

THE HAHNEMANNIAN GLEANINGS

with which is incorporated

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EDITORIAL

PRESENT POSITION OF HOMŒOPATHY IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

We have received numerous communications from India in which all the correspondents have expressed their eagerness and ardent desire to be conversant with the present position of Homœopathy in the United States of America. To satisfy their curiosity about this matter we publish the following lines in our journal.

In America there were three systems of Medicine *viz.*, Allopathy, Homœopathy and Electric systems of treatment which were recognised by the American Government. All Medical Institutions of America were chartered by the Government to confer the degree of M.D. upon successful students but the holding of this medical degree of M.D. was not sufficient permit to practise medicine in any place of America unless and until the medical graduates could pass the examination of the State Boards of Health formed and constituted by the Government for the purpose of examining their fitness and also of checking the vagaries and mal-practices committed by the medical colleges mentioned above.

Before the last war there were many Homœopathic Medical Colleges in America and out of which the names

of the New York Homœopathic Medical College and Flower Hospital, Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital of Philadelphia, Chicago Homœopathic Medical College, Hering Medical College of Chicago, Boston Homœopathic Medical College under the Boston University, Kansas city Homœopathic Medical College and California Homœopathic Medical College are worth mentioning. The New York Homœopathic Medical College and Hahnemann Medical College of Philadelphia have five years course to study and all the rest have three years course. All State Boards of Health of America insisted upon five years' course and introduced several hard and fast rules and regulations for the maintenance of all Medical Colleges and so all Homœopathic Medical Colleges of America, save and except the New York Homœopathic Medical College and Flower Hospital and Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital of Philadelphia were compelled to close down. The late lamented Doctors M. M. Bose and D. N. Roy passed the M.D. examination from the New York H. Medical College and Flower Hospital. Dr. J. N. Ghose and Dr. A. N. Mukherjee were medical graduates of the Hahnemann Medical College of Philadelphia, Dr. Jitendranath Majumdar and Dr. S. K. Nag L.M.S. passed from the Hering Medical College and Dr. B. K. Bose and Dr. G. N. Sinha passed from the Kansas city Homœopathic Medical College.

Dr. William Gutman, M.D. president of the foundation for Homœopathic Research, Inc. New York is now the most outstanding personality of Homœopathy in America and we wrote to him to make us conversant with the present position of Homœopathy in his country. We reproduce below a true copy of his letter.

Dear Doctor Sarat Chandra Ghose,

I want to apologise for having not written to you earlier.

The reason was ill health, a state of exhaustion due to overwork which compelled me to take a prolonged vacations. I only recently started to work again.

As to your questions, I should like to state that the American University Corporation is not known to me and certainly not an institution qualified to issue any medical certificates.

As far as the status of Homœopathic Institutions in U. S. is concerned, we have two colleges teaching Homœopathy, the Flowers or New York Medical College and the Hahnemann College in Philadelphia. Since a short time these courses have been made elective courses.

The course is also given at the University of California. Trusting that these informations will answer your questions. I remain with apologies for this delayed answer and with all my best wishes for your health and happiness.

Most sincerely yours,

(Sd.) Dr. Gutman

Dr. Gutman's above letter now prove without any contradiction that no completely separate Homœopathic Medical College exists in America.

Germany was, no doubt, the birth-place of Homœopathy; but it was an undeniable fact that America was the only place in the whole world where Homœopathy lived in its pristine purity, where Homœopathy had a rapid propagation, where world-famous Homœopaths and authors of Homœopathic works like Hering, T. F. Allen, H. C. Allen, Kent, Nash, Norton, Royal, Cowperthwaite, Gentry, and many others lived, moved, and had their being and whose writings were the perennial sources of our knowledge of Homœopathy, where well-known Homœopathic pharmacies and Homœopathic 'Houses of publication' existed, where each and every city had a Homœopathic medical association and hospital from which place Homœopathic monthly journals, namely, *Han. Monthly Journals of the American Institute of Homœopathy*, *North American Homœopathic journals*, *Pacific coast journal of Homœopathy* were published regularly every month. It was only for these

reasons that we never thought for a single moment that Homoeopathy would meet such a sad and dramatic transformation in America so soon. May, Hahnemann give us sufficient strength to bear the shock of this happening.

S. C. G.

THEORY OF CHRONIC DISEASES

(Continued)

Our study of diseases has served to follow the sequence of Hahnemann's thoughts which led him to classify diseases into acute and chronic types. He spent twelve years, while at Coethen, in observing the nature of origin, course and terminations of chronic diseases and after shifting analysis and generalisation came to hit upon three causative disease-factors, *viz.*, Psoric, Syphilitic and Sycotic miasms which he termed as Chronic Miasms. Though he was, all along against all attempts to speculate about the causative factors of all diseases that human flesh is heir to, he, according to some, committed the same error of speculating over the causes of chronic diseases. There might be some justification in the charge levelled against him, but it will be evident from further study, that his observations on the nature of chronic diseases are something more than merely fixing the etiological factors of that type of diseases.

The implications of the Psora theory of diseases, (as will be evident from an unbiased study of the Hahnemann's master work, 'Chronic Diseases') have been ably summarised by Dudgeon, which are as follows :—

1. That seven-eighth of all chronic non-venereal diseases are the result of an infection with a skin disease that have been driven off by external treatment.
2. That the skin disease is identical with that which we call the itch, although it presents itself under many forms.
3. That practically every chronic non-venereal disease is scabies or a degeneration of it.