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## EDITORIAL

### HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINE AND ALLOPATHIC MEDICINE

These two phrases as used in ordinary parlance often create various misconceptions in public mind—as if a particular medicine *per se* can be Homœopathic or Allopathic by dint of its name or label or form, etc.

The terms Homœopathy and Allopathy were coined by Hahnemann to denote two different modes of employing medicines in treatment of disease.

By *Homœopathic method* (GK. *homoios*-like, *patheia*-suffering) he meant the mode of employing medicines in diseases.....by means of which we seek, for the totality of symptoms of the case of disease, a medicine which among all medicines (whose pathogenetic effects are known from having been tested in healthy individuals) has the power and the tendency to produce an artificial morbid state most similar to that of the case of disease in question." (Organon, Aphorism 24).

By *Allopathic method* (GK. *allos* or *alloios*—Other) "the mode of employing medicines for disease.....in which medicines are given, whose symptoms have no direct pathological relation to the morbid state, neither similar nor opposite, but quite heterogenous to the symptoms of the disease". (Organon, Footnote to the Aphorism 22).

In the Aphorism 23, he describes another mode of employing medicine—*antipathic, enantiopathic or palliative method*—based on the principle of *contraria contrariis curentur*. But throughout the Organon including its Introduction, he includes all the modes of employing medicine by the old school, other than the one based on the principle of *similia*, rather loosely, under the term Allopathy; moreover, in many places (e.g. p. 31, Para 2, last line Organon 6th edition), he equates the old school of medicine with Allopathy.

In this latter sense the terms Homœopathy and Allopathy connote the two different schools of medicine, basically differing on the "mode of employing medicine". All the other differentiating features between them evolve

from this basic feature—"the mode of employing medicine", and the principle on which the mode or method is based.

So, in order to avoid confusion, we should give up the phrases Homœopathic medicine and Allopathic medicine, and instead, always use the phrases—Homœopathic or Allopathic school or system of medicine and Homœopathic or Allopathic method of medication.

[For further elucidation on this point the readers are referred to the article—"Homœopathic Remedy"—H. Gleanings, July 63.]

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