerable friends Hume and Goldsmith would have us suppose. Long before this time, the Northmen had settled in the Shetland and Orkney Isles and the Isle of Man, and had acquired territory by intermarriage or conquest in many parts of Ireland and Scotland. Worsæ and others have discovered that the heads of the most powerful Highland clans are descended from the Vikings, whence they have derived their powerful frames and their ability to maintain despotic rule over their slavish clansmen. According to the Welch *Triads*, the Coriniadd, a tribe of Teutonic origin, had penetrated up to the Humber, and had colonised there. The *Triads* also, as quoted by Dr. Donaldson in the essay at the head of this notice, state that, on the appearance of the Frisian invaders, the Coriniadd, the descendants of the Roman colonists, and even some of the Cymri joined them. The aboriginal Britons or Celts were easily disposed of, but the Cymri made a stout resistance, and it required many years of hard fighting to drive them to Wales, Cornwall, and Cumberland. It is quite certain that the native population was not exterminated by the Saxon invaders. These were too good politicians to destroy those whom they had it in their power to make so useful to them, and it is pretty plain that the Anglo-Saxons became the gentry and aristocracy of the country, and that the *thralls* we read of as holding the position of serfs in Saxon times were the conquered natives. We cannot dwell upon these points. All are familiar with the accounts of the Danish incursions, which added to the population another element, though an inconsiderable one, and of the conquest effected by William of Normandy and his followers, who, it is necessary to bear in mind, were altogether of Teuton stock. These are the principal races

from which the inhabitants of Great Britain have been derived. It is true that there have been frequent minor immigrations from the continent, but in no case has any new element been introduced into our population. The old elements, as we have seen, are three; viz., the Celts or aboriginal Britons, the Cymri or Welsh, and the Teutons, including Frisians, Danes, and Northmen.*

The question that now presses itself upon our attention is what may be called the *practical* part of our subject; namely, what traces of this threefold origin of our people can we discover in the present day? It is evident that, from the constant changes of abode and intermarriages, that must have been going on for ages; and, from the influence that diet, climate, and soil must have had upon the various races, the distinctions cannot be so readily traceable to-day as they were eight hundred years ago. Still they are not entirely lost; and, though we cannot altogether agree with the author of *Analytical Ethnology*, in his descriptions of the characteristics of the Saxon and the Celt, it is quite certain that there is a radical difference between them, in mind, body, and features. After comparing the facts and theories adduced by some scores of authors, we would thus describe in general terms the three races. The model Celt is a small, dark haired, dark eyed man, with ridgy forehead and brow wrinkled even in youth, (Dr. Massy remarks on the prematurely *old* look of the French soldiery,) of short but broad hands and feet, body characterised by great length as compared with the limbs, and by straightness of back when contrasted with the hollow back of the Saxon. He is still to be found where he was placed by the Saxon conqueror, on the lowest round of the social ladder. Our most ignorant farm-servants, factory labourers, and the race of hereditary paupers afford unmistakeable signs of Celtic origin. The Cymric or Cimbrian is a slender, agile man, sometimes but not always short and dark, with high, narrow forehead and long head. Unlike the Celt, who has generally a turned-up nose and large lips, he has a straight or aquiline nose and delicate mouth. He is rather deep than wide chested, and his shoulders incline to roundness. He is often to be met with in the professions, being more fond of brain-work than handicraft, though he is seldom at a loss in the latter. The Saxon is distinguished by his large size, fair complexion, round skull, and oval

* It is possible that the Roman colonists may have made a more considerable item of our population than is generally supposed; but it is not probable that they added any peculiar element to the stock. For the Roman colonists were the legionaries and their descendants; and it is well known that, in the time of the empire, the army was recruited mainly from the Teutonic tribes who had been enticed by the prospects of good pay and a settlement. Of Romans proper, there were well nigh none in the legions. There was a sprinkling of Italians, but of these, according to Dr. Donaldson, the Etruscans were of Teutonic race. The main body was made up in great part of Goths and Germans, and the remainder of the refuse of all climes and countries. The statement in the *Triads* that the Romans made common cause with the Saxon invaders confirms this view.

features. His brow, though wide, is not square or ridgy, and the cheek bones are well padded with flesh. His features are straight and good, the nose inclining rather to the aquiline than the retroussé. The chin and mouth are firm but delicate, and the head well set on to the neck. The limbs are rather long, the hands of good size in the male and fine and delicate in the female, and of form that shews them equally adaptable to the fine or coarse arts. The Saxon forms the bulk of our middle and aristocratic classes,* doing any work that is to be done, from farming to Lord-Protectorship of England—making steam engines to writing “Odes on Immortality.”

This conclusion is objected to by Dr. Massy. According to him, the Celt is the ideal man, the originator of all that is beautiful and progressive in the world, while the Saxon follows after as the clumsy borrower and imitator. His book is written to overturn the theories of the best writers on the subject, from Verstegan to Dr. Donaldson, and to turn the tables in favour of the depreciated Celt. It is quite true that the Celt has been hardly used. Most ethnologists have been (or have thought themselves) Saxons, and have hit all the harder that he has not been able to return the blows. Therefore Dr. Massy, as the defender of a race everywhere spoken against, is certainly entitled to a patient hearing. The most valuable feature of his book is the physiological part of it. Some of the characteristic distinctions of the Celtic race are given correctly enough, but he errs greatly in confounding the Celt with the Cimbrian. The following is a summary of the doctor's description of an aboriginal Briton: he is of small stature and dark complexion, has the nose short and inclined to turn up, small ear, large mouth, but delicate teeth. Face short, compressed, and square, head long and narrow, brow ridgy and wrinkled, eyes small and sunken [our author takes care to point out they are of *liquid lustre*,] the chin flattened in front and the jaw flattened at the side, [not a model man or a genius, we should think!] Hands small and delicate, palm thin and light, the thumb specified as peculiarly long and delicate, reaching to the second joint of the forefinger, well shaped, small, and thin foot, small ankle, large forearm and calf, small thigh and arm, hairy chest. Dr. Massy thus characterizes the Saxon: he is of considerable bulk, fair complexion, face large and oblong, [oval would be too complimentary,] skull round, brow large, well rounded, and full towards the temple, ear large and coarse, eyes full and expressive, mouth and lips good, chin firm, and the teeth strong and regular. [Our author, forgetting “*Non Angli sed angeli*,” says that there is a certain coarseness about the features, which, in spite of their regularity, prevents them from being like the “models of Grecian beauty.”] Hand large and coarse, fingers broad and flat towards the extremities, (*spatular*,) the thumb coarse and short,

* It is an admitted fact that scarce any *Norman* blood now remains in the English nobility.

not extending to the second joint of the forefinger ; large, wide, ugly foot ; wide ankle, small forearm and calf, large arm and thigh, chest devoid of hair.

This strange union in the case of the Celt of a monkey's head to the figure of an Apollo, or, in the case of the Saxon, the head of a god to the body of a lout, may perhaps be found in some exceptional instance, but that so incongruous a mixture can be the natural characteristic of a race is impossible, if there be such a thing as order in the divine economy. The crossing of blood does occasionally play pranks with the bodily proportions ; but that the Saxon has not a good figure as well as a noble head we would challenge our author to prove by example. The statement as to the comparative length of the thumb in the men of the two races, and the observations on the forearm and calf, arm and thigh, are very interesting, and deserve further investigation.

As for the reasoning of the book, we are compelled to say that though it may be Celtic, and as such, according to our author's theory, above the comprehension of the duller Teuton intellect, yet it certainly appears decidedly illogical. Reduced to the syllogistic form, we give our examples of the conclusions which Dr. Massy arrives at in the course of his work. The Celt is characterised by having small and beautiful hands : Mary, Queen of Scots, Elizabeth of England, and Marie Antoinette had remarkably delicate hands, therefore these unmistakeably Teuton ladies were of Celtic race ! The Celt is fond of decorations and badges : Fitz-Osborn, Fitz-Harding, and Rollo of Normandy invented heraldry, therefore these fine old Scandinavians were Celts ! Celts are fond of fighting : Brady, [who's Brady ?] Wellington, and Nelson were born generals and admirals, therefore they must have been of Celtic descent ! Ideality is a Celtic attribute : Shakspeare, the other English poets, and the writers of the old German ballad poetry exhibit great ideality, therefore Shakspeare, the other English poets, and the writers of German ballad poetry were Celts !

There are other inconsistencies in the volume which we might dilate upon ; such, for example, as the taking credit on the Celtish side for all the Norse, Norman, and Saxon blood that has been poured into Ireland, and which has made the difference between the North and East, and the West and South ; but we have already extended our observations far enough. In taking leave of Dr. Massy's volume, we have to regret that such an acute observer and faithful recorder of facts should have committed himself to the hopeless task of attempting to make a theory march which has no feet to walk upon. For though we may admit that Saxondom boasts more than is wholesome of her birth and descent, that there are many good qualities in the Celt, and that the race in general, and Ireland in particular, have been grossly sinned against, yet the very fact of their degradation and misery having to be accounted and apologised for, is in itself an

admission of the fact. It is true that in the divine purposes every race has its peculiar duties and privileges, and doubtless the Celt has important uses to perform in the great family of man; but that he is at the *head* of the races we cannot for a moment believe. It is not that we conceive him doomed to dishonour and wretchedness that we assign to him a subservient place; but we would say in the words of the apostle: "But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee; nor, again, the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary; and those members of the body, which we think to be less honorable, upon these we bestow more abundant honor; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. For our comely parts have no need; but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honor to that part which lacked: that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members have the same care one for another."*

Notes on Domestic Homœopathy. Chester: Edward Thomas, Caxton Buildings.

A PENNY tract with the above title, by Dr. Thomas, of Chester, has just come out, and will be continued monthly. It will contain information, selected from all quarters, calculated to be of real use to the mother in quelling pain, and in relieving suffering on the domestic hearth. Tracts of this kind are much wanted. They pioneer these blessed truths, and are the JOHNS in the great wilderness of medical error. Notwithstanding all that has been done, the spade of medical reform has turned up, as yet, little of the soil of prejudice, self interest, and of wrongly instilled notions. The excavation is difficult, and the labourers are few. The spade of olden time must be laid aside—the steam-plough of homœopathic reform is now imperiously needed, ere large breadths are brought into a state of cultivation, for the rightful sustenance and consequent health of the great masses of the people. Homœopaths must not only work, but have their instruments in harmony with the highest science of the day. A great work is before them, and "the field is the world." Faith in the *large* and the ponderous has lost ground in the minds of men—the sound of rams' horns, in these days of ours, will yet tumble into ruins the walls of Esculapian cities. The minute, the imponderable, and the invisible, are felt to be adequate to the production of the most astounding results. Belief, now, is in the omnipotence of the *littles*.

The *Record*, the *Notes of a New Truth*, and these *Domestic Notes*

* 1 Cor. xii. 18-23.

are specimens of the power of the littles. They are the penny subscriptions to purchase the great homœopathic JOHN WILLIAMS, in which the truths of man's physical salvation will be carried round the wide world. Were homœopaths generally more imbued with the missionary spirit, the spread of homœopathic truth would be more steady, and its success more rapidly triumphant.

CORRESPONDENCE :

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—It has always been a matter of amazement to me that medical men of the old school do not soon perceive the mischief they are doing. I object to their mode of proceeding, (for one cannot call it a system,) on *religious* grounds also. For what is bleeding, blistering, purging, and setting up one disease to cure another, but “doing evil that good may come?” And does not the inspired apostle say of them whose actions are prompted by such a principle of expediency, their “damnation is just?” But I really do not see why the practice of *vaccination* should be exempt from this sweeping condemnation. Are we justified in disobeying a divine command from any motives of expediency? But in this as in every other instance of doing evil that good may come, if we are to believe the facts that Mr. Gibbs has brought forward, the good done is only *apparent*—sickness and mortality have by no means diminished thereby, only they have assumed other forms. And the retention of one of the barbarous practices of the old school, appears to me to ill accord with the otherwise mild, gentle, and delicate homœopathic treatment. For here you administer brute morbid matter in its crude, undiluted state—and this not by the mouth, (the most natural way, Mr. Gibbs observes,) as you do other medicines, but introduce it abruptly, and with cutting through the skin into the blood. Now if vaccination is really an antidote to small pox, surely it would be much more in harmony with the rest of homœopathic practice if it were made up in the form of globules, prepared by potentization and dilution the same as other remedies are, and given when infection is to be apprehended, as you would give *Belladonna* to ward off scarlatina. But no! people will not wait till small pox makes its appearance amongst them. Such is their horror of having their beauty spoiled that they must be *scoured for ever* from its deforming power! But on what does their immunity depend? May it not depend on the presence of the vaccine poison in their system? But how know we that this same poison whilst *repellent* of small pox is not *attractive* of other diseases? Before we so rudely invade the vital domain it behoves us well to consider whether, by so unceremoniously introducing diseased matter into “the blood, which is the life thereof,” we are not really doing more harm than good.

In the hopes that this question may receive that consideration from homœopathic physicians which the importance of the subject demands, I beg to subscribe myself,

Sir, your obedient servant,
CLERICUS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—There having appeared in the *Dunstable Reformer* of last week a paper on the treatment and cure of pulmonary consumption, in which more rational means are advocated than those usually adopted by the profession, and the water cure in certain stages of that malady being referred to, as practised by Dr. Balbirnie; some friends have urged me to make a few remarks upon the subject.

Now it is perfectly true, that, at certain stages, hydropathy has arrested consumption, and restored the sufferer to a state of comparative health. It must, however, be taken into consideration that in these cases there has also been a total revolution in, and an abandonment of, those artificial habits, which predispose to, nay, induce this fatal malady. I have succeeded in restoring to a state of health several suffering with this disease, from different parts of the kingdom, in whom the hereditary, and in many instances acquired taint had not been too deeply fixed. It is a matter of deep regret to me that there are individuals in this county, who fully believe in the virtues of this means of cure, and have had it employed with advantage on themselves, who yet continue to subscribe largely to the County Infirmary and Fever Hospital at Bedford, without insisting on the use of hydropathy and other rational means of cure, in cases where they offer the best, sometimes the only, chance of success. Surely, by making it a condition that these means should be resorted to, they would exhibit more true philanthropy to the poor by ensuring them as good a chance of being rescued from death as the rich.

It is now so well known that many valuable lives have been saved by this treatment, in typhus and various inflammatory diseases, and that large and extensive institutions exist on the Continent, in various parts of this country, and in America, devoted to this method of cure, that one cannot but be surprised at the supineness of the benefactors and others connected with our county infirmaries and fever hospitals, in not insisting upon these means being fully carried out in them.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM FORBES LAURIE, M.D.

Dunstable, Bedfordshire,
July 2nd, 1857.

SILICA IN ITS POWER OF ABSORBING TUMORS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—Observing in No. 3, Vol. ii., of your journal, an extract from Dr. Massy's use of *Silica*, I was induced to try it in a case of tumor of the breast, and desire to make public, through your pages, the satisfactory use of this medicine in the case.

A lady had a small, hard swelling in her right breast. She was suckling, and the pressure of the child's hand gave her great pain in the tumor. I gave her *Silica* 12, a few globules three times a-day, and in less than a week the soreness and swelling had totally disappeared. The swelling was consequent upon a slight bruise.

Yours truly,

EDWARD THOMAS,
Homœopathic Chemist.

Chester, July 20, 1857.

AN EGG WITHIN AN EGG. — The Cleveland (Ohio) *Herald* says:—Wheels within wheels are as plenty as blackberries, but an egg within an egg is a barn-yard freak we had not dreamed of until shown a Shanghai egg, regularly laid at Canton, Stark co., which is double throughout, shell and all. The outside egg was a large one, even for a Shanghai, but inside it was another egg about the size of a common hen's egg. Around the inner egg, and between its shell and the shell of the larger egg was the yelk and the white of the larger one. Both eggs had regular "hard shells."

IN A RAGE.—We deeply regret that so deplorable an instance of vacillating weakness, and of indecision more pitiable even than bold perversion of judgment, should have been afforded by one who once held so good a position in the ranks of the profession as Dr. Horner, late senior physician to the Hull General Infirmary, and once Vice-President of the Provincial Medical Association; now a confirmed follower and disciple of that miserable impostor, who having failed to succeed with a quack remedy he named Pncœum (consisting only of borax), invented a system which referred nearly all the ills that flesh is heir to, to the existence of itch, and called this exceedingly rational system of medicine, homœopathy. Hear it, ye delicate damsels addicted to globulism, and out of whose pockets are cajoled the sustaining guineas! The vacillation apparent in the letters we have described—the strange statement made by Dr. Horner at the meeting, that he did not know what charges were to be brought against him—the perversion, at an age when opinions are firmly settled or pitiaibly unsettled, to a system now being fast deserted by its followers, even as rats leave a sinking ship—may fittingly serve as a warning for others to avoid the shoals and quicksands whereon he has wrecked the professional repute that so many laborious years had been spent in acquiring.—*The Lancet.*

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 11.—VOL. 2.

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TO OUR READERS.

THE Vaccination Bill is put off till next session, when, according to agreement and the former understanding that enquiry shall precede all farther legislation, a select committee is to investigate the subject. Meanwhile, pending enquiry, irrespective of other considerations, it would be a manifest violation of every principle of law and equity to continue to subject one of the parties in the cause (namely, the anti-vaccinators,) to legal pains and penalties.

So far the object of the recent petitions has been secured. But we cannot avoid adding that a greater impression might have been made upon the New House of Commons, if the friends of medical freedom and parental rights had been as active this year as last.

We strongly urge that *two* sets of petitions be poured in early next session: one set praying for the repeal of the Compulsory Vaccination Act of 1853; the other praying that the promised enquiry be full and free, and that, in especial, the foreign *savans*, Messrs. Carnot, Bayard, Verde de Lisle, Ancelon, Nittinger, Hamernick, Villette de Ferze, de Feutins, &c., who have deeply studied the subject, be examined.

MEDICAL BATHING.

PROFESSOR LOESCHNER, after some remarks upon the operation of the gases introduced into the lungs by the breath during bathing, describes the operation of certain baths in the cure of disease. He treats first of the operation of the Marienbad springs in the diseases of children. It should be premised that the diet of all the patients was regulated upon a uniform scale. The Kreuzbrunnen and Ferdinandsbrunnen of Marienbad are found efficacious in scrofulous affections of the glands, of the skin, of the bones, with and without the appearance of reaction; glandular inflammation in different parts of the body, formation of abscess, caries, ulceration of the cornea, eczema, herpes, psoriasis, zoster. The operation of these waters is shown by constant increase of the functions of the intestines and kidneys, with appearance sometimes of the formation of sulphuret of iron, and development of sulphuretted hydrogen, together with remarkable secretion of bile, sometimes of uric and oxalic acids, particles of fat, shreds of mucus, diminished excretion of phosphoric acid, and afterwards decrease of the weight of the body, but nevertheless increased vital activity, in combination with powerful changes in the whole process of nutrition. The latter is especially shown in the vivacity of the children, which at first is diminished, but is subsequently increased; in their better and purer colour; in the disappearance of glandular tumours (unless when they are infiltrated with tuberculous masses); in the diminished swelling of the bones; in the drying up of chronic exanthemata; in the discontinuance of inflammatory symptoms in the eye and ear. The activity of the heart and arteries was augmented, the tympanitic condition of the abdomen subsided, the mental operations became active and lively. The mode of operation of the Marienbad springs, in accordance with their chemical peculiarities, may be stated to consist in bringing about a more active metamorphosis of tissues, acceleration of the digestion, normal conversion of the nourishing material into the organic juices, and more powerful nutrition by means of the increase and improvement of the constituents of the blood. DR. LOESCHNER then describes the use of the iodine water of Halle and Fraachia's sea-baths in children's cases. The diet should first be regulated, by allowing a copious supply of meat and a limited quantity of vegetables. The subjects most appropriate for treatment in these baths are those suffering from torpid scrofulous affections, and rhachitic patients with a high degree of swelling of the epiphyses; the former in the most intense form of abdominal, cutaneous, and glandular scrofula; the latter being cases of long duration, and already beginning to exhibit ossification of the swellings of the epiphyses. The author knows no mineral water containing iodine which exhibits its operation so powerfully and so quickly upon the organism as that now described; and this effect he attributes to the absorption of iodine into the system.

Baths with the iodine water of Halle and the artificial sea-baths soon produce, when used continuously and in a concentrated form, powerful symptoms of reaction, and the appearances of iodism, with tumultuous and reducing metamorphosis of tissues; while baths of moderate temperature, of brief duration, employed every second day, may be continued for weeks, and even months, without producing such a tumultuous operation, and accomplish, in a tranquil manner, the changes of the tissues. It is remarkable and surprising, under such circumstances, to observe the disappearance of scrofulous tumours, of chronic catarrhs of the nose, throat, and genital mucous membrane depending upon a scrofulous origin, such as scrofulous ozæna and utero-vaginal catarrh; the subsidence of swellings of the epiphyses in rchachitic patients, with striking improvement of the aspect after a moderate previous excitement of the function of the skin, and the separation of abnormal quantities of mucus, with salts of uric and oxalic acid, through the respiratory and urinary organs. DR. LOESCHNER found the iodine waters of Halle very useful, when employed internally, and when inhaled by the nostrils, in a case of long continued ozæna in a young woman approaching puberty, in whom for many years a great number of remedies had been employed in vain; also in glandular swellings of the abdomen; in chronic utero-vaginal catarrh, in which artificial sea-baths and the internal use of the iodine water have effected a complete cure; and in chronic exanthemata of scrofulous children, in which this water is a powerful remedy. Latterly, DR. LOESCHNER has made some experiments with the iodine water of Halle in the syphilis of children, using at the same time the artificial sea-baths, if exanthemata were present at the same time. Four cases only of this kind of treatment have been observed; but they appear to the author to justify him in the belief that the operation of water is also beneficial in these maladies. — *Vierteljahrsschrift für die Practische Heilkunde*, 1857, and *Medico-Chirurgical Review*.

WHICH KILLED THE PATIENT—THE BEE OR THE DOCTOR?

THE *New York Journal of Medicine* contains a report of a case terminating in death from the sting of a bee. The patient was a farmer engaged in an apiary, and had been frequently stung before, when the ordinary local irritation usually supervened. On this occasion, however, there was no swelling nor discoloration. About two hours after suffering the sting, various unpleasant sensations followed, accompanied by nausea and free vomiting, and oppressed breathing. Opiates were given, but a sleeplessness prevailed, and diarrhœa subsequently set in, the pulse became weak, and the countenance wan and shrunken. These symptoms gradually became more severe, and, notwithstanding all the efforts of his medical attendant, Dr. Nelson Nivison, the patient succumbed at the end of a week. In the absence of other obvious cause, Dr. Nivison considers this train of symptoms due to the sting of the bee.—*Medical Circular*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—In the number of your journal for last month, appeared an article on the pamphlet lately published by Dr. Horner, the circulation of which appears to be rousing up the expression of public opinion concerning old and new physic. In the *Norfolk News* of July 11th appears an article, headed, "Free Trade in Physic," in which the editor gives an able elucidation of the Medical Bills now before parliament, of which amongst other things he observes, "that medical colleges entrusted with irresponsible privileges of admission and expulsion—and particularly with power to give, refuse, or withdraw licenses, have proved most seriously obstructive to the development and application of scientific truth." The public are beginning to open their eyes to this, for "history," says the editor of the *Norfolk News*, "tells them that the medical profession has, in every age and by all possible efforts, put down rising heresies. Indeed, every signal improvement in medicine has, in its first suggestion, been ridiculed and kicked aside. The medical craft has ever been extremely jealous of novelties, and, with an affected horror of quackery, has oftentimes, we fear, played the quack without mercy. At the present time, the spirit of persecution is rife against homœopathy. And we should like to know what the new medical council would do with a practitioner who conscientiously abjures the old system and takes up the new." The editor of the *Norfolk News* says, "we have before us now a pamphlet by Dr. Horner, in which that gentleman says, that, after practising allopathy for twenty-seven years, he has abandoned it for homœopathy. Whilst," says the editor of the *N. N.*, "we cannot undertake to affirm the truth of Dr. Horner's assertions, we take leave to declare that there is so much verisimilitude and such an appearance of candor and sincerity, and, beyond that, such clear proof that Dr. Horner has undergone odium and serious losses in adherence to his new opinions, that a case is made out entitled to the consideration of the public, and specially worthy of the unprejudiced attention of the large body of educated gentlemen who are the guardians of the health of the community. If in a matter affecting, not health only, but life, the medical profession—from too tenacious an adherence to long-received notions, and from a hyper-conservatism, which is one of the worst consequences of monopoly—should continue to reject truths novel and untested by them, until the public compel them to examine, and perhaps ultimately to adopt them, in what a pitiable condition of prejudice or ignorance will this learned profession have proved itself to have been! We seriously believe that homœopathy is a rock a-head on which the medical craft will be wrecked, if it trust itself to the pilotage of a council of bigots. Science is stronger than systems; and if homœopathy is based on scientific truth and can establish its claims by the results of experience, the public will

declare in its favor, in spite of medical colleges and councils. If, on the other hand, it be demonstrably an imposition, let the practitioner who swindles the public with his small globules be put under arrest for obtaining money under false pretences! Obviously, it cannot be right that a system which claims to be a science and demands to be tested by the severest methods, should receive no other treatment from a profession of experimentalists than ridicule and abuse. It is either an inestimable boon from heaven, or a gross cheat of man's devising. On either ground, it deserves to be dealt with seriously; and that this is the general feeling, the public will soon signify, even more emphatically than through the press."

Such is the manner in which the editor of the *N. N.* expresses his opinion concerning that which *interested* medical men have designated with the vilest and most violent abuse; but their conduct is only like that of individuals, who may be disposed to break their plighted faith in any matter in which they have committed themselves, who are always loudest in their abuse and endeavours to prove themselves the injured party; in which case we invariably see that truth meekly and submissively takes all their railing, feeling satisfied in her own conscientious regard to principle. So it has been with homœopathy—strong in the might of her scientific purity, she has not given railing for railing, but, contrariwise, heaped coals of fire on the head of many an adversary, who has been brought by the mysterious movements of the will of that providence which upholds the universe and controls individuals, to acknowledge the truth and blessed results arising from the adoption of that system the knowledge of which, no doubt, will one day spread over the whole earth, as the waters cover the sea. The confession of Dr. Horner is but the counterpart of that of many a good and able man, whom God, in the gracious exercise of his mercy towards the children of men, has led to recognize science in homœopathy, and, seeing that, has also intuitively known that there was truth also.

We are not a despised body now. Our claims for public attention have been heard and recognized in the healing of all manner of diseases without pain or torture. We can afford to wait for the conversion of any who may be disposed to fold their arms a little longer in the slothfulness of ignorance and prejudice, feeling assured that the day will come when many an enemy will strike his colours, and many a proud one be compelled to bite the dust. Why, if allopathy is not afraid of the results, should not the two systems be laid side by side in the wards of our hospitals, where the matter in question might have the chance of proclaiming itself all it professes, or for ever sinking into oblivion, if it does not prove to be what its defenders have always asserted it is? Truth has nothing to fear; only we say, let it be fairly tried, and we know the result will be universal adoption. But the allopaths know their craft is in danger, and that if they venture into the broad light of truth their profit will be gone, and their barbarous system of torture consigned to eternal forgetfulness.

When we write in our own journals respecting homœopathy, it is cast in our teeth that we are sounding our own praises. Let our benighted foes take warning when an independent public journal demands of them to try the two systems. They are but speaking for the public, whose voice when once raised shall so loudly demand the long put off trial that the foes of homœopathy will be compelled to submit, when all men shall acknowledge the immortal Hahnemann the greatest of philosophers.

Sir, I am,

Your obedient servant,

Norwich, July 31st, 1857.

ALEX. RAPIER.

DUBLIN, AUGUST 12, 1857.—The trial of James Spollen, for the wilful murder of the late Mr. George Samuel Little, which occupied the last four days, terminated yesterday evening in the finding a verdict of "Not guilty." But little medico-legal evidence was brought forward. Dr. Geoghegan was not examined as to the stains upon the razors and clothes submitted to him. Dr. George Porta repeated the evidence formerly given by him as to the nature of the wounds inflicted, the particulars of which are detailed in the number of your Journal for the 29th of November last, page 554. Dr. Aldridge, formerly Professor of Chemistry in the school of the Apothecaries' Hall, was examined as to certain stains found upon some of the wood-work in the passages adjoining Mr. Little's office. He stated that he had subjected these to the action of a number of tests, to that of dilute sulphuric acid among others, and that he had come to the conclusion that the stains were due to the presence, not of blood, but of vegetable colouring matter; Mr. Curran, counsel for the accused, asked Dr. Aldridge if he was aware that sulphuric acid had been found to be perfectly fallacious as a test for blood, and read to the jury an extract from a work in which the test was stated to be wholly fallacious. Dr. Aldridge pointed out that the learned counsel was confounding two distinct things, that sulphuric acid had been proposed some quarter of a century ago as a means of discriminating the blood of different animals, and that it had subsequently been found to be entirely unreliable in this respect; Dr. Aldridge added that his object on the present occasion was not to determine whether the stains in question were produced by the blood of this or that animal, but whether they were owing to blood at all or not; the stains had not been blackened by the acid, as would have been the case had they been blood, but had been removed by it, and he therefore inferred, from the action of this, corroborated by that of other tests, that the stains were due to the presence of vegetable colouring matter. On the announcement of the verdict, the prisoner, who until then maintained his composure, fell back in a half-fainting condition. —*Medical Times and Gazette.*

REVIEW.

Reasons for Adopting the Rational System of Medicine: being a Letter to the Governors of the Hull General Infirmary. By FEWSTER ROBERT HORNER, M.D. London: Groombridge & Co.

WE have alluded in a former number to the accession to the ranks of our school of Dr. Horner, of Hull. We have before us his pamphlet, one of the seventh thousand already published; and we commend it very strongly to the attention of every well-wisher for the regeneration of medicine. "Have any of the rulers, or of the pharisees, believed on Him?" was the interrogatory in reference to the greatest preacher of the greatest truth ever handed down to man. Sceptics of the present day, in reference to another truth, the truth of homœopathy, have, in similar language, interrogated the believers. Not long since we noted that some of the leading ones in medicine had become converts to homœopathy; and it is with pleasure that we commend to our readers a few extracts from the pamphlet of Dr. Horner. The pamphlet is addressed to the governors of the Hull General Infirmary, but it is no less interesting to the governors of the Northampton and every other infirmary.

The circumstances which led to a change in Dr. Horner's medical opinions are contained in the pamphlet. He says—

"I felt that the time had arrived when something must be done, both by the individual and the collective efforts of the profession—the onward spread of homœopathy must be stayed. Notwithstanding the oft-repeated declaration of my professional brethren to the contrary, it was too apparent that it was not 'dying out,' but was steadily progressing, nay, rapidly extending itself;—not amongst the credulous and uneducated, but the enlightened and higher classes of society were daily becoming its firmest adherents and determined supporters. Nor was this onward progress restricted to any town or district; but throughout England, Ireland, and Scotland; and yet far more, throughout America, Germany, and France; and throughout all the States of Europe, was it adopted and cherished.

"I was convinced that this progress was not to be arrested by the raillery, abuse, and misrepresentation of the medical profession; amidst it all, homœopathy had but the more and more increased—*people would think for themselves.* I now felt assured that the only rational and effective, as well as manly and honourable way, of disabusing and disinfecting the public mind, was, to submit it to the touchstone of observation and experiment. I determined on its practical investigation.

"Therefore, honestly divesting my mind, as far as I was able to do, of all feeling and prejudice against it, I first diligently searched and studied all the best works on the subject. I thus obtained a thorough insight into and knowledge of the science;—of the peculiar mode of

preparation and stated powers of its medicines—of their nature and properties,—and of their effects and application as remedies in disease: *points, be it observed, absolutely necessary to a fair and enlightened test and examination.* This being at length accomplished, I most stringently, zealously, and I may add jealously, conducted my lengthened and practical inquiry.

“My first discovery was my own ignorance as to what homœopathy really was, and the equal ignorance of the rest of my professional brethren with whom I had conversed on the subject. It was, I confess, with a feeling of shame that I recalled to mind how we had misjudged and misrepresented homœopathy. Strange, truly, that the medical profession should persist in denying, yea, in heaping obloquy and ridicule upon a science of which they know themselves—confess themselves—to be wholly or essentially ignorant! Nay, I have often heard the most witty, as well as the most serious and earnest declaimer, give a scornful negative reply to the inquiry if they had ever thoroughly studied and fairly tried it.

“So wild and indefinite are the notions, not only of the public, but of medical men also, that it is thought that homœopathy chiefly consists in giving small or infinitesimal doses of medicine! Now *the magnitude of the dose has nothing whatever to do with the principle of this science.* The principle, the very essence of homœopathy, lies in the law of *simile*, as usually expressed in the axiom, ‘*similia similibus curantur*’—‘likes cure likes.’ Hahnemann himself at first tried the accustomed or usual dose, but he was speedily compelled to reduce it; so powerful and harmful were medicines in their common doses, *when given on the homœopathic principle.*

“For my own part, I have not often found it necessary to use any form stronger than the globules; and I have prescribed many thousands of times. But it is as consistent with the true principles of homœopathy to prescribe either strong tinctures or the crude drugs as it is to give the most infinitesimal globule. I repeat that it is the law of *simile—of like*—that alone guides the homœopathist in his treatment of disease; the size, strength, or weakness of a dose is a mere contingency; he may give what doses he lists, but will soon find that medicines, *given on the homœopathic principle*, must be administered, in nearly all cases, in very small doses, or the symptoms of the disease will be greatly aggravated.”

In reference to the experimentalism of Dr. Horner, one cannot fail to observe that he pursued the subject with a determination to elicit truth or to discover error. He says—

“In my practical inquiry into the powers of homœopathic remedies, I resorted to every species of proof which I could devise, and of which the subject appeared capable. I have now treated—successfully treated—a vast variety and number of diseases, both acute and chronic, occurring in both sexes, and at all ages. In every more

important and interesting case, careful notes were kept; all the symptoms of the disease were primarily registered; and the effect of every medicine that was administered and every change of symptom noted.

"I felt that the investigation in which I was now engaged, was, perhaps, the most serious act of my life. Not only my reputation as a physician, my honour as a man, and the relief of the afflicted, but yet more, the interest of truth itself, was equally involved."

"I witnessed, first, the painful and harassing symptoms of chronic diseases, both external and internal, progressively, steadily, and in some cases rapidly, cured by the administration of homœopathic medicines, and that in not a few instances where the old plan of treatment by other practitioners had failed; and in two or three instances where I had myself been unsuccessful by the old system in giving relief.

"On the other hand, I observed the distressing and alarming symptoms of acute inflammation of the most vital organs—as of the brain, the lungs, the windpipe (croup), and the bowels—arrested, overcome, and cured; and that in a manner so observable and so evident, even to the friends of the patient, that, on the repetition of each succeeding dose, a corresponding improvement was confidently looked for; while, to my own observation, the effects and efficacy of the medicine were most clear and indisputable.

"Yet how determinedly do practitioners of the old school repeat, that although patients treated homœopathically may recover (of themselves) from chronic ailment, yet to trust to such treatment in inflammation of vital organs is nothing less than the abandonment of the hapless patient. Happy abandonment! yea, and fortunate escape from the lancet and leeches, from blisters and cupping glasses, and from all those other appliances, which, by *destroying vital energy, paralyse restorative power!*

"Indeed, I here wish, in the most emphatic manner, to notice, that it is especially in acute inflammation of the vital organs of the body, (as of the brain, the lungs, the stomach and bowels, &c.) that the curative action of homœopathic remedies is so decided and so rapid. How unfortunate, then, is it, that the professional opponents of homœopathy should, in their total ignorance of the science, have stumbled upon that very point for their misrepresentation and attack which is notoriously the strongest and most invulnerable! *It is these very cases, before all others, that the homœopathic physician would select to prove to the inquirer, or to the unbeliever, the truly extraordinary power and efficacy of this system of treatment.* To this subject I shall again have occasion to refer."

It is especially interesting that some of the cases which Dr. Horner successfully treated with homœopathic means were those which, in the same infirmary, under ordinary practice, were hopeless. The following quotations exhibit the results of homœopathy:

"I shall notice one other case, of a somewhat similar kind, as it was connected with your own infirmary. Moreover, it not only shows the power of homœopathic medicines, but is an apt illustration of their superiority over the old drugs,—of the new over the old system of treatment,—and that under the most adverse circumstances. It was a very distressing case of inflammation, with a deep and foul ulceration of the tonsils, palate, and back part of the throat. The man had been under medical treatment for some months before his admission, under my own care, into the infirmary. He was so worn down with disease and poverty, that pity for his condition, rather than hopes of affording relief, induced me to admit him. After remaining within the infirmary the allotted time of two months, he was discharged; improved in bodily condition certainly, but with very partial amendment of the throat. And, as I could not hold out to the Weekly Board of Governors any hope that he could be cured, (if cured at all,) in a month or two more, his bed was appropriated to other urgent cases, and he was made an out-patient. On his calling at my house next day, to ask what he should do, and where get means of support, I determined, bad as he was, now to give him the chance of the homœopathic treatment; and he went afterwards to a poor lodging. Though now debarred the comfort and the wholesome food of the infirmary, yet, in the short space of but ten days, this poor fellow's throat, tonsils, palate, &c., were quite healed and cured, by taking homœopathic remedies. This being one of my earliest cases of 'bad throat,' made a great impression on my mind at the time; but I have now, in my extended experience, found in very many instances, how astonishing, and for the most part how rapid, is the effect of the homœopathic treatment in the worst cases of nose and throat diseases. These two cases are not only deeply interesting, as proving the efficacy of homœopathy, but as showing its superiority over the old plan—curing where the old system had failed.

"I will briefly give one or two more examples where, in other diseases, patients were cured by homœopathic remedies when they had not been relieved by the old system; and I will select cases from the infirmary. A man had suffered from sciatica for above a year, and had undergone a great variety of treatment in that time. When he came into the infirmary all the appliances of cure, as vapour baths, galvanism, &c., which your institution affords, were used, in addition to appropriate medicines, but without avail; and he left the infirmary. This man wrote to me a few weeks afterwards, that he was then at laborious work, having been cured in about three weeks by homœopathy. Another man left the infirmary unrelieved of a distressing pain of the head, after a paralytic stroke, which had quite incapacitated him for work for many months. He had a seton in the neck, leeches, and other means used; he then took homœopathic medicines for two weeks and returned to work.

"The next two cases possess a twofold interest, inasmuch as they were not only cured on the homœopathic system, but cured *in* the infirmary. As one of the men had been suffering for above four, and the other for nearly seven years, and as they had been under the care of several medical men, and had undergone a great amount of treatment, I determined, after a short trial of the old remedies, to treat them homœopathically. Both were diseases of the urinary organs, and both were cured in three weeks. One of the men suffered much pain in the bladder, and passed a considerable quantity of blood in the urine; from medicines given on the homœopathic principle, all his painful and other symptoms *daily and perceptibly lessened*; and in about a month after his admission he left the infirmary quite well and commenced work once more. The other, a younger man, had suffered for seven years, and had undergone much severe treatment. After the removal of his other troublesome symptoms connected with the bladder, there still remained a severe pain on the left side of his body, and to remove which 'the doctors had done everything' (I think a seton had also been set). By the administration of the homœopathic remedy, which acted directly upon the part implicated, a small flattened stone became dislodged and was passed. This stone had evidently been for some years impacted in the ureter (the passage from the kidneys to the bladder). He left the infirmary, quite cured, in three or four weeks.

"A case of acute inflammation of the windpipe (croup), occurring in a child sixteen months old, has come under my care, and, I might truly add, has just been rescued from close impending death, by homœopathic remedies; the surgeon under whose care it was up to the time I saw it, replying to the mother's inquiry,—'that it might die any minute.' The child had been leeches, had taken antimonial wine, and undergone all the usual old and inefficient treatment for three days previously, without the slightest check or stay to the disease, so that I myself judged that it could not survive the day without relief, so nearly had it been hurried to its end. The change by the administration of homœopathic remedies was so extraordinary, and so unlooked for by the poor woman, its mother, that, in her gratitude and joy she most thoughtlessly brought it to my house next morning. The day was very raw and cold, and, as I feared, a terrible aggravation of the symptoms was incurred, and the child's life was again placed in the utmost peril. The first remedies were again had recourse to,—alike subsidence of the symptoms was produced,—and in a few days the child was cured. Are we always to be told that it is the 'imagination' (this child was but sixteen months old),—is it always 'mere accident,' or regulation of diet,—or are all homœopathic physicians (and those who cure themselves and families in minor complaints) really what the old practitioners and medical journals say they are,—'dolts, impostors, and quacks'?—See *Lancet*.

“Truly it is humiliating to witness physicians of the old school striving to explain away the palpable, the self-evident cures performed by the new system of medicine—homœopathy!”

Of the conduct of the profession towards those who have adopted a superior because more efficacious treatment, Dr. Horner remarks—

“How strange, how anomalous, is the conduct of the profession! for if the virtues of but one new drug be set forth in a medical journal, forthwith the whole profession welcomes it with a trial, and adoption. But when the grand, the comprehensive, science of homœopathy is, on the highest testimony, set before them, replete with a cure not only for one but for all diseases, they straightway cast it forth with mockery and abuse, without trial, and without investigation! Nay, just as astronomers of old refused even to look through the telescope which Galileo had invented, even so do professional men refuse to look into homœopathy. How, said the sage astronomers of old, can Jupiter have four moons, when we ourselves see them not with our own eyes? and how can a tube of wood, with a bit of glass stuck into each end of it, make the moons appear, even if they did exist? So say the old school of physicians. How can homœopathy have power or efficacy when we do not see it by the light of our system? and if such efficacy did exist, how can these small doses make that efficacy appear?”

“But not only do medical men determine not to look through the telescope (homœopathy), but they would break it to pieces, destroy it altogether, and cast it forth as a vain thing. If they would only first look into it in a manly and fair way, and thus prove to the world that no moons are visible—that there is no power in homœopathic remedies—they would, at least, command respect; but they seek to destroy it by instilling therein the dry-rot of calumny. Nay, they not only refuse to test and prove its powers and efficacy, but they deal forth their severe condemnation on those who, in an enlightened spirit of enquiry, venture to do so, and who have the fearless honesty and candor to avow the truth as they have found and proved it. The veneration for the old system of medicine, evinced by physicians of the present day, seems to be as great as that of the disciple of Galen in the olden time, who declared that ‘he would rather be in the wrong with Galen, than be in the right with any other physician’—so do medical men now seem determined rather to err with the old systems of medicine than to be in the right with the new one—homœopathy.”

HOMŒOPATHY IN NAPLES.—The establishment of a second special homœopathic pharmacy at Naples, has just been authorized by the Neapolitan government.

In consequence of a memorial presented to the Council of Public Instruction of Naples by Dr. Profumo, and supported by powerful friends of his, the council has, for the first time, officially recognized homœopathy.—*Monthly Homœopathic Review.*

TETANUS PRODUCED BY THE ALLOPATHIC USE OF
NUX VOMICA.

BY DR. COCKBURN, OF DUNDEE.

A FEW days ago I received an urgent call to go and see a patient who had been suddenly seized with cramp, and who appeared to be in a dying state. This was about four o'clock in the afternoon, and he had been attacked about half an hour before that. On reaching the patient I found him labouring under the following tetanic symptoms, viz.: drawing, crampy pains in the back of the neck, with paroxysms of internal stiffness and rigidity from the nape downwards. The paroxysms varied in intensity. During the mild attacks the muscles of the neck alone were affected, when he could walk about and speak freely. During the more severe attacks, not only the muscles of the neck, but those of the chest and throat were affected, causing great difficulty of breathing and a choking sensation, especially when attempting to swallow anything. Also the muscles of the head, and especially of the forehead, causing a contraction of the eyebrows, and giving him a peculiarly sullen expression of countenance. During the most severe attack all the muscles of the back and legs were affected, and the entire body became rigid and curved backwards. At times he was unable to keep his seat on the chair, and when he attempted to get on his feet he could scarcely stand or move his legs, as the muscles were so rigid.

Each paroxysm lasted from one to two minutes. He always made an effort to move about when the attacks came on, and to rest the affected parts.

Having learned the cause of the complaint, I at once gave him camphor every few minutes. In the course of half an hour the spasms gradually lessened in severity, and disappeared altogether in about three hours. Shortly after that he was suddenly seized with violent strangury. The efforts to urinate were constant and most painful, without being able to pass a single drop. For this he got opium, which speedily gave him relief. Next day, with the exception of a little fatigue and shakiness, he was quite well.

This patient had been labouring under some slight nervous affection for which he applied to a well-known orthodox professor in Edinburgh, who sent him a prescription for sixty (!) pills, each containing one grain and a half of nux vomica. Of these, one was to be taken three times a day. The tetanic symptoms came on after taking the second pill. The first was taken in the morning, the second at three o'clock in the afternoon, and in ten minutes after that the cramps in the neck and back came on.—*Monthly Homœopathic Review.*

THE TREATMENT OF HOOPING COUGH.

At the *Hahnemann Academy of Medicine*, of New York, sitting of 7th January last, on the subject of the treatment of whooping cough:

"Dr. Ball remarked that he relies upon *Bell.* in tincture and *Cupr.* tinc. 2nd.—Dr. Peters confirmed Dr. Ball's views in regard to the efficacy of these remedies, he however gives five, ten, or fifteen drops of the m. tinct. of *Bell.* in a half tumbler of water—tea spoonful doses in alternation with *Ipeca.*—Dr. Peters also referred to *Ammon. carb.* as a remedy in this ailment—two, three, or four grains in a half tumbler of water, in tea spoonful doses."

"Dr. Belcher has used *Cuprum* in whooping cough, when there was diarrhœa and projectile vomiting, stiffness, and exhaustion, and *Veratrum* when there was severe cough and cold sweats."

At the sitting of the 4th Feb.:

"Dr. Freleigh reported the following four cases of whooping cough cured promptly by the use of *Cuprum m. Bell.* and *Nux vom.*"

"CASE I.—A female child, perfectly healthy from birth up to the tenth month, at which time she commenced coughing, which did not yield to the usual remedies but gradually increased in violence, until all the characteristics of whooping cough were developed. The paroxysms became severe and threatening in the extreme, frequently in convulsions; notwithstanding constant treatment and the most tender nursing, there was not a single mitigation of the symptoms until *Cupr. met.* was given in two grain doses every four hours, in alternation with *Bellad.*; in twelve hours there was marked improvement. The second day the paroxysms were not so frequent, were much less severe, and no convulsions. The third day the cough changed in character, was less spasmodic, and the child rested well during the night, or until about three o'clock in the morning, at which time she would cough at intervals until about six, *Cuprum* was then given in the morning and *Nux vom.* at night; this was continued for three days, when the little patient appearing perfectly well, the treatment was suspended."

"CASE II.—A little brother of the above, aged four years, cough very severe, paroxysms worse between the hours of three and seven in the morning, *Cuprum, m.* in the morning and *Nux vom.* at night. The third day, every characteristic of whooping cough had disappeared, and he appeared well."

"CASE III.—A female child, aged thirteen months, quite fleshy, face flushed, and vessels of the neck and temples rather turgid, had been treated allopathically for about three weeks, without the least benefit, and apparently getting worse. Her paroxysms were most severe in the afternoon and evening, commencing at or about three, P.M.; *Belladonna* and *Cuprum* were given in alternation every four hours. The child improved so rapidly that she appeared perfectly well in six days."

"CASE IV.—A little boy, aged three years, rather robust, full face and rosy cheeks. The peculiarity of this case was morning and evening paroxysms, coming on at about three in the morning, and continuing with but partial interruptions until six or seven, from which time he would pass the day tolerably comfortably, occasionally evincing a disposition to play, until about three P.M.; when he would become very sick and have severe paroxysms every half hour, until about nine o'clock; his bowels were obstinately constipated. *Belladonna* morning and noon and *Nux vom.* at night, cured him in less than a week. I will here remark that the *Belladonna* and *Nux vom.* were given in about two grain doses of the full strength and attenuation, or three or four drops of the tincture mixed in about a gill of water and a tea spoonful given at a dose."

"Several of the members present remarked that, in their opinion, due attention had not been paid to the use of *Nux vom.* in whooping cough. (*N. A. Journ. of Hom., May, 1857.*)"

These cases are valuable, as they show the advantages to be derived from the use of *Cuprum* and of *Nux vomica* in whooping cough. But, at the same time, we think it right to remark that epidemics of whooping cough vary considerably in character. In an epidemic which still prevails in the locality in which the writer resides, the prevailing characteristics of the cough is a long-continued choking—very marked in some cases, and dependent in no way upon the violence of the cough. In these cases *Belladonna* has done but little good; whereas, *Cupr. acet.* 2nd and 3rd triturations, in doses of one or two grains in the course of twenty-four hours, alternated with *Ipecacuanha* 1, has been productive of much benefit. We think that it is not wise to prolong the use of the same medicine beyond a day or two in whooping cough, and still less to keep on with the same dilution. Thus *Ipeca.* 1, may be useful for a day or two, but if continued it should be quickly raised to the 3rd or 4th. Towards the close of the disease, when the paroxysms are preceded by a rattling in the air-passages, denoting the presence of thick mucus, *Tartarus stibiatus* 3rd dilution, has been found very useful, and in cases in which the breathing was short and the paroxysms severe, a grain or two of the 1st decimal trituration, has been given in the course of twenty-four hours. In a former epidemic, *Ipecacuanha* 3 and *Drosera* 3 on alternate days, or two days of each in alternation, and afterwards the 4th dilution, have seemed to answer best, bringing the cough to a close, from first to last, in about three weeks.

In the treatment of whooping cough much depends on the prevention of complications. The disease is naturally accompanied, especially towards its close, by a catarrhal condition of the air-passages. This may be increased by not guarding against changes in temperature. But, at the same time, it must not be forgotten that too close an air can only tend to increase the frequency of the

paroxysms, and by enervating the child, to prolong the duration of the disease.

We thank Dr. Frélich for reminding us of the homœopathicity of *Nux* in convulsive cases, and for giving us proofs of its efficacy.—*Monthly Homœopathic Review*.

THE DANGERS OF ALLOPATHY.

FATAL POISONING BY MISTAKE.

MR. W. W. MUNCKTON, coroner for West Somerset, held an inquest at Hartrow-manoor, near Taunton, on Friday, the 7th inst., on the body of Mrs. Anne Escott, (relict of the late Mr. Bickham Escott, formerly M.P. for Winchester,) who died from poison administered by herself in mistake for a dose of medicine. It appeared that the deceased had been ill for several days, and was attended by Mr. Henry, a surgeon of Stogumber, who found her suffering from fever, and prescribed for her accordingly. On Wednesday morning, a bottle containing solution of acetate of morphia (which Mrs. Escott was in the habit of taking in small doses occasionally) stood on the mantelpiece in her bedroom, close by the medicine bottle, which was the same kind of phial as that containing the morphia, and in the absence of the nurse, the deceased took a quantity of the latter, thinking she was taking the medicine as prescribed. The unfortunate lady discovered her error immediately, and as the servant entered the room deceased cried out, "Oh! I have taken the wrong medicine." Mr. Henry, who happened to be in the house at the time in conversation with Miss Escott, was summoned to the room, and he applied the stomach pump, emetics, &c., but without effect, and the patient gradually sank, and expired in a few hours. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that "the deceased died by poison taken by herself in mistake."

THE EMPEROR ALEXANDER II. OF RUSSIA AND HOMŒOPATHY.—

SOME time ago the *Lancet* congratulated itself and its readers on the pretended fact that homœopathy had been forbidden, by imperial edict, in Russia. We shewed that the medicines forbidden were *allopathic quack medicines*, and gave, at the same time, reports of imperial hospitals under homœopathic rule. To prove that the present emperor holds homœopathy in high esteem, we quote the following from the *Journal de la Societe Gallicane de Medicine Homœopathique*, Paris, July, 1857.

"Dr. Teste (a French homœopathic physician), having caused a copy of his work, entitled, *Essai de systematisation de la matiere medicale homœopathique* to be presented to His Majesty the Emperor Alexander II., has received from His Majesty a jewel of great value. This proof of sympathy and esteem is of much importance to homœopathy."

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NEW SERIES.—PRICE 2D.

TO OUR READERS.

THE present number completes the second yearly volume of the *New Series* of our periodical. We take this opportunity of thanking our friends for their patronage; though pecuniary profit is not the object the editor has in view, in taxing his time frequently after midnight, in conducting the monthly.

Diffusion of intelligence connected with homœopathy—reporting progress of the glorious cause at home and abroad—educating the people in matters relating to health and disease—informing the people of the terrible and disastrous results of ordinary practice—watching and guarding the interests of the people against parliamentary *prescriptions* and *proscriptions*—these are some of the objects which the editor had in view, and we hope objects which have in the past and present years been accomplished. Against *compulsory* vaccination we made a determined stand. Against the medical bills, for the protection of allopathy and allopaths, we were equally engaged. “Medical orthodoxy” seeking to be upheld in its declining state by legislation, whereby the people would be robbed of their right to employ whom they will, and what they will in the relief of suffering—the nation to be handed over by parliament to the merciless sepoys in medicine, to be bled, blistered, purged, cupped, leeches, salivated, cauterized, etc., etc., by a licensed fraternity of homicides!! In the name of justice save the people from the orthodox quackery of the routinists.

It is a remarkable fact that the public has never sought medical legislation. The faculty, stimulated by and horror-stricken at the growth in the public mind of dissent in medicine—the extension of homœopathy in all classes of society—the adoption of hydropathy

and of so called "botanic systems" of medicine, seek to check the growth of free trade in physic, and raise the old cry of "*protection*." We seek not, we desire not, state protection. That which is *true and good needs none*. That which is evil and false *deserves none*.

The fact is patent to all observers, that if *one* person die under the treatment of a medical dissenter, whether he be a homœopathist, a hydropathist, or medical botanist, a cry is raised—"behold a victim;" while if *ten* die of a *similar disease*, in the *same locality*, however barbarously or ignorantly treated by the *orthodox* apothecary, surgeon, or physician, no other remark is made, than that "*they died*." We wish not to be misunderstood. We are not undervaluing real medical education; we believe such to be necessary; but we do say, that it is unfair that those who have left the ranks of orthodoxy for a superior system of treatment, should be branded by the faculty as quacks and impostors. What we emphatically say is, that an established system is not necessarily a true system; an art, as is ordinary medicine, without science is not worthy of trust.

We could wish that there were more labourers in the field of homœopathy. Christianity has not been spread exclusively by the orthodox, but has been propagated by lay advocates. The late John Wesley employed most successfully men who devoted their energies to the study of the scriptures, and with this effected the reclamation of society. And we feel that if homœopathy wait until the rulers and pharisees in medicine have believed in Hahnemann, it may wait many years. Let the homœopaths therefore be up and doing, we say, and educate lay practitioners for the work of healing—men selected for being naturally endowed with those qualities so essential to a successful physician, yet of which so many legalized men are unhappily destitute. To this end we hope to labour, and in that hope let our readers give us their assistance in the support of a hospital and medical school in Northampton.

THE NORTHAMPTON HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

It is with pleasure that we announce that premises are taken and are in course of preparation for the reception of in-door patients. We hope that a hearty response will be given to the solicitations for donations and subscriptions. The hospital will open with twelve beds in the course of a few weeks.

**DIARRHŒA AND CHOLERA:
THEIR HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT.**

As, at this season of the year, and especially at the present, diarrhœa simple and choleraic extensively prevail, we here present to our readers some extracts from a pamphlet on the subject, which has been extensively sold.*

For cholera and diarrhœa, the ordinary treatment is so unscientific, so injurious, as to be absolutely destructive, if not of life, certainly of health. The "astringent" practice is so opposed to the laws of our being, that thousands fall a sacrifice to it. Daily we hear of cases which first appear as simple diarrhœa, by the mismanagement of medical men, druggists, and others, become serious and often fatal.

The *College of Physicians*, in 1853, issued the following directions for the treatment of diarrhœa: "When the diarrhœa begins, some of the medicines at other times used for checking diarrhœa should be taken; for example, the *chalk mixture*, the *compound cinnamon powder*, or the *compound chalk powder with opium*, in doses of twenty to forty grains for an adult."

Such treatment, such advice, coming too from the "*Royal College of Physicians, London*," is not only inefficient to cure diarrhœa, but is the very worst and most unscientific treatment that can be imagined. Any apothecary's shop boy could do as well—any old woman herbalist—or medical botanist—would do better; yet the above ignorance issues from the highest seat of medical learning (?) in England. God help the public, and protect them from the wisdom (?) of the College of Physicians.

The ignorance manifested by the faculty during the prevalence of cholera was terrible. The same ignorance prevails still. Still is the faculty without a law of healing—still do the votaries of orthodox medicine ply their beastly drugs in ignorance, and depopulate England after the fashion of Indian Mahometans.

Dr. Watson, senior physician to the Middlesex Hospital, one of the most eminent physicians and teachers of the old school, thus writes of the treatment of cholera:

"It was remarked of those who recovered, that some got well rapidly and at once; whilst others fell into a state of continued fever, which frequently proved fatal some time after the violent and peculiar symptoms had ceased. Some, after the vomiting and purging and cramps had departed, died comatose; *over-drugged* sometimes, it is to be feared, by opium. The rude discipline to which they were subjected might account for some of the cases of fever. And the system of injecting the veins was certainly

* *Diarrhœa and Cholera: their Homœopathic Treatment and Prevention briefly Described*, by CHARLES T. PEARCE, M.D. Northampton: J. P. Berry, Parade.

attended with much danger. The injection of *air* with water—inflammation of the vein from violence done to it—an over repletion and distention of the vessels by the liquid—*might*, any one of them, and sometimes I suppose *did*, occasion the death of the patient. Never, certainly, was the artillery of medicine more vigorously plied—never were her troops, regular and volunteer, more meritoriously active. To many patients, no doubt, this busy interference made all the difference between life, and death. But if the balance could be fairly struck, and the exact truth ascertained, I question whether we should find that the aggregate mortality from cholera, in this country, *was IN ANY WAY disturbed by our craft*. Excepting always the cases of preliminary diarrhoea, just as many, though not, perhaps, the very same individuals, would probably have survived, had no medication whatever been practised.”

To this testimony may be added that of Dr. Elliotson, another lecturer on and teacher of the principles and practice of medicine :

“As respects this country, I cannot but think that if all the patients had been left alone, the mortality would have been much the same as it has been. If all the persons attacked with cholera had been put into warm beds, made comfortable, and left alone,—although many would have died who have been saved,—yet, on the whole, I think the mortality would not have been greater than after all that has been done ; for we are not in the least more informed as to the proper remedies, than we were when the first case of cholera occurred : we have not been instructed in the least by those who have had the disease to treat. Some say that they have cured the disease by bleeding ; others by calomel ; others by opium ; and others, again, say opium does harm. Some were placed in hot water, or in hot air, and had opium and calomel, and other stimulants ; which, altogether, were more than their system would bear, and more than would have been borne if they had been so treated even in perfect health.”

And as a concluding testimony may be adjoined that of Dr. Rush, one of the leading physicians of Philadelphia :

“Upon these points, and bearing in mind that we have now in medicine the recorded practice of two thousand years, let the reader refer to the proceedings of the medical profession during the prevalence of the so-called ‘Asiatic Cholera,’ and he will find their history everywhere exhibiting an extraordinary picture of prefatory panic, vulgar wonder, ignorance, obtrusive vanity, plans for profit and popularity, fatal blunders, distracting contradictions, and egregious empiricisms.”

The conflicting views of medical authors respecting the origin of cholera, have led to no less conflicting directions for its treatment. The whole of the *materia medica* has been exhausted to find a remedy, but without success. The empiricism of the old school practice never was made more evident than in the treatment of cholera.

The *Medical Circular*, a Journal devoted to old physic, has the following in its leading article of November 2nd, 1853 :

“The treatment of cholera, if not quite so repugnant to physiological principles as formerly, is still nearly as various. We now find, indeed, so far as our reading enables us to judge, that excessive stimulation is abandoned, and that the lancet is also relinquished. During the first epidemic, a large and influential number of practitioners abetted the treatment by brandy and opium; but the results of their practice, as collated by Mr. Ross, disproved its asserted success. During the second epidemic the supporters of stimulation were few; and, during the last two months, we have scarcely found one medical man—if one—professing his faith in the exhibition of this class of remedies. In this respect, therefore, we have made an important advance towards the adoption of sound physiological principles.

“Nevertheless, great contrariety in the treatment of cholera still exists; many remedies, of which our predecessors were unaware, are offered, rather indeed as specifics, than in accordance with the prescribed rules of practice. Thus some gentlemen, countenanced by the Board of Health, administer strychnia, which is evidently growing into fashion; others the mineral acids; and some declare the efficacy of metals worn in contact with the body, so as (we presume) to liberate electricity, and thus to bring another galvanic charm into vogue among the timid and the credulous. We do not deny that some of these plans of treatment may be beneficial, but they are EMPLOYED AND RECOMMENDED EMPIRICALLY; THUS HELPING TO PROVE THAT MEDICAL MEN HAVE LOST THEIR ANCHORAGE ON THE OLD GROUND OF EXPERIENCE, AND ARE FLOATING ON A SEA OF CONJECTURE AND EXPERIMENT.”

Not so with homœopathy! When the Asiatic cholera first visited Western Europe, it was most successfully treated by homœopathic practitioners. Before either could communicate with either, in every locality a uniformity of treatment was adopted: the homœopathic practitioner having a law to guide him in the choice of his medicines.

It is urged by sceptics, respecting the power of homœopathic remedies, that the means are inadequate to the end: that so severe a disease—a disease which destroys life in a few hours—cannot possibly be met by a few drops of a medicament, and that more active measures are necessary to arrest the progress of the poison.

To this I would answer, that no *a priori* reasoning can be admitted into the argument. All questions relating to *vital* action must be settled by practical demonstration. Experiment is the only means of ascertaining with certainty the properties of drugs. No man can assert before hand that certain drugs will produce certain effects.—We don't know why *Jalap* purges, nor *Strychnine* or *Prussic Acid* destroys life.—We do not even know how this is done exactly. We only know that which has been ascertained by experiment a thousand times repeated.

So is it with the action of infinitesimal doses of medicines. It has been ascertained that a substance, say *Arsenic* for illustration, (and here we address a few words to our medical brethren who still doubt the truth of homœopathy), that *Arsenic* being subjected to a process of trituration, as Hahnemann discovered and taught, has its curative powers wonderfully enhanced by such process. There may be a difficulty in your mind in *believing*—there is no difficulty in *ascertaining*. You are invited to try the experiment. Triturate for yourselves *Copper, Arsenic, White Hellebore, Ipecacuanha*; furnish yourselves with these and the directions; take 100 cases of cholera, and if you find not the treatment most successful—using due diligence and faithfulness in their administration,—we will forgive your past scepticism. We assert the fact; to deny it, you must offer proof of failure. We shew you success greater than any other treatment which has been adopted, including calomel and opium, bleeding, blistering, and emetics, and the long list of torturing means had recourse to in 1832, and again in 1849.

DIARRHŒA.

Looseness of the bowels is a very common precursor or premonitory symptom of cholera, when the latter disease is epidemic. Indeed, at the autumnal season there is generally an increase of such cases, when diarrhœa, at first of a simple character, may, neglected, run into a dangerous choleraic condition. It behoves every one, therefore, when attacked with diarrhœa, which at other times might pass off spontaneously and without medicine, to take some means of retarding its progress.

The General Board of Health, of London, has lately issued an address on cholera, in which the following allusion is made to this circumstance:

“When the disease has actually broken out, and become epidemic, in any district or locality, then the one essential precaution is not to neglect for a single hour any degree of looseness of bowels. This symptom being commonly *without* pain, and so slight that it is difficult to conceive that it can be of the smallest consequence, naturally leads to neglect, and this neglect has cost the lives of thousands. Were any additional proof of this required, it would be found in the events lately occurring at Newcastle and Gateshead; all the medical men there bear testimony to the fact, that premonitory diarrhœa is all but universal, and that life depends on instant attention to this symptom.”

“Thus one physician says,—‘He has never yet seen a case without premonitory symptoms.’ Another states,—‘He has found in a great number of instances where the men said they had been first seized by collapse, that there had been neglected diarrhœa for 24 or even 48 hours, or longer.’ Another declares,—‘In all cases of collapse investigated, it is found that there has been neglected diarrhœa.’”

Such being the case, the following plain and brief directions will be acceptable, and have been found beneficial :—

TREATMENT OF DIARRHŒA.

The medicines most useful in simple diarrhœa, are—*Chamomilla*, *Pulsatilla*, *China*, *Veratrum*, and *Arsenicum*. Many others are employed by the homœopathic practitioner, but for ordinary purposes the foregoing will be found available.

The symptoms of each medicine are appended. The dose, two globules at once, and wait 4 hours; if no improvement, try one of the other medicines; if no improvement, repeat the same medicine. Another mode of administering the remedy, and perhaps the better mode in ordinary cases, is to dissolve six globules of the medicine, selected according to the symptoms, in six teaspoonfuls of water, and take a teaspoonful after each action of the bowels. If the tincture be employed, which should be done if the attack be severe, two drops are to be mixed in ten spoonfuls of water.—One spoonful every four hours.

CHAMOMILLA.

Watery, bilious, or slimy evacuations of yellowish, whitish, or greenish colour, *especially in children*; discharge of undigested food; restlessness; pain of a tearing character in the bowels, or rumbling; distension of stomach; taste of bad eggs in mouth.

PULSATILLA

Is suitable, more especially if the cause be having partaken of fat food. Slimy bilious stools, fetid odour; bitter taste in mouth; nausea, with eructations; colic, especially at night.

CHINA.

Greatly prostrating diarrhœic evacuations, brown, watery; violent aching, and spasmodic colic; or in many cases of *painless* diarrhœa with debility, thirst, loss of appetite.

VERATRUM

May be had recourse to if either of the above medicines fail to produce relief in twenty-four hours.

ARSENICUM

If diarrhœa be accompanied or ushered in by vomiting, with great heat at stomach, ascending to the throat, resembling heartburn. Also, if there is burning sensation at anus. The body cold, the face pallid and sunken.

The extremities should be kept warm, and sudden change of temperature should be avoided.

Food should be exceedingly sparingly given, and with great caution, even after the diarrhœa has subsided.

TREATMENT OF CHOLERA.

The varieties in the disease we are called to prescribe for are many: not only does the form of the attack depend on the severity of the attack, but on the locality, time of the day, idiosyncrasy of constitution, age, sex, previous habits of life, mental condition—all these have an influence in modifying the attack, and each state can be met by the homœopathic practitioner; but to lay down rules for the treatment of every individual case, would be to attempt to teach the contents of our *Materia Medica*, a work greater than was ever produced in the old school of medicine from the time of Hippocrates to the present day.

Yet there are general rules to be followed, even by the amateur, in the treatment of cholera, and homœopathic remedies suitable thereto: suitable because capable of producing like states in healthy persons, if taken in excess.

The following have proved successful:

First Stage. CAMPHOR.

In epidemic cholera, whether few or many be affected—whether the mortality be considerable or slight—*Camphor* is almost always the suitable remedy in the first stage.

No time should be lost in its administration. The patient being placed in a warm bed as quickly as possible, enveloped in blankets, the arms being kept inside them, and hot water bottles placed at the feet; the administration of the remedy chosen should be quickly proceeded with.

The indications for *Camphor* are the following:

Sudden prostration; wandering appearance; eyes hollow; face and hands cold; body generally becoming or become cold; the patient cries or moans; no complaint, or if any, pains in the stomach and bowels; cries when stomach is pressed upon; cramps in legs or stomach, present or not; desirous to relieve his bowels—ineffectual efforts; the pulse irregular; cold sweat on forehead; giddiness; noise in ears.

Dose.—One drop of tincture of *Camphor** on sugar, or in ice-cold water, every five or ten minutes, if the progress of the disease is rapid. If not better after twelve doses, give *Veratrum*.

IPECACUANHA

If vomiting come on, the other symptoms not improving; diarrhœa, watery evacuations, alternating with the vomitings.

Dose.—One drop of tincture of the third dilution every fifteen minutes, or after every act of vomiting, if oftener.

Second Stage or more severe form in which Ipecacuanha is not suitable.

VERATRUM.

If, after twelve doses of *Camphor*, no improvement be observable,

* The tincture is prepared in the proportion of one drachm of *Camphor* to six drachms of *Spirits of Wine*.

give *Veratrum*; two drops of the third tincture every fifteen minutes.

The symptoms of *Veratrum* are—violent evacuations by the bowels, and constant vomitings; stools pale, white, flocky character; features deathly; eyes sunken; tongue cold; breath cold; great restlessness—desire to get up; colic-like pains about the navel; passes no water; fingers and toes contracted; voice gets weaker and hollow; pulse quick; the nails, the eyelids, and the nose, cold and blue.

Dose.—*Two drops of the tincture of the third dilution every fifteen minutes, or after each act of vomiting, if oftener.*

ARSENICUM.

Violent pains of a *burning* character in stomach; unquenchable thirst; lips and tongue dry, dark coloured, crusted; moans despairingly; clammy sweat; small, feeble, tremulous pulse; cramps.

Dose.—*One drop of tincture of third dilution every fifteen minutes, or after every act of vomiting, if oftener.*

CUPRUM.

Vomiting and diarrhoea; extremities convulsively start; spasmodic pains in stomach and bowels, with ineffectual efforts to vomit; breathing spasmodic; cramp in limbs.

Dose.—*Same as Arsenicum.*

SECALE CORNUTUM.

Vomiting has ceased; stools changing character, becoming bilious; tongue white; great urging to stool; extremities icy cold; giddiness; cramps.

Dose as last.

CARBO VEGETABILIS.

Stage of collapse; congestion of blood to chest after spasms; diarrhoea and vomiting have ceased; tongue coated brown; muttering delirium.

Dose.—*Half a drop every two hours.*

BELLADONNA.

Cerebral symptoms; symptoms of typhoid character; coma; eyelids half raised; grating of the teeth; desire to go out; stitches in the side; face hot, flushed.

Dose.—*Half a drop every four hours.*

No food should be taken during the severe condition; for the raging thirst, iced water in teaspoonful doses only should be administered.

The danger of giving food, even when re-action has taken place, was evidenced by the great mortality in 1849. In the typhoid state—which is a sequel of cholera—the craving of the patient for food must not be indulged in on any account, without the advice of the physician. It is to be regretted, however, that many medical practitioners have neglected this precaution, and patients have been lost

who might have recovered, but for that ready acquiescence in the patient's will which too often characterizes even the medical man, and those very kind nurses.

Other remedies, as *Phosphoric Acid, Phosphorus, Opium, Rhus, Lachesis, Digitalis, &c.*, are employed according to the nature of the case; but it is presumed that no one would venture to continue the treatment of a case beyond the first stage, or at all, if a medical attendant acquainted with homœopathic treatment can be had.

Much time may be saved, and life may be spared, by promptly acting under the directions above given. Indeed, our conviction is, that a non-medical person will do more, and be more successful with homœopathic remedies, than a medical man practising the old school routine system.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

ONE of the most eminent surgeons in London, Mr. Frederick C. Skey, of Bartholomew's Hospital, has denounced bleeding. This he did in an ably written book some time ago, which we reviewed in the *Record*. This same eminent man has recently denounced purgatives. From a recent clinical lecture delivered at the hospital of St. Bartholomew, we are glad to make the following elegant extracts. Speaking of the ordinary treatment of a very prevalent disease, he condemns it: "Now this is what I meet with every week; it is the old plan of the new books, but I believe it to be very bad treatment indeed—*about the worst that rational men could adopt*. I would beg each of you, as you are getting into practice, *to act honestly to your patients, and avoid antiquated routine in a new shape*. . . . See what you are doing: you begin by destroying your patient's stamina—he is confined so many weeks to his room, perhaps, *if he is such a fool as to stop there—you administer purgatives*, you wind up the clock and set the liver in order, &c., but the OLD PURGATIVE SYSTEM IS ON ITS LAST LEGS, DEPEND UPON IT. How much has it to answer for? It belonged to the school of Cullen; he it was that introduced it, but it is gone. The patient is weakened by purgatives. *You attack him right, left, and centre with physic, and you add irritation to irritation—is that the way to cure him?* . . . In conclusion I would say, *avoid depletion and PURGATIVES*. As for the *primæ viæ*, and all that sort of thing, *for God's sake leave the liver alone*."

Such is the language of one who has had immense experience in medicine. Such were the sentiments, uttered in suitable and reverential language more than fifty years ago by the greatest medical philosopher who ever lived—we allude to Hahnemann. Such are the sentiments of every true homœopathic practitioner. "Liver complaint, liver complaint, liver complaint"—such was the reiterated phrase of a late physician in Northampton—such is the language of his surviving compeers. May such monomania speedily cease from troubling.

DR. MACDONALD ON BLOOD-LETTING:
HIS INCONSISTENCY.

DR. MACDONALD is lecturer on the practice of physic in Glasgow. He has recently (Sept. 9,) contributed to the *Medical Circular* a paper on the diagnosis of diseases; and, speaking of the treatment of [supposed] inflammatory diseases, he says: "This state requires local bleeding, coupled with the employment of calomel and opium, and sometimes general bleeding is required, provided that the symptoms are severe, and not likely to be *mastered* by the local abstraction of blood, &c., as now stated. This is an axiom never to be forgotten: I must remark that patients in town *bear blood-letting much worse than country patients*. . . . In respect to our inquiries into the state of the circulating system, *it is a golden rule to institute local and general blood-letting.*"

Dr. Macdonald thus unblushingly recommends blood-letting; yet, shudder when you read it, this same Dr. Macdonald in the same paper and on the same subject says: "Upon the whole, in respect to the abuse of blood-letting, I SERIOUSLY BELIEVE THAT ITS MAL-EMPLOYMENT IS A HUNDRED TIMES MORE FATAL TO MANKIND THAN THE USE OF GUNPOWDER IN WARFARE." Dr. Macdonald is correct in his estimate of the mischievous effects of bleeding; yet Dr. Macdonald is addressing young medical aspirants, whose "*heroic*" practice may slay "a hundred times more than gunpowder in warfare."

OPIUM HOMŒOPATHICALLY EMPLOYED BY AN ALLO-
PATHIC PRACTITIONER RECORDED IN AN
ALLOPATHIC MEDICAL JOURNAL.

THE *Medical Circular* of the 16th of last month contains a contribution from the pen of a surgeon, Mr. Frederick Pritchard, of Stratford-on-Avon, in which he states that he administered *opium* in several cases of obstinate constipation, which administration was followed by speedy relief. Mr. Pritchard contributes the cases, not intending them as instances of homœopathic cures, but as being *unexpected* results. We have not the pleasure of being acquainted with Mr. Pritchard, but if he is of the ordinary stamp of medical practitioners he would be as unwilling as the editors of the medical journals are to admit illustrations of homœopathic action into their pages. Constantly are medical men stumbling on a homœopathic remedy. If such men were first to study the writings—the *materia medica*—of Hahnemann, they would not exhibit such utter ignorance as they do exhibit of the pathogenesis of medical substances.

Opium, as is well known, produces, primarily, constipation of the bowels, hence it is usually given in states of diarrhœa, to check the

alvine discharges—thus acting antipathically—and in thus acting *not curing the diseased state*, but frequently producing a drug disease. In the case of Mr. Pritchard he went out of the usual course, and with another object than that which the homœopathic practitioner would have in view, he gave opium in constipation; and although he gave the drug in a large dose, the drug acted in obedience to the law of similia—in other words it cured the constipation, *having the power to produce a similar state*.

We give the cases as they appeared in *the Medical Circular*. Our readers will be struck with the beauty of nature's laws in curing the diseased state. In the third case, one of strangulated hernia, there is little doubt that the patient's life was saved by opium, not as Mr. Pritchard supposes because the "opium acted as a sedative and unstrung the bowel," but because the remedy administered (opium) was homœopathic to the diseased state—peristaltic action previously lost was restored to regularity.

We commend these remarks to Mr. Pritchard, in the hope that he will recognize the fact that he unwittingly gave opium in accordance with the homœopathic law.

"CASES OF INTUS-SUSCEPTIO, HERNIA, AND TETANUS.

"To the Editor of the Medical Circular.

"Sir,—In a conversation with some of my medical friends respecting the following cases, it was suggested that I should give them publicity; and if you should consider them of sufficient interest to occupy a space in your CIRCULAR, I shall feel obliged by your inserting them.

"I am, &c.,

"FREDK. PRITCHARD.

"Stratford-on-Avon, Sept. 7, 1857.

"Case 1.—About ten years since, my father and my assistant requested me to visit with them a person of the name of John Carter, æt. 33, of Shottery, in this neighbourhood, who had been suffering from intus-susceptio for nine days. The symptoms were most violent, and accompanied with a hiccup, stercoraceous vomiting, subsultus, and every sign of approaching dissolution. The usual remedies had been resorted to without any beneficial effect. I prescribed *four grains* of solid opium, to be administered in the form of a pill. In twelve hours the bowels acted, and the patient speedily recovered, and has continued well from that period.

"Case 2.—Five years afterwards my assistant requested me to visit another case with him. The patient, Lucy Rose, æt. 50, residing at Clifford Chambers, had very nearly the same symptoms, and had been ill for several days before she applied. *The same quantity* of opium was administered, and on the following day she was relieved, and very soon recovered.

"Case 3.—Six years since I was called to a lady, æt. 63, with strangulated umbilical hernia, an irreducible one of long standing. I employed the ordinary taxis, and also resorted to the usual means for the purpose of relieving the strangulation, but without effect; vomiting of stercoraceous matter supervened, and the patient appeared to be sinking rapidly. hospital surgeon was called in consultation, and it was agreed that, in

sequence of the severity of the symptoms, as well as the exhausted condition of the patient, an operation was out of the question. The same quantity of opium I shortly afterwards administered, and with the same happy effect, for the bowels acted in the course of ten hours, and she rapidly recovered.

"I have given a very brief but truthful sketch of these cases—cases in which I have felt much interested; and my opinion is that in each the large dose of opium, by acting as a direct sedative, so unstrung (if I may be allowed the term) the bowel as at once to relieve the intestinal obstruction."

THE SESSION.

THE session just past has been abortive of medical legislation. The vaccination question is postponed until next session, when a committee of enquiry is to be appointed. The three (so-called) Medical Reform Bills were withdrawn. The Poisons Bill has been modified to meet objections, and is deferred until next session. Lobelia and patent medicines are exempt from its operation, as concessions to the medical botanists and others. This bill needs further revision, and the extension of exemption to homœopathic preparations. The Medical and Surgical Sciences Bill (Ireland), which aimed at adding some localities with the expenses of hospitals and lecture and dissection rooms—doubtless with the intent "to amend and extend" the provisions of the measure at a convenient opportunity—has been defeated. And the Board of Health Bill has been cut down to a simple continuance bill. Thus the Board of Health has been once more signally defeated in various attempts at jobbery. The contest will be renewed next session, when it is to be hoped that the cause of medical freedom and common sense will finally triumph. Much thanks are due to Messrs. Coningham and Grogan, and pre-eminently to Mr. T. S. Duncombe, for their able, disinterested, and effective services. We would add the expression of regret that Mr. Mitchell, the late worthy, enlightened, and uncompromising member for Bristol, was not in the house to aid, as before, in the contest, and to witness the triumph.

OBITUARY.

We deeply regret to announce the death of the author of *Hydropathy and its Application to the Water-cure into England*. He was a man of great talent and energy; he did much good in his memory deserves to be cherished (not only in his own country). A brief memoir of him appeared in the *Hydropathic Review* a few days ago. To what is there stated may be added that he was a member of Claridge's Academy, and was residing in London. He was a man of great talents and energy, and his death is much lamented by all who knew him.

CASE TREATED AT THE TOWCESTER HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

CASE OF PARAPLEGIA, (LOSS OF POWER IN LOWER EXTREMITIES,)

CURED AFTER INEFFECTUAL ALLOPATHIC TREATMENT.

M. F., aged seven years; parents healthy. Stated that she had been under Mr. Collier all last winter without benefit. Out-patient at infirmary all last summer under Dr. Francis. No benefit.

March 14th, 1857. Had diarrhoea about two years ago; bowels have not been regular since; has now three evacuations daily; stools yellow and of a frothy appearance; weak in her legs and not able to walk; complaining of pain in her legs; hands sometimes clenched with inability to open them; rigidity of fingers; abdomen large; sleeps well; appetite middling; always thirsty; breath smells very offensively; lives in a damp house; always worse in cold, bad weather; she walked till she was five years old, when she fell off with diarrhoea; not walked since; *she is carried as a baby, though more than seven years old.*

Recipe. *Chamomilla* 12, three globules, six powders, one to be taken every other night.

April 14th. Much the same. Has three loose stools daily; had pain in bowels to-day before stool; evacuations slimy, frothy; stool comes on suddenly and in large quantities with force; chilly, especially when undressed at night; sometimes feverish; face looks red.

Recipe. *Mercurius Solubilis* 12, twelve globules in a week.

April 21st. Better, only two stools a-day—same character; pain in vertex.

Belladonna and *Mercurius* in alternation.

April 28th. Two stools daily now, not so loose, whitish; legs ache very much at night.

Recipe. *Calcarea Carbonica* 12, twelve globules in a week.

May 5th. The child can walk now, not so much pain in legs, but still stiff on movement.

Recipe. *Calcarea Carbonica* 12, eight globules, six powders.

19th. Legs ache, she walks too much for her strength.

Recipe. *Calcarea Carbonica* 12, twelve globules.

27th. Came; getting stronger; breath smells offensively.

Continue the medicine.

June 8th. Came; getting better; the legs are stiff.

Rhus Toxicodendron 12, twelve globules.

16th. Came; much the same.

Continue the medicine.

23rd. Came; legs not so stiff.

Continue the medicine.

August 25th. Informed that the child is quite well, and has recovered power of walking. *She had not walked for two years and a half when she came under homœopathic treatment. After six weeks' treatment she began to walk.*

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THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

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TO OUR READERS.

In the *Edinburgh Review* of January, 1830, (nearly twenty-eight years ago,) we find the following allusions to the doctrines of Hahnemann: "Be the doctrines of Hahnemann, therefore, true as they are pleasing, or false as they are, startling by their novelty, it is time that they should be made known to the British public, and submitted to the keen and sagacious criticism of our own medical school." "Sush," says the reviewer, "is the main object of this article."

The man who penned that review of the *Organon der Heilkunst von Samuel Hahnemann** has probably passed away from among us, and taken his abode in the kingdom beyond: perhaps he still lives. We would like to meet him, and to spend one hour in converse. At the time he wrote that article for the *Edinburgh*, one single homœopathic physician, so far as we remember, had alone visited these shores. The faculty and the people were strangers to the principle of "*like cures like*," at least in regard to medicine. True, they had read Paul, who enjoined the believers to "weep with them that weep"; they had read Shakespeare, who said—

"Tut, man! one fire puts out another's burning;
Take thou some new infection to thine eye,
And the rank poison of the old will die;"

but no notion existed that the practice of medicine would assume a scientific character—that a *law* of healing had been developed and

* 4th Edition, Dresden and Leipsic, 8vo., 1829.

established by a sagacious, a philosophic mind, that of Hahnemann ; yet such was the fact. Hahnemann had contributed to the medical journals of the continent the results of his labours, and in 1829 his *Organon* had reached its fourth edition. It is interesting, if even only as a matter of history, to recur to the way in which the new medical doctrine was introduced to this country.

The reviewer to whom we alluded above remarked, also : " True or false, homœopathie is, at least, not to be confounded with empiricism. It has none of the inward and essential characteristics of quackery. It is not a mystery, concocted and retained for the sake of money-getting, but is fairly and freely given to the world. It is not a resource and refuge for ignorance, but requires extensive knowledge, as well as great experiences, in the physician who would practise according to its rules."

Such was the fair dealing towards homœopathy eight-and-twenty years ago—how different is the treatment now. Through the pages of medical journals and the tongues and lips of a medical fraternity, Hahnemann and his followers have been stigmatized as quacks, impostors, knaves, &c., &c. ; yet homœopathy advances. Eight-and-twenty years ago no homœopathic practitioner resided in the united kingdom ; now there are hundreds—scarcely a town without its practitioner ; in many of the large towns there are several, in some, many. Its dispensaries now are numbered by hundreds ; its patients, at least, a *million*. All this in a quarter of a century ; all in spite of antagonism as virulent and determined as any religious persecution.

We are not, we cannot rest satisfied, however, with the present state of homœopathy in Britain. We think it a disgrace that we have not yet a medical college. America has three. There it is recognised by the state—so is it also in Russia, Saxony, Prussia, Hungary, Austria, &c. In France it is progressive. O, England ! with all thy freedom thou hast many prejudices still. May they soon give way to the power of truth.

Reader, help to disseminate the truth which you hold so dear by increasing the circulation of the *Homœopathic Record*.

CONFERENCE OF HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.

ON Friday, October 16, a Meeting was held at the Queen's Hotel, Birmingham, attended by medical men, principally of the midland counties, for the discussion of medical questions relating to homœopathic practice.

Dr. KNOWLES, of Wolverhampton, was voted to the chair. Among the visitors we observed Dr. Fearon, Mr. Lawrance, Mr. Robertson of Birmingham, Mr. Joce of Chester, Mr. Bradshaw of Nottingham, Mr. Pope of Manchester, Dr. Pearce and Mr. Clifton of Northampton, &c. The meeting was thinly attended, owing to the circumstance that the usual annual general congress had for some reason become unpopular with many of the homœopathic practitioners. We are sorry to find, that, although the number of medical homœopaths have doubled in the last few years, the desire to assemble in general gathering has declined. We are well aware how difficult it is for medical men to leave their sphere of practice even for a couple of days. There are those who would have gladly availed themselves of an opportunity to meet their brethren, could they have done so. On the other hand, we exceedingly regret that some kept aloof from the meeting from personal feeling. This is much to be regretted. "Union is strength;" and union in a comparatively small body should, so far from being neglected, be encouraged and promoted by every well-wisher to the cause of homœopathy. Of jealousies and piques we have had enough, and it is to be hoped that the time is not far distant when the whole body of practitioners will rally around a common standard; and, for the sake of the cause and of each other's intents and pleasure, the past will be buried in oblivion, and a resuscitation of the annual congress be effected. Till then, it was the general desire of the recent meeting at Birmingham, to form an "association for the promotion of a more extended knowledge of the *materia medica*." This, after free and friendly discussion, was moved and unanimously carried; and, although the meeting partook more of a *conversazione* than of an arranged meeting, the discussions were not the less interesting and profitable. General regret was expressed at the continuance of exclusiveness in connection with the London Homœopathic Hospital. It being stated that a new building is about to be erected in the metropolis, to accommodate and provide for about one hundred beds, a desire was felt very generally to aid in the important work. Several, however, expressed their entire disapprobation of an existing rule; viz., "That no medical man is eligible as an officer of the London Hospital unless he is a *member of the British Homœopathic Society*;" and, from conscientious motives, declared their disinclination to aid the hospital, unless the above obnoxious rule were expunged. After letters of apology from absent

members had been read, and the general question of medical education had been discussed,

Dr. FEARON brought under the notice of the meeting a suggestion from an absentee, that the subject of *dose* should be freely discussed. The discussion was taken part in by all present. A general feeling prevailed that the subject of "the dose" was an open one—that, while it is admitted that recovery takes place under considerable doses, viz., the mother tinctures and low dilutions, yet the higher potencies had a majority of supporters. Dr. FEARON observed, that, on careful investigation, it may be found that the *materia medica* might be arranged in groups of medicines corresponding to groups of diseases; that also temperament, sex, age, &c., may come to be considered before any definite law for the *dose* could be arrived at. An instance was mentioned in which recovery had followed the administration of a low dilution of *China*, after the 3rd had been given without benefit; but it appeared that the *high potencies* had not been tried. On the other side, a number of cases were quoted in which manifest cure followed the administration of the 30th and 200th dilutions. It was appropriately observed by some of the members that the source from whence the remedy was obtained was of considerable importance; *i.e.*, whether derived from the vegetable, mineral, or animal kingdoms; instancing the utter inefficacy of such substances as *Calcarea*, *Lycopodium*, and others in the mass, and their evident potency when subjected to trituration, while some substances act on the organism in any quantity and in any dilution.

The whole subject, so far as decision went, was very judiciously left in abeyance until the next meeting; the members in the meantime mutually agreeing to help each other in the study, in the most complete manner, of certain remedies, with clinical experience thereon.

The next annual meeting of the Association was fixed to take place in Birmingham, on the 12th of August, 1858; when it is hoped there will be a strong muster from north and south.

The meeting was concluded with dinner, excellently provided and served at the Queen's Hotel; and the friendly union having been markedly earnest and happy, it is hoped that quarterly meetings, at least of the practitioners within a hundred miles of Birmingham, will be held, as it is an effectual mode of promoting both the cordial feeling among the brethren, and the great and glorious cause of homœopathy.

DANGER OF ALLOPATHIC TREATMENT.

WE have from time to time alluded to the dangerous practice of giving massive doses of drugs, especially when those active (destructive)

agents, so deadly in their nature, are administered by those whose function is to *heal*, not to *kill*. A melancholy case has recently occurred in Durham, of which the following is an abstract :

MELANCHOLY CASE OF ACCIDENTAL POISONING.—A case of accidental poisoning occurred at Durham during the past week, which resulted in the death of Mary Ann, the wife of Dr. Trotter, an eminent physician, residing in Old Elvet, under circumstances of an exceedingly painful and singular character. It appears that Mrs. Trotter for some time past had been suffering from tic douloureux, and during some conversation Dr. Trotter had upon the subject with Mr. Robson, surgeon, of the North Bailey, the latter recommended a liniment in the compound of which was tincture of aconite. At the time Dr. Trotter mentioned the repugnance or dislike he had to aconite in consequence of his wife some years ago having nearly taken it through mistake for some other medicine. He, however, got the liniment made up, and applied it to the face of Mrs. Trotter; but its beneficial effects not being apparent, on Sunday last he went to Mr. Robson's surgery to get some tincture of henbane for her. Mr. Robson was in the surgery at the time, and states positively that Dr. Trotter asked for aconite, which he took from a bottle containing the tincture, which was securely fastened and corked; while, on the other hand, Dr. Trotter asserts as positively that he asked for henbane. The tincture was administered during the day to the deceased by Dr. Trotter under the firm impression that it was henbane; and after taking it she complained of sickness, and vomited. She, however, fell asleep, and at night, feeling somewhat better, Dr. Trotter administered another dose of the tincture, which speedily brought on increased sickness, and led the deceased to remark that she wondered if any mistake had arisen on the part of Mr. Robson. Dr. Trotter went and called up Mr. Robson during the night, and on asking him what he had given him during the morning, the melancholy truth was elicited, Mr. Robson replying that he gave him *aconite* as asked for. On Dr. Trotter returning home the deceased was suffering from all the symptoms concomitant to poison, and in a short time afterwards she expired. An inquest was held on the body on Thursday afternoon at the Dun Cow Inn, before Mr. J. M. Flavell, coroner, when, after examining Dr. Trotter and various other witnesses, the jury returned the following verdict:—"That the deceased came to her death by a dose of *aconite* administered by mistake, but how the mistake occurred there is no evidence to show."

A "Sale of Poisons Bill" was introduced to parliament during the last session,* to interdict the sale of certain drugs. How could such a bill operate in the above case, where the poor victim died of the doctors?

* See *Homœopathic Record* for July last, page 182.

HOMŒOPATHY AT BALAKLAVA, IN THE CRIMEA.

(Continued from No. 7, Vol. 2, for May, 1857, by the Editor of "Medical Despotism, or Official Injustice.")

AT page 138, for the last paragraph in case 4, read the following: Before the writer's departure from Balaklava for London, he had been informed that Captain Christie of the *Orient*, the superintendent of transports at Balaklava, had died at Camiesch on his way to England; and, after his departure from Constantinople, he heard that Captain Ayre of the *Candidate*, the steamer in which the writer had proceeded from England to the Crimea a few months previously, had also died of cholera not long after his departure from Constantinople for Camiesch—the *Candidate* having been in the mean time engaged in the French transport service at Malta.

The following cases occurred on board the *Candidate* while the writer was residing on board of her in Balaklava harbour.

NO. 7.—TYPHUS OR BRAIN FEVER.

THOMAS DIXON, aged 28, of a nervous, bilious temperament and active habits, seaman on board the *Josepha*, moored in Balaklava harbour.

April 12th. Suffers from fever with pain in the head, back and limbs, with delirium; has had purgative pills and Epsom Salts in solution. Skin dry, pulse feeble.

Take of *Acon.* 3-2 and *Bell.* 3-2 in separate glasses of water; of which give alternately 1-8 every hour, beginning at 8 P.M.

April 14th, 9 A.M. Slept a little during the night; has taken all the medicine, and is a little better, but eyes still water, and bowels are confined.

Sponge the entire surface of the body with tepid water, and give tepid water injections, half-a-pint morning and evening. Take *Nux vomica* 12-6 in water, 1-8 every two hours.

April 15th, 9 A.M. Slept a little; bowels acted after injection last night; took barley water and a little gruel yesterday.

Continue ablutions and injections. Take of *Bryonia alb.* and *Rhus toxicodendron* aa 12-6 in separate tumblers of water, 1-8 alternately every four hours.

April 16th, 9 A.M. Did not sleep during the night; bowels inclined to act last night; complaints of pain all over the body.

Continue injections and ablutions, with barley water and gruel as yesterday. Give to-day *China* 12-12 in water, 1-12 every two hours.

April 17th, 9 A.M. Better, but weak. Slept ill.

Take of *Sulphate of Quinine*, 2 grs. in a tumbler of water, 1-16 every hour.

April 18th, 9 A.M. Slept a little; pulse more natural, but weak. Bowels acted a little yesterday without injection.

Take to-day *China* 12-12 in water, 1-12 every hour. Continue farinaceous diet.

April 20th. Convalescent. Bowels have acted satisfactorily; appetite for farinaceous food good, but still rather restless at night, and weak.

Take of *China* 12-6 in water, 1-8 every two hours.

April 21st. Bowels confined.

Take of *Nux vomica* 12-6 in water, 1-3 three times to-day.

This was my last prescription, but I saw the patient at work on board the ship on the 30th April and 1st May (before leaving Bala-klava on the 3rd May, 1855,) when the whole of the crew of the *Josepha* were in good health. The captain then paid me £10, *with thanks for my homœopathic advice and medicine*, for the crew—a substantial proof that homœopathy, like some other good things, was not undervalued by the people in the Crimea, however much the medical profession as a body, and the government, in their blind bigotry, affected to set it at nought by their conduct both at home and abroad. Let us wish them more sense, and less of the leaven of popery in medical and political affairs; or rather let us wish them a speedy exit from office; then they will not require so many Acts of Parliament and Courts of Inquiry Committees, Royal Commissions, &c., in order to cover their unpardonable ignorance in the judgment of the people, and to bolster up, *with the high sounding titles of law and authority*, their swiftly waning popularity and *real littleness*.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

THE INUTILITY OF ALLOPATHY ILLUSTRATED IN A CASE OF CHOREA, RECORDED BY AN ALLOPATHIC PRACTITIONER.

It is lamentable that patients suffering from diseases of the nervous system, no less than from acute diseases, as pneumonia, cholera, enteritis, &c., are really without hope under ordinary medical treatment, while homœopathy offers means of cure within reach of every medical man in England, if only instead of spurning those who follow it, they would give their minds to the study of its principles.

In a case recorded in the *Medical Circular* a few days ago (Oct. 21st, 1857), the inutility of ordinary treatment was manifest. The patient, 24 years of age, who had been "ill some days with a kind of fits," is found on the visit of Dr. Stone to be suffering from what Dr. S. describes to be in appearance "from the effects of a severe nervous shock." . . . "The face has an earnest crooked expression; the eyes turned slightly to the left with a fixed stare; the pulse frequent; the left hand and foot constantly twitching and tremulous." The patient pointing to her chest, said, "I have a pain there."

She was eight months advanced in pregnancy. Now mark, reader, what was done! Was a medicine suited to the suffering condition administered? No, but although she was pregnant, *one ounce of castor oil*—means well calculated to produce miscarriage. The patient rallies somewhat, and instead of letting well alone, the doctor orders tincture of valerian, rhubarb and bark, with infusion of quassia. Very soon symptoms of labour set in; this is on the 11th of September; the next day she is delivered of a fœtus of eight months. On the 15th the spasms return; on the 16th she is worse. Valerian, hyoscyamus, camphor, æther, are given. On the 17th, she dies; and, the writer adds, “the friends will not allow a *post mortem* examination”—and if a *p. m.* had been made, what would have been found? What morbid appearances? None. The anatomist seeks to establish a *dead* pathology; the *living* pathology is neglected.

Such is allopathy! such the treatment followed by those who despise the teachings of Hahnemann.

ELECTRIC CHOREA.

To the Editor of the Medical Circular.

SIR,—The following case of *Electric Chorea*, though briefly and somewhat imperfectly recorded, I copy (with slight additions) from my note-book, in the belief that it may perhaps induce others to give a disease so generally fatal in its termination, a more thorough investigation than it has hitherto received in this country. That cases of this nature sporadically occur in England I unhesitatingly believe, not merely from the evidence of the present case, but from a similar case that presented itself to the notice of a medical gentleman residing not far from me, who worthily enjoys a most extensive practice.

I am, &c.,

ALFRED F. STONE, M.D., &c.

On September the 8th last, I was requested by Mr. T——, of Bishop's fields, to visit his wife, æt. 24, who had been ill for some days, and to use his expression (with a kind of fits), without further inquiry I accompanied him to the house, where I found several of the family surrounding the bed of the patient, who appeared to be suffering from the effects of a severe nervous shock, and who presented the following symptoms:—The face has an earnest crooked expression; the eyes turned slightly to the left, with a fixed stare; the pulse frequent, the left hand and foot constantly twitching and tremulous; she is far advanced in pregnancy; skin moist and the bowels torpid (this she is much subject to); after several ineffectual attempts to rouse the patient to speak, she imperfectly articulated “I have a pain there,” pointing to her chest, of which region I made an examination, with the following results:—Impulse of the heart rather loud and abrupt, percussion reveals dullness on the left side. I prescribed the following: R—Ol ricini, ʒj; tinct. opii, gtt. xv.; tinct. aurantii, ʒij, misce. I further ordered a foot-bath, and left.

September 9th.—The patient appears much better and communicative, has

had the bowels opened, and slept better than she has for many nights previous. I ordered her nutritious diet, with a little port wine occasionally, and the following: R—Tinct. cinchonæ comp, tinct. valerian, et syrup rhei, aa ʒ j; infus. quassia, ʒ ij; aquæ q. s. ut fiat mist, ʒ viij; cujus sumend. ij ter die.

September 11th.—Called out at half-past ten p.m. Symptoms of labour have commenced; the os uteri is slightly dilated; during the last few hours she has been attacked with slight clonic spasms of the face and hand; otherwise she appears rational and answers questions. I ordered a little port wine mulled, and left her in charge of her mother and nurse.

September 12th.—Called again at a quarter-past two a.m. The labour pains are sharp and strong; each uterine action brings on a peculiar twitching of the left hand and leg; at twenty minutes past three a.m., she was delivered of an apparently healthy eight months' female child. She expresses herself much better and happier. Ordered her an enema in the course of three or four hours, should the bowels not open in the interval. The patient seemed to improve throughout the day.

September 13th.—Patient appears progressing favourably. Ordered her chicken-broth and barley-water; she begged a glass of ale from her mother.

September 14th.—Complains of motes, &c., before the eyes (*muscæ volitantes*), and frequently starts at supposed noises in the room: bowels have been gently opened, pulse irregular, tongue deep red, clean, and moist, at times tremulous; ordered a small mixture of ferri et quinae cit., beef-tea and wine. Much the same as yesterday, with spasms of hand and foot.

September 15th.—Has had several spasms (hemiplegic), keeps her mouth in a half-open, crooked position, will not take her medicine, appears perfectly conscious, and thanks me for my attention; says she knows she is going to die, and asks why do I not tell her so?

September 16th.—Patient much worse, all the muscles of one side seem to contract synchronically; suggested to the parents the wish to have another medical man called in, and ordered R—Tinct. valerianæ ammon., ʒ j; spir. æther sulph., ʒss; tinct. hyoscyami, ʒ iij; mist camphoræ, ʒ jv; M, fiat mist, sumat ʒ j ter die et nocte.

September 17th.—Has been unconscious since last night; expired at ten a.m. The friends will not allow a *post mortem* examination.

Chester, Oct. 15, 1857.

REVIEWS.

Outlines of Veterinary Homœopathy. By JAMES MOORE, M.V.C.E.
Manchester: H. Turner. London: Groombridge & Sons, Paternoster Row.

A GOOD, a thoroughly practical book on veterinary homœopathy, was much wanted. Although several have appeared, they have been

complained of by our farming friends who have adopted homœopathy; and there are many of them, as being wanting in *practical information*. The book before us, according to the author's preface, "purports to be an easily understood exposition of the causes which produce, and the symptoms which characterize, the most frequent diseases incidental to the horse, cow, pig, dog, and sheep, together with concise directions for the selection, use, and administration of the most efficient homœopathic medicines."

So far as we are capable of judging, not being "veterinary," we think the book comes up to the description of the author. It is devoid of all technicalities, is written in a popular style, easily apprehended—not so much a scientific treatise as an essentially practical handbook. When an animal is ill or injured, its owner may, on appealing to "Moore's Outlines," readily find the remedy, without wading through page after page of matter which he does not want.

The author, moreover, appears to have made homœopathy his study; and, to ensure success in the treatment, this study is necessary in an author.

The diseases of the horse and of the cow are amply treated of; and we confidently recommend our readers to purchase this excellent, moderate-sized, cheap volume. Of the diseases of the hog, also, there is a good deal written. As we are among the few, in these *Christian days*, who abhor the name of "pig," except as a "scavenger of creation," we have no interest in its preservation. We would leave the whole family of swine to "die out," not willing to preserve for the poison food of man an animal which a divinely inspired Moses, in his admirable code of health, condemned as unclean.

The British Journal of Homœopathy. Nos. 61 and 62. London: Groombridge & Sons.

THIS quarterly maintains its reputation as a record of homœopathic medicine. Its translations from the works and periodicals of our continental brethren are most acceptable. We cannot all read the German language; and, for those who cannot, it is important that English renderings should appear. The *British Journal*, however, is not confined to the translation of foreign authors. Many of its articles are original. Its contributed articles do honour to the school of homœopathy. The homœopaths of these islands may well feel proud that a quarterly has been well maintained for more than fourteen years by a body so feeble in numbers.

The parts before us contain some excellent articles by Drs. Wurmb, Hersch, Blumberg, Wilkinson, Drysdale, Chapman, and Russell. It is interesting to find in the admirable article on sulphur, by Dr. Wurmb, that the recent provings of that mineral have been corroborative of many of the pathogenetic symptoms observed by Hahnemann. It would be well if our allopathic brethren would give

their attention to the subject of proving medicines upon the healthy subject. Their knowledge of the real properties of drugs would be of service to them, *because* gained by experiments on healthy subjects—so different are the results obtained by clinical experiments.

In an editorial article, Sir John Forbes's recent work on *Nature and Art in the Cure of Disease*, the subject of disease and its remedies is ably discussed. We quote the following, which will interest our readers :

“Allied to *diseases directly curable* are *diseases specifically curable*. Acknowledging that the mode of action of specifics is unknown, Sir John gives the following list of diseases specifically curable.

“1. Ague and some forms of remittent fever ; cured by Cinchona and its salts, and by Arsenic.

“2. Syphilis ; curable by Mercury.

“3. Scorbutus ; curable by fresh lemon-juice, more certainly by fresh animal and vegetable food.

“4. Bronchocele ; curable by Iodine.

“5. Chlorotic anæmia ; curable by Iron.

“6. Periosteal and other swellings on the surfaces of the bones—syphilitic, gouty, or strumous ; curable by the iodide of Potassium.

“7. Gout ; curable by Colchium. (?)

“8. Iritis, hepatitis, pericarditis, and other inflammations of serous membranes ; cured by Mercury. (?)

“9. Hemicrania and intermittent neuralgia ; cured by Iron, Arsenic, Quinine, &c.

“10. Chorea ; cured by Iron, Zinc, and Arsenic. (?)

“11. Delirium tremens ; cured by Opium. (?)’

The interrogation points are Sir John Forbes's own. Indeed, he says, if he were only to admit into his list the diseases *generally* curable by specifics, the first half-dozen would complete it. Many of his colleagues would not allow even such a long list of specifics. Thus, Dr. Chambers* says, ‘Quinine and Arsenic for ague, vaccination for small pox (*sic*), iodide of Potassium for syphilis, and Sulphur for itch, is the longest list that can be made of true specifics. And even in this short list we find a discordance with that of Sir John Forbes. One says Mercury, the other iodide of Potassium, is the specific for syphilis ; one holds to the idea that Sulphur is specific for itch, the other apparently knows that a handful of sand and a little lard are quite as effectual remedies. Eigenbrodt (p. 16), on the other hand, flatly denies that there are any specifics known. Who shall decide when doctors disagree ?

“The treatment of disease by *indirect or vicarious* action does not find much favour with Sir John. He says (p. 229), it ‘can be but rarely called *curative*, in the strict meaning of that term.’ But he proceeds to say, ‘this is the only kind of treatment admissible in the great body of diseases,’

* The True Art of Healing, p. 24.

which is equivalent to saying that the great body of diseases are not curable *by art*, whatever they may be *by nature*. He makes out four different classes of the *indirect* treatment.

"His first class is the *extinguishing* or *cutting-short* treatment, which, he says, is happily going out of fashion, as it rarely succeeds, and usually aggravates the disease, or arrests the natural restorative power. 'Our estimate of this indication,' says he, 'as a guide in practice, and of the kind of treatment to which it leads, must therefore be entirely of a *damnatory* character' (p. 232). Hear that, Dr. Eigenbrodt, you who think that it is in the direction of extinguishing remedies that the medical art is to obtain its future triumphs.

"Sir John's next class is *active* treatment, and his opinion of this is not much more favourable; for though he allows that it may sometimes save life which might be lost under a feebler treatment, he contends that it just as frequently destroys the patient's chance of recovery. 'Its good is,' he says, 'at the best, neutralized by its evils' (p. 237), and, therefore, as a method of treatment, its value on the whole is = 0. In the next page he gives a still more unfavourable estimate of it: 'in *rare* cases it may succeed well; but in the *majority* it not only fails to benefit, but produces actual mischief.' (p. 238.)

"The third class is *auxiliary* or *mild* treatment—*rational expectancy*. This, he says, is 'at once the most philosophical, the safest, the surest, and the most successful of all the forms of indirect treatment' (p. 238). 'The indications it seeks to fulfil are chiefly the following: 1st. To place the diseased body in the most favourable circumstances for the development and exercise of its own conservative powers, by the institution of a proper regimen, in the most comprehensive sense of that term. 2nd. To endeavour thereby, or through the use of medicaments, to remove such obstacles to the favourable action of the conservative and restorative powers, as may be removable without the risk of checking or injuriously perverting them. 3rd. Applying these measures under a watchful supervision; not to attempt, by any vigorous measures, to alter the course of the morbid processes, so long as they seem to keep within the limit of safety, and when they transgress, or threaten to transgress this limit, only then to endeavour to modify them by such mild measures as, if they fail in doing good, cannot do much harm. 4th. To be on the watch against possible contingencies, which may demand the employment of measures of exceptional activity, whether in the form of regimen or medicine; and, when required, to apply such measures with the requisite vigour' (p. 239).

"This exposition of 'rational expectancy' is sufficiently vague to apply to any and every variety of allopathic practice. 'Such are just the principles I act up to in practice,' would be the exclamation of every physician, surgeon, and apothecary in England. Every practitioner, from the most milk-and-water disciple of the do-nothing school to the fiercest champion of heroic practice, would, we doubt not, at once subscribe to the

principles of 'rational expectancy.' Notwithstanding the difference of their practice, every one professes to prescribe 'a proper regimen' 'to remove all obstacles to the favourable action of the conservative and restorative powers'; all would protest unanimously that if their measures 'fail in doing good, they cannot do much harm'; and all would concur in the necessity of the occasional 'employment of measures of exceptional activity,' though they might hold very different opinions, both as to what were measures of exceptional activity, and when they were to be employed.

"In a word, we may congratulate Sir John Forbes on having defined the principles of the true method of treating disease in such a felicitous manner, that while they will receive the unanimous assent of his colleagues of the old school, they will not effect the slightest alteration in the practice of any one of them."

In the same number of the journal, Dr. Chambers's pamphlet on *The True Art of Healing* is reviewed; and the following summing up of the reviewer will give an idea of the leading features of Forbes's and Chambers's last productions:

"Dr. Chambers's pamphlet bears a marked resemblance to Sir John Forbes's book on *Nature and Art in the Cure of Disease* in one point, but differs from it wonderfully in another. Both insist with a persistence and reiteration that would almost lead us to believe that the opposite opinion had been entertained (though where or by whom we are at a loss to imagine) that diseases are merely perversions or modifications of the conditions and processes of health. But while Sir John Forbes almost denies that there is a medical art, and stigmatizes almost all the therapeutic appliances of the old school as more hurtful and obstructive than beneficial and helpful, Dr. Chambers's pamphlet is one long laudation of these same therapeutic measures in the use of which he asserts consists the True Art of Healing.

"Unfortunate practitioners of the Galenic school! unfortunate students of medicine! when your heads and teachers differ so irreconcilably, what part will you choose? 'Under which king, Bezonian, speak or die.' Or rather we should say, 'speak and kill.' For if with Forbes you profess a scepticism in physic, and practise a do-nothing expectancy, Chambers will accuse you of letting your patients die; and on the other hand, if with Chambers you wage war upon disease with lancet and drugs, Forbes will sneeringly observe that your patients might have recovered but for your stupid interference. In the meantime homœopathy shines with a pure and steady light unmoved amid the distracting waves of controversy that surge around it. The heads of the allopathic system who cannot now ignore it say it is a beacon to warn you off the shoals of quackery; but we allege it to be a Pharos leading to the haven of truth in medicine. When you are tired of buffeting with the billows of doubt and uncertainty, come and try the refuge of a faith in medicine which we offer you. You will find it more satisfactory to your conscience to have a distinct principle of thera-

peutics for your guide, than to wander as at present among a hundred different and opposing opinions, and your patients will benefit by the change."

Dr. Müller has contributed what appears to be a valuable proving of *Erythroxylon coca*, which occupies nearly fifty pages. To medical men this will prove to be a valuable aid in the treatment of certain diseases.

Dr. Blumberg has contributed a paper on "Tabes dorsalis, as a consequence of the abuse of mercury." His paper was read before the *Manchester Homœopathic Medico-Chirurgical Society*, and we can bear out Dr. Blumberg in his views, having witnessed many cases in which similar injuries followed the abuse of mercury. Dr. Blumberg's paper is so full of interest to the general reader, that we quote a considerable portion of it as follows :

"Tabes Dorsalis—atrophy of the spinal cord— is a chronic disease consisting of a softening and partial consumption of the spinal cord. In consequence of it, those parts of the human body which possess voluntary muscles and ramifications of spinal nerves, lose the muscular tone and the power of movement.

"This disease is in most cases seated in the lumbar portion of the spinal cord. It appears principally in men from 40 years of age and upwards as a consequence of sexual excess. This is generally the only cause alleged by the best authors on the subject, but I will endeavour to show that the abuse of Mercury is not rarely the source of this terrible disease. In both cases the symptoms are alike. The first symptom is a disposition to be very soon tired, principally in the legs and in the back ; then the sensation in these parts becomes imperfect and abnormal ; the feet, standing or walking, are stiff, chilly, and numbed ; the patient has a sensation as if he stood on wool or soft sand, or as if the ground was soft and wavering ; his gait is uncertain, and he therefore generally stamps in walking. By and by he loses the power to use the muscles without the help of the eyes ; in the dark, or when he shuts his eyes, he loses the balance of his body ; he becomes giddy, he staggers, and falls.

"With the loss of the muscular tone dependent upon the spinal cord, all voluntary movements become now uncertain, hasty, and awkward ; the gait is staggering, stumbling, and straddling ; the patient cannot stand still, or turn himself suddenly when he is walking ; and he is disturbed by the least obstacles in his way. At last he cannot walk at all without assistance.

"The accompanying symptoms are abnormal sensations—tickling, itching, burning, chilliness, and shooting or tearing pains in the legs and back, across the belly, in the rectum and bladder. Often paralysis of the muscles of the rectum and bladder.

"A frequent inclination to make water occurs in the beginning very often, and some drops are discharged involuntarily. Enuresis during sleep is not uncommon, but it generally alternates with ischuria. The urine does not

flow in the form of a bow, but more perpendicularly, and the bladder is never totally emptied. Relaxation of the genital organs, impotence, and pollutions, even in the day time, are very frequent. The bowels are almost always constipated; the power of the abdominal muscles is weakened, and the excrements are sometimes involuntarily discharged. There is often a feeling of tightness beginning at the lumbar vertebræ and extending round the abdomen.

“Very often amblyopia, deafness, weakness of the memory, melancholy, and imbecility associate themselves with the other symptoms. But this state can continue years and years without causing death, which at last is harbingered by tuberculous consumption.

“Let us now compare these symptoms with those produced by Mercury in large doses. In the first place we are struck with the very powerful and deadly effect of this, unhappily too commonly used, drug. Decandolle *Physiologie Vegetale* affirms that all plants are soon blighted by the vapour of Quicksilver. Bouchardat states that very small doses (one part of Mercurius corrosivus to 800,000 parts of water) are sufficient to kill fresh-water fish. These facts prove that Mercury is destructive to organisation, and that large quantities of it taken during a long time into the human body must necessarily produce a disorganisation in all, or at least some, of its vital parts.

“It will scarcely be doubted that Mercury affects prominently the lower end of the spinal cord, if we consider that the symptoms of the physiological provings correspond almost exactly with the pathological symptoms of Tabes dorsalis. We find in the *Reine Arzneimittellehre* of Hahnemann, and in Possart's *Homœopathische Arzneien*, under the head of Mercury:—Trembling in the feet; chilliness; different abnormal sensations; numbness of the lower extremities; habitual constipation; imbecility and melancholy; amblyopia and deafness; ischuria; pollutions in day time, &c., &c. But to prove my thesis by facts which have come under my own notice, I will now subjoin cases from my Dispensary.

“1st. M— W—, silk weaver, 50 years of age, admitted December 8, 1856, after having been ill a year. He stated that 12 months before he had a slight itching eruption on the skin, which was treated by an allopathic surgeon with Mercury, probably in large doses, because soon after a profuse salivation ensued; and when the itching eruption had disappeared he found himself unable to walk.

“He was then admitted to the Manchester Royal Infirmary, but after remaining there three months he came home in the same state. When I first saw him he was totally unable to walk or rise from his chair; his teeth were few and black; he complained of dizziness in his head, and dimness of eyesight. He had violent pains in the lower part of his back; was always trembling; generally constipated, and could not make water freely. He had been impotent the whole 12 months; he complained further of shooting

pains in his legs; he could not feel the ground, and had a sensation of his feet being twenty times the size they really were.

"There can be no doubt that this is an affection of the lower part of the spine, of which there was not the least trace before he was dosed with Mercury. He was previously quite well; could walk and run; his sight was good, and he could perform his conjugal duties; but after having been treated with Mercury till salivation followed, how different and how sad is the image he presents to us.

"I began his treatment with *Sulphur*, and employed successively *Acidphos.*, *Ac. nitr.*, *Ars.*, *Strych.*, *Kali bichrom.*, *Bell.*, &c. The patient is now so much improved that he can walk with the help of one stick, and has lost the pains in his back and legs."

Other cases are given, for which we refer our readers to the journal. About ten pages of the journal are taken up with an article by Dr. George Wyld, "On hygiene in relation to private boarding schools." We think that Dr. Wyld's paper must have reached the printer by accident; as the article, although practical, is more adapted to the pages of a *Book for Mothers*, a *Mothers' Magazine*, or some other useful family journal; but we think it a pity that the editors did not exclude it from a journal purely medical, and occupy its place with matter which would be instructive to medical men.

CASE OF TUMOUR IN THE BREAST.

Cured at the Northampton Homœopathic Dispensary.

November 29th, 1856. Lucy C., aged 33, residing at Harlestone; married twelve years; has had one child and one abortion. Has been ill for three years, and treated by Dr. Faircloth two years and a half without success. She came to us much distressed, apprehending that the disease, which had progressed unchecked by a lengthened allopathic treatment, was an incurable cancer. Upon examination we found a hard oval tumour in left breast, size of a pigeon's egg. Severe shooting and darting pains pass into right breast; the affected breast is very painful on pressure; M. P. painful and scanty.

Prescription. *Sepia* 30, twelve globules.

December 3rd. The breast is less painful, otherwise the tumour is much the same.

To take no medicine for a week.

December 10th. The breast is painful to-day; the tumour much smaller; catamenia last week more natural and attended with less suffering.

Silicea 30, six globules for a week.

December 19th. Scarcely any pain in tumour now; it enlarges on exertion.

To take *Silicea* 30, two globules every alternate night.

December 31st. The breast is now quite free from pain, and the tumour much diminished in size.

No medicine this week.

January 7th, 1857. The tumour is quite gone; breast feels sore, and hangs heavily.

To take *Sepia* 30, six globules in a week; then wait a fortnight without medicine.

February 4th. She is better in every respect.

Repeated *Sepia* 30, twelve globules for a week; then to wait.

April 1st. The breast is quite well. Discharged cured.

This poor woman expressed her gratitude and obligations for the benefit which she had experienced under the treatment—believing when she came that her case was hopeless. Not only had the local infirmity been arrested and removed, but the general constitution of the patient also much improved.

CASES TREATED AT THE TOWCESTER HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

TUMOUR IN BREAST CURED BY A SINGLE REMEDY.

June 16th, 1857. MARY C., aged thirty; married; generally healthy. She has a hard tumour in left breast, about the size and shape of a marble, which has been growing for the last two years; violent shooting pains pass through into right breast.

Recipe. *Conium* 12, one globule night and morning for a week.

23rd. Has had no pain in tumour since taking medicine.

Repeat *Conium*.

July 14th. Some pain in tumour this week, but it is smaller, and not quite so hard.

Continue medicine.

21st. Experienced a smarting pain in tumour on the 15th and 16th. No pain since.

Continue medicine.

28th. Tumour much diminished in size. No pain this week.

Repeat *Conium* 12.

Aug. 11th. No pain since last visit.

Continue medicine.

18th. Tumour is scarcely perceptible; no pain.

Take *Conium*.

25th. The tumour has entirely disappeared.

Discharged, cured.

HÆMOPTYSIS, (SPITTING OF BLOOD.)

T. K., aged 32 years; married; occupation, wheelwright. States that he has been under Dr. Francis thirty weeks at the infirmary, eight weeks in-patient, without benefit. Turpentine and hot flannels were applied to chest, 19 out of 21 nights; and then on the back, when he could no longer bear it in front of chest. Had been under the treatment of Mr. Watkins, also, a year ago.

February 10th, 1857. Has had spitting of bright red blood for twelve months, has spit up a pint at a time; cough worse in morning from 5 to 7 o'clock; expectoration frothy, sometimes hard, and of a sweetish taste; aching pain in chest which goes through to back between the shoulders; aching pain in upper part of left breast which extends to elbow; something seems to run up in his throat occasionally which prevents swallowing; palpitation of heart, always worse just before the bleeding comes on; sometimes has a sharp pricking pain in left side; appetite good; bowels regular; has been very sleepless at night but has slept better this last week; feet never warm; feet used to sweat much, and smell offensively, but have not done so since he has been ill; pulse 80, feeble; equal, both radial; tongue healthy, clean; chest tolerably well formed; lateral expansion defective in both hypochondria; clavicular region expands right more than left. Had while in Infirmary a swelling near left nipple, size of a crown piece elevated, which disappeared in a few weeks. Since then he has had a similar swelling at the back of left hand which disappeared spontaneously. Returned to work after leaving infirmary for eight weeks, but was unable to continue his work, and never expects to be able again to resume his employment. Has not done any work for the last ten weeks. Can lie easily on left side; has had considerable pain in splenic region ever since his first illness; urinary deposits light-coloured; urine thick and dark.

Recipe. *Arnica*, three globules each night for 3 nights; then *Arnica* 12, three globules every night for 3 nights.

February 17th. Better, no pain in side, no blood, feet warmer than they were.

Recipe. *Arnica* 30, three globules in each powder, one powder every other night.

March 3rd. A great deal better, no spitting of blood since he took the first medicine; the expectoration is not one fourth the quantity he had; tongue white.

Arnica 30, three globules, twelve powders.

17th. Came not so well last week but now better; has spit a little blood; has slight pain in sternal region occasionally; had wheezing in throat before bleeding came on.

Continue the *Arnica*.

April 14th. Had a slight pain in hepatic region the last two days; spits no blood; appetite good; bowels regular; no pain in chest.

Continue the *Arnica*.

June 2nd. Wife came; he has been well but has the last few days pain in the region of the heart.

Recipe. *Spigelia* 12, twelve globules in a fortnight.

June 16th. Pains which go about the body; he thinks it little wind; fullness in bowels; crampy pain at chest; weight at chest.

Recipe. *China* 12, twelve globules.

June 23rd. Sent; no pains this week; has *been as well this week as ever he was in his life*.

September 8th. Continues well, and follows his employment.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

DEAR SIR,—Will you, or allow me through your journal to, caution the friends of homœopathy and the public generally where they purchase their medicines. Let it be through some genuine homœopathic chemist, or some person of "honour;" as a case has come to my knowledge where a respectable druggist, professing to sell the pure homœopathic tinctures and globules, has privately called the system humbug.

I would not trouble you with this, but I am very tenacious for the honour of homœopathy, having cause for the deepest gratitude through the good it has done me. I was for years a sufferer from bronchitis; and never, during that time, was I free, if ever damp or cold winds prevailed. My physician said I was so reduced that another attack or two would certainly lay me in the grave. I heard of homœopathy, got a small work on the subject, and, in the next attack, treated myself, when fighting for breath, with *Aconite* and *Spongia*, 12th dil., alternately. In four days I recovered from a disease which had formerly been from fourteen to twenty-four days in curing. It is now three years, and I have only had one attack since, which was about twelve months ago; and now I never wrap up, as was my previous custom, but can go out wet or dry, cold or hot, (obeying rules,) without fear or uneasiness. The once suffering man, dear sir, is the one to sympathize with the present sufferer; and this alone makes me earnest for the great blessing it brings to be accepted by all.

I am, dear sir,

Yours most sincerely,

HEALTH RESTORED AND POCKET SAVED.

DEATH AND THE CHRISTIAN.

It happened one day that Death met a good man. "Welcome, thou messenger of immortality!" said the good man. "What!" said Death, "Dost thou not fear me?" "No," said the Christian: "he that is not afraid of himself, needs not to be afraid of thee." "Dost thou not fear the

diseases that go before me, and the cold sweats that drop from my fingers' ends?" "No," said the good man, "for diseases and cold sweats announce nothing but thee." In an instant Death breathed upon him, and both disappeared together: a grave had opened beneath their feet, and in it lay something. I wept; but suddenly heavenly voices drew my eyes on high. I saw the Christian in the clouds. He was still smiling—and when death met him, angels had welcomed his approach, and he now shone as one of themselves. I looked in the grave, and saw what it was that lay there. Nothing was in it but the garment which the Christian had laid aside.—*Lavater.*

PROVIDENCE.

A father is cut off in the midst of his days. He is a useful and distinguished citizen, and eminent in his profession. A general buzz arises on every side, "What a striking providence!" The man has been in the habit of studying half the night; of passing his days in his office in the courts; of eating luxurious dinners, and drinking various kinds of wine. He has every day violated the law on which health depends. Did providence cut him off? It has been customary in some of our cities for young ladies to walk in thin shoes and delicate stockings in mid-winter. A healthy, blooming young girl thus dressed, in violation of heaven's laws, paid the penalty—a checked circulation, colds, fever, and death. "What a sad providence!" exclaimed her friends. Was it providence or her own folly? Look at the mass of diseases that are incurred by intemperance in eating and drinking, in study or business; by neglect of exercise, cleanliness, and pure air; by indiscreet dressing, tight lacing, &c.; and all are quietly imputed to providence! Is there not impiety as well as ignorance in this?—*Miss Sedgwick.*

FEMALE MEDICAL COLLEGE.

THE eighth annual announcement of the Female Medical College of Pennsylvania, for the session of 1857-58, has been published. It appears from it that the faculty consists of seven professors, of whom two are ladies—Ann Preston, M.D., professor of physiology; and Emmeline Cleveland Horton, M.D., professor of anatomy and histology, and demonstrator of anatomy. Since the foundation of the college there have been 104 matriculants. They are from all parts of the union; two from England and one from Canada. The sixth annual commencement was held on Saturday, Feb. 28, when the degree of M.D. was conferred by the president, Professor Charles D. Cleveland, on the following ladies:—Elizabeth P. Baugh, Pennsylvania, phthisis pulmonalis; Hanna W. Brinton, Pennsylvania, rheumatism; Orië R. Moon, Virginia, mutual relation between cardiac and pulmonary disease; Susannah Hayhurst, Pennsylvania, poisons; Lucy M. Petersilvia, North Carolina, asphyxia; Mary J. Scarplet, Pennsylvania, duties of the physician; Phebe Wilson, Pennsylvania, parturition.

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TO OUR READERS.

ANOTHER most appalling instance of the dangers of ordinary medical treatment has occurred in the melancholy death of the late Augustus Stafford, M.P. for the northern division of this county. We have, in our present number, given a report of the inquest as it appeared in the *Daily News*, believing that our readers will not think it a needless occupation of our pages and their time in reading it. We give the report at length, as it is important to preserve for future generations such evidence of the utter helplessness of orthodox medicine, in the second half of the nineteenth century. Sure we are that future historians will refer back to the present as being the dark age of medicine.

We purpose in our next number giving an accurate analysis of the whole case of the evidence and the verdict. In the mean time, further information will be obtained from the locality where the sad tragedy occurred. There can be but one opinion, which is universally expressed by every one who has read carefully the evidence: that opinion is that poor Augustus Stafford was the victim of unintentional murder—in other words, manslaughter.

In our next number, the particulars of another instance of allopathic ignorance will be recorded in our pages. A young man is attended for inflammation of the lungs by two allopathic medical practitioners in Northampton—one of them senior surgeon to the County Infirmary. He is bled and cruelly blistered; taken leave of

by his tormentors with the words "nothing more can be done—he cannot live until morning." A homœopathic practitioner is called up in the night—he applies the proper remedies—the patient recovers.

Parliament is about to assemble, and it is rumoured that another attempt will be made to introduce a bill which shall give an exclusive right to the diploma'd faculty to medically treat Her Majesty's subjects. We warn those who make the attempt. Parliament must not be prostituted to the upholding of licensed murder.

It is reported that poor Stafford remarked, while conscious, that he would die poisoned. "*Dr. Griffin is a licensed doctor, or he would be transported.*" It is a popular fallacy—a strange notion pervades society, that a licensed doctor is not amenable to the law—that the license indeed is a "*license to kill.*" So it would appear from the usual result of coroner's inquests—so it appears in the case of poor Stafford; and in another case a few days ago, a woman loses her life in consequence of the want of skill and negligence of another "doctor." This "licensed" one is acquitted also, in the face of evidence the most direct and positive of the doctor's culpability. It is high time that this erroneous notion should be set aside. *The law makes no difference between the licensed and the unlicensed. If a person dies owing to the negligence or want of skill of a medical attendant, he is guilty of manslaughter. His legal qualification does not excuse him. His license is a license to cure and not to kill.*

BEER-SHOPS AND DRAM-SHOPS.

IN England and Wales there are 130,000 public-houses and beer-shops, or one for every 137 of the population. In London there are 18,853, or one for every 130 of the population. In Birmingham 1946, or one for every 120 of the population.

According to *Chambers's Journal*, in 40 cities and towns in Scotland, every 149 of the population support a dram shop! while it requires 981 to keep a baker! 1067 to support a butcher! and 2281 to sustain a book-seller. And yet a considerable number of children and females, and some males, do not drink, and others do not take their proportion, whilst most of them use bread and meat, and need mental food.

"INQUEST UPON MR. AUGUSTUS STAFFORD, M.P.

"AN inquest upon the remains of this lamented gentleman was held on Wednesday, at Morrison's Hotel, Dublin, by J. E. Hyndman, Esq., city coroner; and a special jury, composed of householders resident in the neighbourhood.

"A large number of gentlemen attended during the day as witnesses and otherwise, amongst whom were—Colonel Herbert, the Chief Secretary for Ireland; Mr. O'Farrell, Commissioner of Police; Mr. Kemmis, Crown Solicitor; Mr. Rae, Dr. Cussack, Mr. Corry Connellan, Alderman Watson, of Limerick; Sir Henry Marsh. &c.

"Mr. P. Blake, Q.C., with Mr. A. R. Todd, appeared on behalf of the next of kin.

"Dr. Griffin, of Limerick, who had been in medical attendance upon the deceased, was likewise present, but had no counsel acting on his behalf.

"The following witnesses were then produced:

"Michael Naughten examined—I was in the service of the deceased gentleman as his travelling servant. I was in his employment about 23 years, and continued so to his death. About a month ago he arrived at his own residence, Cratloe, in the county Clare. He was then in very good health. I do not recollect his being unwell before this day fortnight, when he took ill. That was about the 4th of November. Up to 3 o'clock, p.m., on that day he had been in his usual good health. He complained to me then of a pain in the lower part of his stomach, and said he was afraid 'that nasty old pain that he had before was coming on again.' He had a similar pain twice before; once about a twelvemonth ago, and once last summer. I could not say the time exactly, but it was about the middle of the summer, in London, during parliament. He had medical attendance on each of those former occasions. Dr. Griffin, of Limerick, attended him the first time, about a year ago, in Limerick, and Dr. Cutler, of New Burlington street, Savile row, Regent street, attended him in London on the second occasion. On the first of these illnesses he was unwell about an hour and a half or two hours; and on the second occasion about half an hour. Up to 5 o'clock on the 4th of November last he was getting worse. He desired me then to send for Dr. Griffin, but I said I would go for him myself, as I could explain what the illness was. I arrived at Dr. Griffin's house about half-past five. The doctor did not return with me, but arrived about half an hour afterwards—about half-past six. I had explained to the doctor the state in which Mr. Stafford was at the time, and how he had been attacked and was suffering. Mr. Stafford was in bed when I left, and I found him there when I returned. He had his coat off, but I could not say whether he was altogether undressed. On my return he was still suffering more than when I left him. On Dr. Griffin's arrival I was with my master, and shewed the doctor into his room. I was in and out fetching one thing and another all the time he remained. To the best of my belief he stayed at Cratloe about an hour and a half. He was all that time in my master's room. I think he left Cratloe between eight and nine o'clock. I believe he gave him a bottle twice before he bled him, and he had previously been given some hot water to act as an emetic. I had given him some before I left for Limerick, as I had seen Dr. Cutler do the same

in London. Before I left his stomach had been made sick. I think Dr. Griffin gave him some more warm water before he gave him the bottles. I am not able to say whether he was made sick again by it; it might have occurred without my knowledge. I am not able to say whether he got more medicine than the two bottles before he was bled; or whether he got any afterwards. Dr. Griffin was not more than half an hour in the house when he bled my master. When the doctor left the house, my master was in bed. His arm had been bled, and he was going to sleep. Dr. Griffin said to me, 'I have given your master something to make him sleep, and he will be quiet now.' Before he said that, Mr. Stafford asked the doctor to give him some laudanum to let him sleep, and the doctor replied, 'I have given you some already, in what you have taken.' Dr. Griffin went away in about ten minutes after this conversation. He told me before doing so, 'You must let him be quiet now, and look in before you go to bed, and see how he is.' I looked into his bedroom about eleven o'clock, and saw that he was asleep, but breathing very hard—much more so than usual. He was snoring at the time. On different other occasions for the last sixteen years I was in the habit of going into his room, but I never could open the door without awaking him, he was so light a sleeper. On this occasion, however, I did not awake him. Dr. Griffin told me in the morning I was to put some of the powder which he gave me upon his tongue, having first mixed it with some sugar, and to give him a wine glass full out of a bottle which he also left for the purpose. He did not fix any hour for giving it, but said, 'in the morning.' The powder was contained in a very small parcel. I left both it and the bottle upon the dressing table at Cratloe about a week ago. I did not see my master between eleven and two o'clock, a.m., when I looked in again. He was asleep, lying upon his back, and breathing harder than before. I did not awake him. I thought it was all right when he was asleep. I was delighted to see him asleep. At five o'clock Mr. Stafford came to my bed room door, which was within a yard of his own, and said, 'Get up, my arm is bleeding.' Then I got up and followed him into his room. I had a night light in my room, and lighted a candle. As soon as I went in I laid my finger on the cut in my master's arm. There was a bit of linen on the stand near the bed, part of which had been used by Dr. Griffin before as a pad to stop the bleeding. I put this as a pad on the cut, and stopped the bleeding by tying a handkerchief which was under his pillow round his arm, as I had seen the doctor do. Mr. Stafford was then in his nightshirt. The blood was trickling down his arm, but not spouting out as I had seen it with the doctor. The bandage used by the doctor was in the bed, but I did not see it at that time, nor did I look for it. My master was lying on the bed outside the clothes when I went in. I told him to come into my bed in the next room, as there was blood on his sheets. They appeared to be a good deal blooded. I thought a quarter of a pint would make the sheets appear as they were. Having placed him in my own bed I stopped with him about five minutes, and then called up the other servants, telling them to get some new milk. My master had not asked for the milk at that time. When I went back I found him sleeping very heavily. I was not more than two minutes away. Three of the servants slept on the same landing, two women and a market man. When I found him asleep I went out into the yard to tell the land steward to send him the doctor again. He got the horse saddled, and started in about five minutes afterwards. I returned then to my room to my master. He was still asleep, breathing slow and hard, and long, about the same way

that he had been at two o'clock. He was snoring. Dr. Griffin arrived between seven and eight. My master did not awaken in the meantime. I awoke him to give him some milk about ten minutes after I put him into the bed. I had considerable trouble in awakening him. I had to shake him very much in the bed. He fell asleep again immediately after I gave him the milk. I asked him should I send for the doctor? He said he did not think he should want him. The man was gone at the same time, but I wanted to break it to him for fear he would blame me. During the time I was speaking to him, he appeared very heavy and shaky in his conversation. The doctor, when he came, awoke my master by giving him a good shake, but in one minute he was asleep again. The doctor said, 'You must come out of bed,' and Mr. Stafford wanted to stop in bed. He said to him, 'Leave me in bed.' The doctor and I and one of the working men had to pull him out of the bed. It was not that he resisted us, but he was heavy and inclined to sleep. He wanted to lean back in bed in spite of us. He would say about two words as sensibly as any other person here, but before he uttered the third he would be asleep, and would speak like a drunken person. When we got him standing on the floor, the doctor told us we should keep him walking about and awake; and then I and the workman kept him walking about in spite of himself. When walking about it appeared to me as if his neck was not able to bear up the head, it was drooping like that of a person asleep. We used to shake him and he would then open his eyes again, and he would fall asleep between us. We kept him walking in that way along the passage and the two rooms adjoining for about a quarter of an hour. At this time he had on his trowsers and a dressing gown. We could not keep him awake by walking any longer. Dr. Griffin then ordered him to be put sitting in a chair, and told us to slap the soles of his feet. We put him on the bed for the same purpose. The thing next to hand was a razor strop, which Dr. Griffin got himself, and slapped the soles of his feet for about twenty minutes. By hitting him two or three strikes on the sole, he would open his eyes, look around, and then fall asleep again. I think the doctor took the slapping to himself for the first twenty minutes, but then his hands got blistered, and he could not continue to hit him hard enough, for he was getting heavier asleep. I then strapped him with the razor strop until the handle broke, when we got the carpenter to make little 'battles,' about eighteen inches long, four inches wide, and half an inch thick. These were made of deal. We continued slapping him with these for a considerable time, and broke about a dozen of them. We were slapping him with these almost all the time on the soles of his feet. We tried the palms of his hands and the calves of his legs, but that had not the effect of keeping him awake, and we had to go to the soles of his feet again. These got quite sore, and the skin came off. He would shake his leg sometimes and draw it back from the person that would be hitting him, and then fall asleep once more. We were obliged to hit him hard enough to make him feel it all over. He would sit up in the chair in spite of two men that would be holding him, and he would be scarcely up until he would fall asleep again. It was in about a quarter of an hour or twenty minutes after the arrival of the doctor that the beating system began. That was about eight o'clock in the morning, a little after it perhaps. We continued beating him for several hours, until between eight and nine o'clock at night. It was more than dark before we left off. We had candle-light before we ceased beating him. Five men took part in the beating, relieving each other. One of them is in the house now. The doctor was

present during the whole time. There was likewise another doctor there. It was by Dr. Griffin's directions the beating process went on. When we gave up the beating he seemed more lively. He appeared better; and during the last half hour did not require so many strokes to awake him, or such heavy blows. He used to stand up sometimes, and walked about once, and then fell into bed again. He wanted to go to bed and to sleep. At the commencement of the beating his feet were naturally warm, and were, of course, kept so by the beating—the sole was very warm. The dozen boards, that were broken, were fractured by the force of the blows that we gave him. The heavier he appeared, the harder we used to beat him. When we ceased doing so, he was put into bed by Dr. Griffin's direction and in his presence. The doctor asked me when he came in the morning, had I given my master the powder and the bottle he directed? I told him that I had not; and he said, 'I am very glad that you did not.' About the middle of the day Dr. Griffin sent for another medical man, Dr. Wilkinson, of Limerick. He came in, I think, about one o'clock; but I was so much taken up I could not say. He remained until about three or four. He did not return again during the day. After my master was put to bed at night Dr. Griffin sent to Limerick for some medicine—that was about ten or eleven, p.m.; my master was very weak and still inclined to sleep. He continued to be sleeping up to the hour of his death, which took place at about twenty-five minutes to seven last Sunday night. Dr. Griffin continued at Cratloe all the Thursday night after the beating. He went away about nine next morning. I sat up the whole of the night with my master, visiting him about twenty times during the night. During the night he used to sleep about a minute, and then start awake in a fright, and continued alternately sleeping and starting during the whole night. He breathed very hard, and snored during the whole night. He was always nodding asleep and snoring up to the time of his death. He did not snore so much the last day as he did previously. When in his natural health he never snored. My master died in Dublin (identifies the body). I saw it opened by the surgeons yesterday. My master left Cratloe yesterday week (Tuesday the 10th), and slept in Limerick that night, and the following day came to Dublin by the train, leaving Limerick at half past eleven, a.m. I came up in the carriage with him. I went to the station before him for the purpose of engaging a carriage. I do not know by whose advice he came up; but two days before he left, and at different times, he told me he would like to be in Dublin, to get better doctors. He said he would like to see Dr. Rynd. Dr. Wilkinson was only with him one day. He did not come the second time. Dr. Geary came out with Dr. Griffin in his car on two occasions—once, the day before Mr. Stafford left Cratloe, and also on another day. He may have come out on the day he left also. Prior to the beating, no other doctor saw him but Dr. Griffin. Dr. Geary saw him down in the drawing room. I do not think he sent for Dr. Geary either; but he came to see him as a friend, as a great many other gentlemen did.

"To a Juror—Dr. Griffin brought the medicine which was given to him before the bleeding. I told him to bring what he thought would be fitting.

"Examination continued—When Dr. Wilkinson came, Dr. Griffin called him into the other room and shut the door, and what passed between them I do not know. After they came out of the room Dr. Wilkinson sat down and looked at my master, and said, 'Beat him hard.' I asked Dr. Wilkinson what he thought of my master, and was it the loss of blood that caused the state he was in? He said, 'Oh no, the loss of blood would

only make him weak—he got an overdose of laudanum.’ Dr. Griffin was not in the room at the time, and I wanted to have the opinion of the other doctor before he came in. The only other thing I saw Dr. Wilkinson doing was applying a bottle of sal-volatile, that had been upon the chimney-piece, to my master’s nose, and he put a little with his finger upon his upper lip. After beating my master for about two or three hours his arm burst out in the presence of the two doctors. I did not ask Dr. Griffin what he thought of my master, but on different occasions, while we were beating him and could not waken him, he said—‘If you let him sleep for half an hour he will never waken, he will die in it.’ After my master came to himself, and both before and after we came to Dublin, my master repeatedly said that ‘Dr. Griffin ought to be ashamed of himself for having given him so much laudanum.’ This was when I was telling him what had occurred, and then he said, ‘If I die here (meaning at Cratloe), I will have a coroner’s inquest (meaning that his friends would get it), and only Dr Griffin was a licensed doctor, or he would be transported.’ I heard him ask Dr. Griffin how he was to go out, and the doctor told him the air would do him good, and recommended him to go out in a pony carriage. The train by which we came, arrived about four o’clock on last Wednesday. We drove straight here from the terminus, and reached this hotel about half-past four. Dr. Rynd was the first doctor he sent for, but he was from home, and Sir Henry Marsh was the first doctor who saw him. He came after nightfall. My master did not go to bed on his arrival, but sat up in his room. Dr. Griffin and Dr. Geary met and saw my master at Cratloe the morning that he left for Limerick. Dr. Geary brought in a message to Cruise’s Hotel. They saw him again at the hotel about five or six o’clock in the evening, and again in the morning before he left by the train. So far as I know no other doctor saw him, unless a gentleman might call and be a doctor. Two or three other doctors besides Sir Henry Marsh saw him in Dublin, but I do not know their names. In the two previous attacks I did not remark any heaviness in his breathing. Dr. Wilkinson did not state who had given my master the overdose of laudanum, but I knew there was no other person to give it him than Dr. Griffin. I did not ask him about it. There was no other person gave medicine to him at that time, but Dr. Griffin. I never knew my master to take laudanum of himself. I never saw any in the house.

“Sir Henry Marsh examined—I am a physician. I was acquainted with Mr. Stafford, and prescribed for him a long time ago. The deceased reminded me of the fact, which I had forgotten. In this hotel and in the opposite room, I attended him on this occasion. Upon this day week, Wednesday last, I first attended him. I saw him about 7 o’clock on that evening. I was the first medical man that attended him after his arrival. I saw him in this room. He was up, but in a state of extreme debility. At the moment I saw him I felt certain that he had travelled too soon. He was not fit for such a journey as from Limerick. He had great difficulty in getting up stairs. At that time I was not able to form an opinion of the nature of his illness. I became aware from himself that he had been attended by Dr. Griffin in the country, and afterwards from a letter which I received from Dr. Griffin. That letter I enclosed by permission of Dr. Griffin to Colonel Herbert, the chief secretary. The date I do not remember; it appears to be the 13th November. Mr. Herbert, at my own request, kindly sent me a copy of that letter. It is now at my house. From the contents of that letter, and from his own communication to me, as well as from the results of the post-mortem examination, I have a

strong impression that the violent and agonizing pain complained of in the original attack, arose from gall-stones. I suspected it during the lifetime of Mr. Stafford, but had no proof of it until the post-mortem examination. I was not present at the whole of that, but at quite sufficient to form that opinion. The gall-stones were in the bladder, and I am led to think that one had commenced to get into the duct, and caused the great pain. If attending a patient, I would generally form an opinion whether his illness arose from gall-stones or not. An ordinary medical man would be able to form an opinion of that nature. It is right to state that one symptom of gall-stones was wanting. The deceased was not jaundiced. That is generally the case. I have seen exceptions, but they are rare, I admit. The appearance of jaundice is very uncertain. It may be at the very outset, and it may not be for some time. It generally succeeds the violent pain usually within some hours after the duct is obstructed, but it may be longer. Laudanum is the usual remedy in cases of gall-stones. In fact, it is the sheet anchor. From the letter of Dr. Griffin I judge that Mr. Stafford was treated for excessive agonizing pain. Whatever might have been the cause, his own word was 'unbearable.' It is not long since my own life depended upon it. If the complaint had been gall-stones, Dr. Griffin's line of treatment would have been correct. Of course I say that generally. The effect of an emetic in the first instance is depressing, but it passes away. A mixture of laudanum, hyoscyamus, or henbane and ether, 50 drops of each, is a full dose, but it depends upon the amount of pain. I think the stomach being emptied by an emetic would increase the effect of the dose. Henbane is a narcotic as well as laudanum, but different in its mode of operation. Laudanum is the more powerful, but the variance of preparation of hyoscyamus is so great that I could not form an opinion upon the proportion; ether is a spasmodic rather than a narcotic. A second dose similar to the first in all respects, and a third dose resembling the other two, with the exception of the ether, I would consider a very large quantity to be administered within two hours, unless the pain were excessive. Nothing else would justify it; I would consider that the pain should be such as to endanger life to justify the giving of such a quantity, but excessive pain long continued does endanger life.

"Mr. Blake—Assuming that a patient were suffering from the effects of gall-stone from three o'clock until half past six, would you consider that to justify the exhibition of so much narcotic within that interval?

"Witness—I could not form an opinion, not having been present at the case. It would depend altogether upon the intensity of the pain. I could scarcely conceive that any circumstances would justify the giving of a fourth dose, similar in quantity, within two hours. Circumstances might possibly justify the exhibition of 150 drops of laudanum, 150 of henbane, and 100 of ether; but the four doses, making together 200 drops of laudanum, 200 of henbane, and 100 of ether, given within four hours, I can scarcely conceive any circumstances to justify. There are some persons so strong and so vigorous that they will take a much larger dose; but to a person unaccustomed to laudanum I would consider the quantity excessive.

"Mr. Blake—A party having again emptied the stomach by vomiting, and having taken either the three or four doses, as it may be, would you consider it correct treatment to have him blooded copiously?

"Witness—There again I must say a great deal depends upon the intensity of the pain; unless this were excessive I would not consider it

correct treatment. I would consider thirty ounces of blood under such circumstances a large bleeding. It is sometimes sought to produce fainting, in cases of extreme pain, to alleviate suffering and render the other remedies—such as laudanum and henbane—more effective. In my judgment bleeding would tend to increase the narcotic powers of these medicines on the constitution; but there are cases of very violent bleeding where opium given in large quantities has not that effect, and where laudanum may be given in full doses without mischievous results.

“Mr. Blake—After a bleeding of thirty ounces, and after a patient had taken 150 drops of laudanum and 150 drops of henbane, would you consider that a further dose of 50 drops of laudanum and 50 drops of henbane might be safely administered within four hours?

“Witness—I will not say it was wrong practice, but if you ask my own opinion, I would not do it myself; nothing could justify it but the most intense pain. Of course, it would be *a fortiori*, if a person had previously got 200 drops of each.

“Mr. Blake—From the letter of Dr. Griffin and your personal knowledge of the case, would you say that narcotic medicine contributed to the death of Mr. Stafford?

“Witness—My own impression is that he had recovered from the effects of the narcotic medicine when I saw him, and save so far as it debilitated him it did not contribute to his death. Bleeding and narcotic medicines unquestionably did debilitate him. It is my opinion that that debility did contribute to his death, but if he had had a perfectly strong sound heart he would have recovered it all. I would say extreme inanition or debility was the cause of his death. After frequent examinations I discovered that the action of the heart was extremely feeble, and also that of his pulse. The origin of that debility I believe to have been from a soft, weak, fatty heart and thinness of the blood. I judge from the effects of the post-mortem examination, but I entertained the opinion that his heart was weak and soft. The debility of his heart was instrumental in causing his death, and another cause I believe to have been for about 38 hours there was an almost total suppression of urine. Instruments ascertained that the bladder was empty, but he was relieved by diuretics. I think the state of his kidneys had a share in his death. The opium and bleeding would not produce the soft weak state of the heart which existed previously, but opium and bleeding could not be borne so well by one whose heart was in that condition. The state of the heart could not be clearly ascertained during the time that the remedies were being administered. I have known opium to produce suppression, but I have not known it to produce the condition which I have ascertained this to be in, upon testing, containing albumen. From the letter that I got from Dr. Griffin I would not say there was a mistake in the treatment. It appeared to me to be very strong, but I would not form an opinion of its necessity in a case in which I was not present. I continued to attend him until his death. I would consider the circumstances of his stertorous breathing during the night, and the necessity of flogging the soles of Mr. Stafford's feet to arouse him from lethargy during the whole of the next day, as decided evidence of his having been completely narcotised, and the use of opium to, I would say, a dangerous extent.

“To a Juror—The respiring of the wound and the secondary bleeding, superadded to the other causes, had a powerful influence in the production of the extreme debility which I witnessed, and of increasing the ultimate danger. In my opinion that second bleeding was very instrumental in bringing about the fatal result.

"Mr. George Porter examined—I yesterday made a very careful post-mortem examination of the body of the late Mr. Stafford, assisted by Professor Robert Smith. Sir H. Marsh was present for a few moments, and after seeing the heart he went away. From the result of the post-mortem examination I would say he died of fatty degeneration of the heart. I think the loss of even a small quantity of blood would be highly injurious and dangerous to a man affected with fatty degeneration of the heart. I think the administration of any narcotics would be highly injurious, and would weaken the action of the heart. The larger the quantity of the dose the greater the effect would necessarily be. I think to reduce a patient suffering from such affection of the heart by the administration of any narcotic to such a state that it would be requisite to flog the soles of his feet to keep him awake, would be highly injurious. A man labouring under that disease would be more easily affected by a narcotic than a man with a healthy heart.

"To a Juror—I do not believe that to any physician or surgeon, however accomplished, it is possible to discover the existence of fatty degeneration of the heart in the early stages.

"Dr. Robert Smith, professor of surgery in the University, deposed as follows: I assisted Surgeon Porter in the post-mortem examination, and concur with him in his statement. I concur perfectly with him as to the state of the heart. It was far advanced in disease, and I have seen death result from that cause in cases where the heart was not nearly so far advanced in fatty degeneration. That disease is very slow in its progress. The heart of the deceased could not have been in a sound state a fortnight or three weeks previous to his death. The heart of the deceased had been going on in that state probably for years. I think it quite possible that a competent medical man making a careful examination of Mr. Stafford during life, might, without culpable oversight or negligence in his profession fail to have discovered the existence of that fatty degeneration. There was no other disease of the heart I observed.

"Mr. Blake—In my opinion that fatty degeneration was the immediate cause of his death. Bleeding, whether intentional or accidental, would be calculated to aggravate very much the debility attendant on that disease, and to hasten death. The second bleeding in my opinion increased the debility and impeded the heart's action.

"The Right Hon. Henry Arthur Herbert, M.P., Chief Secretary for Ireland, examined—I was a very intimate friend for many years of the late Mr. Stafford, and visited him daily during his recent illness in Dublin. On the first day I had a conversation with him upon the origin of his illness. He was not fit to converse on the subject upon any other day. On last Thursday, about twelve o'clock, I received a letter from him, in which he stated that he had been dangerously ill, and that it was doubtful whether he would ever recover, and in which he asked me to come and see him. When I arrived he was lying on a chair in his room, with his feet on another chair. His servant was dressing the soles of his feet. The first sound that I heard was a groan of pain by his servant apparently touching his foot. I was much shocked with his appearance and, of course, immediately asked him what was the matter? He told me that he had been ill at Cratloe, and had received an overdose of laudanum from Dr. Griffin. He also described the agonies he had suffered during the treatment. Before long it was evident that the effort of speaking was too much for him, and I said he had better postpone telling me the rest. He then said 'Mick will tell you all'

(meaning his servant), and his servant then told me the story, only not so much in detail, as he has related here to-day. He alluded to the subject himself after that, and was certainly convinced that the cause of his death was the treatment to which he had been subjected. I was obliged to leave him, but thought him so ill that I told his servant to send for me at any hour of the day or night if he should get worse. I saw him twice in each day, but the effort of speaking seemed so painful to him that I did not encourage him to tell me anything more, except that I ascertained the fact from him that he had taken no medicine, except from the hands of Dr. Griffin. I attended him to the last, and was present on Sunday evening when he died. I ran up here whenever my official duties permitted.

"To Mr. Blake—He gave me to understand that he had suffered very acutely from the pain of the disease, but he alluded more particularly to the pain of the beating.

"The Coroner—I think it necessary to state that the holding of the inquest was not a voluntary proceeding on my part. A communication was made to me from the Chief Secretary. I make this explanation because the public might otherwise suppose that I had volunteered to do so.

"The Chief Secretary—If you will allow me to give an opinion, I think what has taken place shows the advisability of having an inquest, inasmuch as feeling the greatest regret for the loss of my friend, that regret has been to a certain extent softened by the evidence that has been given of his having been afflicted with an affection of the heart.

"At the request of Dr. Griffin, Professor Smith was recalled, and in reply stated—The interval of eleven hours between the giving of a full dose of laudanum and the manifestation of its narcotic effects is most unusual. I think the only rational explanation that can be given of their appearance in this case after so long an interval is the additional loss of blood consequent upon the accidental slipping of the bandage in the course of the night.

"Surgeon Porter examined—I agree with that opinion perfectly.

"Professor Smith to Mr. Blake—I recollect the evidence given by Mr. Stafford's servant as to the heavy sleep and stertorous breathing of his master during the night after he had taken the medicine, and his having to shake him when he went in the morning to give him the milk. All these symptoms are evidence of the effects of the narcotic. Having regard to the circumstances detailed in evidence, and to the fact that narcotics were given up to nearly nine o'clock at night, I should say the narcotic effects were not postponed for eleven hours, but they did not come on with full severity until after the bleeding was renewed. A person able to feel himself bleeding, get up, walk into another room, and give notice to a servant, could not at the time be dangerously narcotised.

"Mr. Hyndman then inquired if Dr. Griffin had any evidence which he was desirous to produce, or whether he wished himself to be examined?

"Dr. Griffin said he wished merely to state that he could not charge himself with having acted rashly or improperly. He did not know how any man could withhold relief from a patient in excruciating agony, when the pain still continued, and when he still cried out for relief, the first dose not being effectual. He believed that any man in the same circumstances that he was would have exercised the same direction. As the jury had been told by Sir H. Marsh, it was by the intensity of the pain only that a man could judge of the remedies that were to be applied. On yesterday (Tuesday) evening he got a telegraph stating that an inquest was to be held. He had previously written to say that he had not the least-objection to his letters

being placed in the hands of the Chief Secretary, and that the case should receive full investigation. Upon learning that the inquest would be held that day, he came up by the night mail, and he could only now say that if the coroner or any of the jury had any question to ask respecting the case, he was quite willing to put himself under examination with the same freedom with which he had delivered up the letters and asked to have them read.

"After which Mr. Hyndman proceeded to charge the jury, who unanimously agreed to the following verdict:—'We find that the said Stafford Augustus O'Brien Stafford died from natural causes, and that there is no blame to be attached to Dr. Griffin for the treatment which deceased received while at Limerick under his care.'

"Mr. Kemmis, the crown solicitor, said he thought it only right on the part of the authorities, to say that the present had been just such a case as called for investigation, and in which inquiry was most desirable, so much so that he had attended throughout the entire proceedings, and had watched them with great anxiety. He was happy to add that he had arrived, in his own mind, at the same conclusion with the jury; but he had not done so until he had heard the evidence throughout.

"The proceedings then terminated, having been prolonged from about half-past eleven, a.m., until seven o'clock, p.m."—*Daily News*, Nov. 20.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

Northampton, November 21st, 1857.

DEAR SIR,—A few days since, a little child got a phial of *Arsenicum* globules, and took eleven or twelve of them. The mother was alarmed, fearing that it might be poisoned; but, presently, seeing no harm come to the child, she concluded that they contained no drug; and, therefore, were incapable of doing good. Will you be good enough to explain why this was the case; also, I often hear those who profess to be homœopathsists speak of the infinitesimal dose as if it were the law of homœopathy, and thus, unintentionally, propagate an error that our enemies have been careful to circulate, much to the hinderance of our medical truth.

A reply to the above queries will oblige,

Yours, most respectfully,
P. PIP. NIGER.

[The above queries shall be replied to in our next. We are glad to receive from correspondents such enquiries—an explanation would occupy more space than we have at our disposal in the present number.]—ED.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

Viewfield, Bridge of Allan, November 2nd, 1857.

DEAR SIR,—On reading your Review on Veterinary Homœopathy, I have thought it my duty to furnish you with the following statement of a case:

One of my horses, 6 years of age, has coughed for some months. Two weeks ago I consulted a popular veterinary surgeon about his disease. He pronounced it inflammation of the heart, and said I should treat him for that. I consulted Haycock's homœopathic veterinary work and administered 10 or 12 drop doses of *Aconite* & *Mercurius* alternated morning and evening. In three days he had pains in urinating, and lay down and rolled in what he passed. I stopped the medicines and gave *Bry.* 1, 12 drop doses morning and evening. His cough had changed before the *Bry.* was administered. The throat became less full. He could bear to have the larynx handled. Began to urinate freely and to perspire profusely, while standing in the stable. I have administered a few doses of *Sulphur*, and his cough seems quite gone, His spirits have risen gradually since a few days after the commencement of the course.

If you think it likely to be useful in similar cases, I shall be glad you publish the above statement and am

Yours very truly,
JAMES BLAIR.

[We thank Mr. Blair for sending us the above case, and we may be permitted to suggest that the doses may have been too large, hence the suffering while under the action of the medicines.]—ED.

REVIEW :

Allopathy Unmasked. BY ALEXANDER WOOD, M.D., F.R.C.P.,
Author of "Homœopathy Unmasked."

We live in stirring times. Momentous events ever and anon startle and astound us by unheard of wonders. The allopaths, in large numbers, are actually beginning to treat, as a serious science, that which they have hitherto affected to consider only a system of fraud and deceit—of despicable quackery and charlatanism, which should be severely and summarily interdicted by the strong arm of the law. Yes, even allopathic medical men tell us that they have only to enquire and reflect, in order to be convinced of the onward progress of truth—that personal experience, and an appeal to facts, commend and enforce the homœopathic system of medicine before all others; and, moreover, we are assured, the time is not far distant, when it will receive the practical testimony of all the great and good men, who sincerely study to promote the welfare of our common humanity. As knowledge expands, acquaintance with homœopathy and its principles becomes more general—man's little prejudices and narrow notions must inevitably vanish, like dew before the sun, the more truly learned they become—the more, in fact, they know, *of necessity it would seem*, the more near they must approach to the profound and truthful philosophy of the greatest of all medical teachers—

Samuel Hahnemann. The great object of this benefactor of our species, in the formation of his system, was to collect all that was valuable from preceding writers of ancient and modern times; and, by means of these materials, to erect a system, founded in nature, which should be truly *catholic*. His principles, accordingly, have not met with the fate of such as are built upon the sandy foundations of elaborate hypothesis—it can stand the test of the most searching and rigorous experimental observation. His grand discovery of the *infinitesimal dose* would alone serve to immortalize his reputation, as a correct observer, and a shrewd, sagacious practitioner; and, if we institute a comparison, if we compare it with any past or contemporary performance, which is, indeed, the proper method of judging of the merits of scientific works, we cannot fail to recognize it as an achievement of surpassing splendour and inimitable superiority.

The time is fast approaching, we repeat, when the minds of prejudiced, and bigoted allopathic practitioners, will be for ever emancipated from the degrading thralldom of old physic—an art of inglorious illusions which must speedily cease to be—and when the living, unerring truths of reason and science will be firmly substituted in their stead. The old school, however, is sufficiently criticised by its own adherents, to permit us to leave it to its natural fate of destruction. The following important remarks form the substance of one of Dr. Wood's contributions to rational medicine. Their spirit and tendency are in close harmony with our own views on this subject; though this harmony is, of course, not acknowledged by the destroying angel—the demolishing author of *Homœopathy Unmasked*. After some preliminary observations, Dr. Wood proceeds: “The foregoing conclusions shew our present treatment to be sadly irrational. Indeed, whether admitted or not,” continues the Secretary of the Edinburgh Royal College of Physicians, “the treatment, ordinarily pursued, is so very contradictory, as to prove that it at least cannot be right. In the case of convulsive diseases, wine, brandy, and opium—stimulants, are conjoined with the cold affusion, or cold bath—sedatives. We are further told to administer the most violent purgatives in these diseases, and are encouraged to persevere in their employment to an enormous extent, by the hope of eventually obtaining from the bowels, an assortment of strange and heterogeneous matters. In these diseases, where the violent muscular effort demands a large supply of blood, and where the want of that supply increases the irritability of the system, we are taught to bleed; beginning with from thirty to forty ounces, and repeating it, if need be. What end can bloodletting possibly subserve? There is no morbid matter in the circulating fluid which bleeding can remove! There is no inflammation which it can subdue! On the contrary, that terrible muscular action, like a consuming fire, is drawing away the nutriment of the system, even

faster than your relentless lancet; and when the supply is exhausted, the flickering taper will expire. Or, in the case of an unhappy infant, why will you apply cold water to a head, where no symptom of congestion or inflammation is to be found; harrow the gums with daily scarifications, and administer a powerful purgative—glorying in the expulsion of depraved secretions, which only indicate the impaired state of nutrition, and the necessity for a very opposite kind of treatment? Is it not worthy of consideration, whether obstinate constipation is *not* to be overcome by brute force, that is, purgatives? Certain it is, that when we succeed in overcoming the disease, the bowels will spontaneously relieve themselves. I have seen opium succeed in a case where purgatives had failed. Tralles has found the same. Lentilius, too, has confirmed this; and in a severe form, with colic, Bonn became convinced, by experience, that it was the most powerful remedy. Is bloodletting, then, a suitable remedy? It was formerly practised, but is now abandoned, from the injurious effects which it produced; even in acute mania, or raving madness, general depletion, tartar emetic, brisk cathartics, and ice to the shaved scalp, are no longer in vogue, as they once were; hence, the renowned Armstrong tells us, that those patients recover best, who get little active treatment, but are nursed, as it were, through the disease—[a skilful pilot does not attempt to quell the storm, but to conduct his ship in safety through it.] I am perfectly satisfied, if I have created any doubt as to the course which is at present too unhesitatingly followed. I do not despair of a sounder pathology soon prevailing, and of the discovery yet being made, that diseases are much more amenable to treatment than has hitherto been supposed by the most devoted admirer of those coarse remedies, the lancet, the bolus, and the bag and pipe." *This is a struggle in the right direction. The effort has, no doubt, become an absolute necessity. The medical mind must now be taught to require to take in, and appropriate to itself, homœopathic knowledge, as its natural food, as regularly, and as beneficially, as the stomach assimilates suitable aliment for the nutrition of the body. We advise the young practitioner to keep constantly in view these subjoined, pithy, homœopathic hints, respecting the successful treatment of disease.*

It is not often we have an opportunity of cheerfully endorsing the sentiments of our old reviler, the *Lancet*, the well-known organ of the allopathic apothecaries. In a late editorial address to students, the would-be anti-homœopathic journal thus truly discourses: "Having acquired a knowledge of the machine upon which you will hereafter be called upon to act—of the powers by which it is to be influenced—and of the laws that regulate both, the next step in the ladder is to learn how to apply it in observing and controlling disease. You will be impressed with the endless discrepancy in the opinions of those to whom you look up, as men of experience and ability—

with the intractability of morbid action—with every kind of treatment, not only of different but of opposite characters. All these circumstances are serious difficulties in the way of the student. They shew how essential it is to bring in the various forms of treatment, *under some law*—to ponder well upon the why and wherefore any plan is adopted, and either succeeds or fails—to lay hold, with a firm grasp, upon some *few simple principles*, to which this apparent chaos is to be referred. If this be done, all will become order; there will be no guessing, no empiricism, everything will be done with a definite object. *One such principle* becomes a guiding star, under endless varieties and difficulties. Unless the student pursue his investigations in this way, unless he strive to refer every variety, both of disease and treatment, *to some simple law*, he will become confused—he will enter practice with very ill-defined notions. When called upon to act, he will do that which he has seen others do, rather than what science dictates. Instead of surveying disease from the proud eminence to which he is elevated, by a knowledge of its laws, and of *the principle* upon which it may be controlled or allayed, he will ever be in doubt and difficulty, and in danger of impeding rather than aiding the curative efforts of nature.” To which we say, emphatically, Amen.

Allopathy, it will be thus seen, is rapidly passing through such a series of successive modifications, and an unmistakable contraction of its absurd fallacies, that its final extirpation—its complete overthrow—is simply a question of time. This much is quite certain: its ablest advocates in modern times have utterly repudiated it, as worse than nothing, and have adopted *medicine expectante*. Quantity is no longer habitually associated with force: our hopes, say the most eminent physicians, of the increasing efficacy and usefulness of medical art, must entirely depend on the progress which may yet be expected in a line of inquiry in which our success has already been considerable; viz, in the discovery of specifics, which may counteract the different morbid signs and symptoms of which the human body is susceptible, as effectually as cinchona counteracts ague or intermittent fever, citric acid scurvy, arsenic its analogous stage of cholera, aconite inflammatory fever, phosphorus pneumonic affections, belladonna erysipelas, mercury sore throat, sulphur skin disease, and so on, throughout the whole new specific art of healing—the natural law of cure by drugs; which has long since distinctly proved, nay demonstrated, as clearly as a proposition in Euclid, that small quantities *cure*, large quantities *kill*. Allopathy appears now as a sophism—homœopathy in its true and shining light. We have faith in enlightened observation; and it affords us signal pleasure to forestall the future judgment of honorable minds, who cannot but feel humiliated that they should so earnestly have tried to smother an important truth. Such observations as we have quoted cannot be too widely disseminated. They are confessions, richly deserving of imitation. We therefore commend them to the notice of our

colleague, Dr. Hitchman, of Liverpool, who, we hear, is about to *resume* his popular lectures on the new science, in that great northern metropolis. We fervently trust they will serve as beacons, shining from afar, to warn others from the fatal rock, on which so many have been hitherto wrecked; for it can no longer be supposed, that nature has, in the instance of medicine, made an untoward exception to the invariable laws, which preside over the government of the world, and the inhabitants thereof. No! medical *science* may, in truth, be said even now, to literally consist of a well-regulated diet, proper exercise, an harmonious system of physical education, the internal and external use of cold water, an abundance of pure fresh air—these, with homœopathic attenuations of true medicinal substances, are amply sufficient to dispel and remove all the curable disturbances, which can possibly take place in the functions of the human organism. This point being well and clearly established, we have acquired the basis of a certain, positive, scientific system of modern therapeutics. Let us, therefore, be earnest, “watch and pray,” that the cold earth continue not to close over the poor, afflicted remains of an atrocious and time-cursed system, which already numbers its countless millions of victims—an heterogeneous and destructive art; which, as our gifted and lamented teacher, Sir Astley Cooper, wisely observed, is “founded in conjecture, and not even improved by murder,” Truly this *is* allopathy unmasked!

HOMŒOPATHY AT BALAKLAVA IN THE CRIMEA.

(Continued from No. 1, vol. 3, for November, 1857, by the Editor of
“*Medical Despotism, or Official Injustice.*”)

No. 8.—DIARRHŒA.

WILLIAM CAULTEE, aged 30, nervous, bilious temperament and active habit.

March 15th. Take of *Camph.* tinct. gutt. iv. in water, 1-4 every three hours.

March 16th. Patient is quite relieved.

No. 9.—CYNANCHE TONSILLARIS.

CAPTAIN GRANT, of the *Joseph Shepherd*, of middle age, nervous, bilious temperament and active habit.

March 20th. Complained of sore throat.

Take of *Bell.* 3-1 in water at once.

21st. He is quite well, but says that the medicine made his *head ache fearfully while he was under its influence.*

No. 10.—DIARRHŒA.

JOHN FIERMAN, of middle age, bilious temperament and active habit; has had diarrhœa for a fortnight, with numerous evacuations

daily; has taken *opium pills and chalk mixture*; notwithstanding which, he still suffers.

March 21st. Take of *Aconite* 3-2 in water, 1-8 every two hours.

March 22nd. Had four liquid evacuations yesterday; is very feverish to-day—tongue white, but evacuations fewer and more solid.

Take of *Aconite* 3-24 at once. Farinaceous diet and rice water for drink.

March 23rd. Patient is better; less fever, but diarrhœa continues.

Take of *Veratrum alb.* 8-12 and 3-30, at intervals of six hours to-day.

March 25th. The vessel *Joseph Shepherd* left Balaklava, patient being much better; but Captain (Grant) was directed to give him *Cuprum aceticum* and *Veratrum alb.*, of each, 3-30 alternately night and morning for three days.

NO. 11.—NERVOUS DYSPEPSIA.

JAMES PORTER, aged 35, of robust frame and bilious temperament, mate of the *Royal Victoria*, complains of sickness at the stomach, and peculiar pain in the interior of the head, increased by pressure on the forehead; there is also great sensitiveness of the scalp and teeth.

March 20th. Take of *Aconite* 3-1, in water, 1-8 every three hours.

March 21st. Slept well, but *dreamed*; bowels confined; complains of suffering *habitually from cold feet and hands*.

Take of *Arsenicum alb.* 3-6 at once.

March 22nd. Slept well, appetite good, *bowels inactive, dreamed a little unpleasantly*, tongue white in the centre, red round the edges, and thirst moderate; has a very bad taste in the mouth, and coughs up a large quantity of thick dark-coloured mucus every morning on awaking; he also suffers from weakness in the legs, from the knees downward, and they tremble while walking, or if he is excited about anything, his feet frequently feeling as if dead; pulse quick, and of moderate strength; skin inactive and dry.

Take of *Arsenicum* 3-12 at once.

March 23rd. Slept well, appetite good, thirst *moderate*, tongue white, *bowels acted moderately—once yesterday*; pulse regular, soft, and full, but rather irritable; skin rather dry, hands and feet not so cold, scalp and face still sensitive to the touch, but *pain in the interior of the head is better*.

Take of *Arsenicum alb.* 3-30 at once.

This was the last time the editor prescribed for this patient, or spoke to him; but he had certainly improved considerably while under treatment, for he saw him again before his departure from the Crimea, yet without speaking to him, when he appeared to be in good health.

NO. 12.—ACUTE RHEUMATISM, aggravated by Allopathic Treatment.

FREDERICK STONES, aged 29, of a nervous temperament and active

habit, seaman on board the steam ship *Hecla*, employed in the Crimean Railway Expedition. General health had been previously good, but he has lately suffered from severe pain in the right shoulder with inability to move it, for which he was blistered and took opening medicine at the recommendation of one of the surgeons attached to the expedition. This did not relieve him; but, on the contrary, the right knee became affected with severe pain also; for which he was again blistered and took alternative medicines, but without relief. He had been ill for a fortnight under the above treatment, when the writer first saw him at the request of the chief officer of the *Hecla*, Mr. Elliot.

March 26th. He is now unable to move the right arm without experiencing severe pain in the shoulder; the right knee is very painful when touched, and the corresponding foot and ankle are so swollen and painful as to render the patient incapable of walking; bowels regular; tongue large, thick, furred, and white; pulse regular, quick, and irritable; skin warm; patient cannot sleep at night; appetite has been very bad indeed, but is now rather better.

To have the surface of the body cleansed with yellow soap and tepid water. Take of *Aconite* 2-3, in water, 1-4 every four hours.

March 27th. Slept better; still feverish.

Take of *Arsenicum alb.* 2-3, in water, 1-4 every four hours.

March 28th. Slept better than he has done for a week; bowels regular; appetite good; tongue white, furred, broad, but moist; pulse regular, soft, quick, and weak; skin warm.

Take of *Arsenicum alb.* 6-6, in water, 1-4 every four hours.

March 29th. Better in every respect. Slept very well; appetite very good, but has taken nothing but porridge and boiled rice, with biscuit, rice water, and tea; tongue not so white, but still furred and large; pulse regular, soft, quick, but not so weak; skin dry; patient perspires a little; bowels quite regular, acting once daily; urine free.

Take of *Arsenicum* 6-12, in water, 1-4 every four hours.

March 30. Still better. Slept very well; bowels acted two or three times yesterday; urine abundant; appetite good; no thirst; tongue not so white and less furred; pulse regular and soft, but still weak; skin still rather warm and dry; countenance composed and expression hopeful.

Take of *Arsenicum* 6-30 at once.

April 1st. Patient passed a restless night. The pains still remain.

Take *Bell.* 2-3, in water, 1-4 every four hours.

April 2nd. Better. Slept all night; bowels regular; pulse regular and soft, but weak.

Take *China* 3-12 at once.

April 7th. Experiences a bruised sensation on moving the limbs.

Take of *Causticum* 3-12 at once.

April 8th. Slept well; less pain; able to move the limbs with more ease.

Take of *Sulphur* 2-5 at once.

April 9th. Patient is nearly well.

April 10th. Right shoulder still a little painful when moved; right leg and ankle nearly well.

April 11th. Patient is at work.

Take of *Causticum* 3-12.

This was the last prescription; the patient being still able to work when the writer left the *Hœcla* on the 2nd of May, 1855, in order to return to England in the *Prince of Wales*.

To be continued.

CASE TREATED AT THE TOWCESTER HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

CHEST DISEASE.

June 30, 1857. C. L., aged 32, residing at Paulerspury; married. Sensation of tightness across chest, as if she could not draw her breath, aggravated by exercise; aching pain across lumbar region; sharp, deep-seated pain in the left hypochondrium, worse when taking an inspiration; aching, numb pain between shoulders; frequent palpitation at heart. Not menstruated since last confinement, twelve months ago. Legs swell.

To take *Sulphur* 12-12 for a week.

July 7. Sent to say that she is better. Still pain in her side.

Take *Bryonia* 12-12 for a week.

July 14. Complains of a fluttering sensation in cardiac region; feels as if her breath would go altogether at times; bowels regular.

Take *Arsenicum* 12-12.

28. Writes, The pain in side has left her; breath improves.

Continue *Arsenicum*.

Aug. 4. Came. Quite well.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 3.—Vol. 3.

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NEW SERIES.—PRICE 2D.

THE
LAMENTED DEATH OF AUGUSTUS O'BRIEN STAFFORD,
M. P. FOR NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

IN our last issue we gave a report of the coroner's inquest on the body of the above gentleman. The report was furnished by the reporter of the *Daily News*. Its accuracy has not been disputed. Its sad revelations have excited an undying interest, not only in the minds of the constituency which sent the gentleman to parliament, but in every one who has perused the history of the atrocious treatment to which he was subjected, not by the "unlicensed fraternity of quacks," as medical journalists sneeringly write of those who administer healing to their fellow-beings, but who have not passed through that effete routinism, by which men are qualified (?) to practice. No! that torture, from first to last of poor Stafford's illness, was inflicted under direction of the licensed—of those who, as a body, sneer at homœopathy, hydropathy, and every other rational means which have not been adopted by the "orthodox"—those who obstinately oppose the introduction of humane treatment—who, some of them at least, would, if they had the power, put to death, banish, or imprison the practitioner of homœopathy—who have, indeed, incarcerated in gaols, some, for having acted out their principles of humanity—who exclude from their medical associations those who have embraced homœopathy—men, who so long as a medical man follows the teachings of their schools respect him and hold him in high estimation, but as soon as he renounces the old and embraces a new and better system, is stigmatized as a "quack," "knave," "impostor," "madman," "cheat," "liar."*

We sincerely sympathize with the relations of poor Stafford. We

* See the *Lancet*, from which these extracts are taken, as applied to homœopaths.

grieve that a man so well known as a benefactor of human kind—a man of whom it has recently been said, “an exquisitely discriminating and inextinguishable love for man had become the ruling principle and passion of his life,” was submitted to torture, such as if inflicted by an American slave-owner on a negro, would have been sufficient to excite the sympathies of a Christian world, expressed at an Exeter hall meeting, or it might have called forth another *Uncle Tom's Cabin* or some such production; but, alas! Stafford met his death not at the hands of *slave-owners* but *slaves*—slaves to prejudice, orthodoxy, “established rule,” LEGITIMATE MEDICINE, as Dr. Sandwith, of Hull, calls the quackery of allopathy. Oh, that this death of Stafford would rouse the faculty from their wilful coma, and lead them to seek better modes of relieving suffering than by the administration of opiates, so hazardous to life. Would that parliament could be moved to an enquiry into the circumstances of this sad case; and who shall say that a case is not made out for parliamentary enquiry? Many a more trivial case than the sacrifice of human life—the death of a member of parliament—has engrossed the attention of the house; and we hope yet that an opportunity will be presented to bring before the notice of the legislature the *unnecessary death* of Stafford. We are not without hope, that in the progress of homœopathy among the people, the growing disgust for allopathic treatment so full of danger to life and health, that a jury will be engaged in the investigation into the *medical* causes of death.

The cause of death has hitherto been sought in the soul-deprived body—in the alteration of tissue, the diseased organs, the lesion of structures—the medicinal causes of death have yet to be enquired into; and we do not despair of having an opportunity yet of demonstrating to a coroner's jury the serious fact that the patients of allopathic practitioners die by *means calculated to destroy life*. This is so in the case of Stafford; and we wish, for the sake of humanity, that we had been present at the inquest to have shown, first, admitting that the patient was suffering from passing gall stones, the administration of opium was unnecessary, and therefore unjustifiable. Secondly, bleeding was absolutely dangerous. Thirdly, the bastinadoing of the feet was cruel, because unnecessary. Fourthly, that the patient might have been relieved by *proper treatment* without subjecting him to opiates, bleeding, and torture. Now for a resumé of the evidence:

Michael Naughten had been in the service of Mr. Stafford about twenty-three years, and continued so to his death. His evidence upon oath, before the jury, was to the effect that his master had been residing at his home, Cratloe, county Clare, about a month; and that he arrived there in very good health. He was taken ill about the 4th of November; up to three o'clock, p.m., on that day, he had been in his usual good health; he then had pain in the stomach, and expressed his fear that that nasty old pain, which he had

before, was coming on again. He had two similar attacks—one a year before, and one last summer; on the former occasion, Dr. Griffin, of Limerick, attended him. Dr. Griffin, therefore, was not a stranger to the case. On the first occasion, the attack lasted about an hour and a half or two hours; on the second occasion, when in London, and attended by Mr. Cutler of Savile Row, he was ill half an hour. On the 4th of November the attack commenced about three o'clock. Dr. Griffin was sent for, and reached the patient at about half past six, and remained with him about an hour and a half; he, within that time, gave two draughts, and some hot water to act as an emetic, and bled him. The patient was made sick. "Dr. Griffin was not more than half an hour in the house before he *bled my master*." Dr. Griffin shortly after left, saying, "I have given your master something to make him sleep." After this he did sleep under the influence of the opiate. About eleven o'clock "his breathing was very hard, much more so than usual; he was snoring." At two o'clock, a.m., he continued to sleep and breathe very hard. The witness went to bed, and at five o'clock, a.m., Mr. Stafford called him up, as his arm was bleeding, the bandage having slipped off. *In about five minutes he was asleep again*—snoring, breathing deep and hard. It was now very difficult to wake him. Dr. Griffin having been sent for, came, and "awoke my master by giving him a good shake, *but in one minute he was asleep again*—uttered few words like a drunken man"—the patient was taken out of bed and walked about; his head falling aside, he still sleeping. "We could not keep him awake by walking any longer. Dr. Griffin then put him in a chair and told us to slap the soles of his feet. The next thing got was a razor strop, with which Dr. Griffin "beat the patient's feet for about twenty minutes." During this process the patient occasionally opened his eyes, looked around, then fell asleep again. "*The doctor did the slapping himself for about twenty minutes, but then his hands got blistered and he could not continue to hit him hard enough, for he was getting heavier asleep*." The beating was continued until the handle of the razor strop broke; wooden "battles were then made, *eighteen inches long, four inches wide, and half an inch thick*; of these, one dozen were broken in beating the *soles of the feet, the palms of his hands, and the calves of his legs*; the beaters then returned to the feet and beat them until the skin came off." Speaking of the continued suffering, the witness says, "*We were obliged to hit him hard enough to make him feel it all over*." *The beating was continued from eight o'clock in the morning until eight or nine o'clock at night.* FIVE MEN TOOK PART IN THE BEATING, relieving each other, the doctor being present during the whole time.

We have heard a great deal of the barbarous practice of flogging in the army; but who ever heard of a soldier being flogged during *twelve hours*? And that which would have been pronounced barbarous and cruel, yea inhuman, if inflicted on a *criminal*, was inflicted upon

this poor victim ; whose misfortune it was to have had bodily pain, and whose suffering, instead of being mitigated by rational treatment, was increased a thousand-fold. Poor fellow ! one's blood chills when we read of the strokes he received ; and our blood boils when we think of the cruelty done to a poor, innocent victim of ignorant medical men. " Beat him hard ! " said Dr. Wilkinson also to the five men engaged in the deadly work. During the beating, the arm burst out bleeding twice.

Dr. Wilkinson, on being asked by the affectionate servant what he thought of his master—" Was it the loss of blood that caused the state he was in ? "—said, "*Oh no ! the loss of blood would only make him weak—he got an overdose of laudanum.*" Dr. Griffin said, " If you let him sleep for half an hour, he will never waken—he will die in it." Poor Stafford is reported to have said, before and after he was conveyed to Dublin, " Dr. Griffin ought to be ashamed of himself for having given him so much laudanum." One of the medical witnesses at the inquest, Sir Henry Marsh, said : " Circumstances might possibly justify the exhibition of 150 drops of laudanum, 150 of henbane, and 100 of ether ; but the four doses, making together 200 drops of laudanum, 200 of henbane, and 100 of ether, *given within four hours, I can scarcely conceive any circumstances to justify.* I would consider thirty ounces of blood, under such circumstances, a large bleeding. In my judgment, bleeding would tend to increase the narcotic powers of these medicines on the constitution." This witness is asked by Mr. Blake the following question : " Would you say that narcotic medicine contributed to the death of Mr. Stafford ? " Sir Henry Marsh replied : "*Save so far as it debilitated him, it did not contribute to his death. Bleeding and narcotic medicines unquestionably did debilitate him. The debility of his heart was instrumental in causing his death ; and another cause I believe to have been, for about 38 hours there was an almost total suppression of urine.*"

Now mark, reader, Sir Henry Marsh testifies that

1. *a.* Debility was the cause of death.

β. Bleeding and narcotics unquestionably did debilitate him.

2. Another cause of death was suppression of urine.

—Was there ever clearer evidence of a cause and effect than in this lamentable case ?

The attempt to explain death by fatty degeneration of the heart is sheer nonsense, and was simply offered to screen the perpetrators of the horrid deed. Sir H. Marsh says he had a weak heart, evidenced by the pulse. Would not a feeble pulse be the inevitable consequence of the loss of thirty ounces or *two pounds of blood*, and the administration of depressants, opium and henbane, in enormous doses ? If any disease of the heart was deducible from the pulse, why was he bled, and why narcotized ?

Then as to the suppression of urine. If Sir Henry Marsh had

studied the pathogenetic effects of drugs, as did Hahnemann, he would have known that opium produces this condition. Symptoms 270 to 282 of opium, in Hahnemann's *materia medica*, point out this fact.

Again, Sir Henry Marsh said, "I would consider the circumstances of his stertorous breathing during the night, and the necessity of flogging the soles of Mr. Stafford's feet to arouse him from lethargy during the whole of the next day, as *decided evidence of his having been completely narcotized, and the use of opium to, I would say, a dangerous extent.*"

So much for Sir Henry Marsh's evidence; and now comes that of Mr. George Porter, who made the *post mortem* examination, assisted by Professor Robert Smith: "From the result of the *post mortem*, I would say that he died of fatty degeneration of the heart. I think the loss of even a small quantity of blood would be *highly injurious and dangerous* to a man affected with fatty degeneration of the heart. I think the administration of any narcotics would be highly injurious, and would weaken the action of the heart. The larger the quantity of the dose, the greater the effect would necessarily be. I think to reduce a patient suffering from such affection of the heart by the administration of any narcotic to such a state that it would be necessary to flog the soles of his feet to keep him awake, would be *highly injurious.*" Mr. Porter also said, "I do not believe that to any physician or surgeon, however accomplished, it is possible to discover the existence of fatty degeneration of the heart in the *early stages.* Dr. Robert Smith stated that the heart was *far advanced* in fatty degeneration. If far advanced, the pulse would have *contra* indicated bleeding; therefore bleeding was criminal, and the administration of narcotics equally so.

How, after the evidence furnished, the jury could have returned the following verdict, we are at a loss to discover: "We find that the said Stafford Augustus O'Brien Stafford died from natural causes, and that there is no blame to be attached to Dr. Griffin for the treatment which deceased received while at Limerick under his care."

Deceased was only in his forty-sixth year when he fell a victim to the barbarities of allopathy. Stress is laid upon the fatty state of the heart. All medical testimony shews that with such a heart he might have lived to seventy or eighty years of age. Copious bleeding and narcotism produced their dreadful effects. Marvellous indeed it is that the medical attendants, either from ignorance or forgetfulness, never administered an *antidote* to the opium. Why did they not give coffee, or camphor, or ether? Why was not a warm bath given?

For his diseased state, *nothing* was done. Stupify him! stupify him!—bleed him! bleed him!—beat him! beat him! These were done, and as a consequence he died. Poor Stafford is added to the long list of victims to medical ignorance and barbarity, legitimately done to death.

HOMŒOPATHY AT BALAKLAVA, IN THE CRIMEA.

(Continued from No. 2, Vol. 3, for December, 1857, by the Editor of "Medical Despotism, or Official Injustice.")

NO. 13.—SORE THROAT AND SCARLET RASH.

JAMES BLACKBURN, aged 25, of robust frame and active habits, fireman on board the *Hecla*; general health good.

March 28th. Complains of sore throat and an eruption of red pimples on the skin, which is very painful, particularly on the abdomen. Cleanse the entire surface of the body with yellow soap and tepid water. Take of *Belladonna* 3-2 in water; 1-4 every four hours.

29th.—Slept ill; bowels confined; tongue white and furred; pulse regular, soft, and weak; sore throat rather worse; eruptions on the skin rather more painful. Take *Sulphur* 5-2 in water, at once.

30th. Bowels acted twice yesterday; eruptions on skin less painful; throat still painful. Take *Belladonna* 12-3 at once.

April 4th. Eruptions troublesome. Take of *Acid. Phosph.* 3-2 in water at once. After this patient did not complain for some time; on the contrary, he returned to work, and seemed to be pretty well. But before the editor left the *Hecla*, on the 2nd of May, patient said that he had some remains of irritation on the skin, for which he requested medicine. He was directed to use the cold ablution daily, with a farinaceous and fresh meat and vegetable diet, abstaining from the use of tobacco, coffee, and spirits; and, at the same time, to take a table-spoonful, night and morning, of a mixture of four drops of *Sulphur* 5 in a wine-bottle of pure water; which, there is little doubt, was efficacious.

NO. 14.—A CASE OF BOILS.

ROBERT HARVEY, aged 20, sanguine temperament, active habit, seaman on board the *Hecla*; general health good.

April 7th. Now complains of two or three large boils on the forearm, which are painful and indolent; took *Sulphur* 5-2 last evening. Repeat the dose this morning; apply damp lint and oil-silk over it as a dressing.

9th. Patient nearly well.

10th. Boils are succeeded by a papular eruption on the right fore-arm. Recipe *Sulphur*, 12-3. Did not see him after this, as he went to work without further complaint.

NO. 15.—CASE OF CONTUSED AND LACERATED WOUND.

EDMUND CORNELL, aged 19, sanguine temperament, active habit; general health good; seaman on board the *Hecla*.

April 7th. About a week ago a heavy screw-hammer fell from the gaff-head, upwards of thirty or forty feet from the deck, upon the forefinger of the left hand, and cut it severely; but it is not

certain that the bone was fractured. Friar's balsam and lint were first applied to the wound by the mate of the ship, and afterwards the cold water dressing. Inflammation followed, for which the editor directed *Acon.* 3-2 to be taken immediately, and warm oat-meal poultices to be applied. After two days, under this treatment, the pain and swelling had greatly increased. The poultices were then exchanged for lint wrung out of cold water, and covered with oil-silk, giving, at the same time, *Arsen.* 3-2 at once. This was done on the evening of April 7th. The next morning he felt much relieved; there was less pain and swelling of the finger, and the wound discharged pus freely. He then took *Sulphur* 5-2 at once, and continued the same dressing.

9th. Much better.

10th. Finger much easier, but still swollen. Take *Hepar. sulph.* 3-12. After this he took no more medicine, but continued the same local application, under which he quite regained the use of his finger.

NO. 16.—CASE OF INFLAMMATION OF RIGHT SHOULDER-JOINT, RESULTING FROM PREVIOUS LUXATION.

WILLIAM ROBERTSON, aged 35; sanguine temperament, active habit; seaman on board the *Hecla*; general health good.

About three weeks ago he dislocated his shoulder, which was reduced, and the usual bandages applied by one of the surgeons of the expedition.

March 28th. He now complains of pain in the joint and inability to move the limb easily. Take of *Aconite* 3-2 in water at once. After this he got quite well, and went to work without further trouble.

NO. 17.—VENEREAL EXCORIATION OF THE PREPUCE.

WILLIAM LAMPLOUGH, aged 24; active habit; seaman on board the *Hecla*.

March 26th. Take *Merc. viv.* 5-2 in water; 1-4 every four hours.

30th. Quite well.

NO. 18.—RHEUMATISM OF LEFT KNEE-JOINT.

THOMAS MAXWELL, aged 27; sanguine temperament, active habit; seaman on board the *Hecla*; had enjoyed good general health till lately, when he suffered from a severe cold, for which he took no medicine. The night before last,

March 26th, he experienced a severe pain in the left knee, for which he applied for medicine, and took *Aconite* 3-2 in water, 1-4 every four hours, applying also a wet compress and flannel bandage to the knee.

28th. Much better; slept well; bowels regular; appetite good; tongue white in centre, red round the edges; skin warm; pulse regular, soft, and weak. Take *Arsen.* 3-2 in water at once. After this he complained no more, but went to work.

NO. 19.—CHRONIC BRONCHITIS.

SERGEANT LINFORD, of Her Majesty's 63rd Regiment, aged 32; robust frame, lymphatic temperament, indolent habit; had enjoyed good health till last January (1855), when he began to suffer from a very severe cough and cold, with tightness over the chest and under the left arm. His breathing was also oppressed and painful; his appetite bad; and he vomited up his food; besides which he experienced lightness and giddiness of the head. For these ailments he has been taking (by the advice of a military surgeon) *nauseating doses of tartarized antimony for about three months, without any good effects.*

Having been previously asked by the Rev. John Hayward, the benevolent chaplain to the hospital at Balaklava, if he could do anything for Linford, the editor undertook to treat him homœopathically, he being then in charge of the depôt of his regiment at Balaklava. At present (March 30th) he suffers from a slight cough, with evening and morning expectoration of thick, yellow mucus, which takes a globular form on being ejected from the mouth, but it is *not so offensive as it was.* Bowels regular; appetite very bad; thirst considerable; urine high coloured and abundant; rest at night disturbed and unrefreshing; expression of eyes dull; complexion sallow; tongue white; pulse regular, soft, and weak; skin nearly natural; respiration rather difficult, and taking a full breath is attended by pain; walking and bodily exertion in general are attended by a sensation of great debility.

Discontinue tartarized antimony. Take *Aconite* 3-2 in water, 1-4 every three hours. Farinaceous diet, and rice-water for drink.

April 10th. Feels weak, and complains of a severe pain in the region of the heart; pulse very weak; he is also very sick at stomach after eating; bowels regular; *rest at night very good.* Take *Arsen.* 12-3. Continue diet.

13th. Better. Take *China* 12-3. Same diet.

14th. Better. Slept well. Bowels regular; pulse stronger; no sickness of stomach; expectoration mucous, thick, and easy. Take *China* 12-3. Continue diet.

16th. Better. Slept very well. Cough less severe; expectoration free; pulse low, feeble, and slow; skin cool. Take *China* 12-3 three times daily.

18th. Slept well. Bowels regular; spirits better; coughs very little; expectoration slight and easy. Take *China* 12-3, night and morning, for three days, after taking *Sulphur* 12-3 at once.

28th. Has taken all the medicine last prescribed, and also 1-4 grain of *Sulphate of Quinine* twice daily since the 25th. He is now much better in every respect. Continue *Sulphate of Quinine*; but diminish the dose every day.

The editor continued to see the patient, and to prescribe for him occasionally, after this, but without taking notes of what he gave

him, till the 3rd of May; when, with the exception of a slight occasional nervous pain in the side, his health seemed pretty good. He confessed that he had improved rapidly under the editor's treatment, and was thankful for the benefit received, but was sorry he was going to leave the Crimea; yet he hoped he would return.

This was a religious man, of the Wesleyan persuasion; a hero of the Alma and Inkermann; of a very ardent and poetical turn of mind, who used to write very good verses, which, during the long absence from his wife, family, and home, which he was destined to endure, was a means of dissipating the otherwise painful intensity of his moral, religious, and social feelings. What a scourge is war! What tongue can utter its countless horrors? Fatigue of body; weariness and heaviness of mind; hunger, thirst, cold, heat, and moisture; privations of almost every natural, social, and political comfort; sickness, sorrow, anguish, and death! In the midst of these, and much more that is afflictive to the spirit of a civilized man, there was one, at least, in the East who could intelligently, say, in these latter days, "Where is *God, my Maker, who giveth songs in the night?*—who teacheth us more than the beasts of the earth, and maketh us wiser than the fowls of heaven?" (See Job, chap. xxxv., v. 10 and 11.)

Mr. Editor, I have now concluded the series of cases which *I treated homœopathically in the Crimea*—at least such as I took notes of; for I treated many more, and successfully treated them, without taking any notes. Of these, however, I do not pretend to give any account here, further than the statement of the fact that *I did treat them homœopathically*. I may add that, although I treated a great number of serious cases, including cases of cholera, cholérine, and severe diarrhœa, &c., *homœopathically*, at least as much so as the cases which I have recorded, both on board ship, while going to the Crimea, and also in harbour, after my arrival at Balaklava, *I am happy to say that I did not lose a single patient*; and your readers may judge, from the cases recorded, that *many of these cases would have been considered serious ones under any mode of medical treatment*. I make no boast of this. My feeling is that of humble thankfulness to the Almighty for his goodness, in enabling me to overcome so many difficulties. But while I *conscientiously* make this acknowledgment in your columns, under a deep sense of my own deficiencies, I cannot but deplore the *blind bigotry of the medical profession, as a body*, and the *extreme mediocrity of the men who constitute the Queen's Ministry*. I hope and trust in the Lord, Mr. Editor, that I know my business quite as well as they know theirs.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

THE EDITOR OF "MEDICAL DESPOTISM,
OR OFFICIAL INJUSTICE."

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LATE MR. STAFFORD.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

Dublin, December 14th, 1857.

SIR,—If you can find space in your valuable paper for the inclosed remarks it might serve the cause of homœopathy; and as you have promised us a detailed review of the poor, late lamented member's case, do please send copies to the leading papers here, as the perusal of such an article may awaken the faculty from *their narcotism*.

From the evidence before me as regards Mr. Stafford's death, I must come to the following conclusion: that the immediate cause of death was exhaustion, produced by blood-letting and the continued cruel Chinese bambooning. The effect of the excessive opiate would not have caused death, for its effect would have worn itself out in sleep, if such sleep were permitted, and the heart's action would have been restored by sleep, and by the *new milk which was so justly prescribed and given by his own servant*. Ordinary reflection ought to have pointed out the enfeebled heart's action, and not narcotism, as producing the desire to sleep, and the wish for the recumbent posture to equalize the circulation. We have no example of narcotism where patients get out of bed and call for assistance, but in approaching debility we have; for an immediate alarm is produced by an internal warning, as evinced in the case of Mr. Stafford.

The *Chinese treatment* was cruel in the extreme, and a little reflection would at once have shewn its absurdity and injury: in this case it produced concussion of the nervous centres and death. The only use in arousing a narcotized person is merely to produce vomiting and empty the stomach, and then to administer an antidote; but from the report of Mr. Stafford's treatment, it does not come out as the object of the medical attendant: indeed the treatment throughout was barbarous, and worthy of the middle ages.

A few tumblers of warm water and a hot bath are nearly always sufficient to assist the passage of a gallstone through the duct into the duodenum; or to assist the passage of a stone from the kidney into the bladder. No more violent treatment is ever required. An emetic of warm water and the hot bath have the power of relaxing the fibres of the ducts. All medicines in large or what we may now call poisonous doses are injurious. Nature makes every effort to tell us this. Aperients exhibit their poisonous action by purging; emetics by vomiting; opiates by sleep; diuretics by the kidneys; diaphoretics by the skin; and this is nature's way of ridding the system of a poison.

Would we but guide and watch nature, we would be wise physicians, and not as we are, unwise, opposing nature and nature's laws, and giving physic at random, without any law, and so combined as to be unintelligible and most injurious.

MEDICUS, I.R.C.S.I.

REVIEW.

The Monthly Homœopathic Review. EDITED BY DR. RYAN. London : Simpkin, Marshall, & Co., Stationers' Hall Court.

WE have occasionally noticed the above ably conducted periodical when edited by our talented friend and physician, Dr. Ozanne, of Guernsey. We regret that failing health has necessitated the late editor to yield the conduct of the journal to a successor, in the hands of Dr. John Ryan, of London. However, it must prosper.

The number before us gives evidence of the continued utility of homœopathic periodicals; and although the *Monthly Review* is more suited to the professional reader than to the general public, the latter, who take an interest in the progress of homœopathy and its literature, would do well to patronize the *Monthly Review*.

The December number contains some admirable cases, contributed by Drs. Liedbeck, Chapman, &c.; a digest of the Organon of Hahnemann, and an amount of information, condensed into a few pages, which would afford ample material for a quarterly.

An ably written article appears, by Dr. Ryan, which we give *in extenso* :

"ALLOPATHIC EVIDENCE OF THE PERSISTENCY OF THE
HOMŒOPATHIC LAW.

"In the *Lancet* of November 21st, the editor, in a leading article on the subject of the New London Homœopathic Hospital, once more flings the taunt of '*knavery*' in the face of the homœopathic practitioners.

"If the administration, in disease, of small doses of the very remedies, which, in large doses, would produce similar symptoms,—in other words, if homœopathic praxis be a sign of knavery, the practitioners of the new school certainly have not the monopoly of that ill-quality.

"In the very same number of the *Lancet*, which reiterates the taunt of knavery against the followers of Hahnemann, there is a paper on the employment of arsenic in cholera; in which the writer, after having drawn a vivid picture of the choleraic symptoms, proceeds to say, 'here are the indications for arsenic—in a word, its reflected portrait.' Hahnemann himself could have said no more: and yet, in the hands of an allopathic physician, such unmistakable homœopathy is *not* considered knavery. The same writer, in alluding to his treatment of cholera, speaks of the successful administration of half-drop doses of tincture of *Aconite*, and of the employment of '*the hundredth part of a grain of arsenic.*' 'Abundant clinical experience,' he adds, 'has taught me that doses large enough to disturb the general system have often very little power over disease, which in truth succumbs readily to much smaller quantities.' In a former number we have shewn that many eminent allopathic writers hold the same opinion on the subject of dose.

“The ‘provings’ of the allopathic school are, for the most part, derived from cases of accidental or criminal poisoning; the materials, therefore, for demonstrating the constancy of the law of similars, are more scanty than in the records of homœopathic practice. It is not, however, a difficult task to shew, on the authority of allopathic writers alone, that their obligations to the homœopathic law are both frequent and extensive.

“Hahnemann has enumerated more than forty remedies, by means of which allopathic practitioners have effected homœopathic cures, although ‘the physicians themselves knew not what they were doing and acted in forgetfulness of the contrary doctrines of their own school.’—(*Introduction to the Organon of Medicine.*)

“The following are the remedies mentioned by the founder of homœopathy:

“White Hellebore—Tobacco—Agaricus muscarius—Oil of Aniseed—Millefoil—Arbutus uva ursi—Colchicum autumnale—Jalap—Senna—Dictamnus—Clematis—Euphrasia—Nutmeg—Rose-water—Poison Sumach—Dulcamara—Solanum nigrum—Sambucus niger—Scilla maritima—Datura stramonium—Cinchona—Ipecacuanha—Ignatia—Arnica montana—Belladonna—Hyoscyamus—Camphor—Wines—Tea—Opium—Sabine—Musk—Vaccination—Cantharides—Sulphur—Carbonate of Potash—Arsenic—Copper—Tin—Lead—Mercury—Electricity.

“To this list, already so formidable, we propose to add the following medicines, taken from the *Materia Medica* of the old school; and for a description of their effects, and of the diseases in which they are administered, we shall rely entirely upon allopathic authorities; giving, wherever we can, their own records of the results of large and of small doses.

“*Tartar emetic.*—In large doses this salt ‘gives rise to vomiting and purging.’—(Pereira, *Elem. Mat. Med.*)

“‘It will surprise some to learn that Tartar emetic, as a general sedative remedy, will allay sickness.’—(Billing, *Princip. Med.*)

“‘It has been used with great effect to arrest purging, in diarrhœa, and cholera.’—(A. S. Taylor, *Guy’s Hospital Reports.*)

“In poisonous doses Tartar emetic causes engorgement and inflammation of the lungs. Majendie found that the lungs of animals killed by it were ‘of an orange-red or violet colour, incapable of crepitating, gorged with blood, and here and there hepatized.’ Orfila, Jules Cloquet, Dr. A. S. Taylor, and others, have recorded similar conditions in the lungs of men poisoned by this drug.—(Orfila, *Toxicol. Gen.: Guy’s Hospital Reports. &c.*)

“As a remedy for lung inflammation, Tartar emetic has long been employed in allopathic practice. As a nauseant emetic, and diaphoretic, in peripneumonia, it was used by Riverius in the seventeenth century; subsequently it was given by Stoll, Brendel, Schrœder, and Richter in Germany; and by Pringle, Cullen, and Marryat in

England. Independent of its evacuating effects, it was first employed in peripneumonia by Rasori, about the commencement of the present century. Since then it has been very extensively adopted by allopathic practitioners in the treatment of the same disease.

“*Creosote*.—Dr. Pereira states that this substance in large doses causes vomiting and purging. Some years ago, Dr. Elliotson, however, observed that, in small doses, it possessed the property of *allaying vomiting*. Since then it has been used very extensively, and successfully, in sea-sickness, the vomiting of pregnancy, &c. Dr. Elliotson gives the following instructive instance of transgression from the curative to the poisonous action of this drug. A lady who was taking Creosote, ‘increased the dose to 40 drops before it disagreed: the addition of one drop beyond this produced extreme giddiness, insensibility, and vomiting, followed by headache, for several days.’—(*Med. Chir. Trans.*, vol. xix.)

“*Saffron*.—Boerhaave (*Hist. Plant.*), Riverius (*Op. Med.*), and others, have ascribed immoderate *uterine hæmorrhage* to the use of this plant. Dr. Pereira states, that it was formerly used as an emenagogue, and to promote *uterine contractions*; in which case it must have been remedial for certain forms of uterine hæmorrhage.

“*Cubebs*.—Sir Benjamin Brodie relates the case of a gentleman, who, labouring under chronic inflammation of the bladder, took fifteen grains of Cubebs every eight hours, *with much relief*. Being anxious to expedite the cure, he of his own accord increased the dose to a drachm. This was followed by *an aggravation of the symptoms*; the irritation of the bladder was much increased, the mucus was secreted in much larger quantity than before, and, ultimately, the patient died.—(*Lond. Med. Gaz.*, vol. i., p. 300). The aggravation of the symptoms by large doses of the very drug, which, in small doses, was evidently effecting a cure, is a pretty plain proof of the homœopathicity of the remedy.

“When trying to explain the *modus medendi* of Cubebs in another form of disease, Sir Astley Cooper expressed his belief that they produce a *specific inflammation of their own* on the urethra, which has the effect of *superseding the original inflammation*.—*Lancet*, vol. iii. p. 201. 1824.

“*Ergot*.—Dr. Christison tells us that Ergot has been employed as a remedy in chronic *dysentery*; yet from the same authority we learn that Tessier, Robert, and others, have noticed *purging* as one of its poisonous effects.

“*Foxglove*.—The poisonous manifestations of this plant are, principally, a ‘disordered condition of the alimentary canal, or the circulating organs, and of the cerebro-spinal system. . . . External objects appear of a green or yellow colour; the patient fancies there is a mist or sparks before his eyes; a sensation of weight, pain, or throbbing of the head, especially in the frontal region, is experienced; giddiness, weakness of the limbs, loss of sleep, occasionally stupor or delirium, and even convulsions may be present.’—(Pereira.)

"The foregoing symptoms, so expressive of certain phases of epilepsy, have not deterred our allopathic brethren from using *Digitalis* in that ruthless disease: and we find that it has been administered in some cases with success.—(Scott, *Ed. Med. and Surg. Jour.*, Jan., 1827: Dr. E. Sharkey, *on the efficacy of Digitalis in the treatment of idiopathic epilepsy*, 1841.)

"We may remark that the 'reduced pulse' of *Digitalis* is the effect of its *poisonous*, and not of its *curative* action.

"Sandras (*Bull. de Therap.* t. vj.) and others have noticed that the slowness of the pulse is often preceded by increased activity of the vascular system; and that this occurs more frequently after small, than large doses of *Foxglove*.

"Dr. Sanders (*Treat. on pulm. consump.*) asserts that *Digitalis* invariably excites the pulse; and refers to an experience of 2000 cases in proof. After giving the drug, however, for twenty-four hours, he states that the pulse falls rapidly. In other words, the pulse begins to give way before the poisonous action of the plant.

"In homœopathic practice, *Foxglove* is given with effect in 'sinking of the vital powers, and in vertigo with very slow pulse.'

"*Indian Hemp*.—Pereira states that 'this plant produces exhilaration, *inebriation* with phantasms, and more or less confusion of intellect, followed by sleep;' yet the same eminent allopathic authority avers that he has 'used it with advantage on spirit-drinkers.'

"Many authors have given vivid descriptions of the maddening effects of Indian hemp. Dr. O'Shaughnessy describes one singular form of insanity produced by its use, which is at once 'recognized by the strange balancing gait of the patient, a constant rubbing of the hands, perpetual giggling, and a propensity to caress and chafe the feet of all bystanders, of whatever rank. The eye wears an expression of cunning and merriment, which can scarcely be mistaken. In a few cases the patients are violent; there is no increased heat, or frequency of circulation, or any appearance of inflammation, or congestion; and the skin and general functions are in a natural state.'—(*On the preparations of Indian hemp, or gunjah, &c.*)

"Notwithstanding the recorded effects of large doses of Indian hemp, it has been employed by allopathic physicians of eminence, as a remedy in *insanity*. It was tried by Dr. Sutherland, by Dr. Conolly, and others, in England.—(*Further Report of the Commissioners in Lunacy*, 1849.)

"It was also used in some cases successfully by continental physicians.—(Moreau, *Du Haschisch et de l'Alienation Mentale, &c.* Paris, 1845.)

"*Iodine*.—Were a homœopathic physician to argue that Iodine would probably *cure* induration of the liver, because he knew that an over-dose of the drug would *produce* that state of the organ, what would the followers of old physic say of him? Let us, however, quote an eminent allopathic authority on this point:

“In chronic inflammation, induration, and enlargement of the liver,’ remarks Dr. Pereira, ‘after antiphlogistic measures have been adopted, the two most important and probable means of relief are Iodine and Mercury, which may be used either separately or conjointly. If the disease admit of a cure, these are the agents most likely to effect it. Iodine, indeed, has been supposed to possess some specific power of influencing the liver, not only from its efficacy in alleviating certain diseases of that organ, *but also from the effects of an over-dose.* In one case pain and induration of the liver were *brought on*; and in another, which terminated fatally, this organ was found to be enlarged, and of a pale rose colour.’—(*Element. Mat. Med.*, vol. i. p. 394.) The two cases to which Dr. Pereira refers, are mentioned by Christison.—(*Treat. on poisons*, pp. 180-1.)

“Every practical chemist knows that Iodine is an irritant, and that its vapour ‘excites cough,’ yet the inhalation of Iodine-vapours has been strongly recommended in phthisis and chronic bronchitis, by Berton, Sir James Murray, Sir Charles Scudamore, and others.

“Among the symptoms resulting from the administration of large doses of Iodine, *rapid and extreme emaciation of the body* is mentioned by Coindet, Gardner, Zink, Jahn, &c.; while Lugol notices that small doses of the drug actually amend an emaciated condition and produce *embonpoint*. Coindet and Lugol also remarked that large doses of Iodine brought on a kind of gastro-enteritis, while small doses increased the appetite.

“*Iron.*—‘When given improperly, or to excess, Iron produces headache, anxiety, heats the body, and often *causes hæmorrhages*, or even vomiting, *pains in the stomach, spasms*, and pains in the bowels.’—(Hooper.)

“‘Iron is given in cases of debility and relaxation, in *passive hæmorrhages*, in *dyspepsia*, hysteria, and chlorosis, in most of the cachexiæ.’—(Hooper.)

“Dr. Pereira remarks that ‘when administered in large doses, or when the alimentary canal is in an irritable condition, all the compounds of Iron are liable to excite heat, weight, and uneasiness at the precordia, nausea and vomiting, and sometimes *purging*.’ The same author states, that when swallowed, the Iron-compounds ‘repress the secretions and exhalations of the gastro-intestinal membrane, and thereby render the alvine evacuations more solid and even *occasion costiveness*.’

“It is evident, therefore, that, in large doses, Iron induces dyspeptic symptoms; while in small doses it is remedial in that disorder. In certain doses it excites purging and hæmorrhages; while, as a curative agent, it is calculated to amend those conditions of the body, if they arise from other causes.

“*Nux vomica.*—Christison tells us that in earlier modern physic, *Nux vomica* was esteemed by many, and among others, by Hufeland and Haystrom, as an astringent in *dysentery*.

“Dr. Pereira remarks, that in small and repeated doses, it, in some cases, ‘acts slightly on the bowels.’

“The same author states, that ‘in small and repeated doses, Nux vomica usually promotes the appetite, assists the digestive functions, &c. ;’ but he afterwards adds, that, ‘in somewhat larger doses, the stomach not unfrequently becomes disordered, and the appetite impaired.’

Nux vomica has been exhibited as a remedy in epilepsy.—(Bayle, *Bibl. Therap.*, t. ii.) Dr. Christison mentions a physician who treated epilepsy successfully by means of a secret remedy, which was afterwards found to be Ignatia—having properties similar to those of Nux vomica; yet this drug, in poisonous doses, has the power of occasionally producing epileptiform spasms. Mr. Ollier, in describing the case of a young woman labouring under the effects of the poison, says, ‘the face and hands were livid; the muscles of the former, especially of the lips, violently agitated; and she made constantly a moaning, chattering noise. She was not unlike one in an epileptic fit, but did not struggle, though, as she was forced out, it was difficult to keep her from falling on the floor.’—(*Lond. Med. Repos.*, vol. xix., p. 448.)

“It is, however, in paralysis that Nux vomica has been most extensively used in allopathic practice: yet we have abundant proof that in its poisonous action it frequently sets up in the system the very conditions most likely to result in paralysis. In one case of poisoning, mentioned by Mr. Watt (*Christison*, p. 183), ‘there was observed softening of the lumbar portion of the spinal chord:’ and in another case, reported by MM. Orfila, Ollivier, and Drogartz (*Arch. Gen. de Med.*, viii. 22), ‘the whole cortical substance of the brain, especially of the cerebellum, was softened.’ Andral and Lallemande have also recorded cases of cerebral disorganization and softening, as the result of the administration of Nux vomica. Bally (*Brit. and For. Med. Rev.*, vol. v., p. 221) has observed an appearance of stupor, vertigo, tinnitus aurium, sleeplessness, and turgescence of the capillaries of the face, result from the use of Strychnia; and, in an instance mentioned by Bayle (*Bibl. Therap.*, t. ii., p. 233), the administration of Nux vomica to an epileptic patient caused paralysis.

“*Rhubarb.*—‘In small doses it improves the quality of the alvine secretions, and often restrains diarrhoea. In large doses it operates slowly and mildly as a purgative.’—(Pereira.)

“*Valerian.*—‘Large doses cause head-ache, mental excitement, visual illusions, (scintillations, flashes of light, &c.,) giddiness, restlessness, agitation, and even spasmodic movements.’—(Pereira.) Yet this drug, whose action as a poison produces the epileptiform condition so described by Dr. Pereira, has been principally celebrated, we are told by the same allopathic authority, as a remedy for epilepsy.

“Time and space will not allow us to add to the foregoing list. The medicines to which we have referred are valuable instances of

the prevalence of the homœopathic law, especially as the proofs of their homœopathicity are obtained alone from allopathic writers.

“Why should the administration of a drug, in obedience to the law of ‘similars,’ be an opprobrium to the homœopath, who *believes* the law, and an act of legitimate practice to the allopath, who *disbelieves* or ridicules it?”

“The homœopathist knows and believes that large quantities of his medicines are capable of producing morbid symptoms similar to those he seeks to cure; and he remembers that his remedies act specifically and immediately on the diseased organism, to whose condition they are homœopathic, therefore is he careful and watchful; he recognizes a great law, and acts in obedience to its dictates: but the allopathist, despite the evidence of his own pharmacology, ignores or disbelieves the doctrine that ‘likes cure likes,’ and, day after day, without system, and therefore without due caution, he gives medicines which, on the shewing of his own authorities, are capable of producing the very results he hopes to remove. He thus yields, as it were, a blind and accidental obedience to a law of which he is avowedly ignorant or sceptical; the administration of his remedies is not the result of induction, and his doses are curative or poisonous by accident. Hence arises danger from the working of a natural law, or paucity of successful results.

“Whose praxis, we would ask, is the most rational, the most honourable, or the safest?”

What will the *Lancet* say next?

CASE OF PNEUMONIA, (INFLAMMATION OF LUNGS,)
HOMŒOPATHICALLY TREATED AFTER ALLOPATHIC
MAL-TREATMENT.

Communicated by Dr. Pearce, Northampton.

MR. D., aged 24, residing in Northampton, had complained of having a cold, which confined him to the house for about eight days; partially recovering, he returned to business for a fortnight, took fresh cold, became suddenly very ill, sent for a surgeon, who opened a vein in the *right* arm (the *left* lung was inflamed), applied blisters to front and back of chest, and sent him medicine; the patient became worse; another, an older surgeon, was brought by the surgeon in attendance; and on the night of the 29th of October, the two surgeons informed the patient and his friends that the case was one of extreme danger—in fact, that it was hopeless, and it was very improbable that the patient would survive till morning. One of the surgeons, after consultation with his elder, is reported to have said, “All has been done which we can do: we have bled and blistered him: *we have no medicines which will touch such cases—I wish we had.*” It is possible

that this same surgeon may either forget that he used this expression, or he may deny having made the confession. Whether he did or not is a matter of little consequence, as he could not have uttered a more truthful statement of the utter inefficacy of ordinary treatment. Such is the fact, that allopathy is without medicines which touch such cases, lamentable as it may appear to non-professional readers. It is a fact well-known in the profession, though we seldom hear the confession.

Dr. Tod, late professor of medicine in King's College, London, (a great authority among allopaths,) thus expresses himself:

"The plan of treatment which has been recommended by some of our *highest* authorities, I need not tell you, is that of bleeding and tartar emetic; you bleed early from the arm, and, if necessary, you bleed a second and a third time, and if under this treatment, resolution (cure) does not rapidly take place, you bleed locally by leeches and by cupping, and likewise give tartar emetic more or less freely; to all which, counter-irritation (by blisters) may be superadded in the more advanced stages. I have had ample experience, he says, 'of this treatment, and I must confess, that experience has so little satisfied me with it, that I have for some years ceased to adopt it; *for under the treatment I have seen too many die; and where recovery has taken place, in too many instances has it been with a tedious, lengthened convalescence.*'

"Speranza, in his annals of medicine, has published some remarkable observations, which shew that the *number of deaths in cases of inflammation of the lungs is in direct proportion to the number of bleedings.* These cases stand thus:

100 cases, above 9 times bled	68 deaths.
100 cases, from 3 to 9 times bled	22 "
100 cases, only 3 times bled	19 "
100 cases, not bled at all	14 "

Average mortality of the three hundred cases that were bled, 33·9 per cent.; average mortality caused directly by the bleeding, 19 per cent. ! In the first one hundred cases, the prodigious number of fifty-four were sacrificed by bleeding ! How dreadful ! fifty-four human beings put to death by the lancet. Well might Sir Charles Bell declare towards the end of his career, that the lancet was the death of thousands.

"Dr. Dietl, of Vienna, no homœopathist, mind, has also made very important experiments relative to the influence of bleeding and tartar emetic in inflammation of the lungs. Eighty-five cases were bled, and of these seventeen died. One hundred and six were treated with tartar emetic, and of these twenty-two died. *One hundred and eighty-nine cases were left to unaided nature, and of these only fourteen died.*

Thus, 85 cases bled	17 died	20·4 per cent
" 106 cases, tartar emetic	22 "	20·7 "
" 189 cases, left to nature	14 "	7·4 "

"Dr. Dietl further adds, 'we cannot forbear this expression of our belief, that *venesection favours the spreading of hepatisation*, and favours it all the surer the oftener it is repeated, *and the poorer the patient is in blood*,—so that many pneumonias, both intense and extensive, are pushed to their height by venesection—progressed and throve, so to speak, under the lancet.' And still further on he adds, 'we have not unfrequently remarked, that a single venesection, apparently well indicated, had, as consequences, *striking sinking of strength, profuse sweat, miliaria, vibrating pulse, and a rapidly fatal termination;*' and also 'that *venesection has its certain and not unimportant share in the great mortality of pneumonia.*'

"The mortality in Dietl's cases are not nearly so great as those of Speranza, and for this simple reason, that he did not push the bleeding to the same extent. We may look upon Dietl's success as being equal to that of the best practitioner's of

the same class, namely, twenty per cent. deaths. Taking this view, we have *thirteen out of every hundred destroyed by this treatment*; what an enormous number must be killed in the course of fifty years by allopathic interference. No wonder that Dr. Reid in his Essays, was constrained to say, 'that less slaughter is effected by the lance than by the lancet—that minute instrument of mighty mischief.'

So much for the treatment of the allopaths. In the case before us, *bleeding* actually rendered the case the more hopeless. *Blisters* were not only utterly useless, but actually injurious, by exhausting the patient's strength. *Medicine*—"we have none to touch such cases," said the surgeon.

At 4 a.m., on the 30th of October, five hours after the young man had been handed over to "chance" or "providence," the friends send for me, the messenger begging as a favour that I would go to see even a dying man, though he had been "given up." I visited him, when I found him propped up in bed by pillows; countenance pallid; expression ghastly; to all appearance about to breathe his last. Pulse could scarcely be counted at slowest; when able to count it, 174. Respirations 78 in a minute. Loud crepitation was heard over the whole of the left lung, anteriorly and posteriorly. The blistered surfaces rendered a minute examination distressing to the patient. Crepitant rhonchus was also heard in right half of chest. The expectoration was rusty and mixed with blood. I immediately enveloped his chest in wet towels, covered with dry ditto and a shawl, as closely as his difficult respiration would permit. The medicine given was *Acalipha*. He in addition complained of distressing pain in base of left lung, *unmitigated* by the blistering and bleeding. The *Acalipha* was followed in three hours by *Bryonia*, and in three hours more *Phosphorus* was given and repeated every twenty minutes. I remained with him a few hours and visited him five times during the day. The breathing was relieved in two hours after the homœopathic treatment was commenced. In 24 hours he was better; expectoration still bloody. *Phosphorus* was continued at intervals of two hours. His legs were well washed and rubbed, and wrapped in flannel, with the view of relieving the chest of congestion. The patient continued to improve; in about ten days, had the weather permitted, he would have been out of doors. He recovered from the pneumonia, but now comes the sad old story. The patient was one of the *last* who ought to be bled—a fact borne testimony to by another allopathic surgeon who had known him and his family previously; of delicate constitution, phthisical appearance, pallid complexion, spare body, and having all the external appearance which would lead a judicious allopath to refrain from using the lancet.

He was nevertheless bled, and the consequence of that bleeding has been to hurry the patient on to confirmed phthisis—to continue an invalid, exhausted by *legitimate* barbarity.

The surgeon who bled him is responsible for his present condition; yet these are the men who charge homœopaths with allowing patients to "*die of doing nothing.*" How much better were it even

to do nothing, when we find the following results in inflammation of lungs :

<i>Treatment by</i>	<i>Mortality.</i>
Bleeding and tartar emetic	23 per cent.
Dietl's plan (by diet and no medicine)	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Homœopathic	5 "

If left to *nature* only 7 per cent. die ; and under *allopathy*, 23 per cent. die. Does not the latter *kill* 16 per cent., that is, 16 per cent. worse than doing nothing ?

Is it not a fact well known in Northampton that several cases of inflammation of lungs have been lost very recently under allopathic treatment, while I have not lost a single case under homœopathic treatment ?

It is to be wished that a rule were laid down in the borough by a Board of Health, that every medical practitioner should furnish a list of the cases of disease and results at the end of each year. Such a practice would afford valuable information on the health of the town ; and if each practitioner were to record the number of deaths, with their causes, occurring in his practice each year, the public would have a fair means of judging which kind of medical treatment should have the preference.

I append a list of deaths and their causes which have occurred in my practice during the year 1857 :

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>How long ill.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
J. W.	14	{ Tabes Mesenterica... Marasmus.....	...3 years	Towcester	{ Previously deemed hopeless under old system treatment
S. S.	70	Gastro-Enteritis	7 years	Northampton	Hopeless.
B. A. C.	6	Meningitis	4 mnths	Kingsthorpe	{ Only seen four days before death.
W. J. L.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	{ Whooping Cough ... Convulsions.....	...3 wks	Harlestone	{ Previously snatched from death by homœopathy.
L. C.	10 days	{ Premature Birth ... Atrophy		Congenital Northampton	{ Hopeless—recovery impos- sible.
C. H.	34	Phthisis	2 years	"	{ Previously treated allopath- ically, with injury.
J. D.	56	Dropsy of the Heart.....	3 years	Daventry	{ Previously declared hopeless by several allopathic prac- titioners.
C. B.	55	{ Bright's Disease..... Hæmorrhage .....	...7 years	Northampton	{ System previously seriously injured by allopathic mal- treatment.
E. P.	2	Convulsions { Delicate from Birth, } ill 11 days		"	{ The 2nd child in same family dying of convulsions, the former one under allopathy only survived a few hours.
L. G.	31	Hereditary Phthisis.....	3 years	Sywell	Previous allopathic treatment
R. W.	26	Typhus Fever	3 weeks	Desborough	{ Previously treated by an allopath for a week, the patient getting worse.
J. R.	28	{ Ulceration of the In- testines .....	...3 years	Banbury	{ Previously given up by allo- pathic practitioners. I saw him only twice.
A. W.	25	{ Typhus with Dis- eased Heart .....	...9 days	Draughton	Hopeless when first seen.
S. J. S.	7	Typhus fever	4 weeks	Oundle	{ A delicate child. Five others ill of typhus in same family all recovered.
J. P.	1	Mesenteric Disease.....		Congenital	

It will be seen from the table of deaths, although many cases of pneumonia occurred in my practice, *not one died*. That in the year 1857 only *six deaths occurred* of patients in Northampton, in my extensive practice; the remaining nine being at other places, some of them at long distances. That there was not a single life lost which could have been saved by any human treatment. Of upwards of 200 cases of fever, including the previous year, 1856, only six died.

These results are not given boastingly but thankfully. Should I be spared to labour in the cause of humanity, I purpose at the close of each year to furnish an account of *every case occurring in my practice* during such year, with the character of the disease and its result. I invite every medical man to follow the example, and shall be happy to publish their statements side-by-side with mine.

I may here remark that the *mortality* of a town or county does not furnish an accurate idea of the *amount* of sickness. If monthly reports were furnished by each medical practitioner, and published by a board of health or the town council, the public and the authorities too would know the sanitary condition of the town.

QUANTITY OF OPIUM REQUIRED TO DESTROY LIFE.

(*Extracted from a Work on Poisons by Professor Taylor, p. 595.*)

"The medicinal *dose* of opium, in *extract* or *powder*, for a healthy adult, varies from half a grain to two grains. Five grains would be a very full dose. The medicinal dose of the *tincture* is from ten drops to one drachm—as an average from *thirty to forty drops*. Very large doses may be borne in cases of hydrophobia, colic, delirium tremens, and tetanus, while the effects of small doses are aggravated by disease of the brain. As a suppository five grains are sometimes prescribed; but I have known this quantity to produce alarming symptoms in a healthy adult. In a case which occurred in London in 1838, a man aged forty-five was killed by ten grains of solid opium; and in September 1843, a woman, aged thirty-eight, was killed by eight grains of the drug given in two doses. (*Brit. and For. Med. Rev.*, Oct. 1844, 558.) In another instance, a lady, aged twenty-nine, suffered from vertigo, numbness of the limbs, and other serious symptoms, when only *twenty drops* of the tincture were introduced in the form of enema, *i.e.* about one grain of opium. The same dose had been administered for six nights previously, without any serious effects following. This fact renders it not improbable that the drug possesses an *accumulative* power. She continued in a state of delirium for twenty hours, and the numbness of the limbs only ceased after forty-eight hours. This was an unusually small dose thus to affect an adult. Dr. Babington has communicated to me the case of a lady who had taken five grains of Dover's powder, *i.e.* about

half a grain of opium, and who suffered from stupor and drowsiness for three days. These serious effects produced by small doses on adults must however be considered as exceptions to the rule: they appear to be due to idiosyncrasy, or to a peculiar susceptibility of the poisonous effects of opium in certain constitutions. It must not be forgotten, however, that they lead to one important inference in legal medicine, namely, that an adult may be killed by a dose of opium, which many, relying upon a limited experience, would pronounce to be innocuous. We have commonly no means of detecting or recognizing the existence of this idiosyncrasy prior to the fatal event.

"In a case communicated by Dr. Brown to Dr. Christison, four grains and a half of opium, mixed with nine grains of camphor, killed a man in nine hours, with all the symptoms of narcotic poisoning. The smallest dose of solid opium which has been known to prove fatal to an adult, was in a case reported by Dr. Sharkey of Jersey. (*Med. Gaz.* xxxvii. 236.) A stout, muscular man, æt. thirty-two, short-necked and plethoric, swallowed two pills, containing each about one grain and a quarter of extract of opium—a quantity equivalent to *four grains* of crude opium: he was soon afterwards attacked by a convulsive fit, and died. He took the opium after having made a full meal. On inspection, there was great lividity of the neck: a large quantity of blood flowed from the scalp, superficial veins and sinuses of the brain; and there was effused blood, both fluid and coagulated, around the medulla oblongata. There were patches of ecchymosis on the mucous membrane of the stomach; the heart was flaccid, pale, and nearly empty; the vena cava and venous system were much gorged. The plethoric condition of the patient probably tended in this case to aggravate the effects of the opium. The smallest fatal dose of the tincture in an adult which I have found recorded, is *two drachms*. The case is reported by Dr. Skae. (*Ed. Med. and Surg. Journ.*, July 1840.) The patient was a robust man, aged fifty-six; he swallowed the tincture at ten in the evening, and died under the usual symptoms the following morning; the case thus lasting only twelve hours. The quantity actually swallowed, however, appears to be involved in some doubt; for it is subsequently stated that *half an ounce* of laudanum may have been taken. One fact was ascertained by Dr. Skae, of some medico-legal importance: that the individual rose from his bed and moved about at least two, and probably three hours, after having taken the poison, showing thereby that stupor had not supervened at this time. Opium, as meconate of morphia, was detected in the stomach. In another instance, in which the quantity taken was probably equally small, and ultimately proved fatal, the patient was able to converse cheerfully and readily with a neighbour two hours after she had swallowed the poison. In a case which I lately had to investigate, a woman died in twenty-two hours after taking *half an ounce* of tincture of opium by mistake for tincture of rhubarb."

HOMŒOPATHY AND OUR MEDICAL CORPORATIONS.

(Extracted from the *Lancet*, December 12, 1857.)

IN the last examination for M.B., at the London University, a man was very properly rejected because he had the impudence to avow his heresy in the very face of the examiners. Our medical corporations ought to be the guardians of pure medicine; to them, honest practitioners should be able to look for protection; to them, the public should be able to look for security.

There are cases where these institutions are powerless; as, for example, when a man, after passing the ordeal, falls into the practice of heresy; and when a man is not known by his antecedents, or by his replies, to be a homœopath. But when a person is known to be actually in practice as a homœopath, even although he may, to serve his turn, answer correctly, is he to be allowed to continue his humbug under the protection of a medical college?

It is well known amongst the students that, this session, there are, in the various medical schools of the metropolis, several preparing to pass their examinations who are absolutely in practice as homœopaths; and this is known not only to the students, but to the lecturers and authorities. In one school there is a man who for years has practised homœopathy in Birmingham, and who boasts of his intended doings when he gets his diploma; another, from Glasgow, is in the same hopeful state. There are, also, two well-known residents in London—one in large practice as a homœopath in Islington, the other keeping one of the few homœopathic chemists' shops in London—both of whom are notoriously aspiring to diplomas. Both these men are uneducated, and with antecedents anything but preparatory for medical studies. They are well known to be preparing for the college of surgeons; and it is the boast of the homœopaths that the corporation of Lincoln's-inn-fields is favourable to that system, and always *passes* its followers.

Now, Sir, look at the mischief likely to arise. These men will, no doubt, whilst under examination, conceal their homœopathic tendencies; and the examiners may plead that they have only to do with their *answers*; but the public, who watch these cases with interest and who know these men's histories (for they have notoriety, and very large practices), will draw only one conclusion, namely, that the college *knows* them to be homœopaths, and *passes them as homœopaths*. Thus people are led to believe that the humbug is really approved.

Pray search into this matter, and ask our college if this is to be? Are legitimate practitioners to be insulted by the nursing of homœopathy?

ERRATUM.

In page 33, line 3 from top, of the December number, for *heart* read *throat*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

 CASE OF BRONCHITIS, HOMŒOPATHICALLY CURED BY
 A LADY.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

DEAR SIR,—The following case of bronchitis cured by homœopathic remedies is an instructive one, and perhaps may appear to you sufficiently so to insert in the *Record* :

A lady, residing in Staffordshire, who had experienced the benefits of homœopathic treatment in herself and family, met, one day last summer, with a man of strong build, yet creeping along at a slow pace, and carrying a small milk can evidently with great difficulty; stopping every now and then to take breath, and wearing a respirator, although it was summer time. She was induced to inquire into the case, and found that the poor fellow—a small dairy farmer—had been laid by with bronchitis for *nine months*; and he added that he ought not to be out even then; but that his circumstances compelled him to do something, for he was nearly ruined by doctor's bills: a physician of note in the neighbourhood was attending him three times a week, and had told him that it would still be *another year* before he could expect to be well!

The lady told him that she would undertake to cure him if he would come to her for medicines; to which proposal he gladly acceded. She gave him *Aconite* to begin with; then *Bryonia*; and lastly *Ipecacuanha*. In less than a week he was able to leave off his respirator; and in three weeks he was well and able to attend to his business, and could walk at a good pace with two large cans of milk without inconvenience.

Such instances as these bring the efficiency of the new and scientific method into strong contrast with the sad bungling and guess-work of the old empirical mode of treatment; and I trust the day is not far distant when all shall experience the blessings of the former, and be freed from the melancholy results of the latter system. Such a consummation is devoutly to be wished.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

F. H. B.

[This case is a striking illustration of the superior efficacy of homœopathy in the hands of the "*unlicensed*," over the most skilful (?) treatment of the "*legitimate*" practitioner.]—ED.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 4.—Vol. 3.

FEBRUARY 1, 1858.

NEW SERIES.—PRICE 2D.

TO OUR READERS.

WE are on the eve of another session of parliament. During the coming session, the upholders of orthodox medicine—the interested men of the schools and colleges of free Britain—will again endeavour to obtain legislative license to become the exclusive advisers of the sick. Last session several bills were noticed in our pages. We made a bold stand against them. We wrote—we petitioned—we were heard. Our efforts were not fruitless. Thanks to the energetic John Gibbs, whose letter on vaccination was printed by order of the House of Commons, the Compulsory Vaccination Bill was shelved. The medical registration bills of Mr. Headlam and Lord Elcho were, in consequence of the efforts in which we joined, also withdrawn. The latter bills were fraught with dangerous provisions; interfering not only with the freedom of the medical practitioner who dissents from the routine modes of treating disease, but they threatened the liberty of the people in the choice of their medical adviser, and in the appointment of the medical officers of public, voluntarily-sustained institutions—our hospitals, dispensaries, friendly societies, and sick clubs. The iniquitous bills provided that medical dissenters, *non-legal practitioners*, refusing to register under the bill, should be deprived of their right to practise, and be liable to *fine or imprisonment*. Is it possible that such iniquities will be again attempted? In all probability, yes! Let the public, therefore, take up the question. Let every one holding dear the right of the sick to select their medical adviser, petition parliament. Opportunity will shortly be given to do so. A meeting was held in Northampton on the 11th ult., preparatory to the formation of a "*Medical Liberty League*," which will unite all classes, medical and non-medical—an eclectic body, including not homœopaths only, but hydropathists, medical botanists, and any other, even mesmerists, yea, those who have no medical creed at all, but who jealously regard their own liberties, and

would lend a helping hand to save the country from a *state medical priesthood*. Let us hope that the people will join hand in hand in a crusade against medical legislation, and shew to parliament, that though *it* may submit quietly to the manslaughter of one of its members—that though *it* seek not to redress the grievance of the surviving relatives of the late Augustus Stafford, M.P., the *people* of this country will not submit to be poisoned and bastinadoed to death by a cruel state-licensed faculty, while other and superior modes of cure are within their reach.

The following petition, presented by the Right Hon. R. Vernon Smith, M.P., to the House of Commons, will furnish an idea of the past attempts at medical legislation :

COPY OF PETITION AGAINST THE
MEDICAL REFORM BILL NOW BEFORE THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

To the Honourable the Commons in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of CHARLES THOMAS PEARCE, residing in the Town of Northampton, in the County of Northampton, Doctor of Medicine, and Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, Humbly Sheweth,

That there is now before your Honourable House a Bill, entitled "A Bill to alter and amend the Laws regulating the Medical Profession," which, if passed into Law, will inflict a hardship on your Petitioner.

That your Petitioner, being already and for some years past legally qualified to practise throughout her Majesty's dominions, deems it a grievance to be deprived of such right, in the event of your Petitioner neglecting to register under the provisions of the said Bill, and subjected to fine or imprisonment, not exceeding six calendar months.

That the said Bill enforces no penalty against such persons, who, having received no Medical or Surgical Education, as Druggists and Chemists, are permitted without let or hindrance to prescribe and practise medicine, provided that such do not *call* themselves Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, while, by the provision of the said Bill, your Petitioner being educated and qualified, may be deprived of such right as he now possesses, if he fail to register under the said Act.

That your Petitioner, being a Homœopathic Practitioner and one of several hundred such now practising in Her Majesty's realms, cannot register under such Bill, seeing that the Medical Council to be appointed under the provisions of the said Bill is empowered to publish a Pharmacopœia, prescribing the legal preparations, with their weights and measures, to be employed in this Country—preparations which your Petitioner has not employed for many years in Medical Practice.

That should your Petitioner register under such Bill, and fail to conform to the prescriptions of his College, and be hence found guilty of misconduct, the Medical Registrar to be appointed under the said Bill shall erase the name of your Petitioner from the Register of Legal Practitioners.

That, by clause xxxvii. of said Bill, it is provided that persons not registered are to be incapable of holding appointments, and that your Petitioner now holding several of such appointments, would, in the event of not being registered, be deprived of such appointments, under the powers of the Bill, and, in addition, be subjected to fine or imprisonment.

That, seeing the State does not appoint the Medical or Surgical Staff of the Hospitals, Infirmaries, Dispensaries, Benefit Societies, and other similar benevolent Institutions of this Country, your Petitioner suggests, that, such appointments being for the most part honorary, and the holders of such being appointed by the Supporters of such benevolent Institutions, they should not be interfered with by Legislative Enactments; such interference being, your Petitioner suggests, an interference with the liberty of the Subject in the choice of their Medical Adviser.

That if the Bill now before your Honourable House should become law, it will necessarily, if carried out, immediately deprive many hundreds of Her Majesty's subjects of their *present legal right to practise medicine*, while it will permit the unlicensed to *drug* the Community without any hindrance, or imposing upon such any fine or imprisonment.

That your Petitioner suggests that the present existing Medical Directories, published annually, fully effect the object sought to be obtained by the Bill now before your Honourable House.

Your Petitioner, therefore, humbly prays your Honourable House that the said Bill may not pass into a law.

And your Petitioner will ever pray.

Northampton.

(Signed)

CHARLES THOMAS PEARCE.

ADULTERATED MILK.

THE UNSUSPECTED SLOW POISON OF THE YOUTHFUL
POPULATION OF OUR GREAT TOWNS AND CITIES.

CUSTOM is a tyrant, and use makes man often play the fool. He eats, he drinks, he asks not *whence* and cares not *what*. His faith on some points is truly marvellous, or else his incredulity is monstrously ridiculous. At one time he is so devoid of belief, that he is ready to fight with a hair, argue with a shadow, or dispute with Aristotelian subtilty with a nonentity; at another, the gates of Somnooth are not wide enough to receive his *august self*, and the *panoply of gullibility with which he is invested*. This characteristic frailty is seen in our foods and our drinks. Call a poison by a *domestic name*, and *that*, generally speaking, will be passport enough. Call a liquid MILK, and let it be delivered at regular and stated times by the small dealers, and it may be the vilest secretion of the most diseased slop-fed cows that were ever immured in filthy stall or ill-ventilated stable, and it will be dealt out to the young urchins with all that domestic ignorance, unbounded and blessed faith, as if the barrel whence it flowed had been labelled "Pure Country Milk," with the exciseman's legal signature beneath. Misplaced faith, however, hath its penalty; and the mortality of our infantile and juvenile city population is proof more than ample. Carelessness hath its death-victims as well as its minor peccadilloes; and ignorance, so far from being *bliss*, has often to pay the price, either in personal or domestic bereavement.

"Milk," says a writer in *Les Annales d'Hygiene Publique de Paris*, "is an object of great importance to man. It is the first food nature provides for him, and during his life he makes frequent use of it, sometimes from choice, and sometimes from necessity, when his digestive organs are impaired by sickness. It is not, therefore, wonderful," adds this writer, "that in every age this liquid should have attracted considerable attention." In a natural state, it is the unanimous voice of the medical world that it is one of the most nutritious forms of food; but when adulterated in any way, save that of the "cow with the iron tail," it is deleterious in the highest degree from its daily imbibition.

Genuine milk—the pure, unadulterated, lactiferous secretion, is not always known by the in-dwellers of cities and the factitious tastes of town-born-and-bred sons and daughters of toil. Not having, or having but rarely tasted the pure bovine stream, thousands have no natural lactometer to gauge by. The papillæ of the tongue, &c., being ever and anon excited by an adulterated appliance, are rendered incapable of appreciating the liquid when presented in a pure and simple form. "We heard of a man once," says a writer, "who, having been served with pure country milk for the first time, and not being able to account for its rich yellow colour, and the unusual quantity of cream, ordered it to be thrown

out as unfit for use; and it required considerable trouble to persuade him of his error." This is no isolated case. Tens of thousands would be found in the same predicament. Whether the taste be simply pure or factitious, it is evident enough that we cannot have genuine milk but from healthy cows. To be healthy, cows must breathe pure air, roam at large in the green fields, and in inclement or wintry weather be housed in comfortable and well ventilated buildings, fed with ground meal, corn, oats, buckwheat, and steamed hay; and all those other means which a knowledge of hygiene would suggest must be made use of in order to bring the animal to the highest condition of physical health. Anything short of this is antagonistic to the production of a healthy bovine race. Cows, in a state of health, roaming at large o'er many a field and many a lea, are objects of great beauty, and give a charm to every landscape—a charm, as agreeable to the eye as the pure milk thereof is palatable to the taste. From animals, thus well cared for, we obtain a fluid called milk; at once opaque, homogeneous, emulsive, not viscid, with a bland, sweetish taste, a faint, peculiar odour, and somewhat slightly alkaline. When subject to microscopic examination, it is found to contain myriads of excessively minute transparent globular particles, floating in a serous liquid, which, after standing, ascend, and form what is termed cream; the upper stratum of which being rich in butter, the lower in caseine. The thickness of cream from *good milk*, as measured by a lactometer, should yield from 12 to 17½ per cent. by measure. Milk, furnished by nature for the nutrition of the young, should contain all the constituent elements intended for building up the body. According to the analysis of Henri and Chevelier, milk contains, in every hundred parts—caseine, 4.48; butter, 3.13; sugar of milk, 4.77; various salts, 0.60; water, 87.02. From the caseine are formed the albumen and fibrine of the blood, and the proteinaceous and gelatinous tissues; the oily and saccharine parts supply animal heat by yielding carbon and hydrogen to be burnt in the lungs; the salts—soda, phos. of lime, phos. of magnesia, &c., are necessary for the osseous system; and the iron to the growth of the hair, and the formation of the blood discs, the carriers of oxygen. Since the body lives on the blood, and pure, unadulterated milk enters so largely into its formation, it is of the first importance that milk—the support of the universe of children—the world's heroes and philosophers and heaven-arcana penetrators in a diminutive form—should be furnished in all its legitimate and healthful purity. Besides, the collateral advantages are almost innumerable. An animal which has the power of secreting *pure milk* is an incarnation of value. The hair, the hoof, the skin, internal and external, the flesh, the bones, the horns, all and every part, great and small, will be found of extra commercial and marketable value. Does it not follow that to rear cows in a state of health so as to obtain as large a secretion of pure milk as possible, and to have this

conveyed INTACT into the dwellings of the rich and the poor alike, are matters of importance, and should be watched over by the *authorities*, and guarded round by the penalties of *municipal law* ! Let us look at the other side of the picture—not at cows roaming o'er the green sward, basking beneath a blue heaven and the beams of a sultry sun, inhaling the western breeze perfumed with healthy odours, and, as they approach the fold, giving the usual signal of overburdened nature, the echo of which reaches the shepherd's ear as he roams, crook in hand, on the far distant hills; but of creatures immured in immense subterranean stables, lighted with gas, and in which a ray of light never enters; having little or no ventilation; containing thousands of cows fed upon grains, distillery hops, and decayed vegetable matter, and standing between stalls fifteen in a row, either with their noses inhaling the drunken swill, or lying down on uncleansed floors amid their own self-produced filth—of creatures with mouths and nostrils all besmeared with dirt, and eyes of leaden look and stupid glare; with teeth rotting in the jaw, and hoofs turned up like skates; here denuded of hair, and there ulcers rank and fetid meet the eye—of creatures, which, if unable to stand from sheer exhaustion, are upheld by human aid while the last pint of milk (so called), is pressed out, ere they sink, amid the agonies of an ill-treated and a used-up nature, to rise no more. Is there any wonder that milk becomes a poison when drawn from fountains vile as these, and that half of our infant and juvenile population die before the eighth year? Oh, London! London! and ye other great towns and cities of the empire! in a greater or less extent, such is the swill-milk on which two-thirds of your children feed! Never could such vile slop nerve the Briton's arm in Crimean war, or fire his courage to avenge England's wrongs on India's sunny plains. Of strength, other sources have we, else physical degeneration would steep us to the very lips, and valour leave the soil.

The sources whence our towns and cities derive their milk are the following: first, milk may come direct from the country, pure, the secretion of healthy cows. This milk, being sold by the country dairyman to the city small dealer, is generally diluted in the ratio of one-third by the "cow with the iron tail," which, with a little salt to keep it sweet, constitutes the second source of supply. Avarice more frequently dilutes the pure milk to a still greater extent, and then we have milk with an admixture of chalk, plaster of Paris, or magnesia, to take away the *blue appearance*; with starch, or flour, and sometimes the white of egg to give it consistency; with perhaps a dash of molasses to give it that *nice yellow colour*—the sign of the genuine unadulterated article. This is the third source of supply. Then we have milk from town-slop and grain-fed cows; which, from the nature of the food, the condition of the stalls, the want of ventilation, exercise, cleanliness, and other healthy appliances, constitutes so large a proportion of the milk drunk by our juvenile population.

This is bad enough, if furnished *direct* from the animal. The "cow with the iron tail" certainly renders this more wholesome to the buyer, not to say anything about its being more profitable to the vendor. This is the fourth source of supply. If this trash should undergo, as it often does, the drug-adulterating process as before described, we have a fifth source of supply, and pretty swill it is to give to the tender organism of our infants and children; who, in medical reports, are said to die of marasmus, diarrhoea, scrofula, atrophy, instead of saying out-and-out—died of MILK-FOOD-POISON. The sixth source of supply is the swill-milk derived from the cows immured by thousands in those dens—the swill and grain stables—deprived of the light of day; either given direct from these poor creatures, or in a still further adulterated form. Those only who are instructed in the mysteries of the milk trade have an adequate idea of the frauds perpetrated on the public. It is no over estimate to say that the milk furnished to private families is one-quarter water, and an admixture of chalk, flour, molasses, and a few other ingredients. Then there are as many kinds of cream as the sources of our milk. Cream, forsooth! What a mockery of the dairyman's genuine article. The cream of slop-fed cows is manufactured into a compound with calves' and hogs' brains, molasses, and chalk, known under the tempting name of *sweet cream*; from which ice cream, ice cakes, cream ices, &c., are made for the delicate stomachs of all who frequent *confectionaires' restaurants*, and other elegant saloons for palatable enjoyment. Is there any wonder at these fashionables having dyspepsia in all its myriad-headed forms, of indescribable symptomatology, and inexpressible and indefinable nomenclature? Oh, milk! thou art the symbol of angelic purity; but, as sent to families, thou art little better than a whited sepulchre—capable in *thy pure self* of building up a glorious body, on which an angel might look with admiration, but rendered by the fraud and the acquisitiveness of man, the defiler of the temple of the human spirit! Shame, that nature should be perverted thus by art and by cunning! Is this to last for ever? Is civilisation to be a curse, rather than a blessing? Are there no means of redress? Are the inhabitants of cities to be half-poisoned by the avarice of a few thousand small milk dealers? Is every trade to be licensed, and this milk trade, with all its capabilities of injury to the public health, be allowed to pass scot-free? The man who sells *fire water* has to take out a license, and people know what they buy; but the seller of milk may adulterate to any extent, short of poisoning the people, and he has neither the expense of taking out a license, nor is the article he sells subject to any legal supervision. There is a grand defect here; and the rampant spirit for food adulteration, at present manifested, requires the establishment of legal interference. Every town should have a custom house for the collection of duties on milk, and inspectors appointed to examine at stated times the milk which passes

through it. In some such way as this, the public would have a guarantee that they were supplied with a genuine article, and not the abominable trash now vended under the name of milk. Something must be done. The putting of the milk trade on a healthy footing would be one of the most important subjects which the municipal government of a town could be engaged in, as the lives of thousands are annually sacrificed at the altar of this white-faced Juggernaut. The formation of licensing milk associations to prevent the sale of unhealthy milk, with penalties for selling an adulterated article, would soon produce a change with regard to the vending purity of this important article of domestic consumption.

REVIEW.

Our Schools of Medicine and the Coming Medical Struggle. By AN ALLOPATHIC PRACTITIONER. Edinburgh: Bell and Bradfute. London: Simpkin and Marshall.

SHILLING pamphlets and shilling volumes seem to be the order of the day now. Our modern every-day literature teems with such. *Multum in parvo* is that which every one seeks, whether on the rail or at the fire side. The pamphlet before us is the best shilling's worth which has come before us in the way of a pamphlet for some time. It appears to be written by a pupil of Sir John Forbes, who has recently presented a legacy to the profession, in which he denounces medical practice as ordinarily followed in a most undisguised manner. His was written for the medical profession—this for the "rising generation" thereof. The author now before us is evidently one of the new school—one of those courageous, independent thinkers which the profession lacks, and which it requires. It is a sign of the times, however. The profession has been long asleep—it is now rubbing its eyes. There has been thunder and lightning, hail and rain; hurricanes have blown about the allopathic Dagon; but, like the idol, it has had ears but it heard not, eyes had it but it saw not. Worse than this, it would not hear, it would not see. At length, however, an impression is made: *light*, to be recognized as light, must come through their own lattice; and now that Sir John Forbes, one of the Queen's physicians, has struck fire, there are signs of attention.

The son of Æsculapius whose manifesto is before us thus reviews the reviewer: "The sum of Sir John Forbes's great experience, the result of *his* life-long labours, consummates in the following recipe—*laissez-faire!*

"Yes; it all comes to nothing. When we are called to a case of acute disease, if we be wise and merciful we shall do *nothing*. All the rules of all the schools are bad—worse a great deal than useless;

what pompous professors and grave lecturers discourse on with so much waste of breath for six or eight months of every year to gaping adolescent audiences, is not mere nonsense, but *very dangerous fallacy*. Above all, *drugs*, in acute cases especially, are very dangerous indeed, and the huge tomes on materia medica, that have brought so much profit to their compilers alone, are waste paper (for it comes to that), more deserving of being burned in the market place of every town in the kingdom than were the naughty works on necromancy of the middle ages. This is the sort of legacy which Sir John Forbes, M.D., late editor of the *Brit. and For. Med. Rev.*, the accomplished and scientific man, the great London physician whom the Queen delighteth to honour—this is the legacy he kindly bequeaths to his medical brethren. Ha, ha! a proper satirist, surely, is Sir John Forbes!

“So so: things, it would seem, are verging towards some sort of crisis. The murder is coming out at last. Thousands have long suspected it, hundreds have long known it; but, if Sir John had not spoken quite so plainly, it might possibly have kept dark a little longer. If the universities and colleges could only have managed to *amuse* Sir John (he is too tall for gagging) into discretion, the rotten ship of medicine might have staggered on a while yet under sail. But the storm which he and others (for there is more in the horizon, as we shall see presently) have raised, has blown her worn sails into ribbons, and there goes the old ship under bare poles now!—And now, Sir John Forbes, what think you *the schools* owe you? Are you quite aware of all the mischief your too candid admissions are likely to do them? Do you not know that your book has awakened, and is still awaking, in the minds of the younger members of the profession particularly, a spirit of doubt to begin with? The young, you know, Sir John, in such a profession as ours even, are often generous and impulsive—romantic in the cause of truth; it is only after a man has passed his fortieth year that, as a general rule, he becomes a confirmed hypocrite. Think, then, what awful havoc the disease of medical pyrrhonism, caught from you, may play among students and junior practitioners;—numbers of them may accept your legacy literally, and in the course of time you may be called on to provide for a large army of starved-out druggists. The public too—but no; *the schools we attended never taught us to think of the public*;—it was always—*the profession, the profession, the profession!*—Well then, are you sorry now for the mischief you have done orthodox professional interests? or are you laughing in your sleeve at the entire farce?—O fie, Sir John Forbes!”

* * * * *

“Meanwhile, as duly as ever—with as much ceremony, and gravity, and pomposity—the privileged inoculators of a rising medical generation are cramming the hundred or two confessedly (by young phytic) hurtful drugs, and the almost as many useless theories of

disease, down the youthful throat. Let us, then, here institute, for the benefit more especially of the much-belectured tribes, a synthetic review of this 'legitimate' medicine, on which doubtless they expect to get fat: they will then be able clearly to understand, with us, how it came to its present pass; how it happens that its brightest ornaments begin to be ashamed of it at this particular juncture; and what chances there are of its ever regenerating itself; whether it will 'mend,' as Sir John Forbes says it must—or 'end.'

"It is important to keep in mind, in the first place, that all our great discoveries in medicine—those which have been of extensive benefit to mankind—were achieved either in spite of the schools, or without them. Vaccination is to be traced to a discovery anterior to that of Jenner—to the introduction into Europe, viz., of inoculation by Lady Mary Wortley Montague; and every one knows how Jenner's improvement upon the noble lady's importation was welcomed by the schools. The prevention of scurvy also—once the most fatal scourge of the sea, as small-pox of the land—dates from the sanitary regulations first suggested by Captain Cook, and which, though they were afterwards partially neglected, never altogether fell into disuse, but were followed and improved upon by various succeeding sea-captains, till at length scurvy came to be all but banished from the high seas, without the interference of the schools. While this terrible disease was decimating and almost annihilating whole fleets, the ships were carrying their full complement of surgeons and surgeons' mates, or assistant surgeons, crammed with the doctrines of the schools. Of course, when it was too late—when seafaring people had found out for themselves how to conquer the disease, the schools also made a discovery, which they enunciated, just the other day, with their usual professorial flourish of trumpets: They found that the too long continued or exclusive use of any one article of diet (more especially, of course, salted meat) is a cause capable of giving rise to scurvy under all circumstances; and it actually began to appear, that there were instances of land as well as sea scurvy.—Heavens! what gray-beard wisdom, slow and loitering in its gait, doth emanate from the schools!

"But all that concerns the structure and functions of the human frame itself—the grand doctrines of physiology, were surely the peculiar care of the schools, the fruit of the research of their most prominent teachers. Not exactly. The greatest of them all—the demonstration of the true course of the human circulation—that doctrine without which there could be no modern physiology or pathology—was also *in spite* of the schools: the schools didn't want it, and shut their doors upon it as long as they possibly could. It emanated not from the pompous professor of a university, but from a comparatively obscure observer, who had cause to complain bitterly in his old age, that the envy and malignity of his more exalted brethren had hindered him of success in the practice of that pro-

fession in which he is now extensively quoted as a boast. Nor can the schools claim the discovery of any therapeutical remedies which have attained the undisputed reputation of specifics. The specifics of our standard *materia medica* are very few: most orthodox physicians, indeed, allow that only one drug is properly entitled to rank in the category—cinchona, to-wit. And cinchona, as most people know, comes to us through the Jesuit missionaries of South America; and their account of its discovery—we have no fair reason to doubt it—is, that a poor Indian, roaming the plains of Peru under the sufferings of a disease indigenous to that country, slaked, by accident or impulse, his ague-thirst at a rivulet the bitter waters of which he found to be impregnated with the bark-juice of a certain tree, also indigenous there; and rightly inferring from his own experience the curative virtues of that bark in ague, revealed it through those Spanish missionaries to mankind. Yet, about twenty years later, his bigoted physicians allowed Oliver Cromwell to die of ague, rather than permit an empirical practitioner to administer to him an empirical remedy. May we not, then, truly affirm, that a woman, a sailor, and a savage, have been the means of conferring upon mankind more lasting benefits than all the schools of medicine, from Hippocrates to Abernethy?

“Seeing thus, that they have overlooked, neglected, and generally retarded by persecution, most of those discoveries in medicine which have benefited mankind on the large scale, it would seem scarcely rational to expect that the existing schools should be at the pains of making important discoveries for themselves. Now as ever, their grand aim seems to be to fence themselves round with a dogmatic barrier, which shall maintain themselves, their theories, and their therapeutics, inviolate.”

The author then briefly reviews the history of medicine, the theories that have had an ephemeral existence, doomed like their predecessors to perish quickly. He then comes to Sydenham, who has been called the father of medicine.

“Sydenham saw still farther—dimly, it is true; but still he saw the speck on the murky night-horizon of medicine, which might betoken—not to him exactly, but to some penetrating physician like himself, coming after him—the dawn of a new day; he saw that it wants a fundamental *principle*, a ruling, general *law*. His words are—

“The other method, whereby, in my opinion, the art of medicine may be advanced, turns chiefly upon what follows, viz., that there must be some fixed, definite, and consummate *methodus medendi* (law or method of cure) of which the commonweal may have the advantage. By *fixed*, *definite*, and *consummate*, I mean a line of practice which has been based and built upon a sufficient number of experiments, and has in that manner been proved competent to the cure of diseases. I by no means am satisfied with the record of a few successful operations either of the doctor or the drug. I require

that they be shewn to *succeed universally under such and such circumstances.*"*

The writer goes on with his able review of the history of medicine, noticing the Theorists, the Rationalists, the Empirics—Brown, Cullen, Broussais, and others—and brings the reader down to Dr. Paris, the lately deceased president of the College of Physicians, who thus wrote on the state of medical practice—thus lectured he within the walls of that Royal College of which he was the president :

“ ‘ Glancing at the extensive and motley assemblage of substances with which these cabinets are overwhelmed [meaning the great collection of the *materia medica* possessed by the College of Physicians], it is impossible to cast our eyes over such multiplied groups, without being forcibly struck with the palpable absurdity of some—the disgusting and loathsome nature of others—the total want of activity in many—and the uncertain and precarious reputation of all ;—or without feeling an eager curiosity to inquire from the combination of what causes it can have happened, that substances, at one period in the highest esteem and of generally acknowledged utility, have fallen into total neglect and disrepute ;—while others, of humble pretensions and little significance, have maintained their ground for many centuries ; and on what account materials of no energy whatever have received the indisputable sanction and unqualified support of the best and wisest practitioners of the age. That such fluctuations of opinion and versatility in practice should have produced, even in the most candid and learned observers, an unfavourable impression with regard to the general efficacy of medicines, can hardly excite our astonishment, much less our indignation ; nor can we be surprised to find that another portion of mankind has at once arraigned physic as a fallacious art, or derided it as a composition of error and fraud. They ask—and it must be confessed that they ask with reason—what pledge can be afforded them that the boasted remedies of the present day will not, like their predecessors, fall into disrepute, and, in their turn, serve only as humiliating memorials of the credulity and infatuation of the physicians who commended and prescribed them ? ” †

After Dr. Paris comes Sir John Forbes, M.D. ; and thus says Dr. Sir John :

“ ‘ Every drug (says Sir John Forbes) that has at any time been regarded by anybody as possessing some special power, either in curing diseases or in influencing the functions of the organs in which they are supposed to have their seat ; every drug that has been recommended by anybody, more especially by authors and teachers, simply as beneficial in certain diseases, though on no better evidence than that it was employed in cases that recovered ; every drug that has been suggested by analogies, however vague ; every drug that has not been previously prescribed in the particular disease

* *Works of Sydenham*, vol. i.—Sydenham Society's Edition.

† Paris, *Pharmacologia*,—Introduction.

in hand ; in a word, almost every drug in our overflowing *materia medica*, whether inert or active, has been on some ground or other, copiously prescribed in every variety of disease.*

The writer sums up the present state of pathology in a very able, a very appropriate manner, ever dissecting, ever *post mortem*-izing. What has a dead pathology done to advance the art of cure? What hope of discovering a therapeutic law in the bodies of the dead? And in life even, while these bodies are animated by a living, sentient principle, actuating those otherwise "mere material" limbs and organs, man has been viewed and treated as a mere material machine—a complicated piece of mechanism—compared to a watch, a lace machine, or a steam engine.

Expressing in appropriate language the view taken by the faculty of man, our author says :

"Its style of practice, however, is on this wise—

"All the organs and tissues which constitute the *machine*, commonly called *man*, being of course patent to your scientific medical engineer, he has only to *work* them in the legitimate way, that the machine may keep performing its functions with the necessary precision—may keep its time, in fact. The secreting and excreting organs, you know, act after the manner of so many chemical churns, worked as it were by steam power ; the lungs are the bellows that fan the furnaces of the heart (that funny organ that can be converted into 'the true conjuror's bottle' upon occasion), and heat the fermentation vats of digestion ; the bowels are the waste-pipe that carries off the dross—and so on. Is the liver sluggish, not churning its bile up to time?—let the engineman shovel in *cholagogue*. Are the kidneys not distilling up to the mark?—pump in your *diuretics*. Is the animal heat below par, the lungs, by reason perhaps of tubercular deposit or other obstruction to the air cells, not fanning the furnaces briskly enough?—pour oil, cod liver oil by excellence, on the smouldering fires. Has the waste-pipe got clogged, the bowels sluggish?—down with your *irritants*, your *cathartics*. Does the machine seem to be inadequately supplied with moisture by the wonderful double set of pipes that ramify so curiously through it the arteries and veins?—draw off some of the fluid and examine it by the light of chemistry and the microscope. Dose it want salts or red corpuscles?—infuse your salines or your iron : or try a variety of experiments upon it ; mix it with different chemical reagents, mark the changes these produce upon it, and at once deduce the effects that *ought* to ensue when you pump the same reagents into the machine ;—never stopping, of course, to inquire whether the trifling fact of the machine being active (alive), and the fluids you have been putting through their chemical facings passive (dead), should make any considerable difference. Finally, are the invisible electrical currents and the fine nerve-wires on which they run—is the nervous

* *Nature and Art*, p. 225.

system of the machine out of order?—must this perchance give you pause? Pooh, not at all! This part of the machine is subtle and intricate to be sure, and there is even a tradition afloat to the effect, that it actually moves the various stop-cocks and safety-valves, and in fact controls, in some way or other, the sympathetic working of the whole. Well, so much the better. Have you not thus a kind of electric telegraph station at your elbow, the hands of which you can regulate at will?—can't you slow them by opiates, or irritate them by strychnia, or paralyze them by chloroform? Of course you can.

“And this is the way the vital organs and the sentient systems of man are stimulated, and irritated, and *worked*, till what was in very many instances mere functional derangement becomes organic disease, and the shattered body, which left earlier to nature might have weathered the storms of illness, is engineered, *secundem artem*, on the way to ‘dusty death!’ This is the sort of estimate the modern, enlightened, rational, scientific schools have formed of that glorious being—‘How noble in reason! how infinite in faculties! in form and moving how express and admirable! in action how like an angel! in apprehension how like a god! the beauty of the world! the paragon of animals!’—Fudge, sirs, fudge! A *machine*, sirs; a thing for chemistry and the microscope to analyse withal: some valves, and screws, and pipes; a double action force pump (or chemical ‘conjurer’s bottle’); bellows, a fermentation vat, a waste-pipe, and an electric telegraph. That, sirs, is the article your poets and philosophers talk so much nonsense about—that, sirs, is *Man*! Such is the faith of scientific arrogance, or ignorance: such is the refuge of those who know nothing of man in his nobler aspects, as an intellectual being; who hold the converse of the proposition—‘On earth there is nothing truly great but man; in man there is nothing truly great but mind.’ Seen in her own light, this modern, orthodox, scientific medicine is sitting on a mighty eminence, and all the nations of the world are listening with reverential awe to the words of almost supernatural wisdom that distil from her academic lips. But, as we see her, she is a deformed and sinister old woman in a very tattered black gown, standing, supported by a crutch and staff, vending her compounds in the high market place; surrounded there by a crowd of women and children, who still listen attentively to her harangues and purchase extensively her nauseous composites still; but many of the rising, and not a few of the manly adult generation, smile significantly as they pause for a moment in passing her by; for this is what the impudent old woman says—*Here are the Alteratives, the Antiphlogistics, the Antispasmodics, the Antisyphilitics, the Anthelmintics, the Astringents, the Cathartics, the Cholagogues, the Corrosives, the Demulcents, the Deobstruents, the Diaphoretics, the Diuretics, the Emmenagogues, the Emetics, the Errhines, the Expectorants, the Hypnotics, the Irritants, the Refrigerants, the Sedatives, the Siala-*

gogues, the Stimulants, the Contrastimulants, the Narcotics, the Tonics—at any price you please, from a guinea to a shilling—nerves to mend, scabbed heads to mend, kidneys to mend, livers to mend, bellows to mend—nonsense to mend!

“Such a view of our standard therapeutics, when joined to our antecedent exposition of the methods of the schools, leads, inevitably we think, to the conclusion that *orthodox medicine is rotten to the very core*; and we now see that no scientific or philosophic tinkering can ever, as we once vainly imagined, make the unsound old woman whole:* she must sooner or later die, and be removed out of the way: she can never ‘mend,’ and must therefore ‘end.’

Space will not allow us to pursue farther this allopathic practitioner. Was ever anything more worthy? Reader, buy the pamphlet!

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

Northampton, January 25, 1858.

DEAR SIR,—If you consider the following case of sufficient interest, and worthy of a place in your valuable periodical, I think it may prove instructive to those of your readers who may be placed in similar circumstances; and it is illustrative of what may be accomplished by the prompt and judicious administration of the homœopathic medicines, by the domestic practitioner, in circumstances where it is impossible to have the attendance of a homœopathic physician.

A few weeks since, my wife and little boy were on a visit to friends residing in a village, remote from the enlightening influences of our “new medical truth,” when a sudden attack of inflammation of the lungs seized the child; and this event gave the mother an opportunity of demonstrating the power of the “little do-nothings” to effect a speedy cure, by the removal of the symptoms of disease. The family (old system) practitioner was called in to state what were the particular and most important symptoms of the case, and the remedies were selected from an ordinary chest of globules, all of the 12th dilution. *Aconitum* was administered first, then one dose of *Tartarus Emeticus*, and afterwards *Aconitum* and *Phosphorus* in

* “We don’t mean, of course, to deny that orthodox physic is capable, by chance—or in a few instances by the use of specifics, administered *empirically*, without a guiding *rule*, and therefore in ignorance of any antecedent reason whatever for their successful operation—of controlling (though often at great expense to the general system), and, after a fashion, of *curing* even (to use a word Sir John Forbes explodes from both young and old physic) many cases of disease. It is in its integrity, as a whole, as a system devoid of certainty, of *law*, that we despair of its ever mending.”

alternation. The attack was completely subdued in less than twelve hours. The little patient was dressed, the state of convalescence was quickly passed by a nimble hop, skip, and jump after pussy, and there was no relapse. I may add that the allopathic medical man pronounced the case a very critical one—said that twenty-four hours would decide it, either for life or death—that he considered it imperatively necessary that a mustard plaister should be immediately applied to the chest, &c. It is unnecessary to say that this advice was not attended to.

I am, dear Sir, yours most respectfully,
VERITAS.

[We are glad to receive from correspondents instances of domestic homœopathy. Such cases as the foregoing are leading the profession to enquire. The legitimists are often startled at domestic facts.—Ed.]

REPEAL OF THE COMPULSORY VACCINATION ACT OF 1853.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—You are doubtless aware that during last session two vaccination bills were brought before parliament. The first was from the Board of Health, and had, for its object, not only a more stringent enforcement, but an extension of the measure of 1853. However great the objection of a parent to the introduction of the vaccine virus into the body of his child, the scope and tendency of that *act*, under the assumption of a high-toned morale for physical beauty and organic improvement—genetology—and beneath the cloak of *medical science*, is to compel every babe to receive into its comparatively healthy organism, a *material*; which statistics shew must of necessity consign countless numbers of children to premature graves.

The object of the second bill is a repeal, *in toto*, of the “compulsory vaccination act of 1853;” and, consequently, every man will be left to the free exercise of his own judgment and common sense on this important domestic question. If some parents *choose* to vaccinate their children, rather than incur the disfigurements arising from small pox, and, by thus acting to the best of their belief, think that they avoid the risk; and if others feel disposed to brave the inception of small-pox virus, rather than inoculate the blood of their child with the accumulated poisons of antecedent generations, let each have an equal right of choice, without bringing down upon him either the anathemas of the *modern Æsculapii* or the thunders of a *violated law*. Freedom of action is an Englishman’s birthright; and the time has gone by, for the fetter, medical, or political, or polemical, to be borne.

Is it to be tolerated that a man shall enter your house, and *insist* on instilling the vaccine poison into the arm of your child? Will fathers and mothers suffer a *stranger*, by virtue of a *law*, clearly antagonistic to a *natural law*, to violate the sanctity of their hearths, and, willing or unwilling, to *foul* with *pus* the fluid concentrated symbol of the *sons* of preceding generations—the hitherto intact blood of the little ones, as it dances pleasurably and healthily along? Surely not. No one with a right appreciation of the injury—the irremediable injury likely to accrue from this “leprous distilment,” would allow his freedom of action and liberty of thought thus to be infringed upon. Sheer neglect and the want of a little consideration on the part of the public, were doubtless the causes why the act of 1853 gained the sanction of the legislature. Independently of other considerations, the document laid before parliament by Mr. Gibbs, proved to demonstration, that vaccination was not a guarantee against the taking of small pox; and it is now high time that this tampering with the springs of life was put a stop to. Poor human nature has enough to do in contending against the *original psoric taint*, inherent more or less in every organism—without a “compulsory act” for the inoculation of a *modern psora*—thus heaping *Pelion upon Ossa*.

Mr. Duncombe’s bill for the repeal of the *act which poisons by the million*, will again be brought before parliament; and all, who feel an interest—and who does not—should petition in favour of the bill; so that millions yet unborn, may, at all events, have a *legal chance* of entering the world with bodies more free from disease, and less susceptible to morbid influences *ab extra*, than any of the present generation can dare to boast of.

Hoping that the intelligent and the philanthropic will take the necessary step for the repeal of the act, and the furtherance of an object teeming with coming blessings to posterity, is the sincere wish of,
Yours truly,

ONE WHO DISBELIEVES IN DOING EVIL THAT GOOD MAY COME.

AN AMERICAN EDITOR.

The editor of the *Horicon* (U.S.) is in ecstasies. What a happy fellow he must be! Only listen to him: “An exchange says that editors, as a general thing, are not overstocked with worldly goods. Humbug. Here we are editor of a country paper, fairly rolling in wealth! We have a good office, a double barrelled rifle, seven suits of clothes, three kittens, a Newfoundland pup, two good watches, thirteen day and two night shirts, carpets on our floors, a pretty wife, own one corner lot, have ninety-three cents in cash, are out of debt, and have no rich relatives. If we are not wealthy, it is a pity. Hurrah! Hurrah! Who cares for cash?”

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HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

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TO OUR READERS.

HOMŒOPATHY is about to be brought before the notice of the public in a very prominent manner shortly. In another page will be found an announcement that a fancy bazaar is to be held in London, in the month of May, to aid the establishment of a London homœopathic hospital, for which extensive freehold premises are already purchased in Great Ormond Street. We hail with pleasure any and every effort to establish institutions for the benefit of the suffering poor; and a large metropolitan hospital in which homœopathic medicine is fully carried out—an hospital within the walls of which medical students may engage in the pursuit of real medicine, will be hailed by every right feeling homœopathist as a great boon to society. We earnestly wish that hospitals of one hundred or more beds were established by the friends of homœopathy in the metropolis of London, of Edinburgh, and of Dublin; but in the present divided state of the faculty, we see no hope of achieving such a desirable result. The public—the homœopathic public—a million in this country, have been once disappointed. Two small hospitals were opened in London a few years back: to the sustenance as well as the establishment of those the public helped, and helped successfully; but, unfortunately for the poor, for the cause, for the world, both those once flourishing institutions became closed; not from public interest flagging, not from any falling off of the homœopathic public, but, we are ashamed to confess, from the indifference, the strifes, the jealousies, and disagreements of the medical men. As journalists, our duty is to disguise nothing—to keep back nothing which bears on the causes of failure. The public have a right to demand an explanation. They are taunted by allopaths—they have to bear the

sneers of medical men; and if the latter serve our patients as they serve us, we pity them. If they, as we have, in passing on the public highway, have even to behold the diabolical sneer of the allopathic physician, surgeon, and apothecary, we heartily sympathize with them. Aye, how much more do they bear, and bear well! Taunted by means of epithets as untruthful as inelegant, spoken at one time in professed sympathy for their weak mindedness, at another blamed and scolded for their ignorance in allowing themselves, their husbands, and their children to be treated homœopathically; and warned by the interested bigot against the "fearful heresy"—homœopathy. We know that our patients have much to bear, and bear it well.

We had hope that a fair hearing would be given to homœopathy; that a trial would be instituted; that, after an English fashion, the two systems would be tested side by side; but we confess our hope is gone. There is no prospect of obtaining a fair trial. Witness the manner in which Dr. Chargé has been treated, an account of which will be found in another portion of our present number. No! we no longer court inquiry—we yield it as hopeless *within the walls of existing infirmaries*. We must now seek justice from the public, and here we shall not be disappointed. Funds are provided for allopathic infirmaries by a very *large portion of the public who are homœopathists*. Now we ask that these shall contribute to the support of the system of medical treatment which they prefer themselves. Will such continue to perpetuate that from which they dissent—will they still mock homœopathy by openly *sustaining allopathic practice*, to which they would not trust themselves or their children? Can they be regardless of the desire of the poor to be treated homœopathically? They little think that while they give their money to the allopathic Dagon, the image only laughs while it clutches the gold which perpetuates the idolatry. But the public have excused themselves—they have with reason justified their conduct by the fact that there are no large institutions in which homœopathy is adopted, to which they can contribute. No, and there never will be until they are established by the benevolent. Medical men give their time, aye, and their money too. They cannot do more than they are able. The gold and silver are not essentially in the hands of the medical men. Let the public, therefore, at once establish, and then support in their *own locality* homœopathic hospitals. When established, there will no longer be the plea that their benevolence must go where the poor are exclusively benefited. We plead now on behalf of the Northampton Homœopathic Hospital. All it wants are funds. Take the fact that a *very considerable portion* of the funds of the allopathic infirmary comes from the pockets of the benevolent homœopathists of the county: let these be transferred, and we should soon have a noble homœopathic hospital, wherein the poor would be rationally treated.

THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S LAST LAMENT.

In the quarterly returns, just published, the following is the concluding paragraph: "England is a great country and has done great deeds. It has encountered in succession, and at times in combination, all the great powers in Europe; has founded vast colonies in America; and has conquered an empire in Asia. Yet greater victories have to be achieved at home. Within the shores of these islands 28,000,000 of people dwell, who have not only supplied her armies and set her fleets in motion, but have manufactured innumerable products, and are employed in the investigation of scientific truths and the erection of works of inestimable value to the human race. *These people do not live out half their days; one hundred and forty thousand of them die every year unnatural deaths: two hundred and eighty thousand are constantly suffering from actual diseases which do not prevail in healthy places, their strength is impaired in a thousand ways, their affections and intellects are disturbed, deranged, and demolished by the same agencies. Who will deliver the nation from these terrible enemies? Who will confer on the inhabitants of the United Kingdom the blessings of health and long life? Who will give scope to the improvement of the English race so that all its fine qualities may be developed to their full extent under favourable circumstances? His conquests would be wrought neither by wrong nor human slaughter, but by the application of the powers of nature to the improvement of mankind.*"

What a confession amid the wide-spread enlightenment of the nineteenth century! When there are 20,000 medical men, brimful of *supposed curative* learning, with all the "appliances and means to boot," which chemical and microscopical science and delicate mechanical contrivances can furnish, there must be something radically wrong, as Shakspeare would say, in the "state of Denmark," where such evils exist. The death of 420,000 people per annum is a great drain on any population; and the thought becomes appalling, when, by better methods, and under more rational forms of treatment, two-thirds of this havoc might be avoided. A more diffused system of sanitary regulation would doubtless diminish to a considerable extent the annual mortality. The removal of unwholesome influences, is, at all times, favourable to health.

The vast tribes of a busy population have often been swept off by agencies wholly inappreciable by the senses. Influences, then, of a grosser nature, and which the senses readily detect, should be removed if the health of communities is to be kept in its entirety. Much has been done of late in this direction, but much remains to do. A vast improvement would be effected, if the people were taught and trained to obey the physical and organic laws. They would, in time, look upon medical men as directors of health, as well as curers of disease; and advice for health-preservation would become

a part of professional practice as well as that of health-restoration ; and *health-fees* would be paid as cheerfully or even more so than those of an opposite character. This is a condition to which we have not reached, but towards which society is tending.

But there are other causes at work not mentioned by the Registrar General, which are sapping the foundations of the physical life-power of the Anglo-Saxon race; and these are the cruel, and body-breaking-down methods for restoring diseased human nature to a state of health, adopted by the allopathic, or old school practice; a practice which, in its frantic insanity, will ere long have the temerity to ask Parliament to throw around it the sanction of the state, that it may revel all the more in its bloody orgies. Nothing but a dread of high pressure from *without*, and a felt conviction in the minds of the far-seeing, that, without state legislation, the allopathic temple, which has taken two thousand years to build, must crumble into very dust, before the Midas touch of an advancing civilization, and the *natural* and *rational* systems of *cure*, which of necessity must spring from such an altered condition of things, could have induced the advocates of a system—rotten to its core—to take so audacious a step, when Sir Astley Cooper, Sir John Forbes, and others—the highest luminaries of the profession—denounce the system as sheer quackery, and in practice a thousand times worse than doing nothing at all, even in the severest forms of disease. Did not Sir Astley Cooper refuse to go into certain wards of Guy's Hospital, as he could not bear to see human beings so abnormally maltreated? Yes, truly! And is this trumpery, foundationless, cruel, bloody, death-bringing system, to have *state support*, and for this, and this alone, to be the *state physic* for the people? NEVER! A hundred thousand heads of homœopathic and hydropathic families cry—NEVER! Were this system put down by act of parliament to-morrow, the effects already produced on the physical organizations of the British people would still be felt for generations to come. Give such a system more power!—why, the idea is monstrous. Cut down the tree root and branch, and cast it into the fire which ever burneth, rather than suffer a system, worse than the seventh plague, silently to murder its victims, and then to grin horribly a ghastly smile over the mortal ruins it hath produced.

Oh, ye peoples! rouse ye, to the height of this great evil. Think of 20,000 allopaths practising such a system; and 30,000 druggists brandishing these sharp and dangerous weapons, with infinitely less knowledge than the others, as to the use thereof, and is there any wonder at the frightful mortality, at the *lament of the Registrar General*, or at his call for aid to stem the mighty current along channels on whose banks wave the luxuriance of health, and quiet, and happiness? Think—if these 50,000 drug-men only kill *one* a year—God help them!—we have 50,000 persons murdered according to law. If four a year be the average, we have two hundred thousand human beings carried into eternity; and the great mind of society *looks on*,

unconscious of the cause. War! What art thou, with all thy blood-stained trappings, in comparison of this annual havoc of physic. Why, the whole of India will be reconquered, and China brought on her knees—the celestial Emperor, all submissive to our royal mistress Queen Victoria—with not a tithe of the loss. Is it not high time a change was made? Is it not the *people* who ought to petition parliament to *put down* and *for ever*, the present bloody, iniquitous, and sham-pretending systems of curing disease? Awake, then, to your duty. The system must “*end*” for it has not in it the elements to “*mend*.” Hygiene, with all its healthful influences, stands ready by your side; natural medicine—the water cure can take you to the fountains and bathe your fevered limbs, and quench, with its cooling drops, your parched and fevered tongue; and homœopathy, with all the blandness and gentleness of inherent power, ever waits to touch the inner springs of life, and set in motion those healthy vibrations, which will undulate along every nerve, and restore harmony of function to every organ. These are the means and these only, which, in the language of the Registrar General, “will give scope to the improvement of the English race, so that all its fine qualities may be developed to their full extent.”

S. E.

WELL BEGUN, BUT BADLY ENDED.

COLD WATER IN DYSENTERY.

IN the *Medical Times* of Feb. 6th, Dr. Hiard states that, for several years, during which he has pursued the following treatment, he has hardly ever met with a fatal termination in even very bad cases of dysentery, the patient being usually completely restored within two or three days, and sometimes sooner. On the first visit he is directed to drink glass after glass of cold water, until three or four quarts have been taken. The pain soon ceases, and the stools become rare. Next day the water is continued (so far this is the water-cure treatment); and, as a precaution against re-action, venesection is performed (why?), the dysentery *usually* ceasing; (mark! not *always*, as the bleeding is much more likely to *increase* than *diminish* the flux). To encourage a slight transpiration, the cold water is replaced by tepid rice-water, sharpened with vinegar. (No doubt the skin is dry from the effects of the fever which usually accompanies this complaint; the drinking of rice-water, however, is a lame attempt at subduing fever. Wrap the patient in a series of wet sheets, and the fever would soon be dissipated). In some cases the disease *resists* till the sixth or seventh day (and no wonder); and then, on the eighth day, a *blister* is applied to the leg (making an *outward* sore to cure an *inward* one—so the *vis vitæ* has now two

diseases to manage); and sometimes another bleeding is employed (because the first bleeding, the rice-water potations, and the blistering, had evidently done more harm than good). The ingredients in the cauldron are mixed again, in the vain hope of giving relief; but, instead, there comes

“Double, double
Toil and trouble,”

but no cure; for the doctor says nothing of this second bleeding, but boldly sums up by saying, “Enemata and opiates are both forbidden.” These being allopathic agents of mighty potency, it seems a mark of *great originality* in his mode of treatment at once to throw them overboard, not to mention the somewhat of a *smack* of self-esteem, in the style in which it is done. A few enemata of tepid, and afterwards, of pure, cold water, would, doubtless, have aided wonderfully in a *scientifically directed water-cure treatment*. Men, who know the use of *drugs merely*, had better keep to their anti-spasmodics, anthelmintics, and other jaw-breaking and bowel-lacerating remedies, and leave the water-cure appliances to those who have made the application of *God's physic—water*—a matter of serious and lengthened study, and who have been mercifully endowed with an innate instinct for curing disease by this natural method.

LIFE, DEATH, DISEASE, AND CURE.

MAN has three lives, the nutritive, the muscular, and the nervous. The word *life* does not represent a distinct *entity*, but is merely a sort of short hand sign, expressive of all the actions performed by the material organism of living beings.

The nutritive or animal life comprises all those actions whose final result is *nutrition*; viz., circulation, respiration, absorption, secretion, and the vito-chemical changes proper to the blood.

The muscular life includes all those actions performed by muscles, tendons, bones, &c.

The nervous, cerebral, or ganglionic life comprehends the actions, performed by the brain, the spinal chord, and the ganglions great and small.

If the nutritive life is disturbed, the other two lives at once sympathise, and lose their vigour of action; on the other hand, when nutrition ceases, the other two lives die out, and this constitutes the death of the animal. The foundation of perfect health, then, is a vigorous or normal action of all organs whose functions constitute *nutrition*. This, however, can only happen when the other two lives, the muscular and the cerebral, are not overtasked. Although distinct in their action, there is great sympathy in the right or wrong discharge of function.

The nutritive or animal life requires repose ; which, if not given, the ultimate end of the organism will be greatly modified, as this is essential to the perfect elaborations of the nutritive processes ; being, in fact, the foundation on which the other two lives are supported. The health of this life, then, is much in the power of man. Every one can select such food as is capable of forming wholesome blood ; masticate the food slowly, so that the saliva of the mouth shall have permeated every part of the food before it passes into the gullet ; avoid diluting the salivary and gastric juices with liquids, till the process of chymification shall have been accomplished, and give the body and the brain that amount of repose which seems so essential to the due performance of the nutritive functions.

Disease is a term expressive of some deranged action of the organs of nutrition or of a mal-distribution of the nervous fluid either in the cerebral or ganglionic centres, or along their wonderfully attenuated ramifications. Any disturbance in the animal life will, by a reflex influence, destroy the equilibrium of action in the other two lives ; and, *vice versâ*, in respect of each other. When the nutritive, the muscular, and the cerebral lives act and react on each other in an abnormal manner, the causes being most frequently the turmoils of life, or the wear and tear of brain, we have what is termed *general disease* ; and when the reaction assumes a high form of intensity, there is often a complete breaking up of the system. If the efforts of nature, in order to rid the system of peccant matters, or to restore an equilibrium in the nervous circulation, and, consequently, in that of the sanguinary, be inadequate to the attempt, congestion is at once set up, inflammation soon supervenes, and this constitutes what is termed a *local disease* ; which, when powerfully developed, distributes its influences through the entire organism, and thus produces *another general disease*, which, in its turn, reacts on the *local one* ; and in this way the poor patient's life becomes despaired of. This is a sad condition ; but thousands are brought to it in the very anxiety to live. The present is a life of stimulation. Life has become a race-course, in virtue of the competition to sustain organic existence, and every man is a jockey. Some ride well and fast ; and, if not in time for the prize, at any rate reach the goal in safety ; whilst others tumble off, dash their brains against the stones of poverty, or else become the lamed inmates of a workhouse.

The natural conditions for supporting the nutritive or foundation life and state of health are pure air, proper drink, wholesome food, a rational amount of voluntary exercise, the supporting of an equable temperature of the body, and withal peace of mind. These conditions not complied with, constitute, in all cases, the predisposing causes of disease. Now, fortunately for *man*, when disease invades the system, *i.e.*, when the functions of the *foundation life*, and, by consequence, those of the muscular and the cerebral, are disturbed, there is an internal power, a protective or conservative principle, called by the

faculty *vis medicatrix nature* (at whose shrine Dr. Sir John Forbes is a devotee of the highest order of worshippers; as, according to him, allopathy never did cure, and the marvellous results of homœopathy are merely the effects brought about by this innate conservative principle) which at all times comes into action; and, if not thwarted by maltreatment, tends to restore the functions of the different organs to a normal or healthy state of action. This is an important inherent recuperative agent. The homœopathic law, and water-cure appliances, by acting in harmony with this natural power, have reached results perfectly unattainable by methods which in all time have been found to weaken rather than give intensity to it. A wise physician *aids* this principle—never *thwarts* it. A skilful surgeon, too, as he puts the ends of a broken bone together, applying his splinters and enjoining rest in an horizontal position, knows full well that it is this power alone that can throw out a natural kind of mortar and make the broken limb sound and whole again. An effort of this kind is put forth more or less in every form of disease: and all that can be done is to place the body in such favourable conditions by the action of homœopathic remedies, or the appliances of water, as to intensify the *vis vite*, and thus compel it to do its own work in the best manner. Nature herself is her own physician; but, owing to the infractions of the organic laws which man is every hour violating, this wonderful power requires the assistance of *art* to enable it to act with its naturally inherent vigour. Skilful medical practice, then, clearly consists in aiding the efforts of this natural power, which God has implanted in the system, for the wisest and the best of ends, viz., the re-establishment of human health. No system of treatment is worth a straw which contravenes this inherent principle, however consecrated by time, upheld by prestige, or encircled by law. Nature will assert her rights; and that system, because based in errors (need we name it?)—*Forbes-condemned-allopathy*—must ultimately fall from its high estate, and mingle with the results of *all those errors* which mankind once thought to be *truths*, but which they now discard. This has ever been the triumph of principle; this, the inevitable downfall of what is false. To remove disease, then, is to restore the disturbed functions of the nutritive life, bring about the equilibrium of the nervo-vital fluid, and intensify the enfeebled curative principle. Whatever mode of treatment can accomplish these three things must be the best, because in harmony with the intentions of nature. Now these are the high aims of the homœopath and the hydropath. They remove the clogs from the wheels of life, by the ejection of morbid matters from the system, and create the purest stream, by intensifying the inherent principle, and insisting on an habitual conformity to the organic law, so as to allow the carriage of human nature to roll along the pathway of the world, with the least morbid friction possible. Every marvel of science pronounces the fact, that nature

accomplishes the mightiest results by the simplest means. The highest triumphs of *art* proclaim the same fact. Now to apply this idea to medicine. All the world knows that the most startling cures have been accomplished through the simple agency of water; and also that results have been reached either by the action of the decillionth of a drop of a medicine pathogenetic to the disease, or by the almost miraculous powers of the pin-head globule, which had bid defiance to the united wisdom of the greatest *Solons* of all the orthodox schools of physic. Ye sons and daughters of England! Away, then, with prejudice—that ghost to human progress. Let common sense and an unbiassed will once more guide your actions. Take to your arms and to your hearths, homœopathy—a system of cure at once natural, scientific, and safe. Trifle no longer. Choose between *truth* and *error* while in *health*. Don't leave your thinkings till the day of disease arrives, and then, in your mad fright, send for the *first doctor* to be met with. In health calmly make your choice; and then you are ready, come the seventh plague even. Mother! preserve thy child from the death-talons of a perverted system. Father! save thy only son from being bled to *death* under the insane pretext of restoring him to *life*. Children! implore your parents to save your lives from the maniacal acts of an “untoward generation” of allopaths.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

Dear Sir,—Thinking that the following might interest some of your readers, I have extracted it from a letter, received from a friend who is studying at one of the London schools of medicine:

Alluding to yourself and your colleague he says, “Tell them I am hearing of their doings in contending for the truth in relation to the art of healing with interest and satisfaction; and most sincerely do I wish them success in their efforts to demolish the principles and practices of the old school, as well as in the establishment of the new. I hear a great deal from our professors of the ‘progress of the healing art,’ ‘the advance of the science of medicine,’ and of ‘physiological principles of cure;’ but for anything I can see, the practice of medicine is only what it always was, a system of blistering, bleeding, purging, and sweating; save and except in some rare instances. These practices are modified or substituted by what the patient would do for himself most assuredly, viz., leave the disease to the care of that still older physician than Hippocrates himself—Dr. Nature. Oh, my heart is sick, my soul is pained with every day’s report of wrong and outrage that poor suffering humanity is doomed to endure! Away, the thought! but

methinks if allopathy be the method devised by heaven to minister relief to the afflicted and disease-stricken of our race, then is it more benign and tender towards the healthy and the strong, than towards the helpless and the weak. How passing strangely, nay, how divinely so, does homœopathy present a contrast to the harsh, and often cruel treatment of the old school; for as an angel of mercy, with the power of gentleness, it executes its healing mission. Thanks be to God, I am so far safely over my perilous journey. Allopathic eyes are maliciously and enviously watching my steps; but He to whom I committed my way, has directed my path, so that I have succeeded better than I could have expected. Should I not then feel encouraged to press on, fearing neither the mutterings of malice nor the dark looks of envy?"

It is, Sir, much to be regretted that there is no institution in this country, where the principles of homœopathy are inculcated in connection with all the other branches of study which are comprised in a respectable course of medical education. Doubtless the time is coming when nothing less than such a school will satisfy the demands of a discerning public. Let us work and pray that the day may shortly arrive. We may readily conceive how painful it must be to a man in whose bosom circulates the milk of human kindness, to witness the injuries which are perpetrated in allopathic hospitals upon his fellow creatures in their hour of suffering. The memory of one such case, poor Stafford's cruel death, makes our very blood still curdle with horror. What a fearful detail of atrocities and cruelties were practised upon him under the false pretence of curing his disease. But his was not a solitary case, but its extensive publicity is owing to his exalted social position; and if an individual occupying his high station and rank was the subject of such brutal usage, what may the unowned, uncared-for poor expect? Alas, Sir, how many such instances of legalized murder happen daily amongst us; so noiselessly and silently is the fatal deed done, that it is frequently known to none but the Omniscient! How often is the funeral knell tolled, and the grave opened for the young and the beautiful—sacrificed by its high priests on the shrine of this monster medical Juggernaut. This great drug destroyer has for the past two thousand years been busy butchering by wholesale the nations of the earth through successive generations. I verily believe, Sir, that it has destroyed more human lives, directly and indirectly, than the deadly pestilence and all the murderous inventions of war. This is indeed a serious and may appear a severe charge; but carefully considering all the circumstances that bear upon the subject, I think that I do not exceed the truth; and, in fact, the testimony of the best physicians in the allopathic school will partly justify the conclusion. But enough of this: it is a dark sad picture, and there is a star even in the blackest sky; and that star is the harbinger to us of brighter and happier days to come. Homœopathy is spreading far and wide in

the great field of the world, and its infinite superiority as a method of cure has become manifest, and is acknowledged by daily increasing numbers amongst the intelligent classes of the community; and, considering its vital importance to the interests of humanity; the immense benefit it is ready to confer upon our race; that it is the gospel for the physical salvation of the world; that it is a disease-curing and a life-preserving principle; that it is *the truth*, which has descended, like all truth, from the great fountain of eternal truth; it must be confessed and deplored that its progress is tardy. The apathy manifested by the majority of homœopathic physicians, in what they must believe to be the cause of suffering humanity, is surprising and culpable in the extreme. Their chief concern seems to be to extend their practice and collect their fees—gain alone is their prominent object. But, notwithstanding all opposing influences from foes without and foes within, homœopathy is majestically and steadily progressing. It is proving its heavenly mission amongst all grades of society; its votaries are to be found in the cottages of the poor, the mansions of the rich, and the palaces of kings. All praise be to you, Sir, and may I couple with your name, Mr. Clifton, your worthy fellow labourer in this divine cause, for the indefatigable industry and energy which have characterised your mutual exertions in the defence and establishment of homœopathy in Northampton; and not in the town alone, but its influence has radiated into the villages, and in some directions far beyond the borders of the county. I am rejoiced to hear that in addition to your dispensary you are about to open an hospital, and I sincerely hope the homœopathic portion of the community in the town and county of Northampton will come forward and liberally supply you with funds towards its support; that, as far as it goes, it may be a public proof of the superiority of the homœopathic system of treatment.

It is to be hoped, Sir, that those who have adopted homœopathy, and are treated themselves and families upon that method, will henceforth withdraw their subscriptions from the County Infirmary, and apply them to the maintenance of your new hospital. To continue to support an institution in which the system practised is admitted to be destructive, is inconsistent to an alarming degree, if not morally wrong.

I am, yours truly,

J. B. S.

A FANCY BAZAAR will be held in May next, in aid of the funds of the London Homœopathic Hospital, under the patronage of the Duchess of Cambridge, the Princess Mary of Cambridge, the Duchess of Beaufort, Duchess of Manchester, Marchioness of Exeter, Countesses of Craven, Wilton, Glengall, Cowley, and a long list of titled *noblesses*.

FALSIFICATION OF THE TRUTH, BY THE OPPONENTS OF HOMŒOPATHY.

HOMŒOPATHY progresses—this progress begets opposition—this opposition is unfair, because untruthful. It is a pity that our enemies will not fight fairly. They endeavour to put homœopathy down—they wish it down—then they say “it is going down.” In a sense they do not intend it *is* going down—the people everywhere receiving and adopting it.

An unhappy “F. F.” has lately attacked homœopathy in the pages of the *Liverpool Mercury*. We insert his letter to that paper :

(No. 1.)

HOMŒOPATHY TESTED BY FACTS.

To the Editors of the Liverpool Mercury.

Gentlemen,—The following extract from the *Gazette Hebdomadaire de Médecine et de Chirurgie* of January 15, 1858, may be interesting to some of your readers. I enclose my card, and remain, gentlemen, yours, &c.,

F. F.

The *Bulletin des Ravaux de la Société Impériale de Médecine de Marseille*, for the year 1857, gives us an instructive account of the mission entrusted to M. Chargé, a homœopathic physician, during the epidemic cholera of 1855. * * * During the epidemic of 1854, the local political journals had announced that M. Chargé cured, by homœopathic remedies, all the cholera patients who came under his care. * * * When the epidemic of 1855 commenced, the Mayor of Marseilles said that he thought it due to his conscience and to public opinion to call for a public trial. M. Chargé was in consequence installed at the Hôtel Dieu. He had offered to him and accepted the charge of two wards—one for men, the other for women. Like the dictators at whose feet the country throws itself in times of peril, he dictated his own conditions. He regulated the mode of admission into his own department, and into that of the ordinary physicians of the establishment; he associated with himself three homœopathic colleagues and several young adepts. At last, on the 1st of September, at six p.m., the trial began. Alas, on the 7th of September, *out of 26 patients, homœopathy had lost 21; while allopathy had only lost 14 out of 25.* M. Chargé was satisfied, and retired. “The figures of 21 dead out of 26 patients are assuredly discouraging at first sight,” he writes to the Mayor of Marseilles. This is true; and on a second consideration, it is a frightful breakdown.

Is this true? No! We add two letters which have appeared in reply. We feel assured that our readers will bring in an honest verdict, and condemn the guilty one to the galleys—declare the innocent victim of persecution *not guilty*.

(No. 2.)

HOMŒOPATHY TESTED BY FACTS.

To the Editors of the Liverpool Mercury.

Gentlemen,—In reading your journal of to-day, I saw under the head of correspondence, "Homœopathy tested by facts," where the writer gives an account of the unsuccessful treatment of cholera in the Hôtel Dieu, by Dr. Chargé, during the epidemic of 1854, in Marseilles. Now, I beg to refer "F. F." to the congress of the Gallican Homœopathic Society, held in Brussels, September, 1855, which gave Dr. Chargé an opportunity of explaining the accusation brought against him by the allopathists of Marseilles respecting his treatment of cholera in that town during the epidemic of 1854. In 1854 the cholera was committing frightful ravages among the population of Marseilles, and all the resources of the allopathic school seemed to be fruitless to stay its progress or cure the patients when once attacked. Now, in the previous epidemic, the success of the homœopathic practitioners had greatly exceeded that of the allopathic, and, as the facts were generally well known, public opinion compelled the authorities to apply to the homœopathic practitioners for their aid in the public hospital against a disease that seemed to defy all the powers of the established system. Dr. Chargé, as being the practitioner most distinguished on the former occasion for his success (in acknowledgment of which, it will be remembered by some, he was decorated), was applied to by the Mayor to take charge of a couple of wards in the Hôtel Dieu Hospital. To this appeal, which, thus made, could scarcely be resisted, Dr. Chargé responded by undertaking the duty imposed on him, stipulating, of course, that he was to have an abundant supply of nurses, dresses, flannels, and other necessaries, of which all were readily promised to him. All the patients brought to the hospital were to be sent on alternate days to the homœopathic and allopathic wards.

The Mayor's request was dated 31st August, and on the 2nd September, Dr. Chargé commenced his labours. It is true that Dr. Chargé resigned his trust after three reception days. It is also true that during those three days 26 patients were admitted, and 21 died, as Dr. Bouguet stated; but his letter gave no explanation of the reason of Dr. Chargé's retirement, nor of the cause of the excessive mortality in his wards.

According to Dr. Chargé's account, the promises given by the administration of the hospital in reference to nurses and necessaries were not fulfilled. In the male ward there was but one attendant allowed, and he was soon laid up and useless, so that the homœopathic physicians had to do the duty of nurses as well as doctors, which of course they could not long continue to do. There was a great want of bed clothing, flannels, &c. Only one pupil was provided to assist the medical men, and he was soon laid up by

sickness. The admission of the patients on alternate days to the allopathic and homœopathic wards, which seemed to remove all possibility of a selection by either party, had not that effect, for as patients in the other wards, when they took cholera, as they often did, were transferred to the cholera wards, and as this process of transfer was entirely in the hands of the allopathic medical officers, an opportunity was thereby afforded them of retaining in their own wards patients attacked by cholera on the day of the allopathic admission until the following day, when they might be thrust in a dying state into the homœopathic wards. And this, Dr. Chargé asserts, was frequently done, which will account for the extreme mortality in his wards.

In the face of all these unfavourable circumstances it would have been madness to continue the trust confided to him, all the conditions of which had been so faithfully performed by himself and homœopathic colleagues, and so vexatiously evaded by the opposite party.

Without assistants, without the requisite bed furniture, with the control of the admission of patients in the hands of adversaries eager to damage the reputation of homœopathy, Dr. Chargé was forced to retire from the unequal contest. No, the credit of homœopathy is not affected by such an unfair trial.

In conclusion, I will just refer again "F. F." to Dr. Wilde's book, entitled "Austria and its Institutions." There he will find that during the epidemic of 1836, in Vienna, the mortality in the homœopathic hospital was 33 per cent., and that of the allopathic hospital 66 per cent. And in the Liverpool statistics for 1849 the mortality during the epidemic was 25 per cent. under homœopathy, and 46 under allopathy.—Yours, &c.,

T. H. W.

(No. 3.)

HOMŒOPATHY.

To the Editors of the Liverpool Mercury.

Gentlemen,—If the allopaths of this town cannot acquit themselves more creditably in discussing the merits of homœopathy and allopathy than they have hitherto done, it would be wise, and to their advantage, to let the subject alone, and not again provoke such a contrast of the two systems as appeared in your valuable paper a little while ago. The unanswered and unanswerable exposure their system was then subjected to, ought to have deterred them from again entering the field of discussion. To use a paragraph of that discussion—"Medical men of experience seldom expose themselves in the way your correspondent has done: he must indeed be one of the rashest and most juvenile of Æsculapius's sons, or he never would have come out so boldly;" and, I would add, especially against one of the strongholds of homœopathy: above all things he should have avoided alluding to cholera, for nowhere can allopathy

bring statistics at all worthy of comparison with those of homœopathy in this disease. The great superiority of homœopathy over allopathy in the treatment of cholera was officially acknowledged by Dr. M'Loughlan, the allopathic inspector of cholera hospitals during the last epidemic in London, and proved by a special report from the House of Commons.

Did "F. F." seek the truth in this matter, and act becoming a man with pretensions to scientific acquirements, instead of alluding to the crooked job at Marseilles, he would respond to the oft-repeated call to test the system for himself, or to watch it where it can have fair play; for instance, in our own homœopathic dispensary, where there are treated from 60 to 120 patients daily. He knows very well that homœopathy cannot have justice done it in the very camp of its bitter and bigoted enemies, who appear to be sworn to oppose and crush it without investigation. Witness the persecution it is subjected to in this town. A few years ago, one of the members of the Medical Society broke down in a speech before that body for the expulsion of all who ventured to believe in homœopathy, or even investigate its merits. A few months ago, Mr. Long was persecuted on all sides for consulting with a homœopath, and the Medical Society chastised him, and then entered into a formal agreement to "have no dealings with the Samaritans;" and only a few weeks since, the Ladies' Charity entered its persecution against an institution for the relief of the suffering poor because it was homœopathic. Well might M. Chargé retire in disgust, after three days' trial, to work with such unprincipled and bigoted enemies, who, no doubt, opposed him in everything, and put every obstacle in his way they possibly could. An allopathic hospital is not the place for homœopathy to have an honest trial. If homœopathy be a delusion, as you say, it will come to naught; but if it be true, "F. F.'s" persecution cannot overthrow it. Yours, &c.

J. J.

REVIEW.

HOMŒOPATHY AND THE WORKING CLASSES.

A Letter to the Governors and Subscribers to the Manchester Royal Infirmary. By a MEDICAL GRADUATE. Manchester: W. Bremner; London: Fred Pitman.

THE pamphlet before us is the production evidently of a gifted mind—a zealous will of a warm heart—a real homœopath indeed. The writer signs himself "A Medical Graduate:" he need not be ashamed of acknowledging his offspring. If the letter do not awaken the governors of the Manchester as well as of other kindred institu-

tions, they must be callous indeed. When will the promoters of such noble institutions cease their indifference to the importance of providing the best, the most effectual means of healing?

The pamphlet is so good, that we can with difficulty omit any portion. We must content ourselves with the following extracts, and refer our readers to the pamphlet itself for the rest. It would be well if every reader purchased 100 copies for distribution.

“Every stranger, upon entering the city of Manchester, is struck with the imposing appearance of its infirmary, and the classical effect of the colossal statues which adorn its front. With the mass of the people, the impression which the exterior gives rise to, is all that is felt; with others, however—the intelligent and the far-seeing—a train of thought is suggested, as to the aim and end for which so fine a structure has been reared. The idea naturally occurs, by whom is such an institution supported, and for whose benefit is it specially intended? The mere erection of such a building for a benevolent purpose, bespeaks a high moral development in its founders, and is an embodiment of a condition of mind of which the people of Greece, of Rome, of Egypt, and other nations of antiquity, even in their palmiest days, never dreamed. The endowment of a splendid mansion for the reception of the suffering poor, supported by the free-will offerings of the wise and of the good, was a thought, in those times, as yet too deeply sunk in the undeveloped nature of man. The intellect and the propensities were too much in the ascendant; while the moral emotions, like the fitful flash of the lightning in a midnight storm, only now and then darted forth on a benighted world, from the low-roofed cot of Socrates, or the haunts of Acadamus’ sacred shade. Ages required to roll on before the human intellect could grasp the heights of moral excellence, and entwine the good with the beautiful and the true. Never, in the world’s history, were there so many sacred forms of this lofty and combined emotion as at present; and it behoves every person, in his anxiety to manifest the godlike qualities of his nature, not to lose sight of the great object which the exercise of this generous feeling is intended to effect. We willingly admit that to alleviate pain, give succour to the afflicted, and cause the heart of sorrow to rejoice, are qualities of the highest order. The object to be gained by the exercise of pure benevolence being the alleviation of suffering, neither trouble nor pecuniary considerations should be allowed to interfere with its accomplishment. With a philanthropy wide as HUMAN KIND, this primitive emotion of our nature, when enlightened by intellect, should, as far as regards your noble charity, recognize no cliques, no useless forms made venerable by age, no fossil pathologies, no therapeutic formulae, rendered impressive and learnedly imposing by the old granite language in which they are inlaid, nor any one-sided views of human nature, as if man were all body—one mass of materialization—and no soul. No! The streams of mercy should flow pure and uncontaminated along. Is this

the case? Take your infirmary as an embodiment of a lofty form of charity. Is not the medical treatment, in practice, fraught with highest evils? Are not effects produced, in the SACRED NAME OF SCIENCE, which the grave alone conceals? Are not the patients in your wards (almost without a thought) bled, and blistered, and cauterized, and fired, and maltreated in nameless ways at the altar of a system whose very HIGH PRIESTS declare to be without a principle to guide, or a law to govern; and whose effects for good, are, even at the best, of a very questionable nature? It has been well said, *that the monarch who should forbid the exercise of allopathy in his realms, would confer a greater boon on his subjects, than if he passed the most glorious code of politico-economic laws.*

"If this be the kind of medical treatment adopted at the infirmary,—cruel, highly injurious, often useless, and expensive withal (and it is so—for allopathy is the same the wide world over), what becomes of the feeling of benevolence, supposed to be enjoyed by its subscribers, and the supposed beautiful effects arising from the exercise of that "charity which hopeth all things" good and kind? Is it not, in a great measure,—a delusion,—a sham,—a cheat, except in cases of pure surgery? Do not the subscribers lay a false unction to their souls? Yea, verily! the stream is defiled, because the fountain head is impure. Amid existing prejudices, if nothing better than the old school physic were in existence, by all means, let things remain as they are—*is statu quo*. If no improvement could be suggested, it would be folly to alter the present condition of things. But when there are other curative agencies and appliances around, and in full operation, practised, too, by men of learning and talent, and as legally qualified as the practitioners of the allopathic school,—men, withal, who are supported by royalty, and by not a very small portion of the aristocracy of all civilized countries—not to mention the learned, the intelligent, and the educated, in all grades of society, is it not time for the big-brained men of Manchester—those who give their single and double subscriptions to this noble charity, to rouse from their supineness, and demand, with PURSE IN HAND, a wing of the infirmary, in order to test the principles of the homœopathic practice? This would, at once, be a touchstone, as to whether its far-famed *law of cure* is as immutable and general as its advocates pretend; and whether it is THE GREAT PRINCIPLE by which all cures, by means of medicine, in all times, and by whomsoever brought about, have been unwittingly effected. Why should not homœopathy be thus localized and practised alongside allopathy, and beneath the same roof? Is *fear* the cause? Why fear a humbug, as it has been called? If it be one, a good fair trial would send it for ever to the tomb of all the Capulets. If it be no humbug—no myth, but a veritable law of cure, who dares stand forth at the next annual meeting, and, in the face of the governors and the subscribers, declare that HE will shackle human thought, stop the march of mind, and dash to pieces the machinery on which progress, whether medical or social, is destined to revolve? Is there such a "kingly George" within the precincts of this

city; and will a Wellington be found to fight for such a man? We trow not; but time will show. Homœopathy is felt, and known to be, something more than a myth; since, in its study and propagation, men of the highest talents and erudition, of all nations, of all religious creeds, and under all forms of government, are now enthusiastically engaged, and that, too, with all the ardour and efficiency of a missionary zeal. Its rapid spread through the world, in the short space of fifty years, from Britain to the Antipodes, from the far west to the spot whence the sun "flings forth the flaming day," proclaims homœopathy to be *a great fact, a natural principle, a divine law*, a rational system, destined, ere long, to pervade the body politic of every nation on the face of the earth. Some of our universities, already, see the homœopathic professor Hahnemannizing in his academic robes; and the students of our medical schools will, ere long, chant, with Archimedean joy, the glorious pœans of "*Similia Similibus.*" At this moment, there are thousands of legalized practitioners, and millions of homœopathic patients, who will tolerate no other kind of practice. Like every other great discovery, which has tended to human progress, homœopathy has had to pass through the fire of a bitter persecution; but now, better times await its benignant course. The day of a *priori* reasoning has gone by; the shafts of ridicule, and of scorn, have rebounded from her breastplate, leaving no trace behind. The Hahnemannic principle stands on the adamantine rock of natural law—nothing can destroy it. The waves of a frothy opposition may dash over it, but stand out it will, nevertheless, and glitter all the more brightly, beneath the sunlight of truth.

"As the university of Edinburgh was the first seat of learning in Great Britain to propound from its chairs the doctrines of Newton, so let the infirmary of Manchester have the honour of being the first public allopathic institution, in this country, in whose wards the doctrines of the immortal Hahnemann were recognised and brought into practical operation. In taking such a step, you will be twice blessed,—blessed by the **LIVING-PRESENT**, and by the **FUTURE-LIVING**. And why should you not? Is it **WRONG** to do right? Is folly to be stereotyped, and error to have an eternal sway? Besides, are the confessions of the *savans* of the medical profession, with regard to the rottenness of their own system, to have no weight with you in amending the form of practice in your infirmary? Why should you hesitate to introduce a more humane and scientific mode, when the *power* and the *purse* are both in your own hands?

"There is **ONE LAW OF CURE** by drugs, and Hahnemann revealed it, as there is only **ONE LAW OF GRAVITY**, and Newton discovered it. **THERE CANNOT BE ANOTHER.** Man lived nearly six thousand years ere this **PRINCIPLE** was so brought before the human *mind*, as to attract its steady and undivided attention; just as talking by means of the electric wire was the discovery of yesterday. Hippocrates, Paracelsus, Stahl, and a host of others, many times hinted at the mighty law of "*similia*," but it was reserved for Hahnemann to prove its generality and immutability, and so

to talk, and to write, and to practise, as to draw down the attention of mankind to it, as the ONLY THERAPEUTIC LAW OF CURE. "That man," says an eminent writer, "is not the discoverer of any art *who first says THE THING*, but he who says it *so long, so loud, and so clearly*, that he *compels mankind to hear him*; the man who is so deeply impressed with the importance of the discovery that he will take no denial, but, at the risk of fortune and fame, pushes through all opposition, and is determined that what he thinks he has discovered, shall not perish for want of a fair trial; such a man is a discoverer, and such was Hahnemann."

"With such a discovery, a great change cannot but come over the medical practice of the world. On all hands this is evident enough—Dr. Horner and the Hull infirmary to wit. The people are opening their eyes to the enormities of the old system. Many fear, already, to call in a medical attendant. Let us die quietly, say they, rather than be butchered according to law.* This state of things cannot last long. No prestige, no law, can bolster up a system which science and common sense alike condemn. The mind, in every part of the world, is gradually freeing itself from this would-be scientific, but really empirical mode of practice. In the palace and in the cot, a feeling of distrust prevails. Royalty, in many kingdoms, refuses its aid, and bewails its uncertainty. This kind of feeling is rapidly spreading through the higher ranks. Many of the aristocracy detest the old practice; the enlightened eschew it; the intelligent fear it; the prudent of all classes shun it, and are flying in tens of thousands, to a system more certain and benign, and in harmony with the reciprocity of action which exists between our organic and spiritual natures.

"But, says one, homœopathy, after all, is not so scientific as allopathy. Bah! The former has every adjutant that the OLD SYSTEM has, WITH AN IMMUTABLE LAW OF CURE TO BOOT. The latter has a complete hotch-potch of materia medica, and is, at this moment, with all its pretended science, WITHOUT A LAW OF CURE. Its practice as a cure-agent, is pure haphazard empiricism. Shame! that such a bundle of rubbish and inconsistencies can find so many medical porters to carry it. We are free to admit, that a medical man cannot know too much in every department of science, natural or mental; but all the knowledge in the world can avail him nothing at the bed-side, unless he prescribe on that law of nature, which a wide induction has proved to be "*similia similibus curantur*." By all means, let the medical man of every school, have all the lights which chemistry, and anatomy, and pathology, and botany, and electricity can afford; let him exercise, as professor Henderson has well said, "a discriminating study of all the phenomena, subjective and objective, presented by disease;" let him aid his diagnosis, by the use of the microscope and the test-tube, by the stethoscope and the speculum; but, for the love of suffering humanity, let him have a *law*, a natural law, at the bed-side, which will prove the *be-all* and the *end-all* of his learning, his science, and his varied

* See the verdict on Mr. Augustus Stafford, M.P., in the *Homœopathic Record* for December last.

acquisitions. What will it profit a *patient*, if the medical attendant be a very Liebig in chemistry, a Carpenter in physiology, a Wilson or Rokytansky in anatomy, a Faraday in electricity, a Skoda in diagnosis, or a Lehmann in pathological chemistry, if he cannot select the medicine which is PATHOGENETIC to the case. The LAST STEP is the ONLY STEP worth a straw to the PATIENT. A man's acquired knowledge, however varied and extensive, is of no use to his patient, if this LAST STEP—WHAT WILL CURE—cannot be taken.

“Well, then, what is to be done? Are the poor in the infirmary, though surrounded by certain kinds of learning, to be allowed to die, or drag out a miserable existence, because the medical attendants are either ignorant of this great law of cure, or have not the power to use it? Surely not. Other institutions on the continent have been placed in this same dilemma, but their governors have boldly taken off the fetters, and given the patients a choice of treatment. Do as your contemporaries have done in the “Hospital of the Sisters of Charity” in Vienna; the “L'Hôpital de la Providence” in Nice; the “Central Hospital” of Madrid; the “Female Hospital” of St. Petersburg; and the “Hospital of St. Marguerite” in Paris; and you will, at once, decrease the sufferings of your fellow creatures, render unnecessary many surgical operations, reduce very considerably the annual expenditure, humanize the whole practice of the medical art, and, by the rapid cures which the law of *similia* will bring about, pave the way for the conversion of hosts of the disciples of Hippocrates, to the doctrines of the immortal Hahnemann.

“Who of the governors, then, or of the subscribers, will take the initiative in this great medical movement of reform?—a movement, the consequences of which, on the healthy organism of the Manchester of the future, it is impossible to tell.

“Come, then, ye governors of this noble institution, and ye other clear-headed men of this London of the north—ye who have shaken the political world to its very centre with commercial reform—take up this important measure—THIS GRAND CURE-QUESTION OF HUMANITY, and shew the nation that you have again laid your hands on another great social evil; and that, spite of vested interests, and notions hoary with age, it is your intention to carry the glorious and humane principle of “*Similia*” to a triumphant issue.”

AN APPROPRIATE PRAYER.—The *Scottish Press* states that Dr. Fletcher was recently preaching in Dr. Candlish's church, in Edinburgh, when a message was sent from a person taken suddenly ill that an Edinburgh physician, believed to be present, was wanted. The medical man not being a regular sitter in the chapel, was not known to the beadle, who, in his extremity, handed an intimation to Dr. Fletcher in the pulpit, to the effect that the doctor in question was wanted, and that a messenger from the sick man was waiting in the lobby. This intimation was instantly made by Dr. Fletcher, who, impressed by the circumstance, lifted his hands in pious ejaculation, and with great solemnity exclaimed, “The Lord have mercy on the sufferer.” As the medical practitioner was understood to be rather severe in his prescriptions, some of his brethren suggested that the divine must have had a hint of this, and that the fervency of his supplication implied a suspicion in his mind that the patient ran considerable risk.

THE HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 6.—Vol. 3.

APRIL 1, 1858.

NEW SERIES.—PRICE 2D.

TO OUR READERS.

ALLOPATHY is doing its utmost to stop the progress of scientific medicine. Not content with heaping abuse on homœopathy in the pages of their journals, its supporters are again seeking legislative protection and exclusiveness. They seek liberty, but they refuse that liberty to those who differ from them on conviction of the superiority of another system. The past few weeks have been fruitful in activity in this direction. The *Lancet*, the *Medical Times*, the *Eclectic* (?) *Journal*, &c., have been busy in calling public attention to homœopathy. Of this we are right glad; we thank them most cordially, as the publicity given to the subject through the journals of our opponents is more extensive than we could give.

In forthcoming numbers we purpose to analyse, for the benefit of our readers, the puerile attempts to “put back” homœopathy—a hopeless task.

These journalists do not confine themselves to abusing our school, but numbers of their own body—contributors to their own journals—come in for their share of departing from the prescribed rules of the no-progress men. In the *Lancet* of the 13th ult. the following queries and replies appear in the correspondents' column:

“THE PROFESSION AND THE QUACKS.

“To the Editor of the *Lancet*.”

“SIR,—Will you kindly inform me what is ‘etiquette’ under the following circumstances:

“A. and B., a physician and general practitioner, are in attendance upon a patient in this neighbourhood. After a week's lapse, without much improvement,

a homœopathic practitioner from London is called in. A. and B. retire, saying that they cannot meet in consultation. Did they act right? The patient requires the introduction of the catheter night and morning; therefore another general practitioner (C.) is summoned. He goes, attends to the surgical department, and watches the case in the interval of the homœopath's visits, does not interfere at all in the treatment, but meets him. Does he act right? In a few days, the patient not being so well, a first-rate surgical opinion from London is required. The homœopathic gentleman seeks for a surgeon of first-rate repute in London (D.), and they come down together. C., D., and the homœopath then meet in consultation. Have they acted right?

"I ask these questions merely for information, in case of a like occurrence on a future occasion, and enclose my card.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"Stamford, March, 1858.

"MEDICUS.

"* * * 1. A. and B. acted with perfect propriety, and with a due regard to the honour of the profession. They are entitled to much credit for the course they pursued.—2. It was proper for C. to attend in a case of emergency, such as the passage of a catheter; but he should, on no consideration, have held any communication with the homœopath.—3. Assuming that D. was aware that the person whom he accompanied was a homœopathic practitioner, it is impossible to justify his conduct. Nothing is more injurious to the interests of the profession than for a man of repute to sanction a system of practice which is condemned by all sensible men. D., under the circumstances of this case, assuming that all the facts have been stated, inflicts a deep injury on the practitioners in the neighbourhood. The higher his position, the more serious the injury inflicted. We must protest, in the name of the profession, against a proceeding so calculated to subvert the confidence of the public in honourable men, who proved, by their disinterested and noble conduct, that they were influenced by the highest sentiments of honour. We make these remarks in total ignorance of the name of 'the surgeon of first-rate repute in London;' but whoever he may be, we feel assured that his conduct will meet with severe reprobation from every right-thinking member of our profession.—SUB-ED. L."

Homœopathic physicians are alluded to as "quacks"—this is very moderate for the *Lancet*. "It is impossible to justify," says the *Lancet*, "the conduct of the surgeon who met the homœopath in consultation."

In the *Lancet* of March 27th the following letter appeared, headed "The Profession and the Homœopaths":

"To the Editor of the *Lancet*."

SIR,—In reply to your request for a brief statement of the case which has created some disturbance in this neighbourhood, the facts are, we believe, as follows:—Mr. Philbrick, a surgeon in general practice at Stamford, was called in to attend a gentleman at — Park, between Stamford and Peterborough, on Feb. 16th. On the 17th, another opinion being desired, Dr. Bell, a homœopathic practitioner from London, was suggested. On Mr. Philbrick raising objections,

it was eventually agreed that Dr. Paley, of Peterborough, should be called in. The attendance of Dr. Paley and Mr. Philbrick continued until the 22nd, when the former was apprised that his services would not be required any longer, as Dr. Bell had undertaken the case; and the latter was requested to continue his attendance in the surgical department, the case requiring the use of the catheter. Mr. Philbrick again declined to act with the homœopathic gentleman, requesting to be allowed to withdraw, and suggesting that a homœopathic surgeon should be telegraphed for from London to accompany Dr. Bell, as he did not think that one would be found in Stamford to act as *he* was desired. The family, however, obtained the assistance of Mr. Jackson, F.R.C.S., and Senior Surgeon to the Stamford Infirmary, who undertook, according to the statement of the lady, to "do what was necessary, and act under Dr. Bell's orders"—from his own account, to attend to the surgical department *only*, not even seeing Dr. Bell on the medical treatment.

"On the 26th, the patient not being so well, another opinion was desired, and Dr. Bell was requested to obtain the services of Mr. Fergusson, of George's street, Hanover square. He was successful, and they proceeded together into Northamptonshire, where Mr. Jackson met them at — Park; whereby it is supposed that he countenanced this sort of *fusion*, the orthodoxy of which is questioned. Mr. Fergusson states that his services were required solely as a surgeon, and as far as he was concerned there was no consultation on the subject of homœopathy.

"The patient is, we believe, convalescent, and has now placed himself under Mr. Jackson's care, Dr. Bell having taken his leave.

"This we believe to be a simple statement of facts, and remain, Sir, your obedient servants,

"SPENCER PRATT, M.D.

"FORTESCUE JOHN MORGAN, M.R.C.S.

"J. M. HEWARD, M.R.C.S., &c.

"W. D. EDDOWES, M.R.C.S.

"Stamford,

"March 23rd, 1858."

The four surgeons of Stamford, whose names are appended to this explanation, say, in their simple statement of facts, that "the patient has now placed himself under Mr. Jackson's care, Dr. Bell having taken his leave."

In a subsequent number of the *Lancet*, however, Mr. Fergusson is made to speak through the lady of the patient, who writes the following letter to Dr. Pratt, one of the four who signed the document above:

"THE PROFESSION AND THE HOMŒOPATHS.

"The following letter is addressed to Dr. Pratt by the wife of the gentleman who was the patient near Stamford, to whom Mr. Fergusson was called in consultation on a late occasion by a homœopath:—

"London, Good Friday.

"SIR,—I have seen Mr. Fergusson this morning, who told me of your letter to him, and shewed me the *Lancet* from March 13th to 27th.

“Allow me to inform you that the ‘simple statement’ in the number of March 27th is incorrect. The ‘gentleman’ was not worse on the 26th. *We* did not send for Mr. Fergusson; Dr. Bell brought him, not knowing there was a surgeon in Stamford liberal enough to meet him. When Mr. Fergusson came, he said Mr. Jackson’s skill was equal to his own, and that there was no occasion to have brought him down, and that he was accustomed to meet homœopathic doctors constantly. Allow me also to tell you that Dr. Bell and Mr. Jackson entirely agree about the *medical* treatment of the gentleman, and that Dr. Bell is now attending him *here*.

“You are at liberty to insert this in the *Lancet*, with these initials, “N. E.

“To Dr. Pratt.”

The lady calls on Mr. Fergusson on the morning of Good Friday, in London, when Mr. Fergusson stated to her that “*he was accustomed to meet homœopathic doctors constantly.*” What will the *Lancet* say after this? What will now become of Mr. Fergusson? Will he not be anathematized by the *Dictator*? We shall see.

MEDICAL LEGISLATION.

Two bills “to alter and amend the laws regulating the medical profession” are now before parliament. One of these is prepared and brought in by Lord Elcho, Mr. Crauford, and Mr. Fitzroy; the other by Mr. Cowper, Mr. Kinnaird, and Mr. Brady. Both these bills aim at giving an exclusive right to the existing Egyptians to “physic, bleed, and sweat” the bodies of her Majesty’s subjects, to the exclusion of all and every one not registered under the act. All *un-registered* are to be illegal practitioners, unqualified to hold any appointment as physician, surgeon, or other medical officer to any hospital, dispensary, friendly society, benefit club, &c., &c. Un-registered practitioners to be fined in a sum not exceeding twenty pounds, or be *committed to gaol*, by any two of her Majesty’s justices of the peace, for *three months*. The registered are to be approved by a medical council representing the various medical bodies now in existence, whose *prejudices against those who differ*, already known, will lead them to *exclude whom they please*.

Such, reader, are the attempts of orthodoxy to stop the progress of science—these the descendants of those who persecuted Jenner and Harvey—these who call Hahnemann a “knave,” a “madman,” a “quack,” and his followers, “liars,” “cheats,” “vagabonds”—who anathematize the *patients* of homœopathic physicians in language like this: “May your vigour of mind and body fail, your bones decay, your limbs be eaten by disease, your joints stiffen and be everlastingly immoveable.” (See *Lancet*, Feb. 2, 1856.)

REASONS WHY THE WORKING CLASSES SHOULD ADOPT HOMŒOPATHY.

LIFE is the greatest gift of God, *health* one of his choicest blessings. God, however, imparts good to his creatures, only through laws already in operation. A blessing of any kind is never vouchsafed to man in violation of, or in opposition to, existing laws. *Good* comes invariably through *law*, not despite of it. The infraction of laws, whether organic, physical, intellectual, or moral, brings a certain penalty—obedience, a certain reward. Each of these laws is distinct; and obedience to one or to any number cannot exempt an individual from the penalties arising from an infringement of the others. Each law is distinct, and is sovereign in its own domain.

In the present state of society, not to mention the inherent tendencies in human nature to yield to the *wrong* rather than follow the *right*, a constant infringement of some of those laws seems unavoidable; hence arise trains of disease and troops of sorrows, and, consequently, a class of men—medical men—whose office it is to restore disturbed and deranged functions to a normal or healthy condition. But the question comes, *what medical men?* for there are allopaths, or those who have slain more human beings with the lancet than warriors with the sword; and homœopaths, who, from the smallness of the dose, can never poison, and who, by following a *will of God* discovered by their great progenitor—Hahnemann, have performed marvels of cure at which the world at this moment stands aghast; and hydropaths, who purify the body by the internal and external application of water, tonify by diffusing more equally *nervo-vital fluid*, and thus prepare the system most charmingly for the dynamic action of the homœopathic remedies. Which of these is to be chosen in the day of distress? No man of common sense would select the allopath, when seven-tenths of mankind die not of disease, but from the unsuitableness and excess of medicine, "for which," says Dr. Latham (one of the old-school physicians), "if there is no moral excuse, there is unfortunately no legal punishment." Ignorance and prejudice alone uphold a system which a wide-spread intelligence would quickly abolish. No man who can compare two ideas together and draw an inference therefrom, would hesitate to adopt the hydropathic mode of curing disease, when it can do two things which nothing else can do, *viz.*, strengthen the *vital principle* and *purify the blood*. If it can accomplish these two things—and it can—well might M. Roche say, as the mouth piece of the French Commissioners, "if Priessnitz's tale be true our occupation's gone." The tale is true, and the old practice would have gone down long since, but for the prejudices and fears of the people. Take the water-cure, then, ye working men, to your hearths and your homes,

and the screams of distress, and the howlings of despair, will again and again be changed for the songs of gladness and the praises of a thankful heart.

But in homœopathy, with its beautiful system of hygiene, applicable alike to every condition of life—to the babe just born, and the mother exhausted even to the verge of death; to the hardy ploughman of the soil, and the mountaineer who breasts the blast; to the soldier on the field of battle bleeding in his country's cause, and the imbecility of tottering old age—will be found an amount of recuperative agency which no system of therapeutics has before offered to the world.

By the dynamic action of its medicines on the more than microscopic filaments and threads of the most refined and exalted tissues, by its influence in equalizing the ætherium generated by the brain—the great motive power of the system, the cause of the circulation of the blood, and the marvellous filtrations which take place through the countless ganglions which *ramify* and bead every tissue—it can restore in a wonderful manner abnormal conditions, give contractility to enfeebled parts, ungorge the overloaded capillaries, render nerves *active* which had lost their power, and finally bring about a complete equilibrium in the action of the nerve-force, which, when accomplished, is the sure prognostication of speedy and healthy action. What a glorious consummation! What prodigious power resides in the homœopathic law! How health-restoring! How divine! It is of God, and Hahnemann saw the relation as it lay unobserved amid the accumulated rubbish of ages. Ye working men, ponder well the following reasons for enlisting yourselves beneath the banners of a truth which is destined to march triumphantly through the world:

1. No one need despair of recovery who will labour for health *in harmony with the organic laws*, as he would for his daily bread.

2. So great is the power of homœopathy over the dynamic organism, that whatever is capable of *cure can be cured* through its agency.

3. Homœopathy shortens the period of illness; as neither lancet, blister, leech, nor moxa is used, consequently a rapid recovery of necessity takes place.

4. When the symptoms are removed the patient is well. He has not to live six months in a sort of half-alive and half-dead condition till nature again rallies her forces.

5. Homœopathy cures when all other means have failed; hence its basis in truth.

6. Statistics shew that in the most frightful diseases, its mortality is one-half and one-third less than that of any other system of cure.

7. When a surgical operation *must be performed*, the recovery is rapid and safe. Its tendency, however, is to render all operations unnecessary.

8. Homœopathy leaves behind it **NO DRUG DISEASES**, under which

millions of human beings are at this moment suffering and fast hastening to their graves.

9. To all classes homœopathy effects a great saving of money, time, and suffering. This to a working man is most important.

10. Under its benign influence the labouring man can follow his trade, and the poor woman her family duties, the cure the while still rapidly progressing.

11. The medicine being tasteless, it is one of the greatest blessings which has come to mothers when a child is sick, that the medicines are gladly taken.

12. Millions of individuals of every race and clime, from the king upon the throne to the beggar on his pallet of straw, have testified to its triumphant power in curing all manner of disease.

13. Tens of thousands of all ranks and in all conditions of life are at present under the humane treatment, and hail the right-minded homœopath both as a physical saviour and a benefactor to the race.

Then, working men, in the hour of sickness fly to the temple of homœopathy, and you will not be disappointed. When better, consider it a sacred duty to spread its benefits far and wide. You can do much in hastening the spread of this great truth. Like Christianity it has to cover the earth, as the waters cover the sea. Divinity is stamped on it. Its extension is inevitable, as the longevity of life in the coming ages will be the result of its general adoption.

THE GREAT MODERN BABYLON.

THINK of what London is! At the last census there were 2,362,236 persons of both sexes in it; 1,106,558 males, of whom 146,449 were under 5 years of age. The unmarried males were 670,380, ditto females, 735,871; the married men were 399,098; the wives, 409,731; the widowers were 37,080, the widows, 110,076.

On the night of the census there were 28,598 husbands whose wives were not with them, and 39,231 wives mourning their absent lords.

Last year the number of children born in London was 86,833. In the same period 56,786 persons died.

The Registrar-General assumes that with the additional births, and by the fact of soldiers and sailors returning from the seat of war, and of persons engaged in peaceful pursuits settling in the capital, sustenance, clothing, and house accommodation must now be found in London for above 60,000 inhabitants more than it contained at the end of 1855.

Think of that — the population of a large city absorbed in

London, and no perceptible inconvenience occasioned by it! Houses are still to let; there are still the usual tickets hung up in windows in quiet neighbourhoods, intimating that apartments furnished for the use of single gentlemen can be had within; the country still supplies the town with meat and bread, and we hear of no starvation in consequence of deficient supply.

London is the healthiest city in the world.

During the last ten years the annual deaths have been on the average 25 to 1,000 of the population, in 1856 the proportion was 22 to 1,000; yet, in spite of this, half of the deaths that happen on an average in London, between the ages of 20 and 40, are from consumption and diseases of the respiratory organs.

The Registrar traces this to the state of the streets. He says: "There can be no doubt that the dirty dust suspended in the air that the people of London breathe, often excites diseases of the respiratory organs. The dirt of the streets is produced and ground now by innumerable horses, omnibuses, and carriages, and then beat up in fine dust, which fills the mouth and inevitably enters the air passages in large quantities. The dust is not removed every day, but, saturated with water in the great thoroughfares, sometimes ferments in damp weather; and at other times ascends again under the heat of the sun as atmospheric dust."

"London," says Henry Mayhew, "may be safely asserted to be the most densely populated city in all the world; containing one-fourth more people than Peking, and two-thirds more than Paris, more than twice as many as Constantinople, four times as many as St. Petersburg, five times as many as Vienna, or New York, or Madrid, nearly seven times as many as Berlin, eight times as many as Amsterdam, nine times as many as Rome, fifteen times as many as Copenhagen, and seventeen times as many as Stockholm."

"London," says Horace Jay, "c'est une province couverte de maisons."

It covers an area of 122 square miles in extent, or 78,029 statute acres; and contains 327,391 houses.

Annually 4,000 new houses are in course of erection for upwards of 40,000 new comers.

The continuous line of buildings stretching from Holloway to Camberwell is said to be 12 miles long.

It is computed that if the buildings were set in a row they would reach across the whole of England and France, from York to the Pyrenees.

London has 10,500 distinct streets, squares, circuses, crescents, terraces, villas, rows, buildings, places, lanes, courts, alleys, mews, yards, and rents.

The paved streets of London, according to a return published in 1856, number over 5,000, and exceed 2,000 miles in length; the cost of this paved roading was fourteen millions, and the repairs cost £1,800,000 per annum.

London contains 1,900 miles of gas pipes, with a capital of nearly £4,000,000 spent in the preparation of gas.

The cost of gas lighting is half a million. It has 360,000 lights; and 13,000,000 cubic feet of gas are burnt every night.

Last year, along these streets the enormous quantity of upwards of 80,000,000 of gallons of water rushed for the supply of the inhabitants, being nearly double what it was in 1845.

Mr. Mayhew says: "If the entire people of the capital were to be drawn up in marching order, two and two, the length of the great army of Londoners would be no less than 670 miles, and, supposing them to move at the rate of three miles an hour, it would require more than nine days and nights for the average population to pass by."

To accommodate this crowd, 125,000 vehicles pass through the thoroughfares in the course of twelve hours; 3,000 cabs, 1,000 omnibuses, 10,000 private and job carriages and carts, ply daily in the streets; 3,000 conveyances enter the metropolis daily from the surrounding country. Speaking generally, Tennyson tells us:

"Every minute dies a man,
Every minute one is born."

In London, Mr. Mayhew calculates, 169 people die daily, and a babe is born every five minutes. The number of persons, says the Registrar-General, who died in 1856, in 116 public institutions, such as workhouses and hospitals, was 10,381.

It is really shocking to think, and a deep stigma on the people or on the artificial arrangements of society, by which so much poverty is perpetuated, that nearly one person out of five, who died last year, closed his days under a roof provided by law or public charity. It is calculated 500 people are drowned in the Thames every year. In the first week of the present year there were five deaths from intemperance alone. How much wretchedness lies in these two facts—for the deaths from actual intemperance bear but a small proportion to the deaths induced by the immoderate use of intoxicating liquors; and of the 500 drowned, by far the larger class, we have every reason to believe, are of the number of whom Hood wrote—

"Mad from life's history,
Glad to death's mystery
Swift to be hurled—
Anywhere, anywhere
Out of the world!"

According to the last reports, there were in London 143,000 vagrants admitted in one year into the casual wards of the workhouses.

Here we have always in our midst 107 burglars, 110 housebreakers, 38 highway robbers, 773 pickpockets, 3,657 sneaks-men or common thieves, 11 horse stealers, 141 dog stealers, 3 forgers, 28 coiners, 317

utterers of base coin, 141 swindlers, 182 cheats, 343 receivers of stolen goods, 2,768 habitual rioters, 1,205 vagrants, 50 begging letter writers, 86 bearers of begging letters, 6,371 prostitutes, besides 470 not otherwise described, making altogether a total of 16,900 criminals known to the police.

These persons are known to make away with £42,000 per annum; the prison population at any particular time is 6,000, costing for the year £170,000. Our juvenile thieves cost us £300 a-piece.

Mr. Timbs calculates the number of professional beggars in London at 35,000, two-thirds of whom are Irish. Thirty thousand men, women, and children are employed in the costermonger trade; besides, we have, according to Mr. Mayhew, 2,000 street sellers of green stuff, 4,000 street sellers of eatables and drinkables, 1,000 street sellers of stationery, 4,000 street sellers of other articles, whose receipts are three millions sterling, and whose incomes may be put down at one.

Let us extend our survey, and we shall not wonder that the public houses, and the gin palaces, and the casinos, and the theatres, and the penny gaffs, and the lowest and vilest places of resort in London are full. In Spitalfields there are 70,000 weavers, with but 10s. per week; there are 22,479 tailors; 30,805 shoemakers; 43,928 milliners; seamstresses, 21,210; bonnet makers, 1,769; cap makers, 1,277.

What hard, wretched work is theirs!

There are two worlds in London, with a gulf between the rich and the poor. We have glanced at the latter; for the sake of contrast, let us look at the former. Emerson says the wealth of London determines prices all over the globe. In 1847 the money coined in the mint was £5,158,440 in gold, £125,730 in silver, and £8,960 in copper.

The business of the Bank of England is conducted by about 800 clerks, whose salaries amount to about £190,000. The Bank in 1850 had about twenty millions of bank notes in circulation. In the same year there were about five millions deposited in the savings banks of the metropolis.

The gross customs revenue of the port of London in 1849 was £11,070,176; 65 millions is the estimate formed by Mr. McCulloch of the total value of the produce conveyed into and from London. The gross rental, as assessed by the property and income tax, is 12½ millions.

The gross property insured at £166,000,000, and only two-fifths of the houses are insured. The amount of capital at the command of the entire London bankers may be estimated at 64 millions; the insurance companies have always 10 millions of deposits ready for investment; 78 millions are employed in discounts. In 1841, the transactions of one London house alone amounted to 30 millions. In 1839, the payments made in the clearing house were 954 millions

— an enormous sum, which will appear still greater when we remember all sums under £100 are omitted from this statement. All this business cannot be carried on without a considerable amount of eating and drinking. The population consumes annually 277,000 bullocks, 30,000 calves, 1,480,000 sheep, 34,000 pigs, 1,600,000 quarters of wheat, 310,464,000 lbs. of potatoes, 89,672,000 cabbages. Of fish the returns are almost incredible. Besides, it eats 2,742,000 fowls, 1,281,000 game : exclusive of those brought from the different parts of the United Kingdom, from 70 to 75 millions of eggs are annually imported into London from France and other countries. About 13,000 cows are kept in the city and its environs for the supply of milk and cream ; and if we add to their value that of the cheese, and butter, and milk brought from the country into the city, the expenditure on produce daily must be enormous. Then London consumes 65,000 pipes of wine, 2,000,000 gallons of spirits, 43,200,000 gallons of porter and ale, and burns 3,000,000 tons of coals ; and I have seen it estimated that one-fourth of the commerce of the nation is carried on in its port.

On Boxing night it was estimated that 60,000 persons visited the various theatres and places of amusement in London.

In London, in 1853, according to Sir R. Mayne, there were 3,613 beer shops, 5,279 public houses, and 13 wine rooms.

And now, to guard all this wealth, to preserve all this mass of industry honest, and to keep down all this crime, what have we ? 6,367 police, costing £373,968 ; 13 police courts, costing £45,050 ; and about a dozen criminal prisons, 69 union relieving officers, 316 officers of local boards, and 1,256 other local officers.

We have 35 weekly magazines, 9 daily newspapers, 5 evening, and 72 weekly ones. Independently of the mechanics' institutions, colleges, and endowed schools, we have 14,000 children of both sexes clothed and educated gratis, in the National, and British and Foreign schools in all parts of London, and Sunday schools.

The more direct religious agency may be estimated as follows : In the "Hand-book to Places of Worship," published by Low in 1851, there is a list of 371 churches and chapels in connexion with the establishment ; the number of church sittings, according to Mr. Mann, is 409,184 ; the Independents have about 140 places of worship, and 100,436 sittings ; the Baptists, 130 chapels, and accommodation for 54,234 ; the Methodists, 154 chapels, 60,696 sittings ; the Presbyterians, 23 chapels and 18,211 sittings ; the Unitarians, 9 chapels and about 3,300 sittings ; the Roman Catholics, 35 chapels and 35,994 sittings ; 4 Quaker chapels, with sittings for 3,151 ; the Moravians have 2 chapels, with 1,100 sittings ; the Jews have 11 synagogues and 3,692 sittings. There are 94 chapels belonging to the New Church, the Plymouth Brethren, the Irvingites, the Latter-day Saints, Sandemanians, Lutherans, French Protestants, Greeks, Germans, Italians, which chapels have sittings for 18,833.

We thus get 691,723 attendants on Divine exercises.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE PATRONAGE OF HOMŒOPATHY.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—It is somewhere said, "truth lies at the bottom of a well;" but the time invariably arrives when it bubbles up, reaches the surface, and spreads far and wide, ready to slake the thirst of any and of every error-stricken traveller. This is the case with homœopathy. It has long ago reached the surface, and is now rapidly spreading its life-preserving streams in every direction.

In a syllabus for a bazaar towards the purchase and alterations of the London Homœopathic Hospital, we observe as patronesses: H.R.H. the Duchess of Cambridge, H.R.H. the Princess Mary of Cambridge, besides 5 Duchesses, 3 Marchionesses, 11 Countesses, 25 Right Honorable Ladies, 6 Ladies of Knights, and other distinguished personages. The Duchess Emily of Beaufort with other nobility are the *Stall Holders*. This *quackery*, as it is sometimes *vulgarly* called, has clearly reached the "high places of the land." The divine law of "*Similia similibus curantur*"—the like-cure-like principle—is felt to be one of the *wills of God*, and of *necessity TRUE*. Kings and Emperors, Queens and Empresses, the noble-born and the *noble genius* maker, the *Literati* and the highly educated of all countries, appreciate to the full Hahnemann's great discovery, and yield obedience to its high and health-restoring mandates. Feeling that "like cures like" is a law of nature, when disease invades the frame these gifted and noble-born at once place themselves within the pale of its recuperative influence, certain that restoration to normal function will be the result. Truth is not confined to the "great ones" of the earth. A law of God reaches *all*, is adapted to *all*, and will benefit *all*, on the condition *that it is properly applied*. A man may die with plenty of food before him if he *will not eat*; so, a law of God may be round and about us, but if not laid hold of and applied, it cannot be of any use. It is high time the dark curtain of old-physic prejudice was rolled away from the middle-class mind, and the light of Hahnemannic, therapeutic truth shed its heart-cheering and life-saving beams on the hearths and homes of our hard-working and busy-toiling populations. Too long have the scales of instilled dogmas covered the eyes of the people, and the chains of prejudice been coiled around their hearts. But a better time is coming. Independence of thought and freedom of action will become the salient characteristics of every individual who has an *atom of manhood* within him. Common sense, flinging itself on every subject, whether professional or otherwise, will indignantly repudiate the notion of pinning its faith on any man's sleeve—"Nullius addictus jurare non verba magistri,"—just because a subject happens to be peculiar to a certain kind of calling. No! The day of shams and of mysteries has gone by. Goodness and truth, stern realities, facts, and laws are becoming

the order of the day. Error, though steeped to the very lips in prestige, must give way; and truth, in its stead, march triumphantly along. Life, the greatest gift of God to man, is not to be frittered away at the shrine of any system, or to please the whims of any party. Health is a prime blessing; and to preserve it, a sacred duty. When lost, and amid this toil of life, disease will come, it is imperative in every man to use the most likely means to restore it. If allopathy or old-physic is so abominable—has reached such a climax of butchery and uncertainty, that in the language of Sir John Forbes, "it must either end or mend," people should look around to find something better. "To mend it" is impossible, as the most "enlightened ones" in practice acknowledge that it is rotten to the very core. To "end it" seems its inevitable fate, as the chariot of homœopathy, with royalty within, has commenced its roll of victory, and will never cease, till every vehicle and driver through the civilized world, aye, down to the common carter and his cart, shall move on the same *great highway of nature*, drive in the same style, pass by the same swamps of disease, and reach the same glorious goal of health.

Yours truly,

ONE WHO ONCE WAS BLIND, BUT NOW HE SEES.

EVILS OF VACCINATION.

[The following letter, sent by a patient to her physician, is a touching history, if the state is the consequence of vaccination. That such results do follow we have furnished evidence of before. Is it not sufficient to stay the hand of legislation on the subject?—Ebs.]

Priony Cottage, Sharrow Lane,
Sheffield, March 15th, 1858.

MY DEAR DOCTOR,—A case, which in my humble judgment strikingly corroborates the opinions you hold with regard to vaccination, having come under my notice, I venture to trouble you with a simple record of the facts; hoping, that although they may be in reality worthless, the sincerity of my motives may induce you to pardon the liberty I have taken.

The subject is Eliza Beckett, now in her seventeenth year. She was a remarkably healthy child until about thirteen months' old, when she was vaccinated by the family surgeon, Mr. Carr. In about a week after she was seized with fits, which constantly recurred for several days. Subsequently the disease appeared to fix itself in the eyes. Mr. Gregory was consulted, and his treatment was temporarily successful; but returned every spring and autumn for some years, when she had to undergo a repetition of the treatment, and occasionally very severe operations. Mr. G. held out the hope that she would "grow out of it." At five years of age she was suddenly attacked with lameness of one foot, which was at first thought to be owing to the pressure of a shoe; becoming worse, Mr. G. was again

consulted, who honestly told the mother that it was a far more serious affair than the affection of the eyes. Eventually, the parents were unable to meet their increasing expenses, and therefore had recourse to the dispensary. An issue was placed in the arm, ostensibly to cure the eyes. The foot became a running sore, and just in proportion to the discharge is the degree of general health; when it ceases she is ill, which has been recently the case. She came to live with us as servant, and soon began to be ailing, and unfit for work. The disease has manifested itself this time in the head, in the shape of abscess, or gathering on each side of the face. Her mother related to me the facts almost as I have written them, and she attributes the whole of her sufferings to the unhealthy matter imparted to her at vaccination. I must say that it did not occur to me at the time that the case had any particular interest, or I should have asked more pointed questions. The statement was, indeed, entirely voluntary. I may add that I was told by a registrar quite incidentally last week that on his presenting papers, compelling vaccination, he is very generally met with the remark from parents, that they would *not submit to the order for twice or thrice the amount of the fine*; adducing a string of reasons, pitiable enough, in the suffering of one or more of their little innocent victims, in whom they had witnessed its terrible consequences.

TO DR. EADON.

Yours truly,
E. B.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—Some years since, I was convinced of the truth of homœopathy by rescuing a dear little boy, who was nearly in the jaws of death with gastritis, by small doses of *Arsenicum*, when I had failed in arresting the disease by the usual means—leeches, calomel, opium, &c., as employed by the old school generally. On employing homœopathy in my practice, in acute cases, as I was, I supposed that my patients and neighbours, seeing the cures effected, would be as much pleased with this improvement as myself; but, alas! I found it far otherwise. I had every one against me. At the instigation of the neighbouring medical practitioners, I was dismissed from a union appointment I held, which tended still further to disgrace me in the eyes of the public. On my writing a letter of enquiry to the Poor Law Commissioners, I received an official letter from them stating that no medical officer would be allowed to attend the poor who practised homœopathy—the Royal College of Physicians not approving of that method of practice. How hard it seems that the poor should not be allowed to be treated as well as the rich, and should be debarred from the enjoyment of improvements in the healing art through a red tapeism, which confines the brave defenders of our country to one perpetual existence on boiled meat and the injurious effect of filthy dormitories, so destructive to their health and general efficiency, as lately so fully exposed in the columns of the *Times*.

I have laboured very hard to enlighten the public, and have succeeded in extending a knowledge of hydropathy and homœopathy in all directions, both in town and country. It would seem that the Royal College of Physicians, in London, begin to repent of their useless opposition to homœopathy and other improved means; for I lately received the following letter requesting me to belong to the new Sydenham Society, the president of which is Dr. Williams, F.R.S., &c.; vice-presidents: Sir Henry Holland, Bart., F.R.S.; Sir Phillis Crampton, Bart., F.R.S.; Dr. Mayo, F.R.S., president of the Royal College of Physicians, London; and many others.

For the information of your readers, and for what from my heart I believe to be a good cause, I enclose the letter I received from the secretary of the new Sydenham Society, with my reply.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM FORBES LAURIE, M.D.

*Dunstable, Beds,
February 25, 1858.*

"14 Finsbury Circus, E.C.

"Feb. 18, 1858.

"DEAR SIR,—At a meeting of the Council of the new Sydenham Society, held at Dr. Williams's on Monday last, it was determined to ask you to oblige the society by accepting the office of Hon. Secretary for the town and district of Dunstable.

"Enclosed is a copy of documents which will fully explain the nature, &c., of the Society. The duties of a local secretary will be to endeavour to obtain members, to receive their subscriptions, and to arrange for the delivery of books. All expenses incurred will of course be reimbursed by the Society.

"The Council feels some hesitation in thus asking one who is not yet a member of the Society to accept this office; but it trusts that you will feel none in declining it, should you prefer to do so. If unable to undertake it yourself, perhaps you would kindly mention the name of some gentleman whom you may think suitable.

"An early reply will much oblige, my dear Sir,

"Yours truly,

"JONATHAN HUTCHINSON,

"SECRETARY.

"TO DR. LAURIE."

Dunstable, Feb. 22, 1858.

DEAR SIR,—Being very fond of the profession, it would have given me much pleasure to have belonged to the Sydenham Society, or to any society, indeed, which tended to throw light upon the science of medicine, and thereby to promote the well-being and happiness of the human race at large. I must, however, confess, that, through Sir John Forbes's remarks and those of other physicians, my faith in the old system has long been shaken; and I have felt concerned to see the Royal College of Physicians prostituting itself, by inducing the Poor Law Commissioners to refuse to allow medical

men to practise eclectically in the Poor Law Unions. Surely the Royal College does not intend to renew the persecutions which their predecessors of a former period carried out against the illustrious Harvey. How much nobler and more philanthropic would it be if the different members of the Royal College would look into rival systems of treatment, and establish a basis of operations for practice, so as to settle the public and the profession in that which is true, reasonable, and just!

About the same time that I received your note, to shew how unhinged every thing in medicine is, I had a few of the enclosed lent me.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

WM. FORBES LAURIE.

JONATHAN HUTCHINSON, ESQ.

MEDICAL ECLECTICISM.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

Northampton, April 19th, 1858.

DEAR SIR,—Dr. Skelton, sen., has recently delivered a course of lectures at Northampton on Medical Eclecticism. I attended all the lectures, and carefully noted the heads of his theories of disease and cure, and the principles upon which he administered the botanic drugs. The following selection of jottings from my note book, and an occasional comment upon them, may not be uninteresting to your readers, and may be sufficiently suggestive to induce some of your professional contributors to take up the subject, in a subsequent number of the *Record*.

In reply to the question, what is medical eclecticism? put to Dr. S. by one of the audience, he replied, "all that is good from other systems of medical practice." The following notes will perhaps enable your intelligent readers to judge how far Dr. S. has claims upon the thanks of the public for his unique collation of "facts;" and whether or not they desire their own medical advisers to drink at this fountain, which Dr. S. most confidently offers to them, as far superior to the exclusiveness of homœopathy, or any other *pathy*. He says, "disturbance of every kind is fever;" therefore, to restore harmony to the system, it is necessary to fulfil the conditions of health by taking suitable diet, a due amount of exercise, a free use of cold water, the vapour bath, &c.; to breathe pure air; and to avoid the use of intoxicants, drugs, and tobacco. Again, "disease is loss of vital heat;" therefore, don't (with the homœopathists) wait for symptoms, but build the body up; incite it to action by the stimulus of the *lobelia inflata*, *cayenne*

pepper, the composition, or anti-cholera powders as the case may require, that it may be enabled to throw off the disease. "When patients are prostrated, and the vital principle is almost exhausted, be most gentle and careful in your treatment; but where the *vis medicatrix nature* is strong, give large doses—don't be afraid—vomiting is not injurious; the bowels must be moved, and profuse perspiration induced." "Good nursing does three-fourths of the cure." Lastly, "disease is deficiency of lime, as in rickets; or, of iron, as in mesenteric disease; and in others, deficiency of copper, phosphorus, sulphur, &c.; therefore, give such remedies as contain the mineral ingredients, of which the blood is deficient. The common buck-bean contains iron and potash, and it cures mesenteric diseases and the scab in sheep. Dock root contains iron, phosphorus, and sulphur; and it cures the itch, and other skin affections. Pellitory of the wall contains lime; therefore it dissolves the stone." Dr. Skelton's theory of natural medicines is, that "the indigenous plants are providentially provided for the cure of all the diseases incident to humanity; and that the right remedy may be found contiguous to the localities where epidemic or miasmatic diseases are prevalent." [Is this his own thought?] Also, "that nature's medicines, unlike those used by homœopaths, are not poisonous [the lobelia inflata is not poisonous]; and none of them, if administered to a healthy person, are capable of producing abnormal states of body, or any disagreeable symptoms." Dr. Skelton maintains that mineral substances, as lime, magnesia, sulphur, may not be administered as medicines alone—that is, unassimilated by vegetables—because it is contrary to the instincts of savages and animals, which are sure guides; forgetting that although this theory applies to such assimilation of mineral substances by the vegetable kingdom, (as the lime in wheat,) for purposes of nutrition, yet, disease being an abnormal condition of the body, it is not necessarily subject to the laws of nutrition; but supposing that the vegetable world was intended by the beneficent Creator to supply remedies for all "the ills which flesh is heir to," this could only apply to such complaints as are almost, if not necessarily, incident to man's present imperfect and perverted state, but would not be necessarily applicable to those diseases which are produced by a wilful, and therefore sinful, departure from physical and moral rectitude. May not the unfailing resources of infinite love and compassion supply remedies for these from the mineral kingdom? Is there not a correspondence between such perverted states and the lower strata of the material world? Such a thought will not be discordant to the understandings of many of the brightest luminaries in the homœopathic medical profession. Dr. Skelton presumed most glaringly upon the

ignorance of his hearers, by daring to throw a doubt upon the fact of "common table salt being a mineral substance;" and said that it was now thought to be a vegetable or marine substance; knowing his pet theory, "that the instincts of animals, &c., lead them *only* to the vegetable kingdom for remedies to disease," is upset by the careful, extensive, and correct observations of Sylvester Graham, who has proved that animals lick salt to remove intestinal worms, and not, as is generally supposed, to stimulate the organs of digestion. If Dr. Skelton can prove that disease is a deficiency of certain mineral ingredients in the blood, even then, homœopaths, in the administration of their remedies, prepared from the mineral kingdom, have an immense advantage over him. First, because they can take the *one* mineral substance required; not in combination with other mineral ingredients that are not wanted, as is necessarily the case in administering herbs. Secondly, because the homœopathically prepared iron, lime, or sulphur, is a much less bulky, and a far more agreeable method of supplying that deficiency than the round-about way advocated by Dr. S. Thirdly, why should not the infinitesimal dose of sulphur, contained in a drop of the homœopathic tincture, be equivalent to the infinitesimal quantity of the same mineral contained in an ordinary dose of dock root tea; especially when, in accordance with Dr. Skelton's mineral deficiency theory, it is the sulphur that is most wanted?

Dr. Skelton cannot reasonably expect medical reformers to give his theories a patient hearing, when, in his published "Price List of Botanical Drugs," they find advertised a most formidable array of foreign drugs, precisely like those sold by the old-system druggists, in the form of infusions, decoctions, powders, pills, extracts, oils, &c., &c. Look at the proofs of his inconsistency and want of faith in his own professed principles. We have here, "aloes, assafœtida, buchu, African cayenne, copaiba balsam, cubebs, ginger, ipecacuanha, lobelia inflata, myrrh, quassia chips, senna Alex., and stramonium." These powerful crude drugs he recommends his followers to administer, variously mixed, in the form of "*tea*, &c.," in doses of from two ounces to a pint. He advised his hearers to test the efficacy of the treatment: "take, for instance, a case of croup—the subject, a little child—give at once a teaspoonful of cayenne pepper in a cup of hot water, and it will cure the croup; I, (Dr. Skelton,) will stake my reputation upon the invariable beneficial results of this remedy in this particular disease." "Homœopathy is a do-nothing system. Mothers and fathers, don't be misled—you are too apt to believe what your eyes see, because you see it." Simple-minded believers in globules, medicated with the

remedies homœopathic to the morbid symptoms designated croup, who give tasteless doses of sulphuret of lime, aconite, or emetic tartar, which can be given upon the tongue, or between the lips if the little sufferer is sleeping; I ask you which treatment is most in harmony with the instinctive compassion and sympathy of your affectionate hearts? Which, most worthy of Him "who never afflicts willingly the children of men?" Dr. Skelton asserted "that homœopathy was a hobby of the rich, but not within the reach or capable of meeting the case of the poor;" but this is not true; unfortunately for them, they have neither the time nor knowledge requisite to provide from nature many of the remedies that may be necessary for their use; and the homœopathic chemist who makes this provision, and brings the medicines within their means, is instrumental in conferring upon them an important and invaluable boon. Dr. Skelton ought not to sneer at this, when he stated this as the reason for his making and selling patent medicines, female restorative powder, soothing syrup, stomach bitters, &c. If Dr. Skelton wishes to be thought an impartial seeker after truth, and influenced by a supreme desire to bring the blessings of medical science within the reach of the working man, he must not commit himself to assertions that will prove to others, most unmistakably, that he is jealous of the success of homœopathy. Because homœopaths profess to be guided by a beautifully simple law of healing, applicable in all cases of disease, he says, pettishly, "they arrogate to themselves the possession of all truth;" and because they, in certain cases, avail themselves of the accessory sciences of hygiene, hydropathy, magnetism, &c., therefore, they are no homœopaths, but medical eclectics; and, to be consistent, they ought to come over to him. I ask your readers what shadow of an inducement does Dr. S. offer to the homœopathic patient or practitioner, to come over to his "old physic (minus ponderable doses of metals and bleeding) under a new guise?" How much *prima facie* evidence of truth have we discovered in these revelations of Dr. S.? No, no, Dr. Skelton! we realize a sense of freedom which truth can only give. We trust we shall be faithful to those ennobling aspirations which only truth can inspire. You are welcome to come to us, and to share our toil and reward. We are raising a temple of honour to Him who has not been unmindful of our physical as well as our spiritual necessities. Already it rises heavenward in fair proportions, and the top stone shall yet be placed upon it with rejoicing. Its destined use shall be in character with the Great Physician, who, when upon earth, "healed the sick," and has commanded us to "go and do likewise."

J. P. B.

A FANCY BAZAAR

WILL BE HELD IN THE

Riding-School of the Cavalry Barracks, Knightsbridge,

ON THE 9TH & 10TH OF JUNE,

IN AID OF THE FUNDS FOR THE

LONDON HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL, GREAT ORMOND STREET;

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF

H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS MARY OF CAMBRIDGE

Her Grace the Duchess of Richmond	The Rt. Hon. Lady Ellinor Hopwood
“ Duchess of Beaufort	“ Lady Lindsay
“ Duchess Emily of Beaufort	“ Lady Elcho
“ Duchess of Manchester	“ Lady Elizabeth de Ros
“ Duchess of Montrose	“ Lady Emily Seymour
The Rt. Hon. the Marchioness of Abercorn	“ Lady Caroline Maxse
“ the Marchioness of Exeter	“ Lady Alfred Paget
“ Maria Marchioness of Allesbury	“ Lady De Ros
“ Lady Georgina Codrington	“ Lady Willoughby De Broke
“ Lady Blanche Dupplin	“ Lady Gray, of Gray
“ Lady Rose Lovell	“ the Dowager Lady Kilmaine
“ Lady Henrietta Morant	“ Lady Forester
“ Lady Adeliza Norman	“ Lady Lyndhurst
“ Lady Charlotte Greville	“ Lady Templemore
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“ the Countess of Sandwich	“ Lady Crenorne
“ the Countess of Craven	“ Lady Rokeby
“ the Dowager Countess of Craven	The Hon. Mrs. Ashley
“ the Countess of Wilton	“ Mrs. Dudley Ward
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“ Lady Adelaide Cadogan	Lady Bryant
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“ Viscountess Sidmouth	Mrs. Whateley, of Dublin
“ Viscountess Barrington	Madame Erneste de Bunsen
“ Viscountess Lismore	Mrs. de Burgh
“ Viscountess Villiers	Mrs. Felix Vaughan Smith
“ Viscountess Newport	Mrs. Samuel Gurney
“ Viscountess Curzon	Mrs. Arthur Berrington

The Building will afford space for from 150 to 200 Beds, a Theatre for Lectures, and other facilities for meeting the increased demands for instruction in the homœopathic doctrines and treatment of disease. In addition to the ordinary male and female wards, there will be a ward set apart for the reception of Accidents, and another for Children.

Contributions of Work and other Articles designed for Sale at the above-named Bazaar will be gratefully received from Northamptonshire, by Dr. Pearce, Hahnemann House, Abington Street; and A. C. Clifton, M.R.C.S., 65 Abington Street, Northampton; or by the Secretary, Ralph Buchan, Esq., 52 Great Ormond Street, London, W.G.; not later than the 1st of June.

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THE
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MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

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MAY 1, 1858.

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REVIVAL OF OPPOSITION TO HOMŒOPATHY.

LONDON is ringing at this moment with excitement on the subject of homœopathy. A Grand Bazaar is about to take place, patronized by the leading nobility, to institute a Homœopathic Hospital of one hundred and fifty beds in the metropolis.

In the provinces, too, the truth is progressing. Liverpool and Birmingham will shortly have homœopathic hospitals. This progress has frightened the allopaths, and every effort is being made to crush the "monster nuisance," as the allopaths call it. To parliament they go crying for *protection*; they ask for powers to put down "quacks," meaning homœopaths.

In Reading, frightened by the arrival of a homœopathic physician of standing, the medical men have joined in a strike—witness the following advertisement:

"At a meeting of the subscribed medical practitioners, of Reading and neighbourhood, held at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, on the 31st of March, 1858, it was unanimously resolved—'That this meeting regards newspaper and other analogous advertisements by legally-qualified practitioners as unprofessional and disreputable, and, in the hope of discouraging such conduct, resolves that such persons shall not be met in consultation.'

"It was also resolved—'THAT NO QUALIFIED MEDICAL MAN PRACTISING HOMŒOPATHY SHALL BE MET IN CONSULTATION.'

"Resolved also—'That the above resolutions be published in the *British Medical Journal*, the *Lancet*, and the *Medical Times and Gazette*.'

"Dr. Cowan in the chair. Drs. Woodhouse and Wells; Messrs. May, Bulley, Blomfield, Kidgell, Workman, Harrinson, Brown, Breach, Harcourt, Luce, G. May, jun., Moxhay, Walford, Young, Waldron, Taylor, Little, Dryland, Izod, Hayres. Mr. Maurice, who was absent from indisposition, concurs in the above resolutions."

Poor fellows! their names will be handed down to posterity as the "blind bats" of 1858.

No less than three medical bills are now before parliament.

The following is the quality of Mr. Cowper's bill:

"Clause xxx. After the first day of January, 1859, no person shall hold any appointment as a physician, surgeon, or other medical officer either in the military or naval service, or in emigrant or other vessels, or in any hospital, infirmary, dispensary, or lying-in hospital, not supported wholly by voluntary contributions, or in any lunatic asylum, gaol, penitentiary, house of correction, house of industry, parochial or union workhouse or poorhouse, parish union, or other public establishment, body, or institution,

or to any friendly or other society for affording mutual relief in sickness, infirmity, or old age, or as a medical officer of health, unless he be registered under this Act.

" Clause xxxi. After the first day of January, 1859, no certificate required by any act now in force, or that may hereafter be passed from any physician, surgeon, licentiate in medicine and surgery, or other medical practitioner, shall be valid unless the person signing the same be registered under this Act.

" Clause xxxiv. Any person who shall wilfully and falsely pretend to be or take or use the name or title of a physician, doctor of medicine, licentiate in medicine and surgery, bachelor of medicine, surgeon, general practitioner or apothecary, or any name, title, addition, or description implying that he is registered under this Act, or that he is recognized by law as a physician, or surgeon, or licentiate in medicine and surgery, or a practitioner in medicine, or an apothecary, shall, upon a summary conviction for any such offence, pay a sum not exceeding *twenty pounds*, nor less than *five pounds*.

" Clause xxxv. Any penalty to which under this Act any person is liable on summary conviction of any offence, may be recovered as follows : (that is to say,) in England, in manner directed by the Act of the session holden in the eleventh and twelfth years of Her Majesty, chapter forty-three, and in Ireland in manner directed by 'the Petty Sessions (Ireland) Act, 1851,' or any other act for the time being in force in England and Ireland respectively for the like purposes; and any such penalty may in Scotland be recovered by the procurator fiscal of the county, or by any other person before the sheriff or two justices, who may proceed in a summary way and grant warrant for bringing the party complained against before him or them, or issue an order requiring such party to appear on a day and at a time and place to be named in such order, and every such order shall be served on the party by delivering to him in person or by leaving at his usual place of abode a copy of such order and of the complaint whereupon the same has proceeded, and upon the appearance or default to appear of the party, it shall be lawful for the sheriff or justices to proceed to the hearing of the complaint, and upon proof on oath or confession of the offence, the sheriff or justices shall without any written pleadings or record of evidence commit the offender and decern him to pay the penalty named as well as such expenses as the sheriff or justices shall think fit, and failing payment shall grant warrant for recovery thereof by pouncing and imprisonment, such imprisonment to be for such period as the discretion of the sheriff or justices may direct, not exceeding *three* calendar months, and to cease on payment of the penalty and expenses.

" Clause xlvii. The general council shall cause to be published under their direction and authority a book containing a list of medicines and compounds, and the manner of preparing them, together with the true weights and measures by which they are to be prepared and mixed, and containing such other matter and things relating thereto as the general council shall think fit, to be called 'British Pharmacopœia;' and the general council shall cause to be altered, amended, and republished such pharmacopœia as often as they shall deem it necessary.

" Clause xlviii. Nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to prejudice, or in any way to affect the lawful occupation, trade, or business of chemists and druggists, or the rights, privileges, or employment of duly licensed apothecaries in Ireland, so far as the same extend to selling, compounding, or dispensing medicines."

DIFFERENT NATURAL MODES OF CURING DISEASE,
BASED ON THE
DYNAMICS OF PATHOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY.

THE first and highest aim of medical science is most assuredly the prevention of disease; its secondary object, the restoration of the sick to a state of health; and, when that is no longer possible, to palliate suffering and to prolong the term of life. If the art were perfect, these things would always be accomplished. There are methods and remedies, however, based on a pathology more dynamic in its aims than that which at present obtains; by the adoption of which the vital processes may be materially aided, the predisposing causes of disease explored, their exciting and proximate causes removed and altered; and thus the diseased organism be brought into a state of normal or healthy action.

We shall divide these methods into two great classes: first, those whose object is to act on the gross, the material fabrics of the body, by a series of purifying, cleansing, eliminating, and dissolving processes; and, secondly, those whose object is to act on the dynamic or spiritual organization of man.

THE ELIMINATING AND PURIFYING PROCESSES IN THE CURING
OF DISEASE.

1. *Hydriatics, or the Water Cure.*

Disease being the penalty of violated law, either idiopathic or proximate, no methods of treatment can be of any service, permanently, unless in accordance with the organic and spiritual laws of our nature.

The water cure, from its first appliance of a sheet-bath, with half a-pint of water, to the lion-douche, with its slapping, rousing, and vitalizing energy, is one great process of organic law training. Its object is at once to bring man into a primitive condition. It begins, at the onset, to UNDO what the habits of an artificial life HAVE DONE. It thins the blood, purifies the secretions; opens the floodgates of all the secerning organs, unbars the bolts of the skin, opening wide its twenty-eight miles of channel drainage; and, freeing the body from all kinds of peccant matters, creates a desire for natural rather than for artificial stimulants; and thus causes, in time, every organ to act, as God originally intended, NATURALLY, *i.e.*, HEALTHILY.

2. *The Hunger Cure.*

This is another eliminating process; and, when scientifically conducted (and in this great skill and tact are required), it is attended with immense benefit. Schrott, under the sanction of the Austrian Government, has accomplished wonders in cases of abnormal growths, fungous tumours, and other diseases of this nature. "We must

undergo a new birth of the system" (says Schrott) "before we can become well, and this can only happen after the disappearance of the morbid matters from the body, and all the secretions have been purified." The more rapidly the particles of the body are changed, and new ones, full of life-vigour, take their place—the supply being always equal to the waste—the more healthy is the condition of any human being. Now, the non-supply of food causes the inherent vital force to exert the whole of its power in ejecting the worn-out, effete, and least vitalized portions of the system. By omitting one meal, the vital force having less to contend against, the body purifies itself thus much from disease. Omit two meals, and a greater elimination and purification will take place; and so on. Its philosophy as a great cure-agent is manifest enough; and, when properly conducted, must, in many forms of disease, prove an ally of no mean power in water-cure treatment.

3. *Ling's Swedish System of Movements.*

Diseases arise from three sources: 1st, from poison of the blood; 2ndly, from a diminished or abnormal circulation of the nervous fluid or *vis nervosa*; and 3rdly, in a change in the natural position of the internal organs. The last of these causes often makes strange ravages on the constitution, when little suspected by the patient.

The body is a piece of delicate mechanism. Its levers and pulleys require no great force to disturb their harmony of action—a slight change of place being a cause adequate to effects most painful and grievous. Heart disease, pulmonary consumption, affections of the liver and stomach have their origin not unfrequently in *purely mechanical causes*. By restoring BALANCE to certain organs, or by removing pressure from others, many of these baneful effects will often gradually disappear.

Ling's kinesipathy has been found of great service in removing many of these unsuspected derangements, in producing a rapid change of matter (health), in giving tone to the separate organs, and, consequently, in bringing into equal static condition the entire organism. So brilliant, indeed, have been the effects, that gymnasia have been established in Sweden and Russia, under the sanction and surveillance of their respective governments.

The education of the body, with regard to the maintenance of healthy positions, and therefore of elegant attitudes, is of the first importance. We view all kinds of exercises, whether with the Indian sceptres or the chest expander, or in any other rational mode, not merely as branches for the acquisition of the *elegant and the beautiful in deportment*, but as GREAT PHYSIOLOGICAL PREVENTIVES OF DISEASE. To a loss of symmetry in the internal organs thousands may trace their sufferings. By a scientific training of the muscular and osseous systems in early life, a great proportion of all heart and lung diseases might be prevented.

THE DYNAMIC OR MOTIVE-POWER-CREATING PROCESSES IN THE CURING OF DISEASE.

1. *Homœopathy, or the Like-Cure-Like Principle.*

This mode of cure is based on an immutable law of God, discovered by the illustrious Hahnemann. There have been inklings towards its perception in all ages, from Hippocrates downwards. That which will cause any set of symptoms will remove analogous symptoms, when produced by something else. This is the great therapeutic law in the domain of drugdom, and there never will be another, unless a new law of gravitation can be found. The *size of the dose* has nothing to do with *the law of homœopathy*; medicines given, either in large or in small quantities, according to the law, would be legitimate homœopathic practice. But the smallness of the dose, and the methods by which that is accomplished, will prove in the end a discovery as great, or even greater than that of the law itself. Constant observation and the tentative process—the two great engines of discovery—unfolded the fact that substances triturized or dynamized acted far more powerfully on the organization than when given in the crude form; and, consequently, the amount given became less as a matter of necessity, till it assumed the form of the globule, moistened with the decillionth of a drop of the mother tincture. *This dose is really coarse* when compared to the infinitesimal structures and imponderabilia upon which it has to act. The immutability of the *similia-similibus* law, and the power of the medicines, when given in their potentized forms, acting as they do on the spiritual organization—the life-spring of man—by virtue of the odylie or electric currents of the body, constitute the basis of the wonder-working effects which homœopathy is daily producing in all ranks of society. It acts on a law of God; and the potentization of its remedies, by evolving the *spirit* of the drug, brings it within the category of the imponderabilia—hence its action on the electric currents generated by the brain. As the life-power resides in the invisible man, and the nervo-vital fluid is the connecting link between the body and the spirit, its success as a curative agent is not a matter of surprise to those who can look beyond blood, and bone, and nerve, and muscle.

2. *Electro-Magnetism and Galvanism.*

This form of "imponderabilia," by supplying artificially the place of the nervo-vital fluid, or *Od-force*, can be used to recharge the system when in a state of too great debility; or can decompose these electro-vital currents when they are accumulated locally in too large quantities, or exist in a state of too high tension, as in spasmodic or choraic affections. Physiologic electricity will some day play an important part in all kinds of medical treatment, when the quantity of electricity lying in a static condition in the body is known, and its immense power over the organism comes to be better

appreciated. Few, at present, are aware of the extent of its influence. If it be true (and it is) that the human animal is constantly generating the electric fluid; that the brain is the grand storehouse for its secretion—a kind of voltaic pile; that every fibre of every muscle is also an electrogenic apparatus, whence, by the agency of the nerves, the internal fluid is thrown out on the external fibre, thereby producing contraction of muscle; that electro currents have been detected, passing from the stomach to the liver, and from the skin to the mucous membrane; that, according to Professors Faraday and Donné, the decomposition of nine grains of water will set free more electricity than that which is called into action by the lightning flash and thunder roar of the tempest; that, by the discovery of Dutochet, termed exosmose and endosmose, the blood can be depurated of its effete matters; then it must follow, as a most scientific and physiological inference, that the inner and outer water cure—the internal water drinkings and the external water washings, not only for the purpose of extricating vast quantities of slimed-up morbid matters, (thus proving the truth of the old humoral pathology) but of setting free from static equilibrium dynamic currents of the vito-electric fluid—LIFE, or something nearly allied to it—must, in all these points of view, be a grand restorative means in every enlightened system of agency, whether preventive or remedial.

3. *Mesmerism, or the Transmission of Human Electricity.*

There can be no doubt that in the early ages of the world this was the only cure-agent ever had recourse to. The life-current, from some cause or other, has lost its influence; the blood dances less merrily along; the secretions are altered in condition; the skin has lost its healthy hue; the man, in short, is sick. What so likely as for him who is in full health to conduct into the diseased patient his own healthful electro-currents. This was done, and for ages, too. The spiritual instincts in those early times were not so beclouded as they have been since. The cerebellum, in which sits enthroned the human spirit, had not then lost all its paradisiacal power. Man the fallen was not entirely shut out from the spirit world and its wisdom-directing influence. What we call the mesmeric pass was in *them* an *instinctive natural power*, and exercised, as a matter of course, whenever circumstances required its use. Mesmerism is as old as man himself. Prophets and good men, both before and during Scripture times, were mighty in its application. To object to its use, as a sanative agent, shows great ignorance, to say the least of it. The splendid cures effected by Dr. Esdale, in India and in the Mesmeric Infirmary of London—not to mention the private practice of Drs. Elliotson and Engledue and others—prove, to a demonstration, the immense power of human etherium, when inducted from healthy organisms and under the direction of those well acquainted with the subject.

4. *Electro-Psychology, or the Doctrine of Mental and Physical Impressions.*

This is a mode of acting on the body by first impressing the mind. Its effects are marvellous, and sometimes magical. Any cause may disturb the equilibrium of the natural electricity of the body. A wet foot may so disturb this fluid as to send it in abnormal quantities to the lungs; the blood at once follows; congestion and inflammation next take place, and probably consumption is the result. The *nervo-vital* fluid is thrown out of balance; restore the equilibrium, and the diseased action gradually subsides. If, on hearing bad news, the impression is so great that all the etherium under the control of the great voluntary organ rushes to the brain, the blood instantly following, apoplexy is the result. Restore the equilibrium by a biologic word or pass and the difficulty is over. A similar effect might be produced by eating, drinking, and smoking, and the neglect of the functions of the skin, by a sudden rush of electricity to the cerebellum—the great organ of all involuntary action. In this case, too, apoplexy would be produced, and yet the cerebrum, or great voluntary organ, would have nothing to do with bringing about the result. Is it not clear, then, that equilibrium in the *nervo-vital* fluid is essential to health; nay, that its sudden disturbance and concentration in one locality may produce death? Any means that can AT ONCE restore the balance of circulation, must be of *vast importance to individuals and to families*. Electro-biology can do this, when the subjects are in the proper condition. One in every twenty-five are born in this peculiar state—live in it, and often die in it—without themselves or their friends being aware of it. What a blessing to be in this susceptible condition, and to be surrounded by those who can use it when the day of affliction arrives! Come what will—such a man is ready. Has he a leg broken? he can see it set without an atom of pain. Is he maddened with tic? the magic word "*Begone!*" is uttered, and it takes its flight. Has he lost the use of his muscles for months, and even years? this power can set free the paralyzed electricity of the nerves, and bid him walk in peace. What a comfort! Is it not full of deep and thrilling interest to every human being? But it is at hand, and, therefore, FOOL-LIKE (as it always has been, and ever will be), man will neglect to use it.

Each of these modes of cure hath its attendant advantages. When correctly applied, not the slightest harm can ever accrue from the application of any or all of them to any case whatever. Being natural methods, every stroke tells for the benefit of the patient.

Is the body filled with peccant humours? the water-cure can cleanse it of its impurities. Is there a morbid growth, that defies every method of treatment? the hunger-cure, by intensifying the nerve-force, and bringing it to bear upon any given point, can remove it by absorption. Is the odylie fluid itself enfeebled, or even

vitiated? mesmerism puts forth its healthy hand, and re-charges the body with a fresh health-maintaining fluid. Can no friend be found to part with the electro-vital fluid? the galvanic battery offers its service, and says, "Use me; for I generate a fluid so like the nervo-vital fluid of man, that the most learned cannot tell the one from the other. I can digest your food, and human electricity can do no more." Is there no organic lesion in the body, and yet the mind is haunted with disagreeable impressions? electro-psychology at once steps in, reverses the impression, inspires faith in the physician, and in this way a speedy cure is effected. Are the fluids of the body unequally distributed, or is there a malposition of some internal organ or a curvature of spine? medical gymnastics, by bringing into play every muscle of every organ, disturbs the static equilibrium, contracts and expands the vessels, which, in due course, brings about a healthy circulation of all the fluids and secretions of the body. Is there a relaxed and congested state of the capillaries—the sum total of all manner of disease, according to Dr. Billing—homœopathy, the mild-eyed and ministering spirit of sorrow, puts forth her gentle influence, and restores them to their normal dimensions.

Standing on the isthmus of humanity's greatest sufferings, homœopathy ever harmonizes with the reciprocal actions of the corporeal and spiritual man.

ACCIDENTAL HOMŒOPATHY.

FROM time to time medical men stumble against a truth unawares—men who, in all probability, would have gone miles round another way, had they been told first that the way in which they were walking was the homœopathic road. Not long since, the *Lancet*, the bitter foe of homœopathy, gave, from week to week, evidence of this stumbling. A Mr. Somebody contends that arsenic, in very small doses, will cure many cases of Asiatic cholera. He said this because he knew it; he knew it because he had tried it and found it successful. Up starts another and rather angrily exclaims that *he* is the *discoverer*—the benefactor—the angel of deliverance to cholera patients; for, several years ago, said he, I gave arsenic in cholera and was successful. Poor simpletons! let them fight and quarrel for originality; what is it worth? Had they read Hahnemann on arsenic, published forty years ago, they would have seen why arsenic cured cholera. Hahnemann, before he saw a case of cholera, *twenty-eight years ago*, when he heard of cholera and its symptoms, prescribed *arsenic* as one of the medicines; and from that day till now, every homœopathic medical practitioner has employed arsenic in that disease, yet the bigots are fighting among themselves and contending for *priority of discovery*.

In the *Lancet* for March 13, an article appeared, headed "Singular instance of Similia Similibus, &c." We condense that article for want of space. The following is the substance:

"Mr. Hutchinson has recently drawn our attention to some interesting cases, illustrative of the power of the chlorate of potass to produce a form of stomatitis *exactly resembling* one over which it possesses curative powers.

"In the first case, a young man suffering from carbuncle on the nape, took the chlorate every four hours for two days, and then had two symmetrical ulcers form on the sides of the tongue. The remedy was suspended, and the sores slowly healed."

This, Mr. Wakley, was proving of chlorate of potash, No. 1.

"The second was a boy, aged eight years, a patient at the ophthalmic hospital, to whom, on account of pustular ophthalmia, Mr. Hutchinson prescribed the chlorate in eight grain doses, three times a-day. He took it for four days; the eyes got much better, but the mouth became affected by most ulcerative and follicular stomatitis; the whole mucous surface was red and tumid, and on the tongue, cheeks, lips, &c., are numerous grey based ulcers. In about a week the mouth was well again."

This, Thomas Wakley and Co., was proving No. 2.

"The third case was a little girl, also suffering from ophthalmia. In this case the symptoms were similar to the last;" so we have proving No. 3.

"A fourth case occurred at the Metropolitan Free Hospital, and in it the patient was also a child."

What says the editor of the *Lancet* to these provings, and this "power of the chlorate of potass to produce a form of stomatitis *exactly resembling one over which it possesses curative powers*?" He says, "it is to be noted that these *facts* offer no real support to the doctrines of the homœopaths. What *they do prove* is this: that a remedy which exerts an influence on a particular tissue when in a state of health, will be likely also to influence the same when diseased. That its influence upon its diseased state will be curative, cannot be inferred, and *must be determined only by experience.*" My dear Sir Thomas Wakley, it is just that experience which has confirmed the theory, and which experience you not only avoid, but counsel your readers to shun, calling those who have the experience, "quacks." Which is the quack—the one who investigates without prejudice, or the one who abuses him for doing so?

The above article on Mr. Hutchinson's "facts" has called up the following, which has since appeared in the *Lancet*:

DOES CHLORATE OF POTASS PRODUCE STOMATITIS?

To the Editor of the Lancet.

SIR,—In confirmation of what I find mentioned in your journal of the 13th March (p. 265), by Mr. Hutchinson, regarding the occasional tendency of chlorate

of potass to produce a form of stomatitis, I beg to mention the particulars of a case at present under my charge. Two years ago I gave the chlorate to a lady pregnant for the fifth time, and whose previous labours had all been premature. After using it for about ten days, she became affected with spongy swelling of the gums, accompanied by small highly-irritable ulcers on the tongue, cheeks, and gums, and by considerable salivation. These symptoms disappeared on giving up the medicine, but their appearance was always attributed by my patient to the use of the chlorate.

The lady having again become pregnant, I recommended her to resume the chlorate, but she had only used it for eight days when the same form of stomatitis recurred, in a severe degree, and at once yielded on discontinuing the mixture.

She has never at any other time suffered from sore mouth in any form.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN TRAILL, M.R.C.S.ED.

Arbroath, March, 1858.

What a grand discovery has Mr. Hutchinson made!! Read the following extract from *Jahr's Homœopathic Materia Medica* :

"Effects on mouth : sensitiveness of the mouth and fauces ; burning at a small spot on left border of the tongue ; burning vesicle on the tip of the tongue ; *ulceration of the tongue and mouth, without ptyalism ; ptyalism ; great swelling of the tongue, and excessive ulceration of the mucous membrane of the mouth.*"

The homœopathist knew this ; and he knows that which you, Mr. Wakley, lack for want of experience — he knows that the law of *similia similibus*, which you in your obstinate ignorance despise and sneer at, is a law of God ; and your puny voice and gall-dipped pen cannot overturn that law. Take care that even yet, you, in your old age, and your bigoted followers are not addressed in the language of Holy Writ—"Behold, ye despisers, and wonder ; and perish," as allopathy must !

THE PROFESSION AND HOMŒOPATHY.

IN our last, we noticed the behaviour of the medical journals and the profession towards those who have embraced homœopathy ; and gave quotations from the *Lancet* in which the name of Mr. Fergusson, surgeon to King's College, London, appeared very prominently. The journalists, it appears, have not yet disposed of the case. The *Medical Times*, hitherto deemed rather milder than the *Lancet* in invective, has almost outvied it, at least, in its editorial article of April 17th, which we give *in extenso* :

"PROFESSIONAL ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE HOMŒOPATHIC QUACKERY.

"When the surgeons of the Middlesex Hospital claimed the 'grateful acknowledgments' of the profession for an American who professed to cure cancer, and

who really did extirpate cancerous growths by what was erroneously believed to be a new mode of applying an old caustic, it became our duty to complain of this professional encouragement of empiricism. And now that the senior surgeon of King's College Hospital has set the example of attending patients in company with homœopaths, we shall not shrink from the task of characterizing such conduct as a direct professional encouragement of the homœopathic quackery. We need not disclaim all personal feeling in the matter. If personal feeling were allowed to operate, it would, most certainly, induce us to remain silent. But a broad professional principle is at stake, and we feel it to be a public duty to show the tendency of Mr. Fergusson's example to be far more injurious than that of Messrs. Shaw, De Morgan, Moore, and Henry; inasmuch as these gentlemen encouraged one man, while Mr. Fergusson supports a whole sect.

"The medical profession has never claimed to itself the attribute of infallibility. On the contrary, it has ever admitted the difficulties in determining the causes of, and in devising the best remedies for, the diseases and injuries to which the human frame is liable. Without being wedded to any hypothesis, and being actuated solely by a search for truth, it has, from time to time, adopted such improvements as modern science may have suggested, and discarded such dogmas as the progress of knowledge may have proved to be untenable. Such, however, is not the case with quackery; for in proportion to the difficulties experienced and admitted by the investigator after truth, does the ignorant empiric disdain the fetters of legitimate reasoning, and arrogate to himself the exclusive possession of the power of healing. It is of little importance what garb the prevailing form of quackery may assume: whether the delusion consists in pretending to cure all diseases by drastic cathartics; in healing sores by a universal ointment; in remedying scrofula by the royal touch; in curing cancer with caustics; or in treating disease by the administration of inert and almost invisible globules of flint or charcoal. All are clearly forms of quackery. They originate in the love of the marvellous inherent in some portion of the human race, and are fostered by certain unscrupulous persons who turn the follies and weaknesses of mankind to their own advantage.

"Of all the Protean shapes of quackery, homœopathy is one of the most ridiculous and contemptible. Whoever will take the trouble to examine the doctrines of the homœopathic school will be disgusted with their folly, shocked by their profanity, and outraged by their indecency; yet those who are acquainted with the history of the human mind, as developed in different countries and ages, will not be surprised *that so foolish, profane, and indecent* a system should have met with encouragement from a certain portion of the public. It may, indeed, excite a transient feeling of wonder, that amidst the blaze of intelligence which characterizes the nineteenth century, such a farrago of absurdity should have taken root at all, especially in a country like England; but it must be remembered that the

most enlightened ages have been characterized by the prevalence of the grossest delusions, and the most cultivated intellects have sometimes entertained the wildest fancies and superstitions. Dr. Simpson reminds us that Lord Bacon believed a wound could be cured by applying a sympathetic salve to the weapon which inflicted it; that Boyle supposed he cured himself of an ague by wearing a medicated bracelet round his wrist; that Flamsteed, the Astronomer-Royal, made a voyage to Ireland to be cured by an exorcist; that Dr. Hartley, the celebrated metaphysician, published a volume in favour of an alleged specific for gravel and stone, and himself died of the disease for which he declared that an infallible cure had been discovered; and that the British parliament actually voted £5000 for the purchase of this same specific, which, when its composition was made known, was first ridiculed, and then forgotten! We may add that in our own times, people, otherwise rational, have been found to believe in the immaculate conception of Joanna Southcote, the divine mission of Joe Smith, and the preposterous absurdity of clairvoyance, table-turning, and spirit-rapping. Bearing this in mind, one can understand what would be otherwise incomprehensible, that some weak people may actually believe in the tenets of the homœopaths.

“In justice and compassion something must be said in favour of the weak patients who are commonly the dupes of the homœopathic and other quacks. These patients are frequently labouring under maladies, which, although perhaps fanciful, are yet the sources of intolerable torments. They readily fly for succour to any system which promises relief, and they will embrace the offer of this relief the more eagerly if the system proposed has in it something mystic and unintelligible, to say nothing of a spice of indecency or irreverence, which gives it a little more piquancy. Other patients again, labouring under chronic and painful ailments, have perhaps become weary of trying the resources of legitimate medicine, and fly as a last hope to the ‘certain relief’ which quackery always promises, and never affords. To neither of these classes of patients would we deny any consolation which quackery may afford; but we would most energetically insist that quackery should be practised by quacks, and that patients in resorting to such assistance should be clearly aware of the character of the persons into whose hands they are about to fall; and that on no account should they be led to suppose that the extravagant doctrines professed by irregular practitioners are in any way countenanced by the medical profession.

“With regard to the practitioners of homœopathy, there is *no more to be said for them than for any other quacks*. They are usually *either ignorant and illiterate persons, who being too indolent to pursue a regular course of medical study, adopt empiricism as an easy method of recruiting exhausted finances; or they are men who have failed in the legitimate practice of their profession, and, as a last hope, have sought to earn a miserable subsistence by apostatizing from the faith which they once professed. A few there may be who conscientiously*

believe in the truth of the doctrines which they practise ; and these are probably feeble-minded persons, whose early education has been neglected, and *who have never been instructed in the first principles of logic.**

“As for the system of homœopathy itself, sprung from the disordered brain of a German mystic, it has been scouted with ridicule and contempt from nearly every region of the civilized globe. Although discarded by the learned in all nations, it still lingers among that small, though not unimportant class of patients to whom we have already referred, and who, if they had not homœopathy, would embrace some other absurdity. In Leipzig, the cradle of globulism, the delusion has gradually dwindled away, and is now nearly forgotten ; and throughout all Germany it has found no resting-place, except in Vienna, where a small hospital, entirely deserted by students, still pursues its obscure career. France has likewise repudiated the doctrines of the homœopathic school, after giving them a fair trial ; and we need not add that every university, college, and school connected with medicine in our own country has indignantly denounced the fraud and folly of the dogmas and the practice of Hahnemann.†

“But, while regarding with an eye of compassion the dupes of the homœopathic practitioners, and perhaps looking with pity upon some of the practitioners themselves, as being probably compelled by poverty to become empirics, we cannot but condemn, in the strongest language, the conduct of those members of our profession who hold any professional intercourse with the quacks, or afford any countenance to their nefarious practices. The honourable and high-minded members of our profession are quite aware *that homœopathy is a despicable compound of fraud and folly* ; that the principles on which it rests are utterly false and unsound ; and that its practice, if honestly pursued (which is not always the case), consists solely in leaving diseases to cure themselves ; for no man in his senses can suppose that the homœopathic globules produce any effect whatever upon the human system. Hence it has long been a point of honour with the medical profession to discountenance this, as well as any other form of quackery ; and when one of our brethren, however humble his position may have been, has been asked to meet a homœopath in consultation, he has generally pointed out to his patient that such a course would be inconsistent, not only with professional etiquette, but with common honesty ; and if the patient remained deaf to his remonstrances, he has withdrawn from his attendance. But what can we say when members of our profession, who are eminent in their position and distinguished for their talents, evince no repugnance to pursue a course of conduct which many a poor man would shrink from with disdain, openly meeting in

* Strange that the greatest logician of the age, Archbishop Whateley, is a staunch homœopath.—
[Eps. Homœopathic Record.]

† And these universities, colleges, and schools are attempting legislative prohibition of homœopathy.

consultation the globulistic impostors? or, what has the same effect upon the public mind, attending cases with them?

"It is high time that this question should be answered. Let us have some definite plan of action agreed upon. Do not let us have young physicians and surgeons, who are fighting their way in the world, *injuring their prospects by refusing to attend cases with the homœopaths*, and then find that some man of high standing has no such scruples. The juniors must not be charged with illiberality by the public, and told that the heads of the profession are 'in the constant habit of meeting the homœopaths on equal terms, that those who object are only actuated by fear and jealousy of the heresy, and are looked upon as carrying out in medicine the same spirit which led the Catholic Church to persecute schismatics. Let us have the matter fully and fairly discussed, and we can surely agree upon some plan of action without interfering in any way with the freedom of the public to encourage any quackery they please. Many among us would teach them to choose between quackery and medical science, and select their attendants from the practitioners of one class or the other. They say that the two have nothing in common—that those must resign one who fly to the other. The natural consequence would be that those members of our profession who encourage the quacks by consulting with them, or attending cases with them—a distinction in which neither we nor the public can see a difference—would be left to the society of the companions they have chosen. They cannot serve God and Mammon. Others think differently—and the question must be settled. Let it be discussed—our columns are open. The views of three correspondents, expressing very different views of the question, will be found in other columns. Let it be discussed also at the branch meetings of the British Medical Association preparatory to some general resolution at the Annual Meeting in Edinburgh; and it should be well considered by our Medico-Ethical Societies, and the practitioners of every large town or district. The medical practitioners of Reading have set the example, and, as may be seen in our advertising columns, have unanimously resolved: 'That no qualified medical man practising homœopathy shall be met in consultation.' It will be also necessary to determine the distinction between attending a case in *company with* or *in consultation with* homœopaths.

That the editor of the *Medical Times* does not represent every member of the profession is evident in the pages of the same journal. We apprehend that the discussion to which his pages are thrown open will elicit a variety of views upon the subject; and we shall not be surprised if a very important split in the profession takes place on this all-important subject.

The three following letters are from the same number of the journal as the extract above.

"Vox populi" is a "patient," not a practitioner, who represents John Bull, who "*will find*" means to free himself from the terrors of medical excommunication."

“Justa aut nihil” is a surgeon of common sense. He knows that the best way to maintain respectability of character, is to treat patients as men, not as children :

“CONSULTATION WITH HOMŒOPATHS.

“*To the Editor of the Medical Times and Gazette.*”

“SIR,—With reference to the important point raised by the case of the Stamford surgeons, Mr. Fergusson, and the homœopaths, I trust the profession will express a very decided opinion.

“In the first place, it is obvious at once that a regular physician cannot meet or co-operate with a homœopath. As to a surgeon, it might be alleged that his duty is only to act *chirurgically*, in the etymological sense of the word. But if he admits this to be his position, he abrogates his character as a scientific practitioner. If he only uses the knife, or applies dressings and ignores constitutional treatment, which includes the use of internal remedies, he is not what one considers a well-educated high-caste surgeon. What becomes of the dogma that ‘medicine is one and indivisible?’ How can a well-bred surgeon be the *collaborateur* of a man whom he must believe to be either a lunatic or a charlatan? If such conjunctions are observed by the laity, how can they fail to feel confused and perplexed as to the real position of homœopathy?

“As I wish to express my opinion, but do not wish to controversialize, I subscribe myself,

“A PROVINCIAL PHYSICIAN.

“*April 14th, 1858.*”

“*To the Editor of the Medical Times and Gazette.*”

“SIR,—I have chanced to see the remarks upon the ethics of your profession, in your journal of the 10th instant.

“If I, as a patient only, and not a medical man, have any right to be considered in the matter, I should like to put the following case to you and your readers :

“I have been for some time an invalid, and have been under the treatment of a duly qualified practitioner, whose system I doubt not has been orthodox, although I cannot say it has proved very beneficial. In fact, I find he is considered one of the ‘old school,’ and while depletion and calomel have been his principal agents, he has employed in turn almost every drug in the pharmacopœia, too often, I fear, using one as an antidote to another, and making my unfortunate constitution a perfect battle ground for rival remedies. Well, sir, after enduring this for three or four years, during which my annual expenses in doctors’ bills and incidentals have been counted not merely by tens but by hundreds, my faith in orthodox physicking has become somewhat shaken, and while changing my residence I am determined not again to surrender my constitution and comforts to a repetition of the ordeal. But what am I to do? I have made enquiry as to the medical

celebrities in my new locality, and find that there are three duly qualified practitioners, all enjoying high reputations for talent, one of whom, however, has seceded from the regular practice of medicine, and is, in fact, an homœopathist. Now I am not converted to homœopathy: my sympathies and convictions have all been hitherto the other way; but still, having heard much of benefits said to have been derived by others, who, like myself, have been unduly dosed, I have been half tempted to try his system, not (I confess) with any great faith in its success, (except, perhaps, temporarily, from the relief to the system after undue tension,) but rather in the spirit of candour, and under the idea that it cannot be more destructive to my constitution, nor so much so to my banker's balances, as that under which I have been treated. Now, I find that one of the regular practitioners altogether refuses to meet the homœopathist, even upon the separate grounds of medicine and surgery, or to use his skill in the latter department to allay the sufferings of any patient of the latter, unless he will first abjure homœopathy. He gives me no reason, and attempts no refutation, but indulges plentifully in abuse of both the others. Of the one because he professes homœopathy, and of the other for reasons which I shall presently explain. I am told his refusal is not only approved, but in a measure compelled, while his abuse is imitated by a majority of the profession.

"The homœopathist is not only willing to meet the others upon their separate grounds, but to submit his medical treatment to the ordeal of a consultation with a man educated in medicine, and one able to expose his fallacies.

"The third gentleman has no such scruples as the first. Like Mr. Fergusson, and himself a man of undoubted skill and acquirements, and of good practice, he deems it his duty, to allay suffering, no matter what extraneous circumstances may surround the sufferer; and although sufficiently impressed with the truth of the principles of his own science, to refuse to recognize the homœopathic system as being equally founded in truth, or to admit its professors to consultation as equals, he yet allows his patients a liberty of thought and judgment, and in place of abusing the homœopath behind his back, he does not hesitate to meet him on occasion as a gentleman (as he is by position and education), or to give him credit for sincerity, while he believes him to be mistaken. On this account this gentleman is abused by the first as virulently as is the homœopathist. I would then, sir, ask you and your readers—

"1. Whether I am unreasonable when I say I have more confidence in the talent and principles of either of the two gentlemen last mentioned, than in those of the first; because the first forces upon me a misgiving that he would study his own interests and prejudices in preference to my health; or else that he is by nature a bigot, who would be likely to follow foregone conclusions in his mode of treatment?

"2. Whether the profession expect that I should allow myself to be debarred

by any etiquette or artificial rules of theirs from consulting those in whom I have the more confidence, in preference to him who would arrogate to himself a superiority which I cannot recognize?

"3. It may be worth while for the profession to consider whether homœopathy and other evanescent systems be not the natural growth of treatment such as I have described, and whether they do not derive undue importance and success from the indiscriminate abuse with which they and their professors are too often met.

"In my own case the result will probably be that I shall permanently consult the gentleman whose liberality and candour have served with me as an introduction to his talented and enlightened treatment, of which I am already feeling the benefits; but had he observed the same tone as the first, I should have been more disposed to have faith in the professor of homœopathy (or any other *pathy*, for that matter) than in him; and in this I believe that I should be only showing that sturdy independence which usually characterizes the family of John Bull, who (depend upon it) will find means to free himself from the terrors of medical excommunication.

"I am, &c.,

"April 13th, 1858."

"VOX POPULI.

"To the Editor of the Medical Times and Gazette.

"SIR,—May I say a few words about medical ethics?

"Mr. Fergusson is brought before the profession for having obeyed the summons of a homœopath to attend a patient in Northamptonshire. I will at once declare my own conviction that Mr. Fergusson acted like a high-minded and honourable man in fearlessly rendering his valuable aid where it was required. Surely every one who professes to hold himself at the disposal of the public in sickness, is bound to attend when he is wanted; he is bound to do, that which he professes to do, and if he refuses to do this, then is he dishonest, not when he does it. What matters it whether the requisition comes through a person of heterodox opinions or otherwise? The obligation appears to me equally binding. To 'refuse to serve God because the devil bids you,' is to make the devil's work very easy; he has but to preach sermons, and call on doctors to exercise their honourable calling.

"Now it appears to me that every man should do what he professes: if he professes to attend for his fee only, then is he bound to attend when that fee is offered; if he practises his profession on the higher principle of philanthropy, looking, perhaps, for a higher reward, he is bound to attend to all, rich and poor, learned and unlearned, deluded and undeluded. Of course, no man in his senses, who is a disbeliever in homœopathy, would attempt to consult with a homœopath as to homœopathic treatment; but if a homœopath is content to forego his creed so far as to require the assistance of a practitioner of medicine (I speak in the Hippocritean sense—*chirurgia medicina est cum ferro*), has any such

practitioner of medicine a right to refuse it? In my poor judgment he has not, because *pro tempore* the homœopath is not a homœopath. I am also presuming that he possesses a legal qualification. Besides, has not the homœopath a perfect right to be what he is if he finds, or thinks he finds, he can cure with his globules? Some answer that no man can be such a fool; and if he is not a fool he must be a knave—hard words these, though in very common use. But if we thus summarily dispose of the doctor's character, what shall we say of his patients? Are they all to be knaves or fools too—some of them don't look like it, talk like it, or act like it, and I know a good many, though I am very sorry for them—they always remind me of live bombs who won't allow their fuse to be put out, so that they are likely to go out with a crash any day in the week. These patients, to a man, firmly believe that the ten thousandth of a grain of nothing, which was taken with so much circumstance, cured their colic, forgetting the air, exercise, diet, moral influence, and altered habits, which assisted it. If the patients are so deluded, can we be surprised that the doctors are too? Why, their conclusions are drawn from just the same data; and doctors, though a very clever race, are but men. Let us be kind, then, and treat our erring brethren with charity, try to correct them from the error of their ways, not scold and be angry—it is 'weakness to be wrath with weakness.' Let us bear down opposition like the gentle but strong wind which passes on to its allotted place undeterred by petty obstacles; the whirlwind is but an idler after all, bringing back the dust in their faces, and blinding the eyes of those who raise it. Let us cease to use hard names, and use instead hard arguments, especially practical ones. To wit:

"1. Since homœopathic remedies are nothing, treat them as nothing, and let your patients take them or not just as they like: they will believe you are sincere in thinking their physis powerless if you do this.

"2. When you are wanted by a homœopathic patient, go and attend to him; do your duty as far as your patient will let you; responsibility must cease when he who has a right to do so relieves you of it by taking it on himself.

"3. If you find an individual at a patient's house in the double capacity of his friend and homœopathic doctor, treat him as a gentleman, for he has as much right to be there as you have. The same invitation has admitted him which gives you your right to be there, and you have no other. Say to the homœopath: 'Sir, we agree not on physis, but if you be a good man and true, in God's name help me to set this broken limb.' Do not go away in a rage, and leave the poor patient in his agony till the rail has brought a 'homœopathic surgeon' from London, the only place, it would seem, where such an anomalous production can be found.

"I have offered my advice, sir, freely, perhaps too freely, and would now in my turn ask advice of others. If they like not my suggestions, will they tell me how I should act in the following cases:

"A man smashes his leg, his son divides his radial artery, and his wife has

strangulated femoral hernia. They all with one consent hate physic as they do poison, and they will have none of it. Shall I let the first die of mortification, the second of hæmorrhage, and the last of intestinal obstruction, because of their unbelief? Suppose these three persons to be rank homœopaths (still nothingists, if you will pardon the word), am I to act differently in that case? Why?

"I am, &c.,

"JUSTA AUT NIHIL."

REVIEW.

General and Special Therapeutics of Mental Diseases and Psychological Disorders, compiled and edited according to Homœopathic Principles.

By DR. G. H. G. JAHR. Translated by JOHN M. GALLOWAY, M.D. Manchester: Henry Turner, 41 Piccadilly.

OF all diseases which afflict humanity, those which affect the mind are the most distressing. Bodily pain, however severe, may be borne; and, as a general rule, the more severe the pain, the shorter is its duration, while we possess numerous means of mitigating their severity; but mental diseases, whether in the form of alienation or of concentration, whether imbecility or rage, or either of the thousand and one forms in which mental disorder is manifest, every case in its individuality is distressing; and although, in the last few years, the treatment of psychical disease has been more appropriate and more successful than formerly, there remains much to be done in our public asylums and retreats to render such diseases less distressing.

While we are willing to admit that there are many, alas! very many, cases which are beyond human aid, there are a far greater number capable of being benefited by scientifically-directed treatment. The intimate connexion between mind and body—the acting and re-acting which take place between the one and the other, prove that physical disease—derangement of bodily health—is the most frequent cause of mental disease. Alcohol in excess, is, perhaps, of all causes the most fruitful; and it will be a happy thing for society when its free use is dispensed with. The amazing number who fall victims to its baneful effects is only partly known, even to those whose study and care it is to relieve the insane.

Until within the present generation, there was little classification of mental diseases. The sufferer was cast out of society into a dungeon, almost uncared for. He was treated as a criminal rather than an invalid; and horrifying have been the revelations which from

time to time have come to light. "Bedlam" was a gaol, not an hospital; and the numerous private asylums scattered over England were charnel houses.

Now, however, we have a better state of things. Institutions like that at Hanwell are no longer a disgrace but the glory of England. Physicians have become *humane* in their treatment, with an occasional exception, as in the case of the cold shower bath as a punishment, in which death speedily followed.

Restraint so indiscriminately employed has given place to kindness; and, as Hahnemann, the founder of homœopathy, was the first to point out, the law of kindness is the most successful treatment. There is, however, much more to learn. Physicians who have the charge of our asylums and retreats have yet to learn a more excellent way of treating, therapeutically, this class of diseases. That way is the homœopathic. To a great extent, in this country, is the principle applied in the private practice of homœopathic physicians, and most successful is such practice. We could give instances and cite cases in proof of such success. One may be here mentioned. A woman, a shopkeeper, in a country village, suffering from mental disease, lost power of control over her actions, and was at the brink of a most tragical deed. *She was about to sever the heads of her six children.* That woman was rescued by homœopathic treatment in Northampton five years ago. She was restored to her family; and when seeing him who was the happy instrument of rescuing her and restoring her, has since wept tears of joy while expressing her thankfulness. Homœopaths study the pathogenesis of remedial agents as affecting the mental and moral sphere of suffering; and, guided by that unerring law, *similia similibus curantur*, effect the cure of mental ailments, which allopathy only aggravates.

The work before us by Jahr comes most opportunely. While the public mind is awakened to the subject of homœopathy, and at a time when the treatment of mental diseases is freely discussed, the appearance of so able a work as the one before us is most acceptable. It is the most complete repertory of therapeutics in relation to the subject that has ever yet appeared, and its adoption by the faculty will make them more successful. We commend the work to every professional and to every lay reader who feels an interest in the subject. It is concise, clear, practical, certain.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

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TO OUR READERS.

“COMING events cast their shadows before” is an old and expressive proverb. The shadows now appear very faint compared with the substance which is to come. Our readers have been reminded of the bazaar, about to be held in London, in aid of the funds for completing a large metropolitan hospital, in which patients are to be treated on the homœopathic principle. We enjoin upon the real friends of homœopathy to aid the work, to throw aside all party differences and jealousies, all animosities, and lend a helping hand to the important work. If we wait for unanimity we may stand still another ten years. This is not a time for standing still; the enemy is doing his work to prevent the establishment of homœopathy as a section of orthodox practice. It is seeking prohibition of the practitioners of homœopathy by new medical bills. It is busy in perpetuating the well-known prevarications—“It is going down,” say they. Marvellous, indeed, that the increase of our ranks, the extension of the science into all corners of the earth, the establishment of additional dispensaries and hospitals, should be an indication of decline! A heterodox “allopath” lecturing on what he calls “Eclectic Medicine,” which means, according to his explanation, a condemnation of every thing and person differing from his or him, has also recently made a vain attempt to shew that homœopathy is on the decline. Strange, ’tis passing strange, that he did not better inform himself of the real state of homœopathy before he made his statement! There seems to be a shaking among the dry bones of allopathy. Never in the history of medicine was

there a time like the present. The whole faculty is splitting; dry rot appears to have seized its foundation, and the whole fabric of *Æsculapius* is in danger.

Dr. Forbes says allopathy is worse than doing nothing, and proves it by statistics; but the "doing nothing," which is superior, happens to be the homœopathic practice. Skey, of St. Bartholomew's hospital, some three years ago, denounced blood-letting in certain inflammatory diseases. This same allopathic professor has recently denounced purging. He has said more bitter things disparagingly of his own school than did ever homœopath. The administration of mercury has been shown by another allopathic authority to be excessively injurious.* In Edinburgh a war has for some time raged between the professors on bleeding in pneumonia—inflammation of the lungs; one party contending for its utility, the other for its *destructiveness*.

While these clashing opinions are getting abroad, the people are beginning to talk over the subject of medical treatment in a serious tone. "What shall I do if I am ill?" said a gentleman to the writer a few weeks ago; "I have no faith in homœopathy because it is not established; and if I had, my friends would ridicule me. I have lost all confidence in old physic, for there is no certainty as to how I should best be treated. The medical botanists appear to be only another branch of allopathists, and I may get killed with an overdose of lobelia, or be peppered to death with cayenne; or, if not killed, I may be compelled to drink quart after quart of 'infusions,' 'decoctions,' 'drinks,' &c., until my poor stomach is drenched with the boilings of roots, stems, and leaves, or I may have a narrow escape from death by emetics. What am I to do?" said he; "I would give a world to be set right." Our advice was, *read, study*, to make yourself acquainted with each, and then choose your physician. Now came the difficulty. "I have no time, nor have I any inclination to study, yet I want to get right." Hence, we find the public so unsettled, that after exhausting the resources of ordinary physic in vain, they go from one to another, until they, as a last resource, try homœopathy at a time when their very complexion gives evidence that they are full of physic—walking drug stores.

* See Headland *On the Action of Medicines*.

To set this disturbed public right, we want large hospitals in which homœopathy can be fairly tested, and its efficiency proved by comparative statistics. Let us, one and all, therefore, engage in helping forward the metropolitan hospital; and while we, with very many more, disapprove of, and deplore the mode of management of the London hospital, under the ægis of the British Homœopathic Society, we wish the promoters of the hospital all success in their endeavour to rear a proud monument to the memory of Hahnemann.

We would not have our readers forget, however, that a homœopathic hospital is already established in Northampton; it is in need of funds; its usefulness is only limited by the want of means. And we appeal most earnestly to those who have themselves been benefited by homœopathy, to come forward nobly and liberally with their donations and subscriptions in aid of the Northamptonshire Homœopathic Hospital. If only one friend in each town and village were to take up the matter in earnest, we should not lack funds.

OUR readers will perceive that the present number contains a portion of the first of a course of five lectures, now being delivered in Banbury, by Dr. Eadon. We have, in order to give our readers the benefit of these lectures, resolved on increasing by four pages every month the size of our periodical. The lectures will amply repay the reader, and will be useful in making known the glorious truth more extensively. Let those who love homœopathy do all that in them lies to increase the circulation.

ALLOPATHIC INJUSTICE.

WE have before alluded to the fact, that, when a patient of a homœopathic physician leaves this world, the allopathic enemy is ever ready to spread a report that another victim to homœopathy is gone. These allopaths make mistakes occasionally; and one has recently occurred.

The lady of a clergyman, in the county of Northampton, during her absence at the seaside with her husband, was suddenly and unexpectedly prematurely confined. Hæmorrhage occurred. Her surgeon left her; he, on leaving, expressing his satisfaction that the lady was safe (and if not, why did he leave her?) Not many minutes after he left, the lady breathed her last.

Report spread in Northampton that homœopathy had killed her; but, unfortunately for the malicious enemy of truth, the surgeon who attended her was an *allopath*; and the surviving husband is the more disconsolate, he thinking that had a *homœopath* been there she had not died.

THE MAGNETIC OR SPIRITUAL ORGANIZATION OF MAN,
AND ITS RELATIONS TO HOMŒOPATHY OR THE TRUE
SCIENCE OF MEDICINE.

WE have no fault to find with the industry and learning which have been displayed in all ages in unfolding the anatomy and physiology of the animal organization ; from Galen, the first methodizer of anatomical notions, to Vesalius, the great restorer and founder of the science. We would do all honour — fling our veneration on every man who has essayed to trace the footprints of Deity on organizations which the Psalmist declared to be “fearfully and wonderfully made ;” on Harvey and Ascelius, the one for his discovery of the circulation of the blood, the other for that of the lacteals ; on Rudbeck and Bartholin, for our knowledge of the functions of the lymphatics ; on Malpighi and Cheselden ; on the Hunters, the Bells, and the Monroes ; on Gall, Spurzheim, and Okie, and other distinguished men of our own day. By their researches, many important discoveries have been brought to light ; as, that the brain is the organ of the mind and the generation of *nervo-vital* power ; that the body lives upon the blood ; that the skin, with its twenty-eight miles of tubing, is the greatest depletory organ, and nature’s grand outlet for the exit of all kinds of morbid matter ; that every organic being originates in a *cell*, and that the highest act of vitality is the production of another cell ; that fibre is merely a collocation of cells in a linear direction, and the breaking down of the tangential walls changes fibre into tube ; that cilia, the caudal prolongations of epithelial cells, is the simplest form of cell-growth ; that the dessication of cells in a membranous expansion causes a surface like the epidermis ; that plasma or blastema is the product of cell-agency ; that the white lines running across the abdomen are the vestiges of the ribs of serpents ; that the *os coccyx* is merely a condensed tail ; that the bones of the cranium are merely modified vertebrae ; that the cerebrum is the homologue of the lungs ; that the cerebellum is the great centre of neural life and the heart of organic life ; that the lungs are the brains of the thorax, and the liver the lungs of the abdomen ; and that every organ of the body is represented by the brain—*ay, is the brain, in a modified form.* All these are important knowledges, and are destined clearly enough to pave the way to greater and lesser forms of generalization.

There is, in many of these latter discoveries, a progress from the great and the coarse to the minute and the delicate. But, after all, these are only

the ropes, the levers, and the pulleys of the system : the *motive power*, that which keeps them in good working condition, must be sought for elsewhere. The spiritual, the dynamic, and the invisible, which use and direct these animal fabrics for pre-ordained purposes, occupy a domain into which material anatomy and physiology have not yet dared to tread. Into this region it is our object to direct attention, as it is to the magnetic or spiritual organization of man we must look for all further improvements in the healing art, seeing that herein resides, *and here alone*, the MOTIVE POWER whereby the material organs perform their normal or abnormal functions, and on which the dynamic aromas of highly potentized matter have an innate aptitude to act. A discovery is great in virtue of the amount of good likely to accrue from it. We aver that the law of *similia similibus*, discovered by Hahnemann, will prove second to none in its bearings on human happiness ; and when a knowledge of the magnetic organization of man has taken its place as the highest of the sciences, because the development of laws of the highest created organized matter, *man*—the method pointed out by the illustrious Hahnemann, the modern sage of Cos, by which the spirit-power of matter is evoked from the envelope in which it lies embedded—will be considered on a par with the discovery of the *law itself*, and as inseparable from its practical application as that of the electric telegraph from the railway system. Without the discovery of dynamizing the medicines, the law of *similia* would be shorn of its glory and its power. It would be mass acting on mass—crude matter, with all its power locked up by cohesive influence, acting on living, organized forms. The material man might be affected—the immaterial, the spiritual, *never*. The size of the particles would be incapable of inter-penetrating the finer tissues of the body, while the millions of spirit-atmospheres surrounding every, even the minutest, microscopic atom, would remain powerless and utterly incapable of affecting the magnetic aura, as it radiates in beautiful streams from central and circumferential poles both great and small. The minuteness of the homœopathic dose, and the evoking of a semi-vital power by friction and succussion, will, in the end, be the brightest stars in the therapeutic heavens.

There is a great battle going on in the world, and the issue will be fraught with great good or sore evil. The battle-field is the *bodies of mankind* ; the combatants, the allopaths and the homœopaths. The former maintain that man has a physical body, and when out of order material means only can put it right, hence the reasons of the use of the medical tilt-hammers which have been flattening poor human nature (only pig-iron yet),

from time immemorial to the present day; the latter admit his having a physical body, and would ever and anon throw around and about it all sorts of hygienic modes of purification and tonification; but at the same time they maintain that the organic is merely a development of the spiritual—superposed, as it were, on the great polar centres of his spiritual being—in which alone resides life-power and motive influence; and that it is on this spiritual nature medicines act, according to a discovered law, whenever organized matter is brought from a state of disease to one of health. The battle cry is, dynamic therapeutics based on magnetic or spiritual anatomy, physiology, and vitochemistry; *versus* material anatomy, physiology, and the chemistry of dead atoms. It is, however, only fair to admit that the therapeutics of the old school of physic are quite in harmony with its materialistic notions of anatomy, physiology, and the chemistry of dead atoms. Having to deal with palpable forms of diseased matter, the allopath thought large doses would be most likely to act safely, quickly, and pleasantly. They placed matter *diseased* against matter *for* disease in equal and opposite directions; which, by translating the language of physics into physic, means, counter-irritation. This was, at the best, but taking a sort of half view of human nature. A high authority says, “but there is a spirit in man;” another, “man has a natural body and a spiritual body;” and the advantage which homœopathy claims over every other system of recuperative agency is in its taking this twofold vision of nature, and in adapting the imponderabilia of its medicaments to the magnetic nature of man, according to a law of God which the genius of Hahnemann was first privileged to discover and develop. The therapeutics of homœopathy embrace the anatomy, physiology, and chemistry of the old school, because these have all certain relationships to the material body of man, and its aptitudes to disorganization and functional derangement; but in addition to this kind of knowledge, it advances onwards and passes from the material to the spiritual man—from the visible to the invisible—from *that* wherever apparent power resides, to *that* in which all power in-dwells. The anatomy of homœopathy, in its highest forms, is the anatomy of the spiritual or magnetic body; its physiology, the normal laws existing between spiritual and material organs; its chemistry, the chemistry of life—the effects which the spirit produces on the material organism—a vital chemistry infinitely more refined and powerful than the chemistry of dead atoms; and, consequently, the therapeutics of homœopathy must of necessity consist of infinitesimal forms of matter, embodying a subversive force, and given according to a law having divinity stamped upon it.

There is nothing so very marvellous in these views. The whole domain of the physical sciences shews that the mightiest palpable and visible effects arise from invisible and impalpable causes. The more active agents in nature are imperceptible entities, as light, heat, magnetism, and electricity; and yet these have neither colour, savour, odour, volume, dimension, determinate shape, nor definite proportion; yet they pervade and inter-penetrate all forms of matter, and are found enwrapped in wondrous conditions in the three great kingdoms of nature, animal, vegetable, and mineral. Strange would it be if force should rule and regulate the inanimate world, and that this should not be the case in the animate! It is so. Every morbid cause in the product of a FORCE, and the material form in which it presents itself, are merely the gross covering which conceals it from our vision. *External* forces act on our organs when they meet *internal* forces with which they can combine. In all cases it is forces which meet, combat, repel, neutralize each other, or mutually regulate one another. Health, disease, death, our very existence, are the results of the action of forces. In every department of nature there is an entire system of forms, animate and inanimate, visible and invisible; and in man we have the supreme type of all force—the SOUL—"the divinity within us, which is ever acting through a dynamic or spiritual body on our material organisms. Amongst all the forces of nature, this is THE FORCE *par excellence*. "The true springs of our organization," says Buffon, "are not those muscles, those veins, those arteries, which are described with such exactness and care. There exist, in organized bodies, *internal* forces which do not follow the gross mechanical laws we imagine, and to which we would reduce everything." The Sir Isaac Newton of France, the illustrious Laplace, says, "Beyond the limits of this visible anatomy commences another anatomy, whose phenomena we cannot perceive; beyond the limits of this external physiology of forces, of action, and of motion, exists another invisible physiology whose principles, effects, and laws, it is of greater importance to know;" and beyond the material and crude therapeutics of the old school there is an infinitesimal and imponderable kind of therapeutics, far more important to know, and far more useful to practise. But how is this invisible anatomy to be known, since it lies within the domain of the invisibles? In the same way as a knowledge of the unseen forces of inanimate nature has been acquired; viz., by careful observation and rigid induction. In addition to these methods, others, however, have been discovered, by which the human spirit can, for a time, partially "shuffle off its mortal coil," and look at gross, or even

etherialized matter, with the heightened powers of spiritual vision. This is done by throwing a susceptible individual into the omniscient or magnetic state. While a lady was in this condition, standing on an isthmus, as it were, between the worlds of matter and spirit, Dr. Harwood, the Rev. La Roy Sunderland, and O. S. Fowler, Esq., A.B., of New York, obtained from her, and afterwards from others, the following knowledge of the magnetic mechanism of man as she beheld it with her spiritual vision: She described the brain as having two poles in each of the organs of causality; two in the cerebellum, and a large lighted-up pole in the centre of the brain, with lines of magnetic radiations intersecting each other. Besides the centre and circumferential poles, each phrenological organ had a small pole which emitted radiations to the central light; in front of which was seen the great cerebral ganglions, and behind, the pineal gland, once thought to be the palace of the soul. These poles glow with light; the greatest intensity being in the central pole, from which and to which the forces radiate. Each lung had its pole, and there was one in each auricle and ventricle of the heart; two poles in the stomach, one on the right side, the other on the left. Under the diaphragm were the ganglions of the solar plexus, each with a pole, and shining like lit-up silver orbs. There were two poles in the liver; two in the pancreas; two in the spleen; and one in each kidney—the kidneys being connected by magnetic radiations; the left kidney being partially connected with the spleen by bright chains of magnetic radiation. There was no connection between the kidneys and the liver, except by the smaller lines of radiation common to all the organs. The uterus had one pole; the space below, one; and the ovaries, each *one*. The tongue had many small poles round its edge, with a large one in the centre, from which bright lines emanate, looking like chains of shining gold. At the entrance of the larynx and of the pharynx, magnetic poles were seen; also one at the cardiac and another at the pyloric orifices; small ones in each convolution of the bowels; with a large one at the ileocæcal valve. The magnetic poles between the uterus and breasts were specially connected by bright lines of radiation; the lines crossing each, *i.e.*, the *right* ovaries influencing the *left* breast, and the *left* ovaries the *right* breast. From the spinal cord were seen to issue posterior and anterior sets of nerves; the former having ganglions thereon, the latter none; thus proving that sensibility resides in the serous and not in the mucous coats. Our existence commenced, said this clairvoyant lady, on the sternum or breast bone; one cell germ uniting to another cell germ, and these producing a third cell germ. Poles shot out where the work commenced; organs were formed around them;

other poles shot out, other organs formed, and in this way the body expanded. The brain was formed last; the cineritious after the medullary, *i.e.*, the phrenological organs, the instruments of the spirit or mind, were formed last. The law which determined the sexes depended upon the magnetic force of the parties. If the weaker magnetism was in the male, the product was a female, and *vice versa*; and that the existence of twins commenced at the same moment, the products being in proportion to the power of the magnetic influence exerted. The joints had two poles; one to extend, the other to flex the limbs. The nerves which emanated from the spinal cord were of a light colour, but no poles were seen in them; and the great sympathetic nerve which extended from the brain down the neck and front side of the spine, with their ganglions lighted up, were connected with all the organs by means of minute nerve-ramifications. In the parotid gland were seen a pole and a string of round things below (ganglia of lymphatic glands) with a pole in each. The thyroid gland on each side of the trachea, and the submedullary glands under the jaw, had each a pole. The brain was in constant motion and synchronous with that of the heart; in the process of thinking, the lines of radiation from the centre of the brain to the exterior convolutions always became brighter; and nerves in any part of the body put in motion looked of a lighter colour. The eyes had each a pole, situated in the crystalline lens; and the poles in the stomach through which a clairvoyant looks, as people do with their eyes in the usual condition of health, were situated in a part of the stomach, about two inches from the median line. The sense of feeling was not in the skin, flesh, or bones; but when the finger was pinched, the sensation was felt along the nerves, and terminated in the great central cerebral pole, proving that all sensation is in the magnetic forces, and that the nerves are merely the strands by which these forces are transmitted. In the processus vermicularis there were two poles, and these were the organs of motion—in them resided the motive power of organic life. From natural somnambulists, and also from those who have been artificially thrown into the clairvoyant condition, the same results have been again and again obtained by scientific men, in different parts of the world. Professor Gibbs, of Columbia, the Fowlers, the first phrenologists in the world, distinguished physicians, and men accustomed to the severe inductions of science, have tested these experiments, and now view the magnetic structure of man as one of the greatest discoveries of modern times.

To sum up this vital dynamism of man, it is evident that sensations are magnetic forces; and that in the act of thinking, these forces move from

the great pole in the centre of the brain to the outward convolutions or phrenological organs, and radiate again from these to the centre. We therefore think by the action of the magnetic forces; and the will, being the engineer which determines our actions, is situated in the great pole in the centre of the brain.

The following is a tabular form of the magnetic poles of the body :

Brain	5	Cardiac	1
Eyes	2	Pyloric	1
Ears	2	Ileocæcal valve.....	1
Lungs	2	Anus	1
Heart	5	Each convolution of the intes-	
Stomach	2	tines	1
Liver	2	Ganglions of vegetative life in	
Spleen	2	connection with the great	
Pancreas	2	sympathetic nerve	1
Kidneys.....	2	The lymphatic glands, including	
Bladder	2	the mesentery	1
Uterus	2	Each hand	1
Ovaries	2	The ganglions of phrenological	
Vagina	2	life, or those of the brain and	
Mammæ.....	2	cerebellum, with the olivary	
Solar plexus	2	bodies and ganglions of the	
Mesentery.....	2	spinal nerves.....	1
Orifices	each 1	The phrenological organs of the	
Tongue	1	brain	1
Larynx	1	The sole of each foot	1
Pharynx	1		

No magnetic poles have been discovered in the mucous glands of the mucous membranes, but many nerves are seen to terminate from the serous surfaces in these membranes and in the skin; shewing that there can be no pain in the mucous surfaces, but a sympathy.

What inference can be drawn from this dynamic anatomy and physiology, but that the invisible forces are at the bottom of all visible phenomena, whether in the inorganic, organic, or animal kingdoms; and that if we can modify these invisible forces we modify the phenomena of which they are the cause? To dynamic invisible agents, then, we owe our earliest breath, and our latest sigh. Life, health, disease, death itself, are the results of unseen but ceaseless agencies. Force creates, produces, and preserves, and finally reduces the visible into the invisible. The visible is comparatively impotent, the invisible all powerful; the one an effect merely, the other the great ruling cause. A diseased organism is clearly the product of invisible forces. To restore it to a healthy condition, we must bring into play a force capable of neutralizing the action of the force which has produced the visible morbid condition. Bring forces face to face, and

let them act without any intervening material agent. To expect to influence the visible morbid animalism without taking into account the forces which produced such a condition, would be like expecting to improve a tree by tampering with the flowers, to the neglect of the forces resting in the soil and roots. Do as we may, the broad fact stares us in the face, that all actions either for good or evil in the living body, are entirely VITAL or DYNAMIC; and the only way to act on these forces, is either to bring the imponderables, such as light, heat, and electricity, to bear directly upon them, or else to bring such an invisible agent, enshrined in infinitesimal material envelope, that has the power to act according to a natural law on the forces which have produced the morbid conditions called disease. Now, homœopathy does this. It applies force to force by means of the smallest material intervening agency possible; and this, the highest science sanctions. To bring force to act through a ponderous material agency is the height of folly. The mass of the material swamps its dynamic life. It is getting a nine-pounder to kill a monad. Homœopathy, by bringing into action a force, applied according to a God-found-out law, and conveyed in the smallest attenuated material possible, against a force which has produced a frightfully morbid condition on the system, is the only therapeutics around which science, in its wonderful and constant developments, will be able to throw the ægis of its sanction. Homœopathy and the imponderabilia have alone the matchless power of restoring to a state of health the magnetic organism of man, when thrown into dynamic disturbance by external morbid agencies, powerful though unseen; but which are, nevertheless, the causes of all "the ills that flesh is heir to."

ALLOPATHIC OBJECTIONS AND ALLOPATHIC CURES.

THE tenacity with which our opponents cling to their objections is only equalled by their adroitness in ringing changes on them. Sir J. Forbes tells us, for example, that homœopathy is purely a do-nothing system; its doses being so small that were its medicines anything but the harmless things they are, it could do no hurt, as it certainly can do no good; frankly owning, however, that, inasmuch as it does no hurt, and does not interfere with nature, it is, so far, much superior to allopathic practice. Another objector avers that our remedies are the most virulent poisons, many of them disguised by familiar names. A third professes to regard homœopathy as altogether too ridiculous a thing to be dealt seriously with; whilst a fourth opponent thinks it worth while to bring forward every resource of his against it—the *severest* logic, playful wit, and ponderous

ridicule; to do anything, in fact, except put it to the best of all tests—*trying* the medicine in the treatment of disease. Another, less learned, but as ill-humoured withal, thinks if he does not say that this homœopathic humbug is getting beyond all bounds. “‘At its dinner for *their* hospital’—I wonder what business they have with an hospital; confound their impudence—‘the Duke of Wellington presided’—pity he had not something else to do. He truly is like his father only in his name; and its ‘Fancy Bazaar’ with I don’t know how many duchesses, and two of them royal ones, as patronesses, with titled ladies to keep stalls on the occasion. Dear me, most of us have been sadly asleep to allow this; now, at least, we must bestir ourselves.” “Well,” exclaims another, whilst in the main agreeing with what has just been advanced, “I can contemplate it in a very different spirit. *Some* people of distinction are not remarkable for their intellectual endowments: novelty always will attract: all the fools are not untitled. This is just what might be expected: it is one of the oscillations of the social pendulum; or, in other words, a natural reaction from no faith in physic whatever, to a credulousness only paralleled by a belief in charms, amulets, and holy water, which has now long since died out; in my opinion, too, at no distant day either, this homœopathic nonsense will, in like manner, be a thing of the past.” Possibly, if you be a prophet, say we; probability, however, is decidedly against such a supposition. A sixth might express himself thus: “You have your cures, as you call them, which you parade so much; and so had allopathy, numbers of them, the records of which have been most accurately kept; and yet would you not have us and the public generally believe that your system proceeds on the one fundamental law of medicine, that of *similia*, that ‘like cures like’—that a drug will cure in minute doses symptoms which in like doses it is capable of producing? Will you not admit that if we can cure irrespective of your law and acting directly contrary to it, at least that allopathy is as good as homœopathy?”

First of all, we must set aside all cures, the result of surgical interference, as surgery is a domain common to both systems.

Secondly, we would deal only with real cases of cure: the cure of a disease is one thing, and its disappearance quite another. Under some treatment, diseases disappear for a time to appear again in a more violent form; or are driven from one part, only to take up their abode in another. Having, then, to deal with pure instances, we should make a still further selection of cases, cured really on the homœopathic principle. For example, arsenic has lately been discovered by a physician to be of great value in the treatment of cholera. We have published that to the world long ago. Again, in a paper communicated to the academy of medicine of Paris, Dr. Churchill recommends the salts of *hypo-phosphorous acid*, as a specific for pulmonary consumption; and, in a late number of the *Medical Times*, *Glonoine* or the nitrate of the oxide of Glycil, is spoken of as a medicine of great service in obscure nervous affections, cases

being adduced in proof. Yet further we should wish to know *in what time* these cures were effected; for homœopathy has, as one of its mottoes, "*bene, cito, et jucunde;*" that is, it professes to heal well, quickly, and pleasantly. And yet, again, *how* were they brought about? Were they really nature's cures—were they effected in spite of the doctor? for, Sir J. Forbes being our witness, in his *Art and Nature in the Treatment of Disease*, one of these, in not a few instances, is what happens. If Sir John be wrong, let the allopathists themselves put him right. Should any doctor or set of doctors, as Sir J. Forbes assures us, zealously but ignorantly do their best to prevent nature from exerting its beneficent power, they act a most disgraceful and unworthy part; and in those instances where the medical man stands by and allows nature to effect the cure, he, to our thinking, performs a very secondary office—one not altogether worthy of his high vocation. Sir John Forbes, however, says that the homœopathist *always* does this. We need scarcely stay to add that it has been shown over and over again, and many of our readers would be able to adduce instances in proof, that homœopathy does much more than this, without doing the least violence to the constitution, in the silent yet all-potent manner in which all God's laws work—rescues the sufferer from imminent danger much more quickly than the unaided powers of nature could do.

And, lastly, when the list of cures had been so far exhausted, there might remain some not otherwise accounted for. We think we should be able to bring most if not all of these into one class, in which there would be little to admire and not much to boast of; as the means employed were so clumsy as to be utterly unscientific, the method so round-about, or more often still so violent, that it is either difficult to trace a connexion between the means and the end; or of such a nature that it is felt the less that is said about it the better. Not seldom does allopathy deal with the sufferer in this heroic or violent manner; and he who pursues this plan, is regarded as a bold and successful practitioner. With all such we contrast with thankfulness our less obtrusive but far more pleasant and beneficent system; and well content should we be were objections to it multiplied tenfold, and much more than they are, founded in sense and truth; whilst, as it is, we feel proud of homœopathy, that it has a reason to tender for all—that it can meet its enemies in the open field of fair enquiry.

We wish that a league were formed and in active operation, to disseminate the glorious truths of homœopathy throughout the length and breadth of the land. Itinerant lecturers, well adapted for the work, might be well engaged; and success would attend their labours. It is only necessary that the public should be educated in homœopathy and warned against the injuriousness of ordinary physic. We have had an Anti-Slavery League, an Anti-Corn Law League; we want only an Anti-Allopathic League and an *Anti-Medical-Legislation League*, and the next generation would witness the downfall of allopathy and medicine raised to an honourable, useful position.

LECTURES ON HOMŒOPATHY,
DELIVERED IN BANBURY, BY SAMUEL EADON, M.D., M.A.

First Lecture—May 7th, 1858.

WHEN God created the universe, all was perfect. Truth, divine and lovely, lay embedded in every created thing, animal, vegetable, and mineral. Not that truth is a mere individualism, but a term—a general symbol expressive of all kinds of God-formed relations. The universe, in fact, is one vast bundle of relationships. Many of these, in bygone ages, have been discovered; millions yet remain unperceived and unevolved. Not that they are deep-seated in the archives of nature and inaccessible to the genius of man. No. They are around us and about us; in the air we breathe, in the water we drink, on the earth we tread, and in the blue vault on which we gaze. Every thing is full of them; and it is for the eye of genius to detect them, sleeping like beauty on the outward face of things. To do this, has been the work of ages; and its success, the movement of the finger on the dial-plate of man's intellectual advancement. To make the unknown the known is the destiny of minds of a certain order only; for these *alone* can detect the mystic symbols, or untomb the embedded truths of God. When genius, in process of time, had developed a number of these relations with regard to the physical *universe*, and arranged them, the result was called *natural science*. When a deficient order of relations had been detected in the world of thought, this result was named *mental science*. If the mind concentrated itself upon one department of nature, as the heavens, for instance, and new truths were evoked, astronomy arose. If the earth were the domain of investigation, this bundle of relationships, when discovered and arranged, assumed the names of geology or mineralogy, according as the great or the minute, in the examination of strata, had been the object in view. To evolve these modern relations has been the work of the giant intellects of every age—the God-sent sons of genius and of human progression. Hosts of names emblazon the escutcheon of fame in every walk of art and in every domain of science; but it was reserved for *our day* to see truth unveil herself, and unfold relations which have startled society with their beauty and novelty, and thrilled it with the vastness of their applicability to the welfare and progress of the race. We have had the Herschels, an Adams, and a Leverrier, in astronomy; a Gall, a Spurzheim, a Combe, in mento-cerebral physiology; a Faraday and a Liebig in electricity and in chemistry; and though last, not least, a Livingstone to open up a vast continent to the enterprise, civilization, and Christianity of the Anglo-Saxon race, with many other distinguished luminaries which adorn each his own heaven of invention. Progress has marked every branch of science, in every age, *save one*. When nature is "wooded

aright" she never fails to disclose her secrets. In the therapeutics of medicine, however, scarcely a relation has been evoked, or a principle revealed, stamped with divinity. A dark night seems to have brooded over this vast region of knowledge, from Hippocrates downwards. A flash now and then flit across the medical heavens only to render the gloom still more appalling. Nearly 6,000 years had rolled away before the divine hand-writing was read, which pointed out the relations between certain physical products, and the cure of those diseases to which man is liable. This glory was reserved for Hahnemann. He alone, of all the sons of men, discovered and matured the LAW, which God from the first had written in indelible characters on the broad face of creation, by the observance of which, the organism of man could be restored from a state of disease to that of health. In the progress of ages, glimpses of the truth had flashed across many a mind; but Hahnemann alone saw the relation, in its amplitude of importance, as the finger-work of Deity. What a glorious truth, and how the world would hail him as a benefactor! Pandora's box might fly open and fill the earth with disease of every kind, as a law had been discovered adequate to every case, and commensurate to every form. Man would embrace the providential principle, and bless the genius who discovered it; so one would be inclined to think. The very conservatism inherent in human nature would warrant one's entertaining such a notion. Was it so? Has the genius been blessed? Not yet. That day of glorification is still on the rolls; but it *will come*. This truth, like every other, must first pass through the fires of a bitter persecution; next endure the taunts of an ignorant imbecility; and, lastly, be denuded of its honours by the declaration of its want of novelty. Then the day of universal homage will come, and really with healing beneath its wings. This has been the history of all great truths, and the opposition to their reception in exact proportion to the amount of good likely to accrue to mankind. It was always so; and to the end of time it will ever be. Galileo proved, what God from the first had ordained, that the earth revolved around the sun. "Away with him," cried the cardinals, "it carries a lie on the face of it." Newton demonstrated the architecture of the planetary universe; the learning of Europe at once rose up in arms against the proof. Franklin was a heretic for daring to bring the lightning of heaven along his hempen cord, and proving its identity with the electricity of earth. Arkwright was a fool for inventing the spinning-jenny, and doing away with hand labour, and making the future Manchester what it is—the wonder of the world. Watt remained long enough unnoticed, and Stephenson unheeded long, while they were preparing to thread the civilized world with railways, or to put down, when the time came, military pathways, to carry food and clothing to Britain's hardy sons, enabling them to hurl the thunder of our arms and to shower down the red-hot fires of our

mortars on the Sebastopol of our northern foe, or on the Delhi, and the Lucknow, and the Jhansi of our Indian traitors and worse than hellish fiends. Fulton was an idiot, and something more, for daring to plough the ocean with steam, and prepare the world for the feat of the *Red Jacket* steamer of our day in sailing round this earth of ours in little more than five months. Gall was an infidel because he demonstrated that the brain—"the dome of thought—the palace of the soul"—was the organ of the mind, and the instrument by which the human spirit, in this life, at least, evolved its brightest as well as its dullest manifestations. And so it was, nay, *is*, with the immortal Hahnemann. Because he discovered the grand, the beautifully simple law of healing—the only law of healing—for there cannot be another any more than there can be another law of gravitation, the medical men of Europe rose up in mighty phalanx, drove him from his fatherland, branded him with the vilest epithets—and why? Because the divine old man spelt out to them the writing of the great God, which had been written upon created things from *the beginning*, but which he alone had been permitted to decipher and to read. This was his crime; but it will prove in the end the theme of his immortality.

In the course of these lectures we shall repeatedly be obliged to use the terms "allopathy," the "allopaths;" "homœopathy" and the "homœopaths;" and it may be as well, at the onset, to explain their meaning. By allopathy is meant the "old school of physic"—*that* which generally obtains; the object aimed at is to excite in another part of the body a disease greater than the one to be cured, on the Galenic principle of *contraria contrariis opponuntur*, and on the principle of John Hunter, that two diseases cannot exist and mature, in the same body, at the same time. Those who practise this system are called *allopaths*. By homœopathy is meant curing disease on an eternal law of nature, enunciated in the formula, *similia similibus curantur*, or "like cures like;" *i.e.*, whatever irregularities of action any substance can excite in the healthy, those same symptoms it would invariably remove in the sick; in other words, medicines tend to cure diseases similar to those they tend to produce. They who practise medicine on this natural law are called *homœopaths*.

In discoursing on these two systems of the healing art, it will be impossible, from the very nature of language and the structure of sentences, to avoid using the terms allopaths and homœopaths, when, in fact, reference is being made to the allopathic system, or to the homœopathic system, as the case may be; so that, once for all, let it be distinctly understood that we have to do with *systems*, not with men; with allopathy, not with its practitioners; with the exposure of the wrong, not with those who may, perchance, maintain the wrong.

In the present lecture we propose to let you know what allopathy

is in the estimation of some of its most distinguished advocates and professors, living and dead; and then to shew you how the innate principle, the instinct of mankind, in all ages, from Hippocrates to our own day, tried again and again to develop a divine law of cure; certain that one existed, had man but the genius to discover it.

THE OLD SYSTEM.

It is marvellous how some people adhere to what is called the orthodox or old school of physic. This adhesion cannot be according to knowledge. It must arise either from a want of information, or from a sheer habit of belief and juvenile instillation that medicine is *perfectly true*; and that one medical man is as good as another, if he but take care to give *plenty of physic*: for, singularly enough, even of this wretched stuff, people like not only plenty for their money, but, according to their fashion of thinking, the more nauseous and abominable the taste, the more good it will do them. If the *people* have got this gift of faith for old-school physic, the *practitioners themselves* are little better than infidels in this respect. *They practise* upon others what they have been *taught*; they *give*, but they are too wise to *take*. If people *send*, of course they *go*; and, as the poet says—

“ With calomel, squills, and ipecac,
They first begin the great attack;
Give pills, as big as pistol bullets,
And ram them down the patients' gullets.”

But mark their caution with regard to self and theirs. An allopathic physician of great wealth and influence always advised his family, when abroad, to call in a homœopathic physician in case of sickness, and by no means to employ a *strange allopath*. The former, said he, will do you no harm, the latter will do more harm than good. This gentleman doubtless represents a large class of his medical brethren. Methinks I hear one exclaim, Why give what they refuse to take? Why, the people will have the physic; and, by the sale thereof, the practitioners have to live—that is the reason. They give because the people will have. Shed therapeutic light abroad, and both the giving and the having will stand in altered relations. Had allopathy been based on a divinely discovered law, there would have been long ago unanimity of sentiment and harmony of practice in the most terrible forms of disease—aye, come even the seventh plague. As it is, go and ask blue-eyed cholera whether any two medical men in the country saw eye to eye, or could agree upon what was best to be done? How different from Hahnemann, who had never seen the disease, but only heard of its symptoms from the lips of those who had been eye-witnesses of its deadly march. He, after comparing the symptoms with a pile of manuscript lying before him, wrote the magic words, *Camphor, Copper, Hellebore*, and the pestilence crouched beneath these three controlling powers, selected by genius

from the realms of nature. Call allopathy *science*—as well call chemistry a science, if the tests for poison were to be determined by the colour of the bed-quilt under which the victim was found in death; as well call law a science, if the construction of a contract were to be ascertained from the colour of the hair of the scrivener who reduced it to writing. There never was a system pretending to be scientific, and furnishing the means of subsistence, not to say the advantages of high position, to tens of thousands, so interfused with conjecture and so fretted with error. This may seem a startling assertion, when colleges are chartered to teach its doctrines, and royalty—at present, not for long—bedecks its *savans* with knighthood and baronetcy. What! error in a system so upheld by authority, and surrounded by academic glory! Where, and by whom is such a statement made? Hear it, ye sons of Esculapius, from the lips of your own brethren—they to whom you bow, and upon whom you look as so many *God-men* in the Hippocratic temple of fame; and hear it, ye people, who plight your faith without knowing to *what*, and embrace a Judas, the lineaments of whose face your eyes have never been blessed to see. Boerhaave, an illustrious name in medical annals, speaking of his own dear school of physic, says: “It would have been infinitely better for mankind if medical men had never existed.” Dr. Pereira, a most distinguished medical writer, agrees in opinion with Sir Gilbert Blaine, “That in many cases the patients get well, *in spite of the means employed*; and sometimes, when the practitioner fancies that he has made a great cure, we may fairly assume the patient to have had a *happy escape*.” Girtanner says: “The art of healing has no fixed principle; and where all is conjecture, one conjecture is as good as another;” and “who would waste his time in searching for a few particles of gold in that immense dunghill which physicians have been collecting for the last 2000 years?” Kieser says: “The proverb is true that the remedy is worse than the disease, and the doctor more dangerous than the disorder.” Krüger Hansen asserts that “Medicine is a pestilence to mankind; and appears rather as a means of *preventing over-population* than of *saving life*.” Professor Gregory used often to declare in his medical class-room that ninety-nine out of every hundred medical facts were so many medical lies, and that medical doctrines were for the most part stark staring nonsense. Dr. Bushman, the editor of the *Medical Times*, calmly tells the medical man to fold his arms and look on, while nature does the work; “for,” says he, “the modern triumph of our art [triumph, forsooth!] is more in the happy forbearance exemplified in our negative treatment than in the positive success of any heroic remedy; *i.e.*, look on, gentlemen—do nothing; and, take my word for it, you will be infinitely more successful as practitioners than by giving any amount of physic, *secundem artem*.” Hippocrates, Galen, and Paracelsus were dissatisfied with the medical theories of their day. Cullen says: “The *materia medica* abounds in numberless

false conclusions: such, indeed, is the state of the matter, that nobody can consult these authors with any safety, unless he is fortified with a good deal of scepticism." Bichat writes: "It is an incoherent assemblage of incoherent opinions. It is not a science for a medical mind. It is a shapeless mass of inaccurate ideas, of observations which are often puerile, of deceptive remedies and formulas, as fantastically conceived as they are tediously arranged." Hoffmann says: "There are few remedies the effects of which are well known. The greater number disappoint the expectations of practitioners." Broussais says: "When I would seek a guide amongst authors *most illustrious*, to whom therapeutics expresses herself most obliged, I find nothing but confusion." Rostan says: "Let no one say that medicine has freed herself from the darkness of the middle ages. Let one but glance at the formularies, and he will rise with indignation against the prevailing practice." Dr. Mason Good calls medicine a *miserable jargon*, whose effects upon the system are in the highest degree uncertain; except that they have already destroyed more lives than war, pestilence, and famine combined. Will you hug such a fiend to your bosom, and bid him welcome to your hearths and your homes? Forbid it! God forbid it!

Dr. Paris, late President of the Royal College of Physicians, acknowledged, in a public lecture, that the science of medicine was incapable of generalization; which was tantamount to saying it was no science at all. Dr. James Y. Simpson, the celebrated obstetric professor at Edinburgh, and the great champion against homœopathy, says that he who will reduce the science of medicine to a *positive science*, as homœopathy professes to do, will confer a great blessing upon mankind. Mark the language—the doctor calls medicine a *science*, and then of its being brought to a *positive science*. What is science, but facts generally? The generalization of well-ascertained facts constitutes science—positive science. There can be no such thing as a science, wanting the capability of being reduced to a positive science. It is either a positive science at first or it is no science at all. The professor admits that medicine is not a positive science, in other words it is not a science at all; then what is it? A "*miserable jargon*," according to Dr. Mason Good; "a shapeless mass of inaccurate ideas," according to Bichat; and "we cannot think," says Dr. Adams, "of the various theories of medicine since the days of John Hunter, without the most *painful distrust*, in all modes of treatment whatever."

Dr. Forbes, now Sir John Forbes, and at this moment physician to her Majesty's household, and one of the greatest dignitaries in the state of physic, makes the following *résumé* of his own school, or orthodox physic, as it is called:

"1st. That in a large proportion of the cases treated by allopathic physicians, the disease is cured by nature and *not by them*.

"2nd. That in a lesser, but still not a small proportion, the

disease is cured by nature *in spite of them*; in other words, their interference *opposing* instead of *assisting* the cure.

“3rd. That, consequently, in a considerable proportion of diseases, it would fare as well or better with patients in the actual condition of the medical art, as now generally practised, if all remedies, at least all *active remedies*, especially *DRUGS*, were abandoned.

“We repeat our readiness to admit these inferences as just, and to abide by the consequences of their adoption. We believe they are true. We grieve sincerely to believe them to be so; but so believing, their rejection is no longer in our power: we must receive them as facts, until they are proved not to be so. Although homœopathy has brought more signally into the common daylight this lamentable condition of medicine regarded as a practical art, it was well known before to all philosophical and experienced physicians. In admitting what we have done, many will be of opinion that we are betraying the cause of legitimate medicine, and lending our aid to extend the heresy of homœopathy. If such be the result of our admissions, we cannot help it. We have said only what we believe to be true; and if what we believe is in reality the truth, the promulgation of it cannot lead to evil. Truth is good. If the art of medicine as we profess and practise it, cannot bear investigation, and shrinks before the light of truth, from whatsoever quarter it may come, it is high time that it should cease to be sanctioned and upheld by philosophers and honest men. What, indeed, is the history of medicine but a history of perpetual changes in the opinion and practice of its professors, respecting the very same subjects—the nature and treatment of diseases? Who, amongst us, of any considerable experience, and who has *thought* somewhat as well as *prescribed*, but is ready to admit that in a large proportion of the cases he treats, whether his practice in individual instances be directed by precept and example, by theory, by observation, by experiment, by habit, by accident, or by whatsoever principle of action, he has no *positive proof*, or rather no *proof whatever*, often indeed very little probability that the remedies administered by him exert any beneficial influence over the disease? We doubt if we should greatly, if at all, exceed the bounds of truth, if we said that the progress of therapeutics (*i.e.*, what to do in order to cure the patient) during all the centuries that have elapsed since the days of Hippocrates, has been less than that which has been achieved in the elementary sciences of medicine during the last fifty years; in other words, there has been more done in those things which are mere aids in medical knowledge, during the last fifty years, than in therapeutics or knowing what will cure a disease, in two thousand years. This department of medicine,” adds Dr. Forbes, “must indeed be regarded as yet in its infancy. It would doubtless be going far beyond the truth to assert that there is no certainty in medical therapeutics; and that in the whole practice of medicine in as far as this consists in the administration of drugs, is a system of

traditionary routine, conventionalism, hap-hazard, and guess-work ; but it is not going beyond the truth to assert that *much of it is so.*"

Such do we believe to be literally the condition of physic at this moment. Things have arrived at such a pitch that they cannot be worse. They must mend or end. We cannot shut our eyes to the enormous mass of its defects, or to the grievous evils which result both to the community and the profession from the way in which it is carried out in detail by a large proportion of existing practitioners. Dr. Forbes, in wishing to establish a system whereby a true natural history of human diseases could be brought about, says, "he would endeavour to substitute for the monstrous system of polypharmacy, now universally prevalent, *one* that is at least vastly more simple, more intelligible, more agreeable, and it may be hoped, one, more *rational*, more *scientific*, more *certain*, and more *beneficial* ; to discountenance as much as possible, and eschew the habitual use (without any sufficient reason) of certain powerful medicines, in large doses, in a multitude of different diseases, a practice now generally prevalent, and fraught with the most baneful consequences. When the drugs are potent, the crime of mischief-making is super-added to the folly of empiricism." The opinions of Sir John Forbes on his own school of physic are so important that we cannot forbear giving one other quotation on the wondrous cures of certain fashionable remedies which every now and then start into rampant notoriety, as the cod-liver oil for consumption in our own day. "This comparative powerlessness and positive uncertainty of medicine is also exhibited in a striking light when we come to trace the history and fortunes of particular remedies and modes of treatment, and observe the notions of practitioners at different times, respecting their positive or relative value. What difference of opinion ; what an array of alleged facts at variance with each other ; what contradictions ; what opposite results of a like experience ; what ups and downs ; what glorification and degradation of the same remedy ; what confidence now, what despair anon, in encountering the same disease with the very same weapons ; what horror and intolerance at one time of the very opinions and practices, which, previously and subsequently, are cherished and admired !"

Can any language be stronger against a system than the united testimonies of these distinguished practitioners of old physic ? Do nothing a thousand times over, *even in the severest diseases*, rather than strike with such edged tools in the dark.

"For Nature, then, has room to work her way ;
And, doing nothing, often has prevailed,
When ten physicians have prescribed and failed."

The *Dublin Medical Journal* thus writes : "Assuredly, the uncertain and most unsatisfactory art that we call medical science, is *no science at all*, but a mere jumble of inconsistent opinions, of conclusions

hastily and often incorrectly drawn, of acts misunderstood or perverted, of comparisons without analogy, of hypotheses without reason, and of theories not only useless but often dangerous." Dr. James Johnson, in the *Medical Chirurgical Review*, says that it is his conscientious opinion, founded on long observation and reflection, that if there was not a physician or surgeon in the world, there would be less mortality than now prevails. The celebrated Majendie says: "Let us no longer wonder at the lamentable want of success which marks our practice, when there is *scarcely a sound physiological principle amongst us!*" Frank declares that "thousands are annually slaughtered in the quiet sick room." Dr. Paris acknowledges that the file of every apothecary would furnish a volume of instances, where the ingredients of the prescriptions are fighting together in the dark."

We could present rather a serious tragedy, says the *Medical Gazette*, if we were to collect all the cases of poisoning by huge masses of powerful medicine by the disciples of this physician, and of sanguinary homicide by the invitations of that bold surgeon, *though they may both enjoy high repute*. Could all the consequences from the use of mercury alone be brought together and comprehended in one view, it would be impossible for the human eye to look upon a scene of greater devastation and horror."

Speaking of the abominations of mercurial drugging, a professor of the old school of medicine, when addressing his students, said: "To have recourse to such measures is a disgraceful reproach to the professor of medicine; it is quackery—horrid, unwarrantable, murderous quackery. What merit do gentlemen flatter themselves to possess by being able to salivate a patient? Cannot the veriest fools in Christendom salivate—give calomel? Who can stop the career of mercury at will, after it has taken the reins into its own destructive and ungovernable hands? He, who, for an ordinary cause, resigns his patient to mercury, *is a vile enemy of the sick*; and if he is tolerably popular, will, in one successful season, have paved the way for the business of life; for he has enough to do *ever afterward to stop the mercurial breach of the constitution of his dilapidated patients*."

"It seems strange," says Professor Carlisle, "that *grave men* should persist in giving large doses of such medicines, to be daily reiterated in chronic and debilitated cases. Men starting into the existence of the medical profession from a cloistering study of books, and from abstract speculations; men wholly unaware of the fallibility of medical evidence, and unversed in the doubtful effects of medicines, may be themselves deluded, and delude others for a time; but where experience has proved them to be errors, it would be magnanimity, and yet no more than just, to renounce both the opinion and the practice."

What confessions! And from the the greatest minds and most

successful practitioners of the old school of physic too. The opponents of allopathy, in other words, the homœopaths, would not have had the hardihood to utter a tithe of such invective; but "out of the fullness of the heart the mouth will speak."

Such is allopathy; and this is the arena into which the great masses of mankind enter, in the vain expectation, *often*, of riding to the goal of health. Now we appeal to every candid and thinking mind, and ask whether such a state of things could exist, had medicine been based on a *correct principle—on a divine therapeutic law*? Impossible! Truth is one; error multifarious. It is lamentable to reflect upon the talent and industry uselessly wasted in this department of human knowledge; talent of the highest order and industry the most indomitable. It is the system we would condemn, not they who practise it. Medical men practise what they have been taught; but since they are the conservators of the public health, and feeling as every right-minded practitioner of the old school *must feel*, that, in the language of Dr. Abercrombie, "he is obliged to grope his way in the dark," is it not his duty to avail himself of aught within or without the pale of the profession that might, by possibility, lead to a safer or more certain practice? This the homœopaths claim to have done; and, in so doing, have merely followed the example of the illustrious Newton, who was ready to learn from every source, however humble, or however exalted; to catch a ray of light either from the zenith of the intellectual heaven, or from the nadir of untutored ignorance.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

INJURIES FROM MERCURY AS ALLOPATHICALLY EMPLOYED.

SIR,—I venture to place before your readers the following extract from a recent lecture, delivered by one of the leading allopathic physicians of London, upon that all-potent drug, mercury. Dr. Headland has instituted a series of experiments with a view to the determining of the exact action of calomel on the stomach and liver, and their several secretions; after which, its action upon the blood is examined, and the result is shewn in the following extract from his lecture. This subject is one of vast importance to the community at large; and the testimony which is now given of the poisonous properties of mercury in the hands of the allopath will be received with startling interest, when it is considered and recognized as the sheet anchor for all the most dangerous diseases to which the human frame is liable.

If these disastrous results follow its administration from the hands of the qualified practitioner, what must be the effects produced by the reckless doses of calomel and grey powder given to children by their ignorant mothers! and let it be borne in mind, that both blue pill and grey powder are virtually homœopathic preparations; both of them are triturated for a great length of time with other substances, which sub-divide the atoms of mercury infinitively, and thus bestow

upon it all the penetrating qualities possessed by homœopathic medicines which are subjected to this very process.

Besides the poisonous effects upon the quality and vitality of the blood, as described in the lecture, let it be remarked that the author mentions the peculiar disease of the skin which mercury causes, "squamous" or "eczematous," both of which, when proceeding from constitutional causes, in obedience to the homœopathic law, are often curable by this metal.—I am, Sir, yours most truly,

Ryde, Isle of Wight, March, 1858.

C. D. J. LOWDER, M.D.

Extract from one of the recent Lettsomian Lectures, by Dr. Headland, upon Mercury.

With respect to the action of mercury upon the blood, the author says :

"Mercury disintegrates, or decomposes the blood, and thus wastes the body. This is the systematic action of mercury, on which too much stress cannot possibly be laid. Dr. Wright has analyzed the blood of patients under mercurial action : it is materially changed : it contains more water, and is more prone to putrefaction than healthy blood.

"The fibrine, albumen, and red globules are diminished in amount, and a very fetid fatty matter is present in large quantity. The following is an average of three analyses of blood from men under mercurial influence : water, 827·6 ; fibrine, 2·4 ; albumen, 57·2 ; red globules, 94·5 ; oil, 4·1 ; fetid fat, soluble in æther, 9·5 ; salts, 3·7 ; loss, 5·1=1,000.

"Mr. Smith has observed that the blood coagulates with difficulty. When coagulated it is cupped and buffed ; but it is the buffy coat of anæmia, and not of inflammatory blood ; the clot appears rotten and is easily broken down.

"The mercurial, then, by some inscrutable power, of whose nature we know nothing, is able to decompose the blood ; by some destructive agency, it deprives it of one-third of its fibrine, one-seventh of its albumen, one-sixth or more of its globules, and, at the same time, loads it with a fetid matter, the product of decomposition. Such power is possessed by few other medicines, and certainly exerted by none, in the same degree as mercury. It is an agent of terrible activity, and we may well be cautious how we handle it.

"By this artificial disease that it produces, it may cause, when pushed to excess, various constitutional disorders of a very serious kind—as agents which impoverish the blood, drive it to the tissues for its replenishment, and thus give work for the absorbents ; so mercury wastes the frame, causes the body to become thin and feeble, the face pallid, and diminishes the nervous energy.

"It may also excite the febrile or typhoid condition, called 'mercurial erythism ;' or a disease of the skin of a squamous or eczematous character, as the 'hydrargyric,' described by Alley in 1804. To remedy these disorders, which are produced by the retention of mercury in the blood, we should employ 'eliminatives.'

"During the action of mercury, the system is, as it were, disarmed, and thus more exposed to the action of various irritating causes, as cold, which produce a low kind of inflammation, especially of the mucous surfaces ; the patient must, for this reason, be kept warm and quiet during its operation."—*Notes of a New Truth.*

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 9.—Vol. 3.

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NEW SERIES.—PRICE 2D.

TO OUR READERS.

WE have to record an event important in the history of homœopathy—an event which in future generations will startle the reader of history.

On the 21st of May, 1858, the Annual Meeting of the members of the South Midland Branch of the British Medical Association was held in the Board Room of the Harpur Charity, Bedford. There were present—Northampton: Henry Terry (President), Dr. Barr, H. Terry, jun., Dr. Webster. Towcester: R. W. Watkins. Kettering: W. Gibbon. Rothwell: Dr. M'Loskey. Moulton: F. H. Marshall. Higham Ferrers: R. S. Stedman. Irthlingborough: G. Hammond. Wellingborough: T. Clark, B. Dulley. Peterborough: Dr. Paley. Bedford: Dr. Prior, Dr. Barker, W. Blower, W. Denne, R. C. Hurst, W. G. Johnson, W. Thurnall. Aspley: Dr. Williams. Barford: W. Blower, J. S. Godfrey. Newport Pagnell: E. Daniell. Winslow: J. Denne. Olney: B. Marsack. Stamford: T. Philbrick. Ampthill: W. S. Slinn. Sharnbrook: R. S. Stedman. Woburn: H. Veasey.

The President called on the secretary to read the minutes, which were confirmed.

Mr. Terry, sen., retiring president, vacated the chair.

The new president, Mr. Daniell, then took the chair, and addressed the meeting on a variety of subjects, including the duties of medical practitioners, *quackery*, medical reform, &c. Mr. Daniell's address is reputed to have been an able one, and talented.

Mr. H. Terry then moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Daniell. He also nominated Dr. Webster, of Northampton, as the president elect for the ensuing year.

Thanks were voted to the members of the committee of the branch, who were re-elected for the ensuing year; viz., Dr. Barker, of Bedford; Dr. Bryan, of Northampton; Mr. Dulley, of Wellingborough; Mr. Veasey, of Woburn; Mr. Thurnall, of Bedford; Mr. R. W. Watkins, of Towcester; Dr. Nesbitt and Dr. Webster, of Northampton.

Thanks were voted to the representatives of the general council: Dr. Barker, of Bedford; and Dr. Webster, of Northampton.

Thanks were given to the secretaries: Mr. Stedman, of Higham Ferrers; and Mr. Henry Terry, of Northampton. These were re-elected.

[*For the above we are indebted to the "Bedfordshire Mercury." The next following is from the "Lancet." We mention this, that our record of the proceedings may not be disputed by those who may yet be ashamed of their work.*—EDS.

"Dr. Webster [of Northampton] said he rose for the purpose of bringing under the consideration of the Association a circumstance that had recently occurred in the district of the South Midland Branch of the Association, which had created much excitement, and occasioned much discussion, both within and without the profession. Involving, as this matter did, medico-ethical considerations, and happening in the practice of two of the members, a full investigation into the circumstances thereof, and a decided opinion thereon, might justly be expected of that meeting; and before entering upon the subject, it might be desirable that those two gentlemen, who were present to-day, should favour the meeting with authentic details thereof."

Dr. Paley, of Peterborough, then stated the facts of the case at some length.

[*We omit Dr. Paley's speech, as we have before given an account in the "Record" of the Meeting of Mr. Fergusson and Dr. Bell, a homœopathic physician.*—EDS.

Mr. Philbrick had nothing to add to the statement of Dr. Paley, and it would only be occupying their time uselessly if he were to make any lengthened observations. He felt he had to choose between his honour and his pocket; and he preferred retaining his honour.*

"Dr. Webster [of Northampton] moved, in an able speech, the following resolution:

"That it is the opinion of this meeting that no honourable man, whether physician or surgeon, can meet in consultation a homœopath, or, as such, act in conjunction with him."

* The "honour" of which Mr. Philbrick boasts was dishonourably treating homœopathic medical gentlemen as impostors.

"After alluding to the unhappy alliance between Dr. Bell and Mr. Fergusson he proceeded to show that when medical practitioners entertained a proper appreciation of their duties, those duties were never at variance with the welfare of their patients. He then went on to demonstrate what were the plain lines of demarcation between consulting with a homœopath, and officiating for him in a case in which life was threatened.

"Dr. Barker seconded the resolution in a speech of much force and spirit, in the course of which he referred to the patronage of homœopathic quackery by a portion of the fashionable world, which constantly encouraged such delusions; and observed that the fallacy had nearly died out in the land which gave it birth. He also referred to the support, by some educated persons, of spirit-rapping and table-turning. He dwelt with peculiar force on the lamentable fact of many regularly-qualified practitioners following homœopathy, and showed that in all cases these men were deluded or deluders; he could not call to mind a single instance of a man becoming a homœopath, who, at the time, had an extensive, legitimate practice. He referred with great regret to the parts taken by Mr. Fergusson and Mr. Jackson in the case under discussion, and could see no justification of their conduct. He mentioned with much satisfaction the leading articles which had appeared in the medical journals, and which deserved to be written in letters of gold. Dr. Barker concluded an eloquent speech by throwing out the following suggestions:

"1. That every individual member of the medical profession should, in his own conduct, most jealously regard the honour of the entire body. Attention to this fundamental rule would be all that was required.

"2. That a central and extensive medico-ethical association should be established for the purpose of framing a code of ethics adapted to the present condition of the profession. This would also constitute a court of appeal.

"3. That petitions should be forwarded to heads of universities and colleges, urging them to the judicious exercise of all the power they possess.

"4. That the editors of the medical directories be requested to publish a list by itself of the members of the profession practising homœopathy, hydropathy, mesmerism, &c., instead of incorporating them amongst the true medical practitioners.

"5. That resolutions on the subject be adopted by every meeting of medical men throughout the country, and forwarded to the medical journals for insertion.

"Mr. Paget congratulated the meeting upon the amended resolution, which was a great improvement on the motion as it appeared in the circular calling the meeting. But he would even now venture to suggest that it was not sufficiently explanatory of their object. It appeared to him that the resolution should not only embody the sentiments of the profession, but it should distinctly state the grounds on which they based their opinion. He had drawn up a resolution which he would read to the meeting; it was as follows:

“‘That so long as a system has no higher philosophy than the jargon of *similia similibus curantur*, nor sounder chemistry than the delusion of ‘infinite dynamization,’ it is degrading to a man of education to be connected with it. He, therefore, who consents to consultation with homœopaths, be they impostors or dupes, forfeits the respect of his professional brethren, and his membership of this branch of the British Medical Association.’

“The President agreed with Mr. Paget that they ought to give the public a clear idea of the why and because of the proceeding. He would suggest to Dr. Webster to embody the resolution of Mr. Paget in his own.

“After some little discussion on the terms of both propositions, Dr. Webster said, with the approbation of the members, he would adopt Mr. Paget’s resolution, and transfer his own to that gentleman. He then read the second of the resolutions as given above.

“Dr. Barker seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation.

“Mr. Paget then read the first of the resolutions given above, which he moved.

“Mr. Terry seconded the proposition, remarking that he thought it necessary for the honour of the profession that such resolutions should be passed, and expressing a regret that so little notice of this form of quackery had been taken in the journal of the Association—the *British Medical Journal*.

“This resolution was carried by acclamation.”

A discussion followed; but we omit the rest, as being uninteresting to our readers. We have quoted sufficient for our purpose, which was to apprise our readers that medical men of Northampton took an active part in the proceedings, Dr. Webster moving one of the resolutions and Mr. Terry seconding it.

Thus stand, therefore, in the *Lancet*, the two resolutions:

“‘Resolved—That so long as a system has no higher philosophy than the jargon of *similia similibus curantur*, nor sounder chemistry than the delusion of ‘infinite dynamization,’ it is degrading to a man of education to be connected with it. He, therefore, who consents to consultation with homœopaths, be they impostors or dupes, forfeits the respect of his professional brethren, and his membership of this branch of the British Medical Association.

“‘Resolved—That it is the opinion of this meeting that no honourable man, whether physician or surgeon, can meet in consultation a homœopathic practitioner; or, as such, act in conjunction with him.’”

We have now given a report of the meeting of those medical priests who would fetter the minds of their fellow-men, and hale many to prison for practising homœopathy.

A very interesting discussion is going on in the *Bedfordshire Mercury* from week to week, the public having taken up the consideration of the extraordinary proceedings of a medical body.

In our next we will give the result of the discussion ; in the meantime, we append the following from the *Lancet* of June 19th :

“THE HOMŒOPATHIC HUMBUG.

“*To the Editor of the Lancet.*

“SIR,—It would appear that the homœopaths wince under the Bedford resolutions. This morning I received the following note from Dr. Epps, which, with the short reply, I forward to you, in order that your readers may be upon their guard.

“I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

“T. HERBERT BARKER, M.D.

“*Bedford, June 10th, 1858.*”

“[COPY.]

“Great Russell Street, June 8th, 1858.

“SIR,—I find your name in connexion with a meeting at Bedford on the 21st of May. I find thereat certain resolutions passed unanimously. I need not designate these resolutions. Engaged in writing a history of homœopathy, which, I trust, will be, years hence, regarded as a standard work, I shall chronicle the facts illustrative of the opposition homœopathy met with ; and shall try to impart a knowledge, not simply of the general character of the opposition, but by recording both the *names* and *status* of all the parties who publicly joined in that opposition, and the modes under which that opposition took form, thereby rendering more tangible to the recognition of those who come after, the reality and special character of the opposition. To render the history perfectly truthful and just, I have felt bound—wishing to do to others what I would wish others to do to me—to try and ascertain, before recording your name as one of the units engaged in the opposition, whether or not you gave your sanction to the resolutions referred to.

“Believe me, with best wishes, sincerely yours,

“JOHN EPPS, M.D.”

“[COPY.]

“Bedford, June 10th, 1858.

“DEAR SIR,—In reply to your note of the 8th instant, received this morning, I beg to say that the resolutions referred to received my most hearty sanction.

“I am, dear Sir, yours, &c.,

“T. HERBERT BARKER, M.D.

“*Dr. John Epps.*”

Dr. Barker remarks that “the homœopaths wince under the Bedford resolutions.” Dr. Barker is mistaken. Homœopaths rather enjoy the fun of seeing a half-mad body of medical men evidently “wincing” under the progress of homœopathy.

LECTURES ON HOMŒOPATHY,
DELIVERED IN BANBURY, BY SAMUEL EADON, M.D., M.A.

First Lecture (concluded) — May 7th, 1858.

It requires no ghost from another world to tell you, after these confessions from the most distinguished men of the allopathic school, that old physic is without a law to direct, and consequently cannot be "the servant and interpreter of nature;" as "all the operations and actions of the living body," says Dr. A. Combe, "whether healthy or morbid, take place according to fixed and discoverable laws, and God has left nothing to chance." That a law of cure existed has been felt in every age. To the foreshadowings of the grand law discovered by Hahnemann, your attention for a short time will be directed.

It is an historical fact in the progress of mind, that every great and important truth revealed to man, and which ultimately tended to influence his destiny, has been foreshadowed by admissions and beliefs in all ages, before its final development, expansion, and generalization, by some *paulo-post-futurum* genius; and this has been the case so generally, almost universally, and in all departments of scientific research, that it may be regarded as a kind of certificate that the idea, when finally developed, after being thus shadowed forth, will prove *imperishable truth*.

An ancient king rejected the Ptolemaic system of astronomy, on account of the great irregularities which it shewed to exist in the planetary motions; declaring that God could not be such a bungler as to create such a system of disorder. Was not this a negative mode of shadowing forth the harmonious movements which the demonstrations of Newton finally and for ever established? Seneca predicted the existence of a world beyond the ocean, which the genius of Columbus alike mentally saw, and afterwards discovered. About the time of Æsculapius, 3,000 years ago, a physician nearly demonstrated the circulation of the blood, and the non-existence of air in the arteries; and yet this was not actually accomplished till the seventeenth century, when Harvey, after eight years of toil, traced the entire circuit of the blood—a feat which Realdo Columbus very nearly accomplished forty years before. Many hints are scattered here and there, shewing that vessels were moved by other influences than those of sails and oars, thus foreshadowing the steam-boat of modern times. It was well known in agricultural districts that parties who had the charge of cows never took the small-pox; but it was left to the genius of Jenner to lay hold of the idea, and reduce it to a practical form. Nor is homœopathy without its *foreshadowings*. It is nothing new. It has now been demonstrated as a natural truth for more than sixty years, and foreshadowed in all preceding time. It was left for Hahnemann to seize the glorious principle, retain it, and work it out for the physical salvation of man.

Before shewing you the shadowings forth of the homœopathic law, it may be well to explain, at this point, in what the discovery consists, and what is meant by "like curing like," or *similia similibus curantur*. We shall take the illustration of the Rev. T. B. Everest, as it is so simple. "Let us take a medicine, *Aconite*, for instance. If I give sufficient of it to you and twenty others, all of whom are in health, it will make you all *thirsty, hot, and feverish*; it will give you a *parched tongue*, a *hot and dry skin*, and a *full, feverish pulse*. Well, now reverse the case. If you and the same twenty people are ill, and you complain of *thirst, heat, fever, parched tongues, hot and dry skins, and full feverish pulse*; why, if you and the other twenty take *Aconite*, it is very clear that it will act on the organs which are already affected. 'Well,' you say, 'so far is very easy and simple. Proceed—what next?' What next? Nothing. I have told you the whole story. 'Dear me,' you answer, quite mystified, 'what do you call this? Why, a babe could have found this out.' I don't know that! The medical profession have been 3,000 years about it; and we call it homœopathy." This is the meaning of Hahnemann's great discovery of "like cures like." Medicines which will bring on the disease in the healthy, will cure the disease in the sick. If the patient have a form of disease like that which the medicine produces in a healthy condition, the reaction of the system is towards health. Well then, let us see how this law of *similia similibus* has been foreshadowed.

Hippocrates, the father of medicine, says, "by similar things, disease is produced; and by similar things given to the sick, are they healed of their diseases;" *i.e.*, warm water will induce nausea and vomiting: warm water will arrest them. Mandrake will induce mania: give a person who has mania a small dose of mandrake and he will be cured. Cold causes rigors, convulsions, tetanus, and stiffness: cold water will remove these conditions when applied properly. Hellebore darkens the mind when taken in health: give it to the insane and great benefit will accrue." Is not this a foreshadowing of the law? And Hippocrates is the father of the allopathic schools of physic, and lived 2,200 years ago. Galen, the acknowledged head of the methodized allopathic school of physic, says, "God or nature has joined similars to similars. I find similars influence similars. Similars are congruous and friendly. The quality of a medicine must be similar to the disease and its products." Is not this an acknowledgement of the truth of the homœopathic law? Such is the language of Galen; but his disciples of the present day abjure both *him* and what he said in this respect. Basil Valentine, a monk of the fifteenth century, says, "likes must be cured by likes, and *not by their contraries, as heat by cold, and cold by heat*; for one heat attracts another heat, and one cold another cold, just as the magnet does iron. Although a chill may be apparently suppressed by heat, still, as a philosopher and observer of nature's laws, I say, similars

must be met by similars; thereby they will be removed *radically* and *thoroughly*. He who does not attend to this, is *no true physician*, and cannot boast of his knowledge; for knowledge and experience, together with a fundamental observation of nature, *constitute the perfect physician.*" Paracelsus, in the fifteenth century, says, "Cold, some think, removes heat, and heat cold. This is false, and was never true in medicine. Like belongs to like; not heat against cold, and cold against heat. That were a wild arrangement if we had to seek for safety in contraries. This is true—that he who would employ cold for heat, moisture for dryness, &c., does not understand the nature of disease; for what creates jaundice, will cure it; the medicine which shall cure paralysis, must be that which can cause it." Nay, Paracelsus not only thus foreshadowed the law of homœopathy, but even the dose itself; for he says, "as a small spark can set on fire a whole forest, even so a small dose of medicine, no matter *how small in weight*, shall suffice to produce the desired effect." Johannes Agricola says, "a concealed poison is at the root of a cancer; and cancer can only be expelled by a poison that can create it." Tycho Brahe says, "there is a disease of a sulphurous nature which quickly yields to terrestrial sulphur, especially if a bath is had of the liquor, as similars by similars." Are not all these something more than foreshadowings of the now great proven law, that "like cures like;" and is not the inference in harmony with all other great foreshadowed truths, that the law is eternal and one of the wills of God?

There is another school of medicine which, on account of its approximation towards the law of "like cures like," shews how the mind was looming from the darkness of ignorance, and struggling into the sunlight of truth. This is the school of isopathy, or the curing of disease by identicals; the motto being *Æqualia equalibus curantur*, "same cures same." These men would cure derangements of different organs of the body by giving the corresponding parts or organs of the inferior animals. For hæmorrhages they would give blood; for asthma, dried, pulverized fox-lungs; for liver disease, a portion of bullock's liver; for hydrophobia, the saliva of the rabid animal, and so on. This notion of curing disease by identicals is very strong in the minds of many country people; and as it is a concentric circle with the circle-law of "like cures like," good has sometimes been effected by it. As there is an analogy between identical with identical, and like with like, isopathy gives strong testimony in favour of the like-cure-like principle. The human mind was evidently in search of the great law of cure; but it is not to be found in the law of curing disease by *identicals* with *identicals*.

Another class of experimentalists sought for a therapeutic law in a *likeness*. I refer to the signaturists. This school looked for a sort of daguerreotype of the disease in the remedy to be applied; for a likeness in physical resemblance, not a likeness in symptoms, which is the one sought after in homœopathy. The

bile being yellow, the signaturists sought for yellow substances to cure jaundice; the blood being red, the red juices of plants were expected to stop hæmorrhages; the pith of the elder, as it resembled the spinal marrow, was given for spinal complaints. During all these ages there was evidently in the minds of men an intuitive notion that the grand law of cure consisted in a something like or identical, either in symptom, physical aspect, or in a correspondence of some kind. This law of analogy or correspondence, amid the downfall of system after system, has haunted the minds of men through all ages; clearly shewing that a mighty truth, a grand therapeutic law, would eventually be developed for the benefit of the race. Nor are these foreshadowings confined to the ancients, or to the dark ages. We have admissions of the law, in embryo, by the most eminent physicians for the last 200 years. Thoury discovered that electricity would quicken the healthy pulse; "then," said he, "it ought to diminish its action when quickened by disease." Van Storck cured insanity by giving stramonium, which will induce it. Bouldac cured diarrhœa with rhubarb, because the drug was found to create the disease upon the healthy. Detharding cured colic with senna, from his knowledge of its colic-producing tendencies upon the healthy.

From all this, it is evident how active the mind has been in search of the divine relationship, and how nearly many have been on the verge of the mighty discovery; but he, who, in passing over a road, travelled by thousands, espies and secures a diamond which had until then been counted a pebble, is entitled to the credit of quicker eyes than his fellows, and cannot be denied the profit of his finding.

Of all those who came most nearly to the truth, was a Mr. William Scott, a surgeon in the East India Company, who gave an account in the *Bombay Courier* of April 30th, 1796, and afterwards quoted in the *Medical Repository*, 1797, of a proving of nitric acid on the healthy body. This is the *first recorded proving* of a drug, undertaken with a view to ascertain its effects upon the human organism; and was tried in the very year Hahnemann published, in Germany, his first essay, which contained an account of the testing of several medicines, and the discovery of the great law of *similia similibus curantur*. The object of W. Scott was to ascertain whether the oxyd of mercury owed not its virtues, as a remedy, to the *oxygen* it contained. For this purpose he selected nitric acid, which contains oxygen loosely combined, to see if there was any similarity in the symptoms like those produced by mercury. The proving shewed him there was such a similarity; and he made use of it in his practice accordingly. How near was Scott to the discovery of the law of *similia*! It is remarkable that the same *Medical Repository* contained two other instances which, to the eye of genius, might have suggested the great law of cure by similars. Within two or three pages of each other, in consecutive articles, but by different authors, are narrated two cases of poisoning by stramonium, and two of

meningitis, and both cured by the same remedy. Here was plain enough the relation of *similia*; the perception and full development of which has stamped Hahnemann with immortality. Yet no one caught the idea; but there it lay on the pages of this book for half a century, and remained hid from the eyes of two generations. How strange, and yet how true! This fact shews clearly that discoverers are *rare aves in terris*, and that Hahnemann was one of the rarest of them all.

Both these cases of meningitis were under the care of Dr. King, of Connecticut, who gave stramonium because the symptoms of the patients were so much like those produced by this drug on the two men who had been accidentally poisoned by taking it. Although the patients recovered, yet Dr. King missed the seizure of the golden thread. O, Scott and King! how near ye were to the temple of immortality! On the threshold, both; one step more, and slam to would have gone the door, and the homage of posterity would have been yours. But it was not to be.

“Nature and Nature’s laws lay hid in night;
God said, let Hahn’mann be, and all was light.”

MEDICAL LEGISLATION—A PEOPLE’S QUESTION.

MANY of the newspapers of the present day, metropolitan and provincial, are taking up the subject of medical legislation in right earnest. The *Daily Press* has recurred to the subject again and again. The *Times*, *Daily Telegraph*, and other leading papers, have denounced the attempts of the profession to obtain legislative license to exclusively physic the public. In their allusions to the heterogeneous mass which composes the profession, they have not forgotten to notice the fact that homœopathy is making rapid strides in this and every other country. The testimony of our enemies is adduced in support of these facts, and we subjoin a very good article from a provincial paper, the *Bath Express*. It is a sign of the times, and augurs well for the future public opposition to medical legislation.

“The medical profession is again, and very properly, endeavouring to organize itself. At present it is in a state of disorder. There are twenty-one licensing bodies—the qualifications for diplomas vary infinitely, and the restrictions as to range of practice are most irrational. Three bills are now before the House of Commons which aim at correcting these evils. The objects sought are as follows: To establish a Central Board charged with the duty of conducting the examinations of all candidates for medical or surgical practice, and of granting diplomas, so that there may be an

uniformity of qualification, and that all candidates may pass through the same curriculum of study,—and, secondly, to effect a complete registration of all persons entitled to practise in the United Kingdom; and to keep such register, and to erase from it unworthy practitioners—those whose names do not appear on the register not to have power to recover debts for professional services.

“ Now nothing could be more simple and admirable than such a scheme, if there was an universal or even general acquiescence in medical doctrines and practice. But there is no such thing. There are many systems in vogue, which enjoy various degrees of popular favour, and there are not the elements for the establishment of a medical orthodoxy, with its pains and penalties on all nonconformists. The dissentients would nowhere be found so numerous as among the aristocracy and the upper classes. In a case so precious as bodily health, people will not defer to a state medicine; they will choose to form their own opinions and to select their own doctors. There is no use disguising the fact—the great medical corporations want the public health to be entrusted to their sole keeping, and to be able to expel from the profession all heretics. This will never do. If anything could give vigour to certain new systems of treatment, it would be the attempt of a Central Board to crush them. But, to speak more correctly, all existing systems of medicines *are new*; medical practice having been so extensively modified and altered, much within the limits of the present century. The approved and general practice of the year 1800 would be thought unscientific and barbarous in 1858. Numberless fallacies of the faculty have been detected and exploded in that interval. There has been a complete revolution even in Sir Benjamin Brodie's own practice. The oldest medical system is quite modern. We are not prepared for a tribunal of state medicine, wielding the thunders of proscription and expulsion. The nation will not bear it. It may do for Spaniards to employ the doctor whom the state provides, but it will not do for Englishmen. There is among large numbers rather a preference for quacks and irregular practitioners. If the state were to say, ‘we do not recognize them, but if you choose to employ them, you need not pay them,’ it would only make them popular and drive thousands into their arms. Smuggled provisions and liquors are said to be extremely relishing. ‘Sweet are the stolen waters,’ and so it would be in medicine. A little gentle persecution would immensely aid all irregular systems.

“ But to speak more precisely. There are two bodies of fashionable, and some say, successful practitioners, who would be expelled from the profession, if any such medical tribunal should be established as is menaced by

these bills. We allude to the hydropathists and homœopathists. We offer no opinion as to the merits of these systems—we only allude to them as established facts, which must neither be proscribed nor ignored. We can easily believe that the Central Board would not dare to expel the existing practitioners; but they would close the gates of the profession against them for the future. But neither will this do. They must be chartered and organized like the rest. Homœopathy has now some 400 practitioners in England, and, certainly, their patients are as respectable as those of any other system. It will be impossible to crush this system by the hand of power. Sir John Forbes, one of the most eminent of the London faculty, thus speaks of its results in a late work. After alluding to 'the vast body of practitioners now following this system in all the countries of the world, and the number of public institutions devoted to the treatment of the sick according to its doctrines,' he thus continues:

“‘And yet, what is the character of the results obtained under this system of imaginary medication in the cure of diseases? When fairly weighed, do not these results exhibit, if not quite as large a proportion of cures as ordinary medicine, still so large a proportion as to demonstrate at once the feebleness of what we regard as the best form of Art, and the immense strength of Nature in the same office?

“‘Although it may be true that there are in the ranks of homœopathists as there may be in the ranks of our more legitimate brethren, men who are altogether ignorant, mercenary, and not to be believed—men who practise their art as a trade, and practise the trade dishonestly; still it cannot be denied that there are among homœopathists men who have embraced its doctrines from conscientious motives, and pursue its practice with the same benevolent desire to benefit their patients, that actuates the followers of the ordinary system of medicine. In numerous reports of practice published by gentlemen of this stamp, the results of treatment are stated to be favourable: and I do not think the truth of these results, as far as regards mortality and recovery, ought to be, or can be, denied, whatever opinion we may entertain as to the influence working the results.

“‘But, independently of the evidence, we have *surely a most powerful argument in favour of the admission that an average amount of recoveries takes place under this system of treatment—in the fact that no public outcry has been raised against it, on the score of inefficiency, and yet more, of greater mortality.* If it were really true that a markedly greater amount of lingering cases, and especially of deaths, take place under this new treatment, surely the important fact would have been discovered ere this

time, in a field of treatment so wide, and watched over by so alert an array of critics on every side. But I venture to say that this has not been the case.

“No doubt every one hears of such failures and such loss of life, in the treatment of homœopathists, and hears them attributed to their peculiar practice; and this may be occasionally the truth; but we hear the very same accusations brought against the most orthodox practitioners: and it is only just to take the same evidence in the one case as in the other; and when this is done, I do not find that the accusation is much more easily justified on the one side than on the other.”

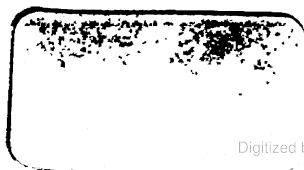
“There is an honourable candour in this statement, and we may be quite sure that a system so described can neither be ignored nor proscribed. Our new medical *regime*, if we are to have one, must provide for this case. But the subject will again be before the House next week, and we shall not fail to recur to it.”

THE SMALL DOSE—ITS HARMLESSNESS.

“I SWALLOWED a phial full of globules and perceived no effect,” said an objector; “how then can they do any good if they do no harm?” continued he. The person addressed was unable to unravel the mystery, all that she knew was that when she took globules, being in pain, the pain disappeared. She knew, however, that globules had been employed for half a century in the cure of diseased states; that there are, at least, five thousand medical men who use globules in their medical practice. She knew that many of her friends, whose testimony was indubitable, had been cured by globules. She believed that a million persons in this country alone could give like witness. To her the fact was patent; she needed not to be convinced, for she was already satisfied by experience. Of the *modus operandi* she knew nothing; still, when the query was presented to her, she felt a desire to be informed, that she might answer the question.

As briefly as the subject will allow, we will endeavour to explain and to illustrate.

First, then, it should be borne in mind that the body in its normal, its healthy, its natural condition is capable of resisting influences, which, in its abnormal or diseased state, it will readily yield to. Again, the susceptibility of the person much depends, if not entirely, on the constitution: in a word, the human body is affected through the sentient nervous structures which ramify in every part.



It is certain that without such nervous system *feeling* cannot exist. The nerves of a part are, so to speak, the wires of the electric telegraph situated in the brain. These nerves transmit the message, when a part is touched, to the brain, and the return currents back to the part touched give the sensation in the part touched. The brain does not *feel*, but it registers; take away the brain, and let the nerves remain, and there would be no *feeling*. Divide the nerve, and let the brain remain, still there would be no feeling. The brain may be compared to the battery where the current is generated by some unknown process; the nerves, the wires of that battery which transmit the force. This circulation of nervous force, fluid if you please, is ever acting in the natural state, but may be interfered with by any accidental circumstance. Let the brain be *asleep*, the person may be touched, in some cases pinched or struck, without exhibiting any sign of *feeling*. A similar condition is observed in a state of inebriation. The drunken man falls—he strikes a part—he may divide the tissues—blood flows—but he does not feel it. His brain and nervous system are in an abnormal condition; he is less susceptible now than before he partook of alcohol.

Take another case. The functions of the brain and spinal cord are regularly performed, but the person has taken cold—he is subject to gout—his father left it him as a legacy, perhaps, or it may be that his father's father was a "*bon vivant*"—he liked his champagne and his port—"he fared sumptuously every day;" thus he deranged his body, and he becomes the victim of his own indulgence. He suffers the consequences. "Be sure your sin will find you out" is as true in the physical as in the moral system. Well, the unfortunate descendant upon whom "the sin of his father is visited" is the subject of gout: he is not always ill: the attacks recur at intervals, not regularly perhaps. He "dines out" occasionally, and, somehow or other, though a very temperate man, he does not feel well the next day. He tries to walk: he cannot—he asks for a stick, and he hobbles to his breakfast parlour, hoping the attack is slight and may go off. He eats and drinks as usual, but the following morning he cannot get up. His foot or some other part swells—inflames. Go now to his bedside and attempt to touch that foot; ere you lift its covering, the patient cries out, "For heaven's sake, let me alone. Oh! oh! oh! don't touch it!" You laugh at him, and say, "Surely a little touch won't hurt you!" It is of no use to argue with the sufferer: it does hurt him, and that severely. What has happened? His sentient brain and nervous system are now in an abnormal condition; but, unlike the drunkard, his susceptibility is increased. Yesterday he could dance, or bear his foot pulled about—could bear a smart kick and laugh at it. Now the slightest touch is agony to him. This explains the mystery—that which will produce no disturbance in health, will in disease act powerfully; the susceptibility of the nervous system being increased. "This illustration," say you, "applies to external

parts of the body. How about the globules?" Well, how about the globules? Another element is necessary to explain their action, and we will give it you.

First, we have the law instanced already, that in diseased states there is exaltation of the faculty of feeling. Did you ever go to a concert? Have you not enjoyed for a couple of hours or more the music and choruses of the Messiah? Your head did not ache then: you complained not—you enjoyed it; but you have now a headache. "Oh, my dear, shut that piano!" you say to your darling young wife, who has so often before contributed to make life happy, while engaged at that "exquisite instrument." "Do let me run over this little polka; I only got it yesterday, and it is so pretty?" "No, dear! no, no! I cannot; you must not. Do shut it up, shut it up." "Ah, but you enjoyed the concert the other night, and now you cannot bear me to touch the piano." "Yes, dear girl! you never had a headache, or you would feel for me." Happy individual! never had a headache! Ah, then, her troubles are yet to come.

"Darken the room! Pull down the blinds! Put up a black shawl! I cannot bear it—the light hurts me. Cover the entire window! See, there's a place at the side where enters a few rays of light—you must cover it. But I cannot see, dear, without *some light*." "I can't help it." "But you did not complain yesterday, when we drove in town." "No, but I got cold in the easterly wind, and my eye is inflamed. I *cannot* bear the light. What's the use of trying a woman's temper with argument and reasoning? I *cannot* bear the light and that's *enough*." The susceptibility of that eye is increased by diseased action. Ten million rays of light afforded pleasure yesterday; *now, one single ray gives pain*.

"You are not well, my dear, this morning." "No, I don't feel well: I ate a small piece of cheese yesterday, and it has disagreed with me." "But how is this? You always eat it." "Yes, when I am well; but when I am not well, a little thing upsets me."

"I cannot eat this soup—cook has spoiled it." "Indeed, how?" "Why, she has put too much pepper in it." "Nonsense! there is very little." Oh! I forgot, my tongue and mouth have been very tender lately, and I cannot bear a grain of pepper, though I usually take it freely."

"Dear me! I only took one pill last night, and it has punished me severely. I will go to that chemist and blow him up. He has put too much colocynt in it, for I have been awfully griped all night—never slept a wink: it will kill me if I take another." That poor chemist is not blameable. The pill-taker occasionally took four pills, and he bore them well; now, one has been too much for him—his susceptibility is increased, and the smaller dose takes effect.

"Yes," say you, "I can understand all this, but how about the globules—the tiny globules?" Wait, and I will tell you next time we meet in the pages of the *Homœopathic Record*.

LONDON HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

GRAND FANCY BAZAAR.

A GRAND fancy bazaar was held on Friday and Saturday, June 11th and 12th, in the Riding School of the Cavalry Barracks, Knightsbridge, in aid of the funds for the necessary alterations, &c., in the freehold premises, Great Ormond Street, recently purchased for the London Homœopathic Hospital. The bazaar was originally fixed for Wednesday and Thursday, but the Queen's state-ball, on Wednesday, and other fashionable events on Thursday, rendered it desirable, in deference to the wish expressed by many lady patronesses, to postpone the bazaar until the two following days.

The bazaar was one of the gayest and most aristocratic re-unions that has been seen in the metropolis for a long time. The riding school, a large, lofty, and well-ventilated building, was decorated with the flags of all nations. The stalls ran round the sides of the building, leaving a large open area in the centre for the promenaders, except opposite the entrance, where there arose a vast military trophy, having for its base the silver kettle drums presented to the first regiment of Life Guards, by George IV.; a superstructure of cuirasses, swords, helmets with nodding plumes, &c., completed the trophy.

The list of lady patronesses of the bazaar comprised five duchesses, three marchionesses, eleven countesses, six viscountesses, and thirty-one additional ladies of title; most of these ladies being firm disciples of homœopathy, while the rest are claimed as "sympathizers," who almost believe in the virtues of the infinitesimal science. The stall-holders who may fairly be claimed as devotees, were the Duchess Emily of Beaufort, Maria Marchioness of Aylesbury, the Countess of Craven, the Countess of Wilton, Lady Willoughby de Broke, Lady Ebury, Lady Rokeby, Baroness Alphonse de Rothschild, Duchess of St. Arpino, Viscountess Newport, Lady Augusta and Lady Honora Cadogan, Mrs. Moore of Liverpool, Mrs. Drysdale of Liverpool, Mrs. Fussell, Mrs. Joseph Hoar, and Miss Wilkinson, Mrs. Rosher and Mrs. Yeldham, Mrs. Hamilton and Miss Crisp, Mrs. Leadham and Miss Meymott, the Ladies of the Committee of the Subscription Society, Mrs. and the Misses Parry, &c.

The lady stall-keepers were early at the bazaar on Friday morning, in order to receive her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, the hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg Strelitz, and the Princess Mary of Cambridge. The royal visitor, who, attended by Baron Kneesebeck, arrived about twelve o'clock, after passing amongst the flower stalls, entered

the bazaar proper, making purchases at almost every stall, and instituting the most affable inquiries relative to the articles for sale. At Mrs. Drysdale's stall the royal visitors purchased a little card-box, which, the Duchess was informed, was made by a poor girl who had been a dispensary patient, and who had lost her arm. At the Fine Arts stall, kept by Lady Augusta and Lady Honora Cadogan, the Princess Mary purchased a water-colour drawing, by Lady Augusta Cadogan, entitled, "Homage to Raglan." The Grand Duchess also made some purchases of paintings and drawings, which reflected great credit on the amateur artists by whom they were executed. At Lady Rokeby's stall, the Princess Mary, with her winning smile, called the attention of the Duchess and her sister to some Berlin wool-work of her own; to some bijoux sent by the Princess Alice; to some beadwork by the Duchess of Kent; and to packets of gourd seed from the celebrated collection of Sans Souci; and a silver filagree basket, contributed by the Princess of Prussia. The Duchess of Cambridge, who is the patient of a homœopathic physician, had herself sent some little offerings in knitting and beadwork to Lady Rokeby's stall. Lady Wilton's stall exhibited some magnificent embroidery and Berlin work, which obtained for the amiable Countess a well-deserved compliment to the taste and industry of the young ladies of Eaton Hall. After a lengthened inspection of the bazaar, and expressing their gratification at the numerous objects of taste and utility which they had witnessed, the royal party took their departure.

The receipts of the two days, it is reported, amounted to nearly £2,000.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

Northampton, June 3, 1858.

MR. EDITOR—Dear Sir,—I beg to submit the following case to the notice of your readers. My motive in doing so is simply to vindicate homœopathy from the grossly false charges which have been industriously circulated in this town in connection with this case. As an individual, personally considered, I am greatly indifferent to the detractions and misrepresentations of any living creature, and prefer the benefaction of an approving conscience to the smiles of partial-judging mortals. But when truth becomes the object of malicious attack, I feel called upon by a sacred duty to take some notice of remarks passed in ignorance of my doings. Curses are compared to young birds, which return home to roost. And it

would be fortunate for society if untruths were subject to the same rule of action, and recoiled upon their mendacious parents with unerring retribution. I believe that we have truth on our side (and I trust also the love of truth in our hearts); and one of the evidences confirmatory of this conviction is that falsehood is the chosen weapon with which our opponents invariably assail us.

Mr. B., age between thirty and forty, bilious temperament, had been suffering many years with excessive dropsical swellings of the legs, extending from hips to feet. The usual homœopathic remedies, in conjunction with the hydropathic packing process, had been persevered in for a considerable time without advantage to the local complaint. Observing in one of the recent Nos. of the *North American Homœopathic Journal* that a recently discovered remedy, viz., the *Apocynum cannabinum* had been applied with good success in similar diseases, I placed this journal in his hands. After perusing the record of those cases of dropsy which had been removed by this medicine, he decided upon giving it a trial; and I was desirous, purely for his own benefit, that he should do so. The chemist had not got it, but he procured it, and, in a few days, supplied Mr. B. with a small phial of the third dilution. The American physicians (men of first-class skill and character, and worthy, therefore, of trust and audience,) who had successfully employed the *Apocynum*, had given it in drachm and wine-glassful doses of the strong tincture, frequently repeated; shewing the drug to be of a mild and comparatively innocuous nature. I directed that thirty or forty drops of this third tincture should be added to six ounces of water, and a twelfth part of the mixture taken night and morning. He took the first dose on Saturday night. About five o'clock on Sunday morning, I was sent for in haste by his wife, to see him, as he was taken ill. On visiting him, I was informed that he had been suffering about two hours. I found him tossing from side to side in bed, frequently shivering; complained of violent pain in either kidney, passing round hips into abdomen, and thence descending into each thigh; considerably agitated; feverish; pulse 120; had passed several copious emissions of pale urine; vomit and diarrhœa, with a distressing feeling of nausea; the legs and parts of abdomen adjacent were of a deeply scarlet blush, and tender to pressure. Having left him on Saturday night to all appearance in a state of good health, I was inclined to attribute this disturbance to a medicinal aggravation. I accordingly administered *Camphor*, as this substance effectually antidotes many of the vegetable medicines. No alleviation following the use of *Camphor*, I gave *Aconite* and *Bryony* in alternation, and left him. I saw him again at noon, and

again at six o'clock in the evening. The agitation and shivering had subsided, and he was greatly prostrated. I gave *Rhus*. At the request of Mrs. B., you, Sir, visited him about nine o'clock same evening. After examining him, and hearing the history of the case, you prescribed *Bell.*, which he continued through the two following days. You also directed that the legs should be enveloped in wet towels. I frequently visited him, to renew the cloths and sponge the legs. On the following Wednesday, you, Sir, in company with Dr. Fearon, of Birmingham, and myself, visited him. *Rhus* was given, and repeated several days. The following were the symptoms upon that occasion. Tongue brown, and mouth crusted with sordes; enormous distension of legs and scrotum; urine voided with pain and difficulty, discharge scanty and turbid; considerable fever; thirst; appetite *nil*; bowels costive; great prostration. After *Rhus*, *Sulphur* was given for a short time as an intercurrent, for the purpose of restoring the susceptibility of the system to the action of *Rhus*, which, being still indicated, was again given. He continued for some days very prostrate (extreme prostration has been characteristic of the attack throughout its course); tongue thickly coated, yellowish brown; soreness of each angle of mouth, nose, and left eyelid. The inflammation of legs now began to clear off. *Rhus* continued for some days. From this time improvement set in, continuing slowly and gradually till now. Present condition: right leg is reduced to its normal proportions; the left is not more, I should judge, than half its former measurement. We unfortunately omitted to take the dimensions at the commencement, and therefore cannot speak accurately with regard to the exact reduction in the size of left leg. The left ankle is painful, and has caused him much suffering during convalescence, and remains the only obstacle to the entire disappearance of the attack. He is still under your treatment; and it appears probable, that, as strength returns, he may perfectly recover. It would afford me true pleasure, should this desirable result ensue. My sole object will then be accomplished, and my wishes receive ample gratification.

With regard to the mighty little dose which seems to have given rise to such a dismaying train of symptoms, perhaps it will be interesting to your readers if we endeavour to analyse it. A single drop of the mother tincture, prepared according to the usual formula, would contain about *half-a-drop* of the expressed juice of the plant. The half-drop of juice would be partly water—pure as the drop which bespangles the beautiful flower on a summer's morning, and doubtless composed of other particles equally unmedicinal and inert, which, when deducted, would reduce this

half-drop to a mere fraction of the active medicinal property of the plant. How much? Perhaps the thousandth of a grain. This minute fragment of the medicinal principle is added to 99 drops of alcohol to form the first dilution. Having been well shaken, one drop of this first preparation is added to 99 drops of alcohol, and we obtain the second dilution. A drop of the second again, combined with 99 other drops of alcohol, and we get the third dilution—the strength which was employed in this case. Of this dilution, 30 or 40 drops were mingled with six ounces of water—equal in quantity to twelve table-spoonfuls. One spoonful being the dose, would therefore contain three or four drops.

How much of the original substance could have impregnated that dose? Truly, it must have been a vague and shadowy quota. Your imagination, reader, fails to grasp the imponderable atom. Yet, infinitesimally minute as it was, it proved a larger dose than was required; and a smaller (how much smaller I cannot tell) would doubtless have been equally efficacious, without causing aggravation of the complaint.

If I needed precedent further than that already adduced for the dose employed, your own practice, Sir, would supply it.

This, Sir, as you are aware from your frequent attendance, is a brief and faithful history of this singular case. My task being now completed, I place both myself and homœopathy at the tribunal of your intelligent readers, and shall be content with whatever verdict their judgment and candour may please to dictate.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

J. B. S.

[*Notes by Dr. Pearce, to whom the foregoing Letter is addressed.*]

The foregoing case is one of considerable interest. The patient had been known to the writer for at least ten years to be suffering from anasarca of the lower extremities. He was able to follow his calling, but at times suffered much.

To cure this obstinate condition was the laudable object of Mr. Stovin, the House-Surgeon of the Northampton Homœopathic Hospital. Hence he suggested the administration of the new remedy, as soon as it was known in this country.

I confess I had some doubts whether the symptoms presenting when I was called in to see the patient were due to the *Apocynum*, they so strongly resembled typhoid fever; and at one time there was every appearance of the case going on from bad to worse, ending in low typhus.

The administration of the remedies was followed with marked improvement; and, in three days, danger seemed to have passed. Never did medicines act more speedily, more successfully than in the above case; and the susceptibility of the patient leads me to think that the chronic state was excited into more acute action by the first medicine.

Let not the reader conclude, therefore, that the patient was poisoned, when he knows that the quantity of medicine in the third dilution is *one-millionth part of a drop* in each drop of the tincture taken by the patient, and by no larger doses was he cured.

C. T. PEARCE, M.D.

Northampton, June 21, 1858.

THE "PUBLIC HEALTH BILL" AND VACCINATION.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—By one of those surprises familiar to Jennerites, Board of Health Officials, and Sanitary Reformers in search of place, in the absence of members who had amendments to propose, the "Public Health Bill" has been hurried through Committee in the Commons, and a clause has been inserted, enacting that—

"Proceedings for penalties under the Acts for the time being in force on the subject of vaccination, may be taken on the complaint of any Registrar employed for the Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages; Public Vaccinator or Officer authorized by the Board of Guardians, or by the Overseers respectively; and the cost of such proceedings shall be defrayed out of the Common Fund of the Union, or out of the Poor Rates of any Parish not included in a Union."

Hereby, Registrars and Public Vaccinators are converted into an army of spies, common informers, domestic inquisitors, and public prosecutors.

Moreover, faith is broken with the opponents of compulsory vaccination. A promise was given, over and over again, that investigation by a select committee should precede any further legislation on the subject of vaccination. That promise has become widely known, not only at home, but in France and Germany, in which countries the appointment of the committee is expected with anxious interest. The Jennerites shrink from investigation; violate the agreement; and, by a side wind, attempt to attain an advantage they dare not openly seek. They snatch a short-lived triumph, by which, assuredly, they do not serve their cause. Neither can such a disingenuous proceeding elevate our legislators in public esteem, or raise the national character in the estimation of observing foreigners.

Relying on the plighted faith of the Commons of the United Kingdom,

and unwilling to obtrude their wrongs upon the nation and the government, in a season of great public calamity, the anti-compulsory vaccinators have abstained from any demonstration since last year. Behold their reward! In future they will know how to act, and the remembrance of the treachery just practised upon them will not tend to cool their zeal, or to slacken their exertions.

Is it wise to force peaceable citizens into a struggle with constituted authority in defence of their scientific opinions, religious convictions, personal and parental rights, and the sanctity of their homes? Which side is likely to triumph?

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBS.

*Maze Hill Cottage, St. Leonard's-on-Sea,
June 19th, 1858.*

CASE OF EPILEPSY BY C. T. PEARCE, M.D.

ELIZABETH S., aged five, residing at Potterspurty, Northamptonshire, was brought to me April 20th, 1858. The mother states that whilst cutting her first teeth, at about eight months old, she became subject to fits, and has had them ever since. Before the fits she trembles very much; cannot hold a joint still; she falls to the ground suddenly; kicks and struggles violently. The head is very hot during the fit. She passes water involuntarily during the fit. The mother states that she cannot leave her a moment from the uncertainty of the return of fits; they frequently recur every half hour, and sometimes even more frequently. She sleeps immediately after the fits.

Recipe. *Belladonna* 3rd dilution, six drops in a week.

April 27th. The mother states the second day of taking medicine she had no fit until twelve o'clock at noon; she then had three or four in succession; they recurred in the night also. The intervals between the fits are longer. She had not one fit this morning, but had one while on her way hither this afternoon. She is much given to mischief; tries to destroy everything which lies within her reach; will tear things into ribands. She is much more pert and active the last few days.

Repeat medicine.

May 11th. Seen again. The mother states that the child had a series of fits eleven days ago, but has not had one since; she still tries to tear everything to pieces—the curtains, her bonnets, and everything else.

Recipe. *Belladonna* 200, six globules in a week.

May 25th. She is not like the same child. Has not had a fit for the last three weeks. The child is not so passionate, nor is she so destructive.

Belladonna 200, a globule every other night.

June 8th. The child appears well. She has had no return of fits, nor any indication of their recurrence. Has complained of slight headache occasionally; in every other respect she is quite well.

The case was so severe, and had existed so long, and manifested itself so early in infancy, the parents had no hope of cure.

The cure was effected by one single medicine. That medicine was selected, being homœopathic to the diseased state, *i.e.*, to the symptoms manifested. It was given in infinitesimal doses; each dose did not exceed the two millionth part of a drop; this, even the writer believes, was unnecessary. The more marked benefit following the 200th potency in this dilution, quantity is out of the question. What cured the child, *medicine, faith, or nature?*

CASE OF STRUMOUS OPHTHALMIA, TREATED AT THE HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY, NORTHAMPTON.

CURED BY THE 200TH POTENCIES, ON NOVEMBER 1ST, 1858.

ROBERT WESTON, seven years, was presented by his mother at this dispensary with the following symptoms: Conjunctiva of each eye deeply inflamed; eyes as red as blood; lids swollen and inflamed; they are glued lightly together in the morning, and cannot be separated till after a sponging with warm water; pain in the eye-balls; great dread of the light of day. On making the necessary examination into the condition of the eye, he screamed and struggled violently, from the pain caused by exposure to the light. Passes a quantity of small worms at stool.

Prescription. *Mercurius*, twelve globules of the 200th potency for a week.

9th. Came. Eyes are better; less inflamed.

Prescription. *Sulph.* 200, twelve globules.

15th. Visited by House Surgeon. He is not so well, and mother dare not bring him to dispensary. Eyelids are intensely inflamed; light is intolerable; he crawls under the table, and screams with dread of an examination of his eyes; more pain in the eyes.

Prescription. *Merc. Corr.* 200, twelve globules.

21st. Mother came; says he is going on well.

Prescription. Repeat same medicine.

24th. He is much better.

Prescription. Continue *Merc. Corr.* 200, twelve globules.

28th. Sent to say he has improved very much; is able to bear the light without pain; much less inflammation; passes a few worms still.

Prescription. *Sulph.* 200, twelve globules.

December 7th. Eyes are now nearly well; the margins of eyelids are a little ulcerated, with slight discharge of pus.

Prescription. *Puls.* 200, twelve globules.
 15th. Very much better; eyelids are nearly well; inflammation nearly disappeared; general health much improved.
 Prescription. *Merc. Corr.* 200, twelve globules.
 21st. He is well, and is going to school next week.
 Prescription. *Sulph.* 200, two globules, four powders, one to be taken every third night.

THE SIXTH REPORT OF
 THE YORK HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

SEVEN hundred and eleven medical and surgical affections have been treated at the dispensary, of which the following is a summary:—

Name of Disease.	No. of Cases.	Name of Disease.	No. of Cases.	Name of Disease.	No. of Cases.
Abscesses	3	Epistaxis	1	Neuralgia	2
" Lumbar	1	Erysipelas	2	Nostrils, Disease of	1
Amaurosis	4	Eyelids, Affections of	1	Ophthalmia	18
Amenorrhœa	17	Fever	5	" Tarsi	8
Asthma	24	Fistula	2	Paralysis	5
Anomalous Affections	31	Flits	6	Pleurodynia	5
Atrophy	1	Glands, Swelling of	13	Phthisis Pulmonalis	21
Bladder, Irritability of	2	Goitre	5	Pleuritis	8
Bowels, Affections of	4	Gout	1	Pneumonia	1
Bronchitis, Acute	12	Gonorrhœa	6	Rectum, Diseases of	7
" Chronic	7	Hæmorrhoids	3	Rheumatismus... ..	27
Bronchocele	1	Hæmoptysis	8	Scarlattina	12
Cancer	2	Headache	21	Sciatica... ..	3
Caries	2	Hooping Cough	14	Secondary Syphilis	2
Catarrh	7	Heart, Palpitations and		Spinal Disease... ..	4
Cataract	8	Affections of the	18	Spasms	1
Cholera	7	Hypochondriasis	1	Scrofula... ..	5
Chlorosis	1	Hydrothorax	1	Spleen, Affections of	2
Constipation	2	Hydrocephalus Acutus	1	Skin, Affections of	11
Contusions	1	" Chronic	2	Tæpeworm	2
Cornea, Opacity of	1	Hysteria	3	Tic Doleureux... ..	3
Cough	8	Knee Joint, Diseases of	7	Tinea Capitis	7
Convulsions	1	Lachrymal Sac, Affections		Tongue, Ulcers of	2
Cramps	1	of	1	Tonsils, Swelling of	1
Crustæ Lactæa	6	Liver, Disease of	1	Throat, Disorders of	2
Deafness	5	Leucorrhœa	10	Teething	1
Debility	6	Laryngitis	1	Tumours	2
Dropsy	2	Lumbago	3	Vertigo	15
Dyspepsia and Derange-		Lupus	3	Vomiting of Food	3
ment of the Bowels...169		Mania	3	Ulcers	15
Diabetes Mellitus	1	Mercurial Cachexia	3	Uterus, Diseases of	11
Dysentery	3	Menstruation Disordered	2	Whitlow	7
Dysmenorrhœa	2	Mesenteric Disease	1	Worms	5
Enuresis	1	Mouth, Ulcers of	2		
Epilepsy	9	Necrosis	1		
				Total Number	711
				Of whom were discharged—Cured	388
				Improved.....	201
				Unaltered.....	37
				Lost sight of, results unknown	47
				Died.....	6
				Remaining under treatment	32
				Total	711

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 10.—Vol. 3.

AUGUST 1, 1858.

NEW SERIES.—PRICE 2D.

TO OUR READERS.

At the moment of going to press, July 27th, we find that the "Vaccination Bill, Ireland," the "Public Health Bill," and the "Medical Practitioners Bill," passed the House of Lords last night; the two latter bills "with amendments." What those amendments are, we are not yet aware; we will inform our readers in our next. Thus, for the present session, ends medical legislation—legislation which will require acts to amend in 1859 what has been done in 1858. We, however, shall not be content with simple amendments; we must have *acts for the repeal of acts*. Instead of a "Medical Practitioners Bill," we must have a *people's bill*, for the protection of the public from medical practitioners.

The bill is essentially and exclusively a *practitioners bill*, for the advantage alone of the "orthodox" medical practitioner. What now will the medical dissenters do? What will homœopathists, what will medical botanists do? Will those, will these register? We fear that many will; and we shall feel ashamed of those of our number who practise homœopathy—who have been subjected to kicks, who have been recently denounced as the "scum of the profession," as "humbugs and quacks," as "impostors and dupes,"* as renegades, charlatans, &c., &c., by the promoters of the "Medical Practitioners Bill," by nearly every medical man in the kingdom—we say we shall be ashamed of those who will consent to an association with their revilers—their calumniators. For our own part, we have no confidence in men who have no more sense of independence and self-respect than to bow in submission to a faculty, famed for its *bigotry*,

* See resolution moved by Dr. Webster of Northampton, at Bedford Meeting of the British Medical Association.

its *intolerance*, its *diablerie*. We will not register. We have protested against the bill to every peer in Great Britain; each having received a copy of the following letter to the Earl of Derby.

In committee, the *Medical Circular* says, "Lord Ebury said it was a doctor's bill, and they were about to entrust medical practice entirely to a set of men who declared they had no faith in their system. Dr. Baillie, on his death-bed, doubted whether the medicines which he had prescribed had not done more harm than good. Dr. Chambers, in a funeral oration upon Dr. Williams, said that the deceased had no confidence in medicine; and Dr. Forbes stated that the present practice of medicine was so entirely unsatisfactory, that he hoped some new school might be set on foot."

The penal clause was agreed to.

LETTER TO THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY,
First Lord of Her Majesty's Treasury.

MY LORD,

I venture to address your Lordship on a subject of the deepest interest to a very large portion of Her Majesty's loyal people, and one to which I feel that your Lordship will not hesitate to give a few moments' attention.

The "Medical Practitioners Bill," which recently passed the House of Commons, and which has been already read a second time in the House of Lords, threatens the liberties of the people to an extent which I feel sure your Lordship, in your known sense of justice, will not approve.

Before calling your Lordship's attention to the more objectionable *clauses* of the bill, I would beg to observe that it is highly dangerous, to students of medicine and medical practitioners, to invest a council with power to determine who shall practise medicine and surgery and who shall not: the Council itself being composed of delegates from and representatives of corporations, which not only have refused to grant

their diplomas to medical men, "on account of their homœopathic tenets," but the members of such corporations have refused to hold fellowship with legally qualified medical and surgical practitioners who either practice homœopathy, or meet in consultation a homœopathic practitioner,* denouncing the latter as impostors.

Clause xxi. provides that "If any registered medical practitioner shall, after due inquiry, be judged by the *General Council* to have been guilty of infamous conduct in *any professional respect*, the *General Council may, if they see fit*, direct the registrar to erase the name of such medical practitioner from the register."

Upon this I would observe that one of Her Majesty's surgeons, Professor Fergusson, of King's College, has been already denounced as having been guilty of "*infamous conduct*," in a "*professional respect*," for meeting in consultation a London physician who practises homœopathy, *because he practises homœopathy*.†

Clause xxviii. "Every person registered under this act shall be entitled to demand and recover in any court of law, with full costs of suit, reasonable charges for professional *aid, advice, and visits*, and the cost of any medicines or other medical or surgical appliances, rendered and supplied by him to his patients."

Clause xxix. provides that "*No person shall be entitled to recover any charge in any court of law for any medical or surgical advice, attendance, or for the performance of any operation, or for any medicine which he shall have both prescribed and supplied, unless he shall prove, upon the trial, that he is registered under this act.*"

In virtue of this and the preceding clause, only

* The following resolutions were passed by the British Medical and Surgical Association, at a recent meeting of that body in Bedford.

"Resolved—That so long as a system has no higher philosophy than the jargon of *similia similibus curantur*, it is degrading to a man of education to be connected with it. He, therefore, who consents to consultation with homœopaths, be they impostors or dupes, forfeits the respect of his professional brethren, and his membership of this branch of the British Medical Association."

"Resolved—That it is the opinion of this meeting that no honourable man, whether physician or surgeon, can meet in consultation a homœopathic practitioner, or as such act in conjunction with him."

† See the *Lancet* and *Medical Times*, for May and June.

those who are registered under this act *shall recover payment for work done*; while they shall not recover for work done, unless they have disgraced themselves, and sacrificed their honour by registration in the ranks of a licensed fraternity of calumniators.

I submit, my Lord, that surely the labourer, the work-doer, in the medical and surgical sense, "is worthy of his hire," whether registered or not registered.

Such a law as that proposed might thus give license to a dishonest man, *being registered*, to impose upon a patient, or *legally enforce* payment from a distressed man; while the honest-hearted practitioner, *not being registered*, may be liable to be dealt unjustly with by the patient, who takes advantage of *the law to avoid payment for services rendered*.

I submit, my Lord, that medical men who deal in jalap, salts, &c., should be regulated by the same laws as tradesmen who deal in tea and sugar. No exclusive privileges should be possessed by men who form themselves into "Trades' Unions," such as the British Medical and Surgical Association.

I now come, my Lord, to the most objectionable, the most disreputable, the most oppressive clause which this bill contains; the most oppressive because it aims at interfering with the liberty of the subject in the choice, the election of their medical attendant. This great country, as your Lordship is aware, abounds in friendly societies, founded and maintained by working men for their mutual preservation from want—to assist each other in times of sickness, infirmity, and old age. These societies elect their medical attendant; they exercise their privilege in favour of the man of whose skill they have had opportunity of judging; they, in very many instances, have elected *homœopathic practitioners*, and the writer holds three such appointments. The following clause aims at depriving *those thousands* of their present

medical attendant, and enforces upon them a *registered* bigot, who will physic them after the fashion ordered by a medical council.

The same clause aims also at depriving the writer and many others of their appointment, as physician or surgeon to any *hospital, infirmary, dispensary, or lying-in hospital*. I hold one of such appointments; and, if I am not registered, the poor for whom I have for many years laboured, must be deprived of my medical aid.

The Clause xxxii. runs thus :

“ No person shall hold any appointment as a physician, surgeon, or other medical officer, either in the military or naval service, or in emigrant or other vessels, or in any hospital, infirmary, dispensary, or lying-in hospital, not supported wholly by voluntary contributions, or in any lunatic asylum, jail, penitentiary, house of correction, house of industry, parochial or other workhouse, or poorhouse, parish union, or other public establishment, body, or institution, or to any *friendly or other society for affording mutual relief in sickness, infirmity, or old age*, or as a medical officer of health, *unless he be registered under this act.*”

The next grievance I have to lay before your Lordship is contained in clause xxxiii., which enacts that

“ No certificate required by any act now in force, or that may hereafter be passed, from any physician, surgeon, licentiate in medicine and surgery, or other medical practitioner, shall be valid, unless the person signing the same be registered under this act.”

The retrospective bearing of this as well as of other clauses, is, I maintain, unjust to those, like myself, who have been legally in practice for years, and whose certificates have been hitherto accepted as legal documents.

I refrain from commenting on clause xlix., which provides that “ the Council shall determine what medicines, and the compounds, and the manner of preparing them, with the true weights and measures by which they are to be prepared and mixed,” the people shall swallow; simply because there is a growing distaste among the people for drugging; and all the

state doctors in Great Britain shall never compel the patient to swallow the Council-prescribed preparations.

The crowning clauses of the whole bill are xxxvi. and xxxvii., which provide as follows :

“ Any person who shall wilfully take or use the name or title of a physician, doctor of medicine, surgeon, or apothecary, *implying* that he is *registered under this act*, or that he is recognized by law as a physician or surgeon, or practitioner in medicine, or an apothecary, shall, upon a *summary conviction*, pay a sum not exceeding twenty pounds, nor less than five pounds”;

or, in default, (clause xxxvii.,) BE COMMITTED TO PRISON *for a term not exceeding three months.*

This, my Lord, is visiting with consummate vengeance those independent individuals now practising, or who may hereafter do so; who, although they have received a medical education of the most fitting nature, shall offer conscientious objections to be implicated with the *registered* practitioners. Self-respect and justice to some hundreds of fellow-practitioners of homœopathy in Great Britain, and five thousand in Europe and America, will prevent me from associating myself by registration with men who brand us “impostors”—men as highly qualified and more gifted than their denunciators, because of their adoption of a law of healing which they believe to be founded by an all-wise Creator—a law, fifty years’ experience of whose operation in healing diseases has confirmed.

I cannot consent to be deprived of my present legal qualification to practise under a bill retrospective in its operation, oppressive and tyrannical in its proscriptions, at once a disgrace to the faculty who seeks it and to the nation who should adopt it.

Should the bill become law, I have reason to know that many thousands of Her Majesty’s subjects will resist the operation of the measure; maintaining that it is as much the people’s right to select their medical adviser as to choose their schoolmaster; believing that

their judgment of a man's skill is best founded on their experience of that skill, than on any merely legal qualification which the practitioner may hold.

I ask, my Lord, that the bill, which has not been sought by the people, but by a bigoted faculty, be honourably withdrawn from the House of Peers, or that it be rejected by such a majority that shall convince the enemies of progress in medical matters, and give assurance to a loyal, free people, that it is vain to attempt to interfere with their much loved and much envied liberties.

My Lord, I humbly submit that legislation on medical subjects is neither necessary, politic, nor just. In the language of the *Westminster Review*, "To make the regulations and government of the profession of healing a department of state, is to violate the right of English freemen, whether doctors or patients; to encourage the public to depend on state-authorized testimonies of competency, instead of scrutinizing the qualifications of its physician; to establish a medical orthodoxy; and thus, striving after uniformity of doctrine and practice, to brand new ideas with the opprobrium of heresy, and novel practice as reckless experiment, and therefore to retard the progress of medical science."

My Lord, I cannot bow to the *Baal* which the Council bids me worship, though the consequences of my non-acquiescence should be to pay a fine, or be incarcerated in gaol; powers to carry out such persecution being provided by the bill against which I here enter my solemn protest.

Should the bill become law, an address will be submitted to the throne, signed by at least *a hundred thousand persons*, who are determined not to be dictated to by a medical priesthood.

Trusting that your Lordship will use your powerful influence in Her Majesty's Government and in the

House of Peers against the passing of so unjust and dangerous an act,

I remain, my Lord,
Your Lordship's faithful servant,
CHARLES THOMAS PEARCE,
M.D., M.B.C.S. ENGLAND.

Northampton,
July 17, 1858.

APPENDIX.

To the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, in Parliament assembled.

May it please your Lordships—

The Petition of CHARLES THOMAS PEARCE, residing in the Town of Northampton, in the County of Northampton, Doctor of Medicine, and Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England
Humbly Sheweth

That there is now before your Lordships' House a Bill intituled "An Act to regulate the qualifications of Practitioners in Medicine and Surgery," which, if passed into law, will inflict injustice on your petitioner and on many hundreds of Her Majesty's subjects engaged in medical practice.

That your petitioner being already, and for some years past, legally qualified to practise throughout Her Majesty's dominions, deems it a grievance to be deprived of such right, in the event of your petitioner declining to register under the provisions of the said bill, and subjected to fine, or "imprisonment not exceeding three calendar months."

That the said Bill enforces no penalty against such persons who, having received no medical or surgical education, such as chemists and druggists, are permitted, without let or hindrance, to prescribe and practise medicine, provided that such persons do not *call* themselves Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, *implying* that they are registered under said bill.

That your petitioner, being a homœopathic practitioner, and one of several hundred legally qualified medical men now practising homœopathy in Her Majesty's realms, cannot register under such bill, seeing that the medical council to be appointed under the provisions of the said bill is empowered to publish a pharmacopœia, prescribing the legal preparations, with their weights and measures, to be employed in this country,—preparations which your petitioner has not employed for many years in medical practice, nor can he consent to do so.

That by clause xxxii. of said Bill, it is provided that medical practitioners, *not being registered*, are to be incapable of holding appointments as medical officer to any Hospital, Dispensary, or *Friendly Society*. Your petitioner holding several such appointments, he deems it a hardship to be deprived of such, and an unconstitutional interference with the liberty of the subject in the selection of a medical attendant.

That your petitioner suggests that it is highly dangerous to empower a Medical Council to determine *who among Her Majesty's subjects shall practise medicine and who shall not practise*; such Council being composed of delegates of existing corporations, known for their obstinate resistance to new methods of cure, and their persecution and rejection of homœopathic practitioners, of whom your petitioner is one.

That your petitioner suggests that the object sought professedly by the bill, namely, *registration*, is amply provided for in the Medical Directories now published annually; and that legislation on medical matters has not been sought by the people of England.

Your petitioner humbly prays your Lordships' House that the said Bill may not pass into a Law.

And your petitioner will ever pray.

(Signed,)

CHARLES THOMAS PEARCE.

THE EVILS OF VACCINATION.

WE have before adverted to the attempts of a party to obtain legislative enactments to enforce vaccination upon the British public. Let not our readers turn away from the subject, as having lost its importance. While we write it is possible that compulsory vaccination may be carried by the passing of "The Public Health Bill;" into which the advocates of compulsory vaccination have introduced a clause to enable them to enforce it, however unacceptable and uncalled for by the people.

It is a serious fact that recent legislation is tending to centralization. We have state religion, state medicine, state vaccination, state everything. "The Sale of Poisons Bill," recently withdrawn, owing to the opposition of the chemists and druggists, was intended to prevent men from *poisoning themselves*, without employing a state doctor; and thus "doing" the orthodox tinker out of his fee. The next step in poisons direction, we suppose, would have been to prohibit the hedgerows from growing night-shade, and prosecute the fields for exhibiting in tempting verdure their poisonous growths. The state was about to prescribe the colour of the jars, bottles, pots, &c., which were to ornament the shop of the *licensed poison dealer*.

It is a serious business, however, that the people should be compelled constantly to watch the proceedings of a fraternity ever attempting to regulate matters about which they are ill-informed, and of which the people themselves are the better judges.

We have before us a letter by Dr. Epps, of London, addressed to Mr. Walpole, on the subject of compulsory vaccination, from which we make the following extract :

"I am convinced that the faith of the public in vaccination has lessened, is lessening, and will lessen; and I am further convinced that logical grounds exist for this want of faith.

"Any attempt to force vaccination on a doubting public is unwise and unjust, at least until an inquiry be instituted into the grounds of such doubt; and when an attempt was made last session to devise measures to enforce the Compulsory Vaccination Act, such attempt was resisted, and a virtual promise was given by the Government that no legislation should be permitted in relation thereto, till an inquiry before a Committee of the House of Commons had taken place.

"The necessity that no legislation to enforce a compulsory Act should take place till such inquiry had been instituted, was rendered essential by the fact that the Vaccination Act did not provide the means for ensuring that vaccination should be protective against small pox; the Act required the medical vaccinator to give a certificate of protection (to the party vaccinated) on the *eighth* day after vaccination, whereas no one can be asserted to be protected by vaccination until the *fourteenth* day after the introduction of vaccine virus into the system, when, and when only, the formation of a perfect *vaccine crust* or scab presents the guarantee; it often happening that, though the *vaccine vesicle* may appear on the eighth day perfect as a vesicle, it fails to undergo the changes necessary to produce a perfect vaccine crust.

"And, further, the enforcement of this clause will do injury to the working of the registration of births, for multitudes will refuse to register the births of their children, when such registration will subject them to the intrusion of the registrar, &c., as this clause provides."

The clause referred to by Dr. Epps is in the Public Health Act; that clause being intended to facilitate prosecutions, and recovery of penalties.

There is, however, an act now in force, which is sometimes acted upon; for instance, in the *Illustrated London News*, of June 12th, it is announced that "at Bury St. Edmunds, a Mr. George Ridley has been fined five shillings for refusing to have his child vaccinated. He stated that he had a conscientious objection to vaccination, as tending to introduce disease into the system of healthy children." The right of private judgment in medical matters is thus violated; and, whether a parent approves or not, he *must* inflict on his offspring an evil probably eventuating in misery for life; for in the Registrar

General's return of deaths, we find that on the 10th of February, at No. 3, Elizabeth Cottages, Albion Road, Dalston, in the Hackney district of London, there died the daughter of a laceman, aged 3 months, of the following cause :

BRYSIPELAS after vaccination (3 days). **Pneumonia** (4 days). It does not appear that there was an inquest. The parent of that dear infant was probably served with a notice by the Registrar of the district, that the infant *is ordered by parliament to be vaccinated*. And for what? Nothing but a pretence that vaccination is preventive of small pox. Is it so? Take the following facts from the Registrar General's Quarterly Return, No. 37, 1858 :

"**STOCKPORT.** Small pox. Numbers 10 victims; six of whom *had been vaccinated*, and the remaining four were unvaccinated."

"**WIGAN.** Small pox. Fatal in 23 cases; *fourteen of which occurred after vaccination.*"

Is vaccination a blessing? can it be? The *Illustrated Times* of July 17th, 1858, says—"Re-vaccination does not seem to have agreed with the French Army in the 15th regiment of artillery, at Toulouse; so many men have been laid up in consequence that the Emperor has sent down Dr. Larrey to see about it." In the face of all the evidence which has been adduced by our diligent—our zealous friend, Mr. Gibbs, whose letter was ordered by the House of Commons to be printed last session, the government is seriously ordering the whole of our Indian Army to be re-vaccinated, and we warn the authorities against introducing into the native troops vaccination from the cow—with the natives a sacred animal. We warn the authorities, we say, against exciting another revolt, as terrible as that which now threatens our Indian possessions. For let the natives once learn that the virus of the cow—a sacred animal—has been introduced into their blood; and their religious sentiment being thus offended, they will rise in wrath to slay the British once more.

Really some governments are going mad on vaccination. At New Orleans "several thousands of persons have been inoculated with the mingled poison of the virus of adders and rotten livers, as a preservative from yellow fever." And in Russia, inoculation with syphilitic virus is advocated, as a protection from cholera. Preposterous! incredible! our readers may well observe. Yet these are facts; and while thus diseases are inflicted by the order of the state upon thousands, we find, in the *Medical Circular* of June 30th, "a man named Mackey has been committed, under a coroner's warrant, for manslaughter, for having inoculated a child with small-pox, and thereby causing its death."

But while English governments are so busy in enforcing vaccination, we find, on the continent, there is an awakening going on. About thirty petitions, *against the vaccination laws*, have been presented to the parliament of *Wurtemberg*. And in *Belgium*, the select Counsel

of the Academy of Medicine report that vaccination and re-vaccination cannot be rendered compulsory in Belgium.

Why do not the people more extensively petition against compulsory vaccination, and against *medical* legislation in every shape? Petition, petition, petition!

LECTURES ON HOMŒOPATHY,
DELIVERED IN BANBURY, BY SAMUEL EADON, M.D., M.A.

Second Lecture, Part 1.

In our last lecture we stated that the universe was one vast bundle of relationships; that genius, seeing these, sleeping like beauty on the outward face of things, arranged them, tied analogous relations together, generalized, deduced laws therefrom, and, in this manner, the different branches of science had their origin; that, in every case, the genius who did this invariably lost caste, if in position; and if not, was branded with epithets the most opprobrious—quack, scoundrel, fool—and always the more virulent in proportion to the benefit which the discovery was about to confer on his fellow-man; that Hahnemann shared the fate of all other great benefactors, and that the time would come when mankind would feel proud in erecting statues in honour of his genius, his learning, and his virtues.

We next proceeded to show you in what estimation allopathy was held by the most distinguished professors; and we found them calling their own practice—*that* by which they lived—(but they had made their fortunes and were independent of the public, and therefore could *afford to be honest* and speak the *naked truth*)—calling their own practice “a shapeless mass of inaccurate ideas;” “a miserable jargon;” “stark staring nonsense;” “physic had arrived at such a pitch that it could not be worse, and must either soon end or mend;” and mankind had been better off if medical men had never existed, and so on: this sort of conviction being so strong in their minds, that out of the feelings of their hearts they could not help but speak, although it were suicidal to their own system.

We then proceeded to notice how, through all time, *truth* had been foreshadowed before its final discovery and ultimate triumph. The only exception being the discovery of the two great laws of Kepler—“planets move over equal areas in equal times;” and the squares of the times in which any two planets complete their revolutions, are as the cubes of their mean distance from the sun—of which two laws, not a hint was to be found in all pre-existent science and literature. That this was not the case with homœopathy; the law of *similia similibus* having been foreshadowed from the earliest times, by Hippocrates, the father of physick, and Galen, and Para-

celsus, and a host of others, down to the year 1797, when Scott and King well-nigh clutched the Heaven descended chain: They saw, but could not grasp. Seized by Hahnemann, the earth is being encircled with its golden links. Who is this Hahnemann, say ye? Let us hear something about him.

THE LIFE OF HAHNEMANN.

THE history of a reformation or of a revolution would be imperfect without a knowledge of the history and character of its author. The reformation would lose much of its interest, did we not know something of Luther's learning, trials, and indomitable perseverance, and the terrible persecutions which he endured.

The discovery of America would cease to thrill with high emotion, did we not follow Columbus, from court to court, high in resolve and dauntless in courage, and track him across the wave, sure of success, though surrounded by a coward crew. The French revolution would be "shorn of its beams" unless we had the conqueror of the Alps enthroned high in imagination's heaven, making kings flee like chaff before the wind, and thrones tremble as if an earthquake were beneath. So with the author of this great medical reform. If we admire *what has been accomplished*, let us look at the man, from whose brain these glorious results have issued — him whom providence appointed to develop the true therapeutic law of cure, which, for ages, had been struggling for enunciation; and which, now that it is discovered, will prove the greatest blessing which one man has ever been permitted to confer on his fellow-man.

Hahnemann, the founder of homœopathy, was born in 1755, at Messen, near Dresden. His father was a poor porcelain painter, and intended his son to follow the same trade. The boy early showed signs of genius; and often would spend the night in study, using clay lamps of his own construction, that his family might remain in ignorance of his studious propensity. His teacher observed the bias of his mind, and encouraged him to the pursuit of a liberal education. His father, perhaps from selfish motives, removed the boy from school to business several times; but, at the urgent request of the teacher, he was again restored to school, and the pleasures of learning. At twenty, his collegiate education was finished; and, leaving his father's roof with fifteen ducats in his pocket, he wended his way to the university of Leipsic, there to commence the study of medicine, supporting himself the while by teaching German and French, and in translating works from the English language. He finally graduated at Erlangen, and was afterwards appointed physician to the governor of Transylvania, and post physician to the hospital at Dresden. In a short time, to the astonishment of every body, he threw up the practice of medicine in disgust. It appeared to his mind one mass of contradiction and uncertainty. "It was agony to me," says he, in a letter to Hufeland, "to walk always in

darkness, with no other light than that which could be derived from books when I had to heal the sick, and to prescribe according to such and such an hypothesis concerning diseases and substances, which owed their places in the *materia medica* to an arbitrary decision. I could not conscientiously treat the unknown morbid condition of my suffering brethren by these unknown medicines; which, being very active substances, may (unless applied with the most rigorous exactness, which the physician cannot exercise, because their peculiar effects have not yet been examined) so easily occasion death, or produce chronic affections and chronic maladies, often more difficult to cure than the original disease. To become thus the murderer and the tormentor of my brethren, was to me an idea so frightful and overwhelming that, soon after my marriage, I renounced the practice of medicine, that I might no longer incur the risk of doing injury." Live he must by some means, and he betook himself to translating works from Latin and English into German; and it was whilst translating a work of the celebrated Dr. Cullen of Edinburgh, from English into German, that the light broke in upon his mind, by an admission made by Cullen in reference to cinchona, or Peruvian bark, viz., "that this remedy possessed the power of creating in the healthy body precisely the same symptoms it was known to cure in disease." This was enough. To him, it was as the *falling apple* to Newton—the swinging lamp to Galileo. This may be *nature's great secret of cure*, said he to himself; and to work he went. He prepared two drachms of the bark, and in two days had the satisfaction of producing *all the symptoms indicative of fever and ague*. For six years did he try medicine after medicine upon himself and friends without finding a single exception to the principle. The results of this six years investigation were published in Hufeland's journal. Fifteen years after this he presented the world with a work, entitled, *Fragmenta de viribus medicamentorum positivis sive obviis in corpore sano*, Fragments concerning the positive or obvious powers of medicine on healthy persons. This appeared in 1805. Success, you know, is the harbinger of labour. In fifteen years he published again; having tested on his own person fifty other medicines, which thoroughly established the doctrine that *the pathogenesis of medicinal agents indicates the disease they will cure*. This principle was afterwards enunciated to the world under the motto of *similia similibus curantur*, or likes are cured by likes. Before the discovery and publication of this law, Hahnemann was considered one of the first physicians in Germany; a great chemist; distinguished alike for his literary and scientific attainments; in short, a philosopher and a gentleman. After he had made known this great therapeutic law, the medical world rose up in arms against him; and, for forty years, hunted him from place to place as a wild beast. Every avenue to successful exertion was forestalled; and he drank, at times, the deepest dregs of poverty. Eighty suns rolled

over this modern Plato ere the tide of prosperity set in. A lady, who had exhausted the resources of allopathy, presented herself as a patient to Hahnemann. He cured her. Having captivated Hahnemann by the charms of her youth and beauty, she afterwards became his wife—nay, not his wife only, but his enthusiastic and devoted disciple. If the world could not see his virtues and his genius, she, with that perspicuity so peculiar to the sex, and which so often outwits and outsteps the elaborations of reasoning man, saw that she was allying herself to one of nature's nobility, to one of the greatest men of which history would have to boast, and whose name would be co-extensive with medicine to the end of time. She never left him; she was his very shadow—his other self. At her suggestion they retired to Paris; and, under the patronage of Guizot, the showers of prosperity descended, and he was soon acknowledged the greatest and most successful physician in Europe. Although he had an extensive and overwhelming practice, he still knew his mission. He laboured by night and by day, even at this advanced age. He proved ninety medicines on his own person; wrote upwards of seventy original volumes; translated twenty-four works from the French, English, Italian, and Latin, in chemistry, agriculture, and general literature. The registry of his consultations amounts to thirty-six quarto volumes, of 500 pages, written beautifully with his own hand, all at present under lock and key. In these volumes, whenever published, will be found untold pleasures of provings of wisdom and learning. For eight or ten years he enjoyed the reward of his labours, and was looked upon as a modern Socrates. "His capacious head, of the finest Saxon mould, presented a full broad face, expressive of noble benevolence and high intelligence; while the illuminated eye, and speaking lip, indicated the ceaseless energy and unyielding determination that have enabled him, amid the most disheartening embarrassments, to achieve the reward of his proudest aspirations, 'the triumph of a celestial truth.'"

On the occasion of one of his birth days, a grand festival was organized by the disciples and friends of this good old sage; and the array of noblemen, gentlemen, men of science and letters, was of a character to diffuse an impression, auspicious to homœopathy to the remotest boundaries of civilized Europe. The immense saloon of Hahnemann's residence was crowded by admirers, who assembled to do him homage. In the centre of the room stood his marble bust, executed by the celebrated David, a strong personal friend, and ardent adherent of homœopathy. The bust was crowned with a golden chaplet of laurels, interwoven with the flowers of licuta, belladonna, digitalis, through which were interspersed the engraved names of the most eminent homœopaths in Europe and America. One of the most distinguished homœopaths in Paris, Dr. Leon Simeon, attended by Lord Elgin, Count de Guidi, and others, now took the *old gentleman by the hand*, and conducted him to the

garlanded bust, proclaiming to him, in an eloquent address, his *deserved attainment of man's greatest boon—immortality*. Two brilliant poems, which such an occasion could so well inspire, were pronounced with thrilling effect, the one in French, the other in Italian, by their respective authors. Hahnemann, though shamefully abused for sixty years, lived to work out the glorious truth, and to have a foretaste of the honour, which all nations and peoples will hereafter with one accord award him.

Such was Hahnemann. He was no common boy, an uncommon man, an uncompromising reformer, and a Christian. He had all the characteristics of a great man. He knew that he had discovered one of the *wills* of God—a natural law—and no opposition could induce him to relinquish its development, as it was for the good of human kind. He stood manfully by the truth, as he felt it a great privilege that the Divine Being had allowed him to be the medium of so great a blessing to his fellow-men.

When his dying moment arrived, his devoted wife remarked to him, "Providence owes you a mitigation of your sufferings, since, in your life, you have alleviated the sufferings of so many, and yourself endured so much." "Me," replied the dying sage, "why then me? Each man here below works as God gives him strength, and meets with a greater or less reward at the judgment seat of God: God owes me nothing, but I owe God much, yea, all."

Thus died this literary Hercules—this rare double-headed genius of erudition—this discoverer of God's great therapeutic law for the physical salvation of man—humble and devout in the presence of his Maker, yet bold as a lion before men in the maintenance of a divine principle, and in the promulgation of an eternal truth.

LEICESTER.

HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY, GRANBY STREET.

May 3rd, 1858. A little girl, seven months old, was brought by its mother. It presented a most worn and emaciated appearance, and in the language of the mother, everybody told her she would soon have to bury it. On examination, an extensive swelling at the left hip joint was observed; excessive pain on movement; evident *corpitus*, shortening, and marked eversion. Three weeks before, the child had been dropped by a person, in whose care it had been left, and ever since that period the child had suffered most intensely. It was pronounced a fracture of the neck of the thigh-bone. The serious nature of the case was pointed out, and an offer made to try what homœopathy could do, though no great encouragement was held out.

Acon. 1-3, and *Arn.* 1-3, every third hour alternately; and *Arnica* lotion to be constantly applied.

This was continued, at each visit, until this date, June 23rd, when the child is found to look perfectly healthy. There is no eversion or shortening of the limb, and she enjoys perfect use of it; feeling only a little pain on change of weather.

The child was taken, soon after the injury, to the infirmary, and carefully examined. The fracture was pronounced to be as here described; the parent assured that, if she survived the constitutional irritation, she would, in all probability, be lamed for life. The only other treatment, if treatment it can be called, whilst attending at the homœopathic dispensary, was a strict injunction to the mother to be most careful in moving the infant, and to attend as much as possible to the position of the limb when placing her in the cradle.

NEWSPAPER REPORT OF THE ACCIDENT.

ON Sunday last, as the carriage of Mrs. Fielding was proceeding round the corner of Northampton street, into the London road, a little girl named Tyler, residing in Guthlaxton street, in attempting to cross before the carriage, fell, and came in contact with the wheel, causing a compound fracture of the leg. She was taken to the homœopathic dispensary, Granby street, and after having her wounds temporarily bandaged by Dr. Gutteridge, she was removed (in Mrs. Fielding's carriage) to her own house. Dr. Gutteridge was requested by Mrs. Fielding to attend the case, and under his care the little girl is doing exceedingly well. This is perhaps the first purely surgical case treated on the homœopathic principle in Leicester.

REVIEW.

British Journal of Homœopathy, No. LXV., July, 1858. London : Groombridge and Co. Edinburgh : W. H. Billing.

THE above journal maintains its position among the homœopathic literature of Europe. It has entered upon its seventeenth year of existence; a continuance of which no other quarterly in this country can boast. Its articles continue to be practical. Difficult as it is for a medical journalist to find support from contributors, still the *British Journal* does manage to keep up its number of pages. Whether the fact that homœopathic practitioners being so busily engaged in professional duties, or whether there is a too general laxity of interest, we have observed a paucity, occasionally, of homœopathic matter.

The number before us, however, contains some good practical articles. There is a good paper on veterinary homœopathy, by W. James Moore, V.S. Another good article by the late Dr. Schrön, of Hof, in Bavaria, entitled "Contributions to the Knowledge of

Medicines." Mr. Engall has contributed a paper on "Deformities of the Chest," and Dr. Walker has furnished a valuable contribution on "Glycosuria," or Diabetes. Dr. Hayward, of the Liverpool Homœopathic Dispensary, has furnished a most interesting case, illustrative of the dangers of vaccination. We have seen so much of the horrid results of inoculating with vaccine virus—the transference of disgusting diseases to innocent babes, whose health has been ruined for life; we feel too, at this moment, as ever so warmly on the attempt to pass compulsory laws enforcing vaccination in this country, as a free people, that we would do all that is in our power to spread a knowledge of the baneful effects of vaccination. We therefore quote the whole of Dr. Hayward's article for the benefit of our readers.

"A CASE OF PORRIGO AND DROPSY FOLLOWING VACCINATION.

"BY JOHN W. HAYWARD, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.S.A.,
Surgeon to the Liverpool Homœopathic Dispensary.

"So much has been written at various times by different authors on the introduction of disease by vaccination, and of the production of disease elsewhere by the sudden repelling of cutaneous eruptions, that it would be superfluous to do more than merely put on record the following case, illustrative of both the above facts. It is with this view, and not as a model of treatment, or because of the brilliant effects of remedies, that this case is noticed.

"The patient was a boy twelve months old, of the nervous temperament, with a little lymphatic, and quite free from scrofulous taint naturally; the child of a mother of the nervous temperament, with a little bilious; and of a father of equal nervous and bilious. Its head was large, with prominent organs of the reflective faculties and of cautiousness; the anterior fontanel still open to the extent of a two-shilling piece; scarcely any hair on the scalp: It had seven teeth, five of which it had when three months, and the other two not until nearly twelve months old.

"When called to this case I found it in what the friends thought a hopeless condition—lying in the nurse's lap, moaning and tossing its head about; very irritable, restless, and sleepless; very thirsty; refusing every kind of food, and harassed with a troublesome cough; its head was very hot, the veins of the scalp much distended, and the brain protruding at the anterior fontanel; the eyes were red, dull, and heavy, and the pupils dilated;

tongue very foul; bowels relaxed and stools clay-coloured; urine scanty and high coloured; pulse very frequent and weak; so much emaciated that there was scarcely any flesh on the bones; the skin might be laid in folds; and the countenance was expressive of pain in the head.

“PREVIOUS HISTORY.—I ascertained the following history of the case: Was a very healthy infant, vaccinated when three months old, after which it did not appear so well as before, and in about three weeks pustules began to appear on the scalp; so that the scalp shortly became covered with straw-coloured pustules that gave issue to a corrosive fluid which concreted into a yellow crust. No scrofula, porrigo, or other hereditary cutaneous eruption could be traced in the family of either parent, and none had appeared in any of the other children. After this eruption had remained on the scalp for about five months, and spread over the temples and forehead, it suddenly disappeared without assignable cause. Nothing had been used to it except mild soap and water, and the child had not had any apparent fever, diarrhoea, or other internal irritation. Up to, and during this time, the child had been remarkably healthy, stout, and fat; but almost simultaneously with the disappearance of the porrigo, there appeared a brown rough rash on the skin of the whole body, without any fever or throat affection. The child had not been exposed to the infection of scarlatina. With the appearance of this eruption the child began to look ill, and within three days the whole body and limbs began to swell rapidly, and they continued to do so until the limbs could not be bent, or the arms brought to the sides; the urine was scanty and high coloured. The child had not been exposed to cold or other cause likely to bring on dropsy. The usual medical attendant—an allopath—treated this dropsy for ten days with hot baths, &c., with little effect, except increasing the eruption and reducing the strength. A homœopath was then called in, and under his treatment the dropsy disappeared within two weeks—by what medicines I have been unable to ascertain. Before the child was thoroughly well from the dropsy it took measles, which were in the house at the time, and passed through them favourably. The brown rash which appeared on the skin after the retrocession of the porrigo, had not disappeared even after the child had recovered from the measles; it however did disappear after some days’ further treatment. On the disappearance of this eruption the above enumerated head symptoms came on. At this stage the writer was called in, and found the child in the condition before described.

“TREATMENT.—The temperament of the child and the head symptoms pointed me to *Belladonna*, of which I ordered 2 drops of the 1st dilution

every hour, and spirit lotion to be applied to the head. These means gave speedy relief, and caused the patient to sleep a little, which it did with the eyes partially open. The improvement progressed, so that within forty-eight hours the head was tolerably cool, and much less tossed about; less protrusion at the fontanel; veins less prominent and eyes more natural; no moaning; countenance less expressive of pain; urine more copious; bowels less relaxed; pulse less frequent; and the child had slept better than for the three months of its illness. Considering now the cutaneous origin of the illness, I prescribed *Sulphur*, mother tincture, 1 drop every two hours. Within twenty-four hours the scalp became covered with straw-coloured pustules, which became a crust as before; and the mother remarked that the eruption had re-appeared on the head like to what it was at first, after the vaccination. Very shortly after this re-appearance of the porrigo, nearly all the symptoms disappeared, the stools, urine, and bowels became natural, and the cough soon disappeared. There was only one crop of pustules; they gradually died away in a few days, leaving the scalp furfuraceous for about two weeks, and the child remained quite well.

“REMARKS.—As to the origin of the primary disease in this case, the porrigo, it cannot be objected that it was hereditary, for neither the child, either of its parents, nor their families, were at all subject to either scrofula or cutaneous eruptions; and inasmuch as it appeared shortly after vaccination, without the intervention of any other probable cause, there cannot, in this case, be a reasonable doubt that it was introduced by vaccination, the vaccine used being, in all probability, taken from a porriginous or scrofulous child, and this opinion is supported by the marked arrest of dentition about the same time. Besides, it is no uncommon thing to meet with rashes, pimples, pustules, or even abscesses resulting from vaccination. Indeed, scarcely ever does an infant regain its plumpness and firmness of flesh after vaccination, however healthy the child from which the vaccine is taken. What explanation of a child's illness is more common than the mother's expression—‘it has never been properly well since it was vaccinated?’

“As to the cutaneous eruption, it cannot be asserted that it was scarlatinal, for, unlike in that disease, it was brownish and rough, came out without fever or sore throat, and remained out even after the appearance and disappearance of the dropsy and measles; indeed, for more than two months altogether; neither had the child been exposed to the infection, nor did any of the other children of the family show any symptoms of this disease. And inasmuch as it appeared immediately on the retrocession of

the porrigo, it cannot be reasonably doubted that it was the result of the transference to the skin generally of the eruption previously confined to the scalp, especially as such a metastasis is no uncommon thing.

“And, therefore, as to the dropsy, it cannot be maintained that it was the result of scarlatina, for the child had not suffered from this disease; and, unlike dropsy from scarlatina, it supervened within three days after the appearance of the cutaneous eruption. The most reasonable explanation, therefore, is that it was the result of the inflamed condition of the kidneys and skin, from the transference to them of the eruption of the scalp; and this opinion is supported by the fact of its supervening directly on the retrocession of the porrigo, and of the child's not thoroughly recovering until the porrigo was reproduced, when it rapidly got well.”

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE TORQUAY ALLOPATHS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

Torquay, July 21st, 1858.

DEAR SIR,—A clique of allopathic practitioners at Torquay, to wit—Dr. Radclyffe Hall, Dr. Mankivell, and Mr. William Pollard, junr., have recently made an attempt to signalize themselves by a little harmless opposition to homœopathy. The result of their united efforts appears to have been the unanimous adoption, by the members of the south-western branch of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, which, the other day, held its anniversary meeting at the Devon and Exeter Hospital, of the following resolution, moved by Dr. Hall :

“That the members of this branch, considering the practice of homœopathy in all instances to be either a delusion or a deception, pledge themselves neither to meet in consultation, nor to attend in conjunction with homœopathic practitioners, and that the members of this branch will avoid meeting in consultation or referring their patients to any member of the profession who knowingly violates the spirit of this resolution.”

Deluded allopaths! Arrogant assumption! Empty declamation! The concentration, as it were, into a few words, of your “unanimous” insolence to homœopaths, and ignorance of what homœopathy really is, will avail you little. Deplorable indeed it is that your unhallowed selfishness—your deep-rooted prejudices—your dread and jealousy of the

increasing popularity of homœopathy, should prevent you from discerning the solemn farce you are enacting. Such a resolution as the above, embodying, as it does, a melancholy exhibition of medical folly and alarm, can only excite in homœopaths profound pity for its authors; by them it can only be regarded as simply ridiculous—a mere burlesque—as “sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal.”

Think you, Dr. Hall, that homœopathic practitioners will cringe and fawn to men like you, and the medical clique you represent? Think you that they—the disciples of Hahnemann, whose great name allopaths vilely slander and defraud, will so far demean themselves—so far descend from their exalted position, as to crave “consultations” and “meetings” with men over whose minds the veil of allopathic darkness reigns supreme; so that they cannot perceive the greatness—the completeness—the fearfulness of that medical imposture, which, like some foul incubus, preys upon the vitality of, and casts a blighting shadow over every people and land which have the misfortune to be cursed by its presence? Think you that the smiles of the allopath are essential to the success of homœopathy, or that the one can with a frown, a sneer, or a scoff, annihilate the other? Miserable deception! The angry cur may snarl and the venomous reptile hiss, and yet the sun shines on in its glory—in its resplendence sustaining no detraction—in its grandeur no deterioration—in its power no diminution.

Whether the effect of such a resolution as the foregoing will be to delay for a little while, or rather hasten the extinction of what Sir Benjamin Brodie has designated a “painful and loathsome mode of treatment,” I pause not to say; but one thing is certain, that these attempts to retard the onward progress of that mighty medical reformation which has dawned upon the world, do, unmistakably, evince the alarm which prevails in the ranks of the opponents of homœopathy—an alarm which “the signs of the times” must convince every reflecting mind is well justified; for already the very existence of the allopathic heresy is threatened—the extinction of that abomination of medicine—that filthy and horrifying abortion of a so-called science, which has for ages wielded, with direful effect, the blood-stained lancet and the destructive drug, sacrificing myriads of precious lives at the shrine of the hideous idol which it would command all men to fall down and worship. Even the time of its extinction is drawing nigh; and allopaths themselves, by the means to which they resort to ward off its impending fate, are hastening a consummation which thousands ardently desire; and which, by generations yet unborn, will be received and welcomed as a blessing sent from heaven.

It may, perchance, suit the purpose of a few self-interested and misguided men to heap all manner of vituperation and obloquy upon homœopathy and its followers, but homœopathy has nothing to fear from any medical clique. Homœopaths will crave no favours from them; but they do rely on the blessedness of their cause, and confidently appeal to the justice of the English people—a justice which, it is not difficult to foresee, will yet, in stern reality, thoroughly purge the land of that “art of medicine,” which, according to Sir Astley Cooper, “was founded on conjecture and improved by murder;” and concerning which, Dr. Reid averred that “more children are daily destroyed by the pestle and mortar, than in the ancient Bethlehem fell victims in one day to the Herodian massacre.” Thus confirming Frank’s horrifying affirmation—“thousands are slaughtered in the sick room;” and establishing, as a fearful fact, the assertion of that eminent physician, Dr. Abercrombie, “that the *allopathic* practitioner is perplexed at every step with painful doubts, and is obliged to grope and guess his way in darkness.” God speed homœopathy! that such an “art of medicine” may be speedily swept from among us, and become numbered with the iniquities of the past.

Yours, &c.,

J. T. C.

THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AGAIN.

IN the June number of the *Record* we gave a report of the meeting at Bedford of the south-midland branch of the above association; in which meeting the leading medical men of Northampton took an active part in passing resolutions, which disgrace the association, themselves, and the profession.

Those sapient “druggers” have been outdone by the men of the south-eastern branch.

The *Brighton Gazette*, and the *Hastings and St. Leonard’s News*, gave a report of that meeting, from which we extract the following:

“The annual meeting of the South-eastern branch of the British Medical Association was held at the Pavilion, Brighton, on Wednesday last, June 23rd.

“Amongst other business, the following discussion and resolutions on the subject of homœopathy came before the meeting:

“Mr. Trustram (of Tunbridge Wells) said he had seen in the *Medical Journal* notice taken of the subject of quackery, which had not only undergone a rigid discussion, but was followed by a substantive resolution to the effect that the profession ought not to dally with the subject of quackery, for if they did they could not fail to be soiled with its impurities. He had always declared that he would never suffer himself to be allied with any such professional person; and, under those circumstances, he never would be a supporter of that scandalous humbug called homœopathy, which was the last piece of knavery and trickery. It was a piece of humbug calculated to rob science of a few of its principles and practice by working on the credulity of mankind. There was a species of humbug

called spirit rapping, but that ridiculous nonsense had been exploded and scouted; and the practice of homœopathy ought to be scouted by the medical profession. By the encouragement of homœopathy it had a tendency to revolutionize that knowledge which it had caused generations to arrive at; and it was also calculated to affect the honour of the profession, and he would oppose it in every possible way. Dr. Trustram concluded by moving the following resolution: "That this meeting, deeply regretting that individual members of the profession should, by their conduct, have appeared to dally with and countenance that most ridiculous and unnatural form of quackery, called homœopathy; and thereby injuring the true interests and well-being of science in general, and more particularly the science of medicine, pledges itself to hold no professional intercourse with homœopathy or empirics of any description, or with those of its own members who in any way sacrifice the honour and dignity of our profession to expediency or mercenary motives."

"Mr. Bottomley (Croydon) seconded the resolution.

"Mr. Field (Brighton) said that, in taking the view of homœopathy that Mr. Trustram had done, it would be almost a scandal to *the profession to waste words upon a mere shadow, which had no foundation in reason*. Mr. Field moved, as an amendment, that the meeting proceed to the next business.

"Mr. John Lawrence seconded.

"Dr. Bryce thought that the best way would be to let the subject alone, when it would, like all other delusions, sink into insignificance. It had been found that the practice of *homœopathy was a falsehood as to the treatment of disease*: he was of opinion that they should not be studying the dignity of the profession by taking too much notice of the subject, and he moved, as an amendment, "That in the opinion of this meeting the subject of homœopathy is undeserving of its serious consideration, and ought to be passed *sub silentio*, in the belief that this mode of proceeding is the best calculated to disabuse the public mind of a dangerous delusion."

"Mr. Tatham seconded the amendment.

"Mr. Lowdell regretted that the subject had been introduced at all.

"Dr. Hall thought that the terms of the original resolution were too strong, too opprobrious.

"Mr. Wilson designated *homœopathy as a filthy cheat on the public*, and having no relation to medical science.

"Mr. Bottomley said no expressions could be too strong against homœopathy.

"Mr. Carpenter (Croydon) supported Dr. Bryce's amendment.

"Dr. Cunningham said that they ought not to hold communication with persons practising homœopathy, and if Dr. Bryce would tack something like that to his amendment he should have pleasure in voting for it.

"After a few words from Mr. Napper (Cranley) and Mr. Amesbury (Cliftonville), in support of the amendment, Mr. Trustram replied that *homœopaths were apostates and the scum of the profession*, and they would not be doing justice to the profession if they were lukewarm on this subject.

"The Chairman then put Dr. Bryce's amendment, which was carried by a majority of thirty-two to about ten.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC RECORD.

MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

No. 11.—Vol. 3.

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TO OUR READERS.

WE have received some replies from homœopathic practitioners to the query contained in our last number—"Will homœopaths register under the new Medical Practitioners Bill?" The majority of those who have replied have done so *affirmatively*. We are convinced that the bill has not been analysed in all its sections—in all its bearings. People will not take a little trouble—they never will believe that *their* house will take fire, until they are suffocating with the smoke. So it is.

One of our correspondents says: "In regard to the medical bill now made law, I, for one, never troubled myself about it; as I considered it would meet with the same fate as others that had preceded it. In fact, 'medical legislation' has latterly been attempted on such unjust and absurd, as well as most illiberal grounds, that it is a matter of wonder to me that the government did not dismiss the subject long ago." So the cry of "The Wolf!" failed at last.

Another correspondent says: "I consider the medical act to be a fair and even liberal piece of legislation." Stress is laid on the new protective clause of the bill.

Our correspondents flatter themselves that henceforth the lion will be changed into a lamb—that the lions of the medical council, appointed, delegated by those who refuse the diploma to a homœopathic practitioner, will be subdued by parliament—that they will rave no more—that their roar will be changed into the bleating of lambs. Never

was there a greater misapprehension of the intentions of men. Have our correspondents sons to introduce to the council? Have they pupils? What will be their fate? Can you compel the council to pass a heterodox practitioner? Certainly not. The *council* has the power in its own hands. It *may* act or it *may not* act in favour of a medical dissenter. Which will it do? There is no room to repeat the question. It is answered before it is asked.

We must confess we pity those of our number who cringe before the golden calf, and who will not manfully shew a determination not to be implicated in the adoption of a measure which is unjust to many hundreds if not thousands of medical practitioners, who will henceforth be illegal practitioners—a measure tyrannical in compelling registration in the case of duly qualified men, and oppressive in *enforcing* upon the people a fraternity of *licensed-by-state* doctors. We cannot acknowledge a bill which, retrospective in its operation, aims at depriving even the legally-qualified practitioner of the right to give a legal certificate.

For ourselves, we take a higher ground. We will not soil our name, and the name of Hahnemann, the reviled and persecuted, by association with men who have so recently shewn themselves, with few exceptions, to be unworthy the countenance of gentlemen. While those disgraceful resolutions, only the other day incorporated in the laws of the British Medical Association, continue to be the creed of English medical men, we cannot—we will not in any way, even under parliamentary enactment and direction, submit to lick the dirt of such associationists. What fellowship hath the light of homœopathy with the wilful darkness of allopathy? We answer, None!

THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION IN EDINBURGH.

THE Annual Meeting was held at Edinburgh on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the 29th, 30th, and 31st of July. About one hundred and fifty gentlemen assembled. "Dr. Simpson kept open house, and other gentlemen behaved with equal liberality. The learned professor, Dr. Simpson, had been in London watching the progress of the medical bill, but he returned to Edinburgh in good time for

the festival." At this meeting, the report read contained the following :

"The labours of your reform (medical reform) committee have been unceasing. No disappointments or obstacles have been allowed to stop them in their onward course. On the contrary, the greater difficulties they have found, the more determined they have been to overcome them; and it is with great satisfaction that your council are able to announce that the Medical Reform Bill introduced by Mr. Cowper, mainly in accordance with the principles so long advocated by this association, has passed both houses of parliament."

Our readers will perceive that the British Medical Association make an acknowledgment that they have advocated and supported the bill. Our readers will remember that this same association passed resolutions condemnatory of homœopathy and its practitioners in 1851-2; and again, as at Bedford, in 1858. What have they done at their Edinburgh meeting will now be shewn.

The *Medical Circular* says :

"Sir Charles Hastings and Dr. Lankester moved and seconded a vote of thanks to the Honourable Mr. Cowper; and stated their conviction, that, had it not been for his energy and perseverance, the present medical reform measure would not have passed."

The *Medical Circular* goes on to say :

"At this meeting the subject of homœopathy was brought forward. It was, however, so late that most of the members had left, to find their way to the hospitable tables to which they had been invited. The discussion of this important subject at so late an hour, and with so small a meeting, was subsequently bitterly complained of. The following is a report of the discussion, from the *Daily Scotsman* :

"HOMŒOPATHY.

"Mr. G. May, jun., of Reading, said that it was, in his opinion, incumbent upon the association to disconnect itself from every form of quackery, and to discountenance the practice which prevailed in some quarters of holding consultations with homœopathic practitioners. This was strongly felt by many in his neighbourhood, and also by others throughout the association. After some additional remarks, he concluded by proposing a resolution to the effect that the association should discountenance those practitioners who held professional intercourse with homœopaths.

"Dr. Conolly regretted exceedingly to see this great association attacking a small professional sect who professed certain doctrines, although he (Dr. Conolly) did not approve of or believe in these doctrines. There seemed to him to be no more reason for the proceeding recommended by Mr. May against homœopaths than there was for making a demonstration against a set of men who should make a real discovery in science, which should happen to be unacceptable to the profession generally. If it were a delusion, it would die away; if there were any truth in it, they should give it the chance of developing itself. They had no right to say that what they thought was right, and that that which was not in unison with their opinions was false. He feared he was in a small minority, but he could not refrain from expressing what he felt on this subject. Nothing which had

ever occurred in the association had filled him with so much disgust as the tumultuous meeting at Brighton, when homœopathy was denounced. He hoped there was to be no repetition of that scene.

"Dr. M'Intire seconded Mr. May's motion, expressing strongly his dissent from the laxity of Dr. Conolly's medical ethics.

"Mr. May, in explanation, said that his resolution was not directed against opinions, but against persons, professing to disbelieve in homœopathy, meeting in consultation those who practised that system. He considered such conduct most reprehensible, most demoralizing, and he wished the association to discountenance it.

"Dr. Hall, of Torquay, replied at some length to the speech of Dr. Conolly. He thought that his (Dr. Conolly's) philanthropy had warped his judgment on this question. It was right to be charitable to all men; but we must be also true to ourselves. He would cordially support the motion of Mr. May.

"Dr. Cormack thought it most undesirable to prolong a discussion upon a miserable and effete medical heresy. (Hear, hear.) Still it was necessary to deal with the motion now before the meeting. That, he thought, could best be done by adopting a resolution to the effect that the association had not retrograded from the position it had taken at Oxford in 1852. When the laws were recently codified, the laws relating to this subject had, he believed, *per incuriam*, been overlooked. It was necessary to rectify that omission. He (Dr. Cormack) agreed in what Mr. May and Dr. Hall had so forcibly said in relation to homœopathy; but the question which the association had at present to consider was simply the propriety of remedying an oversight in those who had, in all other respects, so ably prepared the new code of laws. He therefore moved as an amendment—'That the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association having, by resolutions passed at its annual meeting held at Brighton in 1851, and by laws adopted at its annual meeting held at Oxford in 1852, declared that homœopathic practitioners, and practitioners who consult professionally with them, are not qualified for membership, the British Medical Association do hereby instruct the General Council to incorporate with the laws of the British Medical Association the substance of the laws relating to irregular practice adopted by the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association in 1852, and to report to next annual meeting.'

"Dr. Webster, of Dulwich, seconded the amendment, which, after some conversation as to verbal alterations between Dr. Cormack, the president, Sir Charles Hastings, and others, was put to the vote and carried by a large majority. It was then proposed as an original resolution, and carried without opposition."

We record that meeting in Edinburgh, because we believe that the time cannot be very far distant when Edinburgh will witness the revocation of all those acts of the British Medical Association.

Dr. Conolly's remarks were most appropriate, but it appears that he almost stood alone in his conviction, thus stated: "If it were a delusion, it would die away; if there were any truth in it, they should give it a chance of developing itself." "They had no right," says Dr. C., "to say that that which was not in unison with their opinions was false."

Dr. Conolly has set a worthy example. He has been bold enough

to disapprove of the act of denouncing all who practise homœopathy as "impostors or dupes." This has the British Medical Association done, and the Association has also obtained parliamentary powers to coerce homœopathists. Let these two facts be borne in mind by our readers.

LECTURES ON HOMŒOPATHY.

DELIVERED IN BANBURY BY SAMUEL EADON, M.D., M.A.

Second Lecture—Part 2.

IN order to clear the ground for an intelligent understanding of the principles of homœopathy, it will be necessary to shew in what life, health, disease, and death consist; what is the nature of the tissues upon which disturbing forces act, either for good or for evil; as in this way alone can you appreciate the applicability of the law of *similia*, and know how the small doses of homœopathy are capable of producing the astounding effects, of which so many are the living witnesses.

In taking a survey of the universe, we see around us objects both animate and inanimate: minerals destitute of life; animals and vegetables endowed with the life-principle. Vegetables have life *without motion*; animals, life *with motion*. The one has organic life merely; the other has both organic and animal life. In examining a little closer into the latter class, we find beings endowed with organs of different forms, adapted to various purposes, and through which the life-power or vitality is manifested. The higher we ascend in the scale of animated creatures, the more complex becomes their organization. At the head of this class stands *man*. Possessed of organs in common with other animals, he has had others superposed of which every other creature is deprived. The body of man is a conglomeration of organic, animal, and cerebral organs, through which the spirit acts in this state of existence; a condition, or mode of action, commonly known by the designation of life, life-power, or vitality. The life-power or vitality, *i.e.*, the life or vitality of the body, is not *spirit* or rather spirit-life. Life or vitality is a word expressive of the action of the spirit through the bodily organization—its natural vehicle of communication with the external world. There is not a distinct entity called the life-power or vitality, and the human spirit besides. There is the spirit; and there is the body. The spirit uses the body when seeking communication with things *ab extra*; this act constitutes the life-power or vitality of the body, the cause being from *within*. The external world, through the senses or other organs, indirectly acts on the spirit; this act constitutes the life-power or vitality, the cause, in this case, being from

within. There is one being, the *spirit*, clothed with its one animal garment, the body; their reciprocity of action is the life-power or vitality visible to others. There is not *vitality* or *life-power* and the *spirit* acting through the body at the same time, and as two distinct entities. The life-power or vitality is merely the spirit using the body as a medium in respect of things external to itself, and of the body in which it is enshrined, as a mode of manifestation of its inherent living energy.

If the organs are perfect, and functionally correct, the manifestations of the spirit, *i.e.*, the life-power or vitality, will be natural, or what God intended it to be. This is health—glorious health—the greatest earthly blessing.

If, from any cause whatever, the organs are less perfect, or become functionally deranged, the manifestations of the spirit, *i.e.*, the life-power or vitality, will be more or less disturbed: this is *disease*, to which man is ever liable by the infringement of the organic laws.

If the organs, especially the nobler organs of the body, become in any way disintegrated, and, consequently, incapable of performing their functions aright, the life-power or vitality will be brought down to its feeblest point of manifestation; and, as the medium for the spirit's action on the external world will have lost its power of transmission, the spirit will at once cease to make the attempt, and retire within the sacredness of its own precincts: this is death.

Health, then, is intense dynamic or spiritual agency, acting through the body as a medium. Disease, perverted or disturbed dynamic or spiritual agency; and death, the withdrawal of all dynamic or spiritual agency whatever.

Disease, then, is not a sort of *separate entity* in the body; a kind of rat to be hunted from organ to organ, till chased into a corner; there to be poisoned with a bolus, or bled, or leeches, or cupped, till the poor thing dies of exhaustion, as is the orthodox mode of viewing matters. No! Disease is a name expressive of mere functional derangement, or organic lesion; having for its cause agencies which are dynamic, invisible, but most potent either for good or evil.

Although the life-power or vitality is not a distinct entity, but the action of the spirit through the body, the body being the medium of its manifestation, we must bear in mind that the *spirit within* does not act *directly on the body*. Spirit cannot touch directly gross matter. The spirit within you cannot directly move the arm. There is a connecting link between spirit and matter; and that is animal electricity, the odyllic fluid, od-force, or human ætherium. Spirit alone possesses living power and inherent motion. There is no power in matter: no motion in matter. Spirit, and spirit only, is the fountain head of both. The spirit wills. This will power acts on the odyllic fluid; the odyllic fluid touches the nerves; the nerves touch the muscles; the muscles touch the bones; and the bones raise dead matter. So that spirit

acts on body through a concatenation of links; electricity or the odylic fluid being *that*, and that only, which it can directly affect, it is evidently in the power of the spirit to concentrate the animal electricity, or od-force, or nerve force, to any one organ, or to withdraw it when in too great abundance, and thus to restore equilibrium throughout the nervous circulation; and, as a necessary consequence, throughout the circulation of the blood. From all this it will be clear enough that to talk of "overcoming a disease," and the "stronger the disease the stronger the remedy," and similar forms of expression, is *sheer nonsense*. They are phrases destitute of any really physiological meaning. Disease is *not* a distinct entity, or a something differing from the *living organism*. It is merely a deranged state of the living actions, produced either by a want of equilibrium in the odylic fluid of the body, or by a deficiency of generation in the odylic battery—the brain. The spirit, mighty though it be, cannot act on the material body if no electricity is generated by the brain; its manifestations must, of necessity, be abnormal when there is a mal-distribution of the fluid in the different parts of the body. It has no power either to act directly on the muscular, the bony, the ponderous, or even the fluid and sanguineous parts of the body, but through the vito-electric force, the nerve force, or the odylic fluid. Spirit, then, either for our weal or woe, next touches the electricity of the body; this animal electricity touches matter next in refinement to itself, and this in a descending scale till we reach *bone*. The finer the matter, then, on which the electricity or od-force or human ætherium can be made to act, the more powerful the effect. It can scarcely be too dynamized, as the nerve forces or the solar forces vitalized (for its origin is the sun) is small beyond human conceivability; being the subtlest, most refined, and most powerful form under which nature's universal force manifests itself. Human ætherium is like the particles of light, but infinitely smaller, which move at the rate of 200,000 miles in a second; and yet billions of these particles, you know, can fall on the delicate human eye, when in a healthy condition, without producing the slightest sensation of pain. The electricity of the body—human ætherium—the od-force—the nerve force—forms of expression representative of this transcendently refined form of matter (heat, light, electricity, magnetism, chemical action, and mechanical powers, being the representatives of its more palpable and visible properties), can, of necessity, act only on very highly attenuated or dynamized forms of matter. If, then, matter in this dynamized or excessively refined and potentized forms is coursing its way through the different avenues of the body, transmitted by undulation, or in any other way, and has been taken on the law of *similia*, being consequently pathogenetic to the symptoms previously manifested, the ætherium at once seizes hold of it, a nervo-vital change takes place, the symptoms are altered, and the patient is well.

Here is the grand secret of homœopathy and its wondrous cures. The dynamization of its medicines, and the smallness of its doses, instead of being a bugbear, are really, in a scientific point of view, its greatest glory—nay, an indispensable pre-requisite to every successful cure. If the particles of human electricity are so inconceivably small—and who dares deny it? and refined matter can only act on matter next finer than itself, at least with exquisite power—it will follow, logically enough, that there is really no limit to the dynamization of the homœopathic medicines, save the smallness of the particles of the human ætherium destined to act on them; in other words, to the great archetypal force itself. What becomes of the folly of those, then, who try to laugh down homœopathy, in consequence of the smallness of its attenuations, and its infinitesimal doses? It has been calculated, by an objector, that a grain of any substance of what we call the 30th attenuation, which is, in fact, the decillionth part of a grain, would, if the particles were arranged one after the other, reach from the earth to the sun, a distance of 95,000,000 of miles, 1262 octillions of times; yet this apparent monstrosity of an objection, so far from being an objection at all, is one of the greatest proofs that these high attenuations are the only ones which can be acted on by the yet far more attenuated particles of the animal electricity, generated by the human brain. The more attenuated the medicine, short of reaching the minimum of that which has to act on it, the more powerful will be its action; the quicker and the more brilliant will be the cure. Remember, spirit first touches the vito-electric fluid; the vito-electric fluid touches the dynamized homœopathic particles; these touch invisible tissues and invisible fluid particles; and so the changes pass on, from the imponderable to the solid, till the deranged organism is restored to its normal condition.

From all this, it is plain enough that our notions have been too gross—too materialized. The *stupor et incompetentia sensum* of Lord Bacon hath girdled us about sadly too much. The ponderable and the massive have been the sole objects of attention and belief; while the imponderable and the invisible—the real motive powers—have scarcely been thought of. Another day, however, is at hand. The tendency of the present and of all coming time is to rise from matter in the mass to the infinitesimal; from the palpable, the sensuous, and the visible, to the imponderable, the invisible, and the spiritual. There is a *spiritual* body as well as a *natural* body; and, consequently, a spiritual anatomy, a spiritual pathology, and a vito-spiritual chemistry.

Laplace, the Sir Isaac Newton of France, looking with a comprehensive mind and all-powerful intellect on the wonders of animal life, exclaims, "Beyond the limits of this visible anatomy commences another anatomy, whose phenomena we cannot perceive; beyond the limits of this external physiology of forces, of action, and of motion,

exists another invisible physiology, whose principles, effects, and laws it is of greater importance to know." This is a glance into the universe of the spiritual by a genius of which humanity is proud.

Homœopathy, with its infinitesimal attenuations, is clearly the highest phase of material therapeutics; and reaches, in virtue of its potentialities, nearest to the arcana of the inner man. The laws, however, of the spiritual mechanism, through the media of the imponderable human ætherium, or the odylie force, on the highest attenuated particles of the body, or on the most dynamized molecules of matter, pathogenetically introduced into the system as a therapeutic agent, are at present unknown. Here is a perfect *terra incognita*, a new universe, into which the human mind has scarcely darted even a glance of thought. Who will be the Livingstone in this spiritual Africa? Time will show.

THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS BILL.

IN our last we alluded to the passing of the above bill. We endeavoured to point out its unjust bearings on the public—its retrospective operation. In the House of Lords a new clause was added to the bill, with a view to prevent the interference of examining bodies with the therapeutic views of candidates for medical degrees. The clause runs thus:

" Clause xxiii. In case it shall appear to the General Council that an attempt has been made by any body, entitled under this act to grant qualifications, to impose upon any candidate offering himself for examination an obligation to adopt or refrain from adopting the practice of any particular theory of medicine and surgery as a test or condition of admitting him to examination, or of granting a certificate, it shall be lawful for the said council to represent the same to Her Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, and the said privy council may thereupon issue an injunction to such body so acting, directing them to desist from such practice; and in the event of their not complying therewith, then to order that such body shall cease to have the power of conferring any right to be registered under this act, so long as they shall continue such practice."

The foregoing clause was inserted in consequence of the representation made to the peers that those who adopted homœopathy would be excluded by the existing boards from right to practise. Only very recently a candidate, Mr. Harvey, a surgeon of Lancashire, passed an examination at the University of Aberdeen; but, being a homœopathist, Dr. Macrobin, the professor of medicine in the university, informed Mr. Harvey that *unless he relinquished homœopathy his diploma would be refused*. Thus parliament has, in this

case, attempted to provide against abuse; has *enforced* upon the universities, and other "qualifying" bodies, the necessity to refrain from putting tests to the candidates. The question arises, and we think can very easily be answered, will parliamentary enactments control, in this respect, those who have an inveterate hatred of homœopathy and its adherents? Hear the *Medical Circular* :

"No medical college will in future be able to prohibit any man from *appearing* for examination on the ground of his professing 'any particular theory.' But if examiners are judges of theories as well as facts, *how the candidate can be suffered to pass we cannot imagine.*"

Here, then, one of the organs of old-school physic solves the question. The examiners will find it not at all difficult to "pluck" a candidate, whose homœopathic tenets are known.

The bill still contains the objections which we pointed out in our last. It is, we reiterate, a bill for the doctors, and not for the people. Will it be believed that the number of petitions, *in favour of the bill*, only contained 739 signatures? And for these 739, a bill is adopted by the government; which, instead of benefiting society, will inflict a hardship on many thousands, should the bill come into operation. There is even some doubt of this; for the bill appears to be full of defects—it does not satisfy even its promoters.

The *Lancet* says :

"Indeed it is clear that the new act is deficient in many essential points; but in none more prominently than in the absence of an interpretation clause. The physician, surgeon, and practitioner of medicine, should have been clearly defined; and it should have been explicitly stated how far the Apothecaries' Act interferes with the rights and privileges of the "practitioner in medicine" of Ireland and Scotland. As the act at present is constituted, it is really difficult, if not impossible, to determine its effects in all cases; and it would be futile to anticipate what may be the decisions of our judges on some of its doubtful points. How far existing privileges may be interfered with, and how far the act may have a retrospective effect, are questions of the highest moment, but not of easy solution. The Medical Act can only, then, be regarded as the first instalment of medical reform; beneficial so far as it goes, but altogether inadequate to meet the difficulties which beset the subject of medical qualifications and the right of practising. As a *beginning*, however, we hail it as a great boon; but we *only regard it as the commencement of a series of important changes.*"

The *Medical Circular* says :

"There are few persons who will express their entire satisfaction with the new act, however pleased they may be that the foundation stone of medical reform is laid.

"The registration clauses are, in the opinion of others, the grand feature

of the bill. The chief advantages of these are, first, that they effect a marked and definite separation between the legally qualified practitioner and the *impostor*; and, secondly, that they admit to equal rights of practice throughout the empire, physicians, surgeons, and apothecaries, according to their qualifications, and without respect to the country or corporation whence they obtained their letters testimonial. These advantages are rather *theoretical* than *practical*—rather agreeable to the requirements of a general scheme, than applicable to the daily wants of the practitioner. We will explain. Although the act forbids any person to be registered but one who is legally qualified, and prohibits any unregistered person under penalties from using a professional title, it does not forbid the great cardinal evil, viz., the practice of medicine by unregistered, unqualified, and fraudulent impostors. So that a man do not style himself "Doctor," or "Surgeon," or "Apothecary," he may prescribe strychnine, aconite, lobelia, or any other dangerous drug, to the full extent of his wishes or interests, snap his fingers at the act of parliament, and laugh at the doctors. He is safe from all interference—a permitted man-slayer, at whose vile practices justice shuts her eyes, and the law winks approval. Dr. Coffin, the herbalist, will not be able to register under this act, unless perchance it should appear that he possesses an American degree, when he will be duly legalised! But is it likely that his followers will diminish in number because he drops his title? Any man will be allowed to call himself a herbalist, a hydropath, a bone-setter, a cancer-curer, or any other similar appellation, and practise with absolute impunity. The *professional advantage of registration is, consequently, under this aspect of the bill, very slight.*"

Again, the same medical editor observes :

"There will be but one registration, for which a fee not exceeding £2 must be paid by all existing practitioners, and one not exceeding £5 by all future ones. If a surgeon should think he will save his money, and not register—a very natural thought we admit, seeing that the advantages are so problematical—he must consider the penalties of neglect. By not registering, he will be disabled from holding a single public appointment, and from giving a single certificate of vaccination or of death—that is to say, he may give the certificate, but it will avail nothing."

"The penalties of this act are obviously inflicted upon the legally qualified practitioners for the purpose of making a register which will not afford a means of punishing practising quacks. This is a trim reckoning, but it is a true one. We have put the matter in this light, because we hope that the profession will not be satisfied to allow the question of medical reform to stand still with the act of 1858, but will persevere until a more comprehensive and useful measure shall have been obtained."

So a "more comprehensive and useful measure is to be obtained"—yes, if they can get it! The only comprehensive measure, and one

which will satisfy the people, will be an act for repealing all and every medical act, that perfect freedom may be enjoyed by the people and the profession. To this end we will direct all our energies. Let the *people* help us, and success is certain.

CORRESPONDENCE.

INOCULATION.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR,—A man who inoculated a child with small-pox, which resulted in death, has been committed to prison on a charge of manslaughter; a child has been killed by vaccination, and no punishment threatens the inoculator; and a parent, who conscientiously objects to contaminate his child with cow-pox, has been fined. Taken in connexion, these facts are suggestive.

Inoculation is said to be of "remote antiquity"—to have been practised in times of ignorance and amongst barbarous tribes, and to have had its origin in the deserts of Armenia, where the practice was "monopolized by old women." Such is its respectable parentage.

It is said that an analogous practice—contact—was anciently in vogue in remote parts of Wales and Scotland, but the introduction of inoculation into these kingdoms was reserved to a clever but eccentric woman of rank and beauty, who learned it of "a set of old women" in the East. The novelty was soon patronized by a Royal Princess; and, like other fashions and foibles of the great, in due time it descended to the vulgar. In vain did some conscientious divines denounce the wickedness of the voluntary infliction of disease, and a few far-sighted physicians prognosticate the inevitable results. It was useless to represent "the extreme imprudence of rushing into an immediate and certain danger, in the precarious hope of preventing one that was distant and contingent." As usual, the alliance between "the most eminent physicians" and their lady-clients carried the day against common sense and reliance upon Providence. The new system was loudly lauded in the press and the pulpit. Amongst other zealots, a bishop of Worcester preached it in Holborn. He had the hardihood to assert—inoculators have never been very scrupulous—that, in the place in which he preached, "the deaths by small-pox had lessened one-fifth since inoculation was practised. Whereas in the year 1752, in which this sermon was preached, the small-pox was raging in the town, and the deaths were more numerous than they had ever been in any year previous to it: they amounted to 3,538 persons."—(*Moore's History of Small-pox.*)

Time, however, fully vindicated the objections to small-pox inoculation. The practice was introduced into England in 1722, and was in favour for the greater part of a century. At length it became apparent to all competent observers that it was a very great evil. "The confession," says

Dr. Moore, "that must be made is mortifying to a professional man; for, according to such records as we possess, it appears that in spite of all medical exertion, the mortality from small-pox had progressively augmented. It had been made evident from the bills of mortality of the City of London, renowned for medical science, that, at the beginning of the eighteenth century, about one-fourteenth part of the inhabitants died of small-pox, and during the last thirty years of that century, when the practice in small-pox was highly improved, the mortality by that disease had augmented to one-tenth. * * *

But this immense and increasing consumption of human lives was not the sole evil produced by this distemper; for a considerable portion of the survivors were pitted and disfigured; some lost one of their eyes; a few became totally blind; and others had their constitution impaired, and pre-disposed to a variety of complaints, which were productive of future distress and sometimes death." In fact, small-pox inoculation, which, for nearly one hundred years, was patronised by royalty, preached by bishops, and practised by the faculty, was a very hot-bed of contagion, disease, and death, fell, at last, under the ban of the law, and is now punished as a crime. Must the past preach modesty in vain?

About the time when it was generally acknowledged that the practice of small-pox inoculation was indefensible, Jenner, fortunately for empirics, but unfortunately for humanity, made known a new mode of inoculation, of which he took the hint from some milkmaids. This substitute for the old delusion was named vaccination. A host of volunteers, including clergymen, ladies, and footmen, eager to acquire a cheap reputation for science and philanthropy, hastened to propagate it. With little consideration, and less experience, it was preached in the pulpit, puffed in the press, commended by the medical colleges, and sanctioned by parliament. Opposition and warning were in vain. A Jennerian Society was formed; a Vaccine Board organized; an annual grant voted, and a yearly report printed by parliament; and the boon of a free post conceded to the cow-poxers. Yet vaccination advanced but slowly. Common sense, worth all the sciences, rejected it. Men like Watt and Kant condemned it. In 1811, nine years after he had received his £30,000, Jenner intemperately wrote, "the town is a fool—an idiot."

For more than half a century, vaccination has been fostered and tested. No means have been left untried to obtain for it general acceptance. The public moneys have been lavished upon it. Well-paid boards and agents have importunately proffered it. Coercive means, bribery, "pious frauds," "well-intentioned devices," "ingenious contrivances," even forged documents have not obtained for it the popularity which is desired. It is difficult to believe that corrupting the vital juices and invading the vital powers can conduce to health. The nostrum has failed to fulfil the boast of its author. Individuals, who rely upon it for protection, die of small-pox. Vaccination, by warrant of law, kills some and afflicts others with, or pre-disposes them to, a variety of diseases. Nevertheless, it must be forced

upon a thinking and unwilling people. One weapon remains—a compulsory law—and now, in the latter part of the nineteenth century, parents are fined for maintaining their opinions and their parental rights, and rejecting a pernicious nostrum.

Contrast the conduct of the traders in cow-pox with that of the vendor of some patent medicine. The inventor may boast the efficacy of his wonderful pill, and solicit everybody to buy; but he does so with becoming modesty. He puffs, but he defrays the cost of his advertisements himself. He even pays a heavy tax to the state for the privilege to sell. He is content. All he asks is a clear stage and no favour.

The traders in cow-pox are not so easily satisfied. They not only demand that they be subjected to no restriction, but to no competition. They are not even bound to supply the real thing, but may substitute anything, or nothing. Their rivals, who proffer small-pox, must be put down. This is not enough: the cow-poxers must have more peculiar and extraordinary privileges. Government must keep a shop for supplying their drug. They must be subsidied by the state: in 1855 (not to mention Ireland and Scotland) they received nearly £57,000 in England and Wales, and they clamour for more than thrice that sum. Yet more, their puffs must be printed by the state. Last year, besides the usual (so-called) Annual Report, and other documents, parliament printed for them a Blue Book of 280 pages. Still dissatisfied, they require more. They have the impudence to demand that everybody shall be compelled, not only to buy, but actually to imbibe, their disgusting and deleterious corruption. After that, talk of "rampant quackery!" Does truth require, or can it be recommended by, such means?

If a child should die in consequence of small-pox inoculation, there is a verdict of manslaughter against the operator. Should a child die of cow-pox inoculation, it is all right.

Small-pox inoculation was patronised by government for nearly a century. It is now illegal. Cow-pox inoculation has taken its place, and is now the favoured folly. When shall it, in turn, yield to some new absurdity, and the parallel be complete? Must there be always some favourite disease?

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

JOHN GIBBS.

*Mdze Hill Cottage,
St. Leonards-on-Sea, Aug. 2, 1858.*

THE MEDICAL LEGISLATION OF THE SESSION.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

SIR.—A glance at the medical legislation of the session may interest your readers.

The "Poisons Bill" was withdrawn, in deference to the chemists, who strenuously opposed it.

The "Medical Practitioners Bill" was passed under the title of "The Medical Act." The other Medical Profession Bills were withdrawn or permitted to die. By the passing of the Medical Act, the profession is in the hands of a council. An estimate may be formed of the popularity of this Act amongst medical men, from the fact that the petitions in its favour only number 739 signatures, representing not nearly a tithe of the profession. An interesting calculation may likewise be made of the value placed by the House of Commons on the signature of a doctor compared with that of a layman, it being exactly as the said number 739 is to 15,733.

Parliament congratulates itself upon having got rid of an annual source of trouble, but may find itself mistaken. The Act was avowedly accepted as an instalment, upon O'Connell's principle of taking 6s. 8d., and then looking for the rest. It is already in disfavour. At the last moment clauses were introduced into it which are offensive to its supporters. The clause making registration compulsory is resented by some medical men as an indignity. The clause enacting that none but registered practitioners shall recover charges is felt by others as being both impolitic and unjust, and a direct incentive to a dishonest repudiation of moral obligations. Under this clause the questions may arise—are corn-cutting and hair-cutting surgical operations? and some enterprising surgeon may yet claim for the craft a renewal of their old monopoly of shaving. However, as regards the supply of medicine, the clause is defective; it enacts that no unregistered person shall recover any charge in any court of law "for any medicine which he shall have both prescribed and supplied." There is nothing in this to prevent one person from prescribing and another from supplying. By this plan the person supplying would be entitled to recover his charges. The holders of foreign diplomas are, with some limitations, entitled to register. The clause providing for the advance of money from the Treasury for the purposes of the Act was properly struck out at the suggestion of Mr. T. S. Duncombe. On the whole, we may expect a renewal of the agitation next session, and a day may come when the very men who have been most active in promoting this legislation may desire to emancipate their profession again from the trammels of the State.

The "Irish Vaccination Bill" has also passed. Three clauses have been added, the most important of which provides for the payment, out of the poor rates, of the costs of legal proceedings, when taken by a Board of Guardians, against any person who shall propagate small-pox by inoculation or otherwise.

The "Public Health Bill" has also passed. This Act is to expire in August, 1859. An attempt was made by the Lords to extend it to two years, but it was successfully resisted in the Commons by Mr. T. S. Duncombe. Having broken one promise in passing the 8th clause (with the purport of which your readers are acquainted), the House was suddenly seized with a fit of virtuous resolution, and refused to commit a second

“breach of faith.” The passing of the 8th clause has been defended on the grounds that the present Government are not responsible to the House for a promise made by a former Government. This is an unworthy subterfuge. The promise not to legislate again upon the subject of vaccination previous to enquiry was made not only by one Government, but by successive Governments; and not to the House, but on behalf of the House to the petitioners, who, out of doors, opposed compulsory legislation upon a scientific question affecting personal rights. The House of Commons has broken its repeated promise, violated its duty to its constituents, and disgraced itself. If we are to have our homes infested with medical spies, and our personal and parental rights betrayed, we may ask—of what use is a House of Commons? If this institution fails to guard our liberties, has it not outlived its design and its utility? Are 560 tyrants preferable to a single despot? To what purpose did our forefathers fight and bleed? The people may yet find it necessary to put a limit to the usurpations of their representatives.

The House of Commons having confirmed the odious Compulsory Vaccination Act of 1853, now is the time to show that this bungling measure is not worth the paper upon which it is printed. It does not need an O’Connell “to drive a coach and four through it.” The 9th clause enacts that the notice, requiring the performance of vaccination, shall be given “on or within seven days after the registration” of birth. Clause 2 enacts that the child shall be vaccinated “within three calendar months” after birth, when in the custody of a parent, and “within four calendar months” when in the custody of another guardian. If the registration of birth be postponed until the expiration of the third or fourth month, as the case may be, it becomes a physical impossibility to vaccinate the child within the prescribed age, and the vaccination notice becomes only a bit of waste paper.

There are other holes in the Act, but it may suffice to point out one at a time. Should this one be stopped, it will then be convenient to point out another.

The Compulsory Vaccination Act is conceived in the spirit in which Galileo was compelled to retract his opinions. But some of the old English hatred of arbitrary power is still alive. The Registrar-General reports the people in various towns as “violent,” “very violent,” and “threatening,” when served with the notices; and it is said that, with reference to the Act, the sturdy men of Sheffield exclaim—“Ah! they may make laws; we’ll show them how to break them!” Is it wise to provoke such feelings amongst the people? Government had better beware how it proceeds further in a course of which it is impossible to foresee all the results.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

*Maze Hill Cottage,
St. Leonards-on-Sea, August 6, 1858.*

JOHN GIBBS.

CASES
TREATED AT THE NORTHAMPTON HOMŒOPATHIC
DISPENSARY.

CASE 1.—April 29th, 1858. E. M., aged 10 years, was brought by her mother to this dispensary. She has been suffering for some time with cough, which mother describes as dreadful and distressing. There appears to be a great deal of phlegm in the throat, which she cannot detach. She is very feverish, particularly at night; thirsty; bowels are frequently relaxed; urine is very thick and high coloured; no appetite; tongue thickly coated white. Mother says that her health has been failing for some time.

Prescription: *Dulcamara* 3, 6 drops in 6 ounces of water; a table-spoonful to be taken twice a-day.

May 3rd. She is decidedly better; less fever; urine is now natural; bowels regular; appetite improved. Cough still continues very badly; much worse during night than in the day; much phlegm in throat which she cannot raise.

Prescription: *Tart. Stib.* 6, 12 globules to be dissolved and taken as last medicine.

May 7th. Cough a little better, but still troublesome at night; no cough during the day; raises phlegm easier; complains of much pain and heat in the head during the fit of coughing; can eat nothing but dry bread and biscuit.

Prescription: *Phosphorus* 3, 6 drops to be taken as last medicine.

13th. Came. She is much better in every respect.

Prescription: Continue *Phosph.* 12, 6 drops, and take as before.

20th. Cough is considerably better; takes food better.

Prescription: Continue *Phosph.*

27th. Still better; eats heartily; continually craving for food.

Prescription: *Calc. Carb.* 30, 12 globules to dissolve, and take as before.

June 3rd. Cough has quite gone. The child has gained flesh, and is now quite well.

A Case of Mumps cured by the 200th Potency.

CASE 2.—Oct. 15, 1857. Mary Ann Kingston, aged 15, residing in Cow Lane. The glands on both sides of neck are much swollen; throat is very sore; she is sick in the morning; tongue coated white, and red edges; pain in chest and lower part of back.

Prescription: *Merc. sol.*, 200, 12 globules to be dissolved in 6 ounces of water, a table-spoonful to be taken twice a-day.

22nd. Came. Swellings are gone down.

To take no medicine, and to come again in four days.

25th. Has headache this morning, and is often drowsy; but feels altogether better and takes her food better.

Prescription: *Bell.* 200, 2 globules to be taken at a dose; then wait three days without medicine.

29th. Headache has left. Says she is quite well. Discharged, cured.

CASE 3.—April 29th, 1858. Ellen Head, aged seven years, residing at Upper Mounts. Conjunctiva of each eye is deeply inflamed. There is an ulcer on cornea of left eye; lids are ulcerated and inflamed; a sty on right eyelid. She has lost flesh the last three months. Mother says, when undressed, there is nothing of her.

Prescription: to take *Pulsatilla* and *Sulphur*, each 30, a dose every sixth hour in alternation.

May 13th. Came. Eyes are much less inflamed; sty has gone; health improved; ulcer still on left cornea.

Prescription: *Sulphur* 200, 12 globules to be dissolved in 6 ounces of water, and a table-spoonful of the mixture to be taken twice a-day.

20th. Very much better. A little congestion of right eye still; ulcer on left cornea is much smaller.

Prescription: repeat medicine.

27th. Came. Left eye is rather more inflamed; ulcer about the same as last week; right eyelids are tumid and inflamed; pricking pains in lids.

Prescription: *Staphysagria* 30, 12 globules, a dose twice a-day.

June 3rd. Eyes are very weak, but much less inflamed; ulcer is rapidly disappearing.

Prescription: *Euphrasia* 30, 12 globules for a week.

10th. Eyes are weak still, more especially the right.

Prescription: *Merc. sol.* 200, 12 globules for a week.

17th. Came. Eyes continue much better. Margins of lids are ulcerated.

Prescription: *Aurum* 30, 24 globules for a week.

24th. The eyes are well, excepting a little ecchymosis.

Prescription: *Hepar Sulph.* 200, 6 globules for a week.

July 1st. Came. Quite well. Discharged, cured.

CASE 4.—May 27, 1858. M. A. Holliday, aged 54 years, residing in Horsemarket. Says she has suffered many years from excessive nervousness and debility. Has not the least strength; obliged to be always lying or sitting down. If she rises and attempts to do anything, her legs tremble, and she is in danger of falling unless supported. Frequently suffers with intense headache; giddiness; things seem to turn round her in a circle. A sensation as if cold

water rushed up into her head, and at times as if the scalp was lifted up. Bowels costive; has only had two motions during the last fortnight, accompanied with great pain. Feet are like ice. So perfectly exhausted at times that life seems to go from her.

Prescription: to take *Lachesis* 30, 6 drops for four days.

31st. Came. Has felt better; head is better.

Prescription: Repeat medicine.

June 7th. Much better; says she feels a great deal stronger. Legs swell towards night. Suffered with a most distracting headache on Saturday; lasted all day on Sunday. Head hot, sometimes cold; scalp feels sore after the pain.

Prescription: *China* 30, 6 drops for a week.

14th. Says she is getting on well, but feels fluttering and sinking at epigastrium. Says she is much better on the whole. Has taken tea.

Prescription: *Ferrum* 30, 12 globules for a week.

21st. Came. Tongue and mouth are sore; soreness extends down œsophagus into stomach; fluttering and emptiness at stomach.

Prescription: *Muriatic Acid* 12, 6 drops for a week.

28th. Came. She is so much improved that she wishes to discontinue treatment. She can now walk a considerable distance without fatigue, and is capable of attending to the duties of her family, and expresses herself very grateful for the benefit she has received.

CASE 5.—Feb. 24. William Dixon, aged seven years, residing at Weston Favell. Right cheek is much swollen externally; there is a large ulcer on inner side of the cheek; much inflamed; discharges blood freely, and is very painful; worse at night and in the open air.

Prescription: *Merc. sol.*, 12 globules of the 12 dilution for a week.

March 4th. Came. Much better; less swelling and pain.

Prescription: *Merc. sol.*, 6 globules of the 12 dilution for a week.

11th. Swelling has nearly all gone. Ulcer is healing quickly.

Prescription: *Merc. sol.*, 6 globules of the 30 dilution for a week.

18th. Came. Nearly well.

Prescription: *Merc. sol.*, 6 globules of the 200 potency for a week.

25th. He is quite well. Discharged, cured.

CASE 6.—Nov. 4, 1857. Thomas Dunn, residing in Bearward Street. Has suffered from toothache the last four days; very violent at night. The right side of face is much swollen; pains are sharp and throbbing, and almost drive him mad when at the worst. Pains extend upward into temple of affected side. He feels chilly and perspires profusely.

Prescription: *Kalmia latifolia* 3, 6 drops to be dissolved in 6 oz. of water; a table-spoonful to be taken three times a-day.

10th. Came to report himself quite well.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Record.

MY DEAR SIR,—May I beg a few lines in your valuable *Record* for the following case?

A young friend, afflicted with the sensation of seeing objects *double*, received from me some *Belladonna*—dose, two globules every six hours. On the first day of taking the medicine, she reported it had benefited her. On the second, objects appeared single at the distance, across the table. Vision continued to improve: all objects single across the room: next, across the street; and, within a week, sight was all right. May any person similarly afflicted be induced to try the same remedy.

Yours faithfully,

A LAY BROTHER.

CASE.

A FRIEND who had been suffering very much from toothache through a whole week, sent to me for some globules to relieve her. I forwarded *Pulsatilla* 12, directing three globules to be taken. The effect was instantaneous and the cure complete, verifying the truth of our maxim, *Cito, tuto, et jucunde*.

AMICUS.

TWELVE MONTHS INCUBATION OF A VACCINE PUSTULE.

M. BLACK mentioned at a late meeting of the Medical Society of the hospitals of Paris, that M. Despaulx Ader vaccinated, in October, 1858, a young lady who was leaving for England. No result was obtained, and he had a letter from his patient more than a twelvemonth afterwards, saying that vaccine pustules had just appeared on the spot where the puncture had been made. The pustules went through their usual stages, and their nature was verified by an eminent English physician.—*Lancet*.

INOCULATION POISONING.

DESMARRES introduced the practice of curing pannas by the inoculation of the pus of purulent ophthalmia. It was a bold idea; but it has scarcely yet been tried sufficiently to warrant our confidence in it.—*Medical Circular*.

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THE
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MEDICAL, SOCIAL, AND SCIENTIFIC.

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NEW SERIES.—PRICE 2D.

TO OUR READERS.

THE present number of our periodical completes the third volume of our new series. The editorial year just closing has been an eventful one; and as a record of the progress of a great truth, our volume will, many years hence, be referred to for its notes on passing events. The struggles necessary in establishing a new truth in an old country, where the prejudices in favour of existing establishments are strong, are to the timid mind appalling. We, however, have endeavoured to maintain and to adopt a fearless course. We have watched with deep emotions the efforts, mighty in themselves, of our opponents, in parliament and out. By medical associations in meeting assembled, by private gossip, by libel, by ignorance, by wilful intent, by persecution, by every act that is ungentlemanly and dishonourable, have the allopaths of this country endeavoured to suppress, to destroy homœopathy and its practitioners. The existence of a periodical like ours we hold to be necessary; and it is with this conviction we have laboured to continue its publication. *Gain—personal gain*—has never been our object. Had it thus been, we should have failed, and relinquished our labours long since. We have had, and still have, an earnest desire to extend a great truth, and the pecuniary loss has fallen exclusively upon *one individual*. That loss is serious, yet is cheerfully borne, in the hope that the ever-blessed truth, for the “healing of the nations,” may be extended, until the body be delivered from the scourge of allopathy. It is our purpose, with

divine help, to continue our labours ; and we earnestly hope that those who have the welfare of humanity at heart will help us. We confess that we are most disappointed in the medical men of our school. From what motive we know not, there has been an indifference on the part of many to enlighten the public. Some of our number there are, and we are ashamed to confess it, who have spoken disparagingly of those who have given popular lectures on homœopathy. They would, it appears, perpetuate the policy of the faculty—to keep in ignorance the patient, making him the passive recipient of the remedy, “asking no questions.” Our object is to educate the people. We have nothing to fear from knowledge. We are not among those, indeed, who believe that “a little knowledge is a dangerous thing.” We say, give knowledge by all measures.

We will not speak boastfully of the past. Let our readers judge our work. Defects there have been, no doubt, and we may plead guilty to having been occasionally behind-hand with our work. This should not surprise our readers, when they know that at the midnight hour most of the editorial work has been done. And if the public support us, we are willing still, until further help shall come, to go on labouring, after the toils of an arduous medical practice are daily ended. Very much work still lies before us. In the coming session of parliament, our labours will, as they must, be incessant. The medical liberties of the public are in danger ; and, while claiming medical liberty for ourselves, we would not deny it to those who differ from us, be their medical opinions and practice what they may. A clear stage and no favour is our motto ; and, though the law of *similia similibus curantur* we hold to be the law of healing, the work of nature, the gift of God, we never have failed to give all proper credit, or even praise, to those who cure by traditional methods.

We advocate perfect equality in matters of medicine, as well as privately in matters of religion. No more in medicine will we submit to *toleration* than in matters relating to the higher sentiment of religion.

LECTURES ON HOMŒOPATHY,
DELIVERED IN BANBURY, BY SAMUEL EADON, M.D., M.A.

Second Lecture—Part 3.

METHODUS MEDENDI, OR THE LAW OF CURE.

WHEN man came from the hands of his Creator, he was a perfect creature. Obedience to law would have maintained him for ever in that state of perfection. He would have enjoyed, not only life, but *healthful* life; and, withal, *continuous* healthful life. Man, however, fell; and from that moment there was an inherent tendency to infringe all kinds of law—organic, physical, intellectual, and moral. God, foreseeing the result, when he left man free to stand or free to fall, prepared substances in the boundless realms of nature, which, when applied aright, *i.e.*, when the principle of their adaptation to the organism was discovered, would not only ameliorate suffering, but restore him to health and prolong life. Hence substances, naturally innocuous to the healthy condition of the body, whether animal, vegetable, or mineral, were from the first intended by Providence for curative purposes, when given according to a pre-established but hidden relationship. To discover this wonderfully occult principle has been the search of ages, and of minds of the highest order. Many caught, for a moment, a coruscation of the truth, looming up the night of ignorance, which, in the first ages of the world, overhung the human intellect; but it was left to the nineteenth century, and to the transcendent genius of the immortal Hahnemann—that “hierarchy of quacks,” as the allopaths call him—to evoke the light from the darkness, and to pour down the dark heavens of ignorance and prejudice a *glorious therapeutic day*, not only on an unbelieving profession, but on an astonished but truth-seeking world.

If God intended a poison to act on the human frame, when in a state of disease, as a cure-agent, there must have been a certain relation established *at first* between the drug and the organism, in order to bring the recuperative action into play. Now it will be found, upon mature consideration, that there cannot, by possibility, be more than three kinds of relationship between symptoms, structural and functional, on the one hand, and the effects, structural and functional, which a drug is capable of producing, on the other; and these three relationships are the following:

1st. A contrariety or polar opposite between the symptoms of a disease and the effects produced by the drug; in other words, the administration of a drug to produce symptoms the reverse of those under which a patient is labouring. This is antipathy—the law of curing by contraries—“*contraria contrariis curantur.*”

2nd. A dissimilarity or want of all correspondence between the symptoms of a disease and the effects produced by the drug; *i.e.*, attempting at hap-hazard to cure a disease in one part of the system,

by setting up another and a greater artificial disease in another part of the system. This is the method of counter-irritation, so much in vogue—allopathy.

3rd. A similarity or complete correspondence between the symptoms of a disease and the effects produced by a drug; *i.e.*, the law of like curing like—"similia similibus curantur." This is homœopathy.

Let us examine these three relationships in their order, and ascertain which is the hidden principle, intended by the Creator for the cure of the infraction of his divine organic laws. It must be one of these—there can be no other.

LAW I. First, then, as to curing disease by inducing symptoms the very opposite; *i.e.*, the establishing of a polar opposite relationship between the symptoms of a disease and the effects produced by the drug.

At first sight, this antipathic mode of curing disease, by inducing an opposite condition, seems feasible, and somewhat natural; and hence the wide-spread belief that this method is attended with benefit; nay, that it *verily* cures. Closer observation, however, with ampler knowledge and more correct habits of thought, shew the mode to be thoroughly empirical in all its phases of application. According to the antipathic method, a patient with acidity of the stomach takes an alkali—carbonate of soda, its opposite—chemically to neutralize it. Does it do so? Parties who have tried it declare that they have taken carbonate of soda sufficient to stock a druggist's shop, without the slightest benefit. If a patient has got an alkaline deposit, lemon juice is taken, which, according to Brande, induces the uric acid calculus; if, on the other hand, he has got an excess of the uric acid deposit, the administration of its opposite—an alkali—shortly induces the phosphate of ammonia and magnesia deposit. In wishing to avoid Scylla, the poor patient strikes against Charybdis. If the patient cannot rest, says antipathy, give him opium. Is he constipated? Purge him well. Has he diarrhœa? Stop it—give an astringent. Has he a too rapid pulse? Bleed him—that will soon reduce the pulse. Is he sleepless? Give something to make him sleep. Has he pain? Lull the pain by giving an anodyne. Yes! this is the method of curing by *contraries*. There seems something feasible about it, but let us look this antipathic law in the face, and see whether there is a broad, honest cast of countenance about it, or whether there lurks not deceit, and a treacherous glance of the eye withal.

A sick man is sleepless. Sleep is a natural process during a part of the twenty-four hours. A man *will* sleep, if the brain and its appendages are in a quiescent, undisturbed condition: if he cannot sleep, there is a *cause*—every effect has a cause—whether that cause be known or unknown. An abnormal condition is set up somewhere in the system; and this sleeplessness, so far from being a state to be

deplored, is nature's warning voice to the patient and his friends, that a *something* is at work, which is acting most injuriously on the great nervous centres. The homœopathic practitioner diagnoses the cause, removes it, and sleep comes on, according to nature's wont. He does not look upon the sleeplessness as the *disease*, but merely as phenomenal of abnormal nervine undulations. How does the antipathic practitioner act? He views the sleeplessness as a disease, and not as the warning voice of nature; and forthwith orders an opiate, which at once stupifies and deadens the nervous system. He gags the mouth of the man, who, at the top of his strength, was calling out, Fire! Fire! but uses no means to stop the progress of the flames. The fire rages on with redoubled energy, as nothing has been done as yet to check it. The disease sleeps not, if the patient sleeps. Sleeps! The stupifying effects of an opiate-draught, to bear the designation of nature's balmy sleep! Never! The patient lies for some hours in a state of *stupefaction, most certainly*; but the *disease* has not been touched. It is worming its way the while, deeper and more deep into the very arcana of the organism; and will require, when the patient awakes, appliances antipathically severe, and allopathically terrible. The cause of the sleeplessness remained unaffected. The *forced sleep* merely *masked* the disease. It was only a thrown-up kind of entrenchment, over which, when medication leapt, the disease was found surrounded with ramparts of defence, and in a very *Redan* of security. The patient was *asleep*, but the disease, all the time, was *wide, wide awake!*

This antipathic mode is a *sham*. It cries Peace! Peace! and there can be no such thing. It is the lowest kind of empiricism—a beggarly mode of attempting to cure a disease, and a disgrace to medical science. All cures depend upon correct re-action. If the train of symptoms is in the line of the drug, *i. e.*, is similar to the symptoms which the drug produces on the healthy, the re-action is in opposition to the original diseased symptoms; a secondary action, in short, takes place the very opposite of the primary action, *i. e.*, a cure is effected. If the re-action be opposed to the action of the drug, the disease will be aggravated, because in harmony with the original symptoms; on the other hand, if the undulations excited by the medicine be similar to the nerve-force undulations, which emanate from the nerve-centres and pass along the nervo-axis cylinder, the disease will be removed, because, when the organism re-acts, it will re-act *against the original symptoms*, and this is *the cure*. If the medicine induce a kind of undulation different from that which is propagated along the axis-cylinder of the nerves, the disease will be aggravated; because the re-action of the organism will be *like the original symptoms*; there being, in this case, two sets of symptoms—the natural symptoms of the disease and the artificial symptoms of the drug—*both alike, and in a combined form—hence the aggravation!* This is an important



point, and should be borne in mind, in order to understand and appreciate a divine, therapeutic law.

One other example on this first law, and we pass on. A person has got diarrhœa, for example. A medicine is given—say opium—which is known to produce constipation, the decided opposite of a state of diarrhœa. The drug acts on the relationship of opposition; *i.e.*, it produces effects directly the reverse of the disease. The primary action of the drug removes the diarrhœa, so long as the action lasts, or can be maintained. In time, and this time always comes, the primary action expends itself. The constitution then re-acts, in the same direction as the course of the original disease. The diarrhœa returns, in forms more formidable and painful. The drainage of the system now becomes fearful; extreme debility comes on, and death will result, if the *vis vitæ* be not roused to a superhuman effort, to save the organism from destruction. Now, to apply the doctrine of re-action. In this case, the re-action was *against the drug*—it should have been *against the symptoms*—and was consequently in favour of the disease. Had it been in favour of the drug, *i.e.*, had the drug excited symptoms like the disease, the re-action would have been *against the diseased symptoms* and hence a cure. This must always be the result when medicines are given on the principle of opposition, or antipathically. They merely tend to palliate symptoms, *i.e.*, to stop the action of disease for a time. This is ignorantly called a *cure*. Eventually, however, the antipathic method aggravates the disease, exhausts the vital powers, and renders death the rule rather than the exception. The fact is, the principle of opposition is absurd. What is the opposite to a pain in the head, as if it would burst? or of a pain in the stomach, as if a lump of lead were there? or of a pain in the eye, as if pierced with a dagger's point? The principle, if true, could not be carried out in detail; but it is false—wrong in theory and absurd in practice.

LAW II. The next kind of relationship, having any pretensions to a curative power, is that of *dissimilarity*, or a want of all correspondence between the symptoms of a disease and the effects produced by the drug. This mode of cure consists in setting up a disease, greater than the one to be removed, and is too well known as allopathy, or the regular school practice. Sometimes the allopath will not only set up a new disease, but play the antipath, according to the method we have just described. Under the combined action of *antipatho-allopathy*, what is to become of the poor patient! If a drug is taken, and in a large dose too, and for months together, on the principle of setting up a disease *greater* than the one for which medication was called in, it is evident the drug must expend itself on organs and tissues, other than those which are in a morbid or abnormal condition; disturbing, in fact, the functions of parts which were in a healthy condition, and leaving unaffected those which were in a state of disease. The exhibition of a drug on this principle—a want of all

correspondence between the symptoms of a disease and the effects produced by a drug—must be a *disease-creator*, and not a *health-restorer*; and, consequently, a relationship of this kind can form no basis for a curative process whatever; *i.e.*, the bringing of the body from an abnormal or diseased condition to that of a normal or healthy one. A few illustrations will shew the bearing of this principle, as a law of cure; a law, however, which people seem to love so much, and in which they place such implicit faith, and for which they are so enthusiastic when they exclaim, "Severe diseases require severe remedies. Ah, poor fellow! it was a case for *active treatment*; and he got it; for all was done that could be done." The man of course died; but the verdict is never, either by saint or sinner, "Killed by mal-treatment." Mankind place faith on a method, that has no pretensions to its being based on a principle—place faith on a plan of taking away a disease, by inoculating the system with a greater; and because a patient sometimes finds the symptoms of his *first disease* mitigated as soon as the artificial disease has got fairly set up, the ill effects of this second, superinduced disease not being as yet felt, except in the debility of a six or twelve months' convalescence, which he is told is the result of the severity of the disease and not of the barbarity of the treatment, he calls himself cured, and thinks his medical attendant a *mighty clever fellow!* When viewed aright, and a little common sense is brought into play, it has really required all this time for the nervous system to rally its forces, to enable it to overcome the effects produced by the original and by the artificially induced disease. It is *no cure at all*. Nature has merely *slimed over* for a while the morbid matters injected into the system. The law of change, however, in the atomic fabric of the body, is constantly going on, though little felt. The period at length arrives, when the last particles slimed up require to be disturbed; particle after particle comes into motion; fresh symptoms arise; pains, more intense than before, are felt; the original disease evolves more fully its primal symptoms; the artificially-created disease excites a new train of horrors; the patient is worse than before; and in this way wronged nature cries aloud against such *cure-mockery*—such heaping up of Pelion pain on Ossa sorrow. But to our illustrations; and when we have done, each of you will, doubtless, be able to select similar cases from amongst your own social circles.

Take a case related by a gentleman of considerable practice, before a medical society. A patient had been labouring for a considerable time with a violent inflammation of the eye. He could not bear the slightest light, and the pain was most intense. The practitioner at once set up a new disease, by giving a powerful purgative. As long as the medicine acted, the eye was better. But the time comes when the system re-acts against the medicine, and it re-acts in the line of the disease, *i.e.*, makes the disease worse, when the medicine is given antipathically, *i.e.*, doing the very opposite of what the symptoms

indicated. A re-action of the organism in this case at length took place, and the eye was at once worse. The purgative was again given, *i.e.*, an artificial disease was again set up; the eye was better for a while; re-action again took place; inflammation and intense agony once more returned. This was repeated again and again, and with a similar result. The fact is, the remedy was merely palliative; and, while striving to cure, the powers of life gradually sank, and death was the result. This is the sort of stuff people pant after; and, when eased of pain, though scarcely free from the clutches of death, they call it a *cure*. Occasionally, however (would that it were always!) the dose has to be repeated so often, and in forms so fearfully increased, that the poor patient takes the alarm, discovers the sham, and bows out his doctorship.

The purgative relieved the patient by setting up another disease; in this case, for a time, the organism constantly re-acted against the medicine, instead of against the symptoms, and hence the failure. Had the effects produced by the medicines in their totality been similar to the original train of symptoms, the re-action, whenever it took place, would have been the polar opposite to the primary diseased symptoms, and thus a cure would, for a certainty, have been effected.

A lady, aged twenty-five years, was seized one Saturday night with a violent pain in her right side. The medical man called in diagnosed it as inflammation of the lungs; and, consequently, a large basin of blood was taken from the right arm. The bleeding relieved the patient a little. Pills and mixtures were given, but the pain returned with more than its original violence! Eighteen leeches were next applied, and the bleeding kept up with warm poultices. The pain still remained. The bowels being confined, a powerful purgative was given, which produced a violent effect. The pain still continued unabated!! Another large basin of blood was abstracted from the right arm, *but this time without any relief!!!* On the fifth day, premature labour set in, and no wonder! The patient being now exhausted to the last extremity, stimulants were applied, but all to no effect. *The patient, on the seventh day after being seized with merely a pain in the side, died; died, did we say?—was MURDERED* by the routine practice of old physic. Such is allopathy—counter-irritation—the setting up of one disease in the vain hope of curing another. Well might Shakspeare exclaim—

“Throw physic to the dogs!”

[We refer our readers in another part of our present number to a case of shameful mal-treatment which has just now happened at Bradford, by the administration of large doses of *Nux vomica*, according to the precepts of *scientific orthodoxy* (falsely so called). We request them to mark the blindness of prejudice, the marvellous effects of early instilled notions on the mind, the *logical acumen* displayed by the coroner, and the *impartial verdict* given by these twelve Yorkshire Solons!—EDS.]

THE PREVALENCE OF FEVER—ITS CAUSES AND PREVENTION.

WHILE we write, fever appears to be spreading most extensively in the villages and smaller towns of Northamptonshire and adjoining counties. In Daventry, several deaths have occurred, and so many cases have happened that a state of alarm has spread in the vicinity. At Roade, we are informed, there have occurred nearly two hundred cases. In Podington a great many cases have occurred, and the clergyman of the parish has been severely attacked, but is now, we are most glad to say, convalescent. In Peterborough it appears to be increasing—two deaths have already occurred. In Amptill (Bedfordshire) it also prevails. Several other villages and towns are affected. In Great Horwood, near Buckingham, it appears to have been very severe, eighteen deaths having occurred in that place out of 125 cases; the population being only about 700. One of every six has been attacked, and one of every seven so attacked has died. How many of these died unnecessarily we are not prepared to say: how many might have been saved under homœopathic treatment our readers may infer when we state that, when fever prevailed about three years ago in Northampton, out of 122 cases treated homœopathically, only three died.*

Of the causes which develop fever, and which render it contagious, close, ill ventilated cottages, with the glazed holes—apologies for windows—near the floor, a whole family of seven sometimes sleeping in one room, beds which have served successive generations for all purposes, never having been cleaned or turned out, decomposing refuse matter surrounding the habitation, filthy pig-sties there, with want of cleanliness in the persons, deficient nutrition, unwholesome food—these are some of the causes which may be designated to be removable.

That a hot, dry summer is the chief exciting cause of fever there is no doubt, ague and other forms of low, remittent fever being always more prevalent in dry than in moderately wet summers. We cannot omit to observe, however, that our agricultural labourers' dwellings are not fit, in many cases, for human habitation. The greater portion of them have been standing more than a century; indeed, two and even three centuries is the age of some of our village cottages. The wonder is, not that they should contain fever, but that they are ever free from it. We have often wished, when entering the sick room in the upper story of an old, thatched cottage, that our villages were burnt to the ground; for they are full of fever and itch. There are some happy exceptions, in the cases where beneficent landowners have attended to the comforts of the labourer,

* See *Fevers: their Irrational Treatment—their Rational Treatment*, by Charles T. Pearce.

and have caused to be erected cottages, cleanly, healthy, and cheerful. Such are those of Earl Spencer, Sir Charles Isham, and a few others of our county nobility and gentry; but we have visited every village and town within a radius of twenty miles from Northampton, and the great mass of them are full of "dead men's bones," though their exterior may be clean.

When calling attention to this state of things, we have been met with the reply that many of the labouring poor *will not be clean*. This may be true with the careless and idle housewife, as in higher grades of society; but, as a rule, give an Englishwoman a clean habitation and she will keep it clean.

An effectual remedy for the spreading of fever in villages we believe would be found in the plan we years ago suggested; viz., in the vicinity of each village set apart a house for the reception of the first case which occurs in the village. Let there be every requisite on a small scale which is found in county hospitals and infirmaries—clean mattresses and every appurtenance; bathing and washing materials and bath, which may be portable; a nurse, properly qualified to attend to the patient's wants, and all the medical men having access to the village infirmary, including the poor-law medical officer. By this means, any case occurring in the village might be at once removed from the family of which the patient is a member, and thus save the rest from the impending danger.

Let our philanthropic landowners, our clergy and county gentry, our poor-law guardians, turn their attention to this suggestion; and, if carried out, we believe that the scourges, fever, small pox, scarlatina, &c., would speedily cease to terrorize the people, and thus health and happiness take the place of sickness and misery.

THE BEDFORD CONTROVERSY.

IN the July number of the *Homœopathic Record*, we gave an account of a meeting of the British Medical Association in the town of Bedford. At that meeting there were some thirty medical men present. No less than fourteen of that number were from Northampton and its neighbourhood, including Dr. Webster, Mr. Terry, sen., Mr. Terry, jun., Dr. Barr, Mr. R. W. Watkins, of Towcester, Mr. Gibbon, of Kettering, Mr. Clark and Mr. Dulley, of Wellingborough, Mr. Daniell, of Newport Pagnell, &c. It has since appeared that the disgraceful resolutions of that meeting which were "*carried by acclamation*," have been subscribed to by upwards of *seventy* medical men, members of the South Midland branch, of which Northamptonshire is the larger part. Dr. Bryan, of Northampton, who, it appears, is one of the committee, was not present; nor was Dr. Nesbit, another member of the committee. Every member of that association is prohibited from holding fellowship or consulting with a medical brother, if that brother practises homœopathy. What *tyranny in a free country!*

The appearance in the local papers of these resolutions called forth expressions of disapprobation from the residents of Bedford and its vicinity. The meeting was held in the room of the Trustees of the Bedford Charity; and one of the Trustees of that charity, feeling that the Medical Associationists had disgraced the room, called the attention of the trustees to the circumstance in the following language:

“ Mr. Usher gave notice of the following motion :

“ To take into consideration the propriety of allowing the use of this room for the meetings of the South Midland Branch of the British Medical Association, or of any other association that can in such an unqualified manner seek to calumniate a very numerous body of scientific men, whose high professional attainments and unimpeachable private virtues are so indubitably exemplified in the relief of suffering humanity; and to enquire whether such resolutions as the following, emanating from this room, have not a tendency to injure the interests of this great Charity and the town at large :’

“ The resolutions passed at the late meeting of the Medical Association above referred to are: ‘ That so long as a system has no higher philosophy than the jargon of *similia similibus curantur*, nor sounder chemistry than the delusion of ‘infinite dynamisation,’ it is degrading to a man of education to be connected with it. He, therefore, who assents to consultation with homœopaths, be they impostors or dupes, forfeits the respect of his professional brethren, and his membership of this branch of the British Medical Association.’—‘ That it is the opinion of this meeting that no honourable man, whether physician or surgeon, can meet in consultation a homœopathic practitioner, or as such, can act in conjunction with him.’”

The *Bedford Mercury* of June 7th contained a very sensible letter from Captain Young, a county gentleman, highly esteemed as an active philanthropist. From his letter we quote the following:

“ Of the merits of the particular case which gave rise to this ‘very interesting and animated discussion,’ I know nothing; but can it be right—is it gentlemanly—under the plea of vindicating the exclusive orthodoxy of allopathism, or with the view of preserving its practitioners from possible infection or certain ‘degradation’ by meeting in consultation with homœopaths—to designate the entire body of the latter ‘impostors or dupes?’ Perhaps in their calmer moments these gentlemen will perceive that they have made a mistake; for I ask what do they expect to gain by this threatened excommunication? Will the fear of being ‘cast out’ deter any of their brethren from consulting with homœopaths, if they judge it to be for the interests of their patients to do so? Surely that cannot be! But will the public be frightened by this anathema? I think not; they will regard it as a *brutum fulmen*—perhaps be the more inquisitive to know the meaning of all this thunder.

“ As to the respective merits of rival systems of therapeutics, we, the public, deem ourselves to be better judges than professional men; inasmuch as we are not fettered to the same extent by prejudices of education, and it may be by the unconscious influence of self-interest; we are consequently more free to judge of the tree by its fruits. If then personal experience

and observation have convinced me and a vast multitude of all classes of the community—especially of the nobility and aristocracy—that the homœopathic system is immeasurably superior in its practical results to the old system, no amount of allopathic ‘jargon’—to use the ‘neat’ language of the resolution—will persuade us to discard the ‘philosophy and chemistry’ of the homœopathic system, and to return to the cathartics, the emetics, and the blood-letting of allopathy. For want of an experienced homœopathic practitioner, those who prefer this comparatively modern method of cure are compelled to have recourse to the old practitioners in cases of serious illness in Bedford and in many other places. If this town should ever be favoured by the residence among us of a homœopathic practitioner, I think he will not have any reason to regret the publication of the proceedings of the Bedford branch of the British Medical Board in 1858. Whether justly or not, the public, or a very large portion of them, will regard this hostile demonstration as a tyrannical effort to tread out every spark of independence from the profession, and as indicating jealousy of the growing popularity of their youthful competitor, rather than becoming zeal for the honour of the profession, or tender regard for the interests of the community.”

“A Lover of Fair Play” thus wrote in the same journal :

“Homœopathy is now a great fact. Its probation is over ; its powers are proved. Many able allopaths have been converts to its truth, and home and foreign statistics settle beyond a doubt its remedial virtues ; and yet, as you see, there exist men who ought to know better, who have had all the advantages of education and association, and who, notwithstanding, *without giving themselves the trouble to investigate the claims of this mode of cure*, dare to stigmatize its principles, and to insult its practitioners. All this is merely noted, because it shows how narrow, in this so called enlightened age, are the views of many whose advantages of improvement have been great. A few years hence, in the lifetime of many of these prejudiced individuals, probably sounder views will have obtained more extensive sway, and these very men must either recal and express sorrow for their past follies, or find themselves the subjects of scorn and contempt. Absurdities like these cannot arrest the advantages which Hahnemann’s discoveries present. Persecution in any shape always forwards a cause ; and this exhibition of intolerance at Bedford will only tend to stimulate the frank, liberal, and enterprising, to study more eagerly the system which it is now attempted to crush. Fain would they if they had it in their power take the bread out of the mouths of those practitioners who are by far before them in the knowledge and study of their profession. And yet, these men, at the same sitting, talk in rhapsodies of John Bunyan, the tinker, a republican and a dissenter, and descant on the excellencies of the Christian religion, by which they profess to direct their lives. But Christ taught the doctrines of love, forbearance, justice, consideration for others,—all virtues to the practice of which (however great their professions) these gentlemen are infinitely superior.”

We now introduce to our readers the effusions of Dr. Herbert Barker, of Bedford ; and we regret that our space does not permit us to quote the whole of his effeminate fulminations. He thus alludes to the letter of Captain Young and to the “noble deed” of the seventy :

"Captain Young may not only assume that the resolutions which were passed at that meeting 'express the deliberate sentiments and calm determination of all present,' but he may rest assured, also, that those resolutions met with the hearty concurrence of the members of the branch who were not present, for they were sent to all and were subscribed to by no fewer than seventy medical men.

"Captain Young does not approve of the terms "impostors" or "dupes," as applied to homœopathic practitioners, but the minds of *all scientific and disinterested medical men* who have investigated the subject *are made up on this point*. The system has been weighed in the balance and found wanting, and there cannot be the shadow of a doubt that every medical man who takes up with homœopathy *is either an impostor or a dupe.*"

Dr. Barker, it will be seen, does not hesitate, as an individual, to assert that every medical man who takes up with homœopathy is *either an impostor or a dupe*. Dr. Barker goes on to display his utter ignorance of that system, a practitioner of which, in his opinion, constitutes the believer an impostor. He says:

"If a man told me that the Lynn river water (a drop of laudanum having been added to the Ouse at Bedford), possessed really any of the medicinal properties of laudanum, I would unhesitatingly pronounce him an impostor or a dupe. The dupes are few, I admit; but the impostors, unfortunately, are numerous."

Dr. Barker is a most illogical doctor. Witness his argument:

1. Every medical man who practises homœopathy *is* an impostor.
2. *If* a man told me that the Lynn river water (a drop of laudanum having been put in a tributary fifty miles distant) possessed any medicinal property of the laudanum, I would pronounce him an impostor.
3. He brings no evidence whatever that this ever has been said, *or anything like it*; yet every homœopathist is an impostor, and Dr. Barker goes on in a most disreputable manner to misrepresent homœopathists. He says:

"There are very few who really believe these absurdities, but the impostors, unfortunately, are numerous; there are many who have adopted the system for the purpose of practising upon the credulity of the public. Under the pretence of giving infinitesimal doses, they give really large doses of active medicines in a concentrated form: hence, although they pretend to treat diseases homœopathically, they give ordinary doses of active medicines, and thus constitute themselves the very worst species of impostors."

Dr. Barker here displays his utter ignorance of the whole subject, confounding homœopathy with the small dose, and charging pretence and imposture upon homœopathic practitioners, without adducing a tittle of evidence to support his assertion.

Dr. Barker then commits another egregious blunder. Poor Barker! we should like to have a cast of his head, for we don't know whether to blame or to pity him. Of course his cranium is invisible to us. He would never get near enough to a homœopathic practi-

tioner to enable one to examine his bumps. We have seen the cranium of a Northampton medical man, which, we should judge, bears a very close resemblance to Barker's.

Dr. Barker says : "The great public must decide whether Captain Young and the nobility and aristocracy on the one hand, or scientific medical men generally on the other hand, are most competent judges of the respective merits of rival systems of therapeutics."

So Captain Young and the nobility and aristocracy are no part of the "great public." Where will Dr. Barker put them? He says first that "the great public must decide," and then that the seventy medical men are the only competent judges of the "respective merits of rival systems of therapeutics." Here is the argument :

Captain Young and the nobility and aristocracy have tested the merits of both systems of medical treatment. They have been ill under each system. They, for many reasons, one of which is, greater success, give the preference to homœopathy. They decide by experiment in favour of homœopathy.

Dr. Barker and the seventy South Midland Associationists have blindly followed one system of medical treatment, in which they have been educated. They have not tried homœopathy; but, without doing so, assert that it cannot be true because it does not agree with their notions. They would not try it, and every one who follows it is an impostor.

Therefore, says Dr. Barker, Captain Young and the public are incapable of judging of the merits of the two systems. They alone can judge, who, not having tried it, but who display their utter ignorance even of its A B C, yet denounce it, and call its practitioners impostors. The "great public" is Dr. Barker and Company—these "must decide."

Dr. Barker then makes some personal remarks on Captain Young, which have no relation at all to the subject. These we omit.

Dr. Barker then prophesies that homœopathy will follow the same course that "other quackeries" have done—that it will be known as history alone fifty years hence. Poor Barker! we wish his barkings were more consistent with reason. Homœopathy has been steadily progressing for *sixty years*; is adopted by a portion of the medical faculty in every country of Europe, throughout Canada and the United States, in the East and West Indies. In the West India islands, the success of homœopathy in the treatment of yellow fever led to its triumphant adoption; and in Old England it is making steady progress, is practised by some three hundred medical men and adopted by a million people.

So much for Dr. Barker at present—more by-and-bye. Of the *Bedford Mercury* of June 21st, no less than four columns are occupied with the controversy. We find, however, that the great mass of matter is in favour of homœopathy, and condemnatory of the proceedings of the associationists. Indeed, it does not appear yet that the medical men of Northampton and Bedford have met with one

grain of sympathy or approbation. The great public is enlisted on the side of freedom. The great public will not be over-ridden longer by a medical priesthood. It will, and properly too, take into consideration medical matters in which they have a remote if not an immediate interest. There is not that willingness on the part of the great public to hand over their bodies, or those of their relatives, to the tender mercies of a bigoted faculty, which, without examination, denounces as an imposture a divine law of healing.

The correspondence which has appeared would occupy sixty pages of our *Record*, and we therefore can only epitomize, omitting much of allopathic nonsense, a specimen of which we give above, and necessarily omitting a great deal of sound reasoning which the great public have brought to bear on the subject, to the terror and dismay of "old physio."

The *Bedford Mercury* of July 5th contains an able letter from the pen of Dr. Bayes, of Cambridge, a column and a half in length. We are compelled to omit, and we regret it.

We cannot refrain, however, from doing justice to Dr. Barker, to hand down to posterity the following effusion of that offended, indignant medical associationist. Here it is—judge of the talents of the writer!

"GLOBULISM AND GINGER-POP.—Sir,—I hope that Captain Young does not think that I am discussing homœopathy or teetotalism with him, for I have neither time nor inclination to enter into controversy on any such subjects.

"The matter at issue between us is very simple. As members of the medical profession we have a right to take steps to guard the honour of that profession when it has been assailed.

"Here we claim the same liberty as the members of other professions. If a clergyman of the Church of England so far degraded himself or his profession as to advocate Mormonite doctrines, or to practise auricular confession, it would be quite right, illiberal though it might appear to Captain Young, for his brethren to notice the matter. Again, if in the legal profession a member were found practising in a fraudulent and disreputable manner, it would be right for the honourable members of that profession to take steps to protect themselves from the stigma. So with the military, and, in fact, with every other profession, and every body of honourably-minded men.

"Captain Young, however, does not think so; but most rashly, presumptuously, and illiberally decides on points of medical science and ethics, and calls upon the medical profession and the public to submit to his dictum.

"Captain Young refers to the probability of some homœopathic practitioner coming to a public meeting in Bedford to discuss the question: I would take the liberty of suggesting that Captain Young preside at such meeting; and that, in addition to the juggleries of the homœopathic globulist with his magnetoscope, he secure the services of Coffin and Holloway. If he could get the representatives of Morrison the Hygeist, and of old Parr, some disciple of Priessnitz, and some 'movement curer' to come down, and could also introduce a dash of 'brandy and salt,' and

vegetarianism into the bargain, he would very considerably enhance the interest of the meeting.

"An exhibition of the above charlatanries might with advantage be varied by performances in clairvoyance, phreno-mesmerism, and table-turning; to conclude with three short discourses, not exceeding ten minutes each—subjects, namely:

"1. The supremacy of the Pope, and a defence of auricular confession.

"2. A scheme for rendering illegal the sale of any drink stronger than ginger-pop.

"3. The Mormon bible, and the advantages of emigration to Utah.

"This would be a grand exhibition for Captain Young, and a fine field for the exercise of his much vaunted liberality.

"I would furthermore suggest that the Captain procure the patronage for the evening of the noble ladies to whom he refers, and that he devote the proceeds to the establishment of what might be fitly designated 'The Bedford Town Mission, for the Promulgation of Globulism and Ginger-Pop.'

"The Captain may take the following quotations for his special encouragement: 'No absurdities,' it has long ago been observed by Arnaud, 'are too groundless to find supporters. Whoever determines to deceive the world may be sure of finding people who are willing enough to be deceived: and the most absurd follies will find minds to which they are adapted.'

"Southey, too, has truly said, 'Man is a dupeable animal, and quacks in medicine, quacks in religion, and quacks in politics know this, and live upon the knowledge of it.'

"I am, Sir, yours obediently,

"T. HERBERT BARKER, M.D.

"Bedford, June 28th, 1858."

To amuse our readers, we give the following reply to Dr. Barker, which appeared the week following in the *Bedford Mercury*:

"GLOBULISM AND GINGER-POP.—Sir,—I am a plain man and cannot therefore be expected to understand things at a first glance. Will you allow me to ask Dr. Barker a few questions?

"He compares the clerical, legal, and military professions with the medical profession. Are they subject to the same general rules? The clergyman has his *written word* and the Prayer Book to guide him. The lawyer has his code of laws fixed and defined. The military officer also has his code of laws. But I have been told that allopathic medicine is in a state of chaos, and, so far as treatment goes, every man acts as seems best in his own eyes, the homœopaths alone having a fixed law on which to treat disease. If this be so, then where is the analogy? If there are fixed laws for allopathic treatment, will Dr. Herbert Ginger-Pop be so good as to point them out, and why allopathists so little follow them that physicians are widely divided in their application?

"I had always understood that Coffin, Holloway, and Morrison were *allopathic quacks*, and gave *large doses*; why does Dr. Ginger Pop class them with the homœopathist, when they profess to cure on allopathic principles?

"There may be a great deal of wit in Dr. Ginger Pop's letter, but it reads to a plain man like 'begging the question.' Has Dr. Ginger Pop ever heard that some animals who are too weak to defend themselves are endowed with the power of throwing out so offensive an odour round them, that their powerful adversary is forced to beat a hasty retreat; and of a fish which, when it is pursued, flings out a colouring matter which makes

the water so obscure around that its adversary cannot see its prey for the mud? But these animals only use their disgusting powers when pressed to the last pinch.

"The 'Doctor' may take these words for his special encouragement: 'Men's thoughts are much according to their inclinations, their discourse and speeches according to their learning and infused opinions, but their deeds are after as they have been accustomed.'—*Bacon's Essay of Custom and Education*.

"Nevertheless, I advise him to 'learn manners,' though they may appear strange and new to him.

"One other question. Who are the quacks, homœopathists or allopathists? As a plain man I should call him the greatest quack who professes the most and cures the least. Time will show.

"Yours obediently,
"A BITER."

And this:

"ALLOPATHY *v.* HOMŒOPATHY.—Sir,—There is a well-known story—whether to be found among Joe Miller's jests or elsewhere matters not—of an attorney, who, when he had to defend a case in which his client had no merits, used to give this instruction to his counsel: "Abuse the plaintiff." One would think this story was prominent in Dr. Barker's memory when he penned his last letter; for, instead of adducing one single argument in support of his own cause, he contents himself with endeavouring to make Captain Young look small, by the most childish attempts at wit and personality that ever emanated from human efforts. He acquits himself about as well as an elephant would in attempting to dance a minuet. "Ginger-pop" admirably describes his gassy, effervescent style.

"But nature has most completely denied him, and logic he has none. He mistakes vehement dogmatism for irresistible argument; and if he considers ridicule to be the test of truth, he does not possess the power of exhibiting that test.

"It would not be a bad thing if his suggestions for having professors of every existing means of cure invited to Bedford to deliver lectures, were carried out. If an evening were devoted to each one, the truths which each could unfold, would make many a rabid allopath go home in search of something to stop his diarrhoea or other discomfort. For hydropathy, homœopathy, kinesipathy, Coffinism, Hygeism, mesmerism, and perhaps some other "isms," are all founded on truth, though there may be more or less fallacy contained in all, but this is only saying the systems are human. But Dr. Barker, though so very minute in his allusions to existing means of cure, seems unaccountably to have overlooked a relative's pretensions; which, considering that gentleman does not hide his light under a bushel, is rather curious. He should be invited also.

"So far as the contest has gone, the arguments are all one way. Many calm, temperate, convincing letters have appeared in defence of homœopathy, and it does not in the least matter whether the seventy-two would-be monopolists are moved by them, or whether they or any of them are too indolent or too incompetent to make themselves masters of them, or to attempt their reputation. 'We,' as Dr. Johnson once said, 'are bound to find our opponents in arguments, but we are not bound to find them in brains.' For the main thing to be desired is that the public should have a clear insight into what is going on in the medical world; and the insolent assumption

of these seventy-two incarnations of social and medical ethics has caused a useful ventilation of many things which ought to see the light.

“ Oh, Dr. Barker!

You've made that darker
Which was dark enough before.’

“ You should not have stirred men up to see you and your companions' littleness. Your self-interest lay in another direction. But it is the old story—‘*Quod Deus vult perdere prius dementat.*’ Well, in all fights somebody must go to the wall, and in this case the weakest happens to be the least meritorious.

‘ July 7th, 1858.’

‘ FIAT JUSTITIA.

And this :

“ SCIENTIFIC MEDICINE *v.* HOMŒOPATHY.—Sir,—Having read with some interest the articles contained in your paper upon the above subjects, I am rather surprised to read a letter headed ‘ Globulism and Ginger Pop,’ from Dr. Barker. I did not for a moment think the doctor would have condescended to write such an article, which shews such a want of true argument; but as Dr. Barker takes the liberty of giving a few suggestions as to the arrangement of a public meeting, I should like to ask Dr. B. if he would be prepared to meet in discussion such men as those whose names he introduces? I should very much doubt it; but if Dr. B. has the interests of the inhabitants of Bedford at heart, he would do so, as truth will always overcome error; and this, I think, would be a fair way to arrive at truth.

“ I am disposed to think that at some future time Dr. B. may have cause to look back with *regret* at the treatment now practised by him in the cure of disease, and especially in his treatment of fever; as he tells us in his pamphlet on the *Treatment of Fevers* that ‘ I have tried other plans of treatment in the absence of free ventilation (of course before my mind was impressed with the facts now before me,) and the results have been so disastrous that I look back at them with regret. One instance of this kind,’ he says, ‘ occurs forcibly to my mind, where, in pursuing the purgative system of treatment, which was then popular, and which I had been taught, four cases in one village died; I will not,’ he continues, ‘ say absolutely from the effects of the purgation, but certainly in such a manner as assures me, after longer observation, that the medicinal plan accelerated the fatal result.’ The reader is here left to judge for himself the merits of a system so doubtful in its application.

“ Whatever homœopaths may feel disposed to do, botanic practitioners only want the same opportunity as the allopaths, and they *know* the *results* of their treatment will not be *disastrous*, but prove, as they ever have done where properly applied, effectual in curing disease in all its various forms.

“ Now, I think, to prove the different systems, a fair trial should be made; and I would here suggest a plan, against which there can be no objection—namely, two cases, say of fever, to be selected, the one to be treated by an allopath, the other by a botanical practitioner, and whichever is longest about the cure shall be styled the quack.

“ Who cured a young man of fits with botanical remedies after Dr. B. said he did not know what to do with him?

“ I am, Sir, yours obediently,

“ M. B.”

And now comes a most sensible letter from a lady, who signs herself "A Practical Woman." We leave our readers to judge of its merits.

"ALLOPATHY *v.* HOMŒOPATHY.—Sir,—It is said that 'loss of temper is loss of argument.' Surely this may be said of the allopathists in the present discussion. If any class of the community have reason to be grateful for the introduction of homœopathy, it is the mothers of families and nurses of our invalids. In order to bear testimony to the superiority of this system in the treatment of my children over that of the old, I send this letter for insertion. I find their attacks are shorter in duration, and the acute disorders to which they are liable are cured more pleasantly and by far more inexpensively.

"I know for a fact that the women of our county are fast waking to the blessings of homœopathy. It is true, in some cases, they were as averse as even Dr. Barker himself, and that also, perhaps, for the same reason—because they had never fairly investigated its truth and power. Our homœopathic practitioners are all men of high moral standing and worth, and need all that disinterestedness which they seem to possess. When we hear them maligned by the bulk of the community and see them make such pecuniary sacrifices, we are bound to look into the system they labour to make known. It is nothing new that men who have the welfare of their fellow-men at heart should be reviled and ill-treated—past history testifies to the fact. We have need of a few who can fearlessly stand the shafts of slander; who, emboldened by the truth and a philanthropic heart, can confront ill-favoured looks, and hear unmoved the gibes and ridicule of those who ought to be better engaged. But why are the medical men so angry? Is it not because homœopathy is making such advances? This I believe to be the fact. Have not these men philosophy enough to know that to oppose a truth is the way to extend it? The selfish monopolists have ever feared innovations upon their craft, and this has led them to extravagances which have done more to injure their own cause than ever their opposers have done. Women are called to witness diseases in every form and variety, and we feel compelled to hail the introduction of anything that will soonest and most safely relieve the sufferer. Our experience as mothers and nurses now-a-days must be very small, and our observation much contracted, if we do not often see the benefit of homœopathic remedies among our families and friends. How much we wish medical men would make themselves masters of these branches of cure before they condemn them, and give their patients the advantage of them. Liberty of conscience is claimed in religion, so also would we claim the same freedom in physic; and we believe it will ultimately obtain. We can see, as things now stand, that if an allopathic medical man becomes from conviction a convert to the more recent additions to medical practice, his sincerity and honesty are soon put to the test. He is branded with opprobrious names, and compelled to bear great pecuniary loss. It is a fact now well known that most of the present homœopathists, even those who have passed the medical colleges with honor, have, since beginning to practise that system, been obliged to forego their different incomes, and, by the bare principles of the *truth*, have gained their present eminent standing and reputation. When we see men suffering loss to benefit their fellow men, we can but believe that they have truth on their side, and if so, we know it will prevail. Begging pardon for intruding on your columns, allow me to subscribe myself

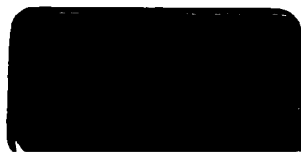
"A PRACTICAL WOMAN."

And thus ends the Bedford controversy. We regret that the law courts are about to be engaged in deciding actions brought against the editor of the *Mercury*, against Captain Young and others for libel, arising out of this discussion. Our readers shall have the result.

WHICH KILLED THE PATIENT, ST. VITUS OR STRYCHNINE?

"LAST week, an inquest was opened at Bradford by Mr. Jewison, coroner, on the body of a youth named John Snowden Harrison, aged 16 years, who had died rather suddenly after being under the treatment of several duly authorised medical practitioners, but the interment of whose corpse was stopped in consequence of the last medical attendant, Dr. Brady, a homœopathist, having returned a certificate to the effect that death was the result of the over-administration of strychnine. The inquest was adjourned to give opportunity to Mr. F. W. Rimington, analytical chemist, to analyse the contents of the stomach. The adjourned inquiry was held at Bradford, on Wednesday, and occupied five hours, the evidence, which was very conflicting, being altogether medical and scientific. The medical witnesses, Dr. Brady and Mr. J. N. Terry, alleged that the appearances of the *post mortem* examination, which they had made jointly, indicated death to be caused by asphyxia, produced by over doses of *nux vomica*, from which strychnine is derived. . . . Mr. Terry, who had attended deceased after Mr. Field, found him suffering from St. Vitus's dance or chorea, and had accordingly administered medicine compounded of tincture of iron, tincture of iodine, and cinnamon water; at the same time recommending the removal of the patient to the sea side as a better remedy for the disease. . . . Mr. Wm. Field, finding the disease one of desperate character, admitted that he had after this prescribed twelve powders of *nux vomica*, of ten grains each, one to be administered every twelve hours; at the same time telling the parents of the lad what the medicine was. Two of the powders were taken, one on the 27th ultimo, and the other on the 28th; but the deceased refused to take more, saying the medical man should not 'Palmer' him. Mr. Field justified his treatment in giving the powders of *nux vomica*, as being perfectly consistent, under the circumstances, with duly authorised medical practice. . . . Mr. Rimington had made an analysis of the contents of the stomach, but had not detected the presence of strychnine. He thought that this, however, might be accounted for by the fact, that such poison, whether given in *nux vomica* or otherwise, passed rapidly out of the system, and that two days had elapsed from the time of taking the medicine and death ensuing. Mr. Joseph Harrison, father of the deceased, stated that his son died in perfect calm, and not in convulsions. . . . The coroner, in summing up, observed that even if the doses had been large, they had, he did not doubt, been given with the best intentions. Desperate cases required desperate remedies; and it would be a monstrous thing—which would soon cure itself, because dangerous cases would then be abandoned—if medical practitioners were to be deemed guilty of manslaughter, when, after they had exerted their utmost skill, such cases ended fatally. . . . The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased had died of St. Vitus's dance, the conflicting nature of the evidence preventing their coming to any other conclusion."

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