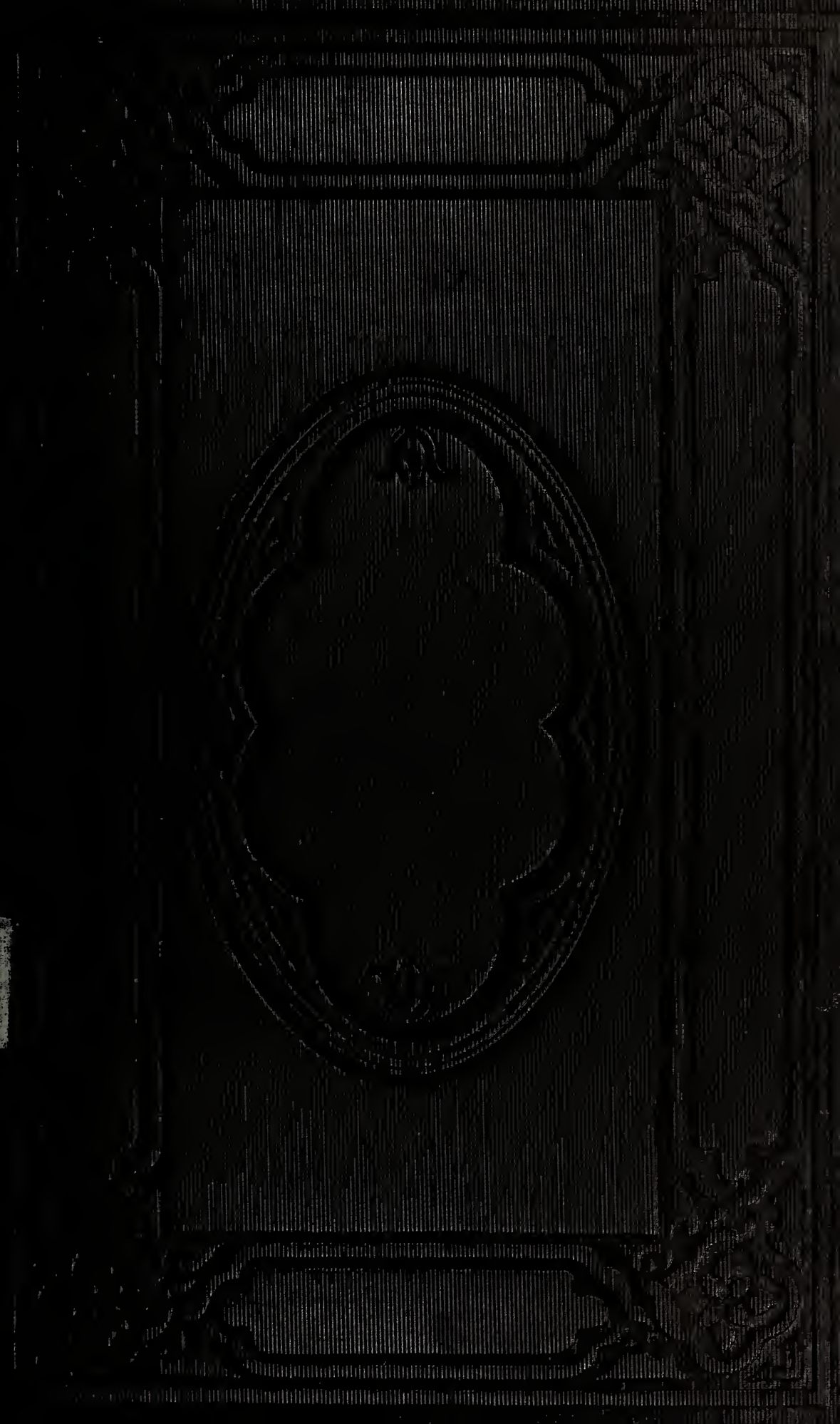

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QUARTERLY HOMŒOPATHIC JOURNAL.

DISEASES OF THE ORGANS OF HEARING, AND THEIR CURE BY SPECIFIC REMEDIES.

BY A. W. REIL, HALLE.*

At the introduction of all works devoted to the diseases of the organs of hearing, it is acknowledged and complained of, that this branch of medicine is, compared with others, still far behind that degree of cultivation which it admits of and demands. This neglect is at the same time accounted for by reasons, the correctness of which we cannot deny, inasmuch as we ourself feel their internal truth. Among the first and most important is the acknowledged *difficulty for anatomical investigation* of this completely concealed, bone-enclosed organ, and the consequent deficient *knowledge of the physiological functions and pathological changes* of the same. It has happened but seldom, because the cause of death was not to be looked for in a disease of the organ of hearing, or the former existence of such a disease was not even known, that pathologic-anatomical experiments have been made at dissections, which must, however, have frequently proved deceptive on account of the imperfect explications of physiology. The consequence of these imperfections is, that we find in manuals scarcely a chapter, and neither professorships nor hospitals devoted to diseases of the organ of hearing. It is known also, that ear-diseases have mostly — providing they are not of an inflammatory character — a slow course, unconnected with general disturbances; that

* Homœopatische Viertel Jahrschrift, vol. iv. No. 1. Translated by J. B.

the patients but reluctantly and generally, when the proper time for the easier removal of the disease has long passed by, conclude to consult a physician, remaining satisfied with the uninterrupted function of *one* ear, and preferring rather to employ a host of injurious external ear-remedies from the domestic or quack recommendations, than to entrust themselves to an experienced physician. Should not a physiological proof be found in this for the often-disputed inferiority of the higher qualities of the ear to those of the eye?

Furthermore, the treatment of ear-diseases has been, and still is, left to charlatans, who are enriched through the credulity of the public, heedless of the results of experience. This is, however, not to be wondered at, when we consider, that the study of this particular branch is in the first place difficult, and secondly its practice is so poorly remunerated that only in large cities can individual representatives be found. The names of all the eminent practitioners in this line might at the present day be written upon the thumb-nail.

Presupposing the historical development of the anatomy, pathology, and therapy of the organ of hearing to be known, I will just mention, that only since the commencement of this decennium, and especially only since the last twenty years, has this branch received a decided impulse through the exertions of Itard, Deleare, Saissy, Cooper, Beck, Kramer, Linke, Schmalz, and a satisfactory theoretical as well as practical recognition.

In reference to symptomatology, diagnosis, and ætiology, according to the present state of the doctrine of diseases of the ear, it is certain that very much has been achieved; but in therapeia we are poorly off, and still worse with respect to real *cures.* The greater the anxiety has been to invent all sorts of instruments, in order to establish the diagnosis in regard to the seat and locality of the ear-affection, the greater appears the tendency to treat such complaints surgically, with external remedies simply; but a few, derivating, reducing, or stimulating internal remedies being used. In no other branch has the search *for* and experiments *with* specific remedies been so much neglected, as in the diseases of the organ of hearing.

That *homœopathy*, by its invariable correctness of medical treatment in general, must, in the treatment of the diseases of the organs of hearing in particular, be also favored with a

proportionate greater success than the old school, may be supposed *à priori*. *A posteriori* proofs we find in communicated clinical cases. Their number, however, is unfortunately not great, as we are deficient in clinical observations; not so much because none are made, but because practitioners withhold their publication from various though never plausible reasons. In the homœopath-therapeutical manuals, the chapter on "the ears" is miserably superficial, and seldom do we meet in the homœopathic journals aphoristic monographs on this subject. In the clinical cases of the whole German homœopath-literature, I know only fifty-five cases relating to it; yet, on inquiring of a colleague in regard to his experience and views on the treatment of the diseases of the organs of hearing, we were informed that in this particular the principle of homœopathy has achieved glorious results.

It is not from over-estimation of his own experience, but merely to give a few sketches of an otriatic therapy, and to request his colleagues to communicate their experience also, that the author has been induced to prepare the material we have for a short monograph on the diseases of the organ of hearing.

Should the order here pursued seem to the reader too empirical, not strictly physiological, or not sufficiently minute, I claim for my excuse the difficulty of physiologico-anatomical informations above mentioned. Although a sure diagnosis of the inflammation of the membrane of the tympanum, or of an affection of the aquula cotunni, belongs to the most difficult problems, still a choice of remedies from physiological experiments against such specified evils might not be impracticable.

A. Inflammatory Diseases of the Ear.

Otitis Externa. Inflammation of the Meatus Auditorius Externus.— The parts coming into consideration here are the auricula and the meatus audit. extern. up to the tympanum; and the school sees, according to the seat of the morbid process, an otitis erysipelatosa at one time, an ot. glandularis, o. phlegmonosa, or a periostitis of the meatus at another. For the sake of an easier understanding, and to avoid an unnecessarily detailed symptomatology, we follow these nosological forms.

The erysipelatous inflammation, having its seat in the vessels of the cutis, or on the rete malpighii, manifests itself by burning, sticking pain, superficial redness of the skin, with slight swelling, and the elevation of larger or smaller pustules on it. Should the erysipelas be confined to the auricula, then of course the more violent symptoms are wanting. If the seat of the disease is in the meatus, we find, on account of the numerous glands therein, an increased secretion of very tough cerumen take place, which closely adheres and dries up. With the abatement of the disease, it gradually crumbles out, while everywhere the epidermis is scaling off; and it seldom indurates to hard, calcareous masses, requiring artificial means for their removal.

Whatever causes can produce erysipelas, especially erysipelas of the head, as gastric derangements, epidemic influences, colds, may also produce erysipelatous inflammations of the meatus audit. extern.; and particularly may erysipelas of the head extend to the ear. This rapidly arising disease will disappear in slight cases, without the use of other means than being kept warm. If, however, more violent symptoms exist, then must such remedies as are specific against erysipelas in general, be applied, — Belladonna, Bryonia, Rhus. The ejection of the indurated cerumen can be accelerated by the external use of glycerin, which is by all means better than the employment of oils.

The otitis glandularis, having its seat in the glandular skin of the meatus, is the usual catarrhal form of the ear-inflammation. The patient complains of itching; even burning, tearing pain in the ear, increased by sounds, and affecting also, not unfrequently, the carotids. The meatus is very much swollen, full of closely compact pustulous swellings, secreting a lymphatic fluid. It is quite natural that difficulty of hearing should exist, on account of the interruption of the passage of sound, though ringing in the ears is almost always absent; and but seldom does a moderate fever set in, unless in children, who are more severely affected, and frequently grasp with cries the ear. When the inflammatory symptoms abate, said liquid always flows out, ceasing gradually or passing into real otorrhœa, with a chronic inflammatory character. In the first case, it becomes successively more cerumen-like, seldom thicker, and disappears totally in two or three weeks. The second case we shall further consider below.

Another form of chronic inflammation of the glandular skin of the meatus aud. ext. is admitted, where a total absence of cerumen exists, and the meatus is sprinkled with dry, fine, white powder; otherwise no alteration, except perhaps somewhat red; and with this there is ringing in the ear, and a sensation of mechanical obstruction.

Of the acute form mentioned, cold by cold washing, or a draught of air, is the most frequent cause: lymphatic and scrofulous constitutions are, however, particularly predisposed to it. Other causes are suppressed exanthematas, especially measles, and furthermore youth. Mechanical causes are of rare occurrence; for instance, irritation by insects entering into the ear.

The catarrhal or glandular ear-inflammation will, in otherwise healthy individuals, frequently heal spontaneously, if injurious influences are avoided. Medical treatment is to be sought mostly and unfortunately in the chronic form, to be mentioned under otorrhœa.

The remedies adapted to the catarrhal otitis in its first stages are, Aconite, in very violent pains complicated with fever of the whole half of the head, and simultaneous rheumatic pains in the neck and other parts of the body. Next to this come Bryonia and Dulcamara; even Belladonna and Conium may be indicated, especially if, in children, irritation of the membrane of the brain is to be feared. The main remedy, however, is Pulsatilla. But it must by no means be overlooked that the epidemic constitution exerts a great influence upon the disease in question, and that a too subtile separation of the symptoms will rather lead from the right track, while the consideration of remedies best adapted in other catarrhal affections of other organs and systems at the same periods of time will facilitate the choice, and bring about better results.

External cleanliness, limited, however, to injections of tepid water or milk, favors an immediate alleviation of the patient's pain as well as a more rapid cure: the ear must be protected by some wadding or a light cloth from the injurious effect of a change of temperature.

In the chronic form mentioned, attended with dryness of the meatus and a total absence of cerumen, the prognosis is not very favorable; it seems as if a particular constitutional dyscracy causes this termination; at least I could, in several cases under my treatment, see a prostration of the

secerning functions of the glandular and mucous systems. Conium, Belladonna, Carbo anim., and Graphit. had a favorable influence generally. The so-called Antipsorics might rather come more into requisition, and then local specific remedies. The cures related in the homœopathic journals but seldom admit, unfortunately, on account of the deficient physiological signification of the morbid symptoms, a recognition of the pathologico-anatomical seat of the affection, dealing altogether too much in general phrases of difficulty of hearing, deafness, ringing in the ears: it is rarely therefore that we definitely know which remedy has cured this or that state. Glycerin is a very valuable external remedy in this form.

The phlegmonous inflammation of the meatus affects the cellular tissue, and differs from the previous forms by the violence of its symptoms. Severe tearing pains with painful tension, aggravated by every motion of the head and jaws, great sensitiveness of the meatus; the latter swells to a complete obstruction, and secretes a watery, reddish fluid. The inflammation is confined occasionally to a small spot only, and assumes quite the character of furuncle. Violent ringing in the ears and considerable hardness of hearing always exist; the patient is usually feverish and sleepless. While in both the previous forms, no proper suppuration takes place, but only secretions of the glands of various degrees; the phlegmonous inflammation here, as in general, terminating always in suppuration. At the height of the disease, when swelling and pains are very much aggravated, there appears suddenly, under considerable abatement of all the sufferings, a discharge of thick, yellow, bloody pus. After this, all symptoms gradually decrease; the meatus widens with the subsidence of the swelling, and the hearing returns.

Colds are also the most frequent cause of this affection. An unfavorable termination perhaps, in the succeeding form, is only to be apprehended in dyscrasical subjects. It can, on the other hand, by transition upon the tympanum and the meatus aud. intern., cause complications with internal ear-inflammation, and, on account of the remaining thickening of the tympanum, chronic hardness of hearing.

Medical treatment, in forms occurring without complication, might hardly be necessary. Under the head, "ulcer in the ear," "otorrhœa," we were told of miraculous homœo-

pathic cures, whose rapid, favorable result — from six to fourteen days — convinces us that there was a mistake in the diagnosis. Such wonders are presented to the credulous physician by a partial or general phlegmon of the meatus aud. extern. just passing into suppuration, which every old woman would have cured as quickly with chamomile tea. If any thing is to be done, the expected termination of this disease in suppuration must be favored as well by external as internal remedies. Of the first are — and the instinct of the patient calls loudly for them — softening, single poultices, without any narcotic additions, and injections of tepid water or milk, as well before as after the formation of pus. The principal internal remedies are Belladonna, Pulsatilla, Mercur.

The inflammation of the periosteum of the meatus comes seldom into treatment in its acute form, and generally occurs only after scarlatina or measles, or in connection with dyscrasies. It is developed without any particular pains, and soon passes into caries of the bony parts in question, so that we get often only by the sound the proper information. As I have not observed the development of this disease, and never saw caries even in otitis and otorrhœa after exanthematas, I can add nothing from my own experience in relation to the therapeia, and refer to the treatment of otorrhœa with its complications.

2. *Otitis interna. Inflammation of the Meatus Aud. Intern.*— Various subdivisions have been made here according to the regions forming the meatus inter., viz. inflammation of the tympanum of the Eustachian tube, catarrhal, phlegmonous internal ear-inflamination. These distinctions, however, I consider of little importance for practice; the momentum occasionale might at furthest modify the choice of the remedy. In the symptomatology, I confine myself therefore to the diagnostical differences between otitis externa and interna.

In the internal ear-inflammation, the pain is always much more intense than in the external; being not only particularly aggravated by masticating motions, owing to the vicinity of the internal ear to the articular facets of the jaws, but also by every sound, as an excessive sensitiveness appears in the beginning to loud tones, which is increased to insupportable pain at the least noise; while in otitis externa the patient becomes hard of hearing, mostly by mechanical

causes. He hears but too well here; and, while some dull tinkling at most is mentioned as the only subjective impression of hearing, the most troublesome delusions of hearing are here suffered, transitions from the finest singing, chirping, to the loudest ringing of bells. The near connection of the internal ear with the mouth gives us further diagnostical symptoms; as redness and swelling of one or both sides of the soft palate and tonsils, with difficulty of swallowing, and a tickling sensation, which symptoms we do not find in the external ear-inflammation. The processus mastoideus is frequently very sensitive to external pressure. The general health is much more seriously affected in the internal than external ear-inflammation. The patients have, with violent headaches, red or coated tongue, thirst and dry skin, very high fever, with total sleeplessness, the digestion going on very slowly with loss of appetite, and costiveness usually exists. A further distinction is perceptible in the terminations: though these are also, in the otitis interna, either muco-serous secretion or real suppuration, they nevertheless take place proportionally later, and by other ways. In otitis externa, mucus or pus flows readily and gradually from the meatus; in otitis interna, the tympanum is first perforated, then a bloody, pus-like fluid rushes forth in large quantities. Occasionally the pus does not run outward at all, but inward into the mouth through the Eustachian tube. In rare and particularly malignant cases, the suppuration seeks an outlet through caries of the processus mastoideus. Absence of all the symptoms of an external ear-inflammation finally signifies sufficiently the character of the disease. That a complication, however, of both forms can exist, modifying the symptoms accordingly, hardly need be mentioned.

Ætiological momenti for internal ear-inflammation are, colds, youth, especially the period of dentition, acute exanthemata, suppressed chronic eruptions, particularly of the head, scrofulous and syphilitic dyscracy.

The prognosis is not very favorable, partly because bad complications, especially in children, are to be apprehended on account of the neighborhood of the brain; because simultaneous dyscratic states, as well as the terminations in otorrhœa, caries, lasting interruptions of the function of the organ of hearing, render the treatment difficult, often impossible.

Treatment.—A decided influence must be given to the consideration of the occasional causes, the epidemic and individual constitutions, as well as to existing dyscracies. The ear-inflammation of young or adult, otherwise healthy individuals, occurring during the autumn and spring season, in consequence of cold, will terminate the most readily by the use of Dulcamara, Bryonia, Rhus, Pulsatilla, Chamomilla, and Belladonna. Belladonna is particularly appropriate for children during the period of dentition, obviating at the same time the apprehended brain-symptoms, and so with Calcar., Hepar, Mercur. The same remedies with Pulsatilla, and with the addition of Sulphur, are adapted to ear-inflammations consequent upon acute exanthematas. Scrofulous dyscracies require the well-known remedies, the principal of which are Belladonna, Conium, Carbo., Graphit., Calcarea, Mercur., and Iod. Should there be a complication with syphilis, then Aurum and Silicea will be especially beneficial, independent of Mercur. and Iod. The treatment of the terminations we shall have an apportunity to consider under the head, "Otorrhœa."

B. Discharges from the Ear.—Otorrhœa.

The nature of the issuing secretion in otorrhœas is always more or less pus-like, at one time thick, at another thin, with or without additional cerumen, not seldom mixed with blood and with phosphate of lime. We distinguish an otorrhœa externa and interna according to the seat of the affection in the external or internal ear: that both can often exist at the same time, and that one can join the other, is shown as well by a glance at the anatomical state of the organ of hearing, as by daily practice. This transition, however, is not absolutely necessary. The diagnosis of both is not difficult, and only doubtful when the way to the tympanum is rendered difficult to the examining eye, on account of simultaneous swelling of the meatus aud. extern.: this distinction, however, has no essential influence on the treatment; at least no external remedies can be applied for merely internal otorrhœa. The slight discharges from the ear, continuing for some time after the usual catarrhal external ear-inflammations, is not to be reckoned as otorrhœas, being deficient in the chronic character; the latter (otorrhœas) being mostly results or terminations of an acute or chronic inflammation

of the glandular membrane or the periosteum. They become developed in the latter case with scarcely any particular pains, and only in the first are observed the precursory symptoms mentioned in inflammations of the organ of hearing. Occasional causes are mostly such as have been already stated: colds, the period of dentition, exanthematas, particularly in the otorrhœa developed from chronic inflammations, dyscracies, especially scrofulosis. It has been affirmed that caries of the bony parts concerned exist in all genuine otorrhœa: though I cannot see why this *must* always be the case, I must nevertheless confess that I perceived this complication in a great many instances. This is easily accounted for, as well by its origin as periostitis, as from the known tendency of the bones in general, and the delicate bones of the labyrinth in particular, to be acted on through and to pass into inflammation and caries. A true diagnosis of caries is only ascertained by examination with the probe, and the discharge of phosphate of lime. The fœtor auris, the thin fluidity of the secretion, the distention of the Proc. mastoid., do not justify us in assuming caries, as the fœtor—this sweetish, ammoniacal smell—is more or less common to all otorrhœas: the consistence of the secretion also varies, and the distention of individual parts of bones do not establish caries. A scrofulous, lymphatic constitution favors the existence of caries. Arthritic and syphilitic conditions are also frequent causes. The longer an otorrhœa continues, the greater are the changes taking place in the texture of the parts concerned. The internal surface of the external organ of hearing exhibits at the beginning a brighter or darker redness; it soon becomes granulous and loosened, even sarcomatous, and appears often covered with small polypes. If the otorrhœa is confined to the external meatus, then the tympanum is uninjured; but it soon becomes involved in the morbid process, is perforated, and the disease extends to the internal ear. The extent of the destruction cannot so well be calculated with the eye; but it is evident from the anatomical relations that perforations of the bony parts outward at the Proc. mastoid., or inward under the dura mater, are not to be considered as rare. I saw several times in children dangerous symptoms of the brain arise after accidentally suppressed otorrhœa, which disappeared under careful treatment, and with the simultaneous recurrence of the discharge;

and in three cases of sudden death under symptoms of the brain, with existing otorrhœa, twice observed on post-mortem examination, an abscess at the base of the cranium on the dura mater, and once an issue of pus through the perforated cerebral membrane into the brain. If the otorrhœa forms originally in the internal ear, it takes generally an opposite course; that is, it progresses outward by sudden bursting of the tympanum, after having produced internally considerable devastations. Which of both forms, however, is the more frequent will be very difficult to ascertain, as the physician is usually called upon too late. A breaking outward through the Proc. mastoideus is of rare occurrence.

The prognosis of otorrhœa is, on the whole, unfavorable; the more recent the case, however, and the less complicated, the better; at any rate, both physician and sufferer must exercise a great deal of patience. Caries, or symptoms of irritation of the organ of hearing, are indications that the complaint will be of long duration, perhaps last for life.

Treatment.—A simple otorrhœa, as an inflammatory residuum, submits most easily to the proper remedies, the principal of which is Pulsatilla. This must be given in powerful and frequently repeated doses to produce a cure within three or four weeks. Next to this is Merc. sol., and then Lycopodium, Ammonium carb., Thuja.

In existing caries, or if it is, on account of the obstinacy of the evil, to be apprehended, Merc. sol. will often prove very beneficial. Frequently, however, must the stronger mercurial preparations be applied, Cinnabaris, Præcipitatus ruber, Sublimat., Hydrargyrum phosphor; and subsequently Calcarea, Silicea, Hepar, Sulphur, Acid. phosph., Aurum, Asafœtida, may be required.

In scrofulous complications, the remedies most approved for scrofulosis in general, will, of course, be adapted; being, besides those last mentioned, Belladonna, Conium, Kali hydrojodat., Graphit.

If there is reason to suppose that the disease is based on syphilis, then, after the mercurial preparations, or, if these have previously for a long time been administered, Acidum nitr., Aurum, Kali. jodat., will deserve particular consideration.

It is, however, as I stated above, necessary to give the special indication for every individual of the remedies

mentioned; particularly if dyscracies have simultaneously to be met, which is generally the case in otorrhœas. A careful comparison of the pathognomonic and physiological symptoms of the ear will be of no avail here; but the consideration of simultaneous existing disturbances in other organs and systems, especially in the mucous membranes, glands, and bones, will facilitate the choice of the remedy.

The question whether or not external remedies are to be applied, requires here a close examination. It is known that the old school loses no time in the treatment of otorrhœas to diminish the profuse secretion by external remedies, in cauterizing or excoriating the mucous membrane; and that it is not very scrupulous in the choice of its means. The result of such proceedings, however, being suppression without removal of the general affection, and consequent metastases or very painful acute inflammatory relapses, especially on the entrance of caustics in the internal ear, startled the therapeutists, and induced them to modify this treatment, so that there are now as many against as in favor of it. It is, in my opinion, perfect folly to attempt rapidly to suppress a long-existing otorrhœa, based on dyscracy, by powerful external means, with or without simultaneous internal medication, as it is certainly often followed by serious consequences: yet, on the other hand, I cannot perceive why all external applications should be condemned; as in similar cases, for instance, scrofulous eye-inflammation, abscesses, ulcers, they are proper y used, and with the best success. I have never seen evil consequences from a careful employment of external means in the treatment of otorrhœa, but a decided advancement of the cure.

Mild injections are, above all, indispensably necessary for cleanliness. The secretion is generally so acrid that it corrodes even the external meatus and the epidermis of the cheeks, producing there eczematous eruptions, besides continuing to affect the surface of the diseased mucous membrane as a constant irritation. Moreover, the offensive smell is very troublesome to the patient, and persons about him. Our first duty is to purify the secretion by frequently repeated injections, every two or three hours, of tepid water or milk, and to favor its issue by placing the patient upon the affected side. If the tympanum is still uninjured, then a solution of lead, even weak Sublimat. a sol. of Argent nitr., or tinct. of Thuja, might be also of advantage, provided

that the internal medication had not been neglected, but had been for a long time previously in use; and that the external remedies do not interfere with the effects of the internal. If the tympanum, however, is perforated, and otorrhœa interna and externa simultaneously exist, then I should dissuade from injections of various kinds, and confine myself to the brushing of the external meatus, as the physician is entirely unable to calculate the quantity of the medicament penetrating into the internal ear. The application, in fluid form, of the external remedies, is, however, far preferable to the dry form, — the sprinkling of calomel, Merc. sol., Præcipat. alone, or by means of a press-sponge.

C. Nervous Diseases of the Ear.

1. *Otalgia.* — The pure nervous otalgia has been declared an hypothesis by several practitioners in ear-diseases, while others affirm its existence. It might very well be that an inflammation in any part of the ear has very often been named otalgia: it is nevertheless reasonable to suppose that the ear also may have its algia, having also nerves, and very sensitive ones withal. The name otalgia, however, will apply only to a typic, intermitting ear-ache, without any trace of inflammation. Its principal seat has been stated to be the chorda tympani; neuralgic affections of other branches of nerves, especially of the facialis and trigeminus, being frequently complicated with the same. Neuralgias in the teeth, supra-orbital or infra-orbital region, alternate frequently with otalgia, or exist simultaneously with the latter, with lippitude, photophobia, or teethache, and half-sided headache. Otalgia, besides being a frequent attendant on catarrhal affections, is also generally connected with derangements of the abdominal organs, especially hemorrhoids and affections of the uterus.

The prognosis of otalgia is, according to the school, favorable on account of its frequent voluntary disappearance without the aid of art. This does happen occasionally, though in other cases it continues for weeks to the great annoyance of the patient, and, while occurring in shorter or longer intervals requiring still speedy relief. This can be rendered easier by the treatment according to specific laws, than according to the rules of the old school, which are warmth, diaphoretics, local and derivative irri-

tations of the epidermis, local opiates. It is true that we, according to the more distant causes, by keeping warm in colds, by general treatment directed against dyscrasies, or arthritic, plethoric constitutions, attempt to remove the evil; but we must also take pains to do it by specific remedies. Such remedies we frequently find in the narcotics ("*sit venia verbo*") as, *en passant* be it said, these form the best chapter in the usual pharmacologies of the old school. The Solaneæ in particular, whose known sphere of action extends principally to the cerebrum and cerebral nerves, offer very characteristic physiological symptoms, as pain of the nerves in the ears. So we find in Belladonna: "sensation in the ear, as if it were being forcibly torn from the head, tearing on the external or internal ear, severe cutting shocks in the internal ear, stitches from the upper jaw to the internal ear, delusions of hearing, excessive sensitiveness of the organ of hearing." Furthermore, in Hyoscyamus: "severe stitches in the ears, sudden, indescribable pain in the ear." In Stramonium: "stitches, buzzing in the ears." By adding the neuralgic pains in the three mentioned remedies occurring in adjoining nerve-branches, we shall have the true image of an otalgia. To this family is added Conium and Cicuta, Mezereon, Helleborus, and Veratrum, and likewise Cantharid. from the animal kingdom, all of which are capable of producing on healthy individuals a kind of prosopalgia, with violent stitch-like pains in the ears, and great sensitiveness of the organ of hearing. Arsenic and Laurocerasus are also entitled to consideration.

I myself have had an opportunity to treat otalgias but twice; both patients were of the female sex; there was no evidence, however, of derangement of the nervous system, but a tendency to neuralgias in general. In the one case, Stramonium gave speedy relief after a fruitless application of various remedies; the pains had been considerably violent, almost without intermission, and with but slight remissions at night, and this by keeping the head warm with herb-bags; at the same time there occurred occasional shedding of tears from the eye of the left affected side, when the pains were the most violent. In the second case, which was a robust woman in the climacteric years, all possible internal and external remedies of the specific as well as of the old school produced not the least change, so that I found myself

compelled, after fruitless assertions lasting two weeks, to try Chloroform. I directed one drop upon cotton to be put in the ear; the pain disappeared instantly, then returned again feebly after eighteen hours, but ceased after a repeated application, and reappeared no more. I could perceive no bad impression, for instance, upon the acuteness of hearing, immediately after the application.

2. *Derangements of Hearing.* — According to the various degrees and forms of derangements of hearing, different names have been given to them. Thus, excessive sensitiveness to sound is termed *Hyperacusis*, *Paracusis;* all interruptions in the sensation of sound, referring especially to their quality, delusions of hearing, reverberations, double hearing, &c., *Kophosis*, with the subdivisions Baryecoïa and Dysecoïa, the nervous hardness of hearing and deafness. According to certain authors, the seat of these dissimilar affections of the sense of hearing is the *Labyrinth*, with the ramifications of the nerv. acousticus; and we have no reason to distrust these assertions, based upon physiologic-pathological investigations. All three stated forms of derangement of hearing do not unfrequently pass into each other, or form unimportant subdivisions, according to certain subjective expressions of the patient. We see them very frequently as symptomatic associates of other special febrile diseases, where they are to be considered only as an expression of the simultaneously-existing nervous affection: thus, typhoid-fever patients are often very sensitive to sound, but become hard of hearing in the later stages, and even deaf. Under such circumstances, the derangement of hearing will not be the object of treatment, but the more important original disease, with the cure of which the first will disappear. We have frequent opportunity, however, to treat them as independent residues of the nervous diseases mentioned. The ætiology of the derangements of hearing is, however, very heterogeneous in nervous diseases, abdominal complaints, &c., besides all symptomatic derangements; and the latter passes so much into the idiopathic, that it is often very difficult to give a sure diagnosis. All states, which excite the activity of the cerebral nerves, can therefore produce hyperacusis, which is the same pathological momentum for the ear, as Photophobia is for the eye. The paracusis occurs as tinnitus or susurrus aurium, or as paracusis duplicata, double hearing,

as well in the most dissimilar (ear-affections) as also in universal complaints. Still more difficult is the diagnosis of hardness of hearing, which in both forms, as erethic or nervous and torpid hardness of hearing, will far more frequently depend on various diseases of other organs and systems, than exist alone.

It is evident that the prognosis undergoes considerable modification; and so it is with the

Treatment. — The derangements of hearing, and of these, hardness of hearing, have always most engaged the attention of physicians, and produced unfortunately the most trivial essays, as well as recommendations of nostrums. It cannot be denied that the subject has also been treated by several eminent otiatrics with circumspection and science. The frequent great diversity of opinion, however, and its consequent controversy, are not calculated to inspire confidence in their therapeutical views. It is not by any means my object to enter more deeply into the therapeia of the old school in said forms of diseases; as little can it be expected that I should review the whole homœopath. materia medica, in order to find "ear-symptoms" for hardness of hearing, or describe, with particular consideration of the momenti causales, an anti-rheumatic, anti-arthritic, or such like methods of cure, according to specific principles. Even in the most special homœopath. therapeia, no general rules for it can be given; but it must be left entirely to the judgment of the physician. I confine myself to the statement of individual remedies, established by experience for their beneficial effects in derangements of hearing, as well as to direct the attention to other remedies, adapted to this disease, and this as much as possible according to physiological laws of the sphere of action, not according to the accidental symptoms: in this case, it would only be required to name the remedies alphabetically, as almost in all of them, under the head "ear," symptoms will be found which, specially considered, might indicate derangement of hearing.

Aconite and Belladonna, Hyoscyamus and Stramonium, will be adapted to the excessive sensitiveness, as well as to the delusions of hearing, which are partly connected with local congestions, partly based on pure increase of sensibility of the nerv. acusticus. Their specific direction to the organs of senses is too evident from the physiological provings not to inspire our full confidence in them. Among these I

rank Spigelia, which has, according to the experience of Hartmann and Trinks, as well as my own, proved efficacious in the erethic form of hardness of hearing.

Arnica, Rhododendron, Rhus, and Nux vomica, are to be recommended, and have evinced their efficiency in torpid hardness of hearing, and even deafnesss, which occurs mostly as the results of a cold, without the simultaneous existence of other affections. Whether Pulsatilla is to be ranked with them is yet to be decided. I have seen no benefit from it, and I believe that only in recent cases may benefit be expected; the same I would say of Conium, Colchicum, and Bryonia. Ignatia, however, here as everywhere, follows Nux vom.

Carbo vegetabilis and Graphit. also Mangan., are adapted, according to the experience of Lobethal and Rentsh, and my own, in hardness of hearing or deafness of such persons as are inclined to catarrhs, as well as in the dysecoïa remaining after such states, or complicated with scrofulosis, where a consequent change of the texture in the internal ear, and the tuba Eustachii, with loosenings of the nervous membrane, might exist.

Lobethal says of Graphites, that its direct relation to the organ of hearing can be proved; and that it is specific in tingling in the ears, consequent upon habitual congestion, especially of young people. Lycopodium and Merc. sol. might, under the circumstances stated, besides the remedies mentioned, be noticed. And similar favorable results we have also seen from Iod. and Kali hydriod.

Sulphur is an indispensable remedy in hardness of hearing of individuals suffering under habitual plethora abdominalis, connected with much buzzing, ringing, murmuring in the ears. In such cases we are also justified in using the other efficacious and more powerful preparations of Sulphur, especially its combination with carbon, as Sulphuric Alcohol, and with Ammonium, as Spir. sulphuris hydrothion, both of which have rendered valuable service in the old practice.

Petroleum is, according to Lobethal and Tietzer, appropriate in paralytic deafness of arthritic persons, who have indulged considerably in Venere and Baccho, and where the torpor is manifested in coldness and paleness of the external ear, a dry, parchment-like state of the cartilage of the ear, dry state of the external meatus, deficiency of ceru-

men, incessant murmuring and ringing in the ears. Here, also, the above-mentioned stronger sulphuric preparations deserve particular consideration, — viz. Sulphuric Alcohol, and Sulphuric Ammonium.

Finally, Phosphorus, the powerful nervous-activity influencing remedy, has developed its beneficial effects, according to the experience of the most eminent homœopathic physicians, in hardness of hearing from deficient power of the nerv. audit., as after typhoid fevers, in persons addicted to much thinking and intellectual exertions: even in old people, considerable improvement will follow its administration. The complaint is manifested by tingling in the ears, — at one time more clear, at another more dull, — a sparing secretion of cerumen, confused noises, frequent burning and redness of the external ear. Phosphorus, in such cases, can successfully be applied externally as an ointment.

D. Organic Diseases of the Ears.

It is evident that contractions of the meatus, either inherited, or acquired from wounds, &c., are subjects for the surgeon, and not for the homœopathic physician. Degenerations of the mucous membrane, however, especially as polypi, admit of a beneficial internal homœopathic treatment, although the external treatment should not, of course, be excluded.

A degeneration of the mucous membrane of the external meatus is a granulous, and even sarcomatous, but seldom cancerous form; we see it in every very long-existing otorrhœa, and especially if complicated with caries; and its treatment comes in contact with that of otorrhœa. The external remedies recommended in the treatment of otorrhœa are here indispensable, while, at the same time, as stated above, internal remedies are administered.

The polypi vary considerably according to their nature and seat. They are either soft, spongy, follicular, easily bleeding on touch, sensitive, stalked or with broad base; or they are cartilaginous, hard, insensible. Their seat is generally in the external meatus, more frequently nearer the surface than deep; occasionally, however, quite deep, even on the tympanum. They always cause hardness of hearing, and even total deafness; sometimes mechanically, at others by destroying the membrana tympani, and internal

parts. They seldom become of very great size, owing to the pressure of the meatus preventing their growth, though they protrude without occasionally. It will hardly happen that they are confounded with furuncles or foreign bodies, penetrated from without: therefore the diagnosis is easy.

In reference to the ætiology of the polypi, we find them almost always depending on chronic inflammation; and every otorrhœa predisposes to their production, but especially simultaneous dyscrasies; scrofulosis being the most frequent, syphilis more seldom, arthritis the most rarely.

The prognosis is more favorable in the spongy, easy-bleeding, stalked polypis than in the hard and insensible; the latter are said to pass even into cancerous degeneration from irritation, in consequence of external medical applications; generally, however, we must not expect, that, after the removal of the polypi, they will immediately return, as the complications mentioned above had already nearly caused irreparable destruction of the organ of hearing. The prognosis is also unfavorable in polypi on the tympanum, at least for the function of the organ.

To the treatment of polypi appertain all the remedies stated in otorrhœa, especially Calcarea, Silicea, Sulphur, Corrallium rubrum, Aurum, Asafœtida, Mercur., Iod., Thuja, Acid. nitric., which are capable of operating as well locally against the hypertrophy and caries of the mucous membrane, as in general in removing the dyscrasies on which the disease is dependent. External remedies, early applied, are by all means necessary; and touching with Thuja, Sabina, diluted Acid. nitric., Solution of Sublimat., Argent nitr., or pure Lapis infernalis, is particularly to be recommended. The deeper the polypi, the more careful, of course, the physician must be; and with hard, callous, insensible polypi, he had better not interfere.

There may still be mentioned, as other organic diseases, thickening and laceration of the tympanum, as well as conditions mechanically dependant on cerumen, foreign bodies, &c. The oppillation and constriction of the tuba Eustachii, do not belong to this class. I do not mean the accidental obstruction of the tube by mucus or blood, but that caused by looseness, swelling, disorganization of the mucous membrane. We can make out the diagnosis correctly only by examinations of the canal per catheter, as the air-pressure experiments frequently deceive even the patient. The dis-

ease arises generally from repeated acute or chronic catarrhs of the mucous membrane of the nose and throat, in consequence of their transmission to the tube, and results in more or less considerable hardness of hearing. The disease disappears occasionally in the beginning, for a shorter or longer time, if, during deglutition, the pus, serving perhaps as an obstruction, issues into the throat, and allows a free passage of the air to the tympanum. Soon, however, the hardness of hearing returns again, the intervals of relief become scarcer, then cease entirely, and a durable weakness of hearing remains, — the latter even being at times totally lost. On opening the mouth, however, traces can be seen of chronic catarrh of these parts, redness, looseness, tough mucous coat, hypertrophy of the tonsils, and uvula. Subjective symptoms: tinkling sounds in the ears occasionally exist, though frequently wanting; but the patient always complains of a feeling as if the individual speaking was not in the immediate neighborhood, but in a distant room.

The prognosis is favorable only in recent cases: in long standing ones, where the organic changes of the mucous membrane have acquired a high degree, coalescence perhaps takes place, and all attempts at cure will be fruitless.

The treatment of this affection, though a part of the meatus is not accessible to the physician, has opened a wide field to surgical and therapeutical folly. I should like to know how many such unfortunate patients, by rude application of the catheter, air-douches, irritating steam, and injections, gut-strings, &c., have lost their little sense of hearing totally. The Eustachian tube admits of no such rough treatment as does the intestinal canal. Whenever any thing is to be expected from surgical aid, it should be performed only by the most experienced and firmest hand. We must principally try to operate on the mucous membrane of the nose and throat by internal remedies, and pay proper regard to existing dyscracies. Our patience here will be tried, however.

Belladonna, Conium, Pulsatilla, Thuja, may be given at the commencement; but they must be soon followed by the more powerful minerals, Ammonium carbon., Antimon. tartar., Graphit., Iod., Mercur. Mangan., Baryt., and Sulphur. The treatment of the obstructed or contracted Eustachian tube agrees entirely with the treatment of the chronic throat catarrh.

[We copy the following article on account of its intimate relation to diseases treated in the preceding monograph.—Ed.]

On a simple Method of ascertaining, without the use of the Catheter, whether the Eustachian Tubes are pervious; with some observations on the treatment of cases of Obstructions in these Tubes. By Jos. Toynbee, F. R. S.

The author pointed out the objections to the two ordinary modes of exploring the Eustachian tubes,—viz. that the use of the catheter is liable to produce pain and discomfort; that, without experience, it is not easy to ascertain whether it be really in the tube; that the plan of attempting to distend the tympanum by a forcible expiration, while the mouth and nostrils are kept closed, is not always successful, from the fact that the young and nervous cannot be taught to perform the act, and that sometimes, when it is properly done, the guttural orifices of the tubes seem to be pressed together so as to preclude the air from entering. In a paper recently read before the Royal Society, the author endeavored to show that the guttural orifice of each Eustachian tube is generally closed, and that the air in the tympanum is not continuous with that in the cavity of the fauces, except during the momentary act of deglutition. In proof of this, the following experiment was cited: If the mouth be shut, and the nostrils be held closed by the finger and thumb, and then the act of swallowing be performed, a sensation of fulness or pressure is experienced in each ear; and this sensation does not disappear upon the removal of the pressure from the nose, but it vanishes at once when the act of swallowing is again performed, while the mouth and nostrils are open. During the first act of swallowing, a small quantity of air was forced into the tympanitic cavities through the Eustachian tubes; and it herein remained until the second act of swallowing again opened the tubes, and permitted the air to escape. The muscles whereby the Eustachian tubes are opened are the tensor and levator palati, which it is well known take origins from the cartilaginous walls of the tubes. As, during the act of swallowing with closed mouth and nostrils, air is forced through the Eustachian tubes into the tympanitic cavities, it is evident that the permeability of these tubes can be ascertained by making the patient swallow some saliva while the nose and mouth are shut. Nor need the surgeon

depend upon the statement of the patient respecting the sensation of distention felt in the ears; for, by listening with the *otoscope*, should the Eustachian tubes be pervious, the air will be distinctly heard to enter the tympanitic cavities, and produce a gentle crackling sound. The author next proceeded to consider the treatment of cases of obstruction of the Eustachian tubes, especially in reference to the use of the catheter. It having been ascertained that these tubes are obstructed, is it desirable to attempt to open them by means of the catheter? Believing that obstruction in the Eustachian tubes generally depends upon a thickened state of the mucous membrane covering the guttural orifice, and that this state is always associated with a thickened condition of the faucial mucous membrane and of the mucous membrane of the tympanum, the author suggests — especially to those inexperienced in the use of the catheter — not to attempt to pass this instrument; firstly, because, in such cases, the mucous membrane of the Eustachian tube is often so tumefied that no ordinary degree of pressure will force the air into the tympanum; and, secondly, because, should the surgeon succeed in transmitting a few air-bubbles, the relief obtained is only partial, and endures for a brief period, since the mucous membrane remains as thick as before, and the ill effects of the obstruction soon recur, from the air in the tympanum becoming of a different density from that without. The membrani tympani becomes more or less fixed. The treatment recommended is such as shall tend to reduce the thickened mucous membrane of the guttural orifices of the Eustachian tubes to a healthy size, so that their muscles may be able to open them. For this purpose, besides the use of general remedies, the solid nitrate of silver, or a strong solution of hydrochloric acid, may be applied to the mucous membrane of the fauces and to the apertures of the tubes, and gentle counter-irritation is to be kept up over the region of the fauces. By these measures, as a general rule, the mucous membrane can be reduced to its natural state, and the tubes become again opened by their muscles. Should this not take place, the Eustachian catheter may now and then be introduced, and the air be gently blown through it. A modification in the shape of the Eustachian catheter is suggested, — viz. that it should be oval instead of round; the advantages derived being, that it not only can be passed

through the nose with less discomfort to the patient, but its presence in the Eustachian tube is much less disagreeable from the absence of the convex surfaces which, in the rounded catheter, press against the nearly flat surfaces of the tube. In conclusion, the author expresses his concurrence in the opinion of Harvey and Kramer, that enlarged tonsils are never the cause of obstruction in the Eustachian tubes, and that any benefit that may have followed their extirpation has arisen from the loss of blood consequent upon the operation. — *Lancet.*

GLONOIN.*

BY DR. REIL.

PROVING OF GLONOIN.

On the evening of February 14, I, together with three of my friends, took upon the tongue as much of the first dilution ($\frac{1}{100}$) of Glonoin (prepared by the Hom. Apoth. of Leipsic) as would adhere to the finger by turning the bottle. We were free from any excitement, and from any indisposition: I felt but a slight pressure above the eyes, brought on by a long ride in the cold air. I was the first who proved it; and believed the dose to be too small, perceiving no effect after the lapse of a minute; but suddenly I became aware of an inward pressing pain in the midst of the vertex, and at the same time congestion of blood. My pulse increased from 85 to 100 and 112, and I felt a disagreeable beating of the arteries of the neck and head. The headache extended to the temples and forehead. After the lapse of half an hour, the symptoms gradually decreased, and passed off.

All of my colleagues felt, two or three minutes after they had taken Glonoin, a pain in the vertex, and described it as if something rose from the occiput, and passed to the forehead and the vertex. The frequency of the pulse of all increased from 20 to 30 beats over the normal number, and of one even over 40. In these cases, also, the symptoms decreased, and passed off.

* Translated for the "Quarterly," by E. Richter, M.D. from Zeitschrift für homœop. Klinik. vol. ii. No. 7.

Three other persons proved, on the second of March, the effect of Glonoin before a society of naturalists.

A——, aged 24, of good constitution, said that he was subject to congestions of blood, but that he had always been, up to that moment, free from headache. His pulse, after taking his dinner and some wine, was full, and amounted to 120. He felt nothing five minutes after he took one drop of the first dilution ($\frac{1}{100}$). But soon after a second dose, he complained of headache in the vertex and in the forehead. Pulse was unchanged. Five minutes after, he took again one drop unmixed (the former dose being two drops in water). The headache remained at the same place, but increased, and passed off after ten minutes, while the pulse decreased to 100.

B——, aged 30, tall, and generally free from complaints, with the exception of the chest. Three minutes after taking one drop in water, he complained of a pressing headache in the vertex. After a second dose, the headache increased, and he began to complain of dizziness. The pulse neither increased nor decreased from the normal frequency of 80.

C——, 38 years old, of a small size, and a feeble constitution, inclined to diseases of the glands; but not subject to headache, nausea, or diarrhœa. Pulse 90. He is of a quiet and dispassionate temperament, and undertakes the proving with an easy mind, and without any prejudice. Dose, one drop of the first dilution, ($\frac{1}{100}$) in water. Three minutes after, no symptom. The same dose was repeated. Soon after, headache was felt in the vertex, and in the temples, as if they were pressed together. Pressure in the forehead and the eyes, inducing winking of lids. Drawing pain in the head, extending to the occiput. Pulse increased to 100, 125, and even to 140. As he asked for a stronger dose, four drops, unmixed, were given a quarter of an hour after the first dose. Soon after, he felt "strangely." The headache was not increased; but he experienced a feeling like vertigo and dimness, which, however, soon passed off. He complained of great anxiety, of nausea, and a sensation as of cold sweat on forehead and temples; but there was none. The pulse, which in the beginning remained unchanged, soon became slower, and fell to 80, 55, at last to 40. Soon after a normal alvine evacuation, the above symptoms were removed. The pulse increased to 70, and the headache almost passed off half an hour after the first

dose, but reappeared at night, leaving the next morning a sensation of dizziness.

Postscript. — The distinct symptoms of the head induced me to try Glonoin in a case of headache of long standing, (patient being 30 years old, and subject to headache from his childhood); the maintaining causes of which, mostly continued mental exertion, offered great difficulties in the treatment. The headache appeared in two distinct forms. The first form resembled the nervous headache, characterized by pressure, paleness of the face, and prostration. The second form showed more of the congestive character; as, sensation of an undulation in the head, beating of the blood against the skull, sensation of a straining in the vessels of the head, pressure from within outward, or outward to inward, redness of the face, desire to sleep, and sleepiness. Those symptoms, however, are more important for the symptomatologia than they would be in an ætiological regard, as both perhaps brought on by anæmia. The first form appears more after a derangement of the stomach, or after a cold; while the latter is connected with a nervous plethora in the abdomen, and is brought on by continued exertions of the mind. I relieved, therefore, the former frequently by Nux, Rhus, Phosphor, while the latter form was relieved by Aconite, Bryonia, Calcar. carb., Kali bichrom. Several weeks ago, the patient suffered from headache of the congestive form, and complained of it for some days without interruption. I ordered one drop of the first dilution ($\frac{1}{10}$), which I obtained from the apothecary in Dresden. [Those who prepared it here, as well as in Leipzig, complained, while preparing it, of congestion of blood to the head, and vertigo.] The patient took, by mistake, the medicine before retiring. Immediately afterwards, the patient had a sensation like apoplexy. The whole head seemed surcharged with blood, the sense of pressure therein exceedingly increased, with glimmering before the eyes, ringing in the ear, and dizziness, which urged ineffectually to sleep. The night was passed in sleeplessness, caused by pains, or in a drowsy sleepiness, disturbed by wild and disagreeable dreams. This state lasted till three o'clock in the morning, and was then followed by a quiet sleep. The headache, which before had lasted several days, ceased now for nearly six days, and was renewed then but in a slight degree. I prescribed the

fourth dilution, carefully prepared, without any effect; while the third dilution relieved quickly, and did so always in a single dose, as often as the pain came back, though other remedies required a much longer time before an effect was produced. In the nervous form, however, Glonoin had no effect.

In the same family, the servant girl, who is of a healthy constitution, but subject to rheumatism, was seized with headache, brought on by a cold, after overheating herself during housework. She complained of a pressure and heat in the head, vertigo, ringing in the ears; there was redness in the face, the consequence of fever, and disturbance of the stomach, with no other complication. She received, in my absence, one drop of the second dilution. Fifteen minutes afterwards, the headache and congestion of blood was aggravated to such a degree that she had to keep her bed. She enjoyed, however, till evening, a sound sleep, and appeared only restless with much wandering of mind, which she has not ordinarily. She was free from any complaint the next morning.

Such cases call our attention to headache of a congestive character, the symptoms of which are, according to Hering, as follow: — Vertigo when moving the head; heaviness in the head, mostly in the forehead, above the eyes, and extending to the ears; dull headache, with a warm sweat on the forehead. Headache; pressure upward, mostly in the vertex; from within outward, mostly in the temples. Sensation as if the brain was extended, and undulating. Fulness in the head, mostly in the vertex, with a beating or heat. Congestion of blood and heat. Beating in the forehead, in the temples, and in the vertex on every movement. Improved by exercise in the open air. Congestions of blood to the eyes (redness, heat, stitches, twitching, photopsis); in ears (humming and buzzing). Paleness of the face, even with heat or redness. Palpitation of the heart; beating of the carotid arteries. Pulse accelerated, irregular; also full, very hard (soft, small, quick; alternating effect?). Pain, heat, chills in the back. Restlessness. Beating, crawling, shuddering. Singular sensation of warmth over the whole body. Sweat, mostly in the face.

When we compare those symptoms with the cases above mentioned, we find much resemblance.

Dr. Hering gives as indication: — Consequences of exer

tions of the mind (quick changes in the different exertions). Consequences of a sudden cold, after over-heating the body (cases above). The indication is very important. Glonoin seems to answer better in a pseudo than in a real plethora, and better for those who are exposed to sudden changes in the distribution of the blood. We therefore would probably find its effect answering to cases with an albuminous rather than a fibrinous crasis; more to venous than arterial diseases, and particularly to cases of anæmia, with, notwithstanding, an apparently healthy complexion.

But farther proving is necessary, before we are able to propose distinct indications.

ON THE SO CALLED MOTHER TINCTURES.*

BY L. E. JONES.

Passing over the reason why medical preparations are called tinctures (in books on pharmacy), I will only mention that by this expression are understood, not only alcoholic extracts of dry vegetables, or of particular parts thereof, but likewise alcoholic solutions of salts of metals.

By the term mother tinctures are understood a series of medical preparations of the vegetable kingdom, which, originating from the doctrine of antipsoric homœopathic medicines, have been introduced into science. They are prepared by mixing freshly-pressed vegetable juices with equal parts of alcohol, and kept for medical use.

The title "mother tinctures" exhibits the method on which their preparation is founded, in contradistinction to that by which tinctures are prepared from dried vegetables, or their several parts, by means of alcohol. By the first, — that is, the use of fresh juice, — we endeavor to bring the specific peculiar constituents of medical plants unchanged, into alcoholic solution.

It is my intention to adopt this method of preparing tinctures for medical use, since, besides the advantage men-

* Translated for the "Quarterly," by Prof. H. Erni, from "Zeitschrift für Erfahrungsheilkunst," vol. v. No. 4.

tioned, we obtain more uniform preparations of unchanged vegetables.

There can be no doubt that dried vegetables are different from freshly-collected ones; and the juices of fresh medical plants, treated with alcohol, must differ from the alcoholic extracts of dry plants. This holds good for all medical plants known as remedies, as well for those whose effect in curing is founded on organic basis or acids, as for those containing more chemically indifferent bodies. Science has long ago established the essential difference between parts of living and of dried plants. It has further attempted to separate those chemical compounds from the plants, and to find out, for the medicines in question, the best adapted forms and combination. But chemistry cannot become the guide, where it does not agree with empirical materia medica, or where suggestions have been tried with prejudice. What science has done in regard to the making of medical preparations, and that it keeps pace with the progress of chemistry, is shown by the general exertions of pharmacy. What, however, has been done in a purely chemical point of view, i. e. upon a (by means of?) so-to-speak physical touchstone, in regard to so many medicinal agents, and what apparently correct conclusions have been drawn against the unstability of the hyper-orthodox homœopathy, and the doctrines of Rademacher (abusively called Theophrastus Paracelsus redivivus), whose works it was thought the touchstone would easily demolish, it seems nevertheless to us that these attempts have been so far unsuccessful; at least in relation to the preparation of "original tinctures," of which we shall here treat. They deserve thorough appreciation. As long as practical medicine, or medicine in general, is not based upon rational scientific researches, as are natural sciences (so that chemico-physioligical discoveries may be unquestionably the guide for the use of medicines, especially those prepared from organic bodies), so long we cannot say that theoretical chemistry aids the purposes of practical medicine materially. Up to the present time, she has only kept from it noxious compounds; but has probably thereby done injury in a negative sense, by dispensing with medicines of established reputation, because injurious, or wrongly compounded in a chemical sense. We shall hereafter call attention to the products of the distillation of fresh vegetables, which result

from the mutual action of certain nitrogenous and non-nitrogenous bodies upon each other, where an essential difference between dried and fresh vegetables, in regard to their medical properties, is rendered obvious.

Among the many questionable points on the "how" of the proceedings of the chemico-physiological activity in the life of plants, there are two points which await yet the explanation of science, notwithstanding the many ingenious reasonings and researches of naturalists on the subject of the relation of the vegetable cells to the liquids moving within them.

For our purpose it is sufficient to know the two groups of those vegetable juices which give foundation to the material of our original tinctures. The manifold explanatory views of investigators in regard to them, we leave out of consideration, as far as they do not directly affect the genesis of the medicines prepared thereof, and limit our treatise to the following facts. When juicy vegetables are squeezed, and their mechanical structure torn, and the solid separated from the liquid parts by pressure, the latter will as well contain the general vital juice, as the liquids peculiar to the vegetable species. We obtain a great part of the inorganic constituents, besides a mass of fine divided cellular and vascular substance, together with their contents, starch, resins, chlorophyl, &c., suspended or dissolved, and in this liquid the essential constituents of the whole unchanged plants. It will not be the point to preserve the received juice unchanged, and to protect it from the metamorphoses of its peculiar constituents; but to bring it into a condition in which certain chemical changes and new formations, especially of the nitrogenous vegetable alkaloids, from the protein-compounds of the juice, may take place. The discovery of compound ammoniacs, which we find in living vegetables, proves that these vegetable bodies may be formed by organic forces, as well as in the apparatus and skill of chemists. We are acquainted with the mutual influence of the compounds containing carbon with oxygen and hydrogen, in proportions to form water on protein-compounds, from which latter the vegetable alkaloids derive their nitrogen, which form the essential bodies of the juice of our original tinctures. As different as these carbon-hydrates of vegetable juices are, so are the protein-compounds; and so different also are the formed products of

organic chemical substances in the juice pressed out of plants.

Therefore, if we add to the juice a substance able to take up a part of its peculiar materials unchanged, this will be the simplest way to separate them from plants without any chemical reagents (even heat excluded). This solvent is alcohol. Such an alcoholic extract not only retains the peculiar odor and taste of the plant employed, but shows the specific characteristic qualities of the same, to which we have to look for their healing power on certain diseased animal organs.

The original tinctures obtained in this way are of such a peculiar kind that they must attract the most earnest attention of the medical, as well as physiological and chemical world.

The well-known practitioner of homœopathy (Rademacher), prescribes the preparation of the original tinctures from freshly-expressed vegetable juice, — the juice being mixed with equal parts of alcohol; and, after the insoluble parts are removed by decantation or filtration, the tincture is preserved for use. My several years' experience in relation to the original tinctures taught me, that the separation of the liquid from the solid part (usually appearing of a green color) by frequent shaking, ought not to be effected before a year had passed. I observed that a long contact of the albuminous bodies, and the inorganic constituents forming, together with chlorophyl and fecula, the sediment of the extract, — cause, with the soluble parts in alcohol, a further formation of the specific vegetable alkaloids, with an increase of the odor of the plant used.

The discovery of artificial alkaloids causes me to publish these observations, often before communicated to a number of intelligent friends. A simple and easily-accomplished experiment will persuade any one of the veracity of my statement. This phenomenon is especially referable to the narcotic principles of plants, particularly when they belong to the class of volatile alkaloids, as Hyoscyamus, Conium, Nicotiana; also by Gratiola, Pulsatilla, Aconitum, Belladonna (Arnica), Chelidonium, Digitalis, &c., is this phenomenon known to me.

I have already, many years ago, mentioned to some of my colleagues, that narcotic extracts (as also extracts more or less strongly odorous, as Quassia, Marubium, Chamo-

milla, Gratiola), according to the fifth and sixth edition of the Prussian Pharmacopœia, especially the fifth,* which are so rich in the green vegetable constituents, contain, as is well known, a considerable quantity of nitrogen in their combination (therefore easily inclined to undergo metamorphoses), so that after a year the quantity of alkaloids is increased.

Every pharmaceutist well knows that these narcotic extracts pass through an (apparent) fermentation, however cautiously prepared; and that, after the termination of this period, they exhibit particularly the very characteristic odor and taste of the plants from which they come. The presence of ammonia, founded on the increase of the alkaloids, may often be recognized by its odor; or, better, by employing caustic alkalies. I believe, therefore, that the neglected prescription of the fifth edition of our Pharmacopœia is far better than that of the sixth for the preparation of narcotic extracts. An accurate observation will show, that the dispensing and use of these narcotic extracts should only take place in order to reach the standard of the original tinctures. After this time they have to be well closed, and protected from atmospheric influences.

These extracts are, according to the prescription of the sixth edition of the Prussian Pharmac., evaporated original tinctures; but since these latter, protected against atmospheric influences (whereby they turn darker), can be kept better, they must be considered as better medicines than the extracts; more especially so than those ground together with powder of Glycerine, and afterwards dried (Extracta sicca).

Spec. gravity. The qualitative and quantitative peculiarities of these tinctures might be determined by reagents, if desired.

I conclude with the sentence of Moleschott: "For the explanation of natural things no more causes should be assumed than are true, and sufficient for an explanation. Nature does nothing in vain: she is simple, and not overstocked with causes for phenomena."

* The concentrated juice obtained by pressure is united with the alcoholic extract of the residue left after pressing, and evaporated to the common extract consistency.

PERTUSSIS.

BY DR. E. RICHTER, PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

There are three opinions expressed by writers in relation to the cause of hooping-cough. One class considers it as a catarrhal affection of the entire apparatus of respiration, without any affection of the nerves; while another admits the existence of the latter affection in connection with that of the respiratory organs. A third class considers the hooping-cough as a distinct nervous disease, and makes it originate either from an affection of the brain, or the medulla oblongata, or the plexus solaris, or the nervus vagus or nervus phrenicus. We have yet no certain knowledge respecting the cause of this disease, though the most able writers have given to it their entire attention. Even some of the latest writers incline to the opinion that the hooping-cough is a neurosis, and the affection of the respiratory organs a complication. Lately, several writers of the physiological school have proved the incorrectness of the above opinion, and ranked it among the diseases of the respiratory organs without a combined affection of the nervous organs. These refer it to bronchial inflammation. As in other diseases, our only guide in ascertaining the origin of a disease must be dissection.

The stethoscope aids us in tracing the catarrhal affection of the respiratory organs through the whole course of the disease. The appearances, upon dissection, are commonly thickening and inflammation of the mucous membrane of the bronchii, and sometimes of the trachea and a layer of thick mucus, or an exudation of a muco-purulent, or of an albuminous-serous fluid, filling the ramifications of the bronchii. In some cases the lungs have been found in a state similar to that observed in pneumonia catarrhalis. In other cases, and in those of a longer duration, the ramifications of the bronchial tubes were found dilated (bronchiastasis). When the disease has extended to the air-cells and the finest ramifications of the air-tubes (ecchymosis), acrid exudation above the pleura pulmonalis is found (pleuritis). In other cases again, with much stasis of blood in the lungs, a tumefaction and redness of the glands of the neck is noticed as the consequence of it. Autenrieth and seve-

ral other writers noticed a redness and injection of the nervus phrenicus and vagus. Many others have not made the same observation; and thus we are compelled to consider such a state as at least of a very uncertain and very rare occurrence. This result of dissection, and the fact that we trace the catarrhal affection of the respiratory organs by the aid of the stethoscope through its whole course, forces us to the conclusion that the catarrh of the lungs forms the character of hooping-cough, and is not a complication of a nervous affection. By such an affection of the bronchial tubes and of their ramifications, we may explain all the different diseases which follow or are complicated with hooping-cough, as pneumonia catarrhalis, bronchiastasis, emphysema, and œdema pulmonum, dilatation of the right ventricle of the heart. That the paroxisms are not intrinsic to hooping-cough, and do not form its entire character, is proved by the fact that we find the same paroxysms in tuberculosis pulmonum and bronchiastasis. Rilliet and Barther, on diseases of children, deny the existence of the rhonchi during the so-called nervous state of hooping-cough. But we can hear, before and during the paroxysms, the distinct sonorous or sibilant mucous rhonchi (crepidatio vesicularis), which last as long as a quantity of phlegm is raised, whereby the attack is ended. Children mostly are exposed to an affection of bronchitis capillaris; and that explains why children are chiefly exposed to hooping-cough, as hooping-cough is based upon this disease. Some writers try to explain the nervous character of the disease from the circumstance that a fright aggravates it. But this we may observe in every common cold. Others again have persuaded themselves that they are able to cure, or, at least, to relieve hooping-cough by the administration of narcotics; and have consequently reasoned, by a conclusion *a posteriori*, that hooping-cough must be a true neuralgic, or at least a true nervous disease. Many physicians, however, have seen no benefit result from the use of narcotics. The contagiousness of hooping-cough does not prove the nervous character, since *no nervous disease is contagious*. Besides, the epidemic appearance of the disease is opposed to the nervous character. Convulsions may be observed in every common cold of children; mostly when the patients are irritable.

The character of hooping-cough, as a nervous disease, has not been proved; and it is merely an hypothesis. But any hypothetical opinion, without a rational basis, only serves to complicate pathology. According to all appearances, hooping-cough is a catarrhal affection of the respiratory organs (bronchitis capillaris catarrhalis, bronchio-pneumonia), which begins in the larger bronchii, with symptoms of fever or without, and thence proceeds to the finer ramifications and air-cells, where an exudation of a viscid mucus is formed, which, by reflexion, causes the paroxysms, and which catarrh commonly is of a chronic character, terminating by the secretion of a mucous purulent fluid in the bronchii. This catarrh forms in its highest stage a contagium, which, however, is active only in the nearest neighborhood of the patient, and is not to be transported by persons to a greater distance.

Many writers divide the hooping-cough into three different periods: in a stadium catarrhal, a stadium convulsivum, and a stadium mucosum seu criticum. We do not believe in this. The distinction between the three different stages is not certain, and the course not regular. Sometimes hooping-cough begins with the second stadium; and often the third stadium is omitted.

The hooping-cough commences with symptoms of a catarrhal affection of the pharynx and bronchii. Sometimes also it attacks the conjunctiva of the eyes, and the mucous membrane of the mouth and pharynx. Those symptoms which do not differ from a common cold, last usually from seven to fourteen days. During this period, the cough has not the characteristic hooping sound; and there is nothing that can induce us to suspect this disease. Some writers consider weakness, prostration, moroseness, and sleepiness, as essential signs of the approaching hooping-cough; but those symptoms are caused only by the fever, and are wanting when no fever exists. The following are symptoms which by others are regarded as essential to the nervous state of hooping-cough. The cough is dry, expelled with short expectorations, which repeatedly are interrupted by a deep and sibilant inspiration. The symptoms of a stasis of blood are further observed in the respiratory organs. This stasis produces stasis in the venæ jugulares, in the bloodvessels of the head, and stasis of blood in the digestive canal. In connection with the symptoms of

those stases are others, which are to be explained as caused by the reflexion of the exudation accumulated in the bronchii, upon the nervous system. Those attacks are terminated by the expectoration of a viscid and transparent phlegm, sometimes striped with blood. If those attacks have been but slight, the children are apparently well, and do not complain. But, when more severe, the patients remain for a longer time languid, and complain of much pain in the head and chest. The breathing remains difficult and painful, and the pulse full and accelerated. Auscultation shows, when possible, during the attack, distinct rhonchi of mucus, which are louder and more extended than during the intervals. Those attacks last commonly from half a minute to one fourth of an hour; but there are several attacks with scarcely perceptible intervals, and repeated from half an hour to from two to four days. Those symptoms, which most writers term the nervous stage, last usually four to six weeks. The vehemence of the attacks relax, become shorter and less frequent. Auscultation still shows the existence of rhonchi, but less extended. The exudation, which is changed to a viscid, purulent phlegm of a yellow-greenish color, is raised with less exertion. The swollen, sickly appearance of the child begins to disappear; and it feels stronger. All excitement, as well mental as bodily, must be avoided; as also exposure to a sharp or impure air, or a rough temperature; as their influence in this stage of the disease brings back the paroxysms. This state is termed by most writers the blennorrhoical stage.

All those symptoms, however, prove the catarrhal nature of the disease, and disown any nervous affection as cause or combination of it.

The most rational treatment is to keep the patient in a uniform temperature of 16° R. The patient should not be allowed to eat much at once, and but light vegetable food, as long as the febrile symptoms prevail, with mucilaginous drinks and water of the temperature of the room. Purity of the air, of the bed and clothes, is to be regarded. When paroxysms occur, the patient must sit up during the attacks, and should not leave the room. All excitement, mental or bodily, is to be avoided. Milk, attenuated by water, pure lukewarm water, sugar-water, or mucilaginous decoctions, may be allowed, as soon as the paroxysms set

in. All the allopathic specifics, like Sulphur, Sulph. aurant., Antim., Squilla, bring no relief, but rather produce indigestion. The highly recommended narcotics, and remedies of the same nature, produce no effect, either to relieve or cure; doing more harm than good; and the tendency of those remedies rather incline us to the opinion, that by them the catarrhal character of the hooping-cough is changed to a nervous disease. Autenrieth recommended vaccination. Further experiments proved that useless.

The happiest effect and the promptest relief I have seen, was when I treated the disease as a severe catarrh of the respiratory organs. I have obtained much benefit from Aconite, Ipecac., Nux. vom, and Tart. emet. In some cases I was induced by some prevalent symptoms to administer Sulph. acid 3; and, from the result I have had, I can recommend it to my homœopathic brethren.* I gave it in cases mostly with pain in the throat, dry, sibilant cough, pain in the chest and abdomen, swollen and painful glands of the neck, viscid expectoration, mixed with stripes of blood. It soon relieved those symptoms, and made the intervals between the paroxysms longer, and the attacks shorter and less severe.

Arsen. and China, in combination with the medicines above, were of much use to me during the latter part of the disease and during convalescence.

SCIATICA.

S., a cabinet-maker, fifty-six years old, of athletic figure, otherwise always well, was attacked, eight months ago, with a violent, tearing, burning pain, that proceeded from the tuberosity of the right ischium, following the course of the sciatic nerve, and spread over the thigh, the knee, and the leg. It generally came on at night, and increased in intensity every minute, until he was obliged to get up and walk about the room, when the pain went off almost completely. During the day, when at work, he did not feel

* Cuprum met., having undoubtedly a specific relation to Pertussis, deserves here particular consideration. — Ed.

it; and even when he sat still, he had very little pain. Nothing was to be seen on the affected extremity, and the strongest pressure occasioned no pain. Cupping, leeches, blisters, inunctions of all kinds, and finally opiates, were used for six months, not only without benefit, but the nocturnal pain got always worse. The patient, who had been so extraordinarily strong, was very much reduced, by being deprived of sleep for eight months, so that he could scarcely do the least work when he came under my treatment in August, 1849. The selection of the right remedy seemed to be easy; I prescribed what had always been of use in similar cases, Rhus toxicodendron 3 (dec.), 3 drops in 3 oz. of water, a tea-spoonful to be taken every night at bedtime. The result surpassed my own and the patient's expectations. After the first dose, he was able to sleep, for the first time for a long period, as soon as he lay down in bed; and it was not till after midnight that he woke up with a little pain in his thigh, which went off after taking another tea-spoonful of the medicine, and he again fell asleep. The next morning he awoke much refreshed by a good sound sleep. Made him take the above mixture for a few days longer, whenever the pain seemed to be returning. It did not, however, recur; and he has remained ever since, for two years, quite well. A remarkable feature in this case is, that, shortly before he came under Dr. V.'s treatment, he had taken for two weeks from fifteen to twenty drops of strong tincture of Rhus daily, without the least effect. — *Dr. Villers, Hom. Vierteljahrschrift*, ii. 425.

EDITORIAL.

Eight hundred physicians, converging to a focus from various and remote sections of our "great country," assembled in New York, on the third day of May last, with the ostensible purpose of advancing that cause, in the legitimate growth and entire being of which is involved the alleviation of human suffering. And what measures were instituted by such a formidable body, styling itself the "American Medical Association," to accomplish this most desirable of earthly objects? What plans were proposed to further the acquisition of knowledge, in relation to the true properties and action of remedial agents? What medical "innovation" impar-

tially discussed? What pathological or therapeutical fact disclosed? In short, what perceptible result, other than considerable wonder and consternation among New York citizens, was effected by such a delirious demonstration of death-stricken "old fogyism"? We are informed of no proceedings directly or indirectly tending to the promotion of *medical science*, or any other science. There was a great amount of loud talking, it is true, with a strikingly characteristic diversity of opinion on every subject introduced. Many resolutions were offered and withdrawn; and among those finally passed were the following, which for inconsistency and absurdity are unexampled: —

"Resolved, That this Association recommend Congress to consider the propriety of passing a law, compelling all importers of nostrums to state upon all compounds thus imported their true constituents in English."

"Resolved, That the several State Legislatures of this Union be *requested to compel* all venders, whether apothecaries or others, to put similar labels on all nostrums sold by them." [*Latin* prescriptions, written by physicians, *not*, of course, included.]

"Resolved, That all the State Legislatures be memorialized for the passage of laws that will prevent the Faculty of any Medical College from granting to any person a license to practise, or a degree, who is not a *Latin and Greek scholar*."

"Resolved, That every physician who, at any time, abandons the *orthodox* mode of practice, shall forfeit his license."

Now, what *is* "orthodox" practice? "Orthodox medicine, in this century, is a substitution, and not a continuation, of the science of the last. It has no right to be offended with upstarts; for it is not more than fifty years since itself arose out of the crucibles and dissecting-rooms. In a word, it has many experiments, but almost no traditions." Surely no real progression can be admitted, and none is claimed, in old school therapeutics. Its history is well known to be one of ever-occurring changes, — a perpetual adoption of new to the rejection of old simples and compounds. Its character has been, and is still, purely *empirical* — anti-scientific in all its phases and attributes. Its past is not its present existence, and will not be its future. Who is ignorant of the remarkable want of unanimity that prevails among its professors now? — a want of unanimity which would be sadly obvious were they individually called upon to define the phrase "medical orthodoxy," as each understood and respectively practised it. We have no hesitation in asserting, that a large majority of those gentlemen — members of the "American Medical Association," so distinguished for its late promotion of science — would differ with each other in their theory and practice quite as widely as the servile imitators of the French differ with the equally servile imitators of the English "authorities;" or as the general

views of the present day differ with those in vogue thirty years since.

The resolution requiring Latin and Greek scholarship in licentiates might be amended, we humbly submit, by the substitution of the following final lines: —

Resolved, That all the State Legislatures be memorialized for the passage of laws that will prevent the Faculty of any Medical College from granting to any person a license to practise, or a degree, *who is not thoroughly acquainted with the peculiar properties of the medicines he is to make use of; their specific character, and mode of operation on disease.* [A very important species of information, to be acquired — as it *only can* be acquired — by experiments on the healthy.]

The strict requirement of the above necessary qualification in graduates would avail more in rendering their professional career satisfactory to themselves, and useful to the world, than a knowledge of all the dead languages ever written or spoken. We are far from intending to depreciate classical attainments. They are already at a disgracefully low discount among our professional countrymen. On the contrary, too high a standard of education cannot be placed before the medical student. But we contend that, first and foremost, an intimate knowledge of remedial agents, in all their relations, is of the highest necessity, and should be imperatively demanded of all licentiates in medicine.

To show in what estimation these proceedings are held by the community, we copy the following from the "New York Dispatch": —

"That branch of the medical profession who claim to be the 'Regulars' held their anniversary in this city last week. All the medical associations of the United States, and many parts of the Old World, were represented. The professed object of this general annual meeting of the doctors is to advance the cause of medical science; and, if they would only labor to that end successfully, and by proper means, they would do much good; as there never was a science nor a profession that needed advancing more than that of medicine.

"Des Cartes, who was called a philosopher, asserted that no man could pretend to have a knowledge of the science of philosophy, until he was ready to admit with candor, that he doubted all that he had been taught previously on that subject. The doctors must practise upon this maxim of Des Cartes, before they will be able to make much progress in the improvement of their calling. They must learn to forget, or repudiate, all the medical theories they have been taught, and begin anew, before they will be able to advance the cause of medical science. Though medicine is one of the oldest sciences, yet it is admitted, by all great minds

of enlarged observation, that improvements in the science bear no comparison with its antiquity. Other sciences and arts have been wonderfully improved; while medicine, in the hands of the regular physicians, seems not to have taken a single step on the road of progress. Thousands are daily slaughtered, on a bed of sickness, by doctors who claim to be so many bright and shining lights of the regular Faculty, and who set their faces against every innovation upon their theories and practice, that promises to alleviate human misery and eradicate disease. Physicians of the regular stamp adhere with obstinacy to their old routine of practice, in defiance of an admitted fact, that ninety-nine of every hundred of their medical theories are based upon utterly fallacious grounds. This truth is admitted by Dr. Gregory, who was ever regarded as an ornament of his profession; and Dr. James Johnson, the talented editor of the "London Medical and Surgical Review," one of the ablest medical works in existence, declares to the world, that, if there were not a single physician or surgeon in existence, there would be less disease and death! He states that this opinion was founded on long observation and reflection. The celebrated Dr. Rush says: — 'We (the doctors) have multiplied diseases, — nay, we have done more: we have increased their mortality!' The various theories in medicine seem to be so many contradictory dogmas, handed down from generation to generation, often dazzled by the brilliancy of great names, but all tending to perpetuate ignorance, increase the mortality, and plunder the pockets of society.

"What have the eight hundred physicians accomplished at their anniversary meeting which has just closed in this city? They have seen the great metropolitan city of the Western World, talked together, toasted and feasted, but did nothing more for the benefit of that ancient profession of which they are members. They have hurled weapons at what they call quackery, or empiricism, but never seem to admit for a moment that their whole practice is nothing but empiricism. Medicine really seems to be an ill-fated art which all truly great men hold in utter contempt. Byron wittily anathematized it by defining it as the 'destructive art of healing the sick;' and, when he had recovered from a tedious illness, he wrote to a friend that he attributed his restoration to the use of barley-water, and his peremptorily refusing to call in a doctor.

"Now let us see what the learned Medical Association have done at their recent meeting to elevate so degraded a profession. We have watched their proceedings with some interest, and noticed several singular efforts to still further lower the profession and blind the eyes of the community to its errors and vices. One of these is to allow no man to practise medicine, or to become a member of the Faculty, unless he has a knowledge of Greek and

Latin, or is what is called classically educated. The resolution of the Association advises that all the State Legislatures be memorialized for the passage of laws that will prevent the Faculty of any Medical College from granting to any person a license to practice, or a degree, who is not a Latin and Greek scholar.

"The next absurdity we notice is a resolution which recommends that every physician who, at any time, abandons the *orthodox* mode of practice, shall forfeit his licence.

"The next great measure of medical reform is an effort to find out what ingredients are used by pill-makers and patent medicine venders, who are not regulars. These resolutions are short, and we give them *verbatim:*—

"'Resolved, That this Association recommend Congress to consider the propriety of passing a law compelling all importers of nostrums to state upon all compounds thus imported their true constituents in English.

"'Resolved, That the several Legislatures of this Union be requested to compel by law all venders, whether apothecaries or others, to put similar labels on all nostrums sold by them.'

"The discussion on these several resolves was as curious as the resolves themselves, and will tend only to still further injure the profession. Whoever looks at these several propositions will find them as contradictory in spirit as the various medical theories advocated in the schools. The doctors want all the pill-makers and nostrum-venders to tell the people in plain English of what they make their medicines; yet they insist that all the regulars must understand Latin and Greek, so that, when they write their prescriptions, the people will not know what they take as medicine. This is not very consistent. If it is so very important that the people should know the ingredients in their pills, when prepared by one set of medical advisers, it is just as necessary that they should know of what the innumerable prescriptions of another class of doctors are composed. If one class of physicians are forced to expose the secrets of their profession, then all should be.

"The resolve that drives a man out of the profession, who abandons the practice, or travels out of the pale of what is called orthodoxy, is an evidence of illiberality that we did not expect to see even among doctors. Who is to say what is orthodox in medicine? No two physicians agree in the treatment of disease; and every important medicine they now use was originally recommended by persons not members of the Faculty, or, if you please, empirics. So it is likely ever to be; and this resolve, if acted upon, would drive from the profession all those honest and able minds who were anxious to adopt into their practice what experience proves to be of utility. A few more such meetings of the Medical Association will be likely to remove what there may be valuable in the profession of physic."

MISCELLANEOUS.

MEDICAL AFFAIRS OF AMERICA, — INSTITUTIONS, — FEMALE COLLEGES.*

PHILADELPHIA, 5th Feb.

As all science, and the arts in general, so far as they do not specially relate to material life, — to commerce, trade, and manufactures, — are yet, in our country, in an inferior position, compared to Europe; since they seem not to be cultivated for their intrinsic value, but, like every thing else, simply to promote one object, viz., pecuniary interest; so it is with medicine, which, like every other branch of industrial life, is learned and carried on as a mere matter of trade. The science of medicine, as well as other sciences, appertains in Europe to professional pursuits; but a longer, more thorough, scientific education, being there a condition of professional success, produces this result, that the science *itself* progresses, affording an intellectual interest and want; so that the science itself, and not the income by it, becomes the chief object of most of its advocates. Here it is just the reverse. Individuals who practise medicine for the science' sake are, with us, rare exceptions: the majority learn it as a trade, and practise it accordingly; look at it in no other point of view than as a means of subsistence. A glance at the scientific institutions of America will satisfactorily explain this. The colleges where professional education is acquired, and the privilege accorded to practise the scientific trade, are, with the exception of a few so-called universities here and in Boston (which, however, are not essentially different in their character), private bank speculations, whose end, independent of the establishment of a scientific institution, is to gain, if possible, a handsome dividend. A number of wealthy individuals form a company, elect a Board of Trustees and Directors, with a President, Secretary, and Treasurer; a charter is acquired from the government of the respective State; a number of physicians are selected in accordance with personal favor and recommendations (those having the most reputation and practice will, of course, not meddle with it); a building is hired, or, if much money is on hand, erected; and the whole is made known by the papers, and, through special pamphlets, overladen with promises. The college is soon ready; and, on the succeeding year,

* From "Zeitschrift für Homœop. Klinik," April, 1853.

a few dozen fresh-made doctors will emerge from it, and distribute the results of their rapidly gained medical wisdom and experience over all parts of this great Union.

This sort of preparation for a scientific pursuit appears quite strange to one who is used to a preparatory course of eight to ten years, which is followed by an examination, before entering upon higher studies; the latter continuing from four to five years, with examination, before the title of Doctor is granted; these conditions being as a "sine qua non" for a suitable scientific education in medical practice. But such a course would not do for America, as every thing is regulated here by the immediate nearest want. In a country where large cities grow up, like mushrooms, in a night; where the population doubles within a quarter of a century; and blooming fields are seen to-day, where but a few years previous was a desert; physicians cannot be waited for who are to learn, from eight to ten years, Greek and Latin; study, from four to five years, their profession; then travel two or three years, before commencing finally the medical practice! Here every thing progresses rapidly, — by steam, — and science cannot be made an exception; so Doctor-diplomas must be manufactured, as it were, by steam; their intrinsic value is of no consequence; like all other wants, they are made for sale.

Such is by no means a proper and desirable state of things; when, out of ten or twelve Professors of a college, scarcely one is a proficient in Latin (without mentioning Greek), and the most disgraceful lingual blunders are committed; when a student cannot write, even in his mother-tongue, the scientific expressions and names orthographically; if, in such a college, students of all ages are assembled, among whom hardly three have been educationally trained from the beginning to their new calling, but who have previously pursued some other business, from which they suddenly steer towards the medical diploma, as towards any other industrial occupation. This state of the science, in a country like America, may be quite natural, and not at all astonishing, but, on the contrary, perhaps to be expected in a young country that can achieve much in a short time; and it may have greater claims to regard and approbation than to contempt and ridicule. To judge America justly, it must never be forgotten how brief its existence has been in comparison to old Europe, — the cradle of intellectual achievement for thousands of years. It must furthermore be remembered, that every thing arises here from voluntary impulse, and the respective ability of the people; and that consequently a people of which it is said (and not with injustice) that it directs its attention too much to the material, having no other aim than money-making, still it deserves sufficient acknowledgment, since it has notwithstanding accomplished so much, as we have seen, particularly within the last twenty-five years, and daily see pro-

posed and executed. I believe that the progress in America, in an intellectual point of view, keeps pace with its material growth and prosperity, and so has also the theory and practice of medicine (the practice, of course, principally since the introduction of homœopathy) essentially improved within the past twenty-five years; and, twenty-five years hence, the progress will be still more perceptible. Pills, German bitters, magic pain-extractors [pain-killer, E.], expectorants, &c., still play, however, a prominent part; somnambulists and spiritual mediums prescribe remedies;* a pill-wagon, painted red, in the Chinese style, drives through the streets in the far West.† It may, of course, still look fabulous; and, notwithstanding this, the nuisance is on the decline, and a rational medical police begins to gain ground,‡ of which it is only to be hoped that it will not be carried too far, though this is not to be feared here, where there is no idea of industrial or personal oppression, as in Europe. The instruction in medical colleges is, of course, deficient, according to the European standard; is confined to sketches nearest the practical or essential, or regarded as such; yet is nevertheless, in this way, very good and instructive. Anatomy, for the age of the institutions, is demonstrated by considerably good collections of models, with dissecting rooms, where bodies (mostly of negroes) are seldom wanting. To acquire a medical diploma, two full courses, at least, must be attended in a chartered college, and three years' practice with a respectable physician. But, unfortunately, these conditions are not kept; and many a college endeavors to obtain as many students as possible by a facility in delivering diplomas. As most colleges have but one course during the year, so a clearance is possible in *one year* (the course is about five months). One of the general colleges of Philadelphia gives also a summer course, from March to July, so that this can be benefited as the first, and the succeeding usual winter course in the Homœopathic College as the second. The three years' practice with a physician is not regarded, the mere name of a so-called teacher being sufficient. In this manner, scores of medical diplomas are bestowed upon entirely unqualified individuals. As in general, however, every shoemaker, if he gets a notion to mend human constitutions instead of boots and shoes, can call himself Doctor at any time, and nobody can prevent it, or in fact nobody does (in some States, as in our neighbor State, New Jersey, there is a sort of State's examination for practitioners from other States), therefore the ease by which a diploma is acquired does not change the matter: the

* Without mentioning extensive domestic quackery. — J. B.

† You are there only less genteelly humbugged. — J. B.

‡ We don't know about that; for here, in far-famed Boston, we see daily unripe fruit, foul meat, bad oysters, poor liquor, &c., publicly sold. — J. B.

individual liberty of the community requires that everybody may suffer himself to be killed *secundum* or *contra artem.**

There are taught in the college, — anatomy, physiology, materia medica, surgery, chemistry with toxicology, pathology, botany, midwifery and diseases of women and children, in five or six lectures daily, within four to five months. The students have free admission to the hospitals for practical surgery: for practical midwifery, however, there is no provision made, as no lying-in hospitals exist (also, no female midwife institutions); but only individual cases occurring in the hospitals; and the lying-in bed itself† is usually the only school for the young practitioner, and many a poor woman must naturally pay with her health and life for it. However, this is, according to my view, just a branch of the medical science where less injury is done by doing nothing than by improper proceeding.

It will be particularly interesting to you to hear that we have also Female Medical Colleges, here and in Boston, which seem to gain ground. In reference to the degree and extension of medical education acquired there, I can, unfortunately, as yet say nothing; but there are few branches of the medical art, especially women and children diseases, that may not be as well, if not better, in the hands of female practitioners.‡ America, however, will practically solve this question, and likewise that of the emancipation of women. It is the main advantage of this new hemisphere, that every idea — even the most absurd — can outlive itself here, and deposit its good, though it be ever so little.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HOMŒOPATHY.§

Our readers will remember, that, at the meeting of the Institute in Baltimore last year, Cleveland was chosen as the place of its meeting this year: the day for the delivery of the annual address was fixed on the 8th June. A preliminary meeting should take place on the evening of the 7th June. Accordingly we had the pleasure to witness the arrival of most of the members who intended to come, on the evening of the seventh of June, from East, North, West, and South. It was a cheering sight to see the readiness and promptness of even aged members of the profession,

* Just as he likes; and if the Doctor has property, then he will be sued for malpractice. The greatest quacks, however, always escape. — J. B.

† In private practice. — J. B.

‡ We doubt this. — J. B.

§ In want of more particular information in regard to the last meeting of the "American Institute of Homœopathy," we copy the above from the American Magazine, vol. ii. No. 7, reserving our views until a full account of their proceedings comes to hand. — Ed.

who, in spite of fatigue and inconvenience, had left their distant homes, and, hurrying to the far West, endeavored to be present at this national gathering. Many a younger member of the profession should follow, in this respect, the example of such gentlemen as Drs. Gardiner, Wilson, &c. How much, in that case, might we not expect from meetings of this kind ?

For the first time since the organization of the Institute, had it been deemed necessary and just to meet west of the Alleghany mountains. Ten years had sufficed to fill the West with a sufficient number of homœopathic practitioners and members of the Institute, to induce the latter to take this step. Such a growth and extension is immense, nay, not equalled in the history of our science. A few years more, and the Institute will have more Western than Eastern members, so that the greater strength, in this respect, is sure to centre in the West.

In the preliminary meeting, held at Dr. Williams's office, the Eastern and Western physicians met with a cordiality of feeling, and sincerity of expression, which was calculated to promise the best results at their farther deliberations. These anticipations were fully realized during the sessions of the next two days.

At nine o'clock, on the 8th June, the Institute met at National Hall, where the Eastern members were welcomed to the West in an appropriate speech by Prof. H. P. Gatchell, who, for that purpose, was deputed by the Ohio College of Homœopathic Physicians.

After the roll was called, Dr. Gardiner, of Philadelphia, was elected chairman, to preside over the deliberations of the society at its present session; during the remainder of the forenoon, the election of new members occupied the attention of the society; their number was this year considerable; as near as we can remember, from forty to fifty. A misunderstanding in the appointment of the Board of Censors, which at this time arose, was afterwards satisfactorily and for ever removed by resolutions which will appear in the minutes of the society.

In the afternoon, the reports of the various committees appointed last year were read and debated. This occupied the time until evening, when Dr. Bayard, of New York, delivered, in the same hall, to a large and respectable audience, an address, which, in matter and style, justified fully the already high opinion we had of the lecturer's eloquence, and sincere love of the Homoin. As the address will appear in print, by request of the society, we will not here anticipate the pleasure of the reader: we will remark, however, to those who were absent, that the manner of delivery added not a little to the charm with which the noble sentiments arrayed themselves, one after another, both convincing and captivating, as they flowed from the lips and heart of the eloquent lecturer. Indeed, the earnestness of purpose and sincerity of

belief, which so fully distinguish the doctor's character, were clearly portrayed in his speech on that evening; and long shall we remember this effort, at once brilliant and successful.

The remainder of the evening was then spent in enjoying the hospitalities of Professor Williams and his amiable lady, at whose mansion the members of the society, and their families, met in a social evening party, where hilarity and good feeling united those closer together in the bonds of friendship, who, shortly before, had been comparative strangers to each other.

During the forenoon of the next day, the unfinished business was resumed. Reports were read, and scientific matters discussed, after which various important resolutions were brought forward and passed. One had reference to the taking of a census of all the homœopathic physicians, whether members of the Institute or not; another to the establishment of a Central Homœopathic Pharmacy, under the control of the Institute; another stated that a stone should be procured from Hahnemann's birthplace, to be inserted, with a suitable inscription, in the Washington Monument; and one that a suitable acknowledgment should be made, by the Institute, to the valuable services which Dr. C. Hering had rendered to science and humanity. Efforts of this kind, if properly carried out, will tell of the existence of the Institute in other quarters than our own; and thus far the present session has commenced a new career, which may lead to great results in the future.

Towards the close of the forenoon session, a resolution was presented which was intended to test the sense of the members present as to the adoption of auxiliaries during homœopathic medication. As a subject of this kind was too important in its issue, consequently very apt to lead to interminable discussion without result, it was, during the afternoon session, unanimously resolved to lay its further consideration over to next year's meeting, which was fixed to take place at Albany, N. Y., on the first Wednesday of June, where Professor Gatchell was appointed to deliver the annual address. The Institute then adjourned in perfect good feeling. Great good will result from this meeting of the East and West. More anon about this.

NEW PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Americanische Arzneiprüfungen und Vorarbeiten zur Arzneimittellehre als Naturwissenchaft, von Constantin Hering. Heft III.—Apis Mellifica (conclusion). Including an Essay on Remedies for the Stings of Bees.

Dr. J. T. Temple's Reply to Professor Pallen's Attack on Homœopathy, in his valedictory before the Saint Louis University. St. Louis, 1853. (Published by particular request.)

Handbuch der reinen Pharmakodynamik, von Dr. Heinrich Gottfried Schneider. I. Lieferung. (The Aconite, Belladonna, and Pulsatilla Affection.) Magdeburg, 1853.

Lehrbuch der physiologischen Pharmakodynamik. Eine Klinische Arzneimittellehre für homœopathische Ærzte als Grundlage am Krankenbette und Leitfaden zu akademischen Vorlesungen, by Dr. Altschul. 1853.

PERIODICALS RECEIVED.

AMERICAN.

The North American Homœopathic Journal, May, 1853.
The Philadelphia Journal of Homœopathy, May, June, 1853.
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British Journal of Homœopathy, April, 1853.
Homœopathic Times, up to June 11, 1853.
Homœopathische Viertel Jahrschrift, vol. iv. Nos. 1 and 2, 1853.
Zeitschrift für Homœopathische Klinik, up to May 1, 1853.
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QUARTERLY HOMŒOPATHIC JOURNAL.

THE USE OF CHLOROFORM IN DISEASES.

BY DR. REIL.*

Of all the remedies of recent times, perhaps none has been more rudely and empirically used than Chloroform, without having acquired, so far, any definite indications for application. Numberless operations have been performed with the aid of its anæsthetic power, and sufficient opportunities have been given to establish the physiological effect of this medicinal agent in its totality; occasional fatal results have also proved that it must be carefully handled, that there are decided contra-indications of anæstization; but further than this we have gained nothing.

Martin and Binswanger have contributed an essay relative to the physiological effect of Chloroform, from experiments on men and animals; and Gruby has, in a similar manner, directed his attention principally to the changes produced by it in the blood. But provings of this agent, according to the specific medicine, have not yet been made; they are, however, the more desirable, as just this class of rapidly-anæstizing remedies presents difficulties to the homœopathic fundamental law in relation to the indication. This is already, though in a slighter degree, the case with Opium.

The empiric of modern times, and of all schools, offers us quite a respectable material of experience wherefrom definite indications may be established, with proper caution, which, however, will gain in intrinsic value only by thorough physiological provings. In this rude, empirical manner, Chloroform was tried, in the form of steam, externally, and

* Translated by J. B. from the "Hom. Viertel Jahrschrift," 1853.

also internally, by drops, — 1. To achieve insensibility in painful operations upon alarmed patients. 2. To relax, and by it render movable, parts that were not so: for instance, the eye-ball in eye-operations; extraction of foreign bodies from the same, or from the ear, in refractory children. 3. In pure inflammatory pneumonias, as inhalation to afford rest to the lungs. 4. In nervous affections of the lungs and bronchias, asthma, dyspnœa, spasmodic cough, as inhalation, or internally with water. 5. In sleeplessness of old people, given internally. 6. In the various forms of painful affections, as well inflammatory as of a purely nervous character; also in toothache, megrim, prosopalgia, neuralgia of the plex-brachialis, cardialgia, colica nephritica, colica saturnina, arthritic affections, gonorrhœa, and as well internally as externally. 7. In spasmodic affections, of the most various form and severity, of a tonic and clonic character; for instance, spastic strictures of the uterus, orifice of the matrix, anus, œsophagus, glottis of the sphincters in general, in cholera, as well as epilepsy, eclampsy, trismus, tetanus; here suitable in the three forms of application. 8. As an antiseptic remedy against fœtid odor in the mouth, malignant ulcers, cancer; and also externally to relieve the pains of the latter. In all these heterogeneous forms of disease, the most decided cures have been achieved by Chloroform: in individual cases, however, it has afforded but palliative relief. By entering into a short, superficial criticism of this empiricism, we must be very careful not to be too severe; as experience has often contradicted the *a priori* assumed contra-indications.

In regard to the application of Chloroform in operations for the purpose of total anæstization, surgeons are by no means the only judges. Fatal results are fortunately not so numerous as to condemn its application for anæstization in general: however, such there are, and unhappily we have learned from them very deficient, if any, contra-indications. Though it is generally stated that people of an apoplectic habit, and very nervous, irritable constitution, are the most liable to drop away under the Chloroform intoxication, yet individuals have died, by the application of this remedy, of a perfectly healthy habit; and others have experienced no evil effects where ætherization has been contra-indicated. The deficiency of definite, established rules should at least induce the physician to use the utmost precaution, and

especially to avoid narcosis, carried too far, as it is at present recommended by the most famous surgeons. In many operations it is ridiculous indeed to trifle with so dangerous a weapon; in those, for instance, where the duration and painfulness stand in too small a proportion to the risk, as in dental operations: here it is unhappily a fashion, and an improper concession of the operator towards his lady-patients. It is entirely different in very painful operations, and those consuming much time. The pulse must always be carefully watched in anæstization; and it is equally as important to have an apparatus near by, for the immediate production or application of previously-prepared oxygen gas, as it is known that this removes the most promptly the effect of Chloroform. In reference to other objections against inhalation, especially in relation to after-bleeding, Pyämia and experience must yet decide. For the relaxation of the muscles in reducing luxations, an external application is often sufficient.

In reference to anæstization in obstetrical operations, there have been weighty objections raised against its application. We leave this controversy to the professors in the department, and only remark that Chloroform might be a valuable remedy in some cases, in whatever form of application it be administered; for instance, as in spasmodic constriction of the cervix uteri, total or partial spasms of the uterus after the passage of the liquor amnii, and in eclampsy.

The highly-praised results of Chloroform inhalations achieved by Baumgärtner, Grünsburg, and Paul, in pneumonies, do not authorize us yet, by any means, in pronouncing this agent a new and infallible curative in lung-inflammations; they are not yet numerous enough for this: on the other hand, the hospital practice is far better capable to decide this question than private practice. Chloroform has been used on old people and lunatics, only by Uythenhoven, internally, from six or sixteen drops: further experiments would be desirable.

The host of neuralgies has, from the commencement of the discovery, given the greatest proportion of successful cures by Chloroform. In reviewing the relations of this kind scattered through our literature, and from some experiments and observations, I believe the following result has been gained: —

Though *all painful affections* of every organ come under the relieving influence of Chloroform, externally as well as internally, or in the steam-form of application, yet this effect is not always really curative, but frequently only more or less palliative.

Chloroform, in purely inflammatory states, produces but a *slight* palliative effect, especially in partial, local inflammations; for instance, odontalgia inflam., paralis, otitis, orchitis, periostitis rheumatica, syphilitica, arthritis, rheum. acutus. The pains certainly cease for a short time, but return again; and at last Chloroform is entirely inefficient, and only irritating. Of course we refer here only to the external application.

The effect is better and more lasting in such inflammations as are connected with spastic symptoms, owing to the structure and peculiarity of the affected organs; for instance, in colica renal., biliosa, irritation and spasms of the neck of the bladder in cystitis, gonorrhœa, gravel, and other affections. The remedy here removes the spasms caused by the inflammation, or another foreign irritation, without being able to remove the inflammation itself. In such cases, for example, catheterism will succeed under the influence of Chloroform easily and quickly, rubbing it on the perinæum, or diluted as injection. Pain and spasms frequently return, however, but not immediately; the patient recovers from the excruciating pains, and the physician gains time for further proceedings.

A decidedly curative, and in most cases lasting effect, we see in pure neuralgias, from Chloroform. The less symptomatic, the more idiopathic, the better for the speedy cure. Even if the neuralgia is more of a symptomatic character, Chloroform is the best palliative, continuing under these circumstances its alleviating effect long, to the great comfort of patient and physician. There is no necessity of entering into details here, even for the form of application: rules will offer themselves, as we must be wholly regulated by the individual case.

Not less favorable are the results of Chloroform applications in spastic affections of any kind. We have mentioned a few of those already in obstetrical cases, and in inflammations: here, also, the more pure the nervous element is manifested, the greater the probability of cure. The most dangerous diseases come within the reach of these states;

and who will not give a hearty welcome to a remedy in which is believed to be found a new anchor in threatening shipwreck? Several instances show that trismus and tetanus traumaticus have been cured only and alone by Chloroform; and, according to this, we are perfectly right in making a full and unconstrained use of this remedy in these and similar states, otherwise mostly considered fatal. In hydrophobia, also, it has been tried by English physicians, as far as I know, however, without effect. In epilepsy and chorea, we are still without sufficient experience: Albers, of Bonn, gave his particular attention to it, but he recommends great caution; yet speedy abridgments of the individual attacks were always observed, and longer free intervals. If we consider, however, how frequently these two last-mentioned diseases are symptomatic, and originate in quite different states, the impure idiopathic affections of the nerve-centres, then we cannot wonder at the failure of individual experiments with Chloroform. Eclampsia of lying-in women was several times cured by this remedy; and experiments in eclampsy of the new-born would also be justifiable.

The excellent results achieved by Chloroform in herniæ incarceratæ may be physiologically easy accounted for; and they have great similarity with the methods of using Sulphuric æther.

I do not believe that I am too sanguine in the belief that something may yet be expected from Chloroform in spasm of the glottis, in the last stage of croup, or in penetrated foreign bodies, and in several malignant forms of tussis convulsiva, as not only a palliative, but even a curative remedy.

The external application of Chloroform for the improvement of the secretions, and alleviations of the pains in malignant ulcers and cancer, is better vindicated than its use for the removal of the fœtid odor from the mouth. It must decidedly give place here, on account of its other secondary effect upon the nervous system, to Chloride (of water).

Though the form of the administration of Chloroform must, in the individual cases, be left entirely to the judgment of the physician, it will nevertheless not be improper to take a closer view of some (generally valid) points and manipulations.

The easiest and most harmless application is the exter-

nal. For such purpose, we use either wadding dipped in Chloroform, — and, to prevent rapid evaporation, cover it with thin kid leather, — the surest and quickest way, reddening, however, the epidermis soonest; or washing with Chloroform, diluted with water in the proportion of from 1 : 200, or 1 : 100, or 1 : 50; also ointments, with grease or oil in equal parts, or in a still lower proportion.

The internal administration, in cautious doses, is likewise entirely harmless; from one to five or ten drops, diluted with half, one, or more ounces of water, by tea-spoonful doses. Owing to its rapid evaporation, it is unfit for potencies or dilutions, and must not be prescribed for a longer time than twenty-four hours; the speedy closing of the phial being always attended to.

The inhalation is frequently required where deglutition is impossible: no great quantity, however, is needed, if we do not intend to produce total anæstization, and in many sensitive individuals a very minute quanty is sufficient. The most simple and best way of applying it is to shape half a sheet of strong paper in a hat-like form, put wadding in the point, and pour Chloroform upon it: this apparatus the patient holds before the nose and mouth, through which he draws in enough atmospheric air, which, as is known, rather accelerates than prevents narcosis.

The writer has very often administered Chloroform in painful affections, and submits to the reader's kind judgment the following description of some of the more interesting cases.

1. *Eclampsia.* — Mrs. C., a feeble woman, inclined to hysteria, twenty-three years of age, in her first pregnancy, sent for me in the night of the 18th of Feb., 1852. She complained of violent pains in the epigastrium, thence extending, like child-birth pains, towards the small of the back and the abdomen. As she believed her time of delivery to be near, I regarded these pains, there being no indications for a different opinion, as caused by anomalous incipient uterine activity, and administered Pulsatilla. The pains abated in the course of the day; the night from the 18th to the 19th was passed quietly, and, during the succeeding afternoon, a regular uterine activity gradually appeared, which grew more violent after midnight, so that the liquor amnii passed off at nine A.M., the os uteri being fully dilated. After this, the pains ceased for an hour;

returned again, however, with renewed violence, yet without accelerating the delivery. Suspicious twitching motions about the angles of the mouth, and in the arms, induced the midwife to send for me, as I had not seen the woman since noon; her delivery then promising to be normal. An examination showed the first occiput presentation, a somewhat large, tightly-wedged head; appearing, however, suitable for the forceps, the pelvis seeming otherwise natural. The woman was very much excited, assisted poorly the vehement pains, had a hard, frequent pulse; and at intervals, while free from pain, a sudden twitching, with convulsive distortion of the eyes, was seen about the mouth. Under such circumstances, I thought the speedy application of the forceps was indicated, and ordered the patient to be placed in a proper position for the purpose. I had just applied, easily and properly, the left blade of the forceps, when suddenly the eclampsia occurred in the most furious form. I fortunately succeeded in the immediate removal of the blade, and suffered the attack to rage for a minute. When the patient became quiet, I attempted the operation again, but was prevented by a new and still more violent convulsive attack. These attacks returned at short intervals, with extreme severity; the face of the patient, while they continued, being perfectly blue black; which color was, during the intervals, replaced by a deadly paleness, and with this there was an icy coldness of the body, with a small, very frequent pulse, hardly to be felt and counted; in short, the symptoms of threatening apoplexy. The delivery made no progress whatever, and even during the short intervals an excessive rigidity of all the muscles existed; in the meantime, the clonic spasms passed into the tonic. In order to make delivery possible, it was necessary to stop the spasms, and relax the muscles; for which purpose I considered no remedy better adapted than Chloroform. I procured the same from my house, in the immediate neighborhood, and returned just at the commencement of a new attack; two drachms of Chloroform immediately applied, in the form of inhalation, produced instantaneously a total relaxation of the muscles. I quickly applied the forceps, while the effect of the inhalation still continued, and delivered, with a few powerful tractions, a living female child. The placenta, being in the vagina, was removed forthwith, — the woman properly placed in the bed, where she had a quiet rest of

almost an hour, awaking then entirely recovered, without having the least remembrance from the moment of the first attack.

The confinement during the first six days was passed quietly and normally, the child not being put to the breast, but given to a relation to be fed. On the 26th of February, however, symptoms of pain, and rigidity of the whole left lower extremity, causing apprehensions of phlegmasia, were developed. Instead of this, a paralytic state of both the lower extremities and the bladder set in quite rapidly, which, defying all remedies, passed into general paralysis, causing her death on the 31st of March, five weeks after the delivery. The child remains healthy to the present day.

2. *Neuralgia intercostalis.* — A woman twenty-four years of age, mother of three children, had an abortion in the third month. There was considerable anæmia, yet the danger seemed to be gone, and the patient could, after ten days, leave the bed for a few hours, when a pain in the left side gradually appeared, showing at first a rheumatic character. Within twenty-four hours, however, it became so very violent that the patient was tormented with the severest anguish. Its location was precisely in the place where the point of the heart strikes against the ribs, increasing by respiration, motion, or speaking, to such an extent that the patient thought her breath must stop; she breathed faintly, lay motionless, and was bathed in perspiration. The pain darted occasionally through under the left mamma towards the left shoulder and the left temporal region, in which latter place there had been hemiorania for a few days just after the abortion. By external hard pressure on the region over the point of the heart, the pain became aggravated, but not by mere pushing of the muscles; raising the patient up was entirely impossible. Not the slightest abnormity, either at the heart or the lungs, could be discovered by auscultation. Some remissions, however, of the pain appeared, but no intermissions; and this state, having continued for almost three days, the patient declared to be insupportable. Ferrum, as otherwise adapted to the state, was internally continued; but no external cutaneous irritation and pain-relieving embrocations had the least effect; even morphine, $\frac{1}{8}$ of a grain, taken internally, produced stupefaction, but no real abatement of the pains. I now tried Chloroform, by putting a piece of cloth saturated with it upon the region

under the left breast. Hardly a few hours elapsed before the patient could breathe freely; she rose up, smiled, and said, "Now all's over." Half an hour after, the pains returning slightly, a renewed application of Chloroform stopped their progress; and, though they reappeared in the left shoulder occasionally during the days succeeding, they were speedily removed by the same remedy; but a slight though not troublesome hemiorania of the left temporal region, like the former, still disturbed her rest for a few days.

3. *Cephalalgia.* — A robust lady, of the higher classes, somewhat affected with a disease of the liver, had suffered, since the commencement of her climacteric years, with violent cephalalgia. The pains were seated in the centre of the vertex, returned periodically every three weeks, occasionally oftener, and felt as if a nail were driven into the head. Almost every thing had been tried in vain, during previous treatment; but, since two years, I had succeeded at least so far, by Nux, Bellad., and Ignatia, the last especially, that the attacks had occurred less frequently, were less violent, and were also shortened in duration. A severe fit of vexation, however, brought them suddenly, not only to their former degree of violence, but they were attended with perfect rage and fury, the patient striking about, and mistaking persons, even the nearest relations; they also recurred more frequently, followed for a few days by debility, not before experienced. There was, besides, a somewhat contracted pulse, and an apparently increased heat of the vertex; nothing unusual observed in the patient during the attacks, no perceptible connection with other systems or organs, so that the nervous element seemed to prevail.

The stock of homœopathic remedies was entirely exhausted, when I one night saw the attack in its greatest severity; only with the greatest exertion, by main force, could the patient be kept on the bed; striking about, acting like a maniac, and occasionally putting her hands to the top of her head, saying, "I shall be crazy, kill me!"

I gave Chloroform in the form of inhalation, not because I had observed its success in similar instances, but merely because I did not know any thing better to do; and, besides, I expected a favorable impression from anæstization, and was not disappointed. In half a minute, quiet was restored; and fifteen minutes after she revived, and immediately fell

into a sound sleep: though feeling somewhat exhausted the next morning, not near so much, however, as formerly, she much more rapidly recovered. Within three weeks, attacks like the former affection commenced twice, but disappeared always at the instant of the external application of Chloroform, applied on a cloth to the vertex; and for four years past no attack has recurred.

An interesting account of a case may be inserted here, which I owe to the kindness of my friend and colleague, Dr. M. The following is his own description:—

4. *Tremor spasticus.*— A healthy, blooming girl, eighteen years of age, regularly menstruating, of a somewhat irritable temperament, was in Pyrmont about two years ago, when she drank of the springs there, on account of a slight degree of chlorosis, and, for the first time, was taken with twitching motions in the arms, with perfect undisturbed consciousness, and otherwise good health; and these occurred at regular intervals, every fifteen minutes, half-hour, or an hour. It was brought on by shocking family scenes, which she was compelled to witness. After her return home, this twitching gradually disappeared, and occurred only after unusual mental excitement. She came to H—, to visit some relations, where I made her acquaintaince. I noticed occasionally at the beginning of this year, that she started up amidst her occupations, for instance, while reading, with twitching of both arms, so that the hands were suddenly brought near each other. She laughed about it. A letter from her mother, containing some reproofs of undeserved censure, arriving just at this time, aggravated these twitching motions instantly to such a degree, that for days afterwards all lessons in music, every instruction and other occupation, had to be omitted. The nights, however, were perfectly calm; she slept undisturbed; but, on awaking, the muscle-movement began anew. The evil arrived at such a height on the 24th of January, that her state was considered to be serious by her relations, though considerable intervals, even of hours, still took place between the turns of twitching. I administered Tinct. Nuc. vom., twelve drops, in twelve table-spoons of water, every hour one table-spoonful. Through a misunderstanding, she took the whole quantity at once. The attacks were worse the succeeding day, so that the intervals became much shorter, and the girl seated upon the sofa almost the whole day, twitchingly moving the arms

always in the same way, and by no means resembling St. Vitus's dance. She complained of pains in the joints of the arms, the latter occasionally cracking under the violent motion; of the unpleasant concussion of the head, caused by the twitching motions; and, finally, of such a great sensitiveness of hearing, that slight noises, as the running of a wagon, knocking or stepping upon the stairs or the entry, the tearing of paper, children's cries, cutting with a knife upon a plate, affected her very unpleasantly, immediately producing or aggravating the twitching. The same influence produced also a sad, lachrymose humor: generally, however, at least in my presence, she was cheerful, and laughing about the incessant shaking. All the other muscles had been perfectly quiet. The lower cervical and the first thoracical vertebræ were sensitive on touch. With a perfectly good appetite, and good health otherwise, I was not able to find an affection of a gastric or other organ, which could have acted as a cause. I continued Nux vom. in small doses, but without any effect. She slept the following night from the 25th to the 26th, but the succeeding day was still worse. I prescribed, therefore, Tinct. Cupr. acet. $1\frac{1}{2}$ dr., Tinct. Bellad. gtt. vjj. Aqua distill. four ounces, every half hour a table-spoonful, as the following night (from the 26th to the 27th) passed, on account of the twitches, with considerable restlessness, I gave in the evening $\frac{1}{8}$ grain of Morphium aceticum; no result from any thing. At evening, the 27th, I increased the dose of Morphium to $\frac{1}{4}$ grain, without, however, producing rest or natural sleep, much less abatement of the spasms in the daytime, which continued incessantly, without intermission (as noises could hardly be avoided), being more moderate at one time, and more violent at another, up to the most rapid shaking of both arms. Holding fast the arms was highly disagreeable to her, being attended with a sensation of great anguish. It was truly a pitiable condition. She ate, notwithstanding; that is, she was fed, and had daily a regular evacuation of the bowels. On the 28th, I gave her five drops Tinct. Assafœtid. every hour, and had her neck and back rubbed with Liniment vol. The following night was passed more quietly: at least she slept for some hours. On the 29th, however, the spasms commenced again, as soon as she awoke, with their usual severity. I now concluded to treat the patient with Chloroform, externally

applied to the sensitive cervical vertebræ. At eleven o'clock, A.M., I saturated a large pieee of wadding with Chloroform; and, before I put it on the neck, I allowed the patient to inhale it quite lightly, and, like magic, the arms became still, the patient sat immovable, and looked at me with the most happy expression, exclaiming, "How beautiful! the spasms are gone." I put the wadding upon the neck, tied a cloth over it, and directed the patient to recline on the sofa, with the head raised. Here she remained, half-slumbering, half-awake, until three o'clock, when the twitching began anew, at first feeble, gradually increasing, and soon gaining an unusual violence up to my arrival at five o'clock. A repeated inhalation of Chloroform, for a second only, produced the same magic-like effect; and this was so lasting that the patient slept till the next morning. The external application, however, of Chloroform on the neck, I omitted, as I considered the inhalation of Chloroform sufficient, and because the whole neck had been of a deep red from the first application. Nevertheless, the twitching motions occurred again on the 30th, but with remissions, mostly feeble and endurable, only occasionally violent after sudden noises. I repeated the inhalation of Chloroform also on that day, but found that it had to be continued for a longer period. I succeeded perfectly, however, in arresting the spasms; the patient retaining her consciousness undisturbed. At evening Chloroform was no longer required. The patient felt well; but, in order to be secure for the night, I put nine drops of Chloroform into three ounces of water, a table-spoonful every hour, which she relished exceedingly. On the 31st, she inhaled the Chloroform for the last time, then for two days took it in water, after which she remained entirely free from spasms. Noises which had previously been peculiarly troublesome to her, such as the rumpling of paper, the sound of cock-crowing, the latter having been exceedingly disagreeable, now induced merely slight twitchings; and, after the first days of February, none at all. The remaining severe pains in the joints, particularly in the elbows, were soon removed by bathing with the diluted Tincture of Arnica.

7. *Rheumatismus articulorum and Arthritis.* — There is certainly no better and safer palliative against the most violent kind of pains than the external application of Chloroform, either in the form of bathing, or as an ointment; which

latter form is preferable in severe inflammatory redness and swelling of the joints, as these cannot bear the liquid very well. I have applied it frequently, and never saw any injury from it; but, on the contrary, the most refreshing rest was produced for several hours afterwards.

In conclusion, I will remark, that it is by no means my intention to favor the immediate application of Chloroform in all pure neuralgies, or even in all painful affections, or to recommend it as a universally applicable specific against pains. I am well enough acquainted with the miraculously-rapid disappearance of many neuralgies, after properly selected internal remedies, not to give the latter the first place in the healing apparatus of such diseases. But when internal medication is ineffectual, or the pain is excessive; when both physician and patient, each from various causes, need rest, I cannot see why we should not resort to a remedy whose *modus agendi*, though not corresponding strictly to the *similia similibus*, is attended with undoubted efficacy.

ACUTE CATARRH OF THE STOMACH IN CHILDHOOD.

BY DR. HIRSCH, OF PRAG.*

On the peculiar symptoms of this form of disease, which frequently occurs, especially in childhood and youth, and certainly as often, if not more so, than the catarrhal affection of the nose, larynx, and trachea, and its treatment, I here propose to treat of briefly.

A pain in the forehead but a short time before rising, with sadness, and a desire to lie down, is usually speedily followed with some chilliness, which soon passes into a very violent fever-heat, with considerably-frequent pulse (110–120); a desire to sleep, and restlessness; an almost total want of appetite, usually with a white or yellow-coated tongue, but always of a dull appearance, frequently with small blisters, occasionally with small red spots on the surface. Immediately after, a highly offensive, musty, sourish scent from the mouth is perceived. Often there occurs

* From "Prager Monatschrift," No. 1, translated for the Quarterly by J. B.

usually at the same time vomiting of watery mucus, occasionally colored yellow by bile; the region of the stomach is more or less distended, and sensitive to pressure. The urine is scanty, generally not dark, and of a musty odor; there is constipation of the bowels, and only in cases of the further extension of the catarrhal process upon the intestinal mucous membrane, frequent mucous excrements are discharged, with intercurring abdominal pain; the more or less distended abdomen is somewhat sensitive, and frequent rumbling is therein heard. It seems, amongst other occasional causes, that this catarrhal morbid action is principally dependent on certain peculiar atmospheric influences, which are suited to produce this form of disease, especially in lymphatic and scrofulous individuals; and it is remarkable that of late in particular these affections of the mucous membrane of the stomach rarely occur *epidemically*, as is so frequently the case with catarrhal affections of the respiratory organs. This complaint prevailed as a real epidemic, and frequently with considerable intensity, in the months of November and December of 1851, 1852, and 1853. The fever continued usually, under proper treatment, from one to two days; and the frequent vomiting of mucus, which happened in many cases, disappeared even after a few hours, and within four to five days perfect health was regained. In some cases, the catarrhal process was transferred, even on the second day, to the intestinal mucous membrane, where it manifested itself by thin, mucous discharges. In reference to the treatment of the acute catarrh of the stomach, I believe I am rendering essential service to my colleagues by directing their attention especially to one remedy, whose remarkable specific relation to this disease cannot sufficiently be praised; the really striking effect of this remedy having been seen by myself in a great number of cases; and lately many of my colleagues, their attention being directed to it by me, have experienced similarly satisfactory results. While I formerly in such cases gave Aconite, for several days, on account of the excessive fever-heat, unfortunately however in vain, and gained but little more benefit from other remedies, seemingly perfectly adapted to the existing complex of symptoms, that frequently eight, even fourteen days have elapsed before a cutaneous or urinary crisis appeared, the disease assuming distinctly the character of a mucous, even of a typhoid fever, I saw occasionally, after

the administration of the following remedy, a complete crisis set in, usually within the first twelve to twenty-four hours, with surprising relief. And this remedy is Sepia, in the sixth dilution, of which I put three to four drops in half a pint of water, and gave every two hours two teaspoonful. The symptoms inducing me to select this remedy were: —

Violent congestion to the head, considerable heat in the head in larger children, complainings of severe pressing pain in head, especially in the forehead and temples; but in the temples the pain was more of a piercing character.

Small, painful blisters, even small ulcers upon the mucous membrane of the mouth.

The perfectly dull-looking, and still not dry tongue, I always found to be a very characteristic symptom of the catarrh of the stomach; coated with mucus, often with soreness, sensitiveness, and small blisters, particularly frequent on the edges or on the point.

Offensive, sourish scent from the mouth, with frequent pyrosis.

Sensitiveness of the region of the stomach on touch; distension of the abdomen.

Urine light as water, or pale yellow, sourish, and offensive; occasionally right at the beginning, with some white sediment.

Constant stupor, with much troublesome dreaming during the continuance of the severe fever-heat.

PEMPHIGUS ACUTUS.

BY DR. EMIL RICHTER, PORTSMOUTH, N.H.

M. H., a girl of slender constitution, has suffered since her thirteenth year from chlorosis. Her skin is white and cold, and has often a swollen appearance, mostly in the morning, round the eye-lids and the ankles. The lips and the mucous membrane of the mouth and tongue are pale. She complains of palpitation of the heart and of dyspnœa. The first sound of the heart is slightly prolonged, and the second stroke of the arteria pulmonalis aggravated. The venal jugulares give a distinct murmur jugulare. The coldness

of the skin alternates frequently with sudden flushes, mostly so after a meal. She is often subject to headache, fainting, loss of appetite, with a feeling of pain and soreness of the stomach, and constipation. These symptoms, however, not being heeded by the mother, were allowed to increase. From the second month of her sixteenth year they increased in severity, and presented the features of a more developed disease. She complained, from that time, of pain in the hip and the lower part of the abdomen, of weakness, sudden trembling, and a severe headache; by which complaints her mother was induced to believe that menstruation was about to occur for the first time. It did not, however, come on; but, after an aggravation of the above-mentioned complaints, an eruption of blisters appeared. This eruption vanished after a few days, and the symptoms were in some degree mitigated. But as, four weeks after, this eruption, and the complaints in connection with it, appeared again, the mother called for medical aid. From the symptoms as above stated, the diagnosis was hydræmia, followed by pemphigus acutus menstrualis.

This eruption appears always at night. Several days previous, the girl complains of weakness, mostly in the knees; a slight fever in the evening, with headache, mostly on one side; of pain in the hips and lower part of the abdomen. When the eruption is on the point of breaking out, the girl is attacked by spasms in the œsophagus, with aphonia; this so severe that dyspnœa is increased almost to suffocation. The pulse is small and accelerated. As soon as the eruption is developed, these symptoms diminish.

The eruption is mostly seated on the neck, chest, and upper part of the abdomen. There is at first a sensation of burning and itching on the skin. The skin becomes red and inflamed, and blisters appear rapidly. The blisters differ in size from that of a pea to that of a goose-egg. The intense burning of the skin continues as long as the blisters are filled with the exudation, and decreases only with their disruption. The fluid is corroding, and produces new blisters when it comes in contact with the healthy skin. Its color is yellowish albuminous, is acid, and contains some salts.

As the urinary secretion, upon a chemical examination, was found normal, and as the girl was otherwise subject to

no complaint, I considered the eruption to be a substitute for menstruation; which opinion seemed to be confirmed by the absence of menstruation, and the regular monthly appearance of the eruption.

In accordance with such a diagnosis, the prescription was: — a warm Sitz bath several days before the appearance of the eruption; and, as medicine, Graphites, succeeded by Pulsatilla.

This treatment being continued for a short time, the molimina menstruationis appeared, in connection with the menstruation, whereupon the eruption disappeared entirely. The symptoms of hydræmia disappeared on the employment of Ferrum.

THE USES OF THE BEARD.

Messrs. Editors, — The habit of shaving has at length become so fashionable, that the beard is regarded as an entire futility by many; while others, who, confidently believe in the optimism of nature, consider the manly beard as a congeries of organs, which discharge various and important functions, contributing greatly to the health and harmony of the animal economy. Nature is always wise; and her indications, so far as we can comprehend them, proclaim the beneficence of the Creator; and those who follow her directions the most confidingly will never fail of the rewards of the faithful.

In the human body there is no space which is not occupied by useful organism. There is not a process or a fossa or a foramen which has not its use, and which could be obliterated without injury. Who will say, from his inability to explain fully and distinctly the functions of the spleen or other viscus, that it is a parasite in the system, fattening at the expense of its neighbors, without contributing in the least to the general good?

What physician is there who can be so blind to the beauties or deaf to the teachings of nature — the only adorable divinity of our hemisphere — as to regard her efforts a futility, and her methods as nonsense?

The aphorism of Hippocrates, that "Life is short, and

art is long," so often quoted as a profoundly wise saying, should cause us to pause before we declaim against the order and harmony and utility of things which God has made.

There is abundant evidence to show that the barbarous custom of shaving is offensive to nature, by the constant effort that seems to be made to repair the mischief by the more rapid and more abundant growth of the beard in those who have sinned the longest.

Although our fathers, for numberless generations, have practised daily or weekly shaving; yet they have not only failed to obliterate the beard, even in their remote posterity, but by that very means they have caused a more abundant growth. There is a constant alertness on the part of the animal organism to resist incursions and to repair injuries; and it is often truly wonderful to observe the tenacity and perseverance with which it labors to restore itself to a state of health and harmony when it has been preyed upon by disease.

There are several uses of the beard, to which I am desirous, Messrs. Editors, of calling your attention. It is well known that there are no better electrors in animal bodies than the nerves and the hair (which last, from this circumstance and others, is supposed to be the natural termini of the nervous filaments).

A single hair, drawn only once across a pin, evolves electricity sufficient to impress the electrometer; and that, by pointing the finger to that instrument, and giving the slightest rotatory motion to the arm, the electricity, evolved by the small hairs on the arm by their friction against the sleeve, will cause the needle to vibrate. It is this electrical property of the beard which renders it the very best substance for the respirator. The air passing through the moustache becomes electrified, and is thereby the better prepared for respiration. A gentleman now with me says he used to suffer much from toothache; but since he allowed the beard to grow on the sides of his face, he has not suffered in the least from that malady.

That a long beard is a protection to the throat and lungs against the dust in the shops of artisans and mechanics; that it moderates the asperities of our variable climate; and that it modifies, by its electrical character, the atmosphere we breathe, thereby rendering it more tolerable to the lungs

of consumptives, are points which need no illustration, though we might adduce numerous examples in proof of the assertion.

In cases of bronchitis, I always advise the disuse of the razor, particularly to the upper lip, where the moustache operates as the very best respirator both to electrify and filter the vitiated atmosphere.

I have known an obstinate and chronic catarrh of the lungs to disappear with the growth of the moustache, and that without the use of any other remedies; though the gentleman had tried for years, and in vain, the skill of various physicians, without any permanent benefit.

It is also true that spermatorrhœa, that malady which chooses for its victims the most *intellectual* and *chaste* of young men, never exists with those who never shave; and it promptly disappears as the face becomes covered with beard. The cotemporaneous development of the beard and virility seems to imply a mutual relation between that structure and the testes.

These are a few of the many facts that can be proven, and that go to show the very great importance of wearing the beard.

I send you, Messrs. Editors, herewith an article from the "Homœopathic Times" (Eng.), the truth of which I believe you will readily admit; and if you will give this and that a place in your Journal, you will do the public a service, by calling the attention of the profession to the subject.

Respectfully, D. T.

The most important subjects, if properly presented, are the most interesting. The love of life is our strongest passion. Health, the foundation of all comfort and enjoyment, is of paramount importance; and we cannot avoid being attached to the science which teaches us how to preserve and restore that first of blessings. With all the general curiosity and interest, there is no subject of such vital importance as health, and on which there is such a general ignorance. We understand every thing better than the laws of our own being. We are familiar with the laws that regulate the universe. We study the conditions of all material substances, investigate the characteristics of plants and animals, — in short, we study astronomy, geology, chemistry, botany, mineralogy, &c., while we neglect our own anatomy, physiology, and pathology; but the spirit of free thought and bold investigation will overhaul our boasted science; and the mysteries of medi-

cine, law, religion, and politics, will be brought to the test of universal knowledge. It is humbug that seeks to shroud itself in darkness, truth seeks the light; and those philosophers, of whatever school, who are the most truly conscientious will be the most anxious to have the claims of their science submitted to a calm yet searching investigation. We should each be able to say with Hering, "I have desired the truth above all things, because it gave me more pleasure than any thing else." It is to the neglect of the study of the laws of life that we may attribute a very large proportion of the diseases, physical and mental, to which we are so notoriously subject. What is the most worthy study in which man can engage? Is it not that of man himself, and consequently of those natural laws which are constantly exerting so powerful an influence upon him? There doubtless exists between the laws of nature and the requirements of man such an adaptation as will tend to render him happy; hence the nearer he lives in harmony with these laws, the greater will be his chance of happiness; nay more, he cannot transgress against them without a certainty of punishment, and consequent unhappiness.

Human laws are often arbitrary, unnatural, and vicious, and may be violated with impunity. They are often differently interpreted for the rich and for the poor. Wealth and interest frequently shield from their punishment, or crime may escape detection. Again, the punishment, not being a direct consequence of the crime, may be either inadequate to the offence or disproportionably severe. And, lastly, human legislators often consider the animus in which the deed is perpetrated, allowing for the greater ignorance or wisdom of the criminal.

With the laws of nature, the circumstances are all reversed. Nature being herself the legislator, the interpreter, and executioner, will brook no appeal from her decision; neither wealth nor influence can protect the culprit against the punishment, which is invariably in proportion to the violation of the law on which it is consequent. Further, nature recognizes no difference between the ignorant violation and the wilful defiance of her laws: either will be equally punished with the other.

Hence, as the plea of ignorance cannot avail us, if we will avoid the punishment and enjoy the reward held out to us by nature, there is no other course left us than to make ourselves as intimately acquainted as possible with the operation of these laws.

This study is entirely a matter of observation; we note the facts, and so compare the observed phenomena as to establish between them the relation of cause and effect; farther we cannot go; we cannot explain their *modus operandi*. Take, for in-

stance, the law of gravitation, the existence of which Sir Isaac Newton discovered: from observing its operation, he was able to describe the constant, never-varying phenomena dependent on the action of the law; but farther to explain the law itself was beyond the limit of even his intellectual power.

Astronomers have described with great accuracy the positions, motions, and relations to each other of the heavenly bodies, but have never succeeded in demonstrating the springs of their power.

We know that our earth has for centuries pursued her untiring and undeviating course around the sun, propelled in the diagonal of two forces, the centripetal and centrifugal; and when we say of the former, it is a power of attraction between the sun and the earth, and of the latter, it is a power of propulsion between the same bodies, we have said all we know: we cannot even guess at the nature of these powers.

Did time permit, it might be interesting to describe other operations of nature, which exist in innumerable variety throughout the universe, amid those incalculably distant objects, whose gigantic proportions are only to be revealed through the most powerful telescopes; or among those microscopic atoms, millions of which heaped together would constitute a point hardly visible to the naked eye, all equally perceptible, and at the same time equally inexplicable.

The natural laws are, fortunately, constant in their operation, ever to be depended on. What was one thousand years ago, is now, and will be to the end of time, independent of all human or other extraneous influence, either to maintain or to destroy. Suppose the operation of the law of gravity to be one moment suspended, and where would we be in the next? whirling each in a direction opposite to the other, and the whole exploded like a fired powder-magazine. Imagine a like nullifying of the centripetal force; and our world, instead of, as heretofore, pursuing its utilitarian course around the sun, giving rise to summer and winter, spring and autumn, is changed into a frantic projectile, rushing through the boundless regions of space, coming in collision with some heavenly body, giving rise to the phenomena of the crash of worlds.

Every portion of the natural realm, whether belonging to the animal, vegetable, or mineral kingdom, would appear to occupy the station for which it was designed by nature. The instinct of the brutes, in their unsophisticated state, impels them to that course which most conduces to their well-being.

To man alone was the option given of choosing between a course in accordance with nature, and one opposed to her; one which will procure for him happiness, or entail on him misery. He alone, of all God's creatures, was favored with reason, by

which to judge between good and evil; but, alas! how often has he, whether from wilfulness or ignorance, forsaken the good and adopted the bad!

But, of all the by-paths of evil into which man has deviated from the high road of nature, and which it devolves on us now to consider, is that most injurious practice, — the practice of shaving.

To every thoughtful shaver, the question has doubtless often suggested itself, Why was the beard given us? Was it to subserve some useful purpose in the animal economy? or is it a mere parasitic excrescence, intended by nature to be kept down by the daily practice of a tedious and cruel operation? The answer is as plain as the beard on our faces. Were we altogether ignorant of any function performed by the facial hair, we should still be justified, reasoning from analogy, in concluding that it was not placed there in vain, and that it did administer to some requirement with which we were unacquainted. In fact, the very circumstance of its existence is as plain a command to wear it, as any which we could receive. That ancient and pious father of the church, Tertullian, designated shaving as a blasphemy against the face.

It may surprise not a few, when we say that the bronchitic affections, under which ministers of the gospel so frequently labor, are often due to the violation of a hygienic law. The fact that the Creator planted a beard on the face of the human male, thus making it a law of his physical being, indicates, in a mode not to be misunderstood, that the distinctive appendage was bestowed for the purpose of being worn. Besides, the Levitical law is just as explicit in forbidding the shaving of the beard, except in cases of disease, as in the requirement, — "Remember the Sabbath-day to keep it holy." Moreover, physiologically considered, these views are corroborated by experience; for diseases of the throat have in many instances been traced directly to the shaving of the beard, the liability disappearing with its growth, and *vice versâ*. Let all our ministers, then, wear beards; for the Bible and nature are in favor of it.

Thus, then, were we altogether ignorant of any useful office performed by the beard in the animal economy, we should be by no means justified in arrogating to ourselves a wisdom superior to that of nature's Author, and audaciously interfering with the intention of his designs. We are not, however, strong though it be, reduced to this negative argument in favor of wearing our beards: we are prepared to show that the facial hair performs in the system functions both important and varied, and with the operation of which we cannot with impunity interfere.

I think we are justified in assuming, though not a rule without

exception, that in proportion to the complexity of a machine, so may we expect the importance, delicacy, and difficulty of its task to be. Thus, when a savage, seeing a clock for the first time, observes the intricacy of the wheels, and their complex movements, he is struck with amazement, and concludes that it is destined to the performance of something wonderful, and not the less so, because he does not know what. On the other hand, let him only see the outside of the case when the clock is quiescent, and he will pass it by with scarce a thought. So, when we view the beard merely as hair, and that hair as so much rubbish, costing us daily both time and temper, we cut it off, and cast it aside as a nuisance; which, indeed, then it is, though not a necessary or a natural one, but, as we shall presently show, one of our own creating.

The first use of the beard which we shall mention, viz., the protection which it yields to the throat and larynx, is so obvious as to require little detention. There is abundance of testimony to prove that those who wear their natural covering on the throat are far less liable to laryngitic affections, than those who shave; and really it would hardly seem necessary to bring arguments to show the error of those who remove the natural and appropriate covering with which they have been supplied by a bountiful Providence, and substitute for it one from the back of an animal, expensive, inconvenient, and far worse adapted to the requirement. Many persons, believing thus far in the beard, let it grow on the throat, and remove all above the chin and mouth. Let me draw the attention of those to a second use of the beard, more particularly applicable to the portion which they wantonly sacrifice, and which, though fully more important than the first, being less obvious to a cursory view, will demand a little more consideration. The second office of the beard which we have to discuss is that of a respirator. The expired air, in passing from the lungs through the nostrils and mouth, over the moustache and beard, communicates to them a degree of caloric, which they in turn give up to the inspired air, thus establishing an equilibrium in the temperature of the inhaled and exhaled atmosphere. What other changes of a magnetic, electric kind, &c., the air may undergo in its passage over the beard, is a matter for future research. It will not, however, be at all surprising, should such be discovered to exist. It is a strange perversion on the part of those who shave off the natural porter to the lungs, and tie on an instrument made of silk and wire, unsightly, inconvenient, and by no means equal in efficacy to the natural respirator. The beard at the same time performs the mechanical office of a sieve, arresting many of those fine particles, of which there are, at all times, more or fewer floating in the atmosphere, and which cause greater or less irrita-

tion to the internal surface of the lungs; thus, the very objections urged by some, viz., that the beard would catch the dust evolved around many manufactures, giving it a filthy appearance, is really an argument in its favor. It is certainly much better to have the dirt on the beard, whence it can be easily removed with a little water, than in the lungs, where it cannot be got at, and where it is a positive injury.

Major Tulloch, in his statistics of the British army, informs us that the mortality of 1000, among the Foot Guards, is 21 a year, while that of the Life Guards is only 14; making a difference of one-third in favor of the moustached men. Now, although I do not consider this fact alone conclusive as to the cause of their superior health, as no doubt other influences than those of the beards may be adduced as favoring the Horse Guards; yet there is another fact connected with the statistics, which I think goes far to establish the important part which the moustache plays as a respirator, viz., while, out of the 21 deaths among the foot, 14 die of lung diseases, a number equal to all the deaths of the cavalry, only 8 die of lung diseases where the beards are worn. Thus, if we exclude the lung diseases, the mortality from other affections will be respectively 6 and 7 per 1000, or nearly equal. Now, if we admit that several other circumstances may combine to render the chance of the foot-soldier less favorable, as these will equally conduce to the production of other diseases, and we find the great difference in the mortality to depend on affections of the lungs, I think we may fairly conclude that the horseman owes at least a part of his immunity from this class of diseases to the wearing of his moustache.

We now come to the third use of the beard, which though at first sight is less apparent than either of the others, can, I think, be demonstrated to eclipse them in importance. The function to which I would now draw your attention is that of an eliminator. It is the office of the beard constantly to secrete and excrete from the system a very subtle fluid, which, when retained, becomes a poison; it is analogous to the secretions of the liver, kidneys, pancreas, salivary glands, lungs, skin, &c.; and although it cannot be collected and ocularly shown, like the products of the other excreting and exhaling organs, its existence may be, from its effects, just as surely inferred. Thus, certain diseases have been found to disappear on the individual's ceasing to shave, to reappear on his resuming the habit, and a second time to vanish on his returning to the natural practice.

The cases of two gentlemen in this city will suffice for an example: they were both subject to weakness of the eyes, with inflamed eyelids, as long as they continued to shave, and both recovered on quitting the pernicious practice.

Now this can only be accounted for in one way, viz. by the falling on the eyes of the morbid matter, or action, to which the beard furnishes a natural outlet. Analogous to this are the clumsy attempts to imitate nature, of trying to palliate eye-diseases by piercing the ears, and applying blisters and setons to the back of the neck. Another like process is the relief which it is notorious that skin-diseases yield to the affected internal structures, and the suppression of which has frequently been known to cause obstinate, dangerous, and even fatal diseases of the brain and other vital organs.

It is to the light which pathology throws on physiology that we are indebted for much that we know; and indeed, were it not for the facts obtained by observation of deranged function in the diseases of certain organs, it would have been exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to have arrived at a correct knowledge of their uses.

To those who believe in the (so-called) infinitesimal system of medicine, there will be little difficulty in admitting the action of the beard-poison, although in quantity too minute to admit of ocular demonstration. A little reflection, says Mr. Sampson, in his admirable treatise on Homœopathy, will convince us that there must be some portions of our organization, of the fineness of which the human mind will be inadequate to form the slightest conception. It will also appear that these structures are of far higher importance towards the maintenance of life than the coarser and more outward portions of the frame, and that disease becomes dangerous and severe in proportion to the extent to which they are affected. In the most deep-seated affections, therefore, it is to these tissues that the powers of medicine have to be directed; and when we know that medicinal substances, like all material bodies, are infinitely divisible, that we can never by any process reduce them to atoms so fine but that they might still be infinitely reduced, it seems at once obvious, that, if we wish them to reach and to act on those parts to which I have alluded, and in relation to the delicate machinery of which the finest atom to be obtained from our very highest dilutions would appear coarse and ponderable, we must not only endeavor to bring them into a finer state than that in which they are commonly used, but into a state of exiguity far beyond any thing to which we have been accustomed in dealing with coarser structures. It is simply, in fact, proportioning the delicacy of our agents to the delicacy of the instruments on which they are to operate.

Pathologists are well aware that the viruses which produce the most deadly diseases are so minute in quantity as to be altogether undiscoverable by the most delicate tests, and that their existence can only be appreciated by observing their effects. Thus, the

most elaborate chemical analysis has totally failed to discover any difference in the atmospheres of localities infected with ague, cholera, and other epidemic diseases, and that of perfectly healthy places. The contents of the poison-bag of the viper resembles in chemical composition sweet almond oil; and the pus of the deadly plague bubo and the lymph of the vaccine pustule differ not, save in their effects, from ordinary pus and lymph. The experiments of Fontana show that the 1000th part of a grain of the poison of the viper inserted in a muscle suffices to kill a sparrow. De la Bronse, in his voyage to the intertropical regions, has these words: —

"There arrived seven or eight negroes in palanquins, the principal persons of Lousago, who presented their hands to be shaken by the French and English officers. These negroes had previously rubbed their hands with a herb, which is so extremely poisonous that it takes effect immediately. They succeeded so well in their nefarious designs, that five captains and three surgeons fell dead on the spot."

Let me conclude this part of the subject in the words of Professor d'Amadon: "It may be said, these facts are repugnant to common sense. If the action of imperceptible agents is opposed to common sense, that is as much as to say that experience is opposed to it; but as common sense and experience are not and cannot be contradictory, if common sense refuses to believe in the action of imperceptible agents, common sense stands in need of a thorough reform, which experience will be able to effect. Science, which is nothing else than the reflection of experience, has in this manner reformed common sense many times. Common sense believed for centuries that the world was fixed; and astronomical science corrected common sense, and brought it to its own way of thinking. The virtue of vaccine was repugnant to common sense at first; but experience has now so completely demonstrated it, that he who doubted it would be held destitute of common sense. In fine, here, as elsewhere, science, that is to say experience, has advantageously put common sense to rights."

Now, if my theory be correct, viz. that the beard acts not only as a covering to the throat and a protection to the lungs, but also as an eliminator, by which a subtle substance is constantly secreted and exhaled from the body, which when retained becomes a poison, there is no form of chronic disease which its presence may not favor, no organ of the body which may not become a prey to its ravages. This assertion may appear startling; not, however, more so than were those of Galileo, Harvey, Jenner, Hahnemann, and all the great discoverers whose names are familiar, did to those who first heard them. Before going any farther, let me here put you on your guard against understanding

me to attribute all the chronic diseases which afflict us to shaving, or even expecting *all* who shave to be decidedly affected by all or any of them. We know full well that all the recognised agents of disease, such as foul air, unwholesome diet, bad habits, &c. affect different individuals very variously, both in kind and degree. Thus, while some pursue a long life in their indulgence with apparent impunity, others either shortly succumb to their influence, or are forced to relinquish them. What I contend for is, that shaving is one of those fruitful causes of disease to which we are constantly and often ignorantly exposing ourselves.

To return to our subject. As the effects of shaving will result rather in chronic than in acute diseases, and as chronic diseases are always insidious in their attacks and slow in their progress, they are very liable, both by doctor and patient, to be attributed to causes other than their true ones. Again, as the cure of chronic disease is generally slow, and as our discovery is only in its infancy, we have not had the opportunity which a more extended series of observations will afford us of testing its value. I may, however, be allowed to state, that, since the subject first attracted my attention, I have been by no means idle; and that the results of my observations so far, with the reasons already given, lead me to expect that farther experience will confirm the truth of the opinions advanced.

GASTRORRHAGIA.

BY DR. EMIL RICHTER, PORTSMOUTH, N.H.

Hæmorrhage from the stomach, hæmorrhagia ventriculi, hæmatemesis, morbus niger Hippocratis, was formerly supposed to arise from diseases of the spleen, liver, suppressed hæmorrhoids, or irregularity of menstruation. At a later time, when the science of physiological anatomy was better attended to, diseases of the stomach, as carcinoma, erosiones, ulcus perforans rotundum, were generally considered as its cause. More recently, it has been stated, that, next to those, a cessation of the circulation in the spleen, diseases of the liver, chiefly granulation, obstruction in the vena portæ, diseases of the lungs, of the heart, most of the discrasies, may likewise often cause Gastrorrhagia. It rarely occurs that no cause is visible in a post-mortem examination.

Gastrorrhagia is of very frequent occurrence, and may be met with at all ages. Hæmorrhage of new-born children may be caused either by hyperæmia primaria or secundaria. It is frequently not a disease of the children, as they are liable to suck blood from the nurse's sore nipples, which is raised again; or they swallow blood arising from a severed ligament of the tongue. Bleeding from the stomach occurs more frequently in women, and especially from the time of puberty.

The next cause of the bleeding is the opening of one of the larger, or one or more of the capillary vessels. Once it was thought that extravasation or exudation of blood might be the cause of the hæmorrhage. But no globules of blood are liable to exude, only the serum reddened by the pigment. This opening may be caused by sharp or pointed bodies, as glass, pins; or by a rupture caused by a blow upon the stomach; by violent vomiting: or it may be effected by corrosion from Mercurius corrosivus, Calomel, Tart. emeticus, Acids, &c. If a high degree of hyperæmia is the cause, the blood will flow from either one or more of the capillary vessels, or even from a larger vein. Such a hyperæmia may be caused by stimulating medicine, or stimulating food or drink, or by suppressed hæmorrhage; by any obstruction in the circulation of the blood, mostly of the liver or spleen; by diseases of the valves of the heart or the venous orifices; by diseases of lungs; by typhus, acute diseases of the skin, scurvy, &c. The change of the chemical composition of the blood, and the relaxation of the muscles of the blood-vessels, facilitates hæmorrhage. Erosions, however, ulcers of the stomach, and cancer, oftener produce bleeding by abrading the larger vessels. The blood may also originate from rupture of an aneurism, either of the aorta or arteria cœliaca, one of the arteries of the stomach; or from the rupture of a venous varix in the stomach. Hæmorrhophilia occurs through a weakened condition of the membranes of the blood-vessels in the stomach.

The symptoms of Gastrorrhagia were formerly divided into preceding symptoms, symptoms of the attack, and consecutive symptoms. The preceding symptoms, however, vary according to the different causes, as well as the consecutive symptoms. The ejected blood is dark-colored, coagulated, and mixed with particles of food, when it is retained a long time in the stomach. By the influence of

the gastric juice, the blood, when it stands for a longer time in the stomach, is changed mostly into a cocoa or chocolate-like fluid; only when raised immediately is it light-colored and liquid. The gastric juice changes the hæmatin to a dark-colored mass, and makes the fibrine of the blood liquid.

The quantity differs from striæ of blood to several ounces, or even to a pound and more, according to the cause. Often, however, the quantity of the ejected blood is not in proportion to the anatomical disorganization. I found in one case of carcinoma of the pylorus, in connection with carcinoma of the left lobe of the liver, such an extent of disease that almost the whole pylorus was destroyed; only a short time before death, not quite half an ounce of blood was raised, and never before through the whole course of the disease. The bleeding happens to be often so large in hyperæmia that it produces utter exhaustion. No certain conclusion is to be drawn, from the quantity of blood raised, as to the anatomical disorganization.

In connection with vomiting, we may notice fulness and a pressure or feeling of warmth in the stomach; passing of blood through the rectum as a dark, pitch-like mass or as coagulated blood; the symptoms of anæmia or oligæmia, and those symptoms which depend upon the original disease. Sometimes we may be able to ascertain the quantity of blood effused into the cavity of the stomach by palpation and by percussion.

We diagnose Gastrorrhagia when we are convinced that the hæmorrhage is not caused by a bleeding from the nose, mouth, pharynx, œsophagus, or from the larynx or the lungs, as in all those cases the blood may flow into the stomach, and afterwards be raised; or that the blood is not sucked by children, or taken fraudulently by adults, in which case we may discover it by the microscope. The distinction between bleeding of the œsophagus and of the stomach is a difficult one. The preceding symptoms only can lead to a clear diagnosis. Percussion and auscultation show the existence of any disease of the lungs or the heart. Of little or no value is the assertion, that, in diseases of the lungs, the blood is raised by coughing; in diseases of the stomach, by vomiting. For blood from the lungs may go to the stomach, and be then raised by vomiting; or blood from the stomach may fall into the larnyx, and be afterwards

raised by coughing. The assertion that blood from the lungs is liquid, foaming, and light-colored, while blood from the stomach is coagulated, dark, and mixed with particles of food, is not always true. Another assertion, that symptoms of any disease of the lungs or the heart must precede bleeding from the lungs; and indigestion, pressure in the stomach, pain, &c., is to be noticed before bleeding from the stomach occurs, is commonly true. But those symptoms exist likewise when blood from the lungs goes to the stomach; and even must exist when there is a complication of any disease of the lungs or the heart with a disease of the stomach, a circumstance that often happens.

The nipples of the nurse must be examined in hæmatemesis of sucking children.

The prognosis depends upon the quantity of the raised blood, the repetition of attacks, and upon the disease which causes it.

Treatment. — The patient must keep quiet, and remove all tight clothing. The best nutriment will be milk, or soups of animal broth; as a drink, pure water or sugar-water, milk of almonds, or lemonade. In slight cases, oily or mucilaginous medicines and drinks are sufficient. Stimulant food or medicine must either be removed or neutralized. For wounds from sharp bodies give oily drinks, or a mucilage of Gummi Arabicum, or milk. If suppressed menstruation or hæmorrhoids be the cause, fomentations to those parts, rubbing of the legs and feet with warm flannel, sinapisms. If the bleeding is copious, iced-water, or small particles of ice, are to be swallowed. If the patient becomes so exhausted by the bleeding that he faints, he is to be kept in a horizontal position, without any elevation of the head; externally, the use of vinegar, eau de Cologne, injections with vinegar, are to be used. In such cases, however, the examination of the mouth and the pharynx is never to be neglected, as coagulated blood often accumulates here, which, if not removed, may lead to suffocation.

Of medicines I will mention Aconite, Arsen., Bell., Canth., Caustic, China, Ipecac., Plumb. acetic., Nux vomica, Phosph., Pulsati., Aconite, Digitalis, Belladonna, in diseases of the lungs and heart.

In carcinoma of the stomach or liver, Arsenic, Brom., Caustic, Lycopod., Nux vomica, Plumb. acetic.

In ulcers of the stomach, Ars. and Argent. nitr. crystalcis.

In hyperæmia of the mucous membrane, Aconite, Bellad., Ipecac., Nux. vom., Puls.
In aneurism, Digitalis.
If anæmia sets in, China, Ferrum.
In hæmorrhophilia, Acid. nitric., Argent. nitric., China.
In gastrorrhagia typica, Chininum.
In wounds of sharp bodies, Arnica.

CLINICAL OBSERVATIONS.

BY DR. HILBERGER, OF TRIESTE.*

1. *Chronic induration of the glands of the neck.* — A woman forty years of age, of middling size, was, the instance to be here treated of excepted, never seriously ill during her whole life.

The present evil originated twelve years ago, in the fourth month of her first pregnancy; and began with a slight, somewhat painful, infiltration of the glands of the neck and back of the left side; which was by herself, as well as by her consulting physician, regarded as of little consequence. The swelling of the glands kept increasing with the progress of the pregnancy. Their rapid enlargement in circumference, especially at the time of lactation, induced the application of some remedies, as leeches, poultices, mercurial ointments, but without the least good result. At the period of weaning the child, an intermission took place. The tumefaction now remained stationary, and exhibited, in the next and the succeeding pregnancies, the same course of increase, and the same periods of intermission. All remedies applied during these years, and, among others, a truly heroic administration of Hydriojod. of potass., were unable to diminish the volume of the enlarged glands.

At the first examination of the patient, I observed the following appearances: — On the left side of the neck, beginning close to the edge of the lower jaw, was a swelling about the size of the fist, not movable, painless, uniformly hard, huckster-like (this form is owing to a confluence of glands infiltrated at various times). The sternocleidomas-

* Translated for the Quarterly from Zeitschrift für hom. Klinik, Aug. 1, 1853.

toideus of this side was very much extended, considerably stretched, difficult to be moved from the swelling. Respiration and deglutition were not obstructed, and the general health good. Only at sudden changes of the weather, the patient felt rapidly-shooting pains in the affected part. A favorable prognosis could hardly be given in this infiltration of such long standing.

The treatment was commenced with Conium 15, every other day a dose: it was continued for three months, whereupon a diminution of the swelling was perceptible, of one-fifth of its size. By the fusion of the tissue connecting the individual glands, it was now distinctly seen that the huckster-like form was caused by the confluence of several glands.

To wait for the second effect of Conium, I gave, for a month, sugar powder, but observed no further change. I thought it, therefore, time for the administration of another remedy, and gave Calcar. carb. 15. After two months, a surprising diminution of the swelling took place (about one-half); and, at the same time, the forward glandular portion separated entirely from the posterior portion. The continued use of Calcar. caused now in four months the disappearance of the entire swelling. Only a small part of the posterior portion remained somewhat infiltrated.

Two years have now passed, the woman nursing her child, three months old; and not a trace exists of a renewal of the anomalous process.

In a physiological point of view, it is interesting to meet with a connection, certainly very seldom occurring, of the glands of the neck with the physiological act of milk-secretion; a fact undoubtedly proved by the course of the disease. In a therapeutical point of view, this case also shows how impracticable is the generalization of the old school. Iod. is their only recourse in glandular indurations; and, as its use is not always followed with success, its inefficiency is attributed to the incurability of long-existing infiltrations.

The homœopathic remedies employed, besides their favorable result, which, under the existing circumstances, can hardly be ascribed to any other agency, can also be relied on as the most suitable for this case by the following reasons.

The relations of Conium to glandular affections, and

especially to the female mammæ, were suspected already by the physicians of the old school: the physiological provings have established these virtues as facts. The considerable hardness of an infiltrated gland, and the rapidly-shooting stitches in consequence of its pressure upon the nerves, form a principal indication for the employment of Conium. It develops probably its effect by calling into action the proper and therefore relaxed nerve and vesicular ramifications; and, in this way, causes the absorption of the tissue, without being able to change the real dyscrasic state, which office it leaves then to other remedies. For this reason, Conium was probably recommended in carcinomas. That in reality it can cure an already-existing cancerous ulcer, I am very much inclined to doubt, notwithstanding the literature of the old school, as well as the new, afford several relations of cures. The diagnosis of an incipient cancer is not very easy; and the less so, as the real nature of the cancer dyscrasy is still unknown (therefore the division in benignant and malignant sores). Investigation, by means of the exploration troicar, is insufficient to decide if a tumor containing the so-called ulcer-fluid be only local, or such as must lead to unavoidable death, even if the general health does not give us the sad assurance that the anomalous formation can have no other termination.

As this point is not decided, the curative power of Conium must therefore be confined only to the dispersion of the induration.

Calcar. carb. is more decided in its effect. It corresponds in general to the scrofulous dyscrasy. That this can often, in advanced years, be the cause of many diseases, without having manifested itself in childhood, every practitioner will be experienced.

Its particular relation to glandular affections is just as plain, and its use perfectly vindicated.

2. *Scrofulous infiltration of the mesenteric glands, and chronic pneumonia.* — A boy eight years of age, of a rhachitic habit (in this case lordosis existed), had been from his childhood afflicted with the various symptoms of rhachitis. When two years old, he began to walk, and, from that time, was progressively improving for three years. About a year ago, the patient was taken, in consequence of a cold, with a violent lung-catarrh. As the former attending physician neglected to make the physical examination, it could not

definitely be decided if at that time a pulmonic infiltration existed. Notwithstanding the violent fever was soon subdued, a slight fever in the afternoon still remained, and also an incessant, spasmodic cough. This was followed by great emaciation, and enormous swelling of the mesenteric glands. The treatment consisted in the application of Leeches, Calomel, Vesications, and finally Opium, China, Ferrum, also Oleum jecoris aselli, without, however, preventing the daily aggravation of the evil.

I found the patient extremely emaciated, the normal temperature of the skin of the whole body considerably diminished, the color cyanotic. The features of the oldish-looking countenance showed great anguish. The thorax constricted posteriorly, and distended upwards and forwards. Percussion gave, in front and above particularly, a tympanitic sound; from the fourth vertebra, dull; and below, quite feeble. Auscultation showed bronchial respiration plainly audible, inferiorly and higher up an indefinite respiration and rattling murmur. Owing to the severe dyspnœa, a slight sawing respiration was already heard from a distance; and the respiration especially was considerably lengthened. The cough was spasmodic; expectoration at times of a tough, at other times of a glassy mucus. The heart normal. The abdomen was greatly distended, and to such a degree that it was impossible to feel the intestines by palpation. Œdematous swellings of the extremities. The patient suffered frequently with retention of urine, and more lately a complete inappetency. Solid food in particular he vomited up frequently. Violent asthmatic attacks occurred at night, so that he was near suffocation.

The lung-symptoms, in considering the whole image of the disease, offered the greatest improbability of a speedy, or even palliative, cessation of the disease. Besides this, the rhachitic state of the columna vertebralis, the total prostration of all vital energy, and the lamentable circumstances of the patient, who was poor, and living in a damp house, in the month of January, the most unfavorable season, were sufficient to leave no room for a hope of improvement. However, to alleviate somewhat the dyspnœa, I gave Arsen. 6, in alternation with Carbon veg. 6; and these, being continued, removed in two weeks the œdematous swellings, and diminished the dypsnœa. By the further continuation of these remedies, I succeeded, to my great astonishment,

in rendering the state of the patient quite comfortable until the beginning of April, when the improvement made rapid progress. I now administered Brom. 6, and the absorption of the swelling of the mesenteric glands went on exceedingly well. At present (month of June), his state is the following: color and temperature of the skin normal, the dyspnœa totally removed, towards the lower part of the thorax on percussion only a dull tone, and only increased vesicular respiration on auscultation, cough entirely gone, abdomen smaller and softer, appetite good. The boy now attends school.

Many a reflection will be elicited by this very interesting case.

A chronic infiltration of the tissue of the lungs, of a scrofulous, pneumonic, or other nature, causes independently fatal symptoms. I diagnosed this case, Pneum. chron., though many doubt its existence. The physical examination, at any rate, left no doubt of a condensation of a very great portion of the tissue of the lungs. The part still free had to perform alone the respiratory act, and must necessarily become emphysematous. The extended cells of the lungs had now little contractile power. To this was added the oppression of the lung and the diaphragm, owing to the lordosis and the upward pressed intestines, rendering the disease almost incurable. It is more than probable, considering the rest of the circumstances mentioned, that the patient would have died under any other treatment.

Even if we regard the remedies only as palliatives, it is manifest in this case that the old school has no such palliatives at its disposition, as its method of cure disregards the dynamic effects. Its derivative remedies, as vesicants, give, according to experience, no relief in such cases, and only favor the subduing of the vital power. The narcotics, though lessening the deficiency of respiration, and alleviating somewhat the dypsnœa, produces total prostration of vital energy: the patient would not long have made use of them. The tonics (Ferrum, China) did not agree, as already stated; the enfeebled digestive organs rejecting them. Its only panacea in scrofulosis, Cod liver oil, said to be efficient in every case, without any special indication, could not boast of any effect. The strict expectative treatment could hardly be of more benefit to the patient, as, under such circumstances, nature alone would have been too

powerless to render harmless the effects of the winter upon the already dying organism. This almost miraculous restoration of the patient must be attributed only to the remedies Arsen. and Carb. veg., which corresponded to the prostrated vital power until the organism gained time for restoration.

YELLOW FEVER.

From a private correspondence from New Orleans, Oct. 1, we give the following particulars relating to the last disastrous epidemic which raged in that city: —

The whole number of deaths cannot be established with certainty. According to the official report, there were, up to the end of September, from eight to ten thousand; which calculation is, however, too low, as twelve to fifteen thousand will come nearer the truth. The nature of the epidemic was, in individual cases, essentially different from that of former years, especially in the rapid post-mortem change to black. Death happened often after an attack of four to six hours, usually, however, on the second or third day. Medicine in general has again given the most decided proof of its deficient knowledge in relation to the doctrines of miasms and epidemics. Even science is in total darkness in regard to the nature of the disease. Several physicians pursued the expectative treatment; others gave purgatives and Chinin. sulph.: homœopathy,* hydropathy, every thing was tried with equal results. Ignorance must have destroyed many thousands. It is stated, that, by the nonsensical administration of Chinin, which was given in the frightful dose of $1\frac{1}{2}$ drachm a day, six hundred patients died apoplectic. Raspail's method, viz. frictions, with Eau sedative, proved serviceable in favoring perspiration.

The epidemic did not confine itself to men; apes were next seized, dying under the most undoubted symptoms of yellow fever, and in some cases with black vomiting; of domestic animals, several dogs were attacked; a German

* We heard that Homœopathy had been very successful, but regret exceedingly our inability to offer any thing authentic. — Eds.

physician lost a large number of ducks, with all the symptoms of affection of the spinal marrow, which is usual in yellow fever.

Some interesting hypotheses have been advanced with regard to the origin of yellow fever. According to the opinion of a German naturalist, who observed the yellow fever in the West Indies, Mexico, and the South of the United States, the quantity of magnetism and electricity in the atmosphere was an essential momentum for yellow fever. An atmosphere overcharged with magnetism and electricity produces decomposition of the iron-parts of the blood, as well as of the blood-color ingredients, hæmatine, hæmasulphine, &c., consequently the yellow fever, is a peculiar chemical process of decomposition. I am not physiological chemist enough to be able to support the scientific admission of such a theory: several observations, however, speak in its favor. The yellow fever, in the first place, occurs near water only, an active factor of electricity. Wet summers, especially summers with many thunder-storms, where the atmosphere, as it were, is saturated with the above elements, are exceedingly favorable to the production and extension of the epidemic. Whoever has breathed the air prognosticating a storm at the South will certainly remember that dull pressure on the brain, of which the headache, the first symptom of yellow fever, only seems to be a higher degree of development, and which is entirely different from that uncomfortable sensation of debility which is felt in the atmosphere of northern climates impregnated with electricity.

Whatever may be thought of the views here stated, one thing is certain, that medicine can clear up the important question of miasmas and epidemics by means of physiological chemistry alone, and thus the uncertainty hitherto existing on this subject be removed.

EFFECT OF CLIMATE ON CONSUMPTION.

It appears that the medical faculty are beginning to question the opinion which has so long prevailed among medical men, that a change of climate is beneficial to persons suffering from consumption. Sir James Clark, of England,

has assailed the doctrine with considerable force; and a French physician, named Carrière, has written against it; but its most vigorous opponent is Dr. Burgess, of Scotland. He contends that climate has little or nothing to do with the cure of consumption; and that, if it had, the curative effects would be produced through the skin, and not the lungs. That a warm climate is not in itself beneficial, he shows from the fact that the disease exists in all latitudes. In India and Africa, it is as frequent as in Europe and North America. At Malta, in the very heart of the genial Mediterranean, the army-reports of England show that one-third of the deaths among the soldiers are by consumption. At Nice, a favorite resort of English invalids, especially those afflicted with lung-complaints, there are more native-born persons that die of consumption than in any English town of equal population. In Genoa, this disease is almost equally prevalent. In Madeira, no local disease is more common than consumption. The next position of Dr. Burgess is, that, as the beasts, birds, and fishes of one region die in another, a change of climate cannot, unless exceptionably, be beneficial to an invalid. Notwithstanding the greater adaptibility to climate which man preserves, the human constitution, it is plain, cannot endure changes of temperature without being more or less affected by it. The frosts and thaws of England have corroded, during the lapse of ages, the solid stone of which their cathedrals were built. In like manner, a foreign climate gradually undermines the health. Dr. Burgess refers to the shattered constitution of every officer who has served for any length of time in India, and to the well-known fact that children born of white parents in India are delicate as a class. The African cannot endure severe and protracted cold. If such is the effect of changes of climate on persons in health, what must it be, argues Dr. Burgess, on invalids? And he fortifies this theoretical conclusion, by reminding the reader that it is not only the natives who die of consumption in Madeira, but that the grave-yards of that island are whitened by the head-stones of thousands who have gone there for health, and remained to die.

Persons not professional imagine, that the consumptive patient, by breathing a mild atmosphere, withdraws irritation, and leaves nature free to work a cure. But this notion Dr. Burgess characterizes as entirely erroneous. It is through the skin, not through the lungs, he contends,

that a warm climate acts beneficially. When a sudden change in the temperature produces a chill, cutaneous perspiration is checked, the skin becomes dry and hard, and the lungs suffer from excessive action; for they are compelled now to eliminate what should have passed off through the skin. The doctor illustrates this by referring to the instantaneous relief which is generally obtained through free perspiration, where difficult breathing or oppression of the chest has been occasioned by artificial heat. What is best for consumptives, therefore, is an equable climate. It is the fluctuations, not the high temperature, of a climate that is injurious.

An able article on this subject has been published in the "Boston Medical Journal" by Dr. J. W. Burnett, of Boston, in which he attributes the prevalence of consumption in the New-England States to the intemperate, changeable climate, the tendency of which is to produce disease in the pulmonary organs. The only season of the year when the climate is favorable to lung-diseases is during the month of September and the first part of October, when the air is warm, dry, and quiet. It has been customary for northern invalids to return when benefited. In general, all who did so have been re-attacked, and finally carried off, sometimes very suddenly. From statistics and information which Dr. Burnett has been collecting, he has come to the conclusion that consumptive invalids, to be permanently benefited by a change of climate, must go South, and make their home there. The climate of Greenville, S.C., and some parts of Georgia, is exceedingly favorable to those laboring under this disease. In summer, the temperature rarely exceeds 90°, and is free from sudden changes. Dr. Burnett is of the opinion that the United States possess a variety of climate and advantages for this disease far superior to those of Europe. — *Annual Scientific Discovery.*

ON THE ACTION OF OZONE ON MIASMATA.

M. Schonbein's additional researches have still further developed the analogy of this substance to Chlorine, and leave no doubt of the injurious effects it may exert on the respiratory organs when in excess. Mice soon perish

in an atmosphere containing 1–6.000. The quantity which prevails in the atmosphere is very variable, being proportionate to the amount of electricity, and therefore at its maximum in winter, and at its minimum in summer. It is, however, highly probable, that, when existing only in minute quantities, it exerts a purifying effect on the atmosphere, by destroying various deleterious miasmata. There are a great number of inorganic gaseous bodies, which, when diffused in scarcely appreciable quantities, yet render the air irrespirable. An incessant source of miasmata exists in the variety of gaseous compounds which are incessantly liberated by the decomposition of the innumerable masses of organic beings which perish on the surface of our globe. Although the composition of most of these is unknown, it is supposed that their accumulation would render the air unfit for respiration. Nature has, however, provided the means of destroying such deleterious compounds as fast as they are generated; for M. Schonbein regards Ozone, which is so constantly generated under electrical influence, and is so powerful an agent of oxidation, even at ordinary temperature, as specially destined to that end. His experiments prove that air containing 1–6.000 of Ozone can disinfect 540 times its volume of air produced from highly-putrid meat; or that air containing 1–3.240,000 of Ozone can disinfect an equal volume of air so corrupted. Such experiments show how little appreciable by weight miasmata may be, which are yet sensible to the smell; and how small is the proportion of Ozone necessary for the destruction of all the miasmata produced by putrefaction of organic matter, and diffused in the atmosphere. We may admit that the electrical discharges which occur incessantly in different parts of the atmosphere, and determine there the formation of Ozone, purify the air by ridding it of oxidizable miasmata; at the same time that these are destroyed by Ozone, the organic miasmata cause its own disappearance, and prevent a dangerous accumulation of it. The opinion that storms purify the air may not be without foundation, as a large quantity of Ozone is then produced. In the author's experiments, he has always found a large proportion of Ozone in the vicinity of the stormy clouds of Jura; and the air ozonized by phosphorus, by experiment, gives forth a similar smell to that perceived amidst storms in mountainous regions. It is very probable, that, in certain locali-

ties, the balance between the Ozone and the miasmata does not prevail, and disease may be the consequence. As a general rule, however, numerous experiments have shown that the air contains free Ozone, so that no free oxidizable miasmata can there exist. M. Schonbein recommends that the atmosphere should be tested for Ozone in localities and at periods where fevers and other forms of disease prevail, so that the results of accumulated observations may be obtained. —*Arch. des Sciences.*

EDITORIAL.

We owe to subscribers an apology for the repeated delays which have occurred in the appearance of our numbers. Most of the numerous European publications to which we were promised access, do not arrive, through faulty management somewhere, in season to be made available; and being resolved to admit no article into our columns for the mere purpose of "filling up," — that lamentable ultimate expedient of some of our poverty-stricken magazine manufacturers, we are obliged to await the arrival of matter suited to the character which "Continental Homœopathy" ought to sustain through our transcribings. There is, however, much reason to hope that our reputation for punctuality will not be, in future, so often jeopardized.

In connection with this subject, we would avail ourselves of the opportunity to remark, that, with reference to domestic contributions hitherto received, or hereafter to be received, we shall still, as heretofore, reject all such, ourselves being judges, as discredit the cause we advocate. Communications from experienced and well-educated practitioners, who do not court publicity from unworthy motives of self-interest, will be at all times thankfully received, and submitted to most respectful attention. But we have no ambition to be the medium of advertising the name and residence of those who make a trade of medicine, and dishonor our noble science, by adopting the infamous practices of the dollar-worshipping charlatan.

In undertaking the thankless, wearisome task of journalizing, our chief object, as we have previously stated, is to place before our readers well-prepared monographs, originating from acknowledged foreign talent, not easily accessible to the profession, except through translations, — in addition to important, reliable, and strictly practical information, in direct accordance with the

law of "similia;" and we believe this description of literature to be infinitely more valuable than that which is composed of the crude, undigested essays of crazy enthusiasts and blundering neophites. However insignificant may be deemed our humble endeavors actively to forward towards perfection Hahnemann's beautiful system, we shall, at all events, take special pains to discourage whatever, in our poor judgment, tends to deface its fair proportions, and obstruct its development.

American Provers' Union. — We have received a circular with the Constitution and By-laws of a new Society lately established under the above title, by which its object is plainly indicated. We hail it with pleasure, and hope sincerely that every physician whose leading principle in practice is *similia similibus* will join it, and promptly contribute his share towards strengthening the very foundations of our practice, the materia medica. In order that something truly great, practically useful, and worthy of the profession, may be achieved, the united energy of our entire force should be concentrated upon one point. This truth seems to be felt by the members of the Society, and they deserve the thanks of all who truly wish the advancement and propagation of Homœopathy for its intrinsic value only. Much or all depends on the ways and means of pursuing the object in view; for many, many difficulties must be met with and removed. Not pretending to give instructions to the Society, we, nevertheless, cannot forbear to make a few remarks in relation to this matter.

We are not wanting in medicinal agents; but we are deficient in the knowledge of their virtues. With the increase of the former, the latter will almost necessarily be diminished. Whoever gives us a new and distinct indication of an old remedy, furnishes more valuable intelligence than he who supplies us with a few symptoms of a dozen unknown plants. We are opposed to artificially prepared remedies; for the more difficult their preparations, the more uncertainty attends them. At present, for pure practical purposes, it would be best to re-prove those already partly proved, those which nature always uniformly furnishes, and which are easily prepared, or such new articles as we have by experience confidently ascertained to be useful, in certain forms of disease, and in which the North American vegetable kingdom is rich indeed. The mere symptoms are not all that is wanted, but the peculiar relation of the remedy to this or that individual peculiarity, to external circumstances and causes (as air and geographical locations), to other remedies, by which the symptoms are increased or diminished, to the organs or functions directly affected, &c., &c.

We believe, moreover, that there ought not to be given a general rule of diet, but that the prover in his report should describe particularly his mode of living.

The experiments should be made also with different preparations of the same thing. For instance, the tincture of the root, herb, flower, or altogether; the doses left to the provers be accurately stated by them, and the symptoms left in their natural connection.

We would extend these remarks to a much greater length; but we have full confidence that the Society knows its zeal, and the road leading to it.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The cure of M. le Marechal St. Arnaud, minister of war, by Dr. Chargé, of Marseilles, has seriously troubled the allopathic medical press. One journal sounds an alarm after the following fashion: "To arms! to arms!" — as though suddenly surprised by the presence of an enemy, of whose proximity it had not before been warned. Dr. Amédée Latour, in the last number of "L'Union Medicale," writes thus: "My dear brethren, Homœopathy is gaining ground: it has even now, in company with our young and lovely empress, entered the palace of Cæsar! Our medical societies are frequently called upon to expel from their fellowship members who have, until the present year, remained faithful. During the last month, we have been pained by the reception of a letter, tendering resignation, in consequence of conversion to Homœopathy, and written by one who holds high rank as a man of science." "Où allons-nous, où allons-nous?"

We here insert a letter from the Marechal St. Arnaud, which will be read with pleasure by all the friends of Homœopathy. It is addressed to Count Bonneval, the author of a series of very interesting articles on Homœopathy, published in the "Courrier de la Gironde:" —

Paris, 18th May, 1853.

Monsieur Le Comte, — You inquire if it is true that I owe my recovery from a very serious illness to Homœopathy; and I promptly reply to the inquiry, happy in being able thus to show my gratitude, and render homage to truth.

For the space of fifteen years, I had suffered, through the fatigues of war, and the influence of the African climate, from a disease which my recent arduous duties had intolerably aggravated. Although I had been persuaded to believe that my complaints were entirely remediless, I nevertheless was induced, while at Marseilles, to consult Dr. Chargé, a homœopathic practitioner; and, under the care of this skilful physician, my so-called incurable disease rapidly disappeared, and my health was soon and almost miraculously restored.

You express the wish, Monsieur Le Comte, that a Homœopathic Institution may be established here, where the doctrine may be taught and practised under special government patronage. It does not belong to me to agitate the subject publicly at present; but I am strong in the hope, that this truth, so important to all mankind, will soon be universally acknowledged. My sincere and energetic testimony to the merits of Homœopathy will never be wanting. I owe too much to it not to favor every measure calculated to popularize its vast advantages.

Receive, Monsieur le Compte, the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

A. DE ST. ARNAUD.

We cannot refrain from adding to the above, another letter, which we have been permitted to peruse, from the same distinguished personage: —

To M. J. Saint Rieul-Dupuoy.

Monsieur, — It is true that I am indebted to Homœopathy for a complete restoration to health, after my life had been seriously compromised by a distressing disease, the first attacks of which I endured fifteen years since.

This my cure is one of the most marked and incontestable proofs of medicinal efficacy on record. A sense of justice forces me to this acknowledgment.

Already has one of your honorable body, Count Bonneval, inquired of me, as you have done, the truth of the report relative to my illness and cure; and at the same time expressed a desire, that free homœopathic instruction should be sanctioned by government. On this subject, my wishes entirely coincide with yours, and those of Count Bonneval; but, as a minister, I cannot, in this, take the initiative. I do not intend, however, to remain silent and inactive.

The Emperor, having invited to Paris the eminent physician who saved my life at Marseilles, is determined, that, since Homœopathy possesses undeniable advantages, its further developments shall not be paralyzed by any narrow rivalry.

Receive, sir, the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

MARECHAL A. DE ST. ARNAUD.

(Paris Journal of Medicine.)

RAIN-WATER. — It is known that Barral made experiments with rain-water. The general results of the analysis of the rain-water caught at the observatory of Paris gave the following resume: He discovered in it Nitric acid and Ammonia, and found that, in the months wherein the quantity of Nitric acid decreased, Ammoniac was diminished. The former always happened as soon as the weather became stormy. In February, March, April, and June, the quantity of Nitrogen and Nitric acid was less than the quantity of Ammoniac. He found also not a small amount of Chlor. in rain-water. The organic particles distributed, and not dissolved in the rain-water, contained Nitrogen.

This observation is of practical value to the homœopathic pharmaceutist, by whom rain-water is frequently used in distillation.

Discovery of the Effects of Chloroform. — The discovery of chloroform, as an anæsthetic agent, was made by Dr. Simpson, of Edinburgh, and was attended by some very amusing circumstances, as narrated by Professor Miller. Dr. Simpson had long felt convinced that there existed some anæsthetic agent superior to ether, which was then all the rage, and, in October, 1847, got up pleasant little parties, quite in a sociable way, to try the effects of other respirable gases on himself and friends. The ordinary way of experiment was as follows: — Each guest was to be supplied with a teasponful of the fluid to be experimented on, in a tumbler or finger-glass, which was placed in hot water if the substance did not happen to be very volatile. Holding the mouth and nostrils over the open vessel, inhalation was proceeded with slowly and deliberately, all inhaling at the same time, and each noting the effects as they arose. Late on the evening of the 4th of November, 1847, Dr. Simpson, with his two friends, Drs. Keith and Duncan, sat down to quaff the flowing vapor in the dining-room of the learned host. Having inhaled several substances without much effect, it occurred to Dr. Simpson to try a ponderous material which he had formerly set aside on a lumber table as utterly unpromising. It happened to be a small bottle of chloroform, and with each tumbler newly charged the inhalers solemnly pursued their vocation. Immediately an unwonted hilarity seized the party — their eyes sparkled — they became excessively jolly and very loquacious. The conversation flowed so briskly that some ladies and a naval officer who were present were quite charmed. But suddenly there was a talk of sounds being heard like those of a cotton mill, louder and louder, — a moment more a dead silence, and then a crash! On awaking, Dr. Simpson's first perception was mental. "This is far stronger and better than ether," said he to himself. His second was to note that he was prostrate on the floor, and that among his friends about him there was both confusion and alarm. Hearing a noise, he turned round, and saw Dr. Duncan in a most undignified attitude beneath a chair. His jaw had dropped, his eyes were starting, his head bent half under him; quite unconscious, and snoring in a most determined and alarming manner — more noise still to the doctor and much motion, disagreeably so — and then his eyes overtook Dr. Keith's feet and legs making valorous efforts to overturn the supper-table, and annihilate every thing that was on it. By and by Dr. Simpson's head ceased to swim, and he regained his seat; Dr. Duncan, having finished his uncomfortable slumber, resumed his chair; and Dr. Keith, having come to an arrangement with the table, likewise assumed his seat and his placidity: then came a comparing of notes and a chorus of congratulations, for the object had been attained; and this was the way in which the wonderful powers of

chloroform were first discovered and put to the test. It may be added, that the small stock of chloroform having been speedily exhausted, Mr. Hunter, of the firm of Duncan, Flockhart, and Co., was pressed into the service for restoring the supply, and little respite had that gentleman for many months from his chloroformic labors. According to our own experience, chloroform is by no means disagreeable. — *Bentley's Miscellany.*

Opium Smoking. — The following graphic description of opium-smoking, and its effect upon the Chinese and adjacent islands of India, is furnished by an English gentleman at one time connected with the China mission. He says: —

"One of the objects at Singapore that I had the curiosity to visit was the opium-smoker in his harem; and certainly it was a most fearful sight, although perhaps not so degrading to the eye as the drunkard from spirits, lowered to the level of the brute, and wallowing in his filth. The idiot smile and death-like stupor, however, of the opium debauchee, has something far more awful to the gaze than the bestiality of the latter. Pity, if possible, takes the place of other feelings, as we watch the faded cheek and haggard look of the being abandoned to the power of the drug; whilst disgust is uppermost at the sight of the human creature levelled to the beast by intoxication.

"One of the streets in the centre of the town is wholly devoted to the shops for the sale of this poison; and here, in the evening, may be seen, after the labors of the day are over, crowds of Chinese, who seek these places to satisfy their depraved appetites. The rooms where they sit and smoke are surrounded by wooden couches, with places for the head to rest upon, and generally a side room is devoted to gambling. The pipe is a reed of about an inch in diameter, and the aperture in the bowl for the admission of the opium is not larger than a pin's head. The drug is prepared with some kind of conserve, and a very small portion is sufficient to charge it, one or two whiffs being the utmost that can be inhaled from a single pipe, and the smoke is taken into the lungs as from the hookah in India. On a beginner, one or two pipes will have an effect; but an old stager will continue smoking for hours. At the head of each couch is placed a small lamp, as fire must be held to the drug during the process of inhaling; and from the difficulty of filling and properly lighting the pipe, there is generally a person who waits upon the smoker to perform the office.

"A few days of this fearful luxury, when taken to excess, will give a pallid and haggard look to the face; and a few months, or

even weeks, will change the strong and healthy man into little better than an idiot skeleton. The pain they suffer, when deprived of the drug, after long habit, no language can explain; and it is only when, to a certain extent under its influence, their faculties are alive. In the houses devoted to their ruin, these infatuated people may be seen at 9 o'clock in the evening in all the different stages, — some entering, half distracted, to feed the craving appetite they had been obliged to subdue during the day; others laughing and talking wildly under the effects of a first pipe; whilst the couches around are filled with their different occupants, who lie languid, with an idiot smile upon their countenances, too much under the influence of the drug to care for passing events, and fast merging to the wished-for consummation. The last scene in this tragic play is generally a room in the rear of the building, — a species of dead-house, — where lie stretched those who have passed into the state of bliss the opium-smoker madly seeks, — an emblem of the long sleep to which he is blindly hurrying.

Chloroform in Cholera. — The London press mentions a successful application of chloroform upon a man of immense physical power, while under a violent attack of cholera. While in the most violent paroxysms of pain and spasm, the chloroform was administered, and the struggling giant tamed into the quiet of a sleeping infant. The functions being suspended, the horrible symptoms ceased, the medicines became absorbed, and in an hour the man was restored to consciousness, and the disease was conquered.

A Singular Case. — A Miss Read, of West Boylston, took chloroform a few days ago, for the purpose of having a tooth extracted; and, after the operation was performed, she was attacked with severe pain in the head, became unconscious, and apparently died. Her friends, supposing her dead, laid her out for burial, and began to prepare for the funeral ceremonies; but their grief was unexpectedly turned to joy and astonishment on finding that the supposed dead began to revive! She eventually recovered the full possession of her faculties; but what is still most singular in her case, as we are told, she suffers violent pains in the head as regularly as evening approaches; and at length, and about the same hour each night, falls into a swoon very similar to that, which, in the first instance, was supposed to have been the sleep of death. This case certainly presents a most remarkable escape from premature burial. — *Worcester Transcript.*

Dr. B. Hirschel, in his "Retrospective View of Homœopathy, in the year 1852,"— Journal for Homœop. Clinic, vii. No. 1 — remarks that "America, above all, promises, whenever it has got rid of the strong mixture of charlatanry and mysticism, and the orthodox adhesion to the antiquated propositions of Hahnemann, to circulate the blessings of Homœopathy in its fullest extent. There, in its fresh regions, it is living vigorously; and we find homœopathic schools in Pennsylvania and Cleaveland, several colleges of homœopathic physicians, a great number of journals for laymen, and homœopathic practitioners in abundance. In the year 1842 there were only three hundred physicians; now there are between two and three thousand, — and the practice has extended to the most distant islands of the West Indies."

A Boston newspaper mentioned, a few days ago, an important discovery by an eminent physician, of the cause of nightmare, — that it was owing to a newspaper bill. This appears natural; for whoever comes under the power of the press must expect a pressure somewhere. Though we claim no eminence, we yet pretend to a still greater discovery; namely, that the frequent occurrence of heart-complaints is chiefiy attributable to the custom of cheating the doctors out of their dues. J. B.

PERIODICALS RECEIVED.

AMERICAN.

The North American Homœopathic Journal, August, 1853.
The Philadelphia Journal of Homœopathy.
The American Journal of Homœopathy.
The American Magazine of Homœopathy, vol. ii. Nos. 8 and 9.

FOREIGN.

British Journal of Homœopathy, July, 1853.
Homœopathic Times, up to August.
Homœopathische Viertel Jahrschrift, vol. iv. Nos. 3 and 4, 1853.
Zeitschrift für Homœopathische Klinik, up to September, 1853.
Allgemeine Homœopathische Zeitung, up to September, 1853.
Präger Monatschrift für theoretische und practische Homœopathy, by Dr. Altschul, April, May, June, 1853.
Zeitschrift für wissenschaftliche Therapia, by Dr. A. Bernhardi, vol. i. No. 2.
Médecine Homœopathique des Familles. Tome ii. Nos. 5 and 6.

QUARTERLY HOMŒOPATHIC JOURNAL.

CHRONIC HEADACHE CURED BY BELLADONNA AND ZINCUM.

BY DR. W. ARNOLD, HEIDELBERG.*

In the beginning of July, 1852, I was asked if I would undertake, through written communications, the treatment of the wife of an officer in the army, who had been afflicted with violent headache from her earliest youth.

Requesting a particular relation of her sufferings, I received from the patient the following account: —

"While a child, I had to be dismissed from school frequently, as a headache made me incapable of learning. In the hope that the evil would disappear at the termination of childhood, nothing was done for me, except the application of cold fomentations when the pain became too violent. In my sixteenth year, menstruation appeared, although feebly and irregularly, — often but once in six weeks. The headache, nevertheless, continued, and grew even more severe, so that I often wished for death. A physician, to whom I then entrusted myself, bled me frequently, repeatedly prescribed some mixtures, and advised frequent bathings; which advice I strictly followed. A short intermission of suffering then occurred; but soon the evil returned more severely than ever, menstruation being still irregular.

"In my eighteenth year, I was seized, in consequence of a severe cold taken while bathing, added to a violent mental emotion, with nervous fever and inflammation of the brain, in a very high degree. I was often bled, four times in one day, in the hands and feet: Leeches were applied to my

* From "Zeitschrift für homœp. Klinik," vol. ii., No. 19, translated for the "Quarterly" by J. B.

forehead by the dozen, and whole bottles of Naphtha poured over my head; which latter I can yet distinctly remember, on account of the extreme pain it produced. These remedies were had recourse to, in order to reduce my strength, as I was afterwards informed; for I was delirious during several days, and had to be forcibly retained in bed. After the recovery from this attack, my former sufferings returned, and continued for one year combined with hoarseness. This last symptom was removed by a physician from Freiburg, who entirely prohibited venesections, and recommended frequent drinking of cold water, with the use of warm baths. He gave me medicine in very small phials, of which I had to take but six drops in a tumbler full of water. My hoarseness entirely disappeared, but the headache remained: it retained, on the whole, its former character; while occasionally, especially a few days before menstruation, it became so very violent that my ideas were confused, and my language incoherent and nonsensical. This painful suffering lasted from ten to fourteen days, when it abated, bringing me relief for a few days. I gave up medication, as it not only proved to be inefficient, but disturbed my stomach to such a degree that I, even at the present day, cannot digest most articles of food.

"The headache is now somewhat different from what it has been. I have now a dull, pressing pain directly over the forehead, which was formerly more of a beating and darting nature, and I have the painful sensation as if my head was in a screw-press; the eyes are inflamed, the forehead red and swollen. I cannot sit up, but am obliged to lie on the bed; and am troubled with the most distressing visions, while I hear every thing that happens around me. I see, for instance, my dear child lying before me with bloody, crushed head; and see my husband brought dead into the room. It requires the greatest exertion to convince myself that these are illusions. The headache, having arrived at its highest point, abates somewhat, and then I usually fall asleep. Notwithstanding these pains, my head is not hot, but to the touch is even cold and dry. The severest pain lasts but a day: the duration of the headache is about two weeks; during which time its severity increases and diminishes, and I am very well contented if it is only supportable. When menstruation, which can hardly be called so, should appear, the headache becomes more

violent and stupefying; afterwards it abates again. A few days before and after menstruation, I have a painful tearing pain and considerable sensation of weakness in the back. I don't look sick, by any means; on the contrary, I have considerable color."

I must add to this relation, that the patient is a large woman of a robust make; that she never lived in a city or in city-style; that she is not sensitive, but the reverse, as she can bear pain uncommonly well.

In consideration of the deficient menstruation, I first gave Pulsatilla, as this remedy was also particularly adapted to the symptoms of the head. I prepared 2 drachms of the third decimal dilution, and ordered 10 drops at a dose twice a day. One month after, I was informed that there was no change in the state of the patient, that the headache appeared with equal severity, that menstruation also was not increased. I then administered Belladonna; as not only the similarity of its symptoms, but also much clinical experience, favored its selection. I ordered, of a mixture of half a drachm of the sixth decimal dilution of Belladonna with one drachm of water, 6 drops to be taken every evening. Five weeks after, I was informed that the headache still occurred as frequently and continued as long, but did not seem to be so violent, though it could not be said that there was yet much improvement in this respect: menstruation, however, had undoubtedly been more natural. I now gave one drachm of the sixth decimal dilution, 5 drops to be taken every evening. After three months I was notified, that the headache had much longer intermissions; that the attacks were not so violent, though occasionally, especially in damp weather, the pain reached its former degree of severity. The menstruation was at the last period decidedly more natural. I administered Belladonna now in the fourth decimal dilution, every other day in the evening, 5 drops; and received the information, thirty days after, that the headache had perceptibly abated in point of severity and frequency of attacks, but that the patient was often seized with an irresistible drowsiness. The cerebral irritation had considerably diminished, as far as Belladonna could effect it. What remained I did not think of being able to remove by the same remedy, and therefore selected Zincum as the remedy adapted to the state; especially as a new

symptom, which had lately troubled the patient, pointed to this remedy; namely, frequent vomitings. She attributed this new symptom to a gastric-catarrhal fever which she had recently suffered from, but which had, however, totally passed off: I considered the cause to be rather a change of the original affection. I chose Zincum sulphur., as I frequently employed this preparation with success. I gave to the patient sixteen doses of Zinc. sulphur., each dose being a grain of the second decimal trituration, one dose to be taken every evening dry on the tongue; with directions to omit medicating, after the last dose, for eight days. Four weeks after, the patient wrote to me that she was much better; the headache appeared but moderately, with some pain in the back, previous, during, and after menstruations; at other times she was free from it. I gave now, once more, sixteen equally strong doses of Zinc. sulphur., every evening one dose. After this, improvement progressed essentially, as I was informed five weeks later. After having used a fourth package of sixteen doses of Zinc. sulphur., the woman felt entirely free from pain. Three months were passed perfectly free from pain, when she wrote to me a letter full of thanks; saying, among other things, "You have totally cured me of great bodily suffering, and, what is still more, have preserved my mind from distraction." On the whole, this cure of such an obstinate affection, which had resisted so many remedies, and by which an otherwise healthy woman was tormented from her earliest childhood in an excessive degree, was performed within eight months, by the use of two remedies.

This case, certainly a sure evidence of the curative power of the given remedies, as the result cannot be attributed to a change of diet or other influences, induces the following reflections. The proximate cause of this affection was evidently a hyperæmia of the cerebral membranes, occurring, or at least very considerably increasing, from time to time. To such a state of periodical congestion to the head Pulsatilla corresponds, as well with reference to the similarity of symptoms as to clinical experience, especially if menstruation is tardy or entirely wanting. Experience, however, here established the fact that Pulsatilla was not the proper remedy for this cerebral affection; and I must confess that this seems not remarkable to me, as the tardy menstruation was not the cause, but the consequence, of the

hyperæmia. The effect of Belladonna proves this distinctly, or the already existing proof gains from it confirmation. While Pulsatilla effected no change, not even produced more profuse menstruation, in which point its effect is generally certain, we observe that after Belladonna was taken there resulted a diminution of the headache, and also less severe congestion to the head, and menstruation became more profuse. Every physician would expect this result, who reflects that the hyperæmia in the head was primary, the tardy menstruation secondary; it is evident, therefore, that the remedy which possesses the power to diminish the hyperæmia in the head must also produce a more regular circulation, and consequently a more regular menstruation. Another question will be raised by this observation, namely: Why was Belladonna, this excellent remedy in hyperæmia in the head, and which in this case had produced such a favorable change, not able to complete the cure? In answering this question, it deserves to be considered that the hyperæmia, which had its seat principally in the cerebral membranes, became habitual by the frequent repetition and long duration, and that it necessarily must produce a change on the nutrition of the brain. I believe it to be possible, that even the habitual cerebral hyperæmia might have been removed by Belladonna, if it had been for a longer time and more frequently repeated. From much experience, however, I have come to the conclusion that Zincum penetrates more rapidly into the organism of the brain, and changes its abnormal activity more durably into normal, as far as agrees with its sphere of action. That the latter is the case, was, independent of the similarity of the symptoms, evident to me from the fact that I had been convinced, from repeated experience, of the value of Zincum in certain cases of cerebral irritation. Other physicians, however, may think as they please of my physiological views; but it is the only explanation I can give of the matter. The most important point, however, is the cure of such a chronic affliction, which had resisted for years various methods of treatment, and among them occasionally the most energetic, as they are usually called. Not less important for us is the proof, though frequently given yet always valuable, of the curative principle of similarity; as a cure by nature, without artificial aid, cannot here be reasonably supposed. One fact is shown by the

above observation, that the best adapted remedy to the patient is the one which has a particular relation to the peculiarity of the disease of the originally-affected organ. It is evident that the study of the genesis of the disease is not only of interest to the pathologist, but also of benefit and practical value to the therapeutist.

DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF THE DISEASES OF THE LIVER.

BY DR. EMIL RICHTER, PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

Diagnosis. — It is often very difficult, even almost impossible, to give an accurate diagnosis of a disease of the liver. There often occurs disorganization of the liver, of which we had no intimation even after most accurate examination. We find carcinoma of considerable size and number, without any protrusion of the liver below the ribs, without any apparent change in its function, and without any subjective disturbance. We cannot wonder at this, since the hystologia of the liver is not yet completed, its physiologia far from being thoroughly known, the most correct examination not always affording sufficient information, and the functional and subjective symptoms being too often fallacious. An examination by inspection is often of little value; and palpation is valuable only when the liver is protruding below the curvature of the ribs, and then mostly in regard to resistance. An examination by palpation helps to ascertain the condition of the surface at the margin of the liver, when the abdominal integuments are not infiltrated and extended, as is known to be the case in meteorismus and ascites. We are enabled by percussion to ascertain the form, the size, and the position of the liver; but we receive from it no direct indication in regard to consistency. And it must always be remembered, that the size of the liver differs, even in a normal condition. We have no positive evidence in regard to the function of the liver, and especially in regard to the secretion of the bile, as the bile is either brought up by vomiting or evacuated with the fæces, and therefore already decomposed. In

many cases, we have often to rely only upon subjective symptoms; and every physician knows how uncertain those are. Sometimes the liver is diseased, but causes no complaint, often only some fulness in the hepatic region with slight symptoms of catarrhus gastro-duodenalis, while we find after death disorganizations and pseudo-formations of considerable size. Of functional symptoms, icterus is the only one which is of importance, though this exists where no disorganization of the liver and biliary ducts can be found. Besides, it is not a constant symptom in hepatic diseases, and even may be called rare in diseases of the parenchyma of the liver, as in the different forms of hepar adiposum, hepar granulatum, and carcinoma hepatis. It exists in atrophia acuta, and in those diseases of the biliary ducts which hinder the secretion of bile, as stenosis, obstruction, obliteration, especially in obliteration of the ductus choledochus and hepaticus. The stomach almost always becomes diseased, mostly by the impeded circulation; and its symptoms, therefore, are not characteristic. Changes in the sanguification are sometimes noticed, mostly in protracted forms of disorganization. But we notice likewise the same in different diseased forms of other organs. An important symptom, in diseases of the liver, is the interrupted or impeded circulation in the vena portæ. But we find this symptom only in certain changes of the parenchyma of the liver; and it is often very difficult to ascertain if this symptom is caused by an obstruction or obliteration, or by a pressure upon the vena portæ, produced by tubercules or cancer of the peritonæum, or by peritonitis chronica, or by diseases of the parenchyma of the liver. The best and surest help to the diagnosis are those changes in the volume, form, consistency, and position of the liver, which we ascertain by percussion and palpation. Those changes, connected mostly with certain alterations of texture, enable us to give, in consideration of the cause and of the condition of the other organs, a special diagnosis of the disease of the liver.

We ascertain the size of the liver by palpation in connection with percussion. If the liver protrudes beyond the ribs, the form and position of the margin of the liver helps us to ascertain if a tumor in the abdomen is seated in the liver or not. But we must be careful not to consider a thickened or obliterated part of the omentum as the margin

of the liver. If the abdominal integuments prevent an examination of the margin of the liver, we are able to ascertain its position by percussion, which in the normal condition yields a flat sound from the linea alba along and below the curvature of the ribs and over the whole right hypochondrium. If the liver is protruding below the ribs, we are at liberty to suspect only an enlargement of the liver, when we have become convinced by percussion that there exists no disease of the lungs, of the pleuræ, the pericardium, of the heart and its valves, or of the larger vessels, and no disease in the mediostinum by which the liver could be pressed down. The size of the liver's left lobe cannot be ascertained, if an exudation exists in the pericardium, or if the heart is enlarged. If the stomach is filled with fluid or solid food, or the transverse colon with fæces, or if there are tumors in the abdominal organs with thick or fluid-like contents, it is almost impossible, at least very difficult, to point out the lower limit of the liver. We must remember, when we have ascertained an enlargement of the liver, that not every enlargement of this organ is the result of disorganization. Then a prolongation of the lobulus rectus, protruding considerably into the cavity of the abdomen, is not uncommon, mostly in women, and often an innate formation.

The liver is enlarged by hyperæmia, as it is caused by disorganization of the heart and its valves; by hypertrophia simplex; by the different forms of hepar adiposum, or by infiltration; by pseudo-formations; by carcinoma; by such kind of disorganizations as echinococcus, or, in obstruction of the bile, by an over-filling of the ductus biliferi.

It is much more difficult to ascertain a diminution of the liver. It is uncertain, as the liver is often pressed into the cavity of the diaphragm by meteorismus, so that the full and clear sound of the lungs changes immediately and without interruption into the full tympanitic sound of the intestines; or some parts of the intestines, filled with gas, protrude before and above the liver; or air, extravasated in the cavity of the abdomen, may be collected before the liver and press this organ backward. In those cases, the liver has the appearance of being smaller, without being so in reality.

The volume of the liver is diminished by anæmia of the liver, by atrophia simplex, by atrophia flava acuta, and by atrophia rubra, as stated by Rokytansky.

Some assistance may be obtained by attention to the different state of the diameter of the liver. An examination of the margin of the liver is of much importance. It is attenuated in hepar granulatum, from which condition it changes in protracted forms often to a mere membrane. We notice a sharp margin of the liver in carcinoma, when such disorganization does not extend so far. When the capsule of the liver is shrunken, the margin appears wrinkled. We notice a smooth and even surface in hyperæmia, and in the different forms of infiltration. The surface is rendered uneven by hepar granulatum, by tumors, ulcers, acephalocystis, and by an extended gall-bladder. The consistency of the liver is likewise often changed, and increased in hepar granulatum often to such an extent that it has been taken for obturation. The consistency is changed only in some places, in certain pseudo-formations, and then often manifests a certain degree of fluctuation or elasticity.

Therapia. — General rules must guide us when we are unable to give a distinct diagnosis. I have found it important to begin the treatment with repeated doses of Aconite, as many diseases of the liver are accompanied by high fever. I have alternated Aconite with Bellad. only when the cramp-like, contractive, and constrictive pains in the abdomen and around the region of the liver were accompanied by vomiting, or severe headache; or with Hyosc. when the cramps in the abdomen extend mostly to the stomach, appear in periods, and are so severe that the patient is convulsed. The pains are often mitigated by a poultice or lukewarm bath.

Bryon. — Sharp, shooting pains in the abdomen; difficult and short respiration, mostly impeded by stitches in the chest and in the sides, — mostly in the region of the liver, — aggravated by movement, breathing, or coughing; chills, constipation, catarrhus gastro-duodenalis. Icterus.

Arsenic., Nux vom., Aconit., Bellad., Ipecac., Carbo veget., Pulsat., Bryon., Phosph., are to be administered when an inflammation of the mucous membrane of the stomach or intestines is connected with the disease of the liver.

Nux vomica. Nausea, vomiting, constipation, painful sensibility of the hepatic region to the slightest touch; pressure and distension of the abdomen.

Arsenic. Extreme weakness, exhaustion; violent vomiting, vomiting of a greenish or brownish matter; evacuations

of the same color. Anxious, wheezing respiration; dry cough (Bellad., Bryon).

Mercur. solub. Icterus, abdomen hard and inflated, violent colic; stinging, burning pains in the hepatic region; violent colic, as if caused by knives; diarrhœa.

Arsenic, China, Sulphur, Iod., Brom., in protracted diseases of the liver. Nux vomica, Pulsatilla, in connection with those remedies, when the mucous membrane of the stomach and the intestines is diseased.

China. Hardness and swelling in the hepatic region, swelling of the liver (Aconit., Bellad., Merc.). Flatulency, diarrhœa; syncope, great prostration; fulness in the abdomen; icterus.

Congestion of blood to the head is ameliorated by application of cold water to the forehead; injections; Bellad., Rhus., Aconit.

Acid. sulph., Acid. phosph., Phosph., China, Arsen., in affections of the blood.

Diseases of protracted nature require a strictly-regulated diet and exercise. Enlargement of the liver: vegetables, acid fruits, Bryon., Iod., Kali carbonic., Natrum.

An excellent remedy in protracted forms of diseases of the liver is acidum nitro-muriaticum (NO_5 2 parts, HCl 3 parts), in addition to a full bath or a foot-bath. It is likewise of much use in icterus, in addition to a full lukewarm bath.

Icterus. — Simple diet, lukewarm bath; ablutions with soap and water, or vinegar and water; acid sweet fruits.

Prurigo. — Ablutions with soap-water or Kali, Mezer.

Soap internally, in diseases of the bile, has often been recommended, but without effect.

Bathing and ablutions with Aqua chlorata has been used sometimes with success, in chronic disorganizations of the liver.

Hydrops. — Digitalis, Bryon., Cantharid., Bellad., Iod.

Gastritis Chronica. — Veratr. Nux, Pulsat.

FERRUM JODATUM.*

Ferrum jodatum. — Thomson, in his provings of Ferrum jodatum on himself, obtained the following symptoms. When taken in doses of three grains, it stimulates the appetite; excites the entire tractus intestinorum, and increases alvine evacuations; it gives a blackish color to the excrements, and diminishes odor. When it does not act upon the alvine evacuation, it excites the action of the kidneys and increases the secretion, where it can be traced by chemical agencies; it raises the temperature of the skin, and augments transpiration. Thomson felt, soon after the doses of ten grains, unpleasant sensations in the epigastrium, nausea for some length of time, and slight headache; which symptoms were lessened after a copious evacuation. In two hours, the secretion of the urine was considerably increased. The result of those provings was confirmed by those of Cogswell, which he made on animals, as watery evacuations; frequent and copious secretion of urine; vomiting. A predominant disease of the bowels, the lungs but slightly deviating from the normal condition. Ricord says, Ferrum jodatum, in small doses, induces an appetite and constipates; in large doses, it lessens the appetite, produces diarrhœa, vomiting, and after a short time inflammation of the intestines. It produces a peculiar pustulous eruption upon the skin, mostly in the face, and particularly upon the nose and forehead. This eruption is of an acute character, and is frequently connected with fever and a disordered state of the tractus intestinorum. In other cases he noticed the appearance of erythema, or erysipelas, or eczema.

As well as the tractus intestinorum, Ferrum jodatum affects the respiratory organs, even if there exists no symptom which manifests a diseased state of the lungs. But there must be disease here, as there is a distinct connection between the alimentary and respiratory organs. The formation and the deposition of tubercles in the lungs cannot be effected without injury to the whole system. A

* From the Prager Monatschrift, vol. i., No. 5, by Dr. Emil Richter, Portsmouth, N. H.

catarrh of the intestines is often, in tuberculosis, the only, or at least the most predominant symptom. The removing of this catarrhal state of the intestines has, as we know, often the best effect upon the diseased state of the lungs.

The following case may prove it.

L. B., a woman forty-eight years old, of a tall and slender habit, had in former years suffered two or three times from pneumonia, in the treatment of which disease she was freely bled, and to which may be clearly traced the cause of the present state of tuberculosis. She has been often subject to nose-bleeding, hæmoptoë, diarrhœa, and similar catarrhal affections. She has had several children. Menstruation ceased during her thirty-second year. The thorax exhibited the usual form in tuberculosis; the regio subclavicularis drawn in: the patient is feeble and emaciated, and complains often of chills in the evening, with subsequent heat and frequent night-sweats. The cough, having been from the beginning dry, is now loose, and the patient raises a greenish, purulent matter, in which small granulations are perceptible. She, however, feels relieved after the expectoration of this matter. Much oppression in the middle of the chest obliges the patient to rest mostly upon the back. The percussion was on both sides tympanitic; therefore there was no condensation of the parenchyma, but rather a serous infiltration, yet, however, aërous. The stethoscope showed a consonant rale and bronchial respiration below both clavicles. We ordered Ferrum jodatum, prepared by equal parts of Limatura martis and pure Iodine, and the double measure of distilled water, and triturated so that each grain contained $\frac{1}{20}$ gr. of Ferrum jodatum (prepared = 5 : 100). The patient had to take from this trituration, daily, 3 to 4 grs. After a lapse of six weeks, the copious expectoration was lessened without producing an oppression of the chest; and, instead of the former purulent matter, the patient raised only mucus. The cough became less frequent, the fever disappeared, the appetite increased, the alvine evacuations more regular but darker. The patient appeared easier, more cheerful and strong.

Though Ferrum jodatum had apparently mitigated the symptoms in this case, we do not indulge the belief that it is able to effect an entire reformation of the tuberculous matter. However, there would be much gained, if it could

only facilitate the absorption of the tubercules, and change the condition to the formation of new tuberculous matter.

The effect of Ferrum jodatum is, like all other remedies used, in conformity to the law of "Homoion." It removes, indirectly, only those symptoms which it produces. This is in agreement with the experience of Thomson, when he says that it will heal syphilitic eruptions, as, according to Ricord, it is able to produce pustulous eruptions on the face, nose, and forehead.

We recommend Ferrum jodatum to the candid examination of other provers.

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL INVESTIGATION, FAVORING THE DOCTRINE OF INFINITESIMAL MEDICINAL DOSES.

The doctrine of effective imponderable medicinal doses is not unfrequently, by men of science even, included within the limits of a dark mysticism, so long as their matter is not recognizable by the hydrostatic scale, or has not passed the ordeal of chemical reagents.

The following experiments irrefutably prove that the invisible curative power may, like the primitive force in the universe, manifest itself in the smallest drop of vegetable liquid, as well as in the particles of metallic atoms, though our organs of sense cannot establish their existence.

There were two experiments made: the first, by myself and chemist Belohlawek; the second, by apothecary C. Führer and myself.

First experiment (Oct 12, 1853). — Two loth* of pure Quicksilver were boiled over a spirit-lamp, with eight loth of distilled water, in an open phial, with free admission of atmospheric air. The liquid was then poured out, and allowed to remain for an hour. Reagents were then tried for Sulphate of ammonium. Not a trace of dimness could be perceived. To the decanted liquid were then added a few drops of Aqua hydrosulphurata. The reagent showed not a trace of a reaction.

* One loth, about half an ounce.

Second experiment. — One ounce of pure Quicksilver was boiled for an hour with ten ounces of distilled water, then decanted, and, with the addition of ten drops of pure Nitric acid, evaporated to an ounce, and afterwards tested with the above-mentioned reagents. The result was the same as above given, that is, purely negative; not a trace of Quicksilver being detected in the liquid. We made also the test with Chloretum stanni (Chloret of zinc) and Iodetum kalicum (Iodide of potass.). We obtained, as with the above-mentioned reagents, no trace of Quicksilver, though, on weighing the liquid after boiling, there was a loss of eight grains, probably caused by the evaporation of Quicksilver with water.

These observations correspond perfectly with those of Paton, Fawrot (Journ. Chem. Medic., vol. xiv., p. 306), and Girardin, who could not find a trace of Mercury in their Quicksilver decoction evaporated with Nitric acid; though Wiggers (Journ. f. pr. Chem., vol. xv., p. 123) stated that Quicksilver was somewhat soluble in boiling water. It was observed in one case, where two ounces of Quicksilver in twenty ounces of water were boiled down to two ounces, though the decanted liquid showed no reaction with Hydrothion and Zincum muriat., yet, after its evaporation with ten drops of Nitric acid, the residuum became slightly brownish with Hydrothion. So Anthon found that the water, boiled for fifteen hours with Quicksilver, silvered gold-leaf after being decanted, and after evaporation with Nitric acid, gave reactions as well with Hydrothion as with Zinc. muriat.: which can, however, only be explained by the fact that the Quicksilver of Wiggers, as well as of Anthon, might not have been perfectly chemical-pure, but combined with other metals; as, in our experiments with absolute chemical Quicksilver, no reaction whatever could be gained; — and it would be really desirable, as Gmelin justly observes, that chemical experiments be made with larger quantities of the filtered decoction of Quicksilver, in order to ascertain in varying observations the true state of the case.

Though chemistry cannot demonstrate the slightest trace of Quicksilver in the decoction, Quicksilver-water, nevertheless, manifests excellent anthelmintic action in children afflicted with worms. The former physicians recommended a decoction, or even simply an infusion of Quicksilver, for

hours digested with water, under continued succussion, as a powerful remedy against worms. Baldinger gave to children, with the best success against ascarides lumbricoides, a Quicksilver decoction, of from three to four ounces of Quicksilver with two quarts of water, decanted and strained, in several portions.

The Bohemian and Moravian peasants sometimes apply to the apothecaries for a Decoctum Hydrargyri, under the name of "worm-water," prepared in the above manner from chemical-pure Quicksilver, and use it successfully against lumbrici. Such a preparation of Decoctum Hydrargyri, kept ready in the apothecary's shop for dispensation, had been tested by my deceased friend, apothecary Schicht, with the aforesaid chemical reagents, and not the least trace of Quicksilver could be detected.

However, it is established beyond doubt, that we cannot imagine power without matter; and in the Quicksilver-water, having perceptible anthelmintic action, there must be some minute Quicksilver particles distributed, which the most subtile chemical reagent cannot discover, which are yet able to produce, in their inconceivable atomic minuteness, astounding effects upon the living organism, as the most sensitive reagent of nature; that it does not always require *obvious* medicinal doses to accomplish a desired end; that, in many cases, also infinitely small medicinal doses, so apt to be regarded as null by merely calculating minds, are able to produce unexpected curative effects.

An excellent confirmation of this view we find in the late scientific journals of Paris, wherein a memorial of Dr. Burg is under discussion, in which it is asserted that cholera-patients can be cured by putting, on their arms and legs, rings of copper and steel. The discovery is seriously considered by the French Academy; especially as it has been shown that, in the years 1832 and 1849, the workmen in copper and steel were free from cholera: which fact can only be explained by the circumstance, that the workmen in copper are frequently in an atmosphere impregnated with the finest atoms of copper, evidently sufficient for protection against cholera; or we must, on the other hand, attribute the miraculous effect of the metal rings, only to magnetic, electric, or galvanic influences.

Although it is rendered clear beyond doubt, that in many diseases infinitely small medicinal doses can accomplish

most perfect cures, we are, nevertheless, not disposed to favor, unconditionally, the infinitely small doses; but rather believe that, in a considerable number of pathological states, the *lower dilutions* are required to effect beneficial results. The doctrine of homœopathic doses is still open to discussion; its favorers are still on polemic ground: yet are its party-champions in the field of scientific reform, — particularly since every party contains worthy elements, — men who understand how to defend their dogmas with the weapons of science and experience. An immutable normality and definite regulation for homœopatic medicinal doses is reserved for future generations to establish.

WHY SHAVE? *

There are misguided men, and I am one of them, who defile daily their own beards, — rasp them away as fast as they peep out from beneath the skin, mix them ignominiously with soap-suds, and cause them to be cast away with the offscourings of the house. We are at great pains and trouble to do this; and we do it unwillingly, knowing that we deprive our faces of an ornament, and more or less suspecting that we take away from ourselves something given us by nature for our use and our advantage, as indeed we do. Nevertheless, we treat our beards as so much dirt that has to be removed daily from our persons, for no other reason than because it is the custom of the country, or because we wish, or (according to the French philosopher) because we strive to make ourselves prettier by assimilating our appearance to that of woman.

I am no friend to gentlemen who wilfully affect external oddity, while they are within all dull and commonplace. I am not disposed, by carrying a beard myself, to beard public opinion. But opinions may change: we were not always a nation of shavers. The day may again come, when "'Twill be merry in hall, when beards wag all," and Britons shall no more be slaves to razors.

I have never read of savages who shaved themselves

* From Dickens's Honsehold Words.

with flints; nor have I been able to discover who first introduced among civilized men the tonsure of the chin. The shaven polls and faces of ecclesiastics date from the time of Pope Anacletus; who introduced the custom upon the same liberal authority of Scripture, that still causes women to wear bonnets in our churches that they may not pray uncovered. Saint Paul, in the same chapter, further asks the Corinthians, "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that if a man have long hair it is a shame unto him?" Pope Anacletus determined, therefore, to remove all shame from churchmen, by ordering them to go shaven altogether. The shaving of the beard by laymen was, however, a practice much more ancient. The Greeks taught shaving to the Romans, and Pliny records that the first Greek barbers were taken from Sicily to Rome, by Publius Ticinius, in the four hundred and fifty-fourth year after building the city. The Greeks, however (certainly it was so in the time of Alexander), seem to have been more disposed to use their barbers for pruning and trimming than for the absolute removal of the beard, and of that ornament upon the upper lip which they denominated the *mystax*, and which we call, using the same name which they gave to it, slightly corrupted, moustache. In the best days of Greece, few but the philosophers wore unpruned beards. A large flowing beard and a large flowing mantle were, in those times, as naturally and essentially a part of the business of a philosopher, as a sign-board is part, in these days, of the business of a publican. So there is a small joke recorded of an emperor, who, having been long teased by an importunate talker, asked him who or what he was. The man replied, in pique, "Do you not see, by my beard and mantle, that I am a philosopher?" "I see the beard and mantle," said the emperor; "but the philosopher, where is he?"

The idea that there existed a connection between a man's vigor of mind and body, and the vigor of growth in his beard, was confirmed by the fact that Socrates, the wisest of the Greek philosophers, earned pre-eminently the title of the bearded. Among races of men capable of growing rich crops on the chin, the beard has always been regarded, more or less, as a type of power. Some races, as the Mongolians, do not get more than twenty or thirty thick coarse hairs; and are as likely then to pluck

them out, after the fashion of some northern tribes, as to esteem them in an exaggerated way, as has sometimes been the case in China. In the world's history, the bearded races have at all times been the most important actors; and there is no part of the body which, on the whole, they have shown more readiness to honor. Among many nations, and through many centuries, development of beard has been thought indicative of the development of strength, both bodily and mental. In strict accordance with that feeling, the strength of Samson was made to rest in his hair. The beard became naturally honored, inasmuch as it is a characteristic feature of the chief of the two sexes (I speak as an ancient), of man, and of man only in the best years of his life, when he is capable of putting forth his independent energies. As years multiply and judgment ripens, the beard grows, and with it grows, or ought to grow, every man's title to respect. Gray beards became thus so closely connected with the idea of mature discretion, that they were taken often as its sign or cause; and thus it was fabled of the wise king Numa, that he was gray-haired even in his youth.

To revert to the subject of shaving, Tacitus says that in his time the Germans cut their beards. In our times, among that people, the growth of a beard, or at least of a good *mystax* or moustache, had come, by the year eighteen hundred and forty-eight, to be regarded so much as a mark of aristocracy, that, after the revolutions of that year, the Germans took to the obliteration of the vain mark of distinction, by growing hair on their own chins and upper lips. Hairs have been thus made significant in a new way. There are now such things to be seen, on the Continent, as revolutionary beards; and not long ago, in a small German State, a barrister was denied a hearing, because he stood up in his place in the law-court, wearing a beard of the revolutionary cut. Not only custom, but, even to this day, law, regulates the cultivation of the hair on many of our faces. There is scarcely an army in Europe which is not subject to some regulations that affect the beard and whiskers. In England, the chin, and, except in some regiments, the upper lip, have to be shaved; elsewhere, the beard is to be cultivated and the whiskers shaven. Such matters may have their significance. The most significant of whiskers are, however, those worn by the Jews in the

East, and especially in Africa; who, in accordance with a traditional superstition, keep them at a uniform level of about half an inch in length, and cut them into cabalistic characters curiously scattered about over the face.

As there are some communities especially bestowing care and honor on the beard, and others more devoted to the whiskers, so there are nations, as the Hungarian, in which the honor of the moustache is particularly cherished. The moustaches of General Haynau were about half a yard long. A Hungarian dragoon, who aspired to eminence in that way, and had nursed a pair of moustaches for two years, until they were only second to Haynau's, fell asleep one day, after dinner, with a cigar in his mouth. He awoke with one of his fine nose-tails so terribly burnt at the roots, that he was obliged afterwards to resort to an art used by many of his companions, and to fortify the weak moustache by twisting into its substance artificial hair.

Such freaks and absurdities are, of course, inconsistent with the mature dignity of bearded men. Let us have a whisker, beard, and moustache, reverently worn, and trimmed discreetly and with decency. I ask not for the cabalistic whisker, the Hungarian moustache, or a beard like that worn by the Venetian magnate, of whom Sismondi relates, that, if he did not lift it up, he would trip over it in walking. Still worse was the beard of the carpenter, depicted in the prince's court at Eidam; who, because it was nine feet long, was obliged, when at work, to sling it about him in a bag. A beard like either of these is, however, very much of a phenomenon in nature. The hair of a man's head is finer, generally, than that on the head of woman, and, if left uncut, would not grow to nearly the same length. A woman's back hair is an appurtenance entirely and naturally feminine. In the same way the development of the hair upon the face of men, if left unchecked, although it would differ much in different climates and in different individuals, would very rarely go on to an extravagant extent. Shaving compels the hair to grow at an undue rate. It has been calculated that a man mows off, in the course of a year, about six inches and a half of beard; so that a man of eighty would have chopped up, in the course of his life, a twenty-seven-foot beard, twenty feet more, perhaps, than would have sprouted had he left nature alone, and contented himself with so much

occasional trimming as would be required by the just laws of cleanliness and decency.

It has been erroneously asserted, that a growth of beard would cover up the face, hide the expression of the features, and give a deceitful mark of uniform sedateness to the entire population. As for the last assertion, it is the direct reverse of what is true. Sir Charles Bell, in his Essay on Expression, properly observes that no one, who has been present at an assembly of bearded men, can have failed to remark the greater variety and force of the expression they are able to convey. What can be more portentous, for example, than to see the brow cloud, and the eyes flash, and the nostrils dilate, over a beard curling visibly with anger? How ill does a smooth chin support, at any time, the character assumed by the remainder of the face, except it be a character of sanctimonious oiliness that does not belong honestly to man, or such a pretty chin as makes the charm that should belong only to a woman or a child!

Therefore I ask, Why do we shave our beards? Why are we a bare-chinned people? That the hair upon the face of a man was given to him for sufficient reasons, it will take but little time to show. It has various uses, physiological and mechanical. To take a physiological use first, we may point out the fact that the formation of hair is one method of extruding carbon from the system, and that the external hairs aid, after their own way, in the work that is to be done by the internal lungs. Their use in this respect is not lessened by shaving: on the contrary, the elimination of carbon through the hairs of the face is made to go on with unnatural activity, because the natural effort to cover the chin with hair is increased in the vain struggle to remove the state of artificial baldness, as a hen goes on laying if her eggs be taken from her; and the production of hair on the chin is at least quadrupled by the use of the razor. The natural balance is in this way destroyed. Whether the harm so done is great, I cannot tell; I do not know that it is: but the strict balance which a man keeps between the production of hair and the action of the lungs is too constant and rigid to be altogether insignificant. We have all had too much opportunity for noticing how, in people whose lungs are constitutionally weak, as in people with consumptive tendencies, the growth of the hair is excessive even to the eye-lashes. A skin covered with

downy hair is one of the marks of a scrofulous child; and who has not been saddened by the charm of the long eye-lashes over the lustrous eye of the consumptive girl?

The very anomalies of growth show that the hair must fulfil more than a trifling purpose in the system. There has been an account published in the present century, by Ruggieri, of a woman twenty-seven years of age, who was covered from the shoulders to the knees with black woolly hair, like that of a poodle-dog. Very recently, a French physician has related the case of a young lady, over whose skin, after a fever, hair grew so rapidly, that, at the end of a month, she was covered with a hairy coat an inch long, over every part of her body, except the face, the palms of the hands, and the soles of the feet.

There are other less curious accounts of women who are obliged to shave, regularly, once or twice a week; and it may be asked, "Why are not all women compelled to shave? If beard and whiskers serve a purpose, why are they denied to women?" That is a question certainly not difficult to answer. For the same reason that the rose is painted and the violet perfumed, there are assigned by nature to the woman attributes of grace heightened by physical weakness, and to the man attributes of dignity and strength. A thousand delicate emotions were to play about a woman's mouth, expressions that would not look beautiful in man. We all know that there is nothing more ridiculous to look at than a ladies' man, who assumes femininity to please his huge body of sisters, and wins their confidence by making himself quite one of their own set. The character of woman's beauty would be marred by hair upon the face; moreover, what rest would there ever be for an infant on the mother's bosom, tickled perpetually with a mother's beard? Not being framed for active bodily toil, the woman has not the man's capacious lungs, and may need also less growth of hair. But the growth of hair in woman is really not much less than in the other sex. The hair upon a woman's head is, as a general rule, coarser, longer, and the whole mass is naturally heavier, than the hair upon the head of a man. Here, by the way, I should like to hint a question, whether, since what is gained in one place seems to be lost in another, the increased growth at the chin, produced by constant shaving, may not help to account for some part of the weakness of

hair upon the crown, and of the tendency to premature baldness, which is so common in English civilized society.

The hair upon the scalp, so far as concerns its mechanical use, is no doubt the most important of the hair-crops grown upon the human body. It preserves the brain from all extremes of temperature, retains the warmth of the body, and transmits very slowly any impression from without. The character of the hair depends very much upon the degree of protection needed by its possessor. The same hair, whether of head or beard, that is in Europe straight, smooth, and soft, becomes, after a little travel in the warm climates, crisp and curly, and will become smooth again after a return to cooler latitudes. By a natural action of the sun's light and heat upon the hair, that curliness is produced; and it is produced in proportion as it is required, until, as in the case of negroes, in the tropical suns of Africa, each hair becomes so intimately curled up with its neighbor as to produce what we call a woolly head. All hair is wool, or rather all wool is hair; and that the hair of the negro differs so much in appearance from that of the European is only because it is so much more curled, and the distinct hairs are so much more intimately intertwined. The more hair curls, the more thoroughly does it form a web in which a stratum of air lies entangled, to maintain an even temperature on the surface of the brain. For that reason it is made a law of nature, that the hair should be caused to curl most in the hottest climates.

A protection of considerable importance is provided in the same way, by the hair of the face, in a large and important knot of nerves that lie under the skin near the angle of the lower jaw, somewhere about the point of junction between the whiskers and the beard. Man is born to work out of doors, and in all weathers, for his bread: woman was created for duties of another kind, which do not involve constant exposure to the sun, wind, and rain. Therefore man only goes abroad whiskered and bearded, with his face muffled by nature in a way that shields every sensitive part alike from wind, rain, heat, or frost, with a perfection that could be equalled by no muffler of his own devising. The whiskerless seldom can bear long exposure to a sharp wind that strikes on the bare cheek. The numbness then occasioned by a temporary palsy of the nerves has, in many

cases, become permanent; I will say nothing of aches and pains that sometimes affect the face or teeth. For man who goes out to his labor in the morning, no better summer shield or winter covering against the sun or storm can be provided, than the hair which grows over those parts of the face which need protection, and descends as beard, in front of the neck and chest; a defence infinitely more useful, as well as more becoming, than a cravat about the neck or a prepared bear-skin over the pit of the stomach. One of the finest living prose-writers in our language suffered for many years from sore throat, which was incurable, until, following the advice of an Italian surgeon, he allowed his beard to grow; and Mr. Chadwick has pointed out the fact, that the sappers and miners of the French army, who are all men with fine beards, are almost entirely free from affections of the lungs and air-passages.

Mr. Chadwick regards the subject entirely from a sanitary point of view. He brought it under the discussion of the medical section engaged on sanitary inquiries at the York meeting of the British Association, and obtained, among other support, the concurrence of Dr. W. P. Alison, of Edinburgh. We name that physician, because he has since persuaded the journeyman masons of his own city to wear their beards, as a preventive against consumption that prevailed among them.

For that is another use of the beard and moustache. They protect the opening of the mouth, and filter the air for a man working in dust or smoke of any kind; they also act as a respirator, and prevent the inhalation into the lungs, of air that is too frosty. Mr. Chadwick, years ago, was led to the discussion of this subject, by observing how, in the case of some blacksmiths who wore beards and moustaches, the hair about the mouth was discolored by the iron dust that had been caught on its way into the mouth and lungs. The same observer has also pointed out and applied to his argument the fact that travellers wait, if necessary, until their moustaches are grown, before they brave the sandy air of deserts. He conceives, therefore, that the absence of moustache and beard must involve a serious loss to laborers in dusty trades — such as millers and masons, to men employed in grinding steel and iron, and to travellers in our dusty roads. Men who retain the hair

about the mouth are also, he says, much less liable to decay or achings of the teeth.

To this list we would add also, that, apart from the incessant dust flying in town streets and inseparable from town life, there is the smoke to be considered. Both smoke and dust do go into the lungs, and only in a small degree it is possible for them to be decomposed and removed by the processes of life. The air-passages of a Manchester man or of a resident of the city of London, if opened after death, are found to be more or less colored by the dirt that has been breathed. Perhaps it does not matter much; but surely we had better not make dust-holes or chimney-funnels of our lungs. Beyond a certain point, this introduction of mechanical impurity into the delicate air-passages does cause a morbid irritation, marked disease, and premature death. We had better keep our lungs clean altogether; and for that reason men working in cities would find it always worth while to retain the air-filter supplied to them by nature for the purpose, — the moustache and beard around the mouth.

Surely enough has been here said to make it evident, that the Englishman, who, at the end of his days, has spent an entire year of his life in scraping his beard, has worried himself to no purpose, has submitted to a painful, vexatious, and not merely useless but actually unwholesome custom. He has disfigured himself systematically throughout life, accepted his share of unnecessary tic-douloureaux and toothache, coughs and colds, — has swallowed dust, and inhaled smoke and fog, — out of complaisance to the social prejudice which happens just now to prevail. We all abominate the razor while we use it, and would gladly lay it down. Now, if we see clearly — and I think the fact is very clear — that the use of it is a great blunder, and if we are no longer such a slovenly people as to be afraid that, if we kept our beards, we should not wash, or comb, or trim them in a decent way, why can we not put aside our morning plague, and irritate our skin no more as we do now?

I recommend nobody to grow a beard in such a way as to isolate himself in appearance from his neighbors. Moreover, I do not at all desire to bring about such a revolution as would make shaven chins as singular as bearded ones are now. What I should much prefer would be the old Roman custom, which preserved the first beard on a young

man's face until it became comely, and then left it entirely a matter of choice with him whether he would remain bearded or not. Though it would be wise in an adult man to leave off shaving, he must not expect, after ten or twelve years of scraping at the chin, when he has stimulated each hair into undue coarseness and an undue rapidity of growth, that he can ever realize upon his own person the beauty of a virgin beard. If we could introduce now a reform, we that have been inured to shaving may develop very good black beards, most serviceable for all working purposes, and a great improvement on bald chins; but the true beauty of the beard remains to be developed, in the next generation, on the faces of those who may be induced from the beginning to abjure the use of razors.

ON COFFEE AND TEA.

BY PROF. H. ERNI, BOSTON.

It is a remarkable fact, that wherever the human race exists, in whatever clime or condition, whether in the highest state of mental cultivation or the first dawnings of civilization, the custom prevails of producing, by different means and ways, an artificially excited state of mind, which, in its extreme and most pernicious form, we call drunkenness.

The Mexican enjoys his Maguey-wine, or Pulque; the inhabitant of Chili, his Palm-wine; the Tartar, his Cumiss; the inhabitant of the Orinoco and Amazon, his beverage from chewed Maïs.

All these drinks are intoxicating, and resemble those in general use with us, inasmuch as the active principle is alcohol, always the product of decomposition of sugar (fermentation), either direct or indirect, starch having been previously converted into sugar (manufacture of beer, whiskey).

The greatest luxury for the Peruvian mule-driver is Coca, the leaves of an American shrub (Erythroxylon Coca), the active principles of which bring on a stupid, dreamy con-

dition for days. H. Wackenroder found in Coca-leaves tannin, aromatic oil, gum, resins.

The use of intoxicating drinks made out of red Agaric (Agaricus muscarius?) in the north of Siberia, and of a species of pepper (Piper mestysticum) in the South-Sea islands; the smoking of opium in the south of Asia, or of an extract of hemp in Africa; are in reality nothing else than a narcotic poisoning, which, when frequently repeated, results in complete physical ruin.

Our intention is, however, to consider here more particularly the history and chemical properties of Coffee and Tea, which are in such general use at the present time.

Coffee is the well-known dried seeds of the fruit of a tree (Coffea Arabica) cultivated in the East and West Indies and Brazil.

It is commonly believed that coffee was first used in Arabia, during the fifth century; but it has been known in Abyssinia from time immemorial.

In the year 1554, a great tumult was caused in Constantinople, by the extraordinary success of the first coffee-houses thrown open to the public: the powerful clergy threatened the sultan in case of his non-interference; as these establishments were crowded day and night, whilst the mosques were all forsaken and empty. The sultan tried to mitigate the anger of the muftis by laying a heavy tax on the sale of this new beverage, and availed himself thereby of one of the most profitable resources of revenue; but, in spite of every precautionary measure, the use of coffee soon became very general, and spread all over Europe.

In the East, coffee was even employed in public worship, for the purpose of keeping people awake during prayers on the holy nights (in the month *Ramadan*). It was distributed in small dishes; but it became to some orthodox Mohammedans an object of deep hatred, and even gave rise to theological discussions; — the adversaries of coffee going so far as to assert that the faces of those subject to coffee-drinking were, on the day of the resurrection, blacker than roasted coffee; but, as women, according to the Koran, are excluded from paradise, they should be permitted to enjoy their favorite beverage.

In 1652, a Greek erected the first coffee-house in London, in St. Michael's Abbey, on the spot where we find at present the Virginia Coffee-house. To Paris, coffee was

first brought in the year 1669, and the first coffee-house opened in 1672, in St. Germain, one of its suburbs; and in 1683 another was opened in Vienna.

The total annual consumption of coffee may be fairly estimated at 500,000,000 pounds; of which more than half (260,000,000) is consumed in Europe.

The use of TEA has been known in China from the earliest ages; indeed, tradition in the third century refers to it in the following way.

A pious hermit, who, during nightly watching and praying, was often overwhelmed with sleep, being indignant at the weakness of the flesh, cut off his eye-lids and threw them on the ground; but a god caused the tea-shrub to grow out of them, whose leaves, showing the form of eye-lids fringed with lashes, have in an eminent degree the property of banishing sleep.

All the different varieties of tea are from two species of the same genus, Thea Chinensis and viridis. According to some botanists, these are but two varieties of one and the same species; the difference being owing to the mode of culture, preparation, and soil. The same leaves furnish black tea, when, after drying, they are roasted over an open fire; and green tea results, when the leaves are caused to wither by the action of steam, and dried at a much lower temperature. Warrington proved that all the green teas imported into England were coated with a green powder composed of an orange dye and Prussian blue (a poison), the deep color of which is rendered light by an admixture of plaster of Paris.

The first tea was brought to Europe, in the year 1610, by Dutch merchants. At the commencement of the seventeenth century, the Russian ambassador, returning from China, received as a present, in return for his beautiful sable-skins, a package of dried green leaves; which, being regarded as merely a useless curiosity, he brought to Moscow, where an aqueous decoction of the tea, for such it was, met with great approbation as a refreshing beverage. In 1664, the English East-India Company thought they were making, in two pounds of tea, a very valuable present to the king of England.

In China and Japan, about 400,000,000 pounds of tea are annually consumed; while the whole export is estimated only at 50,000,000 pounds.

The same fondness that the Chinese has for his decoction of tea is shown by the population of South America, for a similar beverage, called Maté or Paraguay tea, made of the leaves of a Brazilian shrub (Ilex Paraguayensis), and known there from time immemorial. As a substitute for it, they use frequently Guarana, so called, a kind of coffee prepared from the seeds of Paullinia sorbilis.

When the Spaniards first came to Mexico, they learned the use of a drink called Chocollatt, prepared from the seeds of a tree (Theobroma Cacao), which was nothing else than our present chocolate.*

Thus have the articles above described, the discovery of which rests in obscurity, been generally adopted as a kind of nutriment, and have come to be regarded as an indispensable necessity of life. Their choice, which was made everywhere rather instinctively than from reasoning or reflection, must surprise us the more when we consider the results chemistry has arrived at, in regard to the character and properties of these drinks.

The active principle of coffee was found, by Runge, to consist in a highly nitrogenous substance ($C_{16}H_{10}N_4O_4$) called caffeine; another chemist discovered a similar substance in tea, to which he gave the name of theine; this same body was proved then to exist in Paraguay tea; caffeine was found in the Garana, and Jobst clearly showed caffeine to be identical with theine; in Cacao, a substance called theabromine ($C_{14}H_8N_4O_4$) was discovered, which, though of a somewhat different composition, is closely related to theine (theabromine contains, as observed by its formula, C_2H_2 less, and is prepared from Cacao-beans like theine). Hence we see, with surprise, that the active properties of these drinks, in such general use all over the globe, belong, in small proportions, to one and the same substance.

Theine is prepared by treating the aqueous extract of tea with Sub-acetate of lead: the mixture is filtered, and in the filtrate the lead removed by Sulphuretted hydrogen, and the liquid evaporated, when the theine is deposited in white transparent needles. It is easily soluble in boiling, but much less so in cold water: it tastes slightly bitter, and is inodorous; melts at 178° C., and volatilizes at 385° C.

* Chocolate is a mixture of roasted cacoa beans with sugar and spices.

unaltered; shows slightly basic properties, and must be ranked among the alkaloids.

100 parts of tea or fresh coffee contain from 3 to 6 parts of theine; green tea more than black tea, owing to the different modes of drying; fresh coffee much more than roasted, by which process we improve its flavor, and render it more easy to be pulverized, but it loses thereby a portion of its theine (the roasting ought to be performed in closed vessels, and the temperature should never exceed 200° C.; the coffee will then have assumed a chestnut color, and sustained a loss of about eighteen per cent.; and, while hot, it should be packed in tight tin boxes).

In the fresh coffee, the theine, together with Potassa, is combined with Chlorogenic acid (resembling Tannic acid in gall-nuts) to a double salt. Besides fatty substances, sugar, gum, and a trace of a volatile oil (eliminated during torrefaction, and whence coffee derives its aroma), we find in coffee vegetable caseïn; which, mostly united with Lime, does not dissolve in our common coffee extract, but may be saved, as a highly nutritious substance, by the addition of a very small quantity of Soda, of the size of a pea, to a quart of coffee, rendering it soluble.

In the ashes of coffee, amounting from 3 to 5 per cent., we find Carbonate and Sulphate of potassa, Chloride of potassium, Carbonate and Phosphate of lime, Magnesia, Oxyd of iron and manganese, Silica.

In tea, we find, besides theine, common Tannic acid, precipitating persalts of iron black (ink), and a similar one, Boheic acid: it also contains gum, fat, Chlorophyll, and vegetable caseïn, which does not pass in the common tea decoction, its union with Tannic acid rendering it insoluble, but the addition of a little Soda restores its solubility.

The flavor of tea is caused by a volatile yellow oil, which has in its isolated state, in an eminent degree, the taste of tea, and acts powerfully on the nervous system, burns in the throat, causes trembling, &c. The effects of tea decoction are to be ascribed partly to this oil. Green tea contains about one per cent; black tea, owing to the higher temperature applied in drying, a half per cent. The most advantageous method of extracting tea and coffee for family use, infusion with boiling water in a closed vessel, to save the aroma, is obvious from their chemical composition.

In the ashes of tea are found the same inorganic constituents as in coffee.

Future investigations and experiments have to decide whether coffee and tea, in a medical point of view, are really innocent substitutes, as recommended by the pious Father Matthew, for alcoholic drinks, unfortunately so frequently adulterated in this country.

The few and only experiments on the human system with pure theine, known to me, are those of Prof. Lehman in Germany,* who, in common with some of his pupils, took from two to ten grains, causing the following symptoms: viz. violent excitement in the vascular and nervous system, palpitation of the heart, frequent and irregular pulse, oppression in the chest, headache, ringing in the ears, sleeplessness, sparks before the eyes, visions, confusion of the senses, and delirium. Some individuals were more, others less, affected; and some rendered quite unfit for any kind of labor on the following day. It increases the functions of the kidneys, causing an increased urinary secretion.

What signification coffee and tea have in the process of nutrition is yet unknown; but it appears that these articles, containing such highly nitrogenous compounds, must supply some want in that unnatural condition of society to which the poorer classes, especially of Europe, are subjected. We know that efficient food must be of a twofold character. It must contain nitrogenous compounds (plastic elements, Liebig), such as albumen, caseïn, fibrine, necessary for the formation of blood; and non-nitrogenous substances (elements of respiration, Liebig), such as fat, starch, sugar, gum, &c. which furnish principally the necessary means of resistance against the action of the oxygen in our atmosphere, which, uniting during respiration with certain portions of the body, strives constantly to destroy (oxydize) our tissues and organs, whereby invariably the common products of combustion (carbonic acid and water) are formed and exhaled during respiration. By this process, the necessary temperature of the body (animal heat) is produced. The model representative of nutriments, including all that is necessary to sustain life and develop the young animal, we have in the milk; the composition of which we give in the following scheme: —

* Lehrbuch der physiologischen Chemie, Leipzig, 1850.

MILK.

Water	85 per cent.	
Salts	½ per cent.	
	Phosphate of lime.	Chloride of potassium.
	Phosphate of magnesia.	Chloride of sodium.
	Phosphate of iron.	Free soda (keeping caseïn in solution).
Casein	3 to 4 per cent.	Nitrogenous (plastic elements).
Fat (cream)	3 to 5 per cent.	Non-nitrogenous (elem. of respiration).
Sugar of Milk	4 per cent.	Non-nitrogenous (elem. of respiration).

It is well known that the laboring classes of Europe are often compelled to live almost exclusively on potatoes, rice, fruit, &c. These vegetables, which contain mere traces of plastic elements, are insufficient for nutriment; so much so that physiologists, acquainted with the mode of living in many instances of destitution, are puzzled to discover whence the nitrogenous compounds are derived that are required to build up our constantly to-be-renewed organs (change of matter).

Now, we find that the poorest classes, in whose dictionary the word "bread" is not to be found, depend the most obstinately on the use of stimulants, like coffee and tea. Is it not more than probable, we may ask, that the instinct of men, outreaching science, discovered in these articles, in some measure, substitutes to balance the want of proper food?

ANACARDIUM ORIENTALE.

BY DR. WEBER, HANOVER.*

During my practice of sixteen years, it happened to me but three or four times to be asked for advice in cases where, though the bodily strength was totally restored, the mental powers had not regained their former energy. I must state here at the commencement, that I do not mean recent but old cases only. It is known to every experienced practitioner, that, after acute fevers, especially the typhoid, and also after concussions of the brain, the ability to engage in intellectual labor will not return often for a long time, for

* From the "Zeitschrift für homœp. Klinik," Nov. 1, 1853, translated for the "Quarterly" by J. B.

weeks and even months; but, with proper care, cold bathing, much exercise in the open air, travelling, &c., the body recovers its previous weight and fulness, and the intellect its freshness, elasticity, and power, frequently to an extent not before known. I do not here refer to such instances, but to those where patients, after convalescence, cannot for a long time regain their intellectual capacity, though the bodily strength is restored, and perhaps becomes greater than before. The first case I had was the following: —

1. Conrad K., eighteen years of age, the son of a farmer, always healthy and strong when a boy, was seized with smallpox eighteen months ago. The disease lasted six weeks under allœopathic treatment, then his usual strength returned; but his relations soon observed, that the disease left him with "a foolish behaviour" (dämeliges Wesen), as the peasants called it here. They understood by this a limited faculty of comprehension, deficiency of reflection and deliberation, and weakness of memory. The farmer, though wealthy, is not very much in favor of doctoring. A state like that just related is likely to be left to nature, especially as death is not to be apprehended. More than a year and a half had passed in this manner, without any perceptible improvement of the mental faculties. Of all the remedies recommended in the materia medica pura, Anacardium stands in the foremost rank (according to Hahnemann, Chron. Diseases, part ii. pp. 156, 159). Anacardium is one of those remedies, which, according to my observation, should here be placed only in the third rank. As the patient was otherwise perfectly healthy, I gave, for the mere symptom "weakness of memory," Anacardium orientale I, eight drops of which was taken in the evening with water. After two weeks I saw him again in my house, quite pleased with the change which the remedy had produced in his "head," as he expressed himself. He assured me that his head became quite clear after it, and requested me to allow him the continuation of the remedy. I saw the patient frequently afterwards, and convinced myself of his mental faculties and good memory.

2. A young robust farmer, twenty-two years of age, who had passed through typhus, manifested after this disease a still, gloomy behaviour. What might have attributed considerably to the development of this state of mind, was his having been himself aware that his memory was less good

after the disease than before. Errands, to be attended to by him in the city, he had entirely forgotten, and he experienced thereby much trouble. This, ambitious as he was, caused him to be morose, angry, and unpleasant in company. After this state had continued over a year, he complained of it to me. He thought, if no change could be produced, he would rather drown himself, than suffer any longer to be taken for a fool by his companions. I must confess that this case, according to my experience, indicated Zincum rather than any other remedy. But, to many of my colleagues, the same might perhaps have happened. In similar instances, we are apt to have recourse to the remedy to which we owed once an excellent cure and our consequent reputation ; though, in the case in question, another remedy seemed to be more appropriate, according to the external symptoms. I gave Anacardium I, as above, and gained in three weeks the same result as in the first case. I must here mention further, that, in both instances, no medicine was taken for over a year previous. A completion of effect of allœopathic remedies, perhaps given in large doses during the disease (smallpox, typhus), is also out of the question here as well as the cure by nature.

The third and fourth case I will not specify here, as the observations were imperfect. Several remedies were previously given. It is also not improbable to me, that the large doses of Opium and Plumbum, which had been administered some weeks before in typhus, were not without a conditional influence upon the state of mind.

"CHRONIQUE."*

Under this caption, Bellenger, in a late Paris Medical Journal, attempts a lengthy refutation of the numerous theories advanced in explanation of the present extraordinary conduct of household furniture. He admits the fact to be satisfactorily established, that chairs of any size, shape, or material, can be persuaded to undertake remarkable feats of agility, throwing their legs about, " à la Française," to

* For the "Quarterly," by Dr. A. T.

an extent wholly startling and unlooked for; and that even ponderous billiard-tables, losing their usual gravity, manifest a kind of elephantine liveliness under the action of some undiscovered principle. He believes that electro-magnetism, the law of attraction, the influence impressing on the earth its diurnal motion, the magnetic fluid, admitted by few, not understood by any, the "dominant idea" of Faraday; in short, that all imponderable agents, known or conjectured, are entirely inadmissible as causes for the modern phenomenon that is exciting so many feeble minds to madness.

We have time only to translate, and no room for more than, a portion of his communication. He concludes thus: —

"It has been attempted, without recourse to the uncertain, incomprehensible action of an unknown fluid, to find in sensible facts an interpretation that the mind can seize upon and pursue in all its phases;" that the movement of tables is dependent on general motion subject to physical laws. It is known that the will has material instruments, viz. the muscles. How the order is given to, and executed by them, is not known to us. It is an impenetrable mystery. But, though muscular contraction is, in its source, an incomprehensible fact, it becomes, in its exercise and application, a physical or mechanical fact, accessible to sense and to calculation. Now we have, of late, been informed that "there is a mode of muscular contractility which has not yet been attended to; which is exercised involuntarily, without mental perception: it is a fibrillar contractility, an imperceptible *va-et-vient*, which never ceases. The muscles cannot endure a state of absolute repose. When we place our hands on a table, the muscular contractility acts unobserved by us; it increases through the effect of attention, of the will, of the looks even, which become assistants to contractility, without the mind being conscious of it. This is the cause of the moving of tables, and of all other inert bodies: when they move, jump, and turn about, it is the person who gives the impulse without perceiving it. There is nothing mysterious, nothing inexplicable, in this motion. It is produced through a communicated movement, which is exercised in accordance with the ordinary laws of mechanics."

This explanation of M. Chevreul has served to satisfy

many who are not willing to leave the domain of science, and who strive against the current that bears credulous minds towards occult and supernatural causes. Nevertheless, such an explanation encounters difficulties and objections that appear to be insurmountable. It is easy to conceive, that a slight influence of this kind may have a slight effect; that a light substance may be moved without perception. But, when tables weighing a hundred pounds are seen to turn about with rapidity, is it reasonable to attribute such a motion to a power which escapes observation? Can it be believed that bodies, which can hardly be made to stir by the application of all our strength, should jump and turn about by means of a force exerted by us without consciousness?

It has been attempted to remove this difficulty, and refute the objection, by asserting that the slight forces which result from muscular contractility cannot produce at first much effect; but, when added one to another, there arrives a period when the total force produced by an accumulation of all the partial forces overcomes resistance. It is then, they say, that bodies start; afterwards the motion, constantly augmenting by successive arrivals of fresh forces, continues, by virtue of this increase, and according to the laws of accelerated motion.

It is unfortunate that circumstances connected with the facts observed do not favor this explanation. Tables and other objects often do not move until more than an hour after the imposition of hands. At other times, on the contrary, they move after a few minutes, under the operation of some experimenters, or even a single individual. How, in this case, can an accumulation of motive forces take place? There can be no reason why, if there is reality in this gradual accumulation of motive power, an hydraulic wheel should not be acted upon by the fall of drops of water. Would more be required than to cause single drops successively to fall up to the time when their accumulated power became sufficient to overcome resistance?

A well-known writer has cited, in connection with this theory, the example of two pendulums suspended to a common bar of metal, one of which transmits its vibrations to the other through the intervening basis of support. We very well know that this movement can be thus transmitted; but, as it has not in itself the principle of increase,

it is divided proportionally to the mass of substance which receives it, and can only recover, in all its secondary effects, the power at the point of departure. In the movement of tables and other inert bodies, we see no relation between the resistance overcome and the power which passes from our hands.

All these failures to explain the phenomenon induce those "spiritually" disposed to say, "There is something diabolical in this manifestation. It is the devil, who appears in a new disguise: it is that 'awful wretch' who acts upon the tables: they are possessed"!

It cannot be denied, that this motion and rotation of tables or other inorganic bodies remains entirely unaccounted for. We have not had the first word of a rational explanation. What are we to think of it? It appears undeniable that the principle of motion emanates from man; that, in some way, it originates in, and is regulated by, the human will. We are here, without doubt, in presence of that marvellous agent which produces all vital action, and which astonishes and defies our reason in the eccentric manifestations of animal magnetism. We cannot expect to become acquainted with the nature of this novel power, nor solve the mystery of its generation. We know, in fact, nothing of other imponderables; nothing of thought itself. We are not acquainted with the electric principle, except through its effects; we know nothing of the action of the will upon the muscular organs, but by observation of contractility and the different mechanical movements; we cannot seize on thought, but under the sensible "ultimates" of scripture and language. So we may never expect to know more of this new power than its effect upon substance. We can study these results; we can bring all experience to bear upon observations conducted with care and patience; we can investigate laws and relations; mount step by step to the principle itself: but here we must stop; this is the limit of science, which, in a physiological and moral view, is ever reduced to a very short phrase, vital force, — the principle of life, a power yet unexplained and incomprehensible.

EXCISION OF THE TONSILS.

[In a paper by Mr. Toynbee on the question, "Ought the tonsils to be excised in the treatment of deafness?" there are some interesting particulars as to the effects arising from the loss of these organs. The simple enlargement of the tonsils is a disease very often met with in strumous habits, and through frequently amenable to homœopathic treatment, yet cases occur where the absorption appears so tedious that the patient or his friends are apt to be induced to listen to surgical opinion, and gladly embrace so quick a mode of apparent cure as excision offers. It is well, then, in such circumstances to know, that an operation so simple in itself often paves the way to confirmed bad health.]

Mr. Toynbee remarks, "In addition, these operations become wholly unjustifiable when the extent to which they are performed, and the evils which result from them, are fully appreciated. I can say, from my own experience, that they have been performed in every possible variety of deafness, from cases where the disease has evidently been in the brain or labyrinth, where the nervous system of the ear has partaken of the general debility of the system, down to those of hypertrophy of the membrana tympani. Indeed, it was only requisite for a patient to be deaf, in order to secure the excision of his tonsils, or some part, at least, of his throat, being cut. And what has been the result of these operations? In the first place, I have no hesitation in stating, that my own experience agrees with that of Mr. Harvey, and that many cases of deafness have been much increased by them. Mr. Harvey says:—'Some thousand operations have been performed on man and woman, the greater number seemingly without a reason or excuse. The profession is entitled, surely, to be made acquainted with the results,—results which, I fear, when known, will be found to be, though remote, not the less melancholy." In the previous page, Mr. Harvey says,—'Such excision (of the tonsils) is by no means calculated to afford relief to defective audition; nay more, it is more likely to prove injurious, in many cases, than serviceable.

The same experience has satisfied me, that the removal of the tonsils gives rise occasionally to deafness; that it enfeebles the frame, injures the constitution, affects the system in general, and alters the nutrition of the body.' But the local injury is not confined to the ear. I have met with many cases; and some of these, I regret to add, have occurred in professional singers, whose voices have been completely ruined by them. Even while writing this paper, a celebrated physician mentioned to me a case of the kind. He said, 'Poor Miss A., a professional singer, too, was induced to submit to the operation; I would not assent; I endeavored to dissuade her from going, and refused to accompany her; the tonsils were excised, and she has never sung since.' The voices of some patients have been so much injured by the operation, that they have never been able to read aloud afterwards; the ordinary voice has been weakened, a difficulty in swallowing has been experienced, and there has ever remained a sense of dryness in the mouth and throat, accompanied by thirst.

"A second way in which the excision of the tonsils acts injuriously is by deranging the general health. In addition to their local influence upon the mouth and fauces, the tonsils seem to have some intimate relation with other organs, especially in women. I have seen numerous instances in which the patients have dated the origin of a general debility, with its various accompaniments, to the extirpation of their tonsils. Indeed, the day on which the tonsils have been extirpated has been mentioned to me by several, as one of the bitterest in their lives. Here is another corroborative case from Mr. Harvey:—'A young lady, about eighteen years of age, had the tonsils removed for apparent obstruction, as well as for some thickness of the voice; she was of a ruddy complexion, and the mammæ were developed. A few days after the operation, her health became deranged; her bosom sank, and great disturbance was complained of in the other functions. Here there can be no doubt of the close connection between the mammary gland and the tonsils. My friend Mr. Hunt detailed to me the particulars of a case of a young lady, whose health sympathized in a similar way with the excision of the tonsils.' Mr. Harvey also says:—'The result of my observation and experience is that excision of the tonsils has also produced considerable disturbance in the pulmo-

nary apparatus, both in the mucous membrane of the bronchi, and in the parenchyma of the lung itself.' I myself have frequently seen cases in which a pulmonary affection has dated from the extirpation of the tonsils; and I do not hesitate to say, that there is scarcely a medical man of large practice who could not add his testimony to the fact of the injury, local or general, which has accrued to patients from tonsil-cutting, and other operations on the throat.

"I cite the following cases, in illustration of the evil effects of excision of the tonsils, out of the many that have fallen under my notice:—

"Miss W., aged 25, of a weakly constitution, consulted me a short time since on account of deafness. She says that her mother was deaf, and two of her cousins are so. Eight years ago, after a severe cold and pain in the ears, she became dull of hearing, and the affection gradually increased. She requires to be spoken to through an elastic tube. . She complains of a loud rushing noise, which comes on suddenly in an aggravated form whenever she is excited. She is also more deaf when she is weak. On examination, each meatus and membrana tympani was found in a healthy state, and the Eustachian tubes pervious. This lady stated, that, a few years previously, she had consulted a gentleman on account of her deafness; and that, upon looking into her throat, he at once said, 'I must cut out your tonsils: that will certainly cure you.' The lady's aunt slightly expostulated; however, the gentleman at once proceeded to perform the operation, 'and, after several unsuccessful attempts to lay hold of the tonsils, he at last managed to get them both out, the parts removed being about the size of a small almond.' This lady's report is, that 'since the removal of the tonsils the deafness seriously increased, that her voice has been so weak that she has been seldom able to read aloud, and then never for more than a quarter of an hour at a time, which she considers a very severe deprivation. Although she previously had a very fine voice, she is now disabled from singing, has frequent pain in the fauces, a constant sense of dryness in the mouth, and perpetual thirst.' Her general health has also materially suffered, and she is now under the care of a celebrated physician accoucheur in London. Upon looking into this patient's throat, there was no vestige of the tonsils. Dr.

Copland, who saw this case with me, said, 'The operation was quite unjustifiable; that organs had been cut away which exercised very important functions in the animal economy.' Dr. Copland added, in a note to me, that he 'considered these operations of cutting off the tonsils and uvula more or less injurious, and that he never knew a person who could sing to preserve their voice afterwards, dryness of the throat and hoarseness being generally complained of.'

"Another young lady, about the same age, and whose case was as similar as possible to the above, and who was under my care, thus writes to me:—'The first time I paid the gentleman a visit, he said decidedly the tonsils ought to be removed, and expressed some surprise that they had been allowed to remain so long. He assured me, very positively, that their removal would cure the deafness, which, he said, was solely caused by their enlargement, and also attributed a very frequent sore throat, I was at that time subject to, to these same unfortunate tonsils; though, now that I am better acquainted with the nature of enlarged tonsils, I believe mine to have been most innocent, and not in any way to be blamed for my infirmities: they certainly never inconvenienced me, and, when removed, were not larger than the end of the little finger. The gentleman removed them the second visit I paid him, and, just before doing so, told me not to be surprised if the cure was not immediate, as it might be some weeks. The day after the operation, the throat become ulcerated on both sides, and very much swollen, and remained so for a week or ten days, and it was with great difficulty that I could swallow even liquids in very small quantities; he said I must have taken cold. In the frequent visits I paid him afterwards, he always put caustic to the throat, stuffing a sponge which contained it as far down as possible. The first time, it gave me intense spasm to an extent I hope never to have again; it frequently had the same effect afterwards, but in a milder form, and always made the throat very sore for a day or two.' This patient, who was brought to me by Sir John Liddell, had partial anchylosis of the stapes to the fenestra ovalis. I need not say that she was not in the slightest degree benefited by the operation; but it was the opinion of her mother and others, that her health was seriously affected by it. She has lately been a great sufferer,

and confined to her room for some months with an affection of the chest.

"It is possible that some of my readers may think I have laid some too much stress upon the injurious results which have followed the excision of the tonsils and other operations upon the throat. From the large number of cases I have myself met with in my own practice, — from the numerous cases detailed to me by others, — from the attempts made by medical men, especially by the late Mr. Liston, to put a stop to the operation, and from the fact that 3000 operations have been performed by one gentleman alone, I do not think I have magnified the extent of their evil effects. That they must have been keenly felt by society, is shown by the fact, that one of the most popular of modern poets, who did not raise his voice without due cause, thought it his duty to aim the lash of his satire at these operations of 'tonsil-cutting,' as well as at the system of unceasingly injecting the Eustachian tube." — Med. Times, 1853, p. 495.

[We have witnessed in a marked manner the evils of this operation. A young lady, subject to irritation of the throat, was prevailed on to have slightly enlarged tonsils and elongated uvula excised. The operation was performed, and from that time she dates her confirmed bad health; frequent rawness and ulceration of throat, complete loss of singing voice, general irritation of the mucous membrane of chest, digestive organs, and uterus. — Eds.] — *British Journal.*

EDITORIAL.

We have received the first number of the "Chicago Homœopath," a well-written work, of an unusually-neat appearance. It is conducted by three medical gentlemen, resident in Chicago, Illinois. Judging from the tenor of its introductory and other articles, — being honest, unobtrusive, yet spirited, and altogether free from the offensively-arrogant style characterizing certain periodicals of a similar nature, — we venture to predict for the 'Homœopath' a full measure of success, and cheerfully commend it to the attention of our New-England community.

Appeals to popular decision in favor of a special medical system have too often a nauseous infusion of the individual; partake too

much of the character of warehouse advertisements; and, issued withal in violent, denunciatory language, presumptuously repudiating all of the good that the past has furnished, creates inflexible opposition with many who might, by an opposite conciliatory course, be led to a candid investigation of our claims. We believe that a needless display of independence is the very mode best calculated to repel rather than attract just such advocacy as Homœopathy is seriously in need of, much as we may affect to its influence. We are happy in being able to recognize in our Illinois brethren that winning spirit which should ever be allied to the intrinsically-attractive cause of Homœopathy.

Petition to the Legislature of New York, in reference to the Legality of Dissections. — It cannot be questioned, that there is at the present time a great deficiency of material subjects for the proper prosecution of anatomical studies, and that the above petition to the Legislature was drawn up purely for the interest of medical science. It must also be evident to every sensible man, that, without anatomical knowledge, no one will ever become a *physician*, in the true sense of the word. How inconsiderate and highly unjust, then, to the profession is it for state-governments to require of their medical academies the teaching, and of the students the learning, of anatomy, while at the same time they favor the prejudice of the community, by refusing to legalize the only method for the accomplishment of the above object! Is it a wonder that quackery flourishes here (with and without diplomas), when dissections for the benefit of the science and humanity are regarded by the public as horrible butcheries? It is strange that such an extremely morbid desire exists for the preservation of the dead, while life is sported with in the most fool-hardy manner.

It has been suggested that some notice be taken by us of an uncommonly malignant attack on Homœopathy, contained in the November number of the "Boston Medical and Surgical Journal," over the signature of P. Dyer, M.D., whose residence, the public are respectfully informed, is at present in "Lewiston Falls, Me.," an unassuming village somewhere "down east." It is wholly for the satisfaction of "a subscriber," and with decided reluctance, that we condescend to this notice; for we must, in all sincerity, confess that, of the thousand unmanly assaults made on our method of practice, we have not seen one more unworthy of a formal reply. Altogether innocent of argument, if we may except that fallacious reasoning about efficient medicinal action being necessarily accompanied by "sound and fury," the article alluded to appears to have been written in a moment of boyish irritability;

resulting, perhaps, from actual or apprehended destitution, through the influence of that system which the seemingly juvenile writer undertakes, in his gross ignorance, to decry. An affirmation more thoroughly gratuitous than the following, — one uttered in a more dogmatic fashion, standing so completely alone and unsupported in its responsible, presumptuous position, — we do not remember ever before to have seen "in print."

"That it [Homœopathy] is *entirely* inert and powerless, needs *no* argument to prove; that those who practise it are men who have more interest in the pecuniary profits of their trade than in the welfare of their patients, or the promotion of science, *needs still less.*"

We quote the above as a sample of the writer's spirit and style, and as being nearly the whole sum and substance of all that he has written on the subject. Our friends, we trust, will excuse us for declining further comment on such an uncharitable communication. We really feel an invincible repugnance to prolong criticism on a production so strikingly undignified and ignoble.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Ventilation. — If our people only knew how many thousands of lives they are annually sacrificing, — how many hundreds of thousands are now suffering from fevers and other maladies which have their origin in the inhaling of noxious air, the excitement and alarm on this subject would be unprecedented. They are poisoning themselves by wholesale, and two-thirds of them have no suspicion of the fact.

Our dwellings are often charnel-houses. The very first necessity of every living human being — pure air to breathe — is rarely regarded in their construction. The air actually inhaled steals in at crevices and crannies, felon-like, because it cannot be shut out. Only the defects of our architecture prevent our dying of a vitiated, poisoned, mephitic atmosphere, from which the vital element has long since been exhausted. Most men, including architects, would seem ignorant of the fact, that the atmosphere is a combination of different gases, only one of which is wholesome and life-giving, and that this is consumed in the lungs upon inhalation, leaving the residue to be expelled as a poison. The church, lecture-room, or other structure which is filled, or even half filled, with human beings, and its doors and windows closed, while no express provision has been made for its ventilation, very soon becomes a slaughter-pen in which no rational being should tarry another minute. Few churches or other public edifices are sufficiently ventilated; while a large majority of them are utterly unworthy of

toleration, and ought to be closed up by the public authorities until they shall have been rendered fit for their contemplated use, and no longer nurseries of disease and antechambers to the tomb.

Our manufactories are nearly all disgraceful to their owners and architects in regard to ventilation. They are often divided into rooms less than ten feet high, each thickly stowed with human beings, who breathe and work and sweat in an atmosphere overheated and filled with grease, wool, or cotton waste, leather or cloth, and the poisonous refuse expelled from human lungs, which together are enough to incite a plague, and are in fact the primary cause of nearly all the fevers, dysenteries, consumptions, &c., by which so many graves are peopled. No factory should be permitted to commence operations until it shall have been inspected by some competent public officer, and certified to be thoroughly provided with ventilators, — not windows, which *may*, indeed, be opened, but in a cold or stormy day very certainly will not be, — but apertures for the ingress of fresh and others for the egress of vitiated air, both out of the reach of ignorance, and defying the efforts of confirmed depravity of the senses, to close them.

Our bedrooms are generally fit only to die in. The best are those of the intelligent and affluent, which are carefully ventilated; next to these come those of the cabins and ruder farm-houses, with an inch or two of vacancy between the chimney and the roof, and with cracks on every side through which the stars may be seen. The ceiled and plastered bedrooms wherein too many of the middle classes are lodged, with no other apertures for the ingress or egress of air but the door and windows, are horrible. Nine-tenths of their occupants rarely open a window unless compelled by excessive heat, and very few are careful even to leave the door ajar. To sleep in a tight six-by-ten bedroom, with no aperture admitting air, is to court the ravages of pestilence, and invoke the speedy advent of death.

Our railroad cars and steamboat berths are atrociously devoid of ventilation. A journey is taken far more comfortably and expeditiously now than it was thirty years ago, but with far greater risk and harm to health. There are probably ten thousand passenger-cars now running in the United States, whereof not more than one hundred are decently supplied with fresh air. Most of these, wherein forty or fifty persons are expected to sit all day and doze all night, ought to be indicted as fit only for coffins. The men who make them probably know no better; but those who buy and run them have not even that poor excuse. They know that they are undermining constitutions and destroying lives; they know that ample means of arresting these frightful woes are at command; yet they will not adopt them because they cost something. How long shall this be endured?

The sacred tree of Thibet, — the extraordinary, unaccountable nature and appearance of which excites the greatest wonder of the traveller in Central Asia, — is well described in the following extract from "Hue's Tracts in Tartary and Thibet:" —

"The Tree of Ten Thousand Images. — It is called Kounboum, from two Thibetian words, signifying Ten Thousand Images, and having allusion to the tree which, according to the legend, sprang from Tsong-Kaba's hair, and bears a Thibetian character on each of its leaves. It will here be naturally expected that we say something about this tree itself. Does it exist? Have we seen it? Has it any peculiar attributes? What about its marvellous leaves? All these questions our readers are entitled to put to us. We will endeavor to answer as categorically as possible. Yes, this tree does exist; and we had heard of it too often during our journey not to feel somewhat eager to visit it. At the foot of the mountain on which the Lamasery stands, and not far from the principal Buddhist temple, is a great square enclosure, formed by brick walls. Upon entering this, we were able to examine at leisure the marvellous tree, some of the branches of which had already manifested themselves above the wall. Our eyes were first directed, with earnest curiosity, to the leaves; and we were filled with an absolute consternation of astonishment on finding that, in point of fact, there were, upon each of the leaves, well-formed Thibetian characters, all of a green color, — some darker, some lighter than the leaf itself. Our first impression was a suspicion of fraud on the part of the Lamas; but, after a minute examination of every detail, we could not discover the least deception. The characters all appeared to us portions of the leaf itself, equally with its veins and nerves; the position was not the same in all; in one leaf they would be at the top; in another, in the middle; in a third, at the base, or at the side; the younger leaves represented the characters only in a partial state of formation. The bark of the tree, and its branches, which resemble that of the plane-tree, are also covered with these characters. When you remove a piece of old bark, the young bark under it exhibits the indistinct outlines of characters in a germinating state; and, what is very singular, these new characters are not unfrequently different from those which they replace. We examined every thing with the closest attention, in order to detect some trace of trickery, but we could discern nothing of the sort; and the perspiration absolutely trickled down our faces under the influence of the sensations which this most amazing spectacle created. More profound intellects than ours may perhaps be able to supply a satisfactory explanation of the mysteries of this singular tree; but, as to us, we altogether give it up. Our readers possibly may smile at

our ignorance; but we care not, so that the sincerity and truth of our statement be not suspected. "The Tree of the Ten Thousand Images" seemed to us of great age. Its trunk, which three men could scarcely embrace with outstretched arms, is not more than eight feet high; the branches, instead of shooting up, spread out in the shape of a plume of feathers, and are extremely bushy; few of them are dead. The leaves are always green; and the wood, which is of a reddish tint, has an exquisite odor, something like that of cinnamon. The Lamas informed us, that in summer, towards the eighth moon, the tree produces large, red flowers, of an extremely beautiful character. They also informed us, that there nowhere exists another such tree; that many attempts have been made, in various Lama-series of Tartary and Thibet, to propagate it by seeds and cuttings, but that all these attempts have been fruitless."

Spontaneous Kindling of Fire in the Human Body. — The *Courrier de l'Eure* communicates to the world an account of spontaneous kindling, though no combustion, in the person of a mantua-maker. She was sewing at night by the light of a candle, when she felt an undue heat over her body. She noticed, at the same time, that her forefinger was on fire. The flame was bluish, and emitted a sulphurous smell. She plunged her hand into water, and wrapped it in moistened cloths; but the burning still continued, and spread over her hand. Her apron caught fire, and she was obliged to take it off. The flame was only visible in the dark. She spent the night in efforts to extinguish the blaze, and only succeeded at day-break.

The Brooklyn Homœopathic Dispensary. — The first annual meeting of this Association was held at the office of the Dispensary, No. 50, Court-street, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 15. By the report of the Board of Managers, it appeared, that, during the year which has elapsed since the Institution was organized, 1,100 prescriptions have been made: 275 patients have attended at the Dispensary and had the advice of the attending physicians, of whom 64 have been cured, 44 benefited, and, of 125 cases the result of which has not been reported, all or nearly all may be set down as benefited: of the whole number treated, 17 only are reported as not benefited; the rest, other than above mentioned, are still under treatment. Of the physicians, whose services have been obtained by the Board, two have ordinarily been in attendance an hour daily during the year. The Managers elected for the ensuing year are E. W. Dunham, Edward Corwin, John N. Taylor, Alexander H. Dana, A. S. Barnes, S. F. Church, A. G. Allen, and Edward Lambert.

The Brooklyn Homœopathic Dispensary. — Whatever may be the merits of the rival theories of medicine, we hold the *practice*, be it what it may, as worthy of approval, so far as it embraces the cause of humanity. In this view, it is gratifying to see Homœopathy taking its place among the agencies for the relief of the sufferings of the indigent.

The citizens of Brooklyn who profess a preference for that mode of medical treatment show their consistency, by charitably imparting the benefit of it (or whatever they suppose to be its benefit) to others. So much we may say without offence to any, that what a man conscientiously believes to be useful to himself he is bound by the law of charity to bestow, so far as he reasonably can, upon his fellow-men. The Homœopathic Dispensary of Brooklyn, a notice of which is in our columns to-day, therefore deserves, and, we trust, will receive, the liberal support of all who have adopted the Homœopathic treatment in their families. All the sects of medicine, as well as of religion, may, in this respect at least, meet upon common ground, viz. — in the alleviation of human suffering, and administering to the comfort of the destitute.

——— (*N. Y. T.*)

The doctors of Worcester have struck. More pay or less physic is their motto. Hereafter they will have one dollar for an ordinary day-visit, two dollars for an ordinary night-visit, three dollars for a consultation-visit by day, and for other services in proportion, or leave the people to die natural deaths.

OBITUARY.

Dr. Fr. Hartmann, one of the editors and founders of the "Allgemeine Homœopathische Zeitung," died at Leipzig the 10th of October, 1853. He was born the 18th of May, 1796, and one of the few yet living pupils of Hahnemann.

Dr. Curie, one of the first and most zealous propagators of Homœopathy of London, died on the 6th of October.

Joseph G. Loomis, M.D., professor of obstetrics and diseases of women and children, in the Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania, died in the city of Syracuse, N.Y., the 25th of October.

Dr. John Martin Nusser, of Basel (Switzerland), a naturalized German, from Ulm. He was for twenty-five years prosector at the University of Basel, an esteemed physician, and great adorer of Homœopathy.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Handbuch der reinen Pharmacodynamik, von Dr. H. G. Schneider. No. 3; containing the Rheum disease (conclusion), Ipecacuanha, Ferrum, Stramonium, and Veratrum disease. Magdeburg, 1853.

Klinische Erfahrungen in der Homœopathy, von Th. I. Rückert. Vol. i. No. 9. Dessau, 1853.

Introductory Lecture to the Class of the Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania, delivered Oct. 12, 1853, by W. A. Gardiner, M.D., Professor of Anatomy. Published by the class. Philadelphia, 1853.

Der Homœopathische Rathgeber in allen Krankheiten der Geschlechts und Harnwerkzeuge &c., by Dr. Wm. Gollmann Wien, 1854 [The Homœopathic Adviser in all Diseases of the Sexual and Urinary Organs, &c.].

PERIODICALS RECEIVED.

AMERICAN.

The North American Homœopathic Journal.

The Philadelphia Journal of Homœopathy, September, October, November.

The American Journal of Homœopathy, September, October, November, December, 1853.

The American Magazine of Homœopathy, vol. ii. No. 12, December, 1853.

The Chicago Homœopath, vol. i. No. 1; a bi-monthly. Conducted by Drs. D. S. Smith, S. W. Graves, and R. Ludlam.

The Scalpel; a Journal of Health, adapted to popular and professional reading, and the exposure of quackery. Edited by E. H. Dixon, M.D. New York, November, 1853. Quarterly.

FOREIGN.

British Journal of Homœopathy, October, 1853.

Homœopathic Times, up to Dec. 10, 1853.

Homœopathische Viertel Jahrschrift.

Zeitschrift für Homœopathische Klinik, up to November, 1853.

Allgemeine Homœopathische Zeitung, up to November, 1853.

Prager Monatschrift für theoretische und practische Homœopathy, by Dr. Altschul, July, August, September, October.

Zeitschrift für wissenschaftliche Therapia, by Dr. A. Bernardi, vol. i. Nos. 3 and 4.

QUARTERLY HOMŒOPATHIC JOURNAL.

ON ASIATIC CHOLERA.

BY L. HOFFMAN, CHEMIST, OF CAMBRIDGE.

In the year 1817, a terrible disease made its appearance in the south of Bengal; a disease which was unknown to and baffled the skill of the oldest practitioners. It was the Asiatic Cholera. This was not really the debut of this fell destroyer of the human race, as the description of a similar distemper has been found in a very ancient Arabic work on Medical Science. Since then, the whole Materia Medica has been taxed in vain for a remedy; in vain has the faculty endeavored to find among its members another St. George, who would encounter and annihilate this fearful dragon, the latest contribution from Pandora's box. The opportunities for observing and studying this disease have now been unfortunately so very frequent and extensive, and the amount of important knowledge regarding its causes and its remedies is so infinitely small, that we are justified in placing very little confidence in our present empiric Cholera Therapeutics. A general "sauve qui peut" is the only specific in which non-medicos most readily indulge. But I am mistaken. Have we not patented Cholera elixirs, Cholera pills, Cholera doctors, and other fungi of quackery. Is not the existence of a general and appalling calamity a happy opportunity for speculation, and a matter of sincere congratulation to the quack tribe? The modern Moloch has taken in his horns, put on a better face, and hides his cloven feet in patent-leather boots; he holds his elixir vitæ high in the right hand, and picks his victim's pockets with the left.

"Viventes rapit, inferias quos immolet umbris."

From the foregoing remarks, it may be concluded, that the Cholera question is not yet settled, and still open to competition. Practice has had fair play, and every conceivable indulgence on the part of the suffering public. Cholera patients have been plumbed with Sugar of lead; they have been pickled with Salt and Chlorate of potash, and, lastly, their exit from this worldly stage facilitated by the soporific influence of Opium. Blood-letting, stewing, roasting, scorching, and similar resources, have all been exhausted by stern practice. Why, then, should not Theory, humble, bashful Theory, step in, and take her grandfather Practice by the hand, and try gently to pull the headstrong old man in the right direction? Yes! but Theory is often as fanciful, gambolling, and mischievous, as her parent is matter-of-fact, sedate, and austere. However, the quick perception of the junior, added to the vast experience of the senior, cannot but advance their mutual interest. A trustworthy, matured theory, then, is wanted by Cholera practice to guide it through the midnight darkness, by the faint glimmer of solitary fire-flies, flashing here and there a ray of light on the benighted wanderers and the rough pathway.

The discussion on the causes and the cure of Asiatic Cholera, in this article, is far from claiming the honors of a complete and correct theory; its pretensions are satisfied by flashing a ray of light, with the good intention of helping along the respectable couple we left on the road. It must be distinctly understood that the following is written with a deep conviction that there is some truth in it which may be useful in the formation of a complete theory on Cholera. It would be misunderstanding the spirit in which this is published, by supposing that it was intended as a sure guide for the practitioner. No! it only represents the feeble snow-ball, started on the summit of an immense declivity, gathering strength as it rolls, and coming down upon the monster at which it is aimed as a destructive avalanche; or else, if it comes to the worst, melting away under the scorching influence of superior argument.

The strictly scientific investigations, both chemical and physiological, on the disease in question, have elicited very little new truth indeed. The viscosity of the blood, the non-participation of the bile in the causes producing the disease, the diminution of the quantity of Chloride of sodium in

the blood, and the increase of the same salt in the evacuations (the rice-water fluid), are the only trustworthy observations worth mentioning. The disease, in its symptoms, is certainly very simple; and it is only the frightful rapidity of its mostly fatal course, and the consequent impossibility to effect a cure by any but the most rapidly or most powerfully acting remedies, which invests Cholera with an awe and a mystery effectually isolating, and *italicizing* it in the catalogue of diseases. Now *what* are the symptoms of the disease? The most common form of Cholera is indicated by rapid shrinking of the muscles, deadly paleness, a breath whose temperature rapidly decreases, cramps in stomach and extremities, and evacuation of large quantities of rice-water fluid. In some very rare cases (four of which came under my immediate observation), the patients only complained of cramp in one leg, mostly the left, neither vomiting nor purging, their hands and feet shrivelled, their face ghastly pale, eyes sunk, breath cold, retaining their mental faculties, and even considerable strength in the arms. Such cases invariably terminated fatally in three to five hours. The subjects were all *strong* men.

The question which naturally occurs now is, What *can* produce such rapid and fearful symptoms? It is impossible to ascribe to the derangement of one or two organs of a *part* of the system such rapidly destructive results? The *whole* system withers and crumbles to dust, as if by the touch of a magic wand. What is it that carries the disease on its deadly errand to all parts of the body with such astonishing celerity, shrivelling, scorching, as it were, the muscles in its passage? It would be difficult and unlikely to suppose that any thing but the blood, the agency of the blood, is the cause of the symptoms enumerated above. The blood carries life and death with equal velocity.

It is impossible to observe and compare the uniform abundant and characteristic evacuations of dysentery, yellow fever, and cholera, without being struck by the thought that these evacuations must be the result of peculiar decompositions of the blood, either in its full development, or in its early stage as chyle. The shrinking of the muscles, and the discharge of enormous quantities of rice-water fluid, amounting often from a gallon and a half to two gallons, containing the salts of which the viscid blood is deficient, show pretty conclusively, that the disorganization of the

blood is the most general, if not the only, cause of all the Cholera symptoms. I say cause, because it is against all probability that the decomposition of the blood should be the effect of the morbid state of the system in the disease under consideration. Blood is the most susceptible substance to chemical decomposition in the body of man; and it is therefore unlikely that any combination of circumstances, such as must exist previous to the generation of Cholera epidemic, should induce a derangement of the organs, in preference to a decomposition of the blood. But it may be asked, How could this decomposition of blood account for such dissimilar diseases as dysentery, yellow fever, and Cholera? To answer this question, we may, with great plausibility, reason from analogy. We have, in organic chemistry, indifferent substances, which readily undergo decomposition under certain circumstances, yielding products and showing symptoms (if I may be allowed the expression) differing with those circumstances. Thus we have an alcoholic, a mucic, an acetic, a lactic fermentation for sugar. Is it so very unwarranted an assumption to adopt by analogy the notion of a dysenteric, cholera, or yellow-fever fermentation in the blood? It may appear ridiculous and far-fetched by some; but I make bold to declare, that the dreadful scourge we are dissecting here is somehow related to that direful calamity which our fellow-sufferers, the tubers, are experiencing in Ireland, and some other parts of Europe. That the potato-disease owes its origin to a fermentation produced by climatical influences on a degenerating plant, appears to me the most satisfactory explanation of its origin, and became a conviction on the first microscopic examination of a diseased tuber, in 1845. The starch, the blood of the potato, had undergone decomposition, and the starch-cells were destroyed. From all appearances of the blood of Cholera patients, I should be inclined to think that the fibrine had undergone a material change, though the contrary is maintained in some works on physiological chemistry. On what analyses or investigations their opinion is based, I am unable to find, and feel inclined to doubt its correctness. A systematic research on the albuminous bodies, qualitatively and quantitatively, in the blood, before and after death from Cholera, has not been instituted, to my knowledge; and it may therefore be supposed how unwilling I must be to attempt

a corroboration of the views above detailed, on purely chemical grounds. The fact that the blood is left as a thick, ropy mass, like tar, sufficiently shows that it has undergone a radical change, say a fermentation. How far the different constituents of the blood are affected by that change, remains to be cleared up by future inquiry.

Not to lose, however, any chance of adducing some testimony in favor of the Cholera fermentation, it may be useful and interesting to pass in review different remedies which have been hitherto employed with some success. Calomel is probably the most generally used. It is given repeatedly and in large doses, often combined with Camphor. Now it is a pretty well-ascertained fact, that Calomel, in the presence of a fluid containing Chloride of sodium and free acid, in the stomach, forms a small quantity of Sublimate, which is a powerful destroyer of fermentation. Next to this come Laudanum and Oil of turpentine. Laudanum reduces the temperature of the system, and acts as an antiseptic; in which latter capacity it is superseded by Oil of turpentine, which is an active check to fermentation. Fowler's solution has been successfully employed; and it is well known that Arsenic is, next to Sublimate, the most powerful antiseptic, as the bodies of persons poisoned by Arsenic prove by remaining under ground often for a long time without undergoing putrefaction. Nitrous acid has also been extolled as a sure remedy against Cholera. It also belongs to the class of powerful antiseptics. The other curatives, Organic alkalies, Tannin, Acetate of lead, act probably in a different manner. It is worth remarking, that Tannin and Acetate of lead precipitate freely albuminous substances; and it might be conceived, that, by combining with the fermenting nitrogenous substances producing the disease, they arrest its progress. Two very active antiseptics alone had never been used in Cholera, namely, Sulphurous acid and Creosote. The above considerations prompted me to make a few experiments with Sulphate of ammonia and Creosote, during the prevalence of Cholera in the island of Jamaica. The results were, however, not so striking as had been expected; the experiments could not be carried on sufficiently for want of material. When employing Sulphurous acid in the shape of Sulphate of ammonia, I had unwittingly taken for granted, that the Sulphurous acid of this salt would be liberated by the free acid in the stomach.

The fact, however, is, that there is no free acid in the stomach of Cholera patients in the state of collapse, in which I experimented on them. The fluid of the stomach has an alkaline reaction from the presence of Ammonia, the constant companion of putrid fermentation. I should therefore have employed Sulphurous acid dissolved in water or alcohol. This would also explain the successful action of the Sulphate of ammonia as preventive. The Sulphate of ammonia was also given to several persons as a preventive; and, whether accidentally or otherwise, none of them were attacked. However insufficient these results with Sulphurous acid and Creosote may have been, I cannot help thinking that some good may be effected by drawing attention to them in connection with Cholera.

The homœopathic treatment of Cholera would consist in a counter-fermentation, which would modify the disease to a milder and more manageable type. It struck me forcibly, that a similar proceeding is actually employed in typhus fever, where Yeast is given as a remedy. Here it seems as if it was intended to generate a fermentation by yeast, in opposition to the typhus fermentation. It is well known that typhus fever often degenerates into Cholera, and *vice versa;* so that it is no great stretch of imagination to class Cholera with malignant fevers, and to apply all considerations on the first disease also to the last-named; and this close connection of the two diseases brings me back to a point which I merely touched upon above, namely, the non-participation of the fibrine, according to books, in the decomposition of the blood in Cholera patients. The blood may be almost completely abstracted from a dog without killing him, provided a proportionate quantity of blood, similar to dog's blood, be injected into his arteries after a short interval. It has now been found, that dog's blood, deprived of its fibrine and injected without delay, was not able to effect the recovery of the dog. The animal became very feeble, and died in the course of a few days, with all the symptoms observed in certain malignant fevers. Here, the absence of fibrine is evidently connected with malignant fevers, which are somewhat akin to Cholera. It must be borne in mind, that a small quantity of nitrogenous substance, in the form of ferment, is sufficient to produce the most rapid decomposition of blood; and this small quantity of altered fibrine might easily escape in analysis. But,

besides this, the blood of Cholera patients in collapse does not coagulate like ordinary blood, which sustains the view taken of the case. The large quantity of albuminous matter which is found in the intestinal fluids of Cholera subjects would then most probably derive their origin from the fibrine of the blood, as it is known that the fermentation or putrefaction of fibrine furnishes a substance coagulating in the heat like albumen, and likely to be mistaken for it.

The analogy between typhus fever and Cholera may be traced still further. As general causes of the former, we have exhaustion of the system, poor living, vitiated atmosphere, depression of spirits, fear, intemperance, sudden change of weather: in fact, any influence disposing to the milder form of fever, may, under favorable circumstances, produce typhus. Typhus is frequently only a sequel of inflammatory fever. It takes its origin most readily in jails, hospitals, transport-ships, and the "Black Seas" of cities. It is contagious. It is mostly cured by the application of stimulants and antiseptics. All these qualifications and characteristics apply with equal truth to Cholera, and also to the Plague, which has now disappeared with the crowded, unventilated cities, whose lanes, like London and Paris of old, were filled with filth; and most of whose inhabitants were doomed never to enjoy the life-preserving influence of beneficent sunlight within their hovels.

According to the views above detailed, and considering dysentery, yellow fever, and Cholera produced by peculiar decompositions (fermentations) of the blood, we may arrange the different fevers in the following way: —

1. Common and milder form of fever, corresponding to an alcoholic fermentation, the products of which are not distinguished for chemical affinity.

2. Dysenteric fever, typhus and yellow fever, corresponding to an acid fermentation, the result of which is a substance of a strong affinity for bases.

And, lastly, Cholera fever and plague, corresponding to a putrid fermentation, the result of which is Ammonia, a body of a powerful affinity for acids.

All these speculations are merely hints, thrown out for the sake of directing the thoughts of intelligent readers to these important points, leaving to them the "onus" of separating the grain from the chaff, or grinding the whole into gunpowder. Here is a subject for discussion; and if I can

only succeed to give an impulse, to start the yeast which will produce the right fermentation amongst the *latent* Cholera theories, my object is attained. If we allow that fermentation of the blood is the real cause of all the diseases named, it is obvious that the cure depends upon a substance capable of checking or modifying the fermentation by its mere presence, or a substance capable of combining with the ferment, and destroying its contagious property; or else a substance capable of combining with the blood, and rendering it insusceptible of fermentation. I consider Quinia such a substance. This is ascribing to it an action which may properly be described as "Kyanizing" the blood to render it safe against putrefaction. All substances thus employed must, however, have the property of entering rapidly and without material change into the blood which they intend to protect from decomposition. In the course of this paper, the mention of small-pox and hydrophobia, as related to the diseases treated of, has intentionally been omitted, on purpose not to frighten any one by such an array of direful diseases, all ascribed to some peculiar fermentation. The idea, however, of ascribing contagious diseases to some such fermentation is not new, as can be seen on perusal of Liebig's dissertation on Contagion, Poison, and Miasma, in his Agricultural Chemistry. In this instance, as in so many others, has this grand-master of chemists laid the foundation of an inexhaustible field of speculation and useful discovery. All I can claim is to have particularized the idea, amplified it, attempted to sustain and render it a little more popular among practitioners.

But to come back to small-pox and hydrophobia. It appears that not every subject bitten by diseased dogs is liable to be in his turn attacked. The dog-poison, therefore, does not find in every one's blood that particular substance which will carry on the process of disease, exactly as in small-pox or Cholera. Now I have found it mentioned (with what claim to truth I am unable to decide, having never seen a case of hydrophobia), that, in the early stage of hydrophobia, "virus" is secreted in small pustules under the tongue, which would bring it at once in very close proximity to small-pox. I will not go so far as to say that a kind of "vaccination," or rather "doggination," might be a safeguard against this terrible disease; but I think there is a chance of getting the better of it, if our fermentation hypothesis will hold good.

ON THE "CROTALUS HORRIDUS."

BY DR. WALDO I. BURNETT.

Among a number of living reptiles placed at my disposal by Dr. Dearing, of Augusta, Ga., for anatomical and physiological uses, were two quite large and beautiful rattlesnakes, with which I lost no time in making many experiments. The largest, a little more than four feet in length, and having fourteen rattles,* was killed; and I made a dissection of its mouth, in order to learn some details of the anatomical relations of the fangs and poison-apparatus. As the opportunity for the study of the progressive development of these was an unusually good one, I will give the results somewhat in detail.

The two fangs in use, with the poison-sacs at their base, presented nothing remarkable, except that they were old and worn, and evidently soon to be shed. But, directly behind these, the mucous membrane on each side was crowded with what may be called the *fangs of reserve;* for, like successive teeth elsewhere, they are ready for complete development in turn, as fast as those in use passed away. These were of all sizes, from near that of the fangs in use, down to the smallest germ; and I was able to easily count twelve on each side. Their development, studied with the microscope, appeared as follows: First, a minute involution of the mucous membrane (the tooth follicle). In this is seen a small conical papilla, as the first trace of the future fang. This is gradually developed by the aggregation of cells; and, when about 1-25 of an inch in length, its cavity (the pulp-cavity) is occupied with a net-work of blood-vessels. The growth, after this, is more rapid and determinate. The epithelial cells covering the apex of the papilla become lineally arranged, and, fusing together, form fibres, which, when filled with calcareous salts, constitute the intimate structure of the enamel. This enamel is formed very early,

* The popular belief is, that the number of rattles on the tail indicates the years of the snake's life. But, according to several observers (Buchanan, Holbrook, and Dearing), this is not so; for not only may it lose several of the rattles by accident, but two, or even four, have been known to form in a single year. One of my own accidentally lost two of its rattles, and it is rare to find specimens having more than ten or twelve.

and sometime before the appearance of the dentine or ivory; so that at one period you find simply the epithelial tooth-sac, crowned with a point of enamel. As the tooth-sac increases, and is pushed out, the enamel point is more and more elongated, becoming, finally, very long and acicular, and with the sharpness well known in the perfect fang.

Meanwhile, the dentine, or ivory, is formed; and, as this process is going on, its edges begin to roll towards each other, on the convex and upper surface of the tooth. This rolling of the edges to meet each other continues gradually with the growth of the tooth; being first a half, and usually, at last, a complete canal. This canal is the poison duct; and, being thus formed, two results ensue: 1. It is outside, and disconnected with the pulp-cavity, but communicates with the tooth-follicle at its base. 2. It is only in the ivory substance, terminating externally at the point where this last connects with the enamel; the enamel point, therefore, being free and solid.

Thus formed, these fangs seem to be in waiting to replace the old ones, in the event of their being removed or naturally shed. How this replacement takes place, I am unable to say from observation. But it appears to me that the original tooth-follicle becomes the poison-gland or sac; for several of the larger reserve-fangs had each a small sac embracing its base, and which appeared to be only the primitive tooth-sac; and, moreover, the largest pair of these reserved fangs lay directly behind the ones in use. The replacement might therefore occur as with the higher animals, the pair of reserve passing gradually, together with the poison-gland, into the places of those removed.

But, however occurring, the substitution is exact and complete, and may take place in a very short time; for Dr. Dearing informed me, that, from one of his captive specimens, he extracted the fangs, which were exactly replaced in six weeks; this he repeated several times with a like result.

There are many facts tending to show that these fangs are naturally shed once in a while, if not regularly; at all events, their points are likely to be broken off by frequent use; and, however removed, nature appears to have provided an ample stock in reserve for their almost indefinite repletion.

The virulence of the poison of this animal is too well

known for special description. I will only add, there is good reason for the belief, that its action is the same upon all living things, vegetables as well as animals. It is even just as fatal to the snake itself as to other animals; for Dr. Dearing informed me, that one of his specimens, after being irritated and annoyed in its cage, in moving suddenly accidentally struck one of its fangs into its own body; it soon rolled over and died, as any other animal would have done. Here, then, we have the remarkable, and perhaps unique, physiological fact, of a liquid secreted directly from the blood, which proves deadly when introduced into the very source (the blood) from which it was derived!

With the view of ascertaining the power and amount of this poison, Dr. Dearing performed the following experiment. The snake was a very large and vicious one, and very active at the time. He took eight half-grown chickens, and allowed the snake to strike each under the wing as fast as they could be presented to him. The first died immediately; the second, after a few minutes; the third, after ten minutes; the fourth, after more than an hour; the fifth, after twelve hours; the sixth was sick and drooping for several days, but recovered; the seventh was only slightly affected; and the eighth not at all.

With the remaining specimen I was desirous of performing several experiments as to the action of this poison on the blood. The following is one: The snake was quite active, and, as any one approached the cage, began to rattle violently; but twenty-five or thirty drops of chloroform being allowed to fall on his head, one slowly after the other, the sound of his rattle gradually died away, and, in a few minutes, he was wholly under the effects of this agent. He was then adroitly seized behind the jaws with the thumb and fore-finger, dragged from the cage, and allowed to recover partially; in this state, a second person held the tail, to prevent his coiling around the arm of the first, while a third opened his mouth, and, with a pair of forceps, pressed the fang upward, causing a flow of the poison, which was received on the end of a scalpel. The snake was then returned into the cage.

Blood was then extracted from a finger, for microscopical examination. The smallest quantity of the poison being presented to the blood between the glasses, a change was immediately perceived; the corpuscles ceased to run and

pile together, and remained stagnant, without any special alteration of structure. The whole appearance was as though the vitality of the blood had been suddenly destroyed, exactly as in death from lightning. This agrees also with another experiment performed on a fowl, where the whole mass of the blood appeared quite liquid, and having little coagulable power.

Other and like experiments were performed, but I must omit here their description.

The physiological action of this poison in animals is probably that of a most powerful sedative, acting through the blood on the nervous centres.

This is shown by the remarkable fact, that its full and complete antidotes are the most active stimulants; of these, Alcohol, in some shape, is the first. I cannot better illustrate this important point than by the two following cases, furnished me by Dr. Dearing, in whose experience they occurred.

Mr. B. was bitten just above his heel, three-quarters of a mile from home. The usual symptoms of acute pain and large swelling immediately followed: he succeeded, however, in reaching his house, but complained of blindness and universal pain. Brandy was then given, to the amount of one quart in an hour; this produced a little nausea, but not the least intoxication; in the next two hours, another quart had been given, followed with relief of pain and subsidence of swelling, *but without the least intoxication.* Stimulants were kept up in small quantities during the ensuing forty-eight hours, with the gradual passing off of the local and other symptoms. He kept his room the three following days, complaining only of a general soreness. After this, he was about as usual; but, a few weeks after, his hair fell off entirely.

Miss F. was bitten on her middle finger; the usual severe symptoms immediately followed; but brandy, with the addition of a little Ammonia, was freely given, and continued in large doses until relief of symptoms, but without the least appearance of intoxication, although in health the individual could not probably have borne a single ounce; the symptoms gradually disappeared, and, on the third day, the patient was well generally, although the finger sloughed. These two cases, authentic in every particular, are quite valuable; for, aside from their physiological relations, it is

of no small importance to know that the sure fatality of such an accident can be fully prevented by so simple a remedy.

I have been desirous of performing some experiments, with a view to learn the relations of this poison to the state of anæthesia in animals. I commenced these a few days ago; but the behaviour of the snake was far from being commendable or satisfactory, and I shall postpone them for the present.

THE NATURE OF ETHER AND CHLOROFORM, AND THEIR COMPARATIVE ACTION ON THE ANIMAL SYSTEM.

BY J. A. T.

A LAMENTABLE degree of ignorance has long prevailed in relation to the true character of the anæsthetic agents now so commonly and so carelessly made use of in dental and other operations. We have met with nothing more reliable and satisfactory than the "Memoir" presented to the French Academy by De Lamballe, of which the following is an abstract. After a series of careful experiments on animals, the writer states that the blood is changed both in color and consistency by Ether, the healing of wounds being retarded by its action, while no such result follows the inhalation of Chloroform. Ether has a tendency to inflame the organs with which it comes in contact, causing considerable irritation in the respiratory apparatus, agitation in the heart and other muscles, while the inhalation of Chloroform is not attended or followed by any such disturbance. Ether produces anæsthization gradually; and the effects remain long afterwards in the form of giddiness, headache, deficient circulation, &c. Chloroform, on the contrary, is quick in its operation, and its action is usually at an end immediately after its inhalation. Symptoms of inflammation result from the use of Ether; symptoms of debility, from that of Chloroform. Ether very rarely causes death, and, if so, with difficulty; while Chloroform may destroy life immediately, if caution is not used in its administration,

or if any serious lesion exists of the pulmonary organs or of the heart. Both Chloroform and Ether disturb the heart's action; the latter, however, in a much greater degree than the former. Chloroform exerts a calming influence, while Ether agitates. Both suspend the functions of muscular organic life and of locomotion; but Chloroform may cause complete and instant paralysis of all the organs, arresting irrecoverably the heart's action. Great caution is therefore necessary in the administration of Chloroform. It should never be used when cardiac or pulmonary disease exists, when the nervous system has been seriously disturbed by wounds, by extensive suppuration, by hemorrhage, or in chlorosis. The inhalation of Chloroform should be immediately arrested, whenever the force and frequency of the heart's beatings suddenly decrease. At first, there is a slow diminution of power and action; but, when the inhalation continues after insensibility is fully established, the pulsations decrease in number and force with frightful rapidity. The operation should in no instance be continued after the pulse has fallen to 55, excepting the cases of those individuals whose pulse is habitually slow; and, even then, great danger is involved in a much further reduction.

Should symptoms of death be observed, immediate and long-continued exertion will be required by the application of cold water, by frictions, by currents of fresh air directed on the face and limbs; while artificial respiration should also be excited, through motions, not violent however, communicated by the hands to the chest, as in the case of the drowned. The person must be laid in a horizontal position. Ammonia may be applied to the mouth and nostrils. It is, however, stated in this Memoir, with great confidence, that, if any contractile power remains in the heart, life may be promptly recalled by the application of electricity. If the heart's movements have entirely ceased, it is believed to be wholly idle to attempt, because absolutely impossible, to restore life. Through electricity, the nervous system is aroused, muscular contraction renewed, sensation and motion restored. It will revive the spark of life, should there be the smallest remnant of vitality to act upon. When artificial stimulants or irritants, externally or internally applied, prove of no avail against that state of syncope which Chloroform may produce, when life is on the very verge of extinction, the power of electricity will happily bring about

complete restoration. Muscular contractions are awakened; and, as the regenerating current flows on, these contractions increase, until sensibility and motion are excited to their normal condition. The partial paralysis that Chloroform sometimes produces yields immediately to electricity. Whether the Chloroform is positively neutralized, or its hurtful properties exhausted through the continued vitality maintained by the electric fluid, is a question undecided; but De Lamballe is convinced that electricity augments the nervous power, and preserves vitality and muscular action until the Chloroform evaporates by the mucous surfaces (chiefly the lungs), or escapes by the secretions.

The application of the above-mentioned agent, the best form of which is the electro-magnet, was by bringing the positive and negative pole of the electrical battery in contact with the buccal and rectal point of union of the mucous membrane with the cutaneous surface; and, through this circuit, rapid muscular contractions were caused, exciting increased cardiac and pulmonary action. Another mode of application was by electro-puncture, one needle being inserted in the back of the neck, the other in the sacral region, thus comprehending the entire length of the spinal marrow, or in the pectoral muscles.

While alluding to the restorative agency of electricity, it may not be out of place here to add that considerable attention seems now to be directed to its remedial property in diseases; and that a remarkable degree of success has resulted from its use of paralytic conditions, in nervous debility, neuralgia, chronic rheumatism, &c. In connection with this subject, we append to this article a relation of much interest from the "Dublin Quarterly Journal of Medical Science": —

"The following important case (says M. Donovan, M.R.I.A.) is one of the most convincing instances I have met of the great value of magneto-electricity, as an auxiliary in the medical art; but for its aid, the patient would unquestionably have died. A gentleman residing in Valparaiso had swallowed what he purchased as half an ounce of powder of cubebs. He retired to rest, but almost immediately felt a dizziness and inclination to sleep. He was accidentally discovered in the morning by a physician, about twelve o'clock, with his face red and swollen, his lips dark purple, the veins of the forehead and temples turgid; the

eyes rolled upward, injected, and their pupils contracted to a point; pulse moderately full, and very slow; respiration very slow and gasping. By agitating him violently, he was aroused for a moment. He uttered some incoherent expressions, and sunk back in comatose sleep. After administering the usual remedies, the patient appeared to be sinking; the surface was cold, and covered with a clammy sweat; the face was pallid, and of a purplish tinge; the jaw and eye-lids were fallen, and feeling almost gone. Pulse scarcely perceptible, if at times it was to be felt at all.

"It was now three o'clock, P.M., and there were no signs of reaction. An attempt was made to walk the patient in the cool air, the stimulants being continued; but, after a few unsuccessful efforts to move, he sunk almost lifeless into the arms of his assistants. He could no longer swallow; his breathing became short and hurried; his mouth was widely extended, and his jaw fallen. Nothing seemed capable of arousing him.

"His medical attendants, Drs. Page, Houston, and Barrabino, who seem to have left no means untried to save the patient, now completely worn out with fruitless efforts, desisted. At this juncture, the fortunate thought occurred to Dr. Page to try the effects of magneto-electricity. Cerebral congestion was urged as an objection, but admitted not to be sufficient, in such a desperate case, to set aside the experiment. The conductors were applied, at first, to each side of the neck, and then down behind the clavicles. The arms and body now moved convulsively; but the patient was unconscious as before. One conductor was passed over the region of the heart, and the other to a corresponding point on the right side. In an instant, his eyes opened widely, and, with a ghastly expression of countenance, his head and body were thrown convulsively toward the operator, and he groaned. He then sunk back into his reclining posture, and was again asleep. The conductors were reapplied in the same situation, with similar results; a third and fourth time, and he cried "no more." Reaction was now positively established, the heart having received a strong impulse. The pulse was becoming more full, and the surface warm. He was left quiet for an hour, and then he could be awakened by shaking, or calling loudly his name. There was no further occasion for the magneto-electric machine. He was aroused at intervals, and, at eleven o'clock

at night, was sufficiently awake to relate several particulars. On the following morning, he was pretty well. He declared that he had heard many things the preceding day, that were said by the persons about him; but that he neither had the power to open his eyes, nor move his tongue to speak. The last thing he recollected hearing was a remark made by Dr. Page, that 'nothing more can be done but to make the experiment.' From that time, all was a blank to him, until, as he expressed it, he 'felt as if a gun had been fired off within him, which thrilled through, and shook him to the very extremity.' This was the application of the magneto-electrical machine. That this patient would have died but for the electricity, there can be no doubt; the sudden transition from the extreme limit of life, to a flattering prospect of recovery soon after realized, seems to settle this point. Were evidence wanted, we unfortunately have it in the death of a French gentleman, who took a dose of the same cubebs powder, purchased at the same place. At ten o'clock at night, he swallowed half an ounce of cubebs; and, at twelve o'clock next day, he was a corpse. The fatal cubebs powder having been examined by a chemist, it was found that about seventy-five grains of Opium had been contained in the dose taken by the patient."

OLD REMEDIES ACCORDING TO NEW INDICATIONS.

FROM OBSERVATIONS BY DR. B. HERSCHEL.*

If we can look back with complacency upon the discarded stock of the old schools, and feel gratified with having thrown overboard a great amount of worthless rubbish, we must, on the other hand, acknowledge, that, with the reform of therapeia, and the additional number of important polychrests derived from Homœopathy, remedies have really fallen into oblivion, which were once beneficially employed by us. This advantage we can retain, if the conditions of their efficacy, the concrete-specific circumstances, be known

* From "Zeitschrift für homœp. Klinik," vol. ii., No. 24, translated for the "Quarterly," by J. B.

by provings on the healthy. These are the remedies which the old school ignorantly gives with benefit, according to the law of *similia*, while we prescribe them through a knowledge of this law. *These are the old remedies according to new indications.*

One of these remedies, which have been too little regarded by us, is Tartarus emeticus, recently recommended in this paper by Dr. Arnold, of Heidelberg, in its relations to rheumatism of the muscles and joints. I shall attempt to direct attention to it anew, having observed its most decided efficacy in several diseases. I must, however, confess having been induced to this by my previous allœopathic experience. I was at one period assistant to an allœopathic physician in an extensive practice, who was a great admirer of Tart. emet. As it was then administered in the most simple form, or, at most, in the indifferent vehicle of a decoction of Althæa, in order to diminish its primary effect upon the mucous membrane of the stomach, the many clinical observations made by me must therefore be considered as pure. The usual dose was from a half to four or six grains, in four to six ounces of water, or as a decoction.

The old-school view afforded a very wide field of application to Tart. emet. This is owing less to special empirical observations of its local specific efficacy, than to the great extent which categories as "antiphlogistic," "alterative," "resolvant," give in the allœopathic practice; and in the expansion which the antipathic and derivative effects occupy in the therapeia of the old school, as well as to the importance which "gastric impurities" have, considered at one time as the cause of the disease, at another necessary to produce artificially the way for a cure. This is the reason why allœopathy recommends so highly Tart. stib. as antiphlogistic in inflammations, as refrigerant in fevers, as antigastric, emetic, cathartic, resolvant, in gastric derangements, as a great alternant in rheumatism and cutaneous diseases, vegetative states of various forms, nervous disorders, and mental affections. With all the importance, however, which the old school gives to its primary, and, for healing purposes, unnecessary, vomiting effect, even in inflammations, as in croup, its specificity is anticipated, as we observe in its relations to pneumonia, delirium tremens, &c.

It is my object, at present, to establish more firmly,

according to the principle of similarity, the indications, upon physio-pathological experiments on the healthy, corresponding with toxicological and clinical observations, and change them in specific-empirical, not general-dogmatical indications. We confess that Tart. stib. unfortunately is not a favorite remedy among homœopathists. On the contrary, it is yet too little known in a physiological point of view; and it would be well worth the labor to take it up again, and complete what Hahnemann, Th. Rückert, Gross, and Stapf have so nobly commenced.

This is not the place to enter particularly into the characteristics of Tart. stib. This much only can be said, which is especially confirmed by observations of Frenchmen (Magendie, Orfila, Laennec), that it has a very *decided effect upon the blood*, and that it produces at first hyperemia and inflammation, and, in the higher stage of development, decomposition of the blood, appearing partly as dilution, partly also as inspissation and coagulation, and even progressing and softening or gangrenous destruction of the tissues. Besides the physiological observations, the results following its application may here be compared; i. e. incrassation of the dura mater, the arachnoidea, softening of the brain, discharge of serum in the ventricles, inflammation of the mucous and serous membranes, with glutinous coating, gangrene of the membranes of the stomach, putrefaction of the spleen, the lungs, and the diaphragm; inflammation and grey hepatisation of the lung, with dark blood and contracted tissue; dark color of the blood itself, especially in the lungs and the brain; coagulation in the mesenteric arteries; formation of pustules in the mucous membrane and the cutis externa, &c. The effect on the nerves is subordinate to this influence on the blood, being decomposing and destructive in its nature; it is probable that the former is in most cases dependent on the latter, and consequently connected with the vegetative life. The relations of Tart. stib. to the brain and the spinal marrow must be explained on this view (compare the applications in delirium tremens, in hypochondria proceeding from abdominal plethora, in hydrocephalus arising from humors, &c.). With the particular consideration of the affinity of Tart. stib. to the respiratory organs (vagus?), its effect in the inflammatory states of these parts, larynx, trachea, bronchia, and lungs, so in the inflammations of the mucous and serous membranes,

to which Tart. stib. stands also in specific relation, can be attributed to the same affection of the blood. The asthmatic affections of Tart. stib. are also generally from a material cause. The loosening catarrhal (gastric) effects of Tart. stib., the perspirations, diarrhœas, vomitings of blood, discharge of blood by coughing, blood-evacuations, the venous and bilious abdominal affections, exanthematic productions, hydropic exudations, cannot all these be naturally reduced to this peculiar effect on the blood, *localized by particular organic relations;* and have not Noack and Trinks, page 88, given a faithful representation when they say Tart. stib. is principally adapted for the lymphatic, feeble, venous-lymphatic, or for the gastric, bilious constitution; for the phlegmatic or melancholic temperament, with weak, morbidly sensitive skin, easily-suppressed perspiration, great tendency to gastrosis, rheumatism, and catarrhs, with constant inclination to digestive disorders, or imperfect digestion; as well also in individuals inclined to critical perspirations, &c.?" If we contemplate this general characteristic, does not the old school even give similar significant hints for the selection?

We are not, however, yet satisfied with these new indications, and look for more special ones for our old remedies, according to the locality and form of the disease. It may now be allowed as a monograph of Tart. stib. It is intended here to state those observations only which the author himself experienced with Tart. stib., and earnestly to recommend the same for further application.

In reference to the diseases of the *respiratory organs*, I gave —

1. In *Pneumonia*, Tart. stib., not by any means so often in my homœopathic as I did formerly in my allœopathic practice, where the deficiency of specific remedies almost always led me to it, and, of course, with various results. Though pneumonias do not occur in Dresden very frequently, yet I found the usual remedies, Aconit., Bryonia, Belladonna, Phosphor, Sulphur, almost always sufficient; and but two or three times only did I administer Tartar stib. I consider its application very limited in this form of disease. It is suitable only in the stage of hepatization with great anxiety and orthopnœa, and in lung œdema (Wurmb and Caspar), and threatening paralysis, in incipient, but difficulty-expectorated loose and consequently

rattling of mucus, with somnolency and decline of strength, in gastric and bilious complications, in pneumonics of old people, or tuberculous lung-inflammations.

2. In *Pleuritis*, I observed from Tart. stib. decided effects only when its corresponding symptoms showed that exudation had taken place. However, I found Tart. stib. always more appropriate in pleuritis muscularis than in pl. serosa, which is owing partly to the certainly subordinate relation of this remedy to the serous membranes; and, on the other hand, to its indication, already mentioned by Stapf, to the morbid process of rheumatic affections. It will always be efficacious when the rheumatic affection has been transferred from the pectoral muscles to the pleura.

3. The efficiency of this remedy I cannot too highly praise in a peculiar affection of the tracheal and bronchial mucous membrane, usually occurring in children at the period of dentition, in the form of catarrhal hyperæmia, generally up to two years of age. The children begin to cough, with a short, somewhat shrill, sound; very soon, however, rattling of mucus appears, which ceases but seldom, and is mitigated if the children are carried upright, which they prefer, in spite of their extreme weariness, probably on account of the increased oppression in laying down. This rattling is audible at a considerable distance, and proceeds from the upper bronchial ramifications. The dissimilar respiration, shorter at one and longer at another time, is more rapid on being laid down than when carried upright; probably on this account, aggravation is caused at night with sleeplessness, and, in the higher degrees, somnolency. The child coughs but seldom, and then seems compelled to it by an upright position, with a loose, rattling sound, without expectoration, appearing, as if, by vomiting, or coughing with deeper inspiration, relief might be obtained. This catarrh seldom becomes purely inflammatory, yet continues for days, with increasing oppression and decline of vigor, if no energetic measures are taken, and leads through œdema to paralysis of the lungs. The fever is quite moderate; pulse weak, quick, trembling; the epidermis being often covered with flowing or viscous perspiration; want of thirst, pale countenance, great uneasiness, ill-humor. In this state, to which the effects of Tart. stib. decidedly correspond, and where neither Aconite nor Bryonia, nor the seemingly very appropriate Hepar, are successful, I found,

in a great many cases, almost immediate relief from Tart. stib. I give usually Tart stib. dil. i. (containing $\frac{1}{20}$ gr.) gtt. xxx. or first trituration, 3 grains to 2 ounces water, less the second trituration, every two hours a teaspoonful. Occasionally (even after the second dilution) there occurs vomiting, or mere nausea, or diarrhœa. But I can confidently assert, that this is the superfluous primary effect, or the point of repletion of the impression, and not the cause of the improvement. I have seen, full as frequently, complete recovery, without these additional symptoms, as expectoration occurred in the easiest manner. The rattling of mucus, so tormenting to parents and child, abates often after the first or second dose.

4. This primary effect of vomiting seems to me to be the main point in the action of Tart. stib. in croup, thus according with our ideas of secondary consideration. In very advanced cases, to which it is only adapted, I observed from Tart. stib. but a momentary discharge of the membranes, without a durable curative effect. As, with such an expectoration, recovery can be effected, it can therefore cure in this, I might almost say mechanical, manner. I find myself certainly somewhat embarrassed by those worthy authorities, which report cures by Tart. stib. in croup, even *without vomiting* (Bicking, Ægidi, and others). The laryngeal and tracheal symptoms seem also to indicate a homœopathic relation to croup; for instance, croaking, gasping for air, rattling of mucus; oppression, compelling an upright position; danger of suffocation; unequal, intermittant respiration, &c.; but they are not definite enough, and, from the other general characteristic, the conclusion of an inclination of Tart. stib. to croupous-plastic inflammations (compare, for instance, Tart. stib. pneumony) cannot be drawn. It would be indelicate and unjustifiable to claim, that the few observations which I made with Tart. stib., in this form of disease, must be regarded as great evidence of proof, in opposition to others. But, on comparing the dates and indications given by Cl. Müller, in his treatise on croup, it is clear that —1. Some of the recommenders used other remedies, as Bosch (Spongia) and Schneider (Kal. sulphur). That, 2. All the cases under treatment were probably genuine, that is, plastic-croup cases; as is proved, for instance, with due regard to the diagnostical penetration of Dr. Elb, by the division adopted by him, containing pseudo-croup, as also by

some of the reported cases, and even by the very indications given for Tart. stil. (Bosch treats rather the residues of croup). And, 3. That the relation of the remedy to the nervus vagus, and consequently to the concomitant lung-inflammation, must be taken into particular consideration, as is stated, for instance, indirectly by Bicking (partial paralysis of the n. vagus), and quite plainly by Jahr. Might not benefit be also expected from Tart. emit. in œdema of the lungs, or long-existing lung-affections? However, further observations of croup-cures by Tart. stib., without vomiting and diarrhœa, must first be made, before this question can be decided.

5. In the year 1837, there occurred at Leipsic an important and widely-extended influenza-epidemic. We administered, almost exclusively, Tart. stib., and with excellent effect. Since then, I have also used Tart. stib. beneficially in sporadic influenza, when Bryonia, Rhus, Mercur., Pulsatilla, and other remedies, seemed to be adapted, and the disease exhibited the following symptoms: Rheumatic pains in the limbs and chest (also with participation of the pleura), stitching pain in the chest; oppressed respiration, relieved by expectoration; incessant inclination to cough, with a loose, serous, albuminous sort of expectoration; very hard cough, especially at night, shaking the chest, and causing head-ache, particularly in the forehead; apthæ around the mouth; thick, white, or bilious coating of the tongue, with great accumulation of mucus; sickishness, vomiting, with clammy or bitter taste; great want of appetite, without great thirst; sensation of emptiness in the stomach; pressure or even distention of the hypochondrias, especially in the region of the liver; occasionally pituitous, not copious, diarrhœa; pressing pain in the forehead (characteristic of influenza), with dizziness, stupor, dulness of the head, slight delirium; sleepiness, but no actual sleep; great apathy, alternating with occasional uneasiness at night; aching of all the limbs, proceeding especially from the back; stiffness of the neck; pulse small, nervous; surface frequently chilled with profuse perspiration, which give no relief. Tart. stib. was, in such cases, usually beneficial in a very short time; and all the other symptoms mentioned diminished so sensibly, that often no other remedy was required, — a proof that the totality of the symptoms was specifically combated, which appears by no means

remarkable after consulting the pathogenetic effects of Tart. stib. The form of administration was the solution mentioned above.

6. Tart. emet. cannot find in pulmonary tuberculosis, according to the nature of the thing, a curative application. I observed, however, a great alleviation effected in the last stage, where the expectoration was rendered difficult on account of deficient contraction of the cells of the lungs and innervations, the tubercle-mass being yet movable. In cases where Stannum was inefficient, I obtained benefit from Tart. emet. In the allœopathic practice at Leipsic, above mentioned, we often gave Tart. stib. for weeks, in increasing doses, from a half grain to six grains in six ounces of water. The patients soon became so used to it, that neither vomiting or diarrhœa occurred, which was frequently the case with the first doses, evidently showing the homœopathic effect in the cessation of the colliquative diarrhœa. The expectoration, however, proceeded in such an easy manner, and so copiously, that an emollient influence upon the tubercles may justly be attributed to Tart. em., corresponding otherwise with its character, and consequently, to a certain extent, also accelerating the termination of tuberculosis.

7. The effect of Tart. stib. in chronic catarrh, especially of old people, with and without bronchitis, is well known. I mention it only to intimate that this remedy would be beneficial in emphysema, and its corroboration by paroxysms, as many symptoms indicate it. In this form, I have thus far, which, by the way may be added here, seen the best effect from Phosphor. Trinks has given with great success, according to his verbal statement, Ammonia castor. Wurmb and Caspar recommend Arsen. and Carb. veg.

In conclusion, I will mention, that I have observed favorable results from Tart. stib. in affections of the brain and in delirium tremens. In this particular, I also had a good opportunity for observations, while assistant to another physician of the city government. I treated alone the whole subordinate force of the police. It is natural to suppose, that, in consequence of the hard service of these men in the open air, and other exposures, spirituous liquors were used; and, in many instances, inebriety in a greater or less degree existed. I succeeded always with the simple administration of Tart. stib. in a few days; and it will not require much trouble to collect the indications for it from its patho-

genetic symptoms (particularly in gastric complications of importance); and the cure must be attributed to the homœopathic principle, of which I at that time had no knowledge.

TUBERCULOSIS PULMONARUM.

BY DR. MÜLLER.*

I WAS sent for on the 7th July, 1852, to see a lady, 27 years of age, who arrived in Leipsic on the day previous. She was never seriously sick, married when twenty years old, was the mother of a healthy boy, five years old, whom she had nursed during infancy; one year after her removal to Vienna, she was attacked in the winter with influenza, which raged in the city very extensively, leaving cough, hoarseness, shortness of breath, emaciation and debility, constantly increasing, so that, at the end of June, her physician declared a longer residence in Vienna to be highly improper, involving the most serious consequences. She went then, with the greatest difficulty and exertion, to Dresden, where, however, the consulting physician of course advised her not to remain. She, after this, with considerable effort, came as far as Leipsic. Though Leipsic is no favorable place for tuberculous patients, the development of the disease is nevertheless much slower here than in Dresden; and, in the summer months especially, such patients generally feel considerably well, while, on the other hand, Dresden seems to be better adapted for individuals affected with emphysema and diseases of the heart. Under the circumstances of this patient's illness, another and further journey was entirely out of the question, as, in such case, the worst was to be apprehended. Consequently, the patient remained by necessity in Leipsic, and under my treatment. I recommended, in the first place, a suitable residence, which was soon found in a village in the vicinity, situated low, and not exposed to dust and wind. Until now, she had taken regularly every day, by the direction of her physician of Vienna, Phosphor. 6; and, during

* From the "Hom. Viertel Jahrschrift," vol. xiv. No. 4, translated for the "Quarterly," by J. B.

very violent turns of coughing, even threatening suffocation, Hyoscyamus.

Her state at that time was as follows: excessive debility, being scarcely able to walk twenty steps; considerable emaciation, while she had always been corpulent; out of breath after the least exertion or talking; excitement and irritability, with flying heat and palpitation; every afternoon, dry heat, thirst, dulness of the head; restlessness at night, sleeplessness, perspiration towards morning; want of appetite, with a sense of pressure in the stomach, and constipation; voice toneless, hoarse, and feeble; incessant pressing and burning in the throat, larynx, and trachea, down to the chest, with a sensation of rawness, compelling her to cough; feeling of pressure and heaviness in the chest; short, dry cough, day and night, terminating, two or three times daily, through very violent spasmodic attacks, in perfect exhaustion, want of breath, and glowing heat in the face and head; slightly viscid, thick expectorations, sometimes tinged with blood; menstruation for four months feeble or entirely suppressed; epidermis dry, pale, greyish; the lungs sunken at both clavicles, especially the right; slight and irregular movement of the thorax on respiration; perceptibly shallow sound, on percussion, at the superior part of both lungs, especially on the right; on the summit of the right lung, bronchial respiration, while, further below, indefinite and feeble vesicular respiration; the pulsations of the heart violent in the vessels of the neck (nonnengeraüsch).

Under such circumstances, the diagnosis could not be doubtful; the tuberculosis, probably caused by the neglected influenza, and located particularly in the superior right lung, was also much favored and advanced in its development by numerous depressing emotions of the mind, especially anguish, excessive desire, and anxious hope, as well as more lately by the exciting pleasure of a meeting, after a long separation, and, finally, the manifold troubles incident to an unexpected journey; all these tended to the apprehension of a rapid course of pulmonary consumption. I omitted Phosphor and Hyoscyamus, and administered Iod. 3, morning and evening one drop, earnestly urging, at the same time, the greatest possible rest of body and mind. The violent coughing turns almost immediately ceased, and her state in general also improved, though quite slowly. Four weeks after, the same course being pursued, with the excep-

tion that I gave a few times in the evening Merc. sol. 2, instead of Iod., a much more rapid and durable improvement appeared; so that the patient, who could walk at first with exertion only through the room, could, after eight weeks, walk, without much difficulty, from her residence to the city, a distance of about three miles. The cough abated more and more, and the voice became more full and pure; the main complaints were merely heaviness or pressure on the chest, especially on lying down, and being soon overpowered by heat, and inability to endure the warmth in a room. Belladona and Bryonia were on this account given a few times, but Iod. and Mercur. were always returned to at longer intervals. Four months after, I was informed by the patient, that she believed herself pregnant. I did not, however, apprehend any particular obstacle to the convalescence from this state, having several times observed an evident stand-still of tuberculosis during pregnancy, and never having perceived any essential declining, even during the period of confinement and nursing; though this had been only observed by me in less higher degrees of the disease. The winter months passed away without any untoward occurrence, some ailments of pregnancy excepted, although the residence in the village, adapted only for the summer, and highly inappropriate for the winter, was retained, against my advice. The slight and, until February, rarely occurring cough, became then, however, suddenly worse again, appearing, especially in the evening, violent and longer-lasting paroxysms, of a short, dry, hacking cough, as if from dryness and rawness of the larynx and trachea, and with almost suffocating shortness of breath; with this, also, the pressure and heaviness upon the chest became more severe again, especially in bed after lying down. For this state, Bryonia exhibited a remarkable degree of efficacy; as every time it was taken at the beginning of such a paroxysm of coughing, not only the insupportable irritation in the throat soon after completely disappeared, but even the cough ceased totally within one week, and had not returned to this time (October). Pregnancy progressed favorably, and there was nothing unnatural in the confinement, but a remarkable and excessive mammal congestion occurred, causing considerable trouble for a week, reaching to the upper arms, which were swollen, red, and painful. The infant, a girl, though small, was, however, well nourished, and even fleshy, remaining in

good health and growing fast. After the confinement, as might have been reasonably apprehended, no symptoms of the former affection recurred, so that the patient is so far quite comfortable, and has regained almost completely her former strength and healthy look. The region of the right clavicle, however, is still sunken; yet there is no bronchial respiration, and no respiratory sound at all, only a strong vesicular respiration around it. The voice is clear, and has become stronger than before, being feeble only after long and loud speaking.

Even admitting that the disease will break forth again sooner or later, and not be then arrested so easily, nevertheless, this termination of such a far advanced tuberculosis of the lungs, with such significant phthisical symptoms, is an unusually fortunate and rare occurrence. This case clearly shows the direct impression of homœopathic remedies, and their real participation in the cure of diseases which have been usually considered inaccessible and uncurable; because, if a favorable influence may also be attributed to other agencies, as change of climate and residence, or even to pregnancy, the effect of Iod. in the beginning, and of Bryonia afterwards, was here so evident and direct, that nobody can doubt it, unless my veracity is at the same time called in question.

INFLUENCE OF POISONS UPON ANIMAL HEAT AS A CAUSE OF DEATH.

Certain experiments lately conducted by Dr. Sequard, of Paris, with the design of confirming some peculiar views in relation to the effect of poisons have led to the issuing of a *brochure*, wherein the opinion is confidently expressed, that the fatal result of poisoning is due to the diminution of animal heat. Dr. S. has ascertained, that poisons which destroy life, when no circumstance exists to oppose the reduction of temperature, will not cause death when the normal heat of the body is preserved by artificial means. Precisely the same amount of poison was administered to two dogs, as nearly as possible alike. One was confined in an apartment, the temperature of which was reduced to 46° Fah.; the other was placed where a Fah. thermometer

indicated 75°. The former died at the end of twelve hours; the latter, which had been kept warm, although considerably affected by the poison, was entirely well on the following day.

The statement is given, that a reduction of the body's temperature always occurs under the action of poisons; and, in this connection, allusion is made to the experiment of M. Chossut, who injected a solution of Opium into the veins of a dog, and observed the temperature diminish from 105° to 62° Fah. This diminution of temperature will, according to Dr. Sequard, alone endanger life, whether produced by extensive burns, wounds, poisons, or by certain diseases, as cholera, palsy, &c. He states, that he has caused the death of a rabbit, by diminishing its temperature only 22° Fah. And he has never known any animal to live after the reduction of its temperature beyond 44° Fah. Also, that a rapid increase of animal heat produces a proportionably rapid destruction of life.

The conclusion of all this is a very earnest recommendation to physicians, principally to endeavor, in cases of poisoning by Camphor, Opium, Tobacco, Belladonna, Alcohol, Oxalic acid, and several other poisons, to arrest the diminution of animal heat by all the artificial means in their power, and to keep up the temperature of the body as near as possible to the standard of 100° Fah.

The views above expressed bear an important relation to the well-proved antidotal action of stimulants referred to in Dr. Burnett's article on "Crotalus Horridus," and also deserve attentive consideration in connection with Dr. Hering's advice as to the local application of dry heat to poisoned wounds. J. A. T.

ON BROMINE IN CROUP.

BY DR. KIRSCH, OF WEISBADEN.*

A FINE boy, formerly afflicted with glandular affections, nearly ten years of age, had been for five days suffering from an obstinate, highly dangerous angina.

His attacks of anxiety, with dryness of the throat, and the dreadful turns of coughing, were most distressing to witness; and I should not have consented to take him under

* From "Allg. Hom. Zeitung," vol. xlvi. No. 14.

treatment, as he had been, during these five days, treated with care and attention by two allopathic physicians, though without benefit, up to the last stage of angina, if my wife had not been deceived by incorrect statements of the case, and had sent some Aconite before my arrival. Besides poultices around the neck, Moschus had been administered as a last resource, but without effect.

As the parents thought that the child was easier after the administration of Aconite, I left Aconite and Brom., to be given every half hour, in alternation, the latter in the second dilution in drops, and ordered a sponge, dipped in tepid water, to be constantly applied to the larynx. The next morning, I perceived a change in the tongue, and that the attacks of anxiety and coughing had diminished. I took now a small phial of pellets, with Brom. 200, and another phial of Brom. second dilution, in drops, to be given every two hours in alternation.

The reasons for the low doses are found in the antecedents; and the high doses I gave, to reach, if possible, the deeply-seated derangements. The boy thought that he always felt a peculiar tickling in his throat, after the pellets every four hours, and also felt easier after these than after the drops. He began to sleep for hours; the pulse, as well as the general cutaneous activity, showed the commencement of a curative process, directly touching the disease, in harmony with the inner life, which will, with further proper treatment, cause a favorable termination. During the second night, attacks of a loose cough occurred, continuing for a quarter to half an hour, disappearing again, however, in the morning. The remedies were continued. At night, a loose cough appeared which became again in the daytime so severe and suffocating, that the violent fever attacks, occurring in the afternoon and evening, alone left room for a possible recovery. On the fifth day of the homœopathic treatment, the fever abated, a loose expectoration appeared, containing more small membranes than before. On the seventh day, I was able to inform the little patient that all danger was over, since the trachea, as well as the larynx, had become free by the continued administration of the above preparations of Brom.

The tonsils were and are still swollen; a piping voice, burning and dryness in the larynx, were for a time the predominant symptoms, but they gradually disappeared after Phosphorus had been given for several days.

ON THE USE OF ZINC IN SCARLATINA.

BY DR. MEYER.*

Dr. Elb's communication on Zincum and Calcarea, in certain states of scarlatina, I always favored; and particularly great was my confidence in the former remedy. Though it did not give me perfect satisfaction in several cases where I followed strictly the indications given by Dr. Elb as corresponding with its physiological proving, yet I attributed this especially to the circumstance that I did not continue it long enough, and exchanged it too soon for another remedy. The following two cases confirmed this my supposition: —

E. O., two and a half years of age, well fed, somewhat scrofulous, had been, up to the 28th of February, 1853, perfectly well. On that day, at 4, A.M., I was suddenly called upon to see the child. I found her in a violent fever; face glowing hot, skin hot and dry, pulse about 120 and small, great thirst, no appetite, tongue dry, with a whitish coating. In the bed she threw herself about uneasily, not answering even the questions of her mother, and she could not be induced to open her eyes. As two children were already confined in this family with scarlatina, it was no doubt to be apprehended also in this case. I administered Belladonna, 6, qtt. v. in one ounce of water, every three hours a teaspoonful. In the same state I found the child on my evening visit, except that she had vomited several times during the day, had been crying a great deal, and had not slept at all. No trace could yet be seen of an exanthem. I directed the continuation of the medicine.

At two in the night, I was requested by the father of the child to go with him as quickly as possible, as he feared I would hardly find it living. Its condition was indeed lamentable. Since eleven o'clock, convulsions had set in. A short time previous, she had slept for a few minutes, but awoke with convulsions of the extremities, which still continued; occasional spasms through the whole body, with clinching of teeth; besides uttering at times an awful scream with a totally changed voice. The eyes were half-closed; the face was now pale, sunken, somewhat distorted;

* From "Homœop. Viertel Jahrschrift." Translated for the "Quarterly," by J. B.

the forehead covered with cold, clammy perspiration; skin more cool and dry; pulse very small, and hardly to be counted; respiration short and quick, but free from ronchus; involuntary passage of urine, and somewhat fluid alvine evacuation. I entertained but little hope for the patient, and so informed the parents. The scarlatina epidemic, which had raged here for eighteen months, had proved fatal to many under similar circumstances. I myself lost two patients, with quite similar, though not even such violent symptoms, within twelve to twenty-four hours; none of the celebrated remedies producing any effect whatever. I felt, consequently, in this case, no inclination to try them again, and administered Zincum met. 2 decimal trit., one grain every two hours, besides warm poultices upon the feet; cold water for drink.

February 9, 8 A.M. — The child was not worse, but had had no rest; and the convulsions were neither so violent nor so frequent; clinching of the teeth had ceased since 5 A.M.; the face, though still very pale, was yet warm, as was also the skin; pulse not much better than in the night; no exanthem yet perceptible. The medicine was continued. At my evening visit, I found the whole scene changed, to my great joy. The child had since noon several times slept for fifteen minutes at a time, always awaking, however, with cries. The convulsions had ceased; she opened occasionally her eyes, the right pupil was somewhat dilated. She recognized her mother, and asked distinctly for something to drink. After a good deal of persuasion, the child showed me her tongue, which was coated and dry. The pulse was somewhat fuller and 130. *In the face, and on the neck, some small, red spots appeared.* The medicine was continued, but the poultices were omitted.

February 10, *in the morning.* — The child was covered all over with a smooth scarlatina eruption. She slept, though still uneasily, yet in the whole over two hours. Sometimes convulsions and screaming still occurred during sleep. She eat, this morning, half a cracker in a cupful of milk. She answered my questions now, though very reluctantly: the eye still somewhat staring; fever moderate; pulse 115, not suppressible. Zincum 2 continued, one grain every four hours. In the evening, I found the patient quite smart, sitting up in the bed, playing with her toys; she slept from twelve to two o'clock, and awoke without screaming. The

eruption was full. No medicine. The scarlatina proceeded regularly from this time, without any further interruptions, under the moderate use of Belladonna; and, on the eleventh of March, she could leave her bed for several hours.

On the 15th day of the same month, when the period of desquamation was not quite completed, she went unnoticed out of the room, and sat upon the stairs. Though she was instantly missed, and carried back into the warm room, the malicious disease nevertheless had its revenge. I was informed the next morning that the child had been very uneasy during the night, and had screamed considerably. I found her in a state similar to that existing before the eruption of the scarlatina. Skin glowing hot and dry; pulse small, 120; the eyes half-closed; she recognized nobody, responded to questions by crying, spoke confusedly, as soon as she had slept a few minutes; thirst not very great, but no appetite; her bowels moved yesterday, but the urine was insufficient, having a brownish tinge. According to the mother's report, some signs of convulsions were perceptible during the night, of which I saw nothing on my visit. But there was an alarming, though yet small, œdematous swelling around the ankles, and great redness of the whole face.

I gave again, without hesitation, Zincum met. as above. After the second powder, the child fell into a quiet sleep, during which the surface of the body became covered with a profuse perspiration. On my evening visit, the child was more quiet; it showed me its tongue, which was clean, pulse 100, skin moist, the swelling still the same; urination had occurred but once, and slightly, during the whole day. The patient was still very morose, though she did not cry in her sleep: medicine continued.

Feb. 17. — The child was quite comfortable, though somewhat peevish; she slept well at night; the swelling of the ankles gone, the face was still rather flushed, the pulse indicated no fever. I directed the continuation of Zincum every four hours. She did not require any medicine the next day, and, after a few days more, was able to leave her bed.

Soon after, another opportunity was offered to me in the same family to try again the efficacy of Zincum. Helene, the sister of the above mentioned, five years of age, who, with the exception of scrofulous ophthalmia when two

years old, had never been sick, was seized with scarlatina on the 28th of January, 1853. It terminated quite normally, so that she had left her bed on the 28th of February; and on the 9th of March, after the completion of desquamation, she left her room. On one of the succeeding days, when going home, she was overtaken by a severe snow-storm, and got her feet wet. The following night, she was very uneasy, with a constant dry cough. On my visit, the 13th of March, she had considerable heat, pulse quick and full, skin hot and dry, tongue slightly coated, thirst considerable, no appetite, abdomen not painful. Percussion and auscultation showed no change, slight bronchial respiration in the right side excepted. Administered Aconit. 6 gtt. v. to one ounce of water, one tea-spoonful every three hours.

March 14. — The girl was quite delirious during the night, and threw her hands and feet about frequently, without any apparent cause. I found her now in a soporous state, from which she could with difficulty be awakened. She coughed considerably in her sleep, with a short but normal respiration. Pulse to-day small, about 100, skin dry, head hot, evacuation normal, no œdema anywhere. After she was raised up with much difficulty, the previously lively child appeared entirely indifferent to every thing, and only through considerable persuasion would she show her tongue, after which she forgot to return it into her mouth. The tongue was somewhat coated, with red edges. She answered either slowly or not at all. I began to apprehend typhus, though the spleen was not yet enlarged. I prescribed Tart. emet. 3 trit. every three hours a dose, as the best adapted for the whole state.

March 15. — Not the slightest improvement took place; on the contrary, the patient was to-day much more uneasy than yesterday. The sopor had but partially disappeared, the head was very hot; she cried a good deal, and was very peevish. The cough had rather increased, still dry and scraping, though the physical examination gave no other results than on the previous day; spleen not enlarged; there was no appetite; pulse 100; skin dry; slight alvine evacuation. She did not complain of any pain. Administered Rhus tox. 4, gtt. viii. to one ounce water, every four hours a teaspoonful.

March 16. — The child slept very uneasily last night; it aid unconcernedly in bed, with half-open and somewhat distorted eyes; face pale, sunken, and covered with a cold per-

spiration; pulse hardly to be counted, threadlike, easily compressible; skin dry and cool; the temperature of the back part of the head very much increased; cough less, but more difficult; respiration accelerated and superficial; the patient would or could not speak, but, from time to time, cried out with a shrill voice. I did not conceal the danger from the mother, in her presence, and was hesitating between Sulphur and Arsenic, when the weeping mother asked me if I would not be willing to give to the child the powders which did so much good to her Elizabeth. I confess, that, during the whole disease, Zincum did not cross my mind; and, though it did not appear to me quite adapted to the state, I nevertheless prescribed it in the first trituration, one grain every hour, with strict directions to inform me instantly of the least appearance of aggravation.

On my visit at 4 P.M., I was surprised at the excellent effect of Zincum. The child was lying in bed, with open eyes; the death-like paleness of the face had disappeared; the pulse was more full, no more compressible, 95 beats; the skin warm, moist; the head less hot; the tongue more moist, though still coated, thirst slight; she partook of some biscuit and some barley coffee; cough still dry, respiration good. The patient was brighter, and answered all questions; in short, the danger was over. Directly after the second powder was given, the improvement commenced. Zincum was continued every two hours.

March 17. — The girl sat up in the bed playing; pulse 90. The tongue became clean, and there was a return of the appetite; cough as yesterday. The medicine to be continued.

March 18. — The child was quite well. I gave Ipecacuanha only on account of the still-existing dry catarrh, by which in a few days the cough was also removed.

I abstain from any further epikrisis of this interesting case, and will only remark, that the diagnosis, as frequently happens, was rendered more certain by the effect of the remedy. The disease was undoubtedly located in the brain; violent congestion, and threatening, perhaps already existing, exsudation in a slight degree, were the cause of all the symptoms. Sulphur might perhaps have been efficacious; but it is not to be presumed that it would so rapidly and so completely have effected the cure as Zincum. It would be well if other physicians published the result of their experience with this remedy.

MICROSCOPICAL DISCOVERY OF ANIMALCULÆ ON THE TEETH, AND ITS INFLUENCE ON THE HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT OF THE AFFECTIONS OF THE TEETH.

BY DR. ALTSCHUL.*

The value of the microscope for the diagnosis and treatment of dental affections is unquestionably as great as in any other form of disease that affects our race.

We may ask, with Dr. G. Hartmann, — Who would have supposed, even ten years since, that the human teeth could be a habitation for animals and plants? Who would have thought, before the application of the microscope, that the dark-brown spots on the teeth were dense collections of mushrooms and animalculæ, depriving the teeth gradually, vampire-like, of all vitality, and making of their beautiful structure a sad ruin? It is indeed doing no injustice to these parasites to consider them the real, immediate cause of caries, as they develop themselves during the decomposition of the particles of food that adhere to the teeth. We observe, however, that these mushrooms owe their existence and propagation, like all animal parasites, to minute eggs, often hardly the size of a particle of dust, which, floating in the atmosphere like sun-motes, come in contact with the impure, decomposing substance on the teeth, and, rapidly becoming developed in this favorable field, produce new eggs, which are again developed in the same spot. These mushrooms, however, which live from the product of decomposition, die very soon, and their carcases continually support and favor the process of putrefaction, causing destruction of the teeth.

It is therefore easily understood why the homœopathic remedies recommended against carious toothache (*odontalgia ex carie producta*), as Calcarea, Silicia, Mezereum, Acidum nitri, Carbo animal and Aurum, are entirely inefficient, unless at first the complete eradication and entire destruction of these unwelcome intruders is earnestly attended to. Dr. Hartmann recommends for this purpose Chloride of lime-water, the tooth-brush to be dipped into it, and, for about three minutes, hard pressed upon the location

* From "Prager Monatschrift," vol. ii. No. 2, translated for the "Quarterly."

of the parasites, and the place to be rubbed until every little black point is erased, when the mouth is to be rinsed with tepid water. The application of Chloride of lime-water might, however, hardly be admissible when a homœopathic treatment is intended; and we propose, therefore, simple Alcohol, which, as experiments testify, proves destructive to other parasites. We directed the attention, in the first volume of our Journal, to an instance where a phthiriasis palbebrarium, in a scrofulous girl eight years old, where a large number of acari had settled between the ciliæ, was entirely removed by twice wetting it with alcohol. It has been observed, that, when these parasites are moistened with alcohol, and laid on paper, they exhibit, in a very short time, under the microscope, the signs of contraction and paralysis. But, when these animalculæ are destroyed by such a method, still medical interposition will be required, against the pain which arises in carious teeth in consequence of the exposure of the nerve, or from the decayed substance of the tooth. For the credit of an age devoted to natural sciences, it may be added, that our scientifically-educated dentists, now convinced of the inefficiency of the well-known external remedies, have abandoned the same, and give internally those remedies only, which, by lessening sensibility, remove the toothache, or at least mitigate it.

Homœopathy also, in accordance with its principles, seeks to give to the patient internally those specific remedies which correspond as nearly as possible to the individual symptoms of the disease. Calcarea carbonica, for instance, is, according to homœopathic principles, adapted for caries of the teeth in children, especially in scrofulous and rhachitie individuals, where the toothache is produced by a current of air and cold. If caries is caused by *abuse of mercury*, then Assa. will be applicable, as well as Acidum nitric; and Assa. particularly, when, with drawing pains in the jaws, copious salivation exists. Acid. nitr. is applicable, when, in addition to pain in the decayed teeth, the latter are loose, when the easily-bleeding gums are white and swollen, and the sensation is felt as if the teeth would fall out. Daphne mezereum will also be appropriate when the caries is the product of a mercurial cachexy, where only one side of the body is particularly affected, where the teeth become rapidly excavated, where the pains are aggravated by touching the affected parts, as well as by exercise. Acid phosph. can be

employed where caries appear in scorbutic individuals, the gum easily bleeds, and the pain is aggravated by heat as well as by cold; where a sensation of cold exists in the roots of the molar teeth.

Rhus tox is also an excellent remedy against caries in general, and will be appropriate in scab-like caries, which, according to Maury, appears most always combined with herpetic diseases; especially in rheumatic and gouty individuals, where the pain is increased by rest, and diminished by exercise, and is felt mostly at night.

Aurum might be applied where an inveterate syphilis or abuse of mercury had been the cause of caries; where, beside the toothache, heat in the head, looseness of the teeth, ulcers on the gum, and fœtid breath prevail.

China corresponds, in its pathogenetic symptoms, to the coal-like caries. This form of caries is usually not perceived earlier than between the fifteenth and thirtieth year, and particularly in individuals predisposed to arthritis and phthisis. The disease manifests itself mostly by a black spot; China is furthermore suitable where the pain is beating and congestive, appearing in consequence of abuse of mercury.

Excellent results may be expected from Carbo animalis when the drawing and tearing pains are produced, especially by salt food, when, with looseness of the teeth, the gum easily bleeds, when the tooth is sensitive to the slightest impression of cold.

Finally, Locopodium also deserves consideration, preceded by Calcarea in *Odontalgia ex carie dentium producta*, particularly as Lycopodium belongs, principally in caries of the bones, to the most successful remedies; and more especially when the dull toothache is aggravated by eating, when swellings and ulcers appear on the gum.

These are the most suitable remedies which we can, according to homœopathic principles, successfully give against the pain from carious teeth, after we have sufficiently removed the occasional cause, namely the mushrooms; and, for this removal, we can recommend Alcohol. Quite recently, Dr. Gudder has urged its application against favus, in which cutaneous affection and the destruction of the parasitical adhesions is effected by washing the head several times a day.

EDITORIAL.

The February number of the "American Medical Monthly," an Allopathic periodical, conducted by *seven* sapient gentlemen of New York, contains a review of Dr. Lee's "Introductory Address on Homœopathy," before the class of the "Starling Medical College." We have not read the "Address," nor have we any desire to do so, if its singularly-astute reviewer represents it faithfully. He (said reviewer) commences by informing his readers, that "*the foundations of this system*" (Homœopathy) "*are thoroughly exploded*" by this under-ground attack, and fully agrees with Dr. Lee, that "a system which has survived more than fifty years, and has in that time pervaded the whole civilized world; which has found converts among the intelligent and the educated classes, and even among the well-educated (? ?) members of our own profession; which has its literature, its hospitals, its dispensaries, its chartered colleges; which has its practitioners scattered throughout nearly the whole extent of our country; which, however, sets itself up in opposition to the established facts and principles of medical science, boasting a superior power in controlling disease, — such a system certainly has claims on our attention, and demands our most diligent and unbiassed scrutiny."

This is the admission to which Dr. Lee has been forced, and in which he is supported by the seven stout conductors of the "American Medical Monthly."

Now, it is naturally to be inferred, presupposing honesty of purpose as of declaration, that the whole subject had been deliberately submitted to this "diligent and unbiassed scrutiny" before the *explosion* took place; and also that the searching process would have been described in detail, for the benefit of the "Starling Medical Students" and the public at large. But not one solitary word has been written in relation to the mode adopted to arrive at the truth; nothing whatever afforded by which we are to judge of the carefulness and honesty of Dr. Lee's investigations; when and how the "scrutiny" was conducted; where failures were observed; on what points of evidence the extremely confident opinions expressed as to medicinal inefficiency are based. No one will for a moment suppose that Dr. Lee or his reviewer can possibly beguile themselves into the belief that the simple *assertions*, unsupported by the slightest proof, which are contained in this *exterminating* attack, as in the hundred other previous annihilations of Homœopathy, are to any extent *convincing;* can, in any sense or shape, invalidate our claims to a "superior power in con-

trolling disease." Even were such assertions true, which *they are not* in any particular, they could not be brought to bear at all against our practice, or in favor of "calomel and jalap." And we are told that "the great cause of cure (*similia*, &c.) is demolished" by this Dr. Lee's mere *assertions* that Hahnemann was a quack; that his theories are untenable; that his pretended results have been found to be false *by all who have repeated them since;* that infinitesimal doses are inefficacious, and so on; the whole of the seven wise men of Gotham, including the brave reviewer, who hides himself behind the appropriate "nom de plume" of three stilettos, being of the same opinion. In this wonderfully destructive manner, "a system which has its literature, its hospitals, its dispensaries, its chartered colleges," — "which demands our most diligent and unbiassed scrutiny," — is at once disposed of; being totally "demolished"!! Heaven help us!

For the instruction of those who are honest and truth-loving, and as a contrast to the above, we transcribe the mode of inquiry adopted by the physician of the hospital attached to Hotel Dieu, Paris (Dr. Tessier), a gentleman whose character for scientific acquirements and strict veracity even Dr. Lee and his reviewer dare not attempt to disparage. After having devoted a proper length of time to the perusal of Hahnemann's works, he writes as follows: —

"I proceeded to verify the efficacy of infinitesimal doses. I devoted six months to this verification, at the bedside of such acute and chronic patients as could not by any possibility be injured by the experiments I was conducting. The *evidence that the doses acted* was complete in a few days; but I continued the experiments on this point for the whole of six months, and it was only at the expiration of that time that I sought to ascertain the therapeutic value of the new mode by applying it as rigorously as I knew how.

"I ventured, in the case of a patient with pneumonia, in whom I had produced the remission by bleeding, to substitute Phosphorus for the Tartar emetic usually administered. He recovered without accident, and I repeated the experiment several times with the same success. These happy results, however, might very properly be attributed to the energetic antiphlogistic means pursued at the beginning of the disease; and I could only conclude from them, if I had done no good, I had at least done no harm. I then resolved gradually to diminish the number of bleedings, and to introduce the Hahnemannian method before the usual remission was produced; reserving always the right to resort to the ordinary treatment, if the amendment did not appear with sufficient promptitude. I omitted one, two, three, four bleedings in the next patients that presented themselves, thus bringing the administration of the

new remedies gradually nearer and nearer to the first onset of the malady; beginning with a dose of Aconite, followed, after an interval of twelve or twenty-four hours, by Bryonia, to which Phosphorus succeeded. The less I bled, the more grateful was the action of the infinitesimal doses to the suffering patient, until I decided to bleed no more, and employ the method of Hahnemann from the commencement. Aconite seemed to be of little service after having been administered a few hours. Bryonia appeared to be very energetic in its action, and Phosphorus seemed to be useful in local inflammations, threatening to pass into suppuration.

"I cannot express the anxiety which attended these first experiments. Notwithstanding my express directions to resort at once to bleeding if the patients became worse, and in spite of repeated personal attendance at their bedsides, I could not escape the constant feeling that some catastrophe was about to happen. But nothing of the kind occurred. The patients who were first submitted to the treatment recovered without an exception, and the condition of others was rapidly improved. *For two years I have had but a single death from pneumonia:* two others have died, but they entered the ward in the agonies of a pneumonia already suppurated; and, if they figure in my statistics, they should not be taken into account in a discussion of my therapeutics. Since then, I have employed the same method in pneumonia, and by degrees my fears have vanished."

A similar method was pursued, and the results published, by Dr. Henderson, Professor of General Pathology in the University of Edinburgh; and the consequence was a thorough conversion of both these eminent physicians to Homœopathy, as has been the result in every instance where clinical experimentation has been properly conducted.

One gross mistake contained in the remarkable review under consideration we hope to correct, if nothing better is effected. Dr. Pulte's work, published in Cincinnati, is mentioned by this well-informed writer as "*the best authority in the country.*" Shade of Hahnemann!! As well may "Buchan" be called the best authority in Great Britain, or "Gunn's Domestic Medicine" the chief reference-book for American physicians!

MISCELLANEOUS.

Extremes will Meet. — Russia Salve out-climaxed. — There is now in the market, in tin boot-blacking boxes, a mixture called J. M. Page's Climax Salve, purporting to cure a host of diseases, amongst which are scrofula and salt rheum. It is patented by the inventor, a homœopathic pellet manufacturer, and designed to catch both sides by the statement of its composition: Arnica and Calendula for the homœopathist, with a few vegetable Extracts and Balsams added for the allopathist. From pellets to mixtures. There is but a step from the sublime to the ridiculous.

While persecutions of every description against homœopathic practitioners in France are now succeeding to the contemptuous silence so long sustained, it is a consolation to know that the government, finally freed from academic tutelage, have learnt to distinguish and recompense merit and devotion to science, wherever it exhibits itself.

While but very recently, in Paris, a district medical society, at one of its sessions, instituted a formal complaint against one of its most distinguished members, — the learned professor Cruvelhier, — for presuming to consult with two homœopathic physicians; while, a few days since, the "Gazette Médicale de Toulouse" recorded the unjustifiable act of a medical society, in expelling a physician from their ranks for the reason that he practised homœopathy; the government of France has been busy in elevating to the grade of Chevaliers, and even officers of the Legion of Honor, several French and foreign homœopaths. The most recent act of this kind was the appointment, by the Emperor, of Dr. Pétroz, the worthy President of the Gallican Society of Homœopathie Medicine, as Chevalier of the Legion of Honor.

Dr. Pétroz is one of the elders of homœopathy in France. The appointment is a just recompense for his numerous labors, found on record in most of the French as well as foreign periodicals, which have, for the last thirty years, aided in propagating the doctrine of Hahnemann.

This honor should have been conferred nearly twenty years ago. The Municipal Council, as well as the Council of Health, had recommended Dr. Pétroz for "la croix d'honneur," as a recompense for his services at the time of the cholera, and for his wonderful success in the treatment of the marine-guard at Clichy;

but it was then withheld through the influence of professional opponents.

Happily justice arrives, sooner or later; and this reparation at such a time is particularly honorable to Dr. Pétroz, and to the government that conferred it. — *Médecine Homœopathie des Familles.*

OBITUARY.

It becomes our melancholy duty to record the names of the following eminent medical gentlemen, whom death has taken from our ranks during the preceding year: —

Dr. John H. Wittfield, of Meurs, founder of the first homœopathic institution for the insane, and director of the one at Meurs, died on the 6th of November, 1853.

Dr. H. Bamberg died at Berlin, the 25th of November, 1853, in the fifty-third year of his age. He was a contributer to the "Allg. Hom. Zeitung."

Dr. Melicher, of Berlin, died on the 16th of December, 1853. He enjoyed considerable celebrity, and was engaged in a very extensive practice.

Dr. Marenzeller, of Vienna, died on the 6th of January, 1854, in the ninetieth year of his age. He was one of the first, most independent, and boldest pioneers of Homœopathy in the empire of Austria.

Dr. Larguieux, of St. Paul, died on the 12th of September, 1853, fifty-four years old. He was one of the oldest homœopathic practitioners of his department.

Dr. Muller died the 8th of August, 1853, at Unna, Westphalia.

Also, Dr. Perchier, of Genf; Dr. Harlang, of Baden; Dr. Altmuller, of Capel; Dr. Mörth, of Jonkoping, Sweden; Dr. F. von Lichtenfels, of Vienna.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Key to the Materia Medica, or Comparative Pharmacodynamic, by Ad. Lippe, M.D. Philadelphia, 1854. Published by H. Duffield, M.D., 38, South Seventh-street.

Proceedings of the Homœopathic Medical Society of the State of New York. Albany, 1853–54. J. Munsell, publisher.

Handbuch der reinen Pharmacodynamik, von Dr. H. G. Schneider. No. 4; conclusion of the first volume, containing preface and introduction, the conclusion of Veratrum disease, the Helleborus, Asarum, Squilla, and Cannabis disease. Magdeburg, 1853.

Klinische Erfahrungen in der Homœopathy, von Th. I. Rückert. Vol. i. No. 10. Dessau, 1853.

Die Homœopathic, oder die Reform der Heilkunde Eine Darstellung der Grundsætze und Lehren der Homœopathic, von Dr. Klothar Müller, Leipsic. Otto Wigard, Leipsc.

Der Homœopathic Hausarzt in Kurzen therapeutischen Diagnosen. Ein Versuch von Dr. C. von Bönninghausen. No. 1. Münster, 1853.

Catalogue of the Fourth Annual Session of the Western College of Homœopathic Medicine, at Cleveland, Ohio; together with an Announcement for the Fifth Annual Session. Cleveland, 1854.

Homœopathy fairly Represented. A Reply to Professor Simpson's "Homœopathy" misrepresented. By William Henderson, M.D., Professor of General Pathology in the University of Edinburgh. First American, from the last Edinburgh edition. Philadelphia, 1854. Lindsay & Blakiston.

PERIODICALS RECEIVED.

AMERICAN.

The North American Homœopathic Journal, November, 1853.

The Philadelphia Journal of Homœopathy, for February, March, April, 1854.

The American Journal of Homœopathy, January and February.

The Chicago Homœopath, March, 1854.

The Scalpel, February, 1854.

FOREIGN.

British Journal of Homœopathy, January, 1854.

Homœopatische Viertel Jahrschrift, vol. iv. No. 4, and vol. v. No. 1.

Zeitschrift für Homœopathische Klinik, up to March, 1854.

Allgemeine Homœopathische Zeitung, up to March 13, 1854.

Prager Monatschrift, January and February, 1854.

Zeitschrift für wissenschaftliche Therapia, vol. ii. No. 1.

Medicine Homœopathique des Familles, tome ii. Nos. 9, 10, 11, 12.

3 gal.
86