

WHITHER TO GO

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The law of similars is indisputable and unchangeable. The important requisite for good prescribing is keen observation and that from different angles. The only duty of the physician is to cure the sick by the most gentle, simple and sweet way. Yes, the sweet pills are needed by the young who have had no experience of the bitterness of the world and by the old who had enough of it. Nipping the disease in the bud is indeed a gentle process; that is, at the stage of functional disorder which precedes the organic changes. Man is sick prior to his organs, so said Kent, and we mean treating the man. If any physician fails to even 'test' what is proclaimed to be good to the sick, he is failing from doing the right thing. "To know that you do not know when you do not know is knowledge." Training in modern medicine imparts no knowledge about MAN. Its concern is with organs and diseases. This statement is too epigrammatic to be true, but it may be taken for a slightly inaccurate condensation of truth. To know the utility of application of the law and futility of any other method than that in *curing* persons of their ailments, and yet not follow it either because he finds the task of learning the art of homœopathic prescribing too great, or because he is adamant about not giving up a method that has become part of his life, is playing with the lives of the handicapped—here the handicap is being sick. That is lack of knowledge and amounts to lack of conscience.

And now those who practise the art—the pure one at that and also those who claim to do so, know well that it is not an easy thing to master the science. The study of the patient, the study of the drugs, the application of the latter to the former and therefore the need for the study of several other aspects like the value of symptoms, the mentals, generals and particulars, the modalities, the strange, rare, peculiar symptoms.

the second prescription and in short learning the organon in full, is a hard job indeed. Luckily for us the great pioneers have solved many intricate issues and systematised the whole affair. The laws are set and one has to only apply the appropriate law most suited for the occasion. Drugs have been proven laying emphasis on the mental reactions without of course ignoring the physical changes and not *vice versa*. Now, without following the leaders who can by no means be slighted, if we begin to play in tune with the allopathic men, we are drifting away from reality. It is hard enough to concentrate on provings and match the disease picture, with the drug picture. To incorporate the recent advances of the modern medicine purely for diagnostic and prognostic purposes is understandable. But it is not congenial to associate remedies or groups of remedies with minute inferences involving techniques that exhaust the medical man of his energies and the patient of his purse and the latter is a very vital problem in India. I am referring to the linking of homœopathic remedies with the curves of electrocardiogram and electroencephalogram and the like. Besides the exorbitant cost involved therein, these curves can never speak of the man; they speak for the organs. Medicine must be simple and the doctor who prescribes that should also be simple. Going in for glamour is going out of homœopathy. *It can indeed be considered a great contribution if one avoids adding complexity, so that posterity may not look upon this science as a bundle of masterly confusion, the innate simplicity being hidden in it.*

Each person is not the same when he is sick because he is not originally (in health) the same as others. This non-homogeneity of affairs must hold good for all laws. Hence there is no earthly use in conducting 'tests' in mass-scale when it is a question of treating the sick. In fact the concepts of allopathic branch are now glaringly approaching Hahnemannian teachings. Without the concept of the vital force any amount of emphasising on the whole man is like attempting to prepare pretty crockery glueing pieces of broken glass. They are coming near us and that means they are necessarily behind us. Should

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