

ORACLES OF TRUTH

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Some wise words of great physicians are quoted below.
Read them for pleasure and for profit.

Appendicitis: "It is only deplorable ignorance that causes
appendicitis to be surrendered to the knife."—J. T. K.

Attenuation: "There is an appropriateness of the drug as
well as of the state of attenuation in which it ought to be
exhibited—M. L. S.

"The worse the case, the higher must be the potency
as a rule."—J. C. B.

Bacilli: "To pretend to cure lupus by killing the bacilli, is like
the grand old way of catching sparrows by putting salt on
their tails."—J. C. B.

Blood: "As the blood is, so is the love."—J. T. K.

Chronic diseases: "Chronic disease needs chronic treatment."
—J. C. B.

Contraception: "If a married woman wants to grow old,
ugly and miserable, the quickest and most certain way, I
know, is to practise the prevention here referred to.—
J. C. B.

Diagnosis: "The neglect of ætiological diagnosis is induced a
fatal error."—J. C. B.

Disease: "If inward affections work outward towards the sur-
face, there is not usually cause for alarm, but if they go
the other way look out for breakers, there is shipwreck
ahead."—E. B. N.

External treatment: "The generally received external treat-
ment of diseases of the skin with lotions or ointments
or whatsoever else, is demonstrably shallow in conception,
wrong in theory, harmful in practice and therefore inad-
visable."—J. C. B.

Fistula: "In really dyscratic cases of fistula, the surgeon's
knife is of no more use than the north wind."—J. C. B.

Homœopathy: "Homœopathic dilutions will acquire the rights

of citizenship in the universities and hospitals of the world. Homœopathy is the winning horse at the Medical Derby of the world and will, presently, be hurried past the winning post by orthodoxy itself as her rider."—J. C. B.

"Homœopathy is too often blamed when the blame lies in the stupidity of the prescriber."—E. B. N.

"Without the most minute individualisation Homœopathy is not conceivable."—S. H.

"Never think that Homœopathy can cure everything; it cannot. But it can relieve even the incurable to such an extent that it is difficult to realize, at times, its incurability."—M. L. T.

Insanity: "Phthisis, and insanity are convertible conditions, the one falls into the other. The intellectual symptoms and the lung symptoms are interchangeable."—J. T. K.

In vitro: "Experiment and the predominating study of test tube cultures have served to obscure the true state of affairs, since they tend most unjustifiably to minimize the individual predisposition of the infected person, and to over-estimate the ability of the microbes to infect in every instance. It is true, in producing experimental infective diseases in which micro-organisms from cultures are introduced in vast numbers and directly into the circulation, the effect of the microbes alone is in evidence, but it is against an almost defenceless enemy."—Rosenback.

Isopathy: "In certain places it prevails and is taught that anything relating to gonorrhœa must be treated with Medorrhinum, anything psoric must be treated with Psorinum, and anything that relates to tuberculosis must be with Tuberculinum. That will go out of use some day; it is mere isopathy, and it is an unsound doctrine; it is not the better idea of Homœopathy."—J. T. K.

Medical art: "According to the testimony of all ages, no occupation is more unanimously declared to be conjectural than Medicine."—S. H.

"When we have to do with an art whose end is the saving of human life any neglect to make ourselves thorough masters of it, becomes a crime."—S. H.

Medicine: "The spiritual powers of medicines act not by quantity but by potentiality and quality."—S. H.

Medicine time: "There is a time for everything, during which alone the medicine acts beneficially and beyond which cannot fail to be injurious."—M. L. S.

Opium: "There is never any use for the crude opium in the sick room. In surgery, at times, it is admitted that something seems necessary, and we will not quarrel with the surgeon. But, in diseases, in sick people, it is not necessary. It performs no use and in the end it is an injury; it prevents finding the homœopathic remedy. It has masked the symptoms and spoiled the case and you cannot do anything for days."—J. T. K.

Palliative: "Where a cure is no longer possible and temporary relief is the only thing left, we have the best means of giving it in the homœopathically indicated remedy. Narcotics, counter irritants, so-called tonics, do not and cannot compare with the similimum (if properly administered in smoothing the pathway to the inevitable termination."—E. B. N.

Pathologist: "It seems to me like folly to undertake to pose as an exclusive pathologist or symptomatologist."—E. B. N.

Pathology: "We are to confine pathology to its legitimate uses, diagnosis and prognosis, not drag it into the field of therapeutics where it can never aid us. Pathology is built upon the quicksand of man's experience; the law of similars, on the bed-rock of nature."—C. D.

Patients' statements: "Just as post-scripts are said to contain the real *raison d'être* of a given epistle, so the parting observation of a patient throws a strong light on a case."—J. C. B.

Pharmacist: "The high dignity of a good pharmacist from whose incorruptibly scrupulous hands life and health flow as from the clearest spring, and under whose vigilant knowledge the genuine tools are forged, which serve us to repair the deranged machinery of the human body, seeking to restore it to its original harmonious action, will never sully itself with the vileness of unreasoning quac-

kery which is like the stinking slow in comparison to the salutary sun."—S. H.

Psorinum: "Whether derived from purest gold or purest filth, our gratitude for its excellent services forbids us to enquire or care."—J. B. B.

Remedy: "Do not rush after the mad notion that any remedy can neutralise an unhealthy life, or foul air, or counteract carping cares, or supply food and drink, or stamp out the foot-prints of the Nemesis of physical and psychical wrongs."—J. C. B.

"The key to the use of remedies is the law of similars, the guide to their choice—the patients' symptoms, subjective and objective."—J. C. B.

Selection of remedies: "Well selected is a relative expression and involves too much of human opinion. It may be thought to be well selected when it is not related to the case."—J. T. K.

Surgery: "You cannot cut away disease with the surgeon's knife."—J. C. B.

Symptom: "To treat a symptom by stamping it out is something like murder."—Dr. L. R. Twentyman.

Thought: Whether we realise it or not, we are externalised thought In our thoughts lies the first and most fertile source of our every attitude, they colour the meaning of every symptom, just as intonation governs the meaning of words."—C. M. B.

"Homœopathy knows no such thing as tonics in medicine. The only tonic in the sense of something to impart strength or tone to the human organism is nourishing food."—E. B. N.

Universe: "All things that are in any way operative (their number is inconceivable) can influence and cause changes in our organism which stands in connection and conflict with all parts of the universe, and everything causes a different change, because it differs from every other thing."—S. H.

(The initials at the end of each quotation stand for the names of well-known writers).