

never come to an end. Mastering the Homœopathic Materia Medica will ever remain a Herculean task and hitherto unexplored regions of Homœopathy will ever remain obscure.

If we want to progress, if we want to do research work, it should be along this line. It is quite possible as Dr. Caroll Dunham hinted long ago that the Homœopathic law of Similars might be a particular application of a much wider and higher Law, which will embrace not only therapeutics, but physiology, pathology (functional and anatomic), dietetics and hygiene—as is the case in the Ayurveda system of medicine. In passing, I may put in this remark that Homœopathic therapeutics associated with Ayurvedic dynamic Conceptions would make a system which would excel all other Drug-therapy.

Gentlemen, such is the import of Logic and Philosophy that I find in the study and application of Homœopathy.

B. K. SARKAR, M.B.

PRESIDENT DR. G. DIRGHANGI'S SPEECH AT THE RECEPTION AT GRAND HOTEL

RESPECTED MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE

HOMŒOPATHIC ENQUIRY COMMITTEE—

On behalf of the Bengal Homœopathic Institute, I beg to welcome you and thank you for your kind presence here in response to our invitation. On this occasion we feel so happy that we trust, you will not mind if we informally or unofficially open our heart to you. Personally I feel grateful to the Government of India for the selection of the Chairman of this Committee in Dr. J. N. Mukherjee who is no doubt a Doctor but not, however, a Homœopathic

Doctor of so-called "qualified" or "unqualified" type. So, it is quite natural for him to be strictly impartial in his enquiry except perhaps for one weak reason that my friend — Dr. K. N. Banerjee is his maternal uncle very well-known to me as a member of Kent's Society of Homœopaths and so as a staunch Hahnemannian. But seriously speaking the responsibility of Homœopathic Enquiry Committee is very great. For on their report depends the improvement of Indian Homœopathy or God forbid, the reverse of it. Now here I beg leave to draw your kind attention to a letter which appeared in the 'Amrita Bazar Patrika' of 24.6.48 with the caption of Homœopathy in U.S.A. as under:

"Homœopathy in U.S.A.

SIR,

I have been great admirer of Homœopathy but curiously enough I did not come across a single Homœopath or a Homœopathic clinic during my long stay for about 5 years in the U.S.A. and in course of my extensive travels over the vast continent. It puzzled me, and just out of curiosity, I wrote to the Secretary of American Medical Association for some enlightenment.

After a good deal of search, I could find some current issues of the Journal of the American Institute of Homœopathy in the library of the University of California at Berkeley where I attended post-graduate classes in Chemistry. A professional directory included in the August (1943) issue of the Journal gives a list of only 50 Homœopathic practitioners in the whole of the U.S.A. distributed as follows:—

California	6	Massachusetts .. .	3
Connecticut .. .	6	Michigan	6
District of Columbia	2	New York	4
Illinois	1	Ohio	8
Indiana	1	Oklahoma	2
Wisconsin	2	Pennsylvania .. .	9

Homœopathy as a recognised science of treatment is definitely decadent in all progressive countries.

I am not a medical practitioner—Homœopathic or otherwise and have taken this opportunity of stating the mere facts as I have known them—M. A. Azam, Chittagong."

We cannot dismiss this letter of Mr. Azam without serious consideration. Here I beg respectfully to submit to you that this condition of Homœopathy in America, has been brought about by the definition of a Homœopathic physician adopted by American Institute of Homœopathy, and strict laws by Government supporting it.

"A Homœopathic physician is one who adds to his knowledge of medicine a special knowledge of Homœopathic therapeutics and observes the law of similars."

But is it so easy for men trained in *contraria contrariis* at once to observe the Law of similars? Is it so easy for a man to give up tea, tobacco or wine to which he has been addicted for some time? Is it so easy for a man of one religion in which was nurtured from birth to adapt himself to a new religion whose principles are diametrically opposite?

James Tyler Kent, A.M., M.D., elucidated Hahnemann's inner meanings as Mollinath disclosed the hidden beauty of Kalidas's Poems, said in the preface of his philosophy—"Homœopathy is now extensively disseminated over the world, but, strange to say, by none are its doctrines so distorted as by many of its pretended devotees. Homœopathics treats of both the *science* and the *art* of healing by the law of similars, and if the *art* is to remain and progress among men the science must be better understood than at present. To apply the art without the science is merely a pretension, and such practice should be relegated to the domain of empiricism. To *safely* practise the art of curing sick people, the Homœopathic physician must know the science." He, therefore, gave the definition of a Homœopathic physician as:—

"The Homœopathic physician is one who prescribes the single remedy, the minimum dose, in potentised form, selected according to the law of similars."

We now see clearly from Mr. Azam's letter quoted above, that the prediction of Kent is being verified. That being so, should we not take our stand on Kent's advice? Kent, who condemned the use of anodynes and pallatives and advised better knowledge of Homœopathy, was respected by American and English Homœopaths. John Weir and Fergie Woods were members of Kent's Society of Homœopaths: Clarke also spoke so very highly of him. We must, very carefully examine, therefore, the path we are going to follow for improving the position of Homœopathy in India. Should the National Government of India imitate American or any country blindly? In America the patients are mostly well-to-do, in India the patients are mostly poor. American is mad after something immediately acting. It has no time to think of future. That is why America gives exclusive privilege to practise Homœopathy to graduates of Modern medicine which knows well only palliates to cheer up the patients for the time being, but we know and see every day that is surely followed by a serious aggravation of his trouble. Here you see what it has led to. It has brought annihilation of Homœopathy there. Shall you do the same and with the same results? Let us take the timely warning. Let us lay stress on teaching the science of Homœopathy as taught by Hahnemann and his true disciples completely and then the allied sciences as much as necessary without over-burdening the brain of the students so that they may learn and assimilate the real knowledge of Homœopathy. Is it good to take things which are to be thrown up? Is it good to over-tax our student's brain to learn an alarming number of subjects which they will in no time forget or misassimilate? Will any Homœopath be easily or normally called for operation or skillful management of a case of Placenta Previa? On the eve of your constructive work for Homœopathy in India,

let us see what the builders of Homœopathy did in America. The History of Homœopathy edited by William Harvey King, M.D., LL.D., Dean of the Faculty, of New York Homœopathic Medical College and Hospital in 1905 records in the introduction thus:—"The Homœopathic school of medicine was founded in Germany, but its growth has been most noteworthy in America. This has been due to the liberal laws which have enabled the physicians of this school to establish colleges where the law of *similia similibus curentur* could be properly taught and physicians graduated who had not been prejudiced against it by contact with Allopathic profession, whose chief aim was to imbue the mind of the students with a belief in its supposed fallacies. The same spirit of liberality that encouraged the building of colleges, also opened the way for founding hospitals and clinics wherein the superiority of the Homœopathic treatment has been established."

The determination of the builders of Homœopathy in America to protect the mind of the students from the poisonous effect of the malevolent propaganda of the Allopaths was the secret of the luxurious growth of Homœopathy there. That kind of determination should therefore form your mind if you want to build the edifice of Homœopathy in this country to reach the blue sky of glory. But if instead we allow the graduates of Modern Medicine with their flaring light to puzzle the mind of the students taking advantage of their credulity, we shall reduce it to the condition of a hovel which will be dashed to the ground by a little puff of wind to the discredit of our national foresight and reconstructing intelligence.

We shall be thankful to you if you very kindly give due consideration to our stand read think twice before you act. We will also beseech you to forgive us if we hurt your feeling anywhere in this expression of our honestly well thought out suggestions for reconstruction of Homœopathy, so that when it has come here by the grace of God, it may thrive and live long serving the suffering humanity.