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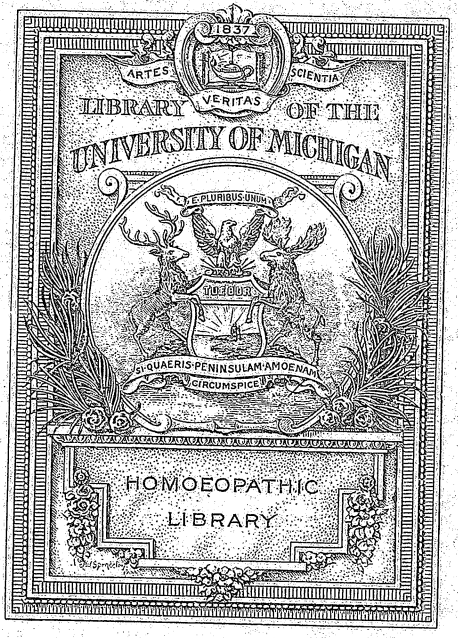
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"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

THE ANNUAL CONGRESS OF HOMŒOPATHISTS.

The first Homœopathic Congress, which was held last year at Cheltenham, was attended by thirty medical men; that of the present year was held on the 23rd and 24th of July, and attended by more than sixty.

Drs. Russell, Stokes, Drysdale, Madden, Black, Sutherland, Boddy, Beilby, Prince, Norton, Hewitt, Ker, Fearon, Hale, Massy, Guinness, Marsden, W. F. Laurie, Ozanne, Stummes, Macdonald, Wilmot, Eylert (of Germany, from Southampton), and Messrs. Wardroper, Pope, Anderson, Spencer Hall, Sharp, Blake, Gray, Pearce, Joce, Phillips, Parsons, and another gentleman, whose name we cannot decipher, attended from different parts of England and Scotland; the metropolis contributed the following members, who attended the Congress: Drs. Kelsall, Dudgeon, Rogers, Laurie, Partridge, Viettinghoff, Hamilton, Chapman, Chepmell, Malan, Curie, Roth, Henriques, Cronin, Robert Hamilton, and Messrs. Engall, Hering, Millard, Frith, Reynolds, Wilson, Yeldham, M'Kechnie, Leadam, G. N. Epps, Metcalfe, and Professor Georgii.

Mr. Walker, of Conduit Street, Mr. Turner, of Manchester, and Mr. Capper, of Liverpool, homœopathic chemists, were also present at the Congress. There were also other visitors, among whom were the Honorary Secretaries of the Hahnemann, and the London Homœopathic Hospitals.

The first meeting was held on the evening of the 23rd instant.

It was moved by Mr. Hering, and seconded by Dr. Dudgeon, that Dr. Black should take the chair.

Dr. Russell then delivered the annual address, which was written in very elegant and eloquent language, and was spoken with great animation and effect, and was much applauded throughout.

It was proposed by Mr. Engall and seconded by Dr. Madden, that Dr. Russell be requested to publish his oration, which he promised to do, in the next number of the *British Journal of Homœopathy*. Dr. Ozanne read a portion of his paper on Medical Ethics, and concluded with certain resolutions, which were discussed on the following day, and were adopted in the following form.

Resolutions agreed to at the British Homœopathic Congress, held in London, 1851.

First. That the members of this Congress, being duly-qualified medical practitioners, have adopted the principle or law of homœopathy, and have applied it in practice, after a careful experimental examination of its truth.

Second. That being thus convinced of its practical value in the treatment of disease, they have felt it their duty to establish hospitals and dispensaries for the double purpose of relieving the sufferings of the poor, and of affording opportunities to the medical profession to observe the facts in support of the truth of this law, and of its beneficial operation, and they will continue these, and all other legitimate means of promoting its general adoption, notwithstanding the opposition manifested against it.

It may be observed that most of the gentlemen who had agreed to read papers, consented to withdraw them on the present occasion, in order to afford the Congress sufficient time to take into consideration the best means of meeting the aggressive measures of the Universities of Edinburgh and St Andrew's.

Dr. Russell then read the recommendation of a meeting lately held at York, for obtaining from Government the appointment of examiners for such medical students as intended to practise homœopathy, who by examination should test the knowledge of those students in the general medical subjects, and certify to their ability and attainments; and it was further recommended that a committee or council of homœopathic practitioners should be appointed by the Homœopathic Congress, to put themselves in communication with the Medical Homœopathic University of Philadelphia, for the purpose of obtaining their diploma for such certified students.

Dr. Russell moved and Dr. Madden seconded the recommendation that this course should be adopted.

Mr. Blake made some observations on

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the necessity of first endeavouring to obtain a charter for the homœopathists, on the principle of the London University, and that in the event of failure they might then, he said, fall back on the measures recommended by the late meeting at York, and proposed to Congress by Dr. Russell.

Dr. CHAPMAN objected to the proposition of obtaining diplomas for the medical students, who intended to practise homœopathy, from an American university. He said that the homœopathists of Britain should have an university or college of their own, if it should appear that the medical universities and colleges of Great Britain and Ireland were determined all and each to withhold their diplomas from homœopathists. But he thought the London University, and the London College of Surgeons, would confer their diplomas on students up to the mark in their examinations, irrespective of any supposed tendency in the way of therapeutics. He said that the homœopathists, however, should be prepared to agitate for a charter. He earnestly entreated all the homœopathists to forget the past, and to be united for the future. This union was imperative in the present crisis. He moved, and it was seconded by Dr. OZANNE, that each practitioner subscribe a guinea, to further the objects of any committee or council that might be appointed by Congress.

Mr. MILLARD moved a form of petition for a charter, and was seconded by Mr. PHILLIPS.

Mr. BLAKE observed that a student could not get a diploma from the London University, except he had previously matriculated, and been a student at one of the colleges or schools attached to that University.

Mr. SPENCER HALL urged the necessity of obtaining a charter. He mentioned himself as an instance of one anxious to get a diploma, and yet unable to do so, from the hostility of the Scotch Universities.

Mr. WILSON insisted on the necessity of union for the purpose of obtaining a charter. He said that the apothecaries gained their charter without having any school, and that but few originally agitated for it. He recommended that the laws of the London University should be diligently considered by any who might be empowered to act for the Congress, as representing the whole body of homœopathists. He recommended that a petition should be presented to the Sovereign for a charter, specifically on the same grounds as those which were advanced and admitted for the charter of the London University.

Dr. NORTON moved for a provisional committee of twelve, to consider this question in all its bearings; to meet early in the morning, and to report to the Congress at their meeting of the next day; seconded by Dr. SUTHERLAND.

Dr. Norton's proposition was acceded to, with this difference, that Dr. DRYSDALE moved, and Mr. REYNOLDS seconded, that there should be only five members of the provisional committee, as five might work and twelve probably would not.

The following gentlemen were appointed: Dr. Russell, Dr. Macdonald, Dr. Norton, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Leadam.

The Congress was then adjourned by the chairman to the following day—

July 24th. The Chair was taken by Dr. BLACK, at eleven o'clock. Dr. Stummes read a paper on the compatibility of using the water treatment in conjunction with homœopathy.

Dr. OZANNE's resolutions were then put, *seriatim*, and after some discussion were finally adopted as we have reported them.

Dr. DUDGEON read a portion of the bill introduced in the House of Commons by Mr. Jacob Bell, respecting pharmacy, which would have a very injurious effect on the homœopathic chemists. Dr. MADDEN moved, seconded by Dr. CHAPMAN, that a committee be appointed to take that portion of Mr. Jacob Bell's bill into consideration. The motion was agreed to, and Dr. Dudgeon and Messrs. Turner and Walker were appointed as that committee.

Dr. RUSSELL then read the report of the Provisional Committee, which had been appointed the night before to take into consideration the several propositions that had been brought before the Congress, as to the best mode of meeting the aggressive measures of some of the corporate bodies inimical to homœopathy.

The report was as follows:

"At a meeting held at 22, Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, this morning, July 24th, 1851, of the Provisional Committee appointed by the Homœopathic Congress of July 23rd, 1851, for the purpose of taking into consideration the several resolutions proposed to Congress, they unanimously recommend that an association of professional and non-professional homœopathists be formed at once, to take immediate steps for removing the obstacles which at present prevent properly-qualified candidates for degrees in medicine from receiving license to practise, on the plea of their showing any tendency towards the doctrines and system of homœopathy.

"The Provisional Committee further recommend the immediate publication and

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extensive circulation of a pamphlet to instruct the public upon the grounds of the grievance of the homœopathic body, and the plan of proposed redress.

"The Provisional Committee also recommend the immediate preparation of a petition, to be presented to the Crown, to obtain the appointment of a board of medical examiners, duly qualified, to examine and certify as to the proper qualifications of candidates proposing to practise homœopathy; and in order to obtain as numerous signatures as possible, by those who are favourable to homœopathy, the Provisional Committee recommend the appointment of local committees in the different districts of the United Kingdom.

J. RUTHERFURD RUSSELL,
T. R. LEADAM,
DAVID WILSON,
W. MACDONALD, M.D.

It was stated by Mr. PEARCE and by Dr. CRONIN that the English Homœopathic Association was already such a body; and that it would be sufficient to refer this question to them. It was argued, on the other hand, that, without any disparagement to the English Association, there were some persons who would not become members of it, and that the present object was to aim at the union of all; and again, that the English Association was for general objects, whereas the association now proposed was for a specific purpose, and would cease as soon as its specific aims were accomplished; whereas the English Association might continue to exist for any length of time, as its objects were general.

The Report of the Provisional Committee was then agreed to; and it was determined that when the Congress should be declared to be at end by the Chairman, the members present should at once form themselves into an "Association for the Protection of Homœopathic Students and Practitioners."

On its being mentioned by several gentlemen that it had come to their knowledge that the homœopathic globules were sometimes spoiled in tropical regions, from deliquescing, the Congress recommended that the attention of the homœopathic chemists should be directed to this subject.

Dr. RUSSELL then presented preparations of the *Coluber Naja*, which had been made for him by Mr. Turner, and invited the members of Congress to *prove* it.

Dr. CHAPMAN proposed, seconded by Dr. CHEPMELL, that Leamington should be the place of meeting next year.

Dr. MACDONALD moved, seconded by Dr. DUDGEON, that Edinburgh should be the place of meeting. This amendment was adopted by a considerable majority. Drs. Russell and Wielobycki were appointed Secretaries, and Drs. Scott, Macdonald, and Beilby as a committee for the next annual Congress.

The Congress was then declared to be at an end.

Dr. HAMILTON was then elected to the chair; and the gentlemen present, on the motion of Dr. RUSSELL, seconded by Dr. MADDEN, formed themselves into an "Association for the Protection of Homœopathic Students and Practitioners."

After a great deal of discussion, the plans for carrying out the views of the Association were referred to a Committee, consisting of—Drs. Madden, Dudgeon, Black, Hamilton, Macdonald, Russell, Chapman, Drysdale, Fearon, Curie, Norton, Laurie, and Ozanne, and Messrs. Hering, Leadam, Yeldham, Wilson, and Blake, with power to add to their number.

A great number of the members of the Congress dined together, on the evening of the 24th, at Soyer's Symposium. There were at least sixty gentlemen present. The chair was very ably filled by Mr. SHARP, of Rugby, and grace was said by the Rev. W. J. CHEPMELL, Rector of St. Sampson's, Guernsey. On the removal of the cloth, the Chairman proposed the health of the Queen, with congratulations on the privilege they all enjoyed in living under so beneficent a Sovereign. The toast was received with cheers, and Professor M'DONALD took his colleagues by surprise, with a free-and-easy new reading of a stanza of *God save the Queen*, with a line of a foreign chaunt in it, doubtless the better to harmonize with the year 1851. The Chairman then proceeded: In conjunction with two other members of the Congress, he had, at the request of the meeting of the morning, prepared a paper in accordance with resolutions agreed to on that occasion. He had to place before the meeting two propositions embodying, as he thought, the five resolutions of Dr. Ozanne. (The Chairman then read the resolutions we have already inserted.) These, he thought, constituted their plain and solemn declaration that they, as homœopathic practitioners, had not adopted their plan of treatment on insufficient grounds; that they were not fairly to be regarded as knaves and fools, and that, while satisfied that the law of Hahnemann is a law of nature, they would adhere to it and practise it to the best of their ability. Difficult indeed was the subject, but if fairly investigated, a result might be come to, as free from all uncertainty and refutation as the undeniable law of gravitation, or of chemical equivalents. And he had faith that the day would come when, as the thanks of the world have already been given to Newton and to Dalton, so will they be awarded to Hahnemann for *his* great discovery.

Dr. MADDEN rose to propose the memory

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of Hahnemann. He should not detain them long, as this toast had been so often spoken to before them, and had been illustrated by the burning eloquence of a northern, and the classical and etymological allusions of a southern colleague. Homœopathy, always well opposed, had lately experienced an opposition more than heretofore systematic and virulent; their opponents begun to think them hard to kill, and they were right. "Man is immortal," said the speaker, "till his work is done. We are contending for a law, not of a college, but a law of nature, a law of God. This law of nature said, *like shall be treated by like*, and none can alter that. How great is the debt due to Hahnemann! Let us pay it by assiduously working at the development of homœopathic practice, in the spirit of Hahnemann himself, whose law is progress, and whose practice was to the last in conformity with it. Let, then, our enemies' attack be but the trumpet-call to buckle on our armour, not for a petty paper war, but for fresh and more assiduous striving after the development of the great truth bequeathed to us by him whose memory we now thus honour."

Dr. CHAPMAN, in proposing the "Progress of Freedom," said that liberty was a subject that especially touched the interests of, and came home to, homœopathists; for their liberty of conscience was invaded by their opponents. As Dr. Madden had alluded to his (Dr. Chapman's) classical and etymological observations, on a former occasion, he might be excused for employing now a few similar illustrations. The word for freedom, in the most classical of languages, was *eleutheria;* if the first, and the two last letters were omitted, you have "Luther," the great reformer. But this word was of particular significance to medical men, for its root was Eleutho, being the primitive name for Lucina, the goddess of midwifery: the same word signifies to go. Lucina, then, delivering the human species from the darkness of the womb, bade those delivered to go into the world, and do their parts manfully. Hahnemann was the man-midwife of old allopathy. He had delivered from the dark womb of that old lady many goodly sons of the better Genius of medicine, and the present company were not bad examples of the species he had brought into the world. The room in which they were assembled was decorated by three paintings, one descriptive of Danae yielding to the gentle solicitations of Zeus, when he descended in the golden shower—she took the liberty to sin; another of Nell Gwyn, who also took the same liberty; and the third of Charles II., of the unfortunate race of Stuart, who took the same liberty. This was not the true liberty, for those who were slaves to sin were never free, in the true sense of the word. But his reign was at least memorable for the establishment of the Royal Society; and he hoped that the reign of her present Majesty would be memorable for the establishment of the Royal College of Homœopathists. Her name, Victoria, was of good omen for the homœopathists; they would achieve victory. Some were afraid of being accounted sectaries. All reformers were subject, of necessity, to that reproach; every successful creed was at first regarded as sectarian. Bishop Horsley had stated that orthodoxy was the *doxy* of the person who held this or that opinion, and that heterodoxy was the *doxy* of other persons from whom he dissented. The homœopathists might be well content to be accounted heterodox. True liberty was a thing of the mind. It was irrepressible. The progress of mental freedom, when men were determined to be free, could not be checked by tyranny of any kind. Galileo, for teaching that the earth moved round the sun, was shut up in the dungeons of the Inquisition. He sighed for air and the light of heaven, and agreed to recant his doctrine; but in the very act of signing his recantation, he said to the inquisitors—"My doctrine is true notwithstanding." But homœopathy could not be shut up. As free men we pursue, and will advance it. It had been his fortune to have been in slave countries, and he knew what physical slavery was. It was one of the paradoxes of the human character, that the nations most remarkable for freedom had been stained by having slaves among them. He need only allude to the Americans of the present day. Even in England, and in the present day, free men did not always concede liberty of action to others,—so the allopathists who made innovations often enough, did not concede to the homœopathists liberty in therapeutics. True freedom,—the spirit of freedom conceded to others the right of freedom. He entreated the homœopathists not to fall under the reproach to which their opponents were subject. None were altogether evil. Let them believe that their antagonists had their virtues as well as their vices. Let them try to win them over by conciliation, and by a tender consideration for them. Again, the homœopathists should be united, and be banded together. It would be well to let the past be buried in oblivion, and to begin a new course from the present day. Let there be no longer dissension and disunion; but let them support each other, as brethren should, according to the perfect "law of liberty." He regretted his poverty of language, but if he had the power of persuasion he would impress on them the necessity for this oblivion of the past, and for cordial co-operation now, and for the future. They all knew the struggles for liberty that had recently been enacted in different parts of continental Europe; but there was one country in which as Englishmen, whose literature and science were so much indebted to it, they must all take interest—Italy; in that beautiful region there was a gentleman present, Mr. Massen, who took the liveliest interest. He had written much and well in support of liberty, and was well entitled to speak on the subject of the "progress of freedom."

Mr. MASSEN, in replying to the toast, observed upon the moral nature of freedom, and the right of every one to be exempt from all opposition but a moral one. The relevancy of the toast to the present occasion was found in the fact that

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no body of men had been more persecuted than the homœopathists. But the opposition was unfair. A university was at the present moment engaged in preventing even the examination of homœopathy by those desirous of testing its truth or falsehood. But such opposition would be ineffectual; the progress of freedom was certain, and the unselfish spirit of freedom, which laboured for the brotherhood of the human family, would at last girdle the world.

Dr. MARSDEN rose to propose the "Progress of Science and the Homœopathic Hospitals." He imagined the union of the subjects was a hint that we should not, while practising homœopathy, forget science. Diagnosis had been called the science of medicine. Though when the appointed time was come, when the silver cord must be loosened, and the bowl be broken at the fountain, our utmost science could avail nothing to save the patient, it would at least save the practitioner, not taken unawares, but calmly cognizant of the inevitable result. Towards the recognition of homœopathy, he regarded the hospitals now started as one end of the wedge. It had been so in Vienna. Dr. Marsden then referred to Dr. Chapman's recommendation of conciliatory bearing, and enforced it by the consideration that, after all, it was homœopathists who were the opponents of allopathists, and not the contrary. They must remember too, that though homœopathy was a medical truth, it was not the only medical truth.

The CHAIRMAN would make one remark. Dr. Marsden had designated homœopathy as "a truth, though not all truth;" it was, however, a truth that had but now been made known.

Mr. SANDOZ proposed the "Homœopathic Press." Beyond good wishes, and many obligations to it for instruction he had received, he had nothing to do with the press. Let us advocate homœopathy as a truth which we have not merely received but *tested*—you professional gentlemen scientifically, we laymen practically—by submitting ourselves and our families to the system. Only however abused, let us not abuse in return. This he would urge on those who have the command of the press, to banish from their own writing, and cut out from that of correspondents, every word of abuse and vituperation. He warmly recommended the homœopathic press to public support, deprecating the narrow feeling which prompted a man to insist on a work exactly reflecting his own views and notions, on pain of forfeiting his support. This is not the law of liberty. Much depended on the spirit of the press. While he heartily thanked the editors of their periodicals for what they had done, he would urge upon them more and more to conduct them in such a tone and spirit which would encourage and justify us in persuading all, friend or foe, homœopaths or allopaths, to read them. He would urge on medical men the importance of contributing the results of their experience and observation, facts and arguments. They had been charged with backwardness in this matter. Such a thing injured the Cause. Mr. Sandoz proceeded to urge the importance of union. Jealousies, prejudices, and personalities must cease and union come, or the union of opposition might conquer.

Dr. MARSDEN explained. He firmly believed homœopathy to be *a* truth, though not the *only* truth in medicine; for instance, he believed in the water-cure.

Dr. EPPS described the position of an editor as often a most provoking and difficult one, from the conceit of contributors, and the rudeness of correspondents. He amused the company with an instance of a communication not unlikely to be received, contemptible enough to a philosopher, though apt to make a sensitive man wince. He believed an editor must be a despot, and boldly pursue his course unregardful of public clamour. He thought we had a very good medical press. With reference to the backwardness of medical men in contributing, he believed much of it might be traced to the characteristic unwillingness of a first-class mind to view as of high significance what are but its every-day experience. The weekly periodicals he thought of paramount importance, affording opening to much that would never be written for periodicals of longer interval. After paying a compliment to the English Homœopathic Association, which he believed had done more to spread homœopathy than all other means put together, Dr. Epps spoke warmly on the wonders which might be achieved by a cheap press, in the form of tracts for instance. One province of the press he considered was to crush half-and-half homœopathy—and another so to accumulate evidence, as to bring our opponents to this condition, that they shall either conform to our views, or be driven to the admission that no amount of evidence whatever, that could be brought forward would convince them.

The CHAIRMAN being obliged to leave, Dr. CHAPMAN took his place.

Dr. RUSSELL gave "Homœopathic Union and Association." He need hardly recommend association there, beside the Crystal Palace, but he would remind his hearers that association made their opponents what they were. Even the St. Andrew's University, which loomed in the distance like a huge Myth, resolved itself, when analysed, into a certain Dr. Day; a St. Andrew's Day, more arbitrary and unreasonable than the Dey of Algiers, yet who, perhaps, if we had him here over a glass of wine, would turn out pretty much like one of ourselves. "Let us too," said the speaker, "have our association, and we may exchange our Jovian bolts with theirs.

Dr. FEARON said he could understand the best of men having antipathies, but he would wish to impress on them that while a man had a right to make or refuse any personal intimacies at his pleasure, likings and dislikings should never be allowed to prevent co-operation in promoting a great object.

There were several other toasts on the list; "Our Foreign Colleagues;" "The Provincial Members;" and "The Secretaries of the Congress," who had so excellently discharged their functions; but the lateness of the hour brought the very pleasant and friendly *symposium* to an end. All were pleased with the

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dinner, with the music, with the speeches, which they cordially applauded, and, what is best of all, with each other.

The CHAIRMAN, in closing the proceedings, stated that the next Congress would be held in Edinburgh, and as they had preached up liberty, he hoped those who had voted for Edinburgh would not take the liberty of staying away.

The company then separated: many taking the opportunity of strolling through the unique establishment and grounds, the latter of which, with lamps sprinkled over the lawn, and hanging in clusters from the branches of the trees, looked, in the thick darkness, as if a dew of fire-flies and glowworms had fallen on them. During the evening there was a profusion of music and musicians, both of a decidedly foreign tone, in the opinion of some a little too much encroaching on the speeches. Mr. Sandoz, in noticing this, humorously remarked, that he had been puzzled to see the relevancy of the Marseillaise Hymn with the proceedings, until it had occurred to him that it alluded to the *total revolution* which they too were endeavouring to effect.

ALLOPATHY AND HOMŒOPATHY COMPARED.

BY A PROGRESSIST.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—We believe the master-principle of your journal to be, the right of every opinion to its own free utterance. It is a fact, which will be confirmed by the observation of every man, that the *expressed opinion* of the day, as set forth in public discussions, in journals, or in books, does not represent the *actual opinion* as it exists in the convictions of the most elevated, the most active, and boldest intellects. The truly pregnant portion is suppressed, in deference to some political expediency, social routine, or mercenary prejudice. Before it attains expression, opinion is bated down to an average, and the country is debarred from enjoying the full force of the influences growing within it. You take the lead in opening the issue, by offering a free utterance to the most advanced opinion.

The specific principles which will guide me in these papers, will accord with that main principle. I shall endeavour to go straight to the heart of every question, shall declare my conviction in plain and unmistakable terms, depending on the opinion of your readers. I hold that such a course can be maintained in a spirit to win the confidence of all classes. I shall proceed in investigating these subjects less by destructive than constructive methods. "Revolutions are the violent rents made in the artificial crust of society by the unrecognised institutions growing beneath;" it is only by thorough freedom of opinion that homœopathy can proceed from the difficulties of the Past, through, we hope, a tranquil but energetic Present, to a more glorious Future.

It is the merit of all truly great and well-considered projects to social utility, that they include many advantages beside those which originally entered into the calculation and swayed the judgment of their founders. The originator of the uniform penny postage rate could scarcely have anticipated the numberless benefits that were to flow from the realization of his project. The inventor of the electric telegraph has not, in all probability, so much as dreamed of one tithe of the social blessings that in the ripeness of time shall result from the employment of electricity as the messenger of nations. In like manner, the men who conceived the idea of an Exhibition of Arts and Industry, and a friendly rivalry between the ingenious labourers, whose works are the results of the civilization of the world, were not aware of the vast number of collateral advantages that would spring from the original project. Every day some new benefit is shadowed forth, for which we shall have to be grateful to it, and, as the idea developes itself more completely, the people become more and more aware of the poetical grandeur of its conception, and more and more convinced of its practical utility. Among the many satisfactory results, either near or remote, which have already secured for it the extraordinary popularity which it enjoys, one of the most unexpected, but certainly not the least gratifying, is that of bringing together medical men from all countries to meet at the Congress to further the Cause of homœopathy. To draw those bold and conscientious men together that have followed in the steps of the immortal Hahnemann, who, like other great and good men, having introduced anything more than usually beneficial for mankind, received during his life insult upon insult, and persecution on persecution—to draw medical men to discuss the practical part of homœopathy, and to excite public interest in the Cause, is of itself a gain.

In submitting to the consideration of your readers the opposition of the medical profession to homœopathy, the task I have to perform is both difficult and painful—difficult, on account of the extent of the subject, painful, on account of the nature of the facts to which it is my duty to refer. I do not approach the subject without having carefully examined and weighed, as far as possible, every opinion and every fact

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connected with it. I, therefore, presume to solicit a patient and attentive hearing.

"Homœopathy,"* it has been said, "is full of foolish pretensions and promises, humbug, or crazy bombast." And again—"Talk of reason! fiddlestick! The man who can waste his time with such nonsense and give it to print, must be a fool, or take the public for fools to believe such things; the inutility of some of the ordinary methods of cure might be caught up, not only by the fanatical apostles and disciples of the homœopathic and hydropathic heresies."†

The *Lancet*, of April 20, 1850, heads an article thus:—

"*The Fraternity of Quackery—Homœopathy, Mesmerism, and Hydropathy.* If we could set aside the profound regret that such intellects as those of Lord Robert Grosvenor and his friends should be debased at the miserable shrine of Hahnemann, the quack and impostor, and that the poor and humble should have their life and health consigned to the weak-minded dupes or cunning tricksters who practise the homœopathic deception, we should rejoice at the prospect of having two homœopathic hospitals in the metropolis, if those who are really sick of formidable diseases, and not merely those who are hipped, be admitted into these institutions."

Again:‡ "If an enthusiast takes it into his head to walk about with a farthing candle, and fancy it light from heaven, we are not to be allowed to smile at the delusion till we have climbed up an observatory designed for watching the very stars, and from so exalted a position take note of so ridiculous a phenomenon."

There would be little harm in such barefaced injustice, if it was one individual alone who said so, but there is great and monstrous harm in it if all, or nearly all, people are guilty of the same fault; for then it prevents all progress of the science. It is a fault to judge without reasoning, without examining; condemn as absurd or deceptive, without any real knowledge of the subject. It is this fault that has ever been the heaviest curse of mankind; that ridiculed, neglected, opposed such men as Columbus, Galileo, Hervey, Jenner, and all other individuals observing and reasoning a little more accurately than their fellow-men; it is this fault that defamed, tormented, reviled, and persecuted Hahnemann for fifty years. There are many people who find it much pleasanter and easier to laugh than to reason and inquire into the laws of Nature. It is a matter of serious regret when we see important questions laughed at, while ridiculous things are treated with gravity. For my own part, I desire to adhere to no party or practice, except the party and practice of truth and justice, and cannot but express indignation at the outrage thus offered to the natural feelings of humanity. Many a theory has been found false in practice. Many systems have been called theories, which were but a combination of errors. If we have not sense enough to discriminate mere names from matters-of-fact, we may always be at a loss to discern which is which. If we would stupidly and stubbornly tie the mental faculties down to mere plodding in practice, without reasoning and inquiring into the principles, we should have to discard the best part of our sciences, and our progress would have been less. For instance, if an astronomer informs you of the distance and size, etc., of the moon, would you give him the same reply, and say, Oh! a fig for your theorising, as long as you have not proved this by practice; that is to say, not travelled to the moon and measured its distance by the yard-stick.

In every branch of science which depends on the observations of years, it is of importance that its cultivators should review the state of knowledge, and inquire whether the foundation be secure, and if not, to supply the defects which previous ages have left. In entering into the subject of homœopathy with medical men, when one could be prevailed upon to listen and treat the subject seriously, particularly after he had said it was nonsense or humbug, I have heard them say, "Well, we do not mean to dispute, but one might hesitate to believe that there would be any effect produced by the administration of a thousandth part of a grain of *Opium*; or, "Well, there may be some truth in it after what you have stated, but I confess the practice staggers my belief." A homœopathist would say, "Come and see; you would do wrong to believe in it without reason, but you do no less to reject a thing before you take the trouble to inquire into it."

There was a time, within our memory, when everybody would laugh at the idea of running steam-carriages on iron roads for hundreds of miles, at the rate of twenty or forty miles an hour. Now this theory has been verified, and it is done now-a-days, however preposterous it may have appeared some time since. Medical men have seen cases that have been permanently cured by homœopathic and hydropathic measures, and all they can

* British and Foreign Review. † Ibid. ‡ Ibid.

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say is, if they speak truth, that they are totally unacquainted with the science, and that the matter is beyond their judgment. We wonder why our great philosophers and the learned men of our profession have never devoted some portion of their time to the subject, since the benefit of the system may be proved to them so clearly, that it may be seen every day. The *Lancet* may now "rejoice;" there are "two homœopathic hospitals in the metropolis," and people that "are really sick of formidable diseases in them."

In homœopathy there are many details to be investigated to ascertain the practicability and usefulness of the subject, yet multiplied as may be its details, simple its principles, and great as its consequences must be for mankind, such is the spirit of the age, with all its vain boast of enlightening science, that not one single man comes forward as he ought, to give a fair and candid critique, or rather acknowledgment, on what cannot be denied, though the system has been before the public fifty years, and though the age cannot, with all its conceit, produce anything equal in importance, and equally desirable for people of every class, and for every human being. Silence and misrepresentation of the system by the learned, who boast to be promoters, instructors, or lovers of improvements, of science, of justice, and of truth, are belied by this stubborn fact. The exposition of this method of treating disease, with its ramifications, and objects attainable, stands as yet solitary, as if it were in a wilderness. It belies the opposition of any man who pretends to be an intelligent being, a lover of human progress, of justice and salutary truth, when he shuts his eyes to see, and his mouth to speak candidly on this matter. The darkest ages could hardly present a more disgraceful neglect, or baser misrepresentations than have been shown in this cause. The art of printing, with its rapid literary intercourse, are superior advantages of our age; but that seems to afford no advantage when it concerns the investigation and promulgation of truths of the greatest interest for human kind. When we consider how large a portion of mankind have perished by the hands of ignorant empirics, it surely cannot be a matter of indifference whether homœopathy is or is not a delusion. There is no subject which deserves a more thorough investigation. Some may be ready to exclaim, "None but God can produce so desirable a blessing as this necessary change in the management of all disorders, and the views of medical men;" but God works by human agency and human means. God could have produced such a change in the views of the British nation as to abolish the slave-trade, yet the event was only brought about by a long course of persevering and honourable exertions of benevolent men. God raised up powerful advocates, gave them the spirit of perseverance, and finally, crowned their efforts with success.

TREATISE ON THE ACTION OF IMPERCEPTIBLE AGENCIES UPON THE HUMAN BODY.*

By Professor R. Amador.

Communicated by Dr. Rosenstein.

Professor R. Amador commences this excellent essay with the assertion that each action or impression upon the human body must be vital or dynamical, *Aliments, Poisons, Contagia, Miasmata.*

Stimulants, etc., possess no other but a dynamical action. What has hitherto been attributed to absorption wants a foundation. These assertions require evidence, which may be derived from hygiene, physiology, and toxicology. The author, having shown that each function being strictly vital dynamical, further observes, when atoms have the power to generate whole beings, to which point can we fix its potency or impotency. When an atom has the power to give life, who will consider it impossible that it can change also its nature and being? When the *plus* exists, which is evident by Nature's events, why should the *minus* be considered impossible? Considering the facts of toxicology, the instantaneous death caused by a small quantity of *Acid. Hydrocyan., Aqua Toffana,* and other poisons of the animal and vegetable kingdom, the author draws the conclusion, that life which is the result of a dynamical action, may also be dissolved, destroyed by dynamical action, and everything that gives life is an immaterial, invisible, impalpable power; the invisible conduct everywhere the visible powers. The author cites the opinions of Buffon and Laplace on the internal powers of the human body, its invisible physiology (*Physiologie invisible, Laplace*), and the importance of its laws. He observes that the most formidable agencies in nature are incorporeal, which, like electricity, magnetism, heat, light, have neither smell, taste, colour, nor dimensions, being present everywhere, but invisible, penetrating everywhere, but themselves impenetrable. It is the same in relation to therapeutics.

* From the Bulletin de la Société de Médecine homœopathique de Paris.

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There are many ways to relieve suffering, but foremost stands the vital dynamical therapeutic, which is the safest and most prompt, most agreeable to cure maladies, also the most rational and the most fruitful in practice.

If we cannot doubt the existence of a dynamical vital hygiene, physiology, toxicology, and pathology, it is evident that there must also be a corresponding therapeutic; still men, who ought to know better, have ridiculed instead of investigating the subject.

The author states that M. Lafarge introduced under the epidermis a five-hundredth, a thousandth, a two-thousandth part of a grain of *Opium*, and the results were the same.

The Principal of the Central Pharmacy at Paris observes that the new iron preparation *Valèts* possesses in very small doses by far greater medicinal powers than the ordinary iron preparations, which are usually administered in larger quantities. All this was accomplished, discussed, and made known by the same Academy which now confesses publicly that a medicine increases in quality in proportion as its quantity is diminished.

We may say this may be true, but it is against common sense. But common sense and daily experience cannot be contradictory; if reason cannot conceive the *rationale* of small doses, it must be set aright by daily experience. Sound reason believed for ages in the immobility of the earth; vaccination was declared to be against common sense: the progress of science and experience has established these truths. Why should we despise a therapeutic, which is but the application of one of our soundest axioms?

The Hahnemannian discovery we also consider to be still in its infancy; it will undoubtedly develope itself in the course of time, and stand as an indestructible monument for all future generations.

THE HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2ND, 1851.

We commence the first number of our third volume under the best of auspicious omens. A great number of our colleagues met together at the Annual Congress, held in the course of last week; and it was very pleasant to observe that a spirit of cordial union animated the assembly.

Most of the gentlemen who had agreed to read papers, withdrew them on account of the great importance of discussing amply the present state of homœopathy, and the bitter though stupid hostility to our school, unblushingly avowed by the University of St. Andrew's, and by the University and the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.

We heartily congratulate all those who favour our Cause on the formation of an "Association for the Protection of Homœopathic Students and Practitioners." No better mode could be devised for meeting the aggressive measures of our opponents. Our countrymen love fair play, and the public at large will see that we have it. We trust that the Committee of the Association will not let the grass grow under their feet, and that they will be constant, in season and out of season, in carrying out the object of the Association.

It is well known to our readers that we have invariably advocated the agitation for a Charter. Some of our body have a morbid dread of being called what they are —medical sectarians. Every new reformed and reforming body is of course, and by the very necessity of the case, a sect, till it becomes orthodox by meeting with general acceptance.

The sectarian distinction only lasts while the sect is working its way. We must not be afraid of names. This is no time for being thin-skinned. Every man who practises homœopathy, must be prepared for abuse, misprision, and obloquy. It is the time for a cordial union of our own body: the "*disjecta membra*," the dissident and reluctant and self-severed members of the body should be re-joined, to form a harmonious whole.

We see no reason why there should not be one flock, even if there cannot be one fold, of our yet comparatively small body. We should take great delight in seeing the fusion into one of the two London Hospitals. The union would have an excellent effect on the homœopathic public. The few who are opposed to it, should

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give way to the great number who are in favour of it.

Some sixty homœopathic practitioners have met in Congress, and have decided on a course of resolute action for the defence of the good Cause we all have at heart. Such a numerous meeting has never before occurred in this country. It is a good omen. The next annual Congress is to be held at Edinburgh. We think the friends of homœopathy should collect funds for the immediate establishment of a school and hospital *there*. It is always wise to take the bull by the horns. The time is clearly come for a large hospital at Edinburgh, and there is already an excellent nucleus for a school.

The non-medical supporters of homœopathy should be prepared to be liberal, each with a large "benevolence," for the support of a doctrine they believe to be true, and of a practice which they know from experience to be beneficial.

There is no such thing as standing still, we must advance or fall back. There can be surely no friend to homœopathy, who in this crisis would be content to fold his arms, and look on: there can be surely none so recreant as to fly from the battle-field, and show the craven heart. A gross injustice and a manifest injury have been perpetrated by several corporate and chartered bodies. The British mind revolts from such injustice, and is ever prompt to defend the injured. It should be the part of homœopathists to make known to the British public the injustice and the injury they have received. For this purpose there should be large issues of the admirable paper we have quoted from several times, and which is of sufficient importance to have called forth a long leader in the *Lancet*, we mean the New Test Act.* There should be large issues of short treatises on the subject of homœopathy. There should be frequent gatherings in all the cities and towns to discuss the subject. Eloquent men should give lectures; ready writers should publish rapid and forcible pamphlets. The medical men, who profess homœopathy, should stick by one another. Bygones should be bygones. Every one should throw all his heart into his work.

Through good report and ill report, under the most contrarious circumstances, with the aid and co-operation, and countenance and support of only a very small fraction of our colleagues, we have during two years fought the battle of homœopathy. The importance of such a paper as this is now being acknowledged. We assert that it is the duty of our colleagues to make use of this medium to act on the public mind. We hope that, in whatever way, all of them will do their duty at this time; that each will wear a bold front, and do his *devoir* manfully. *Carthago delenda est:* the stupid hostility of universities and colleges to a method of therapeutics, concerning which they are in a state of the most pitiable ignorance, must be beaten down and expunged. The war we have commenced cannot cease till we are allowed our rights. Seven bishops being unjustly put on trial, caused the loss of a crown to a king:—so many medical men put under the ban of an *ex-cathedra* anathema of the medical universities and colleges, without cause shown, most unjustly and injuriously and contumeliously, must issue in the shame and ignominy of the persecutors.

Professor Simpson makes no end of innovations in his special art, and glories in his *speculum*, and his *sound*, and his *chloroform:* and yet this same professor denies to us the right of acting up to our convictions, and he persecutes that innovation in therapeutics which in our conscience we believe to be necessary and very superior to the general mode of medicine. We are persuaded we should neglect our duty, and falsify our mission, if we did not practise it. "We of Edinburgh," says this portentous accoucheur, "have come to the determination of not meeting homœopathists in consultation," or to that effect.

* The New Test Act: a Recent Conspiracy against the Medical Practitioners of Homœopathy and the Public, by the College of Physicians and the Faculty of Medicine; considered in a Letter to the Patrons of the University of Edinburgh, by an Alumnus. Edinburgh: James Hogg, Nicholson Street.

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Ex uno disce omnes: judge of all of our most worthy opponents from the conduct of this justly eminent man.

The time is come for a good stand-up fight: and we only wish that our opponents would select two or three champions to do battle, in a knightly and chivalrous way, with the same number of champions on our part. In the discussion of a scientific question there should be no bitterness and acrimony.

We fully expect that at the next annual Congress of homœopathists great progress will be reported; and that our position, both with the profession and the public, will be much improved. In the interval there must be an unceasing "agitation" for our undoubted rights as professional men, and as free-born Britons capable of appreciating freedom, and resolved to have that freedom of professional action which the laws guarantee to us, and which the Crown will uphold for us by charter, if existing chartered bodies turn their bye-laws and their privileges into the channel of an inquisitorial persecution of all such as they may suspect of medical heresy.

A THIRD volume of the *Homœopathic Times* is a slight symptom of progress. It will naturally be anticipated that we shall not allow the opportunity to pass unaccompanied by some observations on the present position and future prospects of the science which we have been deputed to advocate. Lukewarm should we indeed be in a cause which has associated with it the highest attributes of philosophy, did we not endeavour to bring prominently forward a knowledge of the success attending its early career. Few there are who have in reality appreciated the regenerating influence derived from the practice of our school of medicine, who will not be prepared to contend for its truth, and for the stable foundation upon which its principles rest, despite the malignant endeavours of opponents to falsify the fact of its existence.

That homœopathy has achieved an enormous success there can be no doubt. Neither can the public be longer kept in the dark concerning its utilitarian and moralizing tendencies. The experience of every-day life is fast throwing down the barriers which originally impeded the free circulation of information in this respect, and we regard ourselves as humble promoters of the system adopted, to give such information an extended currency. It is alone by popular means of this description that the professional and lay members of homœopathy will satisfactorily check the growth of the virulent opposition distinguishing the proceedings of the allopathic brotherhood, since the dissemination of properly-authenticated intelligence must eventually prove the best refutation of the scandalous falsehoods propagated regarding Hahnemann, his doctrines, and his disciples.

Under the circumstances which now stand identified with the steady movement homœopathy is making in all quarters, there never was a more favourable opportunity of attesting the strength and resources of its followers. Attacked and assailed from the strongholds of bigotry and preconceived perfection, it is essential that every one should contribute his or her mite of experience and information through channels such as we represent, in order to counterbalance and arrest the fearful amount of misrepresentation so zealously paraded against us. No better medium surely can exist than the homœopathic publications of the day. For them and for ourselves we again ask the necessary support. We ask an universal support thus ungrudgingly, because we would not wish to be supposed to be actuated by feelings other than those which ought to direct in so noble and elevating a mission.

It would be ridiculous to presume, in seeking subscriptions for the *Homœopathic Times*, to monopolise the whole of the reading community to ourselves. There are, in addition, two or three other worthy labourers in the field, whose share of patronage they have an equal right to claim. A prompt and generous assistance to encourage us in all our arduous undertakings is highly necessary, if the foes of homœo-

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pathy are to be combated, and brought to a sense of their true situation.

THIS to our friends in America is sent with a hearty greeting. No more favoured allies are connected with homœopathy than our transatlantic neighbours. The rapid expansion of the philosophy of Hahnemann throughout the whole of the States, clearly shows that vigorous intellect and healthy appreciation have done more to propagate the blessings of the system in the new world, than in many other localities. But then it must be remembered that this does not solely arise from the circumstance of homœopathy having at first been cautiously received there, but rather in consequence of several of the choice students of our illustrious predecessor having made America their adopted home, and the grand sphere of their operations. An excellent and highly-gifted colleague, well-grounded in his medical education, and in the principles of homœopathy, who has spent a year at the European schools of medicine, sails in the mail-steamer, AFRICA, this day, for New York. Dr. Dunham carries back to the United States the esteem, and respect, and best wishes of his colleagues of Great Britain, France, and Germany. We confidently predict, if his life be spared, that his professional career will be a

"A glorious summer for the State of York."

America is now closely identified with homœopathy. The number of professional practitioners, the encouraging support they obtain, and the increase of hospitals and dispensaries on that continent, are startling proofs that what is real and substantial is seized upon with avidity by our Anglo-Saxon descendants, and that they can discern the progress of the revolution about to be effected in the practice and principles of the "healing art."

To render homœopathy alike successful in the two countries, viz. England and America, and thus bring into closer relationship the great humanizing sympathies of the one great race, destined to carry its name and influence throughout the whole habitable globe, we would seek for a more intimate connection between the leading spirits of this important system. As brothers by descent and ties of consanguinity, we would wish to reciprocate fellowship and information with those who on the other side of the Atlantic have adopted for themselves the motto of "*similia similibus curantur.*"

The Cause is worthy of the undivided exertions of all true and disinterested followers of Hahnemann, and no stone should be left unturned at the present juncture to assist and promote a popular investigation which shall carry conviction to the heart of every honest man, that homœopathy and Hahnemann do not deserve the opprobrium cast upon them by the allopathic press.

Ut sementem feceris ita et metes, said the ancient orator; and so shall homœopathists truly find the result, if they determine to persevere. A success awaits them under existing auspices which never could have been secured, had it not been for the almost superhuman efforts of those who have almost life-laboured to bring Hahnemann and his doctrines clearly and explicitly before the multitude.

First difficulties surmounted, popular prejudice in an essential degree overcome, and the large mass of the public anxious to investigate the foundation of a system that is held by numbers to be simple and efficacious, there can be no better time selected for commencing and maintaining this reciprocity. And the more unity is assured, the greater and more speedy will be our victory.

Let only the old medical school find this spirit actuating the two principal sections of homœopathists, and they will soon deem it convenient to set their own house in order. Never before were they reduced to such miserable exigencies to assume a position, which is hourly bringing upon them severe condemnation.

A Translation of the New London Pharmacopœia, including also the New Dublin and Edinburgh Pharmacopœias. By J. B. NEVINS, M.D., London Medical Officer to the West Derby Union Hospital, Lecturer on Botany in the Medical School, Liverpool, etc. Longman, 1851. 8vo pp. 780.

(Communicated by Dr. STRONG.)

THE Royal College of Physicians have immortalized this year* by the issue of their indescribable and incalculable periodical. Savouring in itself but little of the love of antiquity, of modern science, nor of cumulative experience, the text nevertheless gives occasion to commentaries and notes, abounding in these sources of knowledge. As it may be interesting at the present medical crisis to gather the tone and opinion of a less flippant chronicle than the *Lancet*, we give some extracts from the above allopathic work—probably the last of its race.

* The last Pharmacopœia was issued from the College in 1836.

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"SACCHARUM LACTIS, D. *Sugar of Milk.* It is principally made in Switzerland, where it is prepared on a large scale from the residue of cheese manufacture. *Uses.* It has no medicinal properties, and is chiefly used by homœopathists for the preparation of their globules."

"CARBO ANIMALIS PURIFICATUS, D. E. *Purified Animal Charcoal. Uses.*—Charcoal is never administered internally, except by homœopathists."

"ACONITUM NAPELLUS. *Uses.*—It is used by homœopathists to relieve nervous headaches, and the feverishness of both infants and adults."

"ATROPA BELLADONNA.—Its continued use produces an eruption resembling that of scarlatina, said by German writers of credit to act as a *prophylactic against scarlatina;* it may be tried cautiously and cannot do much harm, if it do no good."

"STRYCHNOS NUX VOMICA.—In *pyrosis,* the late Dr. Belcombe, of York, employed the extract with success; and Mr. Mellon, of Manchester, has lately called attention to its good effects in the anæmial gastrodynia of that and other large towns."

[We have here acknowledged by Dr. Nevins, that homœopathy is a fact. This gentleman is a lecturer on botany, and no doubt knows much more of the properties of herbs and plants, than does the compiler of the New London Pharmacopœia.

Of the immense progress of homœopathy in the last three years there can be no doubt. The madness, the fury, the uncontrollable rage, of those who choose to make a party question of it, and the nuber of medical converts added weekly to our ranks, sufficiently attest this.

The senators of either House of Parliament must do their duty. They must avow their opinions on this subject. There are many about the person of the Sovereign who believe in homœopathy. It is their duty to express their conviction to that gracious Sovereign. It would be base and cowardly that eminent persons, who, either for themselves or for their families, have had recourse to the benefits of homœopathy, should shrink from an avowal of their faith. This cowardice would be so thoroughly un-English, that we cannot suppose it possible any would indulge in this low fear. It has been said that the House of Commons would sneer down any proposition in defence of the persecuted homœopathists, so much the worse for them, should that be the case. We do not believe it. The work, meanwhile, goes on to our hearts' content. What is the valorous University of St. Andrew's to do in Dr. Hale's case? We hope they will bring the question to the arbitrement of law. We fear not them nor all the medical colleges, and halls, and universities in the kingdom. We defy them to the battle.—ED.]

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—To non-professional homœopathists visiting India, few things cause them more anxiety than the impossibility they apprehend of being able to procure professional homœopathic advice. To such persons it will doubtless be a great relief to be informed, either through your Journal or by their medical friends, that Dr. Tonnerre, an accomplished physician, has been practising homœopathy at Calcutta during the last four or five years. Only a few days since I received a letter from him, describing in glowing terms the unexpected success he had met with: a success the more remarkable, on account of the all but impassable barriers of conservatism and exclusiveness which surround every institution, whether native or European, in India. In spite of a course of opposition from the orthodox practitioners, surpassing in virulence and bigotry anything of which even Halifax can boast, he has succeeded in introducing homœopathy into some of the first families of the place. Among the natives, especially the more wealthy and educated, it is preferred before any other system: as an instance of which I may state, that Dr. Tonnerre was appointed medical attendant to the Nepaulese Ambassador and his suite, during their stay at Calcutta *en route* to England.

Apropos to the remarks made at the Congress on Thursday evening, concerning the effects of hot climates upon homœopathic globules, Dr. Tonnerre observes, in speaking of some medicines he wishes to be sent out to him, "I desire the triturations and tinctures, because the globules melt very soon in this country."

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
STEPHEN YELDHAM.

London, July 29th, 1851.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Dunstable, Beds, July 22, 1851.

SIR,—I trust you will excuse a few suggestions I am desirous of throwing out, and which if carried into effect would I believe be of great advantage in introducing homœopathy into rural parts, where it is at present, I am sorry to say, a dead letter.

Having been in practice for fifteen years, and having frequently found how uncertain medicines were in their effects, some years since my attention was directed to the water-cure, more especially as by its means I succeeded in rescuing one of my children from a most dan-

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gerous illness, when all the usual means had failed. Having performed several interesting cures by hydropathy, I visited Gräfenberg, and other continental establishments, with a view of personally inspecting and inquiring into its merits. I have since adopted it, and I am happy to say practised it with much success; finding subsequently that there were some cases which I could not cure by hydropathy alone, I had recourse to homœopathy occasionally, and took every means to test it, before satisfying myself, as I have now done, of its truth. But what I particularly wish to draw your attention to is, the persecution and obloquy I brought on myself by taking so independent a position as to think and act for myself. The surgeons to the different districts of the Union in which I held office clubbed together, and persuaded the guardians that I should introduce my water-cure practices, and other means unsanctioned by authority, into my district of the Union, and should thereby put the parishes to considerable expense and trouble. This was all done *sub rosâ*, so that I knew nothing of it, not even when I received an intimation from the Board of Guardians that I was no longer medical officer to the district I had previously held, though I certainly began to suspect how matters stood. Without any reason being assigned for my dismissal, I was informed that they had chosen another medical officer in my place, and this too, though contrary to the regulations of the Poor Law Commissioners, which do not permit two partners having separate districts of a Union, as was the case in this instance.

Though the loss of a district of a Union may, to persons not conversant with the subject, appear to be a matter of little importance, yet in the country it often has a very different effect, and particularly so in such a case as mine, as it led some of the guardians to form an unfavourable opinion of me, and consequently to cease to employ me as their medical attendant. Now, as regards attendance on the poor, the Editor of the *Lancet* has for years advocated that parochial attendance on paupers *ought* to be thrown open to all the medical men in the towns and neighbouring districts, who were willing to attend, instead of being confined to a single medical man in a town or district. Another argument used by this gentleman on the subject was that, instead of there being only one medical gentleman authorized to vaccinate the poor by the parish authorities, all would then be allowed to do so and be remunerated for so doing. We should not in this case have so many refusing to be vaccinated, and the prevalence of small-pox and neglect of vaccination would not be so extensively complained of, as has been the case during the last few years.

The advantages, as well as I can remember, contemplated by the before-mentioned gentleman were, that the poor ought to be as well attended as the rich, and that if they did not like, or derive benefit from one surgeon's treatment, they might have recourse to another. The plan, as far as I can recollect, to meet this view of the case, as at different times suggested in the *Lancet*, was to have tickets distributed every quarter to each of the parochial poor who had a claim for medical attendance, with the name of the medical practitioner inscribed on them, and the payment to be a fixed sum per case. Each person would then be able to select whatever surgeon he or she pleased for the ensuing quarter, and would have a card entitling him or her to the services of the medical man whose name was inscribed on it. Now, I have no particular desire to undertake a district of a Union, having as much to do as I can well attend to; but the circumstances I have just stated have led me to the conviction, that unless the homœopathic public can get a bill into parliament putting the homœopathic practitioners on an equal footing with the allopathic practioners in their attendance on the poor, very slow progress indeed will be made by homœopathy in country towns or districts. Many men, who would be rejoiced to introduce so good a system, will be debarred from doing so, for to practitioners of homœopathy in the country, as well as in large towns, attendance on a considerable number of poor people is indispensable to a thorough acquirement of this interesting science.

Again, it appears to me that it might be judicious, quietly and without reference to homœopathy at all, for some member of parliament to moot the question in the House of Commons, as to whether the poor should not have the advantage of choosing whatever surgeon they pleased, for it is notorious that even in allopathic treatment there are different degrees of excellence. Besides, the ignorance of guardians of Unions, in many cases, as to medical skill, and their incapacity in selecting medical officers, have been frequently alluded to, and led to the proposition of having a few salaried medical supervisors, under the Poor Law Commissioners, located in different parts of the country, to take cognizance of the medical department of the Unions generally.

I feel firmly convinced, that if the attendance on the poor were thrown open to the profession generally, it would prove a stimulus to the younger medical men to exert themselves, and strive to raise themselves to a superior position by the cures they would inevitably effect by well-selected homœopathic medicines. You must be aware, as well as I am, that the middling classes are naturally chary of having a new system of treatment tried upon them until they are convinced that the professors of it understand it fully, and how is this to be accomplished but by extensive practice among the poor?

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
WILLIAM FORBES LAURIE, M.D.,
Member of the College of Surgeons,
Edinburgh, etc. etc.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

ALLOPATHY AND HOMŒOPATHY COMPARED.

By a Progressist.

(*Continued from page* 8.)

Much prejudice and misapprehension, much apathy and indifference, on the part of both medical men and the public, has encumbered the subject of homœopathy. We are told by the former that it is "an innovation; "that their privileges are grossly infringed," and that the long and expensive education which persons intended for the medical profession are required to undergo, does not secure to them the advantages they have a right to expect; that the "medical corporations and all existing legislation fail to shield them from the aggressions and competition of the unqualified practitioner." Did it never occur to medical men, whilst recording such sentiments, how very similar in the respects alleged is the position of the medical practitioner to that of persons in almost every station in society, professional or otherwise? Whilst hesitating to enlarge on this point, I will, however, frankly admit my impression to have long been that, in the main, medical men are not sufficiently remunerated. "The truth is," says Mr. Erasmus Wilson, "they make a mystery of their art, which being incomprehensible to their patients, they regard it as supernatural and wonderful." This is the natural consequence of training people to believe that drugs are their cure, that they at last value the filthy stuff alone, and despise the judgment that directs it. Truly, indeed, do we deserve Napoleon's contemptuous sneer, that 'England is a nation of shopkeepers,' so long as we tolerate the mental attributes of the medical man only for the sake of enjoying his drugs, and pay *gladly* for the *drugs*, while we repudiate *any reward* as the harvest of a scientific education."

Of the main professed objects of the medical profession, it is impossible to speak in terms other than of high commendation. To see so strong an array of eminent medical men connected with the several branches of the medical profession—men of high moral and professional character—devoting their time and talents to the promotion of a good understanding throughout the respectable body to which they belong, becoming the disseminators of important scientific facts and statistical relations, aiming at honourable distinctions among their fellow-men, to deserve the approbation of the wise and good, and to secure that of the mass with whom they must necessarily come in contact, by the moral power as well as by the physical improvements of this age of discovery, cannot be otherwise than gratifying, and in the highest degree praiseworthy.

If objects like those above described were exclusively aimed at, well convinced are we all, not only would they not be blamed, but that persons of all ranks and classes must cordially assent to the terms of approbation thus feebly expressed. But if, on the contrary, it should appear that they make use of these high-sounding, honourable, and apparently disinterested positions as mere stepping-stones to the development and furtherance of really selfish principles, by which they may interfere with the interests of the public, then, indeed, must the meed of approbation be withheld, and the real motives of the parties laid bare; exposed to the expression of that condemnation to which such conduct must naturally give rise.

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It may suit the purpose of medical men to argue, that the public are not capable of discriminating between the talented, the qualified, and the unqualified practitioner, and should therefore be secured against the acts of the mercenary and designing, by those who profess to make the public health an object of legislative care. We say, enlighten *the people* on subjects relating to health, and they will then be able to judge who shall be their physician. People of this country will not submit to too much interference with personal liberty and their general powers of discrimination. It has been too much the custom of the profession to decry as heretical everything that did not meet with their notions of orthodoxy. The confident manner in which medical men speak of their own opinions as being orthodox, reminds one of Selden's definition of orthodoxy, "which," says he, in his 'Table Talk,' "means a man's *own doxy*, while heterodoxy is the *doxy* of other people." I ask the candid reader if I am not warranted in what I say, when I call attention to the present rage for *Cod Liver Oil*. A patient may save himself the expense of a fee to a physician, by taking *Cod Liver Oil*, for so sure as he asks an opinion, so sure will this oil be prescribed; and yet none of them can tell the active principle of this fashionable medicine.

Dr. Kaye having witnessed a remarkable cure of rheumatism under its use, introduced it into the Manchester Infirmary, in 1776, and for thirty years the annual consumption of *Cod Liver Oil* at that institution averaged fifty or sixty gallons. But, notwithstanding the favourable result of so extensive a trial, it failed to come into general use as a therapeutic agent in this country. The remedial powers of *Cod Liver Oil* have been generally ascribed to the *Iodine* which exists in it, in some undetermined form of combination; but this opinion appears to be giving way, as the quantity is exceedingly small, and in many cases the oil has effected a cure after *Iodine* has failed. Dr. Pereira suggests that *Bromine* may be the active principle. Others attribute its efficacy to the *phosphoric* compounds contained in it. Dr. Williams thinks that its beneficial influence on the chylopoietic viscera is chiefly due to some biliary principle. Others regard these principles as too minute in quantity to produce any important effects, and consider the *oily matter* itself as the remedial agent; while Dr. De Jongh maintains that it is not to any separate principle, but to the combination of all, that we must look for an explanation of the various and remarkable curative effects of this remedy. Dr. J. C. B. Williams remarks, that it is a highly nutrient material; and it is admitted by all who have used it, that it possesses, in a remarkable degree, the property of fattening those who take it for any length of time. It is unnecessary and incompatible with the limits of this paper to detail the ingenious theories for explaining the *modus operandi* of *Cod Liver Oil*. We know, that, whether the active principle be iodine, bromine, phosphoric compounds, the oily matter, etc., the quantity at each dose must be exceedingly small. May we not inquire if these orthodox practitioners are not acting on homœopathic principles, without being aware of it?

Let us take another instance of the correctness of the orthodox school. Dr. Pereira, a physician to the London Hospital, in his Materia Medica, when speaking of *Opium*, says, "Several physicians, as Dr. John Murray and Dr. Anthony Tod Thomson, consider *Opium* to be primarily *stimulant*; some, as Drs. Cullen and Barbier, regard it as *sedative*. One, viz., Dr. Mayer, as *both*, that it is a *stimulant* to the nerves and circulatory system, but a *sedative* to the muscles and digestive organs; another, viz., Orfila, regards it as *neither*; while others, as Müller, call it *alterative*."

"Again," says Dr. Pereira, "*Mercury* is, by several writers, as Drs. Cullen, Young, Chapman, and Eberle, placed in the class of *sialogogues*; by many, as A. T. Thomson, Edwards, Vavasseur, Trousseau, and Pidoux, among *excitants*: by some, as Conradi, Bertele, and

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Horn, it is considered to be a *sedative;* by one, Dr. Wilson Philip, to be *stimulant* in small doses, and *sedative* in large ones; by some, as Dr. John Murray, it is placed among *tonics;* by another, viz., Vogt, among the *resolventia alterantia;* by one, viz., Sundelin, among the *liquefacients;* by the followers of Broussais, as Begin, among *revulsives;* by the Italians, as Giaccomini, among *counter-stimulants*, or hyposthenics; by others, as Barbier, among the *incertæ sedes.*

I extract the following from Dr. Black's Treatise* to show there is an equal discrepancy of opinion among this orthodox body, with regard to the cause of disease.

"Let us open, for example, any monograph, and, upon the information therein given, attempt to treat the disease according to the varied opinions as to the nature of the disease. Treatises upon phthisis, gout, rheumatism, cholera, fever, etc., afford ample materials; we select delirium tremens.

"Armstrong regards it as a venous congestion in the brain and liver consequent upon the activity of the heart and arteries, increased by irritation; Klapp derives it from disorder of the digestive organs; Sandwith from abdominal venous congestion; Staugthon from gastritis; Playfair from a morbid state of the liver and intestinal secretions; Goeden finds the seat in the solar and cæliac plexus, and regards the affection of the brain as simply sympathetic; Günther admits a cerebral affection, in the one case idiopathic, caused by metastatic deposits, in the other sympathetic, provoked by gastric irritation; Toepken believes it to be a sympathetic irritation of the cerebral system, arising from the cæliac plexus; according to Perry, it consists in a febrile cerebral affection, inflammatory in a great measure; according to Sutton, in a peculiar irritation of the brain, approaching to frenzy; according to Andrea, Clutterbuck, and Bright, it is the consequence of inflammatory action in the arachnoid and pia mater; Hartes regards it as a superficial erysipelatous inflammation of the cerebrum; Blake as an indirect weakness of the nervous power consequent upon morbid activity of the brain and nerves; Hufeland believes that it is only a passive nervous delirium; Copland admits that it may sometimes be inflammatory irritation, but more generally that it is vital and nervous depression, increased by the morbid impressions, produced by accumulated secretions of a vitiated kind in the biliary system, and on the digestive mucous surface; Wasserfuhr admits that the alcohol is changed into blood, from which arises drunkenness, and from this results a continued affection of the brain, when the alcohol cannot be assimilated; according to Spath, the disease is the result of a rupture of the equilibrium between the brain and the nervous system of the abdomen; Stokes says there are two kinds, one consisting in diminished irritability, the other in increased excitement.

"What rational treatment can we adopt, if guided by such a heap of contradictory and fanciful views?"

For my own part, I make no doubt that homœopathy has been granted to us by Providence in merciful counteraction to this medical confusion. "The science of medicine," said Sir Astley Cooper, "is founded on conjecture and improved by murder." "There has been a great increase of medical men of late years, but, upon my life, diseases have increased in proportion," said Abernethy. "Medical doctrines are little better than stark-staring absurdities," said Dr. Gregory. "I have *wasted* more than twenty years in learning, teaching, and diligently scrutinising every part of medicine," said Dr. Brown. These extracts from eminent men of the orthodox school must convince every thinking person that no possible reliance can be placed upon the experience of any one out of twenty men, when it is found that the experience of each of the twenty is contradicted by the experience of all the others.

This condition of things is much to be

* A Treatise on the Principles and Practice of Homœopathy, p. 104.

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regretted, when the progress of knowledge and inquiry is constantly developing new truths, and the time will come when homœopathy will need no voice to proclaim its triumphs or its truths; but, meanwhile, it becomes the serious duty of all to investigate its claims, and when convinced of its truth, to join hand and heart in the labour of love; the competent and the rich, with their influence, their talents, and their wealth; the poor, with their mite of good wishes and good words. Homœopathy belongs to the stubborn family of facts—a hardy breed, that will bear much ill-usage, and thrive under it.

It has been stated by the old school that homœopathy cannot be depended on in acute diseases. In my next paper I shall consider this point. I blame the allopathic profession for making these statements, since this orthodox treatment, though handed down for so many years, has proved so very generally unsuccessful. That profession which holds the lives of our fellow-citizens in its hand, it seems to me, is bound by every tie of honour to examine a system that will be likely to alleviate human suffering in any way; but no, they have not done it. They turn up their scientific noses, and pass it by as the "idle wind." Let them forget their science for a while and look at facts. Facts are stubborn things; and all the science in the world won't rub out one simple fact.

ELEGANT EXTRACTS FROM THE *LANCET*.

In a series of articles we have quoted at large from the *Lancet*, not only to show our thorough scorn and contempt for the contumelious and false charges brought against homœopathy and the homœopathists in that quintessence of coarseness and insolence, but to let those of our way of thinking see how we are assailed.

Mr. Turner, the eminent surgeon of Manchester, is gently reprimanded for speaking not unfavourably of homœopathy: as his words afford a striking contrast to the amiable invectives of the *Lancet*, we insert them:

"Look at extremes in practice! One set o men all mercury, another set of men all iodine another set of men all opiates, another set of men all bleeding, another set all blistering, another all purging. Now, this exclusive practice must be undignified, must tend to undignify the profession, and cause it to sink toward the pale of empiricism. Extremes have been especially carried out in the two systems of practice, homœopathy and hydropathy. Now, it is not consistent, nor is it policy, on the part of our profession, to pooh-pooh either the one or the other. There is no system which has not in it wheat as well as chaff, and the great duty which devolves upon us, is to endeavour to separate the one from the other."

We regret that Dr. Adrian Stokes resigned his membership of the Provincial Association. It is always best, we think, to let the onus of extrusion rest on the collective bodies, whether corporate or not, of our opponents. Resignation or withdrawal is considered to be an acknowledgment of defeat. We call the attention of our readers to the leader of last week's *Lancet*, which we give *in extenso*.

Here are unsupported charges brought against some of those who practise homœopathy: the back-stairs and sculleries are invaded by this pander to professional prejudice, and when information cannot be obtained in that way, we presume the Editor of the *Lancet* is *clairvoyant*. Some unmentioned homœopathist is compared to Mrs. Manning. The fatal termination of a case at Norwich is laid at the door of a homœopathist; whereas a few weeks ago, it was stated in the *Lancet* that the opponents of that practitioner had, happily, been called in, in time to save the patient. The coachman of some Lord A—— dies from the effects of over-drinking: this, too, is laid at the door of the homœopathist. Some woman, who dies after having been under homœopathic treatment, (the disease not specified,) expresses her regret in her last moments, and speaks of herself as having been "a sad fool" for having allowed herself to be so treated.

The catalogue of these cases, small as it is, is represented by the Editor of the *Lancet* as consisting of a series of horrors. Excepting the Norwich one, we know nothing of these cases. But the registry of deaths shows that people die who are not treated homœopathically; and we rather suspect that those who investigate the matter will find that most of the "horrors" that occur are not due to homœopathists. We promise our ungracious and "unlovely" contemporary to re-print all his choicest and fiercest bits of would-be eloquence against homœopathy. Let him go on: intellect is always an over-match for brute force. Let him write himself down, but, meanwhile, let

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the friends of homœopathy see the manner in which the attack on us is managed by this journalist. The gentlemen of our profession, who are opposed to us, can have no sympathy with our assailant; on the contrary, their sense of what is gentlemanly will enlist their sympathies on our side; and some day even the obtuse Editor of the *Lancet* may discover that he has been *writing up* homœopathy instead of *writing it down*, as he no doubt flatters himself he is now doing. We beg leave to state that we take neither his reports of cases nor his testimony for any alleged facts against homœopathy. The very fact that people now consent to die, and their friends assent to their so dying, under the care of homœopathists, is a proof of the advance homœopathy has made. No medical man of any medical sect pretends to have a sovereign power over life. If the Editor of the *Lancet*, week after week, assails homœopathy, it is quite clear he knows that it has become a great *fact*. The very acrimony and bitterness betray a secret fear: the strong do not bluster, those conscious of right do not use such language.

"In a series of articles we have endeavoured to expose the folly and knavery of homœopathy, and to make evident the sordid motives of its professors. We turn now to show the painful effects of this fraud on society, and its deleterious influence on the morals as well as the interests of the medical profession. When these absurdities were in their infancy, it was safe, and perhaps wise, to treat them with derision and contempt; but when, through falsehood and chicanery, they have attained a dangerous elevation, and when it is clear they exercise a fatal influence upon public health, it becomes necessary to follow them through their tortuous proceedings to their last calamitous issues in tragedy and death. In doing this we shall, as far as possible, teach by example; as Sterne, when he would give an idea of the misfortune of captivity, sketched a single prisoner, whose portrait he drew, so we find no better method than the record of individual cases. Unfortunately we are seldom permitted to publish names as the vouchers of medical histories. The circumstances of these deep tragedies are too horribly painful for patient reflection on the part of those who have participated in them. It would be too cruel to gibbet them by an exposure to public indignation. We are, however, as professional men, debarred from any public use of the names given us, by the very manner in which they are conveyed. But should any of the practisers or encouragers of these iniquities recognise their own portraits in our pages, we shall not regret it, especially if it induce them to retire from a scandalous occupation, and atone for past crimes in humiliation and penitence. Abuse of trust, even a pecuniary one, is held not to be a crime in law; but surely, in the eye of reason and equity, and by men of honour, it must be held to be the greatest of all delinquencies. Of such faults, none is more debasing than the abuse of medical confidence—none owns a meaner motive—none is attended by consequences more immediate or so appalling—none, therefore, unmasks a harder heart or a fouler conscience.

"The last two numbers of this journal give striking illustrations of the truth of this. A poor man is seized with strangulated hernia. His anxious friends rush to the doctor, who is a homœopathist. Like most of his tribe, he has neither eyes, nor ears, nor thoughts, nor time, for any but the well-paying maladies of the rich. This poor man is globulized; the fears of friends are calmed by intrepid assurances of his speedy restoration to health; his agonies increase; other and more competent advisers are sought; an operation is too late, though skilfully performed, and the patient sinks and dies amidst the terrors and affliction of his family. He lived in a civilized land, with all the appliances and means of surgical skill ready at hand; but a pitiful quack dared to stand between him and safety. At the inquest on his body, the homœopathic doctor evinced not a feeling of regret. Full of self-approbation and impudence, he excused every part of his conduct. Mrs. Manning, who would have shot a man as she would a cat on a wall, was not more indifferent to her crime than he was to the consequences of his treatment, or rather, no treatment. These men must have hearts harder than the nether millstone, and consciences seared with guilt, to be able to persevere in a life of such infamy and horror.

"Our last week's journal contained the melancholy conclusion of the Norwich case, which affords a good example of the recklessness of homœopathic practitioners. They refuse the aid of the ordinary and rational proceedings of physic, and adopt modes of treatment now opprobriously rejected by medical men on account of their unreasonableness and risk. Conscious of their own falsehood, practising an admitted lie, without compassion and without remorse, they would yet filch unacknowledged credit, and in their ignorance and awkwardness they blunder into crime.

"We have been made aware of the circumstances which occurred in the person of the coachman of Lord A——. He attended his master at one of her Majesty's drawing-rooms on a very hot day in summer, and, while waiting, drank rather freely. He, next day, complained of headache, and was persuaded by the family to place himself under the care of a favourite homœopathist. He was willing enough, as it implied only the swallowing of a globule. The headache increased, and the treatment was continued until the man became delirious. In this case, too, we regret to say that a medical man sanctioned the proceedings. At length an eminent physician was sent for, but too late, as it proved, to save the unlucky patient, who died, leaving a large family in indigence and suffering.

"Some months ago a physician of our acquaint-

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ance was sent for, to visit a dying woman. He was addressed by the patient in these sad and solemn words, for the truth of which we can vouch:—"Ah, doctor, I am afraid you come too late to do me any good. I have been a sad fool. I know it now." It was indeed too late. She died in a few hours. The trembling homœopath had fled with affected indignation, when he learned that a respectable practitioner had been called to the case, but he did not fail, like the ordinary knaves of his calling, to proclaim that the event would have been different had the patient continued to trust in him and his infinitesimals.

"Yet notwithstanding the existence of such horrors, not in one case, but in dozens, we have before us, at this moment, the account of a wife of a wealthy baronet, who is about to leave town for the season, furnished with an ample supply of globules. This woman, besides consulting more than one homœopathist, has, we regret to say, for her medical attendant, a physician who occupies a most respected station in his profession. He listens to her babble, not only without reproof, but with indulgence amounting to encouragement, and thus she goes into the country to spread mischief all around her. Armed with such dictatorial power, her neighbours scarcely venture to oppose her, and a great portion of the clergy, ready to eat humble-pie at her table, do her bidding, and propagate her poisonous advice, while few of the medical practitioners in her neighbourhood, though all are deeply injured by her folly, dare assail it. But we tell our country friends, and particularly her family surgeon, that if they would relieve themselves from oppression, and check an injurious encroachment, they must learn to speak out. We have done our duty, and shall continue to do so. But our hands would be much strengthened were the strong will of the profession heard in that deep earnest voice of conviction which awakens sleepers, detects offenders, and rallies scattered friends. The dull and ridiculous spirit of resistance rife in our inert and foolish colleges, will and must give way before general indignation. Censors and Examiners, Elects and Councillors, and Fellows, will show the requisite alacrity to meet the desires of their professions, when these are emphatically and unmistakably pronounced. We shall then no longer be affronted by the spectacle of quacks appointed to be public orators, and insulted at every corner of the street, and in every newspaper, by the open exhibition of the degraded offices of the profession. Chevalier Bunsen, the patron and dupe of every variety of quackery, will not again adjourn himself from the meetings of the Homœopathic Hospital to the meetings of the College of Physicians, nor be invited by president and fellows to meet our declared enemies, and the enemies of the medical profession. These things achieved, it will be difficult for a conceited and fashionable physician to whisper away the interests and honour of the profession in the ears of a few vain and silly titled women."—*Lancet*, August 2, 1851.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9TH, 1851.

WE invite the attention of our readers to a powerful and liberal article from the *British Banner*, which we have inserted in this week's impression. When such a writer for such a journal takes this view of our Cause, we have, indeed, reason to be hopeful.

Thought is free as the air of heaven. Lord Rosse, by the means of his telescope, discovers starry firmaments in the far-off infinite space,—firmaments assuming the most grotesque shapes. Lord Rosse is not ridiculed. We apply to the healing of disease instruments as beautifully adapted to their purposes: sciolists admire Lord Rosse, but laugh at us, or endeavour to persecute us. Sublime as are the discoveries made by the telescope, more wonderful still are those made by the microscope.

We deal with the molecules, the atoms, the infinite congeries of which make up the sum of the human body. All true and sound philosophy bears out our views. Yet men are to be found who profess to have scientific knowledge, that affect to scorn this beautiful philosophy of Hahnemann.

Much as we venerate that great genius, we doubt if he was himself aware of the full grandeur of his magnificent conceptions, and of their ultimate result on the destinies of the human race.

Had the family of the *Medici* been under homœopathic treatment, the probability is that it would not have become extinct. A congeries of atoms make up the mountain. The human body is made up of atoms. We deal with these.

The ordinary method of medical treatment acts on specified parts of the body through the mass of that body. Homœopathy acts specifically on parts, it may be atoms, and from parts on the whole.

We go ahead, as our brother Jonathan

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says. Our philosophy, reduced to practice, is coming home to the business and the practical life of our fellow-citizens. Let the *Lancet* rave; let the mythical St. Andrew's fancy itself to be a power; let imperial Edinburgh disgrace itself through its Medical Faculty; let dominions and powers, as unsubstantial as the shadows on the walls of their places of assembly, play the part of tyrants, we laugh at them, we hold them effete, ridiculous phantoms of a barbaric age. We prefer a living *clientelle* to the dead images of Pompeii.

ENGLISH HOMŒOPATHIC ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association will take place on Tuesday next, the 12th instant, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields. The chair will be taken at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

This Association has already done so much for homœopathy, and is capable of being turned to such excellent account for the defence, advancement, and establishment of our true medical reform, that we cannot too urgently press its claims on the attention of our medical colleagues, and on the homœopathic public. We should be glad to know that every individual, who favours homœopathy in these realms, was enrolled as a member of this Association.

It is by the demonstration of numbers that we can best influence the public. We know how multitudinous is the host of those who are on our side, but the public does not sufficiently know it.

The Hahnemann Hospital is already deeply indebted to this Association; and we trust that its Medical Staff, and the members of its Medical Council, will be present at the Meeting on Tuesday next. We shall be glad to see there *all* the metropolitan practitioners of homœopathy, and as many of the gentlemen practising in the country as can possibly attend.

The Meeting of last year was a splendid one; let this be more splendid still.

There is much work to be done. A portion of the medical press is most bitter in its hostility: some of the medical corporate bodies have unblushingly avowed their intention to stifle homœopathy, if they can, by refusing their diplomas to any suspected of any leaning thereto: a conspiracy is a-foot to disparage, vilipend, and hold up to contempt and hatred those who are called homœopathists. The attitude of a medical sect was not assumed by us, but has been forced on us. Like some sea-Pharos, we have to bide the violence of angry surges, and the roar of waters in a state of furious ebullition. We require concert, and co-ordinate action on our part—the wisdom of a council, the enthusiasm of a public assembly. We want the clear notes of the trumpet of Fame to declare our struggles and doings during the present time—our hopes forthe future.

Powerful tracts, *conciones ad populum*, should be issued every week.

In all directions, in which we look for the wherewithal to defend our position, and to advance our outposts, and to introduce our *battalia* into new fields of action, the English Association is capable of doing vast good to our Cause.

The following statement, extracted from the *Times*, of July 22, displays in such a remarkable manner the value of homœopathy as a remedial agent, and so clearly demonstrates the truth of the Hahnemannian law, *similia similibus curantur*, as to make it peculiarly fitting for record in the *Homœopathic Times*. The conclusive evidence that is here afforded of the efficaciousness of the homœopathic method of treatment is the best refutation to the charges of quackery and fraud, so unsparingly heaped upon the professors of homœopathy by its opponents, whilst it will also tend to show, even to the most sceptical, that a science which can furnish such indubitable proofs of the soundness of its principles demands a thorough investigation ere it can be pronounced as erroneous. Nor will such cases as these fail to have their due influence on the popular mind, if properly represented.

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The circumstances here stated must have come under the cognizance of a large number of persons, and have become a subject of general interest, consequently presenting a favourable opportunity for showing the benefits derivable from such a mode of treatment. It is only by such indisputable facts as the following, that any impression can be hoped to be made on that portion of the community which it is so desirable should be convinced of the truth of our law of healing; for so tenaciously do they cling to old opinions, that it is a work of difficulty to engage their attention to any novel system which interferes with this settled belief, unless its direct practical advantages can be made evident to them, and then their incredulity gives place to an earnest faith, the sincerity of which they evince, by becoming the warmest and most strenuous advocates of their newly-adopted opinions. We trust, then, that by such means homœopathy may be extensively promulgated, and therefore it is that such communications as the following will always be received with pleasure.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Enclosed is an account of a person at Sunderland who, in the late storm, was struck by lightning, and at once deprived of speech and hearing. The homœopathic application of *galvanism* afforded prompt relief and probably recovery.

Yours, etc., G. STRONG.

The Chase, July 24th.

"THUNDERSTORM AT SUNDERLAND.—On Friday evening last, about half-past six o'clock, the town of Sunderland was visited by a destructive thunderstorm. A large ball of fire, having a blue appearance, and being tinged with red, was seen to descend and fall upon the lower part of the town; this was immediately followed by a tremendous peal of thunder. The sky for several moments was completely illumined with sheet lightning, which was followed immediately by a heavy shower of rain. The electric fluid struck the chimney of a house in Burleigh-street, which was shattered to pieces, and the bricks strewn in all directions. The electric fluid passed down the chimney; several pieces of wood and iron were thrown about in the attic; it then passed down to a room in the third story, stripped the plaster from the wall, tore up the hearthstone, and broke all the windows. In the second story there was a cast metal stove which seemed to have attracted the electric fluid, for a large stone chimney-piece was thrown out of the wall on to the floor, and a door shattered. A boy, named Baily, was struck with lightning; he was taken up in a state of insensibility, and expired the same evening, at nine o'clock. In a neighbouring house in the same street, as Mrs. Woodcock, a married woman, was sitting at needlework in an upper room, the electric fluid struck the needle and thimble on her finger, and she received a powerful shock which threw her on the floor; when taken up she was found to have completely lost her speech and hearing. She was immediately attended by Mr. Dickson, surgeon, and recourse was had to galvanism. The apparatus was brought, and a gentle current of the electric fluid was passed through her frame for about a quarter of an hour, and she again received her speech and hearing; although extremely weak, she is likely to recover. During the whole evening the street was crowded by a dense mass of people, and the greatest excitement prevailed among the inhabitants of that part of the town, which is principally occupied by the poorer part of the population."

THE WAR OF THE DOCTORS.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH AND THE HOMŒOPATHISTS.

To the British People.

THE essential principle of Popery, up to the present hour, to a most woeful extent prevails in the high places of medicine. Our corporate medical bodies are the inveterate foes of the grand principle of Protestantism—the right of private judgment. An ignorant and infatuated world has been, time immemorial, deeply in love with art and mystery, of which it has had its fill, and most deeply has it paid for the luxury. It has been unwittingly amused with sounding names and dazzled by splendid pretensions. It has had the science, art, and mystery of government,—of divinity, of law, and of medicine; and the professors of these several sciences, arts, and mysteries have, as their indefeasible right, laid claim to the privilege of acting wholly without any consultation with, or control by, the parties interested in their respective operations. They have, to a vast extent, drank deep into the cup of Popery; they have demanded implicit confidence from mankind. To doubt, was to be condemned as contumacious, and subjected to appointed penalties. Thus the interests and the concerns of liberty, property, physical health, and eternal life, were to be left to the sole and exclusive care of those various corporations! Such was the ancient state of things, and such, to a large extent, it is now in our "most enlightened age." There is, upon the whole, but little abatement either on the side of the privileged or of the multitude. The arrogant and outrageous pretensions of the potentates are but little lowered, and the great majority of a foolish world are well pleased to have it so. Hitherto, but a small portion of mankind have understood the right and duty of exercising private judgment in this matter; they much prefer taking

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everything upon trust. There are, nevertheless, specialities; the position of the various objects to which we have referred is not everywhere alike. In various countries, but more especially in our own, there is a considerable measure of emancipation as to the science of government; men in large numbers think and speak with tolerable freedom concerning the character and the conduct both of the legislative and the executive powers. In regard to the "science of religion," it is the same, especially in the portion of society called Nonconformist, or Dissenting. As to law, it is not so; things there stand much the same as they did generations back; the bulk of men are wholly ignorant of the necessity, the value, beauty, and glory of just law, and the wrongs and miseries to which a portion of them have, from time to time, been subjected by unjust, oppressive, and cruel enactments, and by the iniquities which have blended with the administration of them. But it is worst of all in the matter of physic. There, system gives place to system, and school to school, and yet the advocates of each system, and the professors of each school, for the time being, lay claim to a monopoly of medical wisdom, and treat with summary vengeance, to the extent of their ability, all those who attempt innovation!

On a former occasion, we were induced to take up the subject of homœopathy, as coming legitimately within the province of humanity, a chief department of our official labours. We were then prevented from completing what we had to say on behalf of the public, by the Papal invasion and the commencement of Parliament, which absorbed both our space and our thoughts, and we have now been led to return to it sooner than we intended, by the extraordinary course pursued by the Scotch Universities, which have commenced a deadly war against the homœopathic practitioners. The Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh has determined to give diplomas to no man, whatever his talents or acquirements, who has the slightest sympathy with the homœopathic system, and to withdraw such diplomas from all its Fellows who may fall into the heresy. Now, it will be allowed, that this is a very extraordinary measure, and such as the public cannot witness altogether unconcerned. The doctors exist for the public, not the public for the doctors, and therefore this is a matter in which the public, having the chief, if not the sole stake, are entitled and required to exercise a judgment. This right, for them and ourselves, we now assert, and act upon it as the great principle of Protestantism, which applies not less to medicine than to theology. It may be that these Scottish Universities are acting a part which entitles them to the universal thanks of the nation, or it may be that they are acting a part which ought to subject them to universal condemnation; we hold, therefore, that this is a point which ought to be determined. Now we are not going to enter into the matter medically; this is not our business; but the great question is one with which we hold ourselves competent to deal. Is it demonstrated by experience that homœopathy cures, at the very least, *one-third* more patients than the old school? So say the homœopathists. Is it true that the Government of Vienna, probably impelled by the allopathists, at first denounced the introduction and practice of homœopathy, and that they were subsequently prevailed upon by one of the Austrian nobility, to permit the establishment of an hospital—by way of experiment—and that, in the said hospital, which was opened, about the time of the cholera invasion, for cholera patients, and that the Government medical officers, themselves the opponents of homœopathy, reported that while *two-thirds* of those treated homœopathically recovered, *two-thirds* of those treated by the ordinary methods in the other hospitals, perished? Is this true? Is it true that the Government reports of this extraordinary result led Count Kolowrath, Minister of the Interior, to repeal the law interdicting the practice of homœopathy? Is it true that Dr. Wylde, the Government reporter, and opponent of the homœopathic principle, reported to the Government that "the statistics show that the mortality is much less there (in the homœopathic hospital) than in the other hospitals of the city?" Is it true that Knoly, the Austrian Proto-Medicus, published reports in 1838, which exhibited a mortality of but *five or six per cent.* in the homœopathic hospital, while three similar institutions, on the allopathic plan, show a mortality as high as from *eight to ten per cent.?*"

It is stated by the advocates of the allopathic system, and the opponents of homœopathy, that the latter system may succeed in concealing its imposture in the sluggish stream of chronic maladies, but that in acute diseases, which demand immediate remedies, it is impotent. Now is it so? It is just, if report may be credited, the very reverse! From tables before us, prepared by Professor Henderson, of the Edinburgh University, it is shown that in 909 cases of inflammation of the lungs, treated upon the established system, no fewer than 212 died—that is, nearly *one* out of every *four*,—whereas in 299 cases treated on the homœopathic system, only 19 died, or *one* out of every *fifteen* cases. In 111 cases of pleuritis, treated upon the established plan, 14 deaths ensued, or about *one* in *eight;* whereas out of 224 cases of the same malady, treated homœopathically, there were but *three* deaths, or little more than *one* in *a hundred* cases! Again, in 21 cases actually occurring in the Edinburgh Infirmary, upon the established plan, there were *six* deaths, or more than *one* in *four;* whereas, in 105 cases of the same malady, treated homœopathically, there were but *five* deaths, or *one* in *twenty-five* cases!

Now, we ask the Royal College of Physicians, if these things are so? It will surely be allowed that there is, at least, a case made out here for inquiry. These statistics are facts, or they are falsehoods, let their falsehood be arrived at; if facts, let the Royal College of Physicians explain, and vindicate the course they have pursued.

We now proceed with a case in point.

We inserted a paragraph last week to the effect, that the Senatus of the University of St. Andrew's had threatened to withdraw a di-

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ploma from Dr. Hale, of Norwich, because he had avowedly adopted homœopathic principles, and expressed our disbelief in the allegation. We now, however, begin to entertain fears that it may, after all, have been true; for, from a letter which we have since received, we find that a like course has been adopted by the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh. This letter originated in the issuing of a series of resolutions by that distinguished body relative to all practitioners of homœopathy, constituting Fellows of their College. These resolutions were passed May 9, 1851, at a meeting expressly convened for that purpose, and with entire unanimity. (See *Homœopathic Times*, No. 97, in which they were given.)

This manifesto was left to exercise its own effect on the minds of the Fellows of the College; they are to understand this as a significant hint either to recant or withdraw, and that, failing of this, they will be expelled. Such Fellows, then, may do one of three things—they may renounce their homœopathic principles, or, at least, desist from acting on them; or they may wait in silence their expulsion; or they may defend themselves by protest or otherwise. Dr. Macleod has preferred the last course-and, to crown his reasons for so doing, is the, object of this very able, copious, and temperate pamphlet. The Doctor lost no time in doing what he has done, although he apologizes that it was not done earlier. The resolutions were passed on the 9th of May, and the pamphlet bears date the 28th of June, and is addressed to Professor Simpson, President of the Royal College of Physicians. A copy of the resolutions, it seems, was sent to Dr. Macleod, among the other gentlemen who had fallen into the homœopathic heresy. At first, he was disposed to disregard the denunciation, and to deny the authority of the requisition; but it seems such a use has been made of the resolutions, as to compel him to speak out; in consequence of that document, "disreputable imputations" regarding every one who has embraced a new theory have been recklessly made. The author, in proceeding with his defence, gives the history of his own studies, which is certainly such as few can boast; at any rate, not many have had more extensive opportunities of study. He commenced his career in Edinburgh, where for years he devoted six hours a day mainly to the business of the dissecting-room for nine months in the year, and laboured with zeal in the Royal Infirmary for upwards of three years, performing nearly all the weights and measures made there during that period. He went the round of the hospitals, when the physicians were not there regularly, for several years, watching and examining for himself every case of interest; he assisted in the examination of almost all the bodies of those who died in the hospital. In a word, he did all that was deemed necessary or practicable thoroughly to master the science of medicine as it is taught in that far-famed school; yet so unsatisfactory was it, in many respects, that be determined to renounce drug or allopathic practice, and to devote his energies to the study and teaching of anatomy and physiology. Circumstances arose to call his attention to homœopathic practice: having, nevertheless, his doubts about its law, he determined to proceed to Vienna, that he might examine the subject at the homœopathic hospital in that capital, and this he did for four months, studying at the same time the negative practice pursued by Dr. Skoda and the allopathists under one of his colleagues; and, after carefully comparing the results during that time of these several modes of treatment, he was forced to the belief, that the homœopathic was the most efficient, the negative or do-nothing the next, and the allopathic not only the least so, but the most dangerous, and that even in the most skilful hands. While at Vienna, the Doctor, full of zeal and insatiable in his thirst after knowledge, met with some persons who called his attention to the subject of hydropathy, from which they had received personal benefit. Determined to sift this matter to the bottom, he set off to Grafenberg, and spent the autumn and the winter with the renowned Preissnitz. Having thus extended his views of men and things, he returned again to Scotland, a believer in the efficacy of minute doses, when properly administered, in the cure of many diseases, and also satisfied that water, for divers maladies, was a powerful medical agent. Declining several situations which offered, he accepted the office of physician to the establishment of Benrhydding, where, he says, "I have spent some five happy years in discharge of the duties of my office, and have enjoyed the privilege of treating no fewer than 6,000 cases." Dr. Macleod goes on to complain of those men in the profession, who have chosen to take part in this controversy; insinuations of the most unworthy description have been, and still are being lavishly scattered, with a view to damage, at all hazards, the repute and authority of the objects of their displeasure. He then proceeds, with an elaborate argument, into the character and merits of which we cannot enter, since it lies beyond the scope of our present article; it is, moreover, of a nature somewhat technical. Passing over this then, we proceed to that which concerns us, and with us,—all mankind. Our present object is to remark on the closing, and, as they may be designated, the practical portions of the pamphlet. The author tells the President that he considers such a display on the part of the College, as eminently hazardous to its future reputation, unjustifiable in its present position, and by no means calculated to exert any beneficial influence, in furtherance of the public safety. Dr. Macleod has shown that whatever unanimity there may be among the physicians as to the truth of homœopathy, and its practitioners, there is very little as to their own medical practice. Not satisfied with defeding himself and his brethren, he becomes, in his turn, assailant, and he here displays a capability, if he chooses to exert it, of carrying on the war with no feeble hand. The Royal College issued a ukase, stamped with authority; Dr. Macleod meets it by the calm statement of a few facts—facts of a nature the most damaging to anything like science or consistency. The following

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will speak for itself. (See *Homœopathic Times*, No. 104, in which the extract referred to appeared.)

Such was the practice in what long claimed to be the first medical school in Europe! Such is the system which demands the homage of mankind, and which pours the bitterest scorn upon men who venture to think it unsatisfactory, and long for something better. But we must leave the three physicians, and turn to the Doctor's account of the two professors, which runs thus;—(See *Homœopathic Times*, No. 104.)

Now, it is to be remembered, that such was the teaching of the College in the experience of Dr. Macleod. Is it marvellous, therefore, if the effect was what he represents it to have been? and is it strange, that he should resent the conduct of the Royal College towards himself and his homœopathic brethren? Was it possible, that such teaching could command the respect of young men of intelligence and reflection, who were anxious to ascertain what is the truth—who are averse to walking in the dark, while performing deeds connected with death and life, and whose honourable spirits revolted at the thought of practising on the credulity of mankind? Dr. Macleod next inquires of the President of the Royal College of Physicians, what is likely to be the effect of the ukase on the country, and on this point he sets forth a series of thoughts which are worthy the attention of all whom the matter concerns;—

"In the first place, what effect can follow from the resolutions, on minds already favourably disposed towards the denounced doctrines? Let us notice how homœopathy now stands, and the nature of its hold on opinion. Has it been accepted only by the ignorant? Is it professed only by quacks and impostors? Let not the College be deceived. Our leaders should not shut their eyes to the fact, that the system in question is assented to by thinkers as enlightened and acute as any in this age, and that its disciples are not of the multitude. Is a man like Bunsen, for instance, or Archbishop Whately, or indeed any one who can probe more than skin-deep, likely to be deceived by the superficial but meaningless unanimity of that ballot-box? The list of its professional cultivators, too, notoriously contains the names of as reputable and instructed physicians as any in Europe. Not one solitary practitioner, I believe, will that unhappy decree turn from his course; nor will it shake the faith of a single patient who has tested the system by experience.—Then again, as to the general public? Is it not the most probable result of a simple authoritative decree like the one we are considering, that it will rather rouse prejudice against it? Those tales of futile and frequent exactions of this sort, in former times, are rife enough to reach and fill the general ear; and, on the face of present circumstances, there is nothing peculiar, nothing to satisfy any one that the old blunder has not been repeated. The decree, I have said, is simple and unattended. It is an utterance from authority regarding certain matters still under inquiry; and it is nothing more. It is unaccompanied by any effort at persuasion, or by the faintest promise of service in the way of clearing up existing difficulties. One great, one inestimable service the College might have rendered; nor is it yet too late. It is a service, likewise, in perfect harmony with our English idiosyncrasy, which, as I have said, is averse to generalization. I refer to the establishment of a great hospital, wherein the operations of the new system of cure might be seen and examined by all; furnishing alike to the student and advanced practitioners the only true means of reaching correct judgment on a matter of paramount professional as well as public concern.

Here it comes out—the facts were known before—that his Excellency Chevalier Bunsen and Archbishop Whately have embraced the homœopathic doctrine, and in them we have two of the most enlightened men of the age—the one of the church, the other of the world—the avowed disciples of the system which has been denounced by the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.

Nor is this all; there can be adduced the names of 3,000 practitioners, very many of them of the first mark in Europe, and not a few chief professors of the universities, and physicians in the courts of kings. But a Bunsen and a Whately in our own country are but types of a numerous class of educated men who entertain similar views. Amongst that class will be found the Duke of Hamilton, the Earl of Wilton, Lord Robert Grosvenor, Principal Scott, of Owen's College, Manchester; the Marquis of Anglesea, and Richard Cobden. What Dr. Macleod calls the "Decree" is, in our judgment, not simply idle,—it is foolish. No men of sense would think the less of the system, and the multitude will think of it all the more. Persecution is always patronage amongst Englishmen. We reiterate our oft-repeated suggestion—a point to which we are happy to find Dr. Macleod referring—that the question is not to be settled by mere authority. The professors of the new system appeal to facts, and on the ground of fact they must be met. We have said we laugh at the globule, but we are rendered serious by the contemplation of the facts, numerous and well-attested, which are, from time to time, coming before us. On this point we have been alike amused and pleased to find that most able man and distinguished physician, the late Dr. Combe, as quoted, using the very words used by ourselves in former articles: his high science and our mere common sense conducted us respectively to the same conclusion. The homœopathists are in earnest; they clearly believe their own doctrine, and they are rapidly placing themselves in a position which will bring matters to an issue. They have already, in London, two hospitals, both in full operation, which are open to the visitation of the general public and the whole medical faculty; while from period to period the results are being published to the wide world. It is, we contend, but just to give them a fair hearing. In the face of England they stand forth in the Capital, and say, "Send us patients labouring under every malady known to human nature, and we undertake to deal with them on homœopathic princi-

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ples, and to produce effects more satisfactory, and, for mankind, far more beneficial than have hitherto been realized from allopathic practice." Can anything be more rational, more candid, more decisive? But we must give the closing paragraph of the letter, which constitutes a personal appeal to the President of the College of Physicians, who appears to have been one of Dr. Macleod's college companions and early friends.

"Concerning your own action in these recent deliberations I know positively nothing; but I shall not question the sympathy of one who has never been blamed for resisting novelties himself; who has perhaps introduced more serious and startling courses of practice than any other cotemporary British physician; who is certainly not bound by formulæ of colleges, but, on the contrary, who has ventured, on the strength of his own will and resources, to walk all but singly along a most perilous path. Recollections of former times also reassure me. Were I to arrange and compute the value of their influences, I know not—if I have erred—how far I might not plead in palliation *Te Duce*. You have not forgotten that small room, approached by the long passage, where our lamented friend, Dr. John Reid, once lived and studied. Free speech was there, free thoughts, and criticism unchecked. Youth passes, and with it many dreams and impulses. We think, when we begin, that we are to storm the world, but alas! the world too often storms us. Many find it safest to capitulate, and permit themselves to be sold. Still, all these early impulses are not foolish. For myself, I would cherish, as before, fair hopes of success and auspicious fortune; but, foremost, that old and firm resolve, to remain, whatever betide, by honesty and intellectual independence."

These solemn words form a meet conclusion to this very able epistle, by which the College of Physicians, of the orthodox system, have gained nothing—Dr. Macleod and the homœopaths a great deal. The pamphlet will prove a valuable advertisement to both,—and we vouch for it no man, with a fair portion of intelligence, can read the letter with care and candour, without forming a favourable opinion both of the writer and of his subject, and without concluding that he has made out a sufficient case for further inquiry. Let this be granted, and we ask no more; for we repeat, in conclusion, that all we ask is justice, and that we, the British people, have the deepest interest in the question; and we have every reason to be dissatisfied by the conduct of the established practitioners in attempting by mere authority to suppress the new system. We shall return to the subject.—*British Banner*, July 30th.

DR. HALE AND THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREW'S.

To the Editor of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal.

SIR,—On the principle of *audi alteram partem*, and as fellow-sinner with my friend Dr. Hale, whose recent "gross deception" you have so energetically exposed, permit me to offer a few remarks illustrative of my ideas on the subject.

The charge against Dr. Hale, as I understand it, is this:—That when he was examined at St. Andrew's touching his knowledge of the practice of physic, he answered the questions, not according to his own judgment, but in the way he imagined his examiners would best approve of.

But first, as regards the heading of the examination paper. If this was designed to prevent a believer in what is called homœopathy from passing an examination, a gross act of dishonesty was attempted to be perpetrated by the University? On it certain powers have been conferred, to be exercised for a certain definite object. This object is, that candidates who are possessed of a sufficient amount of qualification and medical knowledge shall be empowered to exercise it, in virtue of a diploma received from the University. If a candidate who possesses this amount of knowledge is refused a diploma, the University is guilty of an act of dishonesty towards the practitioner, and of deception on the public. His being possessed of a *greater* amount of knowledge than they require, that is to say, his having acquired a knowledge of the use of a number of remedies of which the examiners know nothing, cannot disqualify him. In all fairness and reason, it ought to be left to *him* to decide whether he shall communicate this *extra* knowledge to his examiners. If he chooses to do so, it is a work of supererogation. If a set of men can be found so blinded by prejudice to a sense of their duty, as to punish a man because he knows *all* that they do, and *something more*, any reasonable amount of "deception" is justifiable, when the object to be attained is a laudable and necessary one, and when, through their dishonesty, it cannot be obtained without it. If you were to be tried by a judge who always managed to obtain the conviction of every prisoner who had red hair, surely if you were so unfortunate as to be of the number, it would be a pardonable deception for you to dye your hair black.

As long as so great an uncertainty appertains to the practice of medicine, the "deception" practised by Dr. Hale is more or less practised by every candidate for a diploma, who has any practical knowledge of his profession. Do you not yourself remember, Mr. Editor, when you were preparing for your examination at "the Hall," that it was again and again inculcated on you, that if Mr. A. asked you a particular question, you were to answer it one way; whereas if Mr. B. asked you the same question, you were to answer it in another? Was it not the same at the "College?" And would you have imperilled yourself by departing one jot from the indicated track?

Suppose a disciple of Broussais were to be examined by a staunch Brunonian (for even such still exist), is it reasonable to suppose that he would contend for all the dogmas of his master? Suppose a hoary-headed disciple of "Young Physic," whose long experience has taught him the dangers of the heroic practice,

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and that it is much more easy to do harm than good; for example (*vide* Forbes's Review, vol. xxii, p. 243), suppose such an one to be examined by the dauntless hero who presides over the Edinburgh College of Physicians, fulminates anathemas against homœopathy, glories on slitting up the os uteri on the smallest provocation, leaves a sponge tent for days in the womb, physics *ad libitum*, what chance would he have, if, when asked how he would treat disease A, he should answer "do nothing;" disease B, "amuse the patient;" disease C, "give cold water;" disease D, "bread-crumb pills," &c. It would be manifestly impossible for any one so circumstanced ever to obtain a diploma; and such there are in our profession, who probably have been the examiners of the examiners. I might extend these examples to an indefinite length, but I spare you further details; I only ask which of these should cast the first stone at Dr. Hale?

In sooth, Mr. Editor, you are treading on dangerous ground. You are exposing the nakedness of your own kith and kin. You know as well as I do, that if you were ill, and were to consult on the same morning any six practitioners, no two of them would recommend the same treatment. You know that there is no such thing as an approximation to an uniform treatment of disease, and that if a dozen really thinking and practical men were to be examined by the same examiner, and were conscientiously to found their answers on their individual experience, and the examiner was to reward them according to his idea of their merits, no two of them would pass. Such a thing never has and never will be done, as long as medicine remains in its present state. Ninety-nine candidates out of a hundred give a certain orthodox routine practice, which they have gathered either from authors or lecturers who, in practice, would probably be the first to repudiate their own teaching.

One word as regards homœopathy. The practitioners, in many instances, have based their conviction of its truth on large experience. There was a time when they were as sceptical as yourself. Have you, Sir, any really practical knowledge of the system you denounce? If so, for the benefit of the profession, and the confusion of the homœopaths, inform the world of it. Have you ever (as is the case with the humble individual who now addresses you) patiently persevered for months with experiments with the homœopathic medicines? If not, let me recommend you to set about it, or at all events to urge on your readers to undertake the task. I will give a prize of twenty guineas for the best series of experiments illustrative of the *failure* of the homœopathic medicines, if you will give a similar prize for the best series of successful cases; your readers would then be able to decide on facts, not on empty words. Of one thing you may be certain, that the believers in homœopathy laugh to scorn all the attempts at petty persecution and bitter invective founded on ignorance. If their system is true, you might as well attempt to fetter the waves with a thread, as to extinguish the smallest spark of truth which it contains. When their system is *proved* to be false, they, of all others, will most rejoice to aid you in its destruction.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

GEORGE HILBERS,
M.D., University of St. Andrew's, M.R.C.S.E., and L.A.C.

19, South Bedford Street, Liverpool,
June 23, 1851.

[We extract this letter from a late number of the *Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal*. Once a Dr. always a Dr. The University of St. Andrew's cannot *undoctor* Dr. Hale. What is that Faculty about? They threatened Dr. Hale with a series of "horrors." Has their valour evaporated?—ED.]

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

DEAR SIR,—The enclosed case is at your service, if suitable for your pages. I do not send it as a model of treatment, for you will perceive I erred in the selection of the first medicine, but it is of interest from its similarity to, if not identity with, true Asiatic cholera.

W. K——, aged sixty-two, 6th July, 1851. Temperate habits; dined yesterday on gooseberry pie, and had had a pint of ale for supper; was quite well when he went to bed last night. Awoke about seven this morning, with desire for stool; on walking across the room fainted, and remained insensible about a quarter of an hour. His face was of a livid colour, covered with profuse cold perspiration, and he passed urine involuntarily; about an hour afterwards had a copious liquid stool, and fainted again. He was carried to bed, and on attempting to sit up fainted a third time, and his bowels were moved involuntarily. Vomited twice, the first time apparently the food taken the previous evening, next a watery fluid. He has been very cold; hot bottles have been applied, without warming him. Has had since ten a. m., severe attacks of cramp, first in his feet, and then in legs and thighs. First seen at one p. m.; restless, will not lie with bedclothes on; thinks he is dying. Surface very cold; covered with profuse, cold, clammy perspiration; great thirst. Pulse scarcely perceptible; merely occasional fluttering in the right arm, quite imperceptible in the left. Face cold; features much sharpened; eyes sunk, surrounded with a livid circle; livid colour, especially of the nose and upper lip. Tongue cold, clammy, covered with thick yellowish-brown fur. Great thirst. Voice low and hoarse; disinclination to speak. No vomiting for the last half-hour. Stools passed as he lies, in jerks, at intervals of a few minutes; lurid, nearly colourless, liquid, producing no stain on bed-linen; no urine since that passed involuntarily in the morning, between seven and eight. Cramps severe in legs and thighs; the toes are drawn backwards during the cramps; feet very cold; toe-nails blue; hands cold, but not livid.

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Hot bottles to be applied round him. *Tinct. Verat.* 3 ; one-fourth of a drop half-hourly.

Three p. m. No change, except the pulse quite imperceptible.

Continue.

Four p.m. General state of stools as before. Complains of burning heat in right hypochondrium, with crampy pain at epigastrium, and intense thirst. No urine. Since half-past three p. m. no cramps in legs, but arms and hands severely cramped; nails blue; skin of the points of the fingers puckered.

Tinct. Arsen. 3 ; one-fourth of a drop at intervals of twenty minutes.

Half-past nine, p. m. Cramps ceased. Skin still cold, but less perspiration. Tongue moist, cold, cleaner. He thinks there is less discharge from the bowels. Pulse 108, very feeble; thirst. No urine.

Continue.

Half-past ten p. m. Discharge from bowels leaving a pale yellow stain. Skin not so cold; no cramp; pulse firmer. No urine.

Continue *Arsen.* half-hourly.

July 7th, half-past eight, a. m. Slept at intervals. No cramp; skin of nearly natural temperature. Pulse ninety-six, pretty firm. Tongue still cool, and furred. Stools frequent, liquid, leaving stain as reported last night; no urine. Thirst; voice hoarse and low. Troublesome cough, causing pain at umbilicus; no pain or pressure either there or at hypogastrium.

Continue *Arsen.* hourly.

One p. m. Voice stronger. Stools liquid, and still passed involuntarily; no urine. Skin warm; pulse ninety-six. Tongue cool, with thick yellow fur. Frontal headache; eyes suffused.

Continue.

Eight p. m. As at last report. No urine.

July 8th, eleven a. m. Slept at intervals; feels better. No stool nor urine. Pulse eighty-four; good strength. Voice stronger. Complains of hunger.

Continue *Arsen.* bi-hourly. To have a tablespoonful of thin gruel bi-hourly, between the doses of medicine.

Evening. Passed urine three times; no stool. Free from pain. Complains much of hunger.

Omit medicine. A tea-cupful of gruel for supper.

9th. Slept well. Passed urine three times. Pulse eighty-four, natural. Tongue cleaner.

No medicine. Gruel for breakfast and supper; a little plain boiled rice for dinner.

10th. Frequent ineffectual desire for stool and urine, though a good deal of urine passed. Pulse ninety-six; skin dry. Frontal headache and giddiness on attempting to sit up.

Nux 3 ; at bedtime. Continue diet.

11th. One liquid bilious motion; passing urine freely.

Omit medicine. Continue diet.

12th. A formed, rather costive, motion; in other respects better. He was allowed animal food on the 13th. Has continued gradually to improve, and to-day has been out. The secretions from the bowels and of urine *natural.*

Believe me, dear Sir, yours very faithfully,

Hull, 56, Prospect-street, G. ATKIN.

July 16, 1851.

Miscellaneous.

THE DUNDEE HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY was opened June 15, 1849, for the purpose of affording gratuitous advice and medicine to the poor; Dr. Cockburn attends from two to three p.m., on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. It has just issued its First Report, from which we extract the following:—

During the 1st half-year		156	Patients were	admitted.
During the 2d	do.	132	do.	do.
During the 3d	do.	139	do.	do.
During the 4th	do.	552	do.	do.
During the two years		979		

The above statement shows a large increase in the number of patients attending the Institution, and gives the best evidence of its great value to the sick poor. This increase has been brought about entirely by such patients as have been either entirely cured or benefited — these having circulated the result of the treatment among their neighbours. By far the greater number of cases were of a chronic character, not a few of these of many years' standing, and some who had been dismissed from the ordinary Medical Institutions as incurable. Almost all the patients have appreciated the value of the treatment, and expressed their gratitude for the benefit derived from it.

CHESTER HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.—The above Institution was opened on the 31st of March, of the present year, under the direction of a committee of management. Since which time to the 30th June, 207 patients have been admitted.

ALLOPATHIC CANDOUR. — "We have received," writes the *Lancet*, in its notice to correspondents of July 19, "two or three communications respecting the appointment of Mr. Newman, a homœopath, to the Glastonbury district of the Wells Union. Can it be that this is the Mr. Newman who was dismissed some years since from the same Union, in consequence of his being a homœopathic practitioner? We are informed that he is, and that the Poor-law Commissioners have ratified the appointment made by the board of guardians! The excuse is, that no other *qualified* man in the district tendered for the appointment. Can this be true? We have heard also that not one of the three other surgeons of the Union has protested against the election of Mr. Newman. NO WONDER AT THE PROGRESS MADE BY (HOMŒOPATHY) quackery when such appointmeets are made by boards of guardians, and silently tolerated by medical men immediately interested in them."

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 107. Vol. III. | SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 1851. | Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ENGLISH HOMŒOPATHIC ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday evening was held the Annual Meeting of the above Association, at the Freemasons' Tavern. The company at first assembled in the smaller room, but this being immediately crowded to excess, they adjourned, before commencing proceedings, to the large and handsome hall of the building.

Sir John Kennaway, Bart., was unanimously invited to take the chair, and opened the proceedings thus:—In taking the chair, a stranger among you, I do so with regret for my own sake and yours, that the place is not filled by the noble President of this Institution, with whom I have the honour to be personally acquainted, and whose presidentship, all who are acquainted with his public or private character must know, cannot but be productive of advantage and honour. He is not, however, in town, and I take the chair he would have better filled. There are, however, some circumstances to render me not altogether unfit to preside over a meeting of homœopathists. It is said that our medical creed is one hastily taken up and as hastily abandoned. Certainly, to me this remark does not apply; most of those around me are, probably, newer to the subject than myself. This claim, therefore, I have on your attention, that I have given the question a long consideration, judging it as a layman can, as one not called on to attempt any technical or scientific knowledge of the matter, but certainly to make *some* inquiries and obtain *some* knowledge of it. Such knowledge I may claim to have had for twenty years, from experience connected with my own family; for so long ago is it that two relatives derived so much good from the treatment of Dr. Belluomini, that I could not but conclude the system had great claims to attention. From that time all things have concurred to convince me that homœopathy is founded on truth. And now nothing is more clear, than that we can afford to take high ground, and wait with patient confidence the progress which everything shows homœopathy is making. It is not the character of the English to take up with novelties, but rather to receive them slowly and by degrees, and therefore, I am the more struck with the progress the system has made in this country. There are many signs of this. In the towns I have been surprised to see so many shops in which homœopathic articles are sold. In the country I believe it enjoys twenty times the notoriety it ever did. What would it be then, could all who have been benefited by it speak out. For I am persuaded that there is much homœopathy privately appealed to; that many a man turns from his regular adviser and consults, unknown to him, the homœopathic practitioner. And thus the practice is spreading, so that no antagonism, no virulence, can put it down. And when we behold the virulent opposition it has met with in various parts of the country, it is encouraging to know that this is the best proof that we are advancing. Were we doing nothing, nothing would be said. In this contest, all we ask is, a fair field and no favour; and, indeed, speaking as a layman, as one of the public so vitally interested, I demand as a *right*, some means by which we may recognise the educated practitioner from him who buys a few books, and then commences practice. These are the men against whom we want protection, and, no doubt, we shall soon get it. (Cheers.) It would, among other things, remove this difficulty—that if some test could be had, conferring, as in justice it ought, the same rights as in the recognised schools, there would no longer be the heart-burnings, and jealousies, and acts of oppression which are now rife; because if a man discovered that he had been in error, and that homœopathy was a truth, he would lose no privilege, nor sacrifice anything by joining the ranks of its professors. One point has always struck me as most important and worthy of the most striking display, viz., the wonderful extent to which homœopathy simplifies the course to be pursued by a medical man. Under allopathy, there may be no doubt as to the disease, but the difficulty is, how and with what to treat it; but it is not claiming too much for homœopathy, to say that no such difficulty can exist in it; but let the disease be once clearly distinguished and recognised, and the treatment follows. In this discrimination of diseases, in this diagnosis, as it is called, many advantages may at present be on the side of the allopaths; but how mighty the gain to them and the public could we to their skill in diagnosis unite our certainty of treatment. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Pearce, the Honorary Secretary of the Association, read letters from the Rev. W. Brock and James Wilson, Esq., M.P., regretting unavoidable absence; after which the following Report was read:—

The English Homœopathic Association, the first homœopathic association established in this country, was founded in consequence of an attack on Dr. Curie by the coroner for Middlesex.

The Association originated in the determination to protect the interests of the public, by preserving intact the rights of homœopathic practitioners and students, the ministerers to the medical wants of the public.

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In the carrying out this determination, it offered its services to Mr. Blake, surgeon, at Taunton; it defended with success Mr. Pearce; it effectually sympathised with Mr. Newman, who was dismissed from his office as surgeon to the Poor-law Union of Glastonbury, because he practised homœopathically; and it has now put itself in communication with the Dean of the Medical Faculty in the University of Edinburgh, in relation to the case of Mr. Pope, with the view of ascertaining what legal steps can be taken to try the question of the assumed right of the Medical Faculty to exclude Mr. Pope from the obtainment of his diploma on the ground that he will not promise not to practise homœopathy. It sought parliamentary information on the case of Mr. Holland, of Honiton, who was allowed to retain his office as Poor-law medical officer, although a homœopathist.

The English Homœopathic Association has issued several publications: "Homœopathy, its Principle, Theory, and Practice," by Mr. M. B. Sampson. The edition issued by the Association is exhausted.

"The Progress of Homœopathy;" this edition is exhausted.

"Homœopathy and its Principles Explained," by John Epps, M.D.

Besides these large works, it has issued other publications; one on "The Prevention and Treatment of Asiatic Cholera," was forwarded to all the members when the cholera was raging.

The committee of the English Homœopathic Association, in calling together the members and the friends on the present occasion, offer to them now assembled the subjoined statement of the proceedings of the Association since the last annual meeting.

This statement, the committee believe, will be of peculiar interest at the present moment, not only as a record of important facts, but also as establishing that the Association is an instrument which may be of the greatest service now, when homœopathy is subject to the grossest attacks, and when it is attempted to hunt down homœopathists.

The English Homœopathic Association was founded for several objects.

The defence of homœopathy against attacks, conceived in an unfair spirit, and carried out by unrighteous means, was one object.

In relation to this, the Association felt it to be their duty to publish a statement of the case of Mr. C. T. Pearce, their honorary secretary. A copy of this statement was transmitted to each member of the Houses of Commons and of Lords; subsequently a petition in relation to the same case was presented to the Commons by the respected president, Lord Robert Grosvenor, and to the Lords by the noble lord's brother, the Earl of Wilton.

The discussion on the petition, when presented to the Commons, had the effect of bringing the case prominently before the House and the country.

Another object of the Association is to publish works explanatory of homœopathy. They refer with pleasure to the work last issued, written by one of the members, namely, "Homœopathy and its Principles Explained," by John Epps, M.D.; a work, for the publication of which the public press has congratulated the Association.

Each member of the Association for 1849 was supplied with a copy of the work, and members for the year 1850, renewing their subscription this year, will be supplied, if not already supplied, with a copy of the work referred to. The committee have further resolved that any new member shall be supplied on the payment of one shilling in addition to his registration fee.

A third object for which the Association was founded, was the establishment of an hospital.

A ladies' committee, in connection with the English Homœopathic Association, had been active in collecting funds, which, with the consent of the subscribers, have been transferred to the Hahnemann Hospital, in behalf of which hospital the committee invite the benevolent activity of the members of the Association.

A fourth object of the Association was to have meetings of the members.

The present meeting is in fulfilment of such object, and the committee would be glad if the funds of the Association allowed of the recurrence of these meetings more frequently, the utility of which cannot be doubted.

All these matters done have caused the Association to incur much expense, and the committee appeal to the members of the Association not only to continue their aid in carrying out the objects of the Association, but to induce all persons zealous of homœopathy to join the Association, and thus augment its strength, and thus enable it to carry out more effectually its objects.

The balance-sheet will show the expenditure and the receipts, and will justify the inquiry, that, as so much has been done with so few means, what will be done when means more numerous, and funds greater in amount, are afforded.

The committee concur in the suggestions of the *Homœopathic Times*. "The attitude of a medical sect was not assumed by us, but has been forced on us. Like some sea-Pharos, we have to bide the violence of angry surges, and the roar of waters in a state of furious ebullition. We require concert, and co-ordinate action on our part—the wisdom of a council, the enthusiasm of a public assembly. We want the clear notes of the trumpet of Fame to declare our struggles and doings during the present time—our hopes for the future.

"Powerful tracts, *conciones ad populum*, should be issued every week.

"In all directions in which we look for the wherewithal to defend our positions and to advance our outposts, and to introduce our *battalia* into new fields of action, the English Association is capable of doing vast good to our cause."

In presenting the Treasurer's Report for the past year, the committee congratulate the members on the increase of donations and subscriptions over the two preceding years. The increase of 1850 as compared with 1848 is £14 1s. 6d.; and as compared with 1849 the increase is found to be £18 14s. 8d. Although the present year has not been so prolific in donations and subscriptions at present—in consequence, as it is believed, of many zealous homœopathists having an erroneous opinion that the primary object of the Association was the establishment of an hospital, and that being accomplished the Association should cease—the committee hope that every member will acknowledge that there is even a greater necessity for its existence and operations than ever; and it is hoped that when those who are in arrears have handed in their subscriptions the Association will, before the close of the year, be in a still more flourishing condition.

In addition to the number of volumes of the work the Association last issued, presented to each member, upwards of 250 copies have been sold to the public.

ANDREW STEINMITZ, Esq., moved the first resolution—

"That the Report be adopted, and the Committee authorized to take such means for its distribution as they might deem best."

He said:—It is, I may say, with feelings of gratitude, that I rise to move the adoption of this Report—gratitude for the most signal benefit received from homœopathy. It so happened, that on a certain occasion, the muscles of the left side of my face became paralysed, my general health remaining as usual. This continuing longer than convenient, I called in a doctor, one of the old school, and an old-school recipe he gave me, viz., apply six leeches, put on a blister, and swallow a black draught immediately. Now, thought I, circumstances have made me somewhat acquainted with diseases, and I know I have not had a paralytic shock; still, such a thing may be impending, and, therefore, though not altogether agreeing with this treatment, I will act as the doctor bids. So I lost a pint of blood, I suffered the blister, and swallowed the draught. "My dear

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sir," said the doctor at the next visit, "if you had not taken this in time, you would have been struck down." And struck down I was; for from pain and weakness I was unable to move; on which he pronounced me better. (Laughter.) Better! why the day before I had been in good health,—ate well and slept well. I was desired to continue the treatment, and accordingly I got weaker and weaker, and could scarcely speak. He came again, and *cupped* me of a pint, and then once more pronounced me better, on which I declined further treatment. I told him I was sure he was wrong,—that it was a muscular affection, and not a nervous one, and that I should at once attempt to get up my strength by eating, after being almost starved. He took some pains, and succeeded at last, in inducing me to consult a medical man of Norwich, and to him I candidly put the question, "What is the matter with me? is it apoplexy; and would you have applied these violent means?" "Sir," said he, "it was merely rheumatic paralysis, perhaps caused by a chill, and would probably have gone off of itself, or at most by the application of galvanism." Yet here had been a practitioner within an ace of bringing *serous* apoplexy upon me! (Hear, hear.) Now then, said I, for some rational system of physic; for, rather than be sent out of the world by the doctors, I will go out of it by natural means. I read Hahnemann's great work, and this enabled me to recognise in myself so clearly the symptoms of coffee, that I abandoned that beverage at once and for ever for the unmedicinal chocolate, and with the best results; and so becoming more and more acquainted with the subject, I have had the happiness of effecting cures, both of myself and others. Now, there are many who, seeing our little globules, and accustomed to their 10 to 20 grains of calomel, cannot conceive the action of such minute particles; but this arises from too gross a conception of the wonderfully delicate tissues and fibres of the frame. Talk of infinitesimal doses not acting! Why, the disease itself must in its origin be infinitesimal, implicated as it is with fibres too small for the eye to see. Talk of the system being nonsense! you may say so of the most demonstrable fact, because it does not square with first appearances; you may say it of the earth's motion, you may say it of the most sacred truths. (Applause.)

The motion was seconded by THOMAS MILO, Esq., and carried unanimously.

W. SHAEN, Esq., M.A., moved the next resolution.

"That this meeting deeply sympathises with the feeling of Dr. Hale and Mr. Pope, under what they consider to be the unfair course pursued towards them by the Medical Faculties of the College of St. Andrew's and the University of Edinburgh respectively, and will be happy to aid in testing the legality of the proceedings of those corporate bodies."

He then continued:—I stand here a living proof of the truth and value of homœopathy. Eight or nine years ago I was pretty nearly annually in the doctors' hands. Now I have tested homœopathy, and find it wonderfully satisfactory to my health, my pocket, and my family. (Hear.) As the Edinburgh University has lately made itself a subject of much angry remark, allow me to mention what took place there some time back, connected with myself. About ten or twelve years ago, I wanted to pursue a university course of education, and I turned my thoughts to our great universities. But unfortunately I was a Dissenter. The walls of Oxford were therefore closed to me, unless I signed my name to certain theological doctrines, and although Cambridge would not refuse me, yet she would prevent my contending for the honours I aimed at. I therefore went to Edinburgh, and all my associations with it, its professors, its students, its society are of a most pleasing character; so that, although I did not eventually take my degree there, I have ever looked to it with affection as my *alma mater*. It is therefore with the deeper regret that I have heard of the late proceedings, and assuredly, as I could praise her when right, the more warmly will I denounce her when wrong. I have to call your attention to proceedings emanating from three establishments,—the University of St. Andrew's, the University of Edinburgh, and the College of Physicians of Edinburgh; and I call on you not only for sympathy, but for assistance in testing the legality of those proceeedings. The first case is that of Dr. Hale. That gentleman passed his examination satisfactorily and obtained his degree. Subsequently the heads of the University learnt that he practised homœopathy. On their wanting to know if this were really the case, he replied yes, and that he considered himself justified in using that process, which, in his own opinion, was most efficacious in curing disease. (Applause.) Extraordinary as it may appear, the heads of the University thought otherwise. Finding that he continued to practise homœopathy, they called on him to give up his diploma, and this, I am happy to say, he has not thought fit to do. (Hear.) Now for Edinburgh. During last year, Mr. Pope, a student, applied for the usual diploma. He was examined by the professors, who were all apparently well satisfied. After the examination, one of them said, as if making a casual remark, that he had heard Mr. Pope intended practising homœopathy. Mr. Pope replied that he had not made up his mind to practise it, but that certainly he intended to examine it. (Hear.) Then finding that he did not choose, then and there, to declare infinitesimal doses an illusion, they discovered that he was rather "rusty," as they said, in his surgery. I believe we may, without uncharitableness, come to the conclusion, that the only cause of his rejection was his non-rejection of homœopathy. There seems to have been a good deal of friendly feeling towards Mr. Pope on the part of the professors, some of whom let the cat out of the bag, by giving his friends to understand that the examination had been a good one, and the surgical examiner had no doubt, if by the next examination Mr. Pope had come to a conclusion as to globules, his examination would be satisfactory. There is another circumstance. It is usual for the examiners to lay their heads together, and in case of agreeing that a candidate then before them

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shall not pass, they quietly tell him that he must try again on another examination; but in Mr. Pope's case they did what is usual with candidates, who it is understood are successful, though the official declaration is delayed till the morrow—that is, they politely bowed him out. As one does not see the relevancy to anatomy and surgery of a question as to what a practitioner would consider a *dose of Nux vomica*, it is not extraordinary that an extraordinary meeting of the authorities was held, and the decision was that Mr. Pope must come up again in six months. The third case is worse than all. The College of Physicians of Edinburgh have been exceedingly aggrieved by the leaking in of homœopathy even into their own ranks. In their own body they number several distinguished homœopaths. I hold certain resolutions passed at what is very properly called an *extraordinary* meeting.

"I. That the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh did, several years ago, publicly express its opinion of Homœopathy and Homœopathic Practitioners, by peremptorily declining to admit into its body a candidate for its Fellowship who belonged to that denomination; and, consequently, that no Fellow of the College can possibly be ignorant of the light in which all those who practise Homœopathy are regarded by the College."

Now I do not see that every one should be expected to know all the foolish resolutions and stupid acts of a corporate body, nor are we to be called upon for respect and deference to what was long ago done. This is just what we should expect from a chartered set of old-fashioned bigots, but not what we should look for from Modern Athens.

"II. The College regrets that, notwithstanding this decided expression of its opinion, more than one of its Fellows, after being admitted in a different character, have endangered the reputation of the College by becoming Homœopathic Practitioners; and the College expresses an earnest hope that these Fellows, seeing they have thus virtually separated themselves from the College, will spontaneously sever their further connection with an Institution which repudiates them, and from which they can derive, as merely nominal Fellows, nothing else than a false position and a spurious credit."

"III. The College feels the more bound thus to express its opinion, seeing that those Fellows who have become Homœopathists, and any other Medical Practitioners who follow Homœopathy, must necessarily be aliens to the other Fellows, and to the profession at large; inasmuch as no Fellow of this College, or any other physician can, by any possibility, without derogating from his own honour, and from the honour of the profession, meet Practitioners of Homœopathy in consultation, or co-operate with them in the other common duties of professional life."

Such a resolution stamps with indelible disgrace the body passing it.

"IV. That although the College has not thought it expedient hitherto to take any active steps for disclaiming those Fellows who have become Homœopathic Practitioners subsequently to their admission to the College, nevertheless, since it has the power of dealing summarily with those who act in a manner so unbecoming the character of a Physician, it reserves its right to exercise that power when it shall be so advised."

As a homœopathist, I should say the sooner they are so advised, the better. (Loud cheers.) The body of men they attack, are men who have come forward in such a way as to make many begin to doubt the wisdom of that extraordinary meeting. Dr. M'Leod has addressed to the President, an old fellow-student of his, a letter, crushing as an answer to the resolutions, and striking for the intellectual power displayed. There is another view of the matter, extremely important to the subject, and I would call attention to it. In the third resolution these words occur: "Inasmuch as no Fellow of this College, or any other Physician can, by any possibility, without derogating from his own honour, and from the honour of the profession, meet practitioners of homœopathy in consultation, or co-operate with them in the other common duties of professional life." This is not only absurd, but immoral. (Hear, hear.) Dr. M'Leod has shown its absurdity, and asks pertinently, how gentlemen with the same education, under the same professors, having earned the same honours as others, should merely by adopting some peculiar notice, chiefly as to a dose, fall far beneath them in pathology, diagnosis, etc. This is a matter affecting the public most. If we have been inveigled by homœopathic practitioners to be treated, and it becomes advisable or necessary, for the safety of our lives, to have the advice of an allopath peculiarly skilled in a particular disease, is it to be borne that the allopath shall say that the usual relations between the suffering patient and the medical man are at an end, and that they are entitled to revenge themselves thus on the homœopath, and consign us to the grave for no fault even of their own showing, except that we have been deluded victims? Truly is this not only absurd, but immoral. To the next question. Ought this to be submitted to? Is it true that these privileged bodies have acted thus shamefully and betrayed their charge, and if so, what ought we to do? Are these establishments standing up as advocates for finality? Assuredly, as soon as a chartered body cease to be pioneers, they have forfeited their right to the privileges conferred on them. There are several ways in which we may do good service. 1st. We want a fair field and no favour; we want publicity; and all can do something in publishing and denouncing this injustice. 2nd. We can do much in supporting the victims of this oppression, by testing the legality of the measures. Here the University of Edinburgh stands peculiarly open. Pardon me for bringing forward a law book. A lawyer is nothing without his *case*, like a doctor. (Hear, hear.) In this book I find that a tendency to play tricks with examinations has already been tested by the highest court in Scotland, the Court of Session, 1829. The heads of the University wished to exclude a certain professorship, but so far from being irresponsible, they found themselves controlled by the municipality; the provost and town council turned out to be the ruling heads of the University, and they said *This shall be so.* And when the professors still said "no," the town council made a "visitation," and decided that no degree should be granted without examination in the particular study in question. So they went to law, and the municipality gained the cause. It was re-argued; when the whole court decided that professors were

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wrong and laymen were right. (Hear, hear.) Professors may make rules, said one Judge, but all such rules are revisible by the magistrates. And another took occasion to remark, that universities had been notorious as some of the greatest literary tyrants the world ever saw. I sum up then by saying, that these proceedings are inquisitorial and unjust. That we can assail them by spreading a knowledge of facts, by upholding any who require it, and the assistance of the English Homœopathic Association, testing the legality of past proceedings.

The motion was seconded by W. H. ASHURST, Esq., who said:—My learned friend has left me, as junior counsel, nothing to do. As laymen it is for us to publish abroad this atrocious attempt to make us, whether we will or no, subjects for allopathy; to give the doctor a vested interest in us; to declare that we shall not consider for ourselves, but shall be bled, and blistered, and scoured. Now I am a friend to little pills. I have been myself bled, and blistered, and scoured, and on the point of dying—I recovered. But about ten years ago I thought my time was come; my doctor, however, in the meanwhile had died, and my friends, for I was too far gone to do anything, called in a homœopath, and here I stand, with good health ever since. You would not be likely to see at an allopathic meeting, three speakers in succession rising and speaking with joy and gratitude of what allopathic treatment had done for them. These doctors consider if you take away the physic you take away the bill, but, for us, this is an escape from blistering and scouring, of which I cannot think without a shudder, I have had so much of it. Let me tell you a little anecdote about lawyers. An old gentleman was asked what was the law on some particular point. He replied, that he must send for his junior partner when he wished to know the law of the present day, unless he could resolve to set out afresh on his studies. Now, take the parallel case of physic. Suppose a new light to break in on a man, and see what tasks it imposes—new books to be consulted, new trains of thought to be followed, new labours to be performed, labours, suited only to his passed youth. When, then, we see men actually doing all this, what admiration do they deserve! what gratitude we owe them! How could you stand up to be laughed at—despised; to be told that it was a derogation to meet you; that your fellow-workman or your brother student, according to your rank, shuns you, because, forsooth, you have adopted some peculiar mode of working. It is a matter for the public to see that such men are not hunted down. We have been in existence as an Association now five years, purposely starting at almost a nominal subscription, to come down to the pockets of the public. Then came the prosecution of Mr. Pearce; he was tried, and it was to the attention drawn to the case, and the good advice we got, that we had the declaration of a judge that the prosecution was most disgraceful. Fathers and mothers, knowing what it is to labour for your children, fancy a man thrown back at a point of his life just when you believe he is about to reward you for all your exertions. To the public this is all-important. I, as a layman, am ready to come forward with double what I have ever done; but, as an old clergyman used to say, "if you can't come to the text, come to the Amen." (Hear, hear.) Do not be backward because you are only one—you can never be two; without an audience there will be no speaker; therefore come forward—assist, encourage—even a cheer may do good. All can do something; those who cannot give their tongues may give their presence. Consider how many youths may now he preparing for Edinburgh, condemned to consider how to evade a tyrannical restriction, when they ought to be free to choose according to judgment. It has now, however, occurred, even to Chartists themselves, that moral force is the best for all questions,—this every one is seeing; the public is the true judge; and, looking at the many fathers and mothers here assembled, I say, let us unite in removing an iniquitous restriction, and establishing freedom in all things.

Dr. EPPS moved the next resolution:

"That considering the immense value to society of a diffusion of homœopathy, this meeting recommends its friends to concentrate their zeal by uniting with the English Homœopathic Association, and thus to enable the council to diffuse information on the subject of homœopathy through the medium of tracts, publications, and otherwise."

He said:—Many have asked the use of the Association. I think its use may be seen in this meeting, for it would deserve well had it done nothing more than give rise to the statements and revelations made this evening. The present is a question decidedly for the public. It may be very well for medical men to say, what have the public to do with physic but to be physicked. I say, without their permission, they are liable to be pillaged. It is not as with your butter or your tea, in case of a bad article you can go to another tradesman; but in the case of physic, by the time you have discovered that your article is bad, you are dying, or your child is dead, and it is too late to have recourse to other advice. It is true you are not to interfere with your doctor any more than with your schoolmaster, but you take care to select well at first, and know something of the system he pursues. (Hear, hear.) All profess to relieve, and no doubt even the old system must relieve, or it could not have lived as it has. But there are various ways of relieving: you may relieve yourself of unpleasant inmates of a house (I need not name them), by burning down the house, and a man may have been cured of cholera in such a way that he has never had good health since. So a woman may have had skin disease, and was cured, her skin may have been made beautifully clear and smooth; but she used to run up stairs, when there were pimples on her face, without inconvenience, and now she puffs in all the agonies of asthma. There is an hospital for treatment of fistula: they talk of cures, but they don't tell you how many of the cured die, within five years after, of consumption. They have only changed the disease, that is, they have driven the disease to another part. So in consumption hospitals, they show you so many

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cures, but they do not tell you how many are sent away before death to die under the parish surgeon. It would be just to science if the committee would follow these cases and see the final result. "Peace, peace, where there is no peace," is as old as the Bible—putting off the evil day—shifting from lung to leg, or leg to lung. This is no cure. Now I think our true position is the aggressive—not in abuse, but as gentlemen with gentlemen. But the public must come forward, as indeed they have done, yet not for any personal predilection, but for a principle which you have well examined. Now, then, we find there is a legal ground on which we can stand, and I should be glad to go down as one of a committee to Edinburgh and appeal to the municipality to exercise their privilege of returning members to the town council to test the proceedings of the Senatus Academicus. (Great applause.) Now, we have proof that homœopathic mortality is less than allopathic, and so it must be if homœopathy is truth, and God is good. In the case of inflammation of the lungs, Dr. Henderson has shown that out of 909 patients treated allopathically no less than 200 died, i. e. more than one in five, while not more than one in fifteen died of those treated homœopathically. Is not this a comfort? It is enough to make one ill to see the state of medical practice and the utter want of certainty in the treatment. All who know anything of the human mind, know that you cannot assist a patient more towards cure than by giving him confidence. The most extraordinary thing, however, is this. In America, cholera raged in Cincinnati: 2410 patients were treated homœopathically, and eighty-five died; while the deaths under allopaths were one in two. This was established by evidence brought before the Board of Health, in Cincinnati. Now let us glance at the progress the science is making. Everywhere I see homœopathic institutions. Here in London have been established two hospitals, one of which I see, by the statistical return, has in nine months received more than 3000 patients. Within the last fifteen years half a million of patients have been treated homœopathically in this country. In Bristol there is a homœopathic dispensary which was opened in September, 1850. In that month the number of patients was 48. The numbers increased each month, and in June, 1851, I find the number of patients admitted that month amounted to 160. These facts, Sir, I maintain, should be brought before the public. The English Homœopathic Association presents an agency suited for this diffusion. It *will* effect this diffusion if aided. The committee call on the homœopathic public for aid. Even with their present means they offer to each new member of the Association, for the sum of his registration fee (half-a-crown), and the addition thereto of one shilling, a copy of the large work issued by the Association. I appeal, therefore, to this meeting to support the resolution which I have the honour to propose, and which will be seconded by a gentlemen, who has the power to embody thought in terse sentences, and to express in the clearest phraseology the results of his mind's working.

E. MIALL, Esq., rose and said:—I cannot say that I am acquainted with the external history of homœopathy in this country, or have much intimacy with the particulars of its condition. I may, however, venture to recommend, as generally wise, union. But I may say, that if a disciple of homœopathy, I am but a neophyte, and perhaps could not agree to all its doctrines. I have certainly employed homœopathy exclusively for eight or nine years, and even were I on the verge of eternity, I believe I should place myself in its hands in preference. My convictions are in favour of the law *similia similibus curantur;* but I cannot say, that I have sufficiently studied the question to say that I believe in its universal applicability. I believe in the power of infinitesimal doses, and when taxed with holding an absurd doctrine, I reply that my opponents believe it as much as I do, but they will not confess it. *They* believe in infinitesimal doses. It was a general belief that some invisible, intangible, imponderable miasm caused the breaking out of the deadly cholera in the human system: what an infinitesimal dose must have been absorbed, and yet how terrible a power: knocking a man down and sending him into eternity in an hour or two. Is it incredible that similarly small doses may affect the system to cure, as well as to kill? (Hear, hear.) Nay more, they believe in infinitesimal doses in vaccination, for the portion absorbed, and by absorption preventing a virulent disease, must be indeed imperceptible. I was going to say that I am one of many not exactly prepared to believe in homœopathy on every point, but inclined to examine with candour: and I find everywhere my friends becoming homœopaths, at least, as far as myself. Now, I wish medical men would put themselves into the position of this large portion of the public, and ask, how shall we put an end to homœopathy? Never by authority. (Hear, hear.) You may have privileges, and respect from those who always respect honours bestowed by a learned body; but in a question, a judgment upon which is little more than a matter of observation, we are not to be put down by its being called a matter of science. Neither by abuse. It is not decent of men professing to have received a high education to treat the common sense of the people as if it were not to be exercised at all. We may not be able to go into the science of the thing, but we can judge which of you reasons like a quack or a knave. Again, we are not to be deterred by simple evasions. Perhaps they cannot deny the facts, but only deny that results are traced to their true origin. They say, here is a cure. True, but it is by diet. Now, if they do *not* believe this, what shall we say for their honesty? if they *do* believe it, why then do they drug us as they do (Hear). Again, it is imagination, but this will take in a large class of cases not possible to be fairly so classed. Even in my own family, there was not only no belief, but actual unbelief. In a child six months old, a globule of *Aconite* produced an effect as sure as on the most imaginative person in the universe. It may explain some, but not all cases, and it is most unphilosophical,

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to say the least, to attempt to palm off as reason what cannot satisfy your own minds. (Hear hear.) Others say it is sheer chicanery; well then let them prove it, and we shall be as ready as any to allow it. But to do this, they must be prepared to meet on fair grounds those who are so acting, according to their representations. For we are not all blockheads surely; all we want is that the two systems shall be fairly brought together. Do anything that is fair and reasonable. You may persecute men, take away M.D.'s, stain reputations, but remember you did so to Harvey and to Jenner. We who do not believe in the infallibility of corporate bodies, desire to use our own judgment, and if you wish to sway that, you must come down to the usual and proper modes of appealing to it. (Applause.)

THOMAS DICK, Esq., rose and said:—An easy and agreeable duty devolves on me. I have to move the following resolution:—

"That the thanks of the meeting be given to the committee and to the treasurer (T. H. Johnston, Esq.) for the last year."

It is no business of mine to vindicate homœopathy, that has been done by abler men. But I cannot refrain from saying thus much, that I do not make this resolution merely *pro forma*. I have a belief of my own, a warm, fervent belief, that he who in any way assists in spreading homœopathy is a benefactor to mankind.

— MOORE, Esq, seconded the resolution. At this late hour much cannot be said, but ungrateful should I be if altogether silent, invited as I have been by one to whom I owe my life. For I, too, have to thank homœopathy for being able to stand here this night. With much pleasure would I relate, did time permit, the many cases of rescue from the grave which I, in a very brief acquaintance with homœopathy, have witnessed. Mr. Moore then related a circumstance connected with a life assurance, which bore on it much suspicious appearance of a persecuting spirit against homœopathy. "But," said the speaker, "of this persecution we must expect much, and I hail it as what will eventually be of good service to us."

Dr. CHAPMAN said, that the resolution he had to propose was, that "The thanks of this Meeting be given to the President, Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., for bringing the petition of the Association, in reference to the conduct of the Deputy-Coroner of Middlesex, before the attention of Parliament." Of true honour it might be said as of mercy, that its quality was not strained, that it was twice blessed, and that it at once graced those that paid and those that received the tribute of respect due to an honourable course of action. Lord Robert Grosvenor reflected honour on homœopathy, from his consistent and persistent advocacy of it, but he no less received honour. (Hear, hear.) When the names of those whose likenesses were on those walls (here the speaker pointed at them) were forgotten, Lord Robert Grosvenor's name would be imperishably associated with the struggles and with the establishment of homœopathy in these realms. There was a duty, however, incurred by men of Lord Robert Grosvenor's rank and his social advantages, in the matter of homœopathy. It had been remarked in a weekly medical journal, that the Chevalier Bunsen and Lord Robert proceeded from meetings for support of allopathic hospitals to those in support of homœopathic institutions. Now, something more than even this kind of support was necessary. Persons of their importance should strive to bring to the test the comparative advantages of the two modes of practice. Let them propose, as an equitable test, that at least one ward should be given in each allopathic hospital which they supported, to the homœopathists, to make trial of their practice. The strength of no truth and of no principle can be known till it is fully tried. The homœopathists only demanded a fair and full trial. On his part, he thought nothing was so contemptible as the pitiful vanity, the exaggerated self-esteem, which would shrink from every external manifestation of a position that we have no right to be ashamed of. This was the first meeting of the English Homœopathic Association he had attended. His object was to promote brotherly union among the medical practitioners. The want of this union was the real deficiency in the present state of homœopathy. (Hear, hear.) He hoped that a cordial union might be effected. Dr. Epps had stated that the number of persons who had received homœopathic treatment was at least half a million. He (Dr. Chapman) had every reason to believe that this amount was much understated. (Hear.) He believed that at least one million of the present inhabitants of the British isles had received or were receiving homœopathic treatment. (Hear, hear.) With such a number, it was idle to suppose that homœopathy would be kept from making further progress, or could receive any real check or be proscribed. Some of the allopathic opponents abused the homœopathists, and lauded themselves. It might be said to each of these, *Sus sui, canis cani, bos bovi, et asinus asino, pulcherrimus videtur*— the swine to the swine, the hound to the hound, the steer to the steer, the ass to the ass, appeared the most beautiful being in the world. But they must not forget that among the allopathic opponents of homœopathy there were very many men of science and of the highest moral worth. Their prejudices should be taken into lenient account. Among the topics and allusions of the eloquent speakers who had preceded him, he had noticed one omission. The ladies had not been mentioned. One who had been called the prince of poets, Virgil, had said of woman—

"Varium et mutabile fœmina semper."
That woman was aye fickle and changeful.

No true poet he, in this judgment at least, of woman. The homœopathists, at all events, had every reason to know that the *dictum* of the poet was not true. No more staunch friends had they than the ladies. Their influence should be exerted, and should be courted. When a man wanted a seat in the House of Commons, he canvassed the wives and daughters of the electors. The homœopathists should follow this good example. In reverting to the resolution

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he had the honour to propose, he reiterated his opinion that the noble President received as much honour as he gave; and he trusted that in the recess of Parliament, the friends of homœopathy would not lose sight of the good Cause, but would agitate for such measures as might redound to its advantage. It would be quite as mad in the opponents to doubt of its being established, as to doubt that there was a sun in the heavens. (Applause.)

Dr. CRONIN seconded the resolution: he agreed with the preceding speaker that the noble President of the Association received as well as conferred honour from having promoted the cause of homœopathy to the best of his ability.

Dr. EPPS would beg, as the hour was late, to embody two resolutions in one. He then moved the following:

"That the committee of last year be re-elected, with the addition of S. R. Bardouleau, Esq.; and that W. Arnum, Esq., be elected honorary secretary; and that the thanks of the meeting be given to C. T. Pearce, Esq., for his services as honorary secretary."

Mr. Pearce had had the honour to testify to the truth within the prison walls, for which he thought him one of the most honoured of men. He had done the duties of secretary most admirably, and now that he had passed his examination, and was an M.R.C.S, he had settled in Northampton, and the Association had done themselves the honour of presenting him with the inkstand which the Chairman would have the kindness to place in his hands.

The CHAIRMAN, rising, and with many complimentary expressions, amid much applause, presented Mr. Pearce with a beautiful inkstand, on which was an appropriate inscription.

Mr. PEARCE, with much feeling, acknowledged the compliment thus paid him. It was his duty and heartfelt pleasure to thank them for their handsome present—a present bestowed in recognition of services, which he could truly say were never prompted by any view to personal good, but to universal. In leaving the metropolis, and thus necessarily resigning his post, he hoped that he should find a fair field for labour, and he was gratified to say that already, in three months, he had treated 300 patients. He could truly say he felt more nervous in standing there to accept this present, than when he stood at the bar of Newgate.

W. ARNUM, Esq., rose not to second but to approve. He had seen Mr. Pearce's assiduity, and seen it such, that he at first took him for a paid agent; willing he certainly was, and unpaid he found him to be. The voluntary principle certainly worked well in him. He (Mr. Arnum) had also been an eye-witness of his sufferings. He must say, if it was a privilege to look through the bars of Newgate, he did not covet it. In conclusion, he would say, may this Society long prosper, till truth shall spread to earth's remotest bounds.

Mr. ASHURST would beg pardon for a liberty he had taken with all there assembled. He held a resolution, moved by Mr. Ashurst, and seconded by the whole meeting, that cordial thanks be given to the Chairman for his ability and kindness in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN, in returning thanks, prayed consideration for a country actor treading the London boards. He could not refrain, he said, from expressing the satisfaction with which he had heard it stated that one chartered body, the Royal College of Surgeons of London, had pursued a course alike honourable to themselves and beneficial to society. (Hear, hear.)

The meeting was altogether of the most pleasing character. The speeches interesting, and not too long or too many, and the audience thoroughly interested to the end, which did not take place till considerably after eleven o'clock.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16TH, 1851.

THE homœopathic public must be up and stirring. At the present moment agitation is of the most vital importance. It is not merely press agitation that will suffice, but it must be personal and individual agitation to boot. The cause is worthy of the exertions of all who are identified with it, and progress cannot be achieved unless the most vigorous endeavours are made to secure its principles a fair and impartial examination.

Our allopathic opponents, well aware of the success attending the promulgation of the doctrines of Samuel Hahnemann, find themselves in a position to attack us in every quarter. And how does this come about? Because they have matured for themselves a press ready to do their behests in whatever manner they may dictate, and because also their professional gains will afford an expenditure to perpetuate their system, if they can only satisfy the public that they are right.

But the public will not be so easily managed. The great mass of the people, whether high or low, are not willingly led by the nose as in days of yore. The public of the nineteenth century are a reading public, and not only a reading public but likewise a thinking public. This is a fact patent to everybody in the least manner associated with journalism. Therefore is it that we recommend all disciples of homœopathy to encourage the circulation of homœopathic literature, and to aid

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and disseminate in the freest possible manner every scrap of information through our columns, or those of our homœopathic cotemporaries, that they may find themselves possessed of.

Give us in every respect the assistance we deserve. If not permanent subscriptions, send all the intelligence available. Years have brought together, for allopathy and its fallacies, a band of supporters, who not alone maintain their press with writing, but also with a patronage worthy of a higher object. A tithe of such resources would, were it immediately at the command of homœopathy, carry us triumphantly over the present period of struggle with a portion of the medical press, and with some of the medical corporate bodies.

We are as yet, however, in this period. We must, under these circumstances, be content to walk forward amidst our persecutors with a firm and erect bearing. But at the same time we shall be able to appreciate the indignities shown us by the few virulent writers of the allopathic brotherhood. *Homo fervidus et diligens ad omnia est paratus.* Nothing can gainsay the truth of our position.

Were we the deluded wretches described in the *Lancet* and the *Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal*, it would be well to extinguish us in the off-hand manner desired. This summary method of dealing with our theory and our principles it is, however, discovered does not answer the anticipations at first entertained. Believing that we have right on our side, we are prepared to wait for might until the real season arrives. Gathering strength in our onward course, we cannot fail of reaching the goal, the acknowledged establishment of homœopathy.

The world wags merrily with us. The antagonism of the *Lancet* is very refreshing to us. He is a far better friend to us than most of our medical colleagues—for he furnishes us with matter. May his shadow never grow less! May his unloveliness never grow unlovelier!

But to pass from this "nobody" to more pleasant themes, we must notice, first, the gratifying fact that the English Homœopathic Association still carries on the peaceful war. We refer our readers to the report of the annual meeting held this week. The progress of our Reform, and the courage and confidence of those engaged in defending and advancing it, are conspicuous. Those who run may read the significant signs of our progress.

Two years ago it was declared that homœopathy was extinct in the metropolis. Our readers now know that the Editor of the *Lancet* does not think so.

We shall soon know if any other of the fourteen corporate bodies, which confer diplomas and the license to practise medicine in these kingdoms, will follow the example of stupid intolerance and audacious bigotry set by the mythical St. Andrew's, and by historical Edinburgh. If the example is not followed, and the other bodies are wiser in their generation, we shall be satisfied with keeping our line of defence;—if the example is followed, we must enter into what will be then the enemy's country. We do not wish to consider even these corporate bodies as enemies. The choice rests with them. But we are strong enough to do battle with them. If they are foolish enough to provoke the war, they must take the consequences.

The attempt to prevent liberty of conscience in the choice of therapeutics is one of the most monstrous absurdities that was ever made known. It is an invasion of the liberty of the subject: it is what no despot in Europe dare do. It is worthy of the King of Dahomey, with his army of Amazons, and his mud-hut for a palace.

The opponents of our medical Reform do not count the cost of the warfare they provoke. They are ignorant of what is taking place around them: good, easy people, they think the world stands still. They do not see that the drug-system is doomed, that it is even now about to pass into the region of forgotten things. Jacob Bell is wiser in his generation—for he brings in a bill to perpetuate druggists: but Jacob forgets that when nobody takes drugs, there will be no place for druggists. An Act of Parliament to perpetuate drug-selling! Restore the heptarchy! Bring back the Druids! Make Westminster again an island! Let fetish be performed

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in our high places! The thing is too ridiculous even for laughter.

We commend to the attention of our readers the following extract. What Hermogenes was, are most of the medical practitioners throughout the world now—they worship unknown genii of medicine—they have altars to unknown powers—and they will not learn of Hahnemann that there is one law of healing, and that cures shall be attempted through the instrumentality of means that act in accordance with that law. The Royal Colleges and the Halls are now among the obsolete antiquities of medicine. Let them discover it in time—and become young again under the influence of homœopathy.

"ANTIQUITIES.—Some workmen employed by Mr. Evans, in digging a cellar near the Exchange at Chester, last week, exposed several large blocks of stone at the depth of eight feet, and among them one with an ancient inscription. It turned out to be a portion of an altar, with a legend in Greek characters, which described it as having been dedicated to certain genii and preservers of man, by one Hermogenes, a physician, who seems to have exercised his profession in the Roman army at Chester, as there were several tiles near it, stamped with the well-known mark of the 20th Legion, L. XX. VV."

WE have perused with much interest and satisfaction the "Fourth Annual Announcement of the Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania, Session of 1851-52," and we think this a most appropriate time to place before our colleagues and readers generally a full abstract of the progress made by our transatlantic brethren anent the subject of teaching homœopathy, concerning which we ourselves are now much interested, and as to the best mode of securing which there seems to be amongst us a diversity of opinions. Some of our brethren have a tenacious hankering for allopathic institutions in which *they* have been educated—a very excusable attachment, were not principles involved, which we look upon as highly detrimental and obstructive to the advancement of true homœopathy. Strange yet gratifying is it to find that our sentiments some time since expressed, should be re-echoed from Pennsylvania.

"Homœopathy is an essential element of practical medicine, and that it unites all the different parts into an harmonious whole. This position being assumed, it follows that the study of medicine in any other connection, with a view to practice, would, at least, be a useless expenditure of time. An expense which cannot be afforded from a period so limited, as to be no more than sufficient to acquire the knowledge absolutely demanded of the candidate for a medical degree. The plan, therefore, pursued by some gentlemen, of attending a course of lectures in an allopathic college and completing their studies in one in which homœopathy is taught, while it has nothing in it to be recommended, has much to be condemned. To the efforts made by allopathic teachers to prejudice the minds of their hearers against homœopathy, no importance is attached; such means, if in the least operative, having a tendency to provoke rather than to paralyse inquiry. All things necessary to be known are as fully and, it is believed, as well taught in homœopathic as in allopathic colleges; the chief difference, and it is of vital import, being found only in the practical teachings. In allopathic institutions a large portion of time is consumed in the study of flimsy hypotheses and of their mischievous and disastrous practical results. In homœopathic institutions this same time is given to explain a law which constitutes the only philosophical basis of practical medicine, to teach its mode of application, and to display its gratifying results."

To the list of subjects taught in the Pennsylvania College we would add something more, which would, we trust, convince "Alumnus," the writer of the very clever pamphlet entitled "The New Test Act," that we had no intention of being "tempted to lower the standard of education." We have no fear either of being "put out of communion," or of being "by external pressure, condensed into a distinct sect, having no intercourse with the rest of the profession." We believe the external pressure will shortly settle the whole question—the public voice and public judgment will, ere long, shelve old allopathy and all her vicious champions, provided we conscientiously supply efficient aid. Whence does allopathy derive her power and influence, now fast tottering? Simply from the fact that her institutions, from the want of others, have educated young men and scattered them over the world crammed with "flimsy hypotheses." The public, too, until the present "war of the doctors," have for centuries, to their bodily suffering and cost, been slumbering in an unsuspecting confidence. The public, also, now begin to see that this

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"war of the doctors" embraces questions of the most vital interest, and, with this point gained, we need not have any fear of the future. Our business is to supply the public with well-qualified homœopathic practitioners, and one of the most beneficent reforms will so be secured to suffering mankind.

We cannot quite understand the conflicting views and diversified tones of advocacy supported by some of our brethren; in truth, it seems to us nothing more nor less than blowing hot and cold. On the one hand we are told "let the practitioners of homœopathy continue mixed with the general body of physicians (not a word about surgeons and general practitioners), and if the system be false, the stronger truth which the others hold will ere long supplant and exterminate it." The above extract from the "New Test Act" meets with the unqualified approval of the Editor of the *Monthly Journal of Homœopathy*. While, on the other hand, we are in receipt of a pamphlet just issued by the English Homœopathic Association, entitled "Homœopathy and its Opponents," extracted also from the *Monthly Journal of Homœopathy* for July, 1851, wherein the following reasoning occurs:—"One of the medical periodicals, it is reported, forbids allopathic practitioners to consult with homœopathic practitioners. The recommendation not to meet homœopathists in consultation is perfectly futile. Homœopathists do not seek consultations with allopathists; homœopathists know quite as much of disease as allopathists, and they know infinitely better *how* to cure disease. What need then have they to seek consultations? The strong to seek the weak is perfectly ridiculous."

We heartily wish that these recommendations were acted on by our homœopathic brethren, which we unfortunately know not to be the case in a vast majority of cases which are neither surgical nor obstetric, but purely medical; and it is this unfaithful conduct of one to another, and the petty jealousies in our ranks, that give our allopathic libellers such hold over us. The homœopathic profession is blind to itself, in not seeing that it has within its own ranks men equal to each department of medical science, and that there does not exist the least necessity of a homœopath meeting with a degrading rebuff from an allopath, however high in reputation, or the letting slip into his hands cases, through a want of open, honest, and manly courage. Why, then, shall we longer desire to be united with a body of men who have acted as our opponents have done, and who deport themselves in the most ungentlemanly and unscientific as well as libellous tone towards us, who are so much in advance of them? We earnestly hope that one and all of our body will become aroused to a true sense of their proper dignity, and that the onward energy of our American colleagues will prove to us a stimulus—an example worth following. Why shall we not have our own charter? We court inquiry, and shall be happy to listen to arguments. We deny that there exists a single institution or examining board in Great Britain qualified to examine for a homœopathic license to practise; and we maintain that, in the present growth and spread of homœopathy, the public ought to have some guarantee that those who profess to practise that system have undergone a thorough sifting as to their knowledge of its principles and practice. Our colleagues will do well to ponder over this matter. The first point of action would seem to be the securing of as large a number of signatures as possible to petitions praying for a charter. A million or half a million of signatures would be no mean manifestation of the strength and public attitude of homœopathy. We trust the new "Association for the Protection of Homœopathic Students and Practitioners" will speedily turn their attention to what seems to us the most effective course of action.

It is perfectly clear, unless we can secure our own charter, we cannot become legalised to practise homœopathic medicine in this country, although we may resort to Pennsylvania for a degree, which we observe two of our English colleagues have

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recently done. We shall be glad to have the opinions of our brethren on this subject; and trust that the English Homœopathic Association and other homœopathic societies will direct their deliberations actively and efficiently to the furtherance of our object—a charter first and school next. Our American colleagues have erected a school before a hospital.

We have now much pleasure in appending for the perusal of our readers a very full abstract of the Pennsylvania College.

"A more full and complete course of instruction is given in this Institution than is usual in other medical colleges. The endeavour will be made by the teachers to present the different objects of study in a manner to sustain attention; and this is the more easily accomplished, in consequence of the highly philosophical and comprehensive law of homœopathy imparting a stimulus to more minute and scientific research. This deeper interest is elicited not only from witnessing the effects of minute doses of medicinal atoms upon the animal economy, but from the fact that many of the recent developments in various branches of science reveal phenomena as the results of causes either very attenuate or even inappreciable, excepting in their effects.

"The law of *simile* leading to a closer approximation of the causes of phenomena, and their more rigid observation, and thence to their more ready solution, infuses into the teachings of all the branches of medicine an extraordinary interest.

"The Professor of Biology and Pathology, therefore, will, in addition to a general description of healthy and diseased function, demonstrate the minute structure of organs and tissues, their peculiarities as exhibited in health and in disease, and explain those differences of sensation which are expressive not only of the nature of the morbid action but of the kind of structure affected; thereby obtaining the indications for the remedial measures to be adopted.

"From the Chair of Anatomy, instructions will be given both of a general and special nature—those parts will be particularly dwelt upon, an accurate knowledge of which is necessary for a successful surgical practice. When upon the distinctive characters of structure—for example, upon the tissues or cerebro-spinal system—opportunities will be afforded for remark upon phenomena connected with an abnormal condition of such parts and their specific therapeutical indications.

"Throughout the course of lectures upon Materia Medica and Therapeutics, there will be pointed out the relative value of medicinal symptoms, as well as such as are characteristic; likewise, those diagnostic qualities by which to select, from numerous medicinal symptoms apparently corresponding with those presented in disease, the properly adapted medicine. All the facts necessary to be known in the history of plants in their connection with medicinal properties, the parts used, the cautions to be observed, and the means to be employed in their preparation, will be fully explained. Similar instruction will be given in relation to the articles obtained from the animal and mineral kingdoms.

"It will be the duty of the Chair of Homœopathic Institutes and Practice of Medicine to expound the law of *similia similibus curantur*; to divest it of all hypothetical embarrassment, and present it in its simple, and therefore in its most forcible, aspect as a great law of nature. To explain, also, the rules of its application; and in further confirmation of its truth, show how it adapts itself to every modification of morbid action. The histories of disease will be succinctly given; but to their symptoms, diagnosis, and prognosis, and especially to their treatment, the most minute directions will be bestowed.

"It will be the province of the Clinical Instructor to teach the proper mode of examining patients, with a view to the most correct appreciation of their condition, and to designate the appropriate means of relief. An important part of these examinations, in a very great number of cases, is auscultation; the knowledge of which is indispensable to correct diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment. To this chair belong likewise instructions in regimen, clothing, ventilation, and such other circumstances which not only aid Nature in her restorative efforts, but are absolutely necessary to the favourable action of medical agents.

"The course of Chemistry and Toxicology will be full and complete. This branch of science, when studied specially as an aid to medical practice, is invested with additional interest to the homœopathic student. In which relation much greater nicety and precision are required in the preparation of medicinal agents. The interest is likewise increased, from the striking analogous facts which this science furnishes in support of the law of *similia* in the minute divisions of atoms as detected by chemical tests, and in the wonderful phenomena effected by agents which are possessed of neither weight, volume, nor colour, viz. light, heat, and electricity.

"The teachings of the Chair of Surgery will be in accordance with the great reform which the homœopathic principle has wrought in all other branches of medical science. By its influence the field of medico-surgery is completely reformed and enlarged, and the surgeon is enabled to relieve, without resort to painful operations, many diseases which were formerly surrendered to the knife. But as all operations performed may again be necessary, and as many of the subjects of accident or disease can be relieved only by surgical contrivances or operations, they will be taught in all their minutiæ by this Chair. The most approved methods of operating will be shown upon the subject, or illustrated by models, etc., and when opportunity offers, on the patients before the class.

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"The female sex is subject to many and varied ailments. Whilst the peculiarity of her organization renders her more obnoxious to disease, it for the same reason causes a greater susceptibility to medicinal action. In no branch of medicine is the power of homœopathy more frequently and strikingly witnessed than throughout the entire range of the diseases of females. The period of utero-gestation, which under allopathic management may, with truth, be regarded as a pathological condition, under homœopathic guidance is what Nature designed, a physiological process. In the diseases of the puerperal state, as well as those occurring during lactation, homœopathy exhibits its incomparable superiority. Upon the instrumental part of obstetrics, the most minute instructions will be given. To the Chair of Midwifery belongs also the diseases of children; to a consideration of the most serious of their complaints a portion of the course will be devoted.

"The remaining Chair to be noticed is that of Botany and Medical Jurisprudence. As a necessary adjuvant to Materia Medica, the necessity of a knowledge of the former of these subjects is obvious. A large portion of our remedial agents is obtained from the vegetable kingdom, and from the same source we expect to receive hereafter many important acquisitions. In addition to the regular winter course of lectures, a summer course, given by the Botan.cal Professor, affords students, in rambles over the country, a favourable opportunity to acquire a practical knowledge of this subject. To Medical Jurisprudence, in most colleges, little if any attention is given; and yet upon its possession may rest not only the individual reputation of the physician for a proper knowledge of his profession, but upon the amount of such knowledge may depend also the reputation, property, or even lives of individuals, who, whether innocent or guilty, are arraigned before the tribunals of justice. The vast importance of the law of *simile* in times long past, had it been known, would afford, were this the proper occasion, a curious as well as interesting subject for consideration.

"In addition to the regular lectures, clinical instructions are given at stated times by the different Professors in the College, and from the numerous patients applying to the Dispensary for medical aid an extensive range of disease presents for study. A physician is in daily attendance also, at the Dispensary, which latter is located within the College building, from whose examinations of patients and prescriptions the students of the Institution will have abundant opportunity to acquire practical information.

"To render the course of instruction of this College complete, nothing more was wanting than the establishment of a hospital, which desideratum will soon be realized. A charter has been granted—funds are collecting, and under the administration of its present board of energetic managers, efforts are making for placing the charity shortly in operation. The suggestion of a hospital having emanated in the College, the present board, with a just regard to that circumstance, have associated the medical officers, most of whom are Professors in the College, in their deliberations, and exhibit a willingness to concur with such suggestions as will make the arrangements of the charity subserve the objects of clinical instruction. Fortunately such arrangements are those best suited to the interests of the patients. Before the commencement of the course of lectures now announced, it is confidently believed that the hospital will be serving the causes both of humanity and science."

Correspondence.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF HOMŒOPATHIC STUDENTS AND PRACTITIONERS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—A circular headed as above was placed in my hands a few days ago, but anxious and ardent as I have ever been for the advancement of the noble science of homœopathy to its proper social and legal position in this country, I hesitated a little before proceeding to carry out the resolutions of the London committee, in my provincial district, in order to have an opportunity of referring again to what passed at the late Homœopathic Congress, as it is reported in this periodical. Upon a careful perusal of that report, it appears to me, Sir, that the moment for an agitation such as is projected in Resolutions 1, 2 and 6 has not yet arrived. Shrewd calculating heads, both in England and Scotland, will scrutinise the subject as it may *affect themselves;* and the result will be, I fear, that the public generally will *not* feel that their interests are mortally assaulted by the crude determination of the Colleges of Edinburgh and of St. Andrew's to withhold degrees from homœopathic students. This is, no doubt, a gross moral and intellectual affront to a large section of the medical profession, but the popular view will not be narrowed down to such a consideration. Not one person perhaps in a hundred of the reading public can discriminate between a degree and a diploma; the latter indeed they are apt to consider the essential part of the business. They will ask, are there no other Colleges where a certificate of qualification can be obtained? Have we sufficient reason to believe that Mr. Pope or Mr. Spencer Hall would be refused at Dublin, at Aberdeen, at Glasgow, or even at the Edinburgh College of Surgeons? In truth, taking into the account Oxford and Cambridge, and the Worshipful Company of Apothecaries, the number of licensing bodies in these realms may be estimated at fourteen, of whom two only as yet have assumed a decidedly hostile attitude. Some remarks of a peculiarly sound and moderate character, which were let fall at the Congress, seem to have been too much disregarded by the committee. The speaker (Dr. Chapman) said "That the homœopathists of Britain should hav

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an university or college of their own, if it should appear that the medical universities and colleges of Great Britain and Ireland were determined, all and each, to withhold their diplomas from homœopaths. But he thought the London University and the London College of Surgeons would confer their diplomas on students up to the mark in their examinations, irrespective of any supposed tendency in the way of therapeutics." He said "that the homœopathists, however, should be prepared to agitate for a charter." I do not therefore think that the committee have succeeded in making out any such case of grievance, as will warrant a systematic agitation of the question as proposed.

In the present state of homœopathy, what is most urgently required for the protection of its votaries is a school where the Materia Medica Pura and its application to diseases may be taught by able professors; and, as is the practice in Germany, a further examination on this branch of therapeutics, for all those who are desirous of being admitted as licentiates in homœopathy.

Your obedient servant, GEORGE STRONG.
Ross, August 8, 1851.

[We do not believe the committee of the Association for the Protection of Homœopathic Students and Practitioners have proposed anything more at present than to obtain the enrolment of the greatest attainable number of members; so that the Association may carry with it the weight of influence due to the well-known moral worth, intellectual capacity, and rank of some, to the unimpeachable character of all, and to the number that may so proclaim faith in homœopathy. There is as yet no definite course of action—and no doubt means will be taken to obtain the sense of the Association, when it is fully formed. The first case, in point of importance, is that of Mr. Pope. We hope our esteemed correspondent will use his influence to obtain numerous signatures of adhesion to this very important Association.—ED.]

Miscellaneous.

CHESTER HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.—*Tic Douloureux.*—April 18th, Mrs. —, aged 44, of a dark complexion, and healthy look, has had neuralgic attacks for thirty years; is a widow, and has had two children, and is a strong, powerful woman. Her mother suffered from a similar complaint. She describes the attacks as a violent pain over one eyebrow, shooting behind the ear to the back of the head; it occurs at irregular intervals of two, three, or four weeks, and always continues exactly a night and a day. A curious circumstance connected with the pain is, that it has always affected alternate sides of the head and face. During its continuance she is deadly sick, but never vomits nor ever makes efforts to vomit. With the exception of a dry and red spot at the point of the tongue, she is in unexceptionable health. Her pulse, however, is 84, *strong, full, and hard.* Ordered *Aconitum* 30, a pilule night and morning. 24th. Has had no pain yet; continue the medicine. May 1st. Had an attack of pain yesterday, during which she took the *Aconite* every hour, and the pain subsided in a shorter time than it had ever done before. Ordered *Rhus* 30, one pilule, night and morning. 17th. No return of headache; says she feels very well. *Sulphur* 30, night and morning. 27th. Had a neuralgic attack yesterday, for which she took *Aconitum* 3, a pilule every hour until it went off, which it did in a few hours. *Carbo veg.* 30, a pilule every night. July 7th. Says she is quite well; no return of the headache; has grown stouter, healthier, and stronger-looking than she was. Her pulse has become moderate in size, strength, and frequency.

Observations.—*Aconite* was prescribed in this case on account of the great vascular action. The pulse, when she first applied, was unnaturally powerful. Soon after taking the *Aconite*, it became softer and smaller. The *Rhus*, *Carbo*, and *Sulphur* ordered, were of no perceptible advantage, and would have been better left out.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the above association was held on Thursday, at the Medical Library, Orchard-street. Dr. Symmonds, president for the year, having been called to the chair, he read a highly interesting retrospective address, in the course of which he enumerated the valuable acquisitions to professional knowledge made during the past ten years. He then referred to the heresies which have sprung up of late years. To hydropathy, unless when used as a specific to the exclusion of all other means of treatment, little objection need be made, for the employment of cold water was, and always had been, considered a most useful adjunct to treatment; but of homœopathy it was impossible to speak, save in terms of derision and of pity. Those who could leave the august temple of medicine for the baseless tent of a mere speculative empiric were undeserving even of our pity; those who *can* conscientiously practise homœopathy pure must be devoid of ordinary intelligence and of reasoning faculties, for the practice is wholly without principle or reason. But what shall we say of those who, under the the guise of homœopathy, commit a double apostasy, by forsaking even their adopted theory, and, as is often the case, administer *Castor Oil, Cod Liver Oil,* enemata, blisters, leeches, etc.? Leaving, however, this unpleasant subject, the Doctor spoke in glowing terms of the holy duties of the medical man, and of the reverential consistency with which he should perform them, and concluded his eloquent address, which was listened to with marked attention, and gave great satisfaction, amid much applause.—*Bristol Times,* June 28.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

HAHNEMANNIAN ESSAYS.

No. XXII.

The present circumstances of homœopathy claim serious attention. Two out of some fourteen bodies that confer diplomas of medicine and surgery have declared war against the Medical Reform. The language of the writers in the *Lancet* and the *Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal* is uncourteous, rude, and coarse in reference to those who are called homœopathists. A great effort is being made by the opponents to crush homœopathy. We who have adopted it on conviction know that this is a vain effort, that truth and true wisdom are never far separate, and believing homœopathy to be true, we think it wise as well as honest to declare our convictions.

It may be that the other corporate bodies, armed with the authority of conferring medical and surgical diplomas, may be drawn into the wake of the two Scottish Universities. It may be that the timid, whether of practitioners or of the public, may be frightened from their propriety, and fly from the contest in dismay. An unjust tyranny on the part of the persecutors, and a senseless fear on the part of the persecuted, may have some influence at this time; but no true reform ever sailed on smooth seas during the first part of the voyage. We shall learn who are the true Reformers; and we must snatch victory from the very circumstances that might to the timid appear most adverse.

In very truth there is nothing in this outbreak of persecution but what is most hopeful for our Cause. If its maintainers prosecute their aims and endeavours with a firm and unshrinking courage, and are cordially united, the victory will be speedy as well as certain. The disunion of the professed champions of any cause is the chief hindrance to its progress.

There is nothing like an earnest faith. Those who believe in the law of homœopathy must be in earnest, and express their convictions peremptorily. The honesty of a true believer will be always acknowledged, because it is readily perceived whether he is in earnest or not.

While the virulent among our opponents exhaust the terms of vituperation afforded them by our language, we must not forget that there is a multitude of excellent men opposed to our doctrine, who do not so abuse us. We should return good for evil; we should be courteous to all men, and shame our abusive adversaries by a contrasted tone of gentleness and the attitude of champions who fear no mortal foes. The most gentle of demeanour are evermore found in action to be the most truly brave. The heroic spirit is defective, if there is not the element of gentleness mixed up with it.

There can be no excuse for abuse and vituperation, whether the offender be of this sect or of that. There may be manly oppugnancy without degrading personalities. A scientific question should be argued temperately: and, when the health of the human race is concerned, the subject should be handled reverently. We have some misgivings of the moral health of any man who can conduct an autopsy with a light and irreverent tone or manner. The human body is while it lives, and *has been* when it has ceased to live, the temple of an immortal spirit. The medical controversy which relates to so august a temple should be conducted decently. We have no sympathy with those of our sect—for we are a

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medical sect, and why should we mince the matter?—who reciprocate terms of abuse with our virulent opponents. Is Liebig less Liebig—less one of the two great chemists of the day—because in his one-sidedness he has called homœopathy "humbug?" Is Faraday less Faraday—the philosopher, one of the primest of Nature's nobles—because he has no faith in homœopathy? Have Williams and Bright—and the best of them all—Billing, no brains because they laugh at homœopathy? We must take men as we find them. We cannot make circumstances; but we can avail ourselves of them.

We hold allopathy to have been rational, while there was no reason for believing there was something far more rational: but believing that homœopathy is that something far more rational, we advocate it, and we desire its progress and advancement.

The assertion that homœopathists are dishonest, of necessity dishonest, because they practise homœopathy, is too childish for any grave comment. One writer, Dr. Cormack, has assumed that men practise homœopathy because they have large families, and need to find them support. Many of our homœopathists—and the first of them all in point of time, and one of the first, every way—are bachelors—old bachelors, if you please, but not the less free from the *impedimenta*, the burden and the care of families. This sort of random assertion is a monstrous absurdity. It is a vulgar clap-trap that no educated gentleman should indulge in. The same writer has assumed, as a mark of dishonesty, that some homœopathists recommend the water-cure, and mesmerism, and divers other non-drugging means. Why should they not, if they can do so conscientiously? Do none of the allopaths recommend water-treatment? do none recommend mesmerism? We could mention men of mark by scores, who do so. The same writer, who expresses most bitter things in the most gentle terms, accuses homœopathists of dishonesty because some few of the number occasionally recommend allopathic doses of medicines, *Aloetic paste* and *Castor oil*. Wherefore dishonest, most learned Theban? If it be done openly, where is the dishonesty? Let it be fully admitted that such persons are very imperfect homœopathists, that they have neither comprehended the philosophy of Hahnemann, nor followed his precepts—that they are babes in homœopathy. But is the baby in his mother's arms dishonest because he cannot chew and digest venison?

This milk-and-water antagonism can do us no harm. We can afford to laugh at it. Those who know us, know that we are not needy adventurers—constrained to take up the first quackery that presents itself, to get bread for our wives and children.

What is the simple fact touching our professed knowledge of medicine? It is simply this—we profess, according to the measure of our opportunities and abilities, to know fully as much as those of the allopathists who have had similar opportunities, and have the same amount of abilities; and that we have, *in addition*, what puts the meanest of us in advance of the foremost of the allopathists, a far better knowledge than they have of the properties of medicines, and a law of general applicability whereby we regulate our choice of those medicines. Is this nothing? The working out of a practical Reform is not an affair of white gloves and orange flowers—not of whispered sweetness long drawn out and of gentle sighings. It is a hard work, and requires all the pith of a resolute nature. Erasmus was too elegant and refined to play the part of Luther, and contented himself with writing epigrammatic sentences—and doing nothing. We want men like Wicliffe, and Huss, and Jerome of Prague, and Luther and Melancthon, and Knox and Melville,—men of indomitable spirit, to do battle for the right,—men who, keeping their consciences clear, are not afraid of any amount of abuse that may be heaped on them. There is a widespread conspiracy among the allopathic practitioners against homœopathy. Their object is, at present, to frighten the authorities of the Medical Colleges and Halls.

We preach up union among the homœopathists. Why in the world should not the English Homœopathic Association go on its way rejoicing, and co-operate with the Association for the Protection of Homœopathic Students and Practitioners? Why should not the members of the British Homœopathic and the Hahnemann Societies think, speak, and act as brotherly colleagues—the champions and defenders of the great medical truth of the day—a doctrine that must of necessity influence the practice of medicine for all succeeding ages?

A great cause may be put back, but can never be quenched. If there be a hero or heroes among us, let them show proofs of their heroical nature, and let the rest of us pay homage to such. It is very pleasant to know that a spirit of harmony is now rising in our body; such a spirit is needful for the struggle with the fierce demon of persecution that has been set loose against us.

The homœopathists constitute at present a medical sect. All the words in the

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world would not do away with the fact. Is any one ashamed of the imputation? Let him forbear our camp, let him withdraw from our body. Earnest faith is the thing wanted—we repeat it: and earnest faith does wonders, walks barefoot over burning ploughshares, and will support with equanimity and patience the rebuffs of uncivil men and the language of uncourteous writers.

Let "Union" be the cry: let union be accomplished. Let the nice and the fastidious remember that practical reforms must be worked out on, through, and by the *mass*: that though the pitchfork is an unseemly thing, and is used in husbandry for the distribution of unsweet substances, it has its uses as well as the silver fork, and as the golden ring that is put on the finger of the beautiful virgin made hopeful wife. We cannot afford to be finical just now. We have to win our battle. It must be won—it will be won; but whether by this generation or some future one, depends very much on the temperate spirit, good sense, and co-ordinate action of ourselves. Face sharpens face—spirit speaks to spirit: let these friendly words from one of the least worthy of the Medical Reformers find their way to the hearts and consciences of all who are engaged in this good, and, because good, this holy work.

ALLOPATHY AND HOMŒOPATHY COMPARED.

A FEW WORDS AGAINST BLEEDING.

By a Progressist.

(*Continued from page* 18.)

There can, I apprehend, be little doubt in the opinion of all connected with or interested in the system of homœopathy, that it is not so fully or so adequately supported as it ought to be. If there is any one department of science, any one national advantage to which, more than another, the place of honour, in all the meanings of the phrase, ought to be assigned, it is the system for the cure of disease introduced by that profound thinker Hahnemann. The "old school" have discovered that these doctrines are not the growth of a day—that they are practical, not theoretical. We know that they are the result of deep thinking, of patient experience, and an instance of unequalled industry and perseverance. Hahnemann's doctrine became slowly and gradually known: as it became appreciated by the public, opposition commenced; with its success, persecution—the bitter sneers and the contemptuous ignorance of professional opponents assailed it. Had such men as Sydenham, John Hunter, etc., introduced it, it might have met with less opposition, and it is strange it never entered into their minds—it is strange, I say, that such men as these should have faled to have seen this improvement in therapeutics. In the history of physic, no system has been introduced that should occupy a more conspicuous place in the minds of enlightened men. That it has from the commencement of the nineteenth century done much, the most prejudiced medical owl cannot deny. It has had its season of gloom, let us anticipate its season of brightness. Let us hope it will grow with the progress of popular enlightenment. Its difficulties are somewhat set aside. The last two years have marked the formation of two homœopathic hospitals in the metropolis, for whose support the friends of the Cause have flocked with liberal contributions. Among the contributors, too, we find not a few physicians, eminent men, distinguished by the highest reputation, and conspicuous for high and lofty talent. All this combined force must ultimately shake the prejudices of the old school, and draw the veil from the mysteries of their established colleges, that seem determined to adhere to the dark times of old, when men hoarded their knowledge as the miserable miser hoards his gold; they are unwilling that the world should learn the ingenuity of Hahnemann had excelled their own. The College of Physicians of Edinburgh passed a resolution that they will not grant a diploma if the candidate confesses himself favourable to homœopathy. So pitiful is this narrow view of the subject, that it might have been passed by, and I should have been disposed to have left those dissentient voices unnoticed, did not their eminence give their decision a weight, the more dangerous and to be guarded against, from the *animus* with which it has been given.

"Truth," says Lord Bacon, "is a naked and open daylight, that doth not show masks and mummeries and triumphs of the old world half so stately and daintily as candlelights. Truth may come to the price of a pearl, that showeth best by day." Thus it is with the system of homœopathy with reference to allopathy. In theory, of course, nothing can be more beautiful than the golden mean. If you hear a man say, "I have looked into homœopathy, have examined it thoroughly, and found it sheer

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nonsense," depend on it, that man went not beyond the golden theory, and the examination no further than this—"Will it prove personally advantageous to me? Will it augment my practice?" He answers, "I know nothing about it; therefore it is my *interest* to *oppose* it." "A hundred weight of error," Baron Liebig remarks, "will not form one grain of truth."

In my last paper I concluded by saying, "all the science in the world will not rub out one simple fact." Facts are what people want. Let the facts of homœopathy be set side by side with those of allopathy, and I will risk the judgment that will be decreed by the public. It is a maxim among builders to clear away the rubbish of the old before they begin to build the new structure. We will take an acute case, "pneumonia," or inflammation of the lungs, as treated by the "old school."

I cannot find a better illustration of this system of treatment than by copying an extract from Mr. Yeldham's book.* "The following is extracted from a lecture on the treatment of pleuro-pneumonia, or inflammation of the lungs with pleurisy, written by Mr. Guthrie, and reported in the *Medical Times* of February 19, 1848.

"'In the year 1801, I found myself, not seventeen years of age, in charge of a regiment of infantry, on the top of the Berry Head, the outermost point of Torbay. The men were soon attacked by pneumonia. I had been taught the practice of physic in London; had followed, among other avocations, the late Drs. Rowley and Hooper for three years, and, in consonance with their views, bled my patients three or four times in the first forty-eight hours. I first drew sixteen ounces, then fourteen, then twelve, then abstracted, as the complaint continued, eight ounces; gave *Tartar Emetic*, so as to keep up nausea; then *Calomel*, *Antimony*, and *Opium*; and lost my patients. Discomfited by my failures, I reconsidered every case, and saw that, however systematically I had acted, the disease had not been arrested in any one of them. *In fact, enough had not been done.* Recollecting what I had been told of northern constitutions, and of country practice, I determined that in future they should die of the bleeding, and not from excess of inflammation. I then took away, on each occasion, as much more blood; my sixteen ounces became from twenty to thirty. It would not do. I arrested the rapid course of the disease, but did not effectively subdue it. It was evident that, to succeed, I must place no limit to the abstraction of blood in the first instance, but the decided incapability of bearing its further loss.'"

I will quote another paragraph from Mr. Yeldham (p. 2). "Let us suppose the case of a patient labouring under inflammation of the lungs, or pleura. We find him complaining of severe pain in the side, and difficulty of breathing: this is his chief, probably his only source of suffering—we find him moving, walking, and performing any other action not requiring much bodily exertion. Do we hear him complain of weakness? Certainly not! Observe this same patient after the lapse of only a few hours—the change startles you! He is already reduced to the lowest point of physical depression—he can scarcely speak above a whisper, move without being supported, or drink unless the cup is held to his lips. Whence this sudden alteration? Assuredly not from the progress of the disorder. There is no inflammatory complaint, however severe, which, even if left to itself, will in so short a space of time produce such powerful effects upon the vital energies. Nothing can afford a stronger proof of this than the condition in which we often find cases of the most dangerous character, which have existed for several days, unchecked by the use of any remedial measures whatever. In these instances we have, as might be expected, sufficient evidence of the inroads of disease upon the constitution, but certainly nothing at all approximating to that state of exhaustion which has just been described as dependent upon the loss of blood. The alternative is unavoidable; it is to the *remedy*, and not to the disease, that we must look for a solution of the question. The explanation is but too palpable:—he has been bled till he fainted; till his cheek was blanched, his eye dim, and his pulse scarcely perceptible. Reaction manifesting itself, the operation was repeated, and the system brought down to its former level. This is done again and again, till it can be borne no longer: then only does the destroyer arrest his progress. But though the victory of the lancet is complete, let not the reader imagine that the struggle has terminated: subdued, but not annihilated, the eradication of the disease is committed to the leech, the cupping-glass, the blister, nauseants, purgatives, and salivation; these, after the bleeding has done its work, even if they be not employed simultaneously with that operation, are brought to bear upon the exhausted patient."

Homœopathy observes a different course, and patients labouring under inflammatory diseases are cured without losing a single

* Homœopathy in Acute Diseases, by Stephen Yeldham, p. 3.

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drop of blood. "Bloodletting is objectionable," says Dr. Black,* "on the ground that it is unsuccessful and dangerous, as compared with the employment of specific remedies. It is an indirect and only palliative mode of treatment, in so far as it only relieves the urgency of the symptoms, but does not effect a radical cure." Again: "It is defective as a means, for although its primary effect is to reduce suddenly the action of the heart, its secondary, and one which soon follows, is a state of reaction, a great increase of vascular action; this must necessarily be combated by some other means, or, as is too often, mistaken for the natural progress of disease. The want of permanent success which follows bloodletting is seen in the every-day case of individuals being bled for a 'tendency of blood to the head;' the immediately disagreeable symptoms are relieved, but the so-called tendency soon returns. The individual is bled periodically, but with only temporary relief, for the cause of the disease has never been attacked. It is in such a case as this that the superiority of the homœopathic treatment is shown to that of only palliative."

Of all the therapeutic methods employed since the most remote antiquity, "bleeding" is that which has produced the greatest diversity of confidence in the opinion of medical men. The power of this method of reducing disease, the rapid influence upon the organs and functions, its visible advantages, and not less incontestable inconveniences, the good and the evil which it produces at once, or in a short time, in a word, the deep perturbations which it excites in the system, will sufficiently account for the variety of opinions physicians entertain respecting it. Whilst with some its merits are exalted beyond the bourne of truth, by others it is equally deprecated. It is regarded by some as a system which tends rapidly to the destruction of vitality in the heart; others consider its application no less dangerous, as it is a system which in its exhaustion of the blood tends to retard life; it is, in truth, a theory believed to have no definite system which may pronounce for its continuance. It is, at best, very difficult to determine, with precision, the number of bleedings that will be necessary, the quantity of blood to be evacuated—as quantity must necessarily often vary considerably in giving to the disease its check — the constitution, the age of the patient, all of which must be considered to complete the solution of the problem. What conclusion is arrived at? Generally, the success does not realize the expectations of benefit believed to be obtained on the progress of the malady. The system is weakened to an indefinite prolongation of nervous debility, and the inevitable result is, that subsequent maladies are formed. If we read the medical registers, we shall observe multitudes of instances in which bleeding has been pronounced advantageous; but if it were possible for us to follow one by one those individuals comprised in these registers, we should doubtless be induced to acknowledge the disadvantages of bleeding, when we should discover, in a lapse of time, more or less prolonged chronic diseases, engendered from the imprudent recourse to this system. It often happens that these ejections of blood are encouraged at the risk of bringing on at some future time serious consequences, but which are scarcely ever foreseen by the practitioner. What more *easy*, in fact, than to diminish the vital action, and, consequently, all pain and inflammatory action, when one does not fear a considerable depletion of the blood? But, again,—what more *difficult* than to reproduce the patient's *original strength*, *vigour*, and *habitual tone?* Several examples may be quoted where a single bleeding (used *mal à propos*) has left for the remainder of a person's life irremediable weakness and a decided decrease of vital energy. It is impossible to deny that the effect, in a most direct manner, is to weaken and enervate the system, and that to a degree that it is impossible to calculate on. How often do we see after prolonged bleeding, external pallor, the pulse lowered, a difficulty in breathing, coldness of the extremities, swooning, sometimes followed by convulsions, and always more or less by a feeling of decided feebleness, which extends throughout the whole body. The skin becomes in general discoloured and pale, the cellular texture of which, towards the lower extremities, is charged with a watery matter; the digestive organs, particularly those of the stomach and bowels, are enfeebled; the muscular strength is sometimes rapidly diminished, and the sufferer becomes almost powerless. It is these disastrous effects which render the convalescence of a patient so interminable, and which usually follow serious illnesses; and it must be added, that this weakness singularly predisposes persons to a number of diseases, particularly those that result from infection. It must be observed that a number of individuals suffer from the effects of bleeding promptly and intensely; these are children, old men, and the greater number of women: in fact, three-fourths of

* Treatise on the Principles and Practice of Homœopathy, p. 3.

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society. Children are bled and lose a considerable quantity of blood by the application of leeches, and to what sad results are they not subjected? Pelletier mentions the case of a child six years old, who died from hemorrhage occasioned by six leeches applied to the chest. Pereira says:* "Some years since, the application of a leech was ordered to the chest of a person labouring under pneumonia; it was at the same time mentioned that the bleeding should be encouraged. The directions were literally fulfilled; the discharge of blood was assiduously promoted, until so large a quantity had been lost, that death was the result. In another instance, two leeches were ordered for a child, aged about eighteen months, suffering with pneumonia in consequence of measles; the following day the poor little creature was found in a fainting or rather dying state, with face and lips completely blanched. On inquiry, it appeared that the leech-bites were still bleeding, and no attempt had been made to stop the discharge; the mother thinking it would be beneficial, more especially as the pneumonic symptoms had considerably abated; as predicted, the little sufferer died within twenty-four hours." Mr. Wilson, quoted by Mr. Wardrop, has related the case of a child, where one leech had nearly caused death by a serious hemorrhage.

It is much the same with old men, whose hard pulse is often mistaken for a plethoric habit, which is only imaginary; this class of persons cannot lose blood. Nervous persons, now so numerous from civilization being carried to so great an extent, may be ranged in the category of those where the economy cannot submit with impunity to ejections of blood; and if we would seek the cause of these melancholy results, of which we have only here given a feeble sketch, it would not be difficult to recognise it.

Those who are decidedly against bleeding have said, "that blood being the source of life, bleeding is the commencement of assassination." These bleedings take from the blood a great proportion of fibres and globules (certain essential elements of this fluid), thereby rendering a patient liable to serous plethora, which is an infallible sign of organic weakness. Let us separate, for instance, the fibrous and coloured matter from the blood, or that part which contains the principle especially and immediately concerned in the support of health and strength. Is it not taking away its vitality? Dr. Billing's theory is, that all diseases are caused by impressions made on the nervous centres or their nerves, by which the nervous influence (whatever it may be) is exhausted or morbidly diminished. Now, if all diseases have exhausted nervous influence for their cause, is it not palpable that bleeding may be the most prompt and direct means of disorganizing the entire system, by depriving each particular organ of its original amount of blood, heat, nutrition, and vital strength that should return to it?

Homœopathy has so far operated beneficially—there are practitioners who have received a lesson, and who have recourse to bleeding with considerable hesitation; although it is to be lamented there are others who are prodigal of blood, without calculating the disastrous results, immediate or future, arising from this truly murderous practice.

A recent London medical periodical makes the following declaration: "There never lived that conqueror who, with sword or lance, slew one quarter the myriads that have died of lancet and leech."

"Blood-letting," says Dr. Nicholls, "is continually resorted to, and the health of thousands is undermined, and thousands of lives are sacrificed."

"Less slaughter." says Dr. Reid, "I am convinced, has been effected by the sword than by the lancet."

"The history of medicine proves that persons have been correct in saying that millions of men have fallen under the blows of the physicians. The means which are employed at the present time, and which become more numerous from day to day, are a sure guarantee that in time the number of victims will be incalculable" (Bergk).

These passages have emanated from allopathic physicians, and are quite sufficient to show there is no uniformity in the orthodox school. Let the reader contrast this complicated and unsettled system recommended and practised by the allopathic school, with the simple, rational, and successful treatment of homœopathy.

The following are two cases of pleurisy, or inflammation of the pleura, treated homœopathically, and without the loss of blood.

CASE I.

J. P., aged 19. On the 20th of April (Easter Sunday) complained of violent pain in the side, increased on the slightest pressure, by taking a long inspiration, by coughing, or moving in bed; considerable expectoration of froth and mucus, mixed with blood; pulse 120; tongue furred and clammy; burning heat of skin; great restlessness; shiverings, with trembling;

* Concise View of Homœopathy, vol. ii. p. 106, 1832.

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intense thirst; oppressed breathing. He was directed to take half a drop of the *Tincture of Aconite* every hour, for the first four doses, and then every two hours.

April 21st. Slept at intervals during the night; pain in the side continues; had two violent fits of coughing; expectoration increased, still deeply coloured with blood; pulse 103; tongue moist, and covered with fur. Half a drop of *Tincture of Aconite* and *Bryonia*, alternately, every three hours.

April 22nd. Slept well; better in every respect; quite free from pain; cough and expectoration less; pulse 86.

April 24th. Complains of headache and nausea; pulse 90; skin hot; great thirst; cough more troublesome. *Tincture of Pulsatilla*, alternately with *Aconite*, instead of *Bryonia*.

April 25th. Better; quite easy this morning.

April 26th (Saturday). Feels so well that he wishes to get up; went down stairs into the parlour, and continued very comfortable the whole of the day.

April 27th. Pain in the side, and cough returned; skin hot, pulse quick; thirst and some shivering. All this yielded to *Aconite*, *Bryonia*, and *Pulsatilla*. On the 30th of April was quite well, and had he not imprudently gone down stairs on the 26th of April, in all probability he would have had no return on the 27th.

Case II.

A. B., about twelve or thirteen years old, of a sanguine temperament, was attacked on the 5th of June with vomiting of a bilious fluid, which continued during the night. On the 6th of June, I visited him at seven o'clock in the morning, and found him with considerable fever, shivering, and heats; cold sweats on the forehead; flushed face; headache; thirst; burning heat, afterwards copious sweats; pain in the side; quick, hurried breathing; cough, increased by taking a deep inspiration; expectoration trifling; pulse 130, and irregular; unquiet sleep, with muttering. I ordered half a drop of *Tincture of Aconite* every hour, until I saw him again. I then gave *Bryonia* and *Pulsatilla*, alternately with *Aconite*, as in Case 1. On the 14th of June my little patient was well.

This case was attended with some anxiety. The father of the lad had derived great benefit from a course of homœopathic medicine, and is a warm and zealous supporter of the system; but his mother knew nothing of it—her tearful eye, her anxious looks and inquiries for her only boy, fully portrayed the workings that were rife within. She bore it magnanimously. Most sincerely do I hope it has been the means of establishing in her mind the superiority of this system of treating inflammatory diseases without loss of blood.

The principles of homœopathy are truths which have been clearly and fully ascertained, and confirmed by fifty years' experience. All the relevant anatomical, physiological, and psychological evidence of human nature certifies their truth. It pleased the Almighty Protector of us all to raise up that wise and good man Hahnemann, and he has demonstrated how fatal is the system of blood-letting. Had God wholly withdrawn His merciful providence, and left us to the destructive treatment of the "old school," this fatal delusion might have continued. Let us, then, in obedience to these teachings of Providence, of human experience, for ever abandon the carnage of this system of bleeding. Pure reason is on our side, and the inflexible laws of nature inexorably demand that all of us, as intelligent and responsible beings, should come together in these communings, that we may better understand and obey the requisitions of Heaven upon us, in order to fulfil the purpose of Divine benevolence in the furtherance of homœopathy, as of the highest good to man.

(To be continued.)

ALLOPATHIC AND HOMŒOPATHIC QUACKERY.

By Dr. Rosenstein.

Salus publica suprema lex esto.

There is in this country of freedom too much liberty given to those whose main task is to prey upon the credulity of the public, and fabricate *pills*, *ointments*, *mixtures*, etc., "for all the ills that flesh is heir to," and who thereby live in ease and affluence. Government winks at it, and the editors of newspapers get a good deal of money out of these parasites, and are very glad to puff their nostrums. The chemists and druggists sell those patent medicines, and are not ashamed to make a show of them in their windows, with this kind of advertisement, "*Patent Medicines, and prescriptions carefully prepared.*"

Why does government allow this? Why do the editors of the *Lancet* and the *Times* not cry out against these abuses? All their vituperations are heaped upon the homœopathists. Why so? There is nothing wrong in the principle or practice of homœopathy when correctly and skilfully employed.

A medical man has much to contend with in England. Some say they have no confidence in doctoring. They leave every-

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thing to Nature, and think "*to do nothing is the best policy.*" Such extreme confidence in Nature's sanative powers is a folly. Nature's powers are great, no doubt; who doubts it? but Nature wants aid in very many instances, as the hungry man wants food, and the sick man wants medicine, certainly not in excessive quantity; a single drop is sufficient, if properly used. We do not advocate the highly attenuated doses exclusively, but a lower dilution may often be requisite; still the medicine should be prescribed according to the homœopathic principle.

I am attending at present a case of lumbago of twenty years' standing. A high attenuation did not produce the least effect; a lower attenuation of the same remedy acted most favourably.*

Others say, we have no confidence in the old practice; but they are advocates of quack medicines, such as *Morison's pills*, etc.; they use them on all occasions. The mischief arising from such a practice is very palpable.

I was called a few weeks ago to a child, eleven years old, suffering from chronic disease of the mesentery. The child was emaciated to a skeleton; the abdomen extremely distended, very hard to the touch; constant vomiting. Morison's pills were the only remedy that had been used during six months. The father of the child said, he had great confidence in that nostrum; he said he would take 200 for a dose; he thinks they can do no harm, but are sure to do good. I had very little hope to benefit such a case; however, her sufferings were soon relieved by the use of *Ars.*, *Pulsatilla*, *Nux Vomica*, *Calcarea*, etc. The vomiting has ceased, and the child is improving in every respect.

I will now say a few words on homœopathic quackery. The many domestic books on homœopathy have opened the way to charlatanism; such are the works of Ruoff, Haase, Jahr, etc. They are the guides of those who figure as doctors, and are too lazy to study. A lady called upon me a few days ago, who suffered from a cold, constant sneezing, running of the nose, of the eyes, etc. She consulted a homœopathic chemist, who gave her a small bottle of *Euphrasia*. Was the remedy indicated? I ordered *Ars.* and *Sulphur*, which soon cured her.

What right has the allopathic or homœopathic chemist to prescribe? He knows nothing of anatomy, physiology, or pathology. If the allopathic apothecary mixes drugs, which he has been in the habit of doing for ages, we will not dispute with him; but those who are advocates of the homœopathic principle ought to know better. It is more than enough to be content with a shilling for a little bottle with medicated globules.

Why is quackery not tolerated in Germany? The chemist and druggist in Germany is liable to severe fines in case of administration of drugs without the permission of a medical man. Why not carry out the same principle in England? We hear often of poisoning certainly, by mistake of the chemist, and what is the penalty? He pays a little money, and all is right again; and does this bring the unfortunate man back from the grave?

It is surprising, that whilst so much attention is paid in this country to every department of science, medicine should remain in *statu quo*. Medical police (*medicinische policy*) is in England much neglected, and deserves more attention.

* Dr. Rosenstein would be serving his brethren and the cause by publishing in our Journal the most *minute* particulars of the above case, as well as the case of chronic mesenteric disease.—Ed.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23RD, 1851.

DR. SYMONDS ON ORTHODOX MEDICINE AND THE HERESIES OF THE DAY.

We beg to call the attention of our readers to an address on Orthodox Medicine, delivered by Dr. Symonds to the Bristol and Bath Provincial Medical Association. It is worthy of perusal as being an unwilling testimony to the progress of homœopathy, and illustrates the fact that when passions are roused and pride wounded, reason and courtesy are alike disregarded. Dr. Symonds commences his address with a notice of the present state of medicine; he briefly alludes to the *vis medicatrix*, but he is coy of offending his audience with much on that subject—one so painful to the heroic practitioner. He then makes some remarks on the opinion the public form of physic, and feels sadly disappointed that the public tide ebbs so fast from orthodoxy. "Two notable heresies have sprung up of late, and have succeeded in obtaining not a few victims from the laity, and some con-

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verts or perverts from our own body. We cannot blame the public. Ignorance is an object of pity, not of reprehension." He then, after this tale of defalcation, indulges his audience with a little *sauce piquante* anent Drs. Aquaticus and Minimus, in order to whet their appetites for the solid part of the entertainment, where the unhappy Dr. Minimus is roasted and served up in the true mock heroic fashion.

"For them we have no qualification or mitigation of our sentence. On them the science of medicine pronounces its distinctest and deepest-toned anathema. But, setting medicine aside, common sense derides them, humanity reproaches them, and reason sets upon them the ineffaceable brand of *impostor* or *simpleton*. Is this harsh or intolerant language? It is not. Are we intolerant? No. We extend our Christian charity to the utmost over the motives of the poor perverts."

A Daniel come to judgment, yea a Daniel! What a mockery of the brightest and greatest of heavenly graces! We now learn that it is consistent with Christian charity to pronounce deepest-toned anathemas, to call thousands of regularly-educated medical men *impostors, marauders, simpletons*—whereas we had ever thought that Christ says, "Love your neighbour as yourself; whosoever shall say thou fool, is in danger of hell fire;" and we had fondly imagined that the basis of all charity was founded on that commandment, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour."

Alas, for the rarity
Of Christian charity
Under the sun.

"Reason sets upon them the ineffaceable brand of impostor or simpleton." The Christian charity of Dr. Symonds instigates him thus to brand, but reason scorns the task. She proclaims in clear trumpet notes liberty of thought and action founded on that thought; she invites to calm investigation—she indulges in no invective—she speaks of truth and error, but never descends to epithet—she justly complains that an unhappy constitution of the human mind admits a tincture of the will and passion, which generate their own conclusions, but she disowns as her offspring these hasty prejudiced opinions. Reason holds no part with those who, without experiment, dismiss as absurd what professes to be founded solely on observation and experiment.

Of what earthly value are "the distinctest and deepest-toned anathemas of the profession?" Are they mere smoke of burning straw, causing a temporary cloud, obscuring the heavens solely to those who apply the torch, or are they the real thunderbolts of some infallible power? What says history? What has been the fruit of the most rancorous and disgraceful anathemas against Harvey? Does the blood flow as he said it did, or does it flow in obedience to the anathema? When *Peruvian Bark* was first introduced, so fierce was the anathema of the profession against it, that they allowed Oliver Cromwell to die of intermittent fever rather than give it to him. Do the profession now, in obedience to that anathema, abstain from giving *Bark* and *Quinine?*

The profession anathematized inoculation with the virus of small-pox; was not their bigoted sentence reversed by the enthusiasm of Lady Mary W. Montague? Did not the profession anathematize Jenner, abusing him in the foulest language? Has the anathema deprived the public of the blessings of vaccination? *Antimony* has had a hard struggle, after many a contest. The Faculty of Paris anathematized it, and by Act of Parliament its use was forbidden in 1566; and in 1609, Paulmier was expelled the Faculty for administering it. Still it was given secretly, and gave rise to much disputation; at last, on the 29th of March, 1666, it was formally admitted into the French codex. And will it be believed that one who disposes of medical facts by anathemas should, in spite of anathemas most distinct and very deep-toned, write A.D. 1847, "It is unquestionable, that some twenty years ago even acute phlegmasiæ were often treated with needless severity, and that blood was squandered most pro-

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fligately by those who fastened their faith to the lancet only. But we have outlived those sanguinary days. Thanks to the help of those grand adjuvantia *Calomel, Opium,* and ANTIMONY, it is very long since we have seen a case requiring the repeated venesections common to the time of our noviciate."* Such has been and ever will be the fate of all such anathemas, bellowed let them be with the lungs of a Hercules. Truth ever will prevail. As for the undignified abuse that accompanies the anathema, why it marks how homœopathy is extending; and with the public the conviction becomes irresistible, that indulging in foul names denotes pride and interest wounded, and a total want of power to bring forward any sound or conclusive argument against the system.

Dr. Symonds disposes of the to him uncomfortable fact of lay support to homœopathy in the following happy manner: "Even the laymen of great powers of mind that have adopted homœopathic treatment for themselves or their families should go for nothing. They are not led by reasoning, but by what they fancy to be experience, which is indeed only empiricism." And why not believe in such experience as they possess? Do the patients of Dr. Symonds and of the Association he addresses employ them, "after studying physiology, and learning some rudiments of pathology, sufficient to assure them of the rational basis of medicine, and that their true safety depends upon it?" Or is it not with them as with others, "whereas I was blind, now I see?" Were patients to wait until, with rigid reasoning, backed by a course of physiology and rudimentary pathology, they had proved the value of medical theories and medical inconsistencies, we fear that the Bristol and Bath Medical Association might be long without a patient. If the profession are often so opposed in their views of disease and its treatment, what rational treatment can be adopted by the public when their guides display such contradictory statements? Mrs. A might be sadly puzzled to reconcile the tonics strongly recommended at Bath, with their equally strong condemnation by another Esculapius at Bristol. Mr. B might be sorely perplexed when his son has fever, he calls in Dr. X, who recommends depleting measures; but Mr. B has read that fevers are attended with lowness of the vital powers. Dr. X's opinion is therefore opposed to his; he sends for Dr. Y, who insists on stimulants, but friends recommend Dr. Z being summoned. Dr. Z is one who has seen much practice, and his verdict is throw physic to the dogs; carefully nurse your son, and he will do very well. Again, Mr. D is verging on delirium tremens, and in his sober hours he has consulted various authors on the pathology of this disease. Now a cloud of confused and innumerable theories cross his mind, and what with conflicting ideas and a brain fast verging on delirium, he begs a friend to read, and on that reading to determine what is to be done. The friend begins with all earnestness his rudimentary pathological studies. He reads in one author that it arises from inflammation of the brain; in another, from a peculiar irritation of the brain but not inflammatory; in a third, he finds that it arises from vital and nervous depression, increased by the morbid impressions produced by accumulated secretions of a vitiated kind in the biliary system, and on the digestive mucous surfaces, and so with half a dozen authors. But his difficulties do not end here; for as different as are the theories, equally conflicting are the treatments. A insists on wine and *Opium;* B calls out for *Tartar Emetic;* and, strangely annoying, W states that if the *Opium* produces sleep before the time in which the patient would sleep were the disease left alone, it is that sleep which knows no waking. Unhappy friend of D, he closes the works with great misgivings of so-called pathology, even a rudimentary study of it; and these misgivings turn to horror when he stumbles on the opinion of an eminent disciple of the ultra-pathological school. "I am sometimes disposed to doubt," says this disciple,

* Brit. and For. Med. Rev., No. 46, p. 602, Letter by Dr. Symonds.

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"whether the untoward event of a disease (which his science had enabled him to predict, and which he had assiduously endeavoured to avert with all the resources of his art) is not productive of *more real satisfaction*, as it *certainly is more creditable* to the philosophic practitioner, than the recovery of a patient of the nature of whose disease he is ignorant."

If the profession indulge in such heaps of contradictory views,—and who can deny the fact that they do?—what a chaos for lay students in rudimentary pathology. Lay believers do not adopt homœopathy on mere blind experience; theirs is a rational experience, so gained as to satisfy their judgment that it is not fallacious. For example: A has suffered long, and tried various modes of treatment; friend B, who has been cured of a similar disorder by homœopathic means, recommends it to A. A tries it, and derives relief; and he in turn urges it on C, and with the same result. Surely, the joint experience of A, B, and C is of value, and becomes still more certain, when they find their children advantageously treated in various acute disorders by similar remedies. They detail their experience to D, and D, being a thoughtful man, argues in this way: I was told by my previous medical advisers that the chances were ten to one against my disease being cured in a year; now as that favourable termination did occur within that time under homœepathic treatment, it is plain that the chances are equal in favour of the result having been obtained by the remedies. Now as friend A's exactly similar case terminated also within the allotted time, then the chances are ten to one against the termination having been spontaneous or accidental; and B's similar case gives 100 to 1, and my friend C's the enormous probability of 10,000 to 1 in favour of the means employed having been instrumental to the end attained.

If the public can form an opinion as to the results of ordinary practice, why can they not of homœopathic? It is a begging of the whole question, for Dr. Symonds to assume that "the wise have adopted homœopathy because they have not been wise in all things!" Surely such minds as Whately, Bunsen, Radetsky, Metternich, Richter, Arnold, Miall, and many others, all great in their various missions, would not embrace a mere phantom, whose failure, if such, should have taken place in less time than half a century. Such men, and the public in general, back their experience by the circumstance of the homœopathic principle being founded on many facts, and they judge that the history of homœopathy adds much to the value of their experience. They know that it is not a thing of yesterday, that the principle has been at the root of much of the best ordinary treatment. They know that now more than half a century hes elapsed since Hahnemann gave such importance to this law, and insisted that experiments to discover the action of drugs should be made on the healthy and not on the sick. However calumniated he has been, they consider that man to be no quack who has so unceasingly demanded impartial investigation; who has made no concealment of his means, but urgently pressed their examination by all. They rejoice to know that he was a man skilled in the sciences collateral to medicine, and well versed in literature. They heed little the abuse heaped on him when men of cosmopolitan reputation, such as Richter, Hufeland, Broussais, Brera, Valentine Mott, Forbes, Liston, and Combe, bear noble testimony to the mind of Hahnemann. They know that the system has progressed, in spite of the most bitter and uncompromising opposition. They know that the Austrian government, instigated by the ordinary profession, denounced the practice of homœopathy. They remember that the government medical officers, opponents of homœopathy, reported that during the epidemic of cholera in Vienna, while two-thirds recovered under homœopathic treatment, two-thirds perished under the ordinary; and that such brilliant results led Count Kolowarth, Minister of the Interior, to repeal the law interdicting the practice of homœopathy. They know that similar returns were gained in various parts

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of Europe, and that during the last epidemic of this scourge in Great Britain, excellent results were gained, and these on no loosely drawn-up tables, but from actually published individual cases, which, to the disgrace of the profession, were never regarded, notwithstanding the admitted difficulties as to the treatment of this fearful malady. They make all allowance for the fallacy of statistics, yet still find that such results confirm their own experience.

While they rejoice at the advance of homœopathy in Europe, they are equally strengthened in their belief of its rapid progress in America. They know that in North America, its practitioners can be counted by hundreds, and that a chartered college has been established in Pennsylvania for the study of homœopathy, and granting of degrees. They have also cause for congratulation on its spread in South America, where very lately it has proved so efficient in the yellow fever raging in Brazil; nor are they shaken in their belief when these results are said to be owing to imagination, to diet, and to Nature. That it cannot be diet and imagination, they have positive evidence in the treatment of infants, and the lower animals; and if Nature, then may they justly say, give us Nature. Why, if Nature cures every curable disease so pleasantly and so quickly, why do you, gentlemen, who estimate Natur so highly, so constantly disregard her? when your assistance is asked, why physic your patients, if Nature will cure them?

We now come to the last quotation that our space permits us to make.

"I strongly advise my brethren to take an uncompromising part, not only by refusing to co-operate, even in the most indirect manner, with homœopathic practitioners, but also to show the public in what light we regard these marauders. I need not tell you that the *only really remunerative cases* to the general practitioner (except in the feeling of satisfaction in the discharge of an arduous duty, in the achievement of success in a difficult act, and in the thought of having saved a life, or assuaged pain and distress) are those in which his duty consists mainly in standing by the bedside of the patient, ready to interpose, if in his judgment any emergency arises; *though they are cases to the cure of which Nature alone is usually adequate.* Nothing can really compensate him for the anxiety incident to the life and death encounters in grave cases, to say nothing of fatiguing days and broken nights. If, therefore, his attendance is sought by a family in such cases only (and the instinct of the patient or his friends will generally lead them away from homœopathists on such occasions), he is justified in requiring that *his reward* should be very different from what it is when he has all kinds of cases submitted to him."

It has been our fate to read many an attack on homœopathy, but we have never met with one so ludicrous in its pathos, so mercenary in its conclusion. Murder will out, and in this choice paragraph we have the burden of the whole song. Homœopathy has sadly pulled the purse-strings of allopathy, and Dr. Symonds, like a desperate chancellor of the exchequer, proposes a poll-tax to be levied on every man, woman, and child who, having once submitted to the tender mercies of homœopathy, with "returning instinct" rushes back to allopathy. How unkind the reception; no rejoicing over the return of an apostate—nothing mercenary—nothing. Dreading the charge of such conduct being considered mercenary, Dr. Symonds compares the homœopathist to the soldier who has merely "garrison duty, and the light routine of parade ground," and the ordinary medical man, to those "who fight pitch battles and lead forlorn hopes." Unhappy simile—imagine the hard-working soldier to demand extra pay ere he engages in his pitch battle, and leads the forlorn hope. Nothing mercenary; but vividly reminding us of old Jack Falstaff, who preferred good sack and a well-filled purse to honour: "What need I be so forward with him, that calls not on me? Well, 'tis no matter;

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honour pricks me on. Yea, but how if honour prick me off when I come on; how then? Can honour set-to a leg? No. Or an arm? No. Or take away the grief of a wound? No. Honour hath no skill in surgery, then? No. What is honour? A word. What is in that word honour? What is that honour? Air. A trim reckoning! Therefore, I'll none of it. Honour is a mere scutcheon: and so ends my catechism."

Members of the Bath and Bristol Medical Asssociation, you have unanimously agreed to resolutions in accordance with those of the Edinburgh College of Physicians, wherein you denounce homœopathy, and refuse all intercourse with all those who practise it. We place before you resolutions as unanimously adopted at a large Congress of British homœopathic practitioners, lately held in London. We appeal to you, we appeal to the public, which resolutions become most the sincere well-wisher for the progress of the healing art.

First. "That the members of this Congress, being duly-qualified medical practitioners, have adopted the principle or law of homœopathy, and have applied it in practice, after a careful experimental examination of its truth."

Second. "That being thus convinced of its practical value in the treatment of disease, they have felt it their duty to establish hospitals and dispensaries, for the double purpose of relieving the sufferings of the poor, and of affording opportunities to the medical profession to observe the facts in support of the truth of this law, and of its beneficial operation, and they will continue these and all other legitimate means of promoting its general adoption, notwithstanding the opposition manifested against it."

We appeal to a tribunal to which, with your desire to promote the healing art, you can have no objections—we appeal to experience. You must test the truth of homœopathy by careful and extensive experiments; you have tried other means to uproot homœopathy, and these have signally failed. Pursue, then, a more dignified and a more scientific course—examine experimentally; you will then gain the power of giving a direct and authoritative answer to our statements. If your results accord with ours, then will you have acquired a rich addition to your therapeutics; if they are negative to us, then you can show that our course has been a wrong one, and then, and only then, can you put the public on their guard, with more chance of being listened to. We confidently commit the question to Time and to Experience, and abide by their verdict. "It must soon be utter night with a Lie, or glorious sunshine with a Truth."

Every day firmly convinces us that homœopathy is destined to achieve a glorious career. Its success already illustrates the proselyting progress of its disciples. No marvel, then, that allopaths should stand and look aghast at the increasing popularity of a system which, if fostered in a manner its high philosophy deserves, cannot fail to rank it among the greatest reforms of the age.

Whether we look to the right or to the left, on either hand we discover unmistakable evidence of the influence it is exercising upon the public. When associations spring up identified with the Cause, when we discern that the lay as well as the professional members of homœopathy are actively engaged in promoting what they deem an essential change in the principles and practice followed out in connection with medical art, it is fair to presume that there is something deeper at the bottom of all this energy than mere antagonism of opinion or party prejudice.

Nothing can more strongly demonstrate this fact, than that when a convert is made, it is not upon the old principle of getting benefit personally, and leaving others to find out the source of relief, but at once the convert becomes what he ought to be in reality, an ardent student of the subject, and he goes forward fearlessly proclaiming the enlightened views he has received.

In this way there is, doubtless, much good effected. The allopaths feel it, and hence their virulent animosity. Who ever

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heard of any private individual canvassing the merits of the allopathic system in the same spirit or in the same manner as homœopathy is canvassed? The comparison is truly ludicrous. To advocate the perpetuation of blistering, bleeding, and purging would indeed be monstrous. But to advocate a system which entirely refuses them recognition, is a measure of sound wisdom and of practical humanity.

We are so persuaded of the uniform benefit to be derived from an extensive lay agitation, that we shall take every opportunity of enforcing it upon the notice of our readers. The professional disciple will find his way much smoother, if this kind of introduction be encouraged. Sympathy extended through a pre-knowledge of the operating principles which guide him in his arduous pursuits, will prepare the patient for the ordeal, whatever it may prove, and assist both parties in attaining the desired results. All things which tend to produce so desirable a position of affairs should have a firm and warm support, and the wider such a circle of sympathy can be extended, the better it will be for every one interested in homœopathy and its progress.

ONLY two years ago, it was declared that homœopathy was extinct in the metropolis, and all but extinct in the provinces. During this year the Universities of St Andrew's and Edinburgh, and the College of Physicians of Edinburgh, have declared against this system of therapeutics. The Provincial Medical and Surgical Association has now formally pronounced against it. At the anniversary meeting of this Association, held at Brighton last week, there was this explosion.

"At the opening of the proceedings this day, Dr. Cormack brought up the Report of the committee appointed to investigate the measures to be put in force in order to discountenance irregular and illegal practice. The committee recommended that three classes of persons ought to be deemed ineligible to belong to the Association:—1st. Those who practise homœopathy; 2nd, those who practise it in combination with hydropathy and mesmerism; and 3rdly, those who hold professional consultations with persons entertaining opinions opposed to legitimate practice, or who hold professional intercourse with such as practise homœopathy. Dr. Cormack made some pertinent observations on the conduct of certain recusant professors of Glasgow and Edinburgh, and the active promulgation of homœopathic doctrines by the clergy in many places; and especially on the unfitness of certain passages in a sermon of the Rev. Mr. Everest, lately preached in London, some quotations from which he read, though, as he emphatically remarked to the President, 'Sir, this is almost too blasphemous to read.' (Hear, hear.) As an instance of the absurdity of some of this reverend preacher's views, passages were quoted, showing that he considered the leprosy of Scripture to be no other than the psora of Hahnemann, the mystic. (A member of the Association here ejaculated, 'That shows his knowledge was only skin-deep.') Even socialism was considered by the clerical dermatologist 'of psoric origin!' And it was insinuated in one of his passages, that until Hahnemann arose even redemption had not been effectual! Such were the props of this glaring system of inanity and mischief. Dr. Cormack went on to say, that he thought the report of the committee did not affect any individual member of the Association at present; but the Report asked for a committee of five members, to be appointed to frame stringent rules on the matter, to be laid before the next anniversary meeting. It proposed that thanks should be given to the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Edinburgh for their opposition to the homœopathic heresy; also to the University of Edinburgh and St. Andrew's; but that disapproval should be expressed of any school of medicine which retained professors who practise homœopathy. The committee proposed that the resolutions of the meeting on these subjects should be forwarded to all the corporate medical bodies, and advertised in the principal daily and the medical journals. Dr. Cormack remarked, that any feeble and uncertain sound from the Association on this subject would be worse than useless.

"Dr. Malden proposed that the Report before the Association be adopted.

"Dr. C. B. Williams, in seconding the proposition, said that if the matter were not taken up actively by such an Association as their own, nowhere could we look for an expression of the opinions of the profession. While the examining boards, who ought to be the guardians of the profession, remained sunk in apathy, it is incumbent upon all bodies of professional men, however constituted, to stand forward in the matter. He then entered into some statements, showing the utter absurdity of infinitesimal doses, and deplored that the wealth and influence of the rich and the lives of the poor were sacrificed to uphold a monstrous fraud, the prevalence of which had made it so notorious.

"Dr. Edwards Crisp agreed fully with the Report, but thought that the Edinburgh College of Physicians deserved little thanks, their edict against homœopathic practice having been forced upon them, and not spontaneous.

"After some conversation of several speakers relative to the alleged expulsion of Professor Henderson from the University of Edinburgh,

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Dr. Cormack explained that the Faculty of Medicine had not the power to expel Dr. Henderson from his chair for promulgating the doctrines of homœopathy, that power belonged only to proprietors of the University; but they had prohibited him from putting that system into practice in the infirmary where they had power, though they could not help his still retaining the chair of pathology.

"Dr. Cowan (of Reading), in an eloquent and enthusiastic address, which was greatly applauded, announced that he looked upon homœopathy as only a part of a certain influence which characterised the age in which we live—an age full of moral and intellectual dangers—and which influence manifested itself in other sciences—not alone in medicine. A homœopathist ought always to be distrusted as to his judgment. (Loud applause.) The Association ought to feel deeply and strongly on the point; and, as a body, ought to hold no intercourse with those whose principles are so diametrically opposed to the experience of ages.

"The motion that the Report be adopted was carried unanimously. The reporting committee, Drs. Cormack, Tunstall, and Ranking, with Drs. Malden, C. J. B. Williams, and Cowan, and Sir C. Hastings, were appointed a committee to frame the rules for adoption on the subject. Dr. Tunstall moved, that the Report which had been read *'on irregular and unprofessional practice'* be printed and circulated amongst the members; and we afterwards learned that it would be ready for distribution before the Association separated."

Advertisement of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal, in the Times.

"PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION.—*Report on Irregular Practice.*

"The following Report was brought up and unanimously agreed to.

"Your committee have, after consultation with numerous members of the Association, maturely considered the subject referred to them, and beg respectfully to suggest the adoption of the following resolutions:—

"1. That it is the opinion of this Association, that homœopathy as propounded by Hahnemann and practised by his followers is so utterly opposed to science and common sense, as well as so completely at variance with the experience of the medical profession, that it ought to be in no way or degree practised or countenanced by any regularly educated medical practitioner.

"2. That homœopathic practitioners, through the press, the platform, and the pulpit, have endeavoured to heap contempt upon the practice of medicine and surgery as followed by members of this Association and by the profession at large.

"3. That for these reasons it is derogatory to the honour of members of this Association to hold any kind of professional intercourse with homœopathic practitioners.

"4. That there are three classes of practitioners who ought not to be members of this Association, viz.:—1st, real homœopathic practitioners; 2nd, those who practise homœopathy in combination with other systems of treatment; and 3rd, those who, under various pretences, meet in consultation or hold professional intercourse with those who practise homœopathy.

"5. That a committee of seven be appointed to frame laws in accordance with these resolutions, to be submitted to the next annual meeting of the Association.

"6. That the thanks of the Association are eminently due, and are hereby given, to the Presidents and Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Edinburgh for their determined stand against homœopathic delusions and impostures.

"7. That the thanks of the Association are also due, and are hereby given, to the Universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrew's for their resolution to refuse their diplomas to practitioners of homœopathy, but the Association feel imperatively called on to express its disapproval of any school of medicine which retains among its teachers any one who holds homœopathic opinions.

"8. That these resolutions be printed and transmitted to all the medical licensing bodies and medical schools in the United Kingdom, and that they likewise be inserted in the *Times*, newspaper, the *Morning Post*, the *North British Advertiser*, *Saunders's News Letter*, all the British and Irish medical periodicals, and in such other journals as the council may sanction upon the recommendation of the branch Associations.

"In proposing these resolutions for the adoption of the Association, your committee are anxious to state that they are actuated by a strong sense of the importance of the subject in its relation both to humanity and morals. They most conscientiously believe that the countenance afforded to the form of charlatanry herein alluded to is detrimental to the true interests of the public, as it is subversive of that strict integrity which ought to characterise practitioners of medicine, and which has ever distinguished the profession in these kingdoms.

"JOHN ROSE CORMACK, M.D. Edin., Fellow Royal Coll. Phys. Edin., of Putney.
"JAMES TUNSTALL, M.D. Edin., of Bath.
"H. H. RANKING, M.D. Cantab., of Norwich.

"It was moved by Dr. Malden of Worcester, and seconded by Dr. Charles J. B. Williams of London, that this Report be adopted.

"The motion was put from the chair and unanimously agreed to.

"The following committee were then appointed in terms of the fifth resolution:—Dr. Cormack, of Putney; Dr. Tunstall, of Bath; Dr. Ranking, of Norwich; Dr. Malden, of Worcester; Dr. Charles J. B. Williams, of London; Sir Charles Hastings, M.D., of Worcester; and Dr. Cowan, of Reading. Dr. Cormack to be Convener.

"On the motion of Dr. Tunstall, it was unanimously resolved, that the proceedings in reference to this subject be printed and circulated among the members.

"G. S. JENKS, President.
"J. P. SHEPPARD, Secretary.
"Pavilion, Brighton, Aug. 14, 1851."

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How homœopathists practise *irregularly* or *illegally* there is no attempt at explanation. It is simply asserted that they do so. Professor Simpson and others come under the lash in the above quotation, for Professor Simpson encourages and practises mesmerism. Dr. Symonds, of Bristol, recommends the water treatment: and these are, two of the anti-homœopathists! The fury of our adversaries has got the better of their common sense. They show their sense of the importance of our real medical reform, and they encourage each other in a vain and silly attempt to put down by brute force what they cannot do by argument. The public will naturally ask, why these zealous, and erudite, and pains-taking persons do not put homœopathy to the test by actual experiments? Why not? let them answer. They do not, however, seem at all conscious that they are giving the homœopathists a great advantage. It is very easy to call practitioners possessed of *the same* medical qualifications as themselves "illegal and irregular" practitioners. But how will they prove them to be such? Not one word of argument has been advanced in support of the assertion. We show how little we care for these outbreaks of faction, by reproducing them. We are satisfied that such one-sided partisans damage their own cause, and advance ours. Why should they be in such a rage? Do they think the public will give them credit for disinterestedness in the course they pursue? We are very sorry for them, and would willingly see them enter into a calm, and philosophical, and experimental investigation of the claims of homœopathy. They have begun a course of persecution, of obloquy, of injury—let them beware. They *recover* none from our ranks; we daily win recruits from theirs. Let them persuade Colleges and Halls to refuse us their diplomas—we believe they would utterly fail in this attempt,—and we will have Colleges and Halls of our own. It is cheering to know that they mightily magnify our importance by these hostile demonstrations, and that in forcing us to acquiesce in the denomination of a medical sect, they are laying the axe to the root of their own tree?

Review.

Letter to the Patrons of the University of Edinburgh on the late Resolutions of the Medical Faculty. By WILLIAM HENDERSON, M.D., Professor of General Pathology in the University of Edinburgh. London: Hamilton, Adams, & Co.

PROFESSOR HENDERSON is not a man to be snubbed, or treated with indignity. He casts off the petty malice of his assailants, the mean jealousies, the undignified censures, "like dewdrops from the lion's mane." This letter is written in a calm tone, and shows that the Professor has justly measured his own strength and position as compared with those of his unworthy antagonists.

We recommend a careful perusal of the letter to our readers. After giving the resolutions pointed at himself, the Professor thus writes:

"Why the Faculty should have determined on the extraordinary course which has met with so severe a check from their colleagues, I may hazard a conjecture in the sequel. That it has been somewhat suddenly conceived, admits of indisputable proof. In the June Number of the Journal conducted by the very members of the Faculty with whom this persecution originated, they exonerate themselves from the charges of being lukewarm on the subject of homœopathy, and of tolerating a colleague who professes a belief in that system, in the following words:—'As to the Professorship of General Pathology, the Medical Faculty have no power in the way of appointment or dismissal; but we have no doubt that if it ever came to their knowledge that Dr. Henderson was making his lectures from this chair the vehicle of homœopathic doctrines, they would petition the patrons for his removal. The testimony of students who have attended this course assures us there has hitherto been no ground for any such complaint; *and so long as this is the case, we do not see how the Medical Faculty can take cognizance of the principles upon which their colleague chooses to conduct his private practice.*' A month did not elapse, however, before they altered their opinion, and fancied they could make out some pretext for molesting their colleague, on account of those very principles 'upon which he chooses to conduct his private practice.' And what makes this rapid change all the more remarkable is, that it is singularly inconsistent with their conduct during the previous seven years that their colleague has been known over the three kingdoms as a believer in homœopathy. Thus, the Professor of Clinical Surgery, who took the lead in this proceeding of the Faculty, was the mover, in the College of Surgeons a short time previously, of a resolution which bore, that meeting in consultation with those who practise homœopathy, is to countenance the system, yet he himself has repeatedly given such countenance to it in this city. Lest he may have forgotten the occasions, I may remind him of two that fell within my own knowledge. The one occurred a few days before he set out to take possession of his London appointment, the other a few days after his return from that enterprise. The Professor of Midwifery has still more frequently countenanced it in the same way: and several others are in the like predicament; while one professor, who was present at the meeting and concurred in the Resolutions of the Faculty,

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requested me by a letter under his own hand to attend his only child during an attack of scarlet fever, a little service which was as freely rendered as it was frankly asked, and has now (shall I add?) been handsomely requited!"

Ler our readers weigh well the weight of testimony and the force of argument in the following extract:

"If the Medical Faculty would act wisely and fairly in reference to homœopathy, and to candidates for their degree, they should test experimentally the claims of the system they repudiate before they venture to condemn it. It will not do to sneer at it as a mere system of infinitesimal doses, for should any one affirm it to be so, I am entitled to tell him that, if he do so without having studied the subject, he speaks in ignorance, let him pronounce his opinion with what pretentious pomp he may; and that if he do so after having studied the subject, he says what he must know to be untrue. While we maintain that no College or Faculty in existence is in a condition to decide what may be the smallest quantity of a medicine that is capable of acting on the sick, and that doses very much smaller than our Colleges and Faculties have any conception of actually do operate as remedies, the whole question of doses is left open to the discretion and experience of the physician, who may be as strictly a homœopathist as Hahnemann himself, though he should give his medicines in the ordinary form, simply if he select them according to their homœopathic fitness. This alone is homœopathy, and it has been studied, or the study of it recommended, by men quite as considerable in social and scientific rank as any member of the Faculty. Our late townsman, Dr. Andrew Combe, was a good specimen of the more philosophic physicians, and he wrote of homœopathy thus:—'I am not, and for a long time have not been, *hostile* to homœopathy. I have long thought that the homœopathists have made out a case for *serious inquiry*, and on that ground urged our medical nephews to avail themselves of the opportunities presented to them to investigate its claims, and verify them in practical observation. If I were to continue in my profession, I should consider it a duty to *test* these claims.'

"Brera, the Professor of Practice of Physic, and Clinical Medicine in the University of Padua, one of the most eminent examples of the practical physician, wrote of homœopathy in these terms:—'Homœopathy, though it may appear vain to some, singular to others, and extravagant to a great number, does actually reign in the scientific world just like any other school; for it has its Chairs, its Books, its Journals, its Hospitals, its Cliniques, its Professors who teach, and its Public who listen....Such being the case, it can no longer be treated with contempt; it merits that calm examination, that severity of judgment which have been applied to all systems of medicine successively,' etc. etc.

"The late Mr. Liston, Professor of Clinical Surgery in the University College, London, was the finest example of the practical surgeon this country ever produced, and his opinion of homœopathy appears in the following extract from his Lectures. After detailing the particulars of the cure of cases of erysipelas, which he had treated with homœopathic remedies, that great surgeon thus addressed his pupils: 'Of course we cannot pretend to say positively in what way this effect is produced, but it seems almost to act by magic; however, so long as we benefit our patients by the treatment we pursue, we have no right to condemn the principles upon which this treatment is recommended and pursued. You know that this medicine (*Belladonna*) is recommended by homœopathists in this affection, because it produces on the skin a fiery eruption or efflorescence, accompanied by inflammatory fever. *Similia similibus curantur*, say they . . . I believe in the homœopathic doctrines to a certain extent, but I cannot as yet, from inexperience on the subject, go the length its advocates would wish, in so far as regards the very minute doses of some of their medicines. The medicines in the above cases were certainly given in much smaller doses than have hitherto ever been prescribed. The beneficial effects, as you witnessed, are unquestionable. I have, however, seen similar good effects of the *Belladonna*, prepared according to the Homœopathic Pharmacopœia, in a case of very severe erysipelas of the head and face, under the care of my friend Dr. Quin. The inflammatory symptoms and local signs disappeared with very great rapidity. Without adopting the theory of this medical sect, you ought not to reject its doctrines without due examination and inquiry.'

"The Faculty may decline to follow the advice or example of these distinguished men, but it is far from being likely that the students in our schools will read with indifference those deliberate statements from men who stood among the foremost in their several departments, or that they shall be insensible to the suggestions of curiosity when aroused by such weighty testimony. To oppose penalties and regulations to the beliefs or purposes of their pupils, will soon be found a vain expedient for cutting off the supply of qualified and licensed practitioners to the ranks of the rising system, and we hope to be spared the annual recurrence of scenes which place this city, that was wont to take a first place in great intellectual and scientific movements, not only behind other seats of learning in free countries, but actually behind such dens of despotism as Vienna and St. Petersburg. In both these cities the young science which struggles in Britain for bare toleration, under the ban of Colleges and threatenings of pains and penalties, is sanctioned by the authority and protected by the strong arm of the State. The *Odium Medicum* can be more tyrannical than the employers of Haynau, and more intolerant than the imperial jailor of Siberia."

The truth of the matter is, that the Universities of mythical St. Andrew's and historical Edinburgh have got themselves into a mess. They have a very awkward customer to deal with in Professor Hen-

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derson. A pathologist second to none in these kingdoms—a professor of the great Medical University of Great Britain, a man of the most vigorous intellect, and of the most satisfactory attainments, not only in his special subject, but in every department of medical science—looked up to with respect and admiration by the students of Edinburgh—with a very large private practice—a conscientious upholder of what he believes to be true—one of Carlyle's men, a man of earnest faith in what he professes to believe—how can such a man fail to give a heavy fall to those who have prejudice to oppose to his faith—"resolutions" to oppose to his practical experience—the tyrant's edict of "it shall be so" to his firm assertion "it is so"?

We do verily believe that if we had half a dozen earnest men, sufficiently gifted with oratory, and with their heart in their work, to go about delivering lectures on homœopathy in the cities, towns, and villages of the British Isles, we should have the said homœopathy the rule, and not the exception, of medical practice throughout these realms in less than ten years.

OUR RELATIONS WITH HOMŒOPATHY.

To the Editor of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal.

Putney, July 29, 1851.

SIR,—While, with you, I recognise the greatness of the benefit conferred on legitimate medicine by the recent acts of the Scottish Colleges, I cannot help feeling that we ought to do more than, as individuals, yield to them our concurrence and applause. We ought not, I think, to allow our annual meeting at Brighton to pass without issuing a deliverance upon the subject of homœopathy, as explicit as those which have come to us from beyond the Tweed; and there is one point upon which it appears to me that even more plainness of expression is required.

To adopt resolutions setting forth that the homœopathic dogma and the doctrine of infinitesimal doses have no truthful basis, and are, in fact, mere nonsensical delusions, may be quite proper, inasmuch as some honest but weak and undisciplined minds have been seduced by the hardy assertions and false reasoning by which these errors have been supported. But something more is required, if it be true, as I think it is, that this fashionable quackery is so susceptible of adaptation to the most contradictory prejudices of shallow men and women, as to have become a sort of Protean deceit, able to lure lucre by every imaginable wile from the sick and the silly. The worst part of homœopathy is, in my opinion, the DISHONESTY of the majority of those who live by it. When patients are once secured, they are, I think, very rarely treated in accordance with the principles of Hahnemann; but are retained by the combination of every current medical novelty which may at the time be most in favour with the moneyed throng of quack fanciers. I have not been able to hear of any one who honestly relies on homœopathy for the cure of disease; but I can point to many calling themselves homœopathic practitioners, who attempt to relieve the symptoms of disease by the same means which we would adopt, and to others, who retain their *clientelle* fully as much by practising hydropathy, mesmerism, and miscellaneous tricks, as by giving the globules. If homœopathy were honestly practised, it might be amicably dealt with; but as it is truly a combination of any and every available charlatanic trick, it cannot be effectively opposed as a distinct medical heresy, and therefore all that remains for us, as men of science and men of integrity, is to give notice, that we exclude from all professional intercourse practitioners who are in any way engaged in using or upholding a system which we think bears upon its very face fraud as well as absurdity.

I have heard it urged in extenuation of the fall of some medical men, that they had large starving families, and that they had met with distressing pecuniary reverses. It has often been said to me that if they treated disease to the best of their ability, there was no great crime in their sailing so far with the fashionable current as to call themselves homœopathic, and to give globules as placebos. From my heart I compassionate these persons; for I know that want has distorted and destroyed the moral sense even in good men; but, while in some cases we pardon the transgressors, let us not be tolerant of the transgression. It behoves us, quickly and decidedly, to draw a broad line between medicine and homœopathy, so as to encourage and strengthen the hands of many in our impoverished and overstocked profession, who, though tempted have not yet bartered principle for pelf.

The Provincial Medical and Surgical Association has now the power, and the near opportunity, of drawing this much-needed line of demarcation:—*Let the Association declare that the names of homœopathic practitioners and of those who hold professional intercourse with them, cannot be on its list of members.* The promulgation of this law would enlighten the public. It would also deter some too-facile consulting physicians from meeting the homœopathic quacks "simply for diagnosis;" and it would make it impossible for operating surgeons to say they did not mean to insult the profession, "that they only went to give a surgical opinion" or "perform an operation." When it is known that such unworthy proceedings are of daily occurrence in London; and when we see Fellows of our metropolitan colleges eagerly seeking as the patrons of their hospitals Lord Carlisle, Lord Robert Grosvenor, and other noblemen who are notorious abettors of homœopathic charities, is it wonderful that the public mind has become poisoned, and un-

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able to discriminate between legitimate medicine and fraudulent practice? When we see Fellows of both London Colleges so demeaning themselves, how can the Colleges serve the cause of truth? In these circumstances it is doubly the duty of our great Association to come forward; and when we meet at Brighton, let us make the fact of membership be a more distinctive test of professional morality than any now existing out of Scotland.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
JOHN ROSE CORMACK.

LETTER FROM DR. HILBERS ON HIS DEFENCE OF HOMŒOPATHY.

To the Editor of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal.

SIR,—Having been absent from home for a few days, the number of the *Provincial Journal*, containing your strictures on my letter, only fell into my hands a day or two ago. As you have impugned my conscientiousness, I trust you will not deny me a place in an early number of the *Journal*, in order that I may point out the error in your article to which, as I conceive, your remarks are mainly attributable.

The "sophisms" which you are pleased to call mine, are of your own manufacture. My "sophisms" are quite different, and are not touched by your article. You say,—"he admits, in fact, that equivocation is justifiable when it is necessary to obtain a certain end." I say,—"If a set of men can be found so blinded by prejudice to a sense of their duty, as to punish a man because he knows all that they do, and something more, any reasonable amount of deception is justifiable, when the object to be attained is a laudable and a necessary one, and *when, through their dishonesty,* it cannot be obtained without it." I would suggest that there is some slight difference between the qualified and the unqualified assertion; about as much as if you were accused of justifying assault and battery in the abstract, because you had said that if a man assaulted you, and tried to take away your coat, you would feel yourself justified in knocking him down. Methinks it seems passing strange, and somewhat inconsistent, for so stern a moralist to fall into such an error and consequent injustice, for I presume it is not a part of your moral creed that it is unnecessary for "a Christian and a gentleman" to act fairly and honestly to a heretic.

If you desire fairly to put the question to your clerical adviser it would run thus:—I am in want of a distinction which the State has empowered a University to bestow on all candidates who comply with certain conditions. I *have* complied with those conditions, and consequently consider myself legally and equitably entitled to the distinction. But some members of this University, in order to gratify a blind prejudice, based on ignorance, have illegally and arbitrarily appended certain other conditions, never contemplated by the State, and diametrically opposed to the genius of our institutions and the spirit of the age. Am I justified in answering in the third person (the sum and substance, be it remembered, of Dr. Hale's delinquency, and of my justification) instead of the first, in order to evade these conditions? Despite your taunt as to my want of conscientiousness, I still think that such an act of "deception," if deception it can be called, is justifiable, exactly as I should consider the unfortunate red-haired prisoner, mentioned in my former letter, justified in going into court with his hair dyed black. The old English proverb, "what is sauce for the goose, is sauce for the gander," holds good here. If it is imperative on the homœopath to answer purely conscientiously, it is imperative on every other candidate to do so too. Considering the diversity of opinions which exist in the treatment of disease, any examination on such terms would be impossible. Every man would naturally contend for the correctness of his own views; the examination-room would speedily be transformed into a bear-garden, and the police-office, or the riot act, would be the *finale* of every examination. The examination always has been, and always must be, a test of a man's knowledge, and not of his creed. If he is found to possess a competent share of the former, he ought to be presumed capable of correctly determining the latter.

As to the members of the University deciding that homœopathy is a mischievous fallacy, it is not surprising, when it is remembered that it is something new, and that they are quite ignorant about it. Granting for a moment that the system is as true as its warmest advocates assert it to be, how is it possible that either you or they can ever be convinced of its truth so long as you refuse to test it, or to believe a word spoken in its favour by those who have tested it? To talk in a grandiloquent style about its not being worth testing, and of its having been refuted over and over again, is simply absurd. There are plenty of writers in your own school who would deny such assertions. Dr. Andrew Combe, for instance, says (*British and Foreign Medical Review*, vol. xxi. page 521): "If I were now in practice, I should hold myself bound, without further delay, to test its truth by careful and extensive experiments." Again, to compare it with Morrison or Holloway is worse than absurd; for surely no useful analogy can be drawn between a system which is supported by thousands of competent authorities (educated medical men), and a single medicine which rests for support on the testimony of one or two interested persons. Read the fine philosophic views in the paper of Combe's above quoted, and then see whether such reasoning is applicable to homœopathy.

Depend upon it, Sir, that whether homœopathy is true or false, the course pursued by the periodical medical press is alike impolitic and injurious to the respectability of the profession. The public are beginning to inquire into the matter, and it will be hard for the profession to come well out of the scrutiny. If you really believe homœopathy to be a "mischievous fallacy," you ought to urge on your readers to set to work to expose it without delay, by experi-

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menting honestly with their medicines, and publishing their failures. You should tell them that what has heretofore been called refutation (in other words, abuse and calumny) has been tried for sixty years, and has most signally failed;—that homœopathy to-day is more rampant than ever;—that, therefore, the further reliance on these weapons is hopeless;—that nothing can be expected from persecution;—that that also has been tried and found wanting;—and that if despotic Austria was obliged to abandon it, it is scarcely probable that the miserable efforts of the Scotch Universities in the same direction will answer better. Wonderful to say, however, the unwillingness of the profession to enter on our destruction in the way which (if we are wrong) would ensure success, is only equalled by *our* eagerness to court this destruction. We open hospitals, we put every facility in the way of medical men attending them, we say to our bitterest enemies—come, and welcome. On the present occasion I have tried to bribe the profession to expose us, by offering a twenty guinea prize (I will make it forty, if you please) for the best series of cases illustrative of the failure of the treatment, but all to no purpose. You fall back on the old tactics, and solemnly pronounce your deliberate conviction, that out of two or three thousand medical men, not one has ordinary conscientiousness and intelligence combined. And you say this, although many of these men have made the greatest possible sacrifices, personal and professional, in embracing homœopathy; and though they have enlisted on their side such men as the scientific Chevalier Bunsen, the logical Archbishop Whately, and the hard-headed statistician Wilson. Verily, Sir, the extreme of scepticism is the quintessence of credulity.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,
GEORGE HILBERS.

19, South Bedford Street,
July 29, 1851.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Will you permit me space to draw the attention of the "Association for the Protection of Homœopathic Students and Practitioners" to the manifesto of the "Provincial Medical and Surgical Association," advertised in the several morning papers, besides the *Times* of last Saturday?

A more wicked and fruitless attempt to stifle the progress of truth could scarcely be found. Nevertheless, it seems to me that it would be unwise to treat such a slanderous proceeding with the silence of contempt. We ought to be up and doing, and lose not a moment in exposing the shallow resolutions of our opponents, some of whom look upon our doings as "awful." One speaker, a Dr. C. J. Blasius Williams, of Holles Street, Cavendish Square, who, like Dr. Rose Cormack, a general practitioner in Putney, is the "*son of a clergyman*," *blazed* away, while Cormack *rose* to the eloquence of a hungry lion. Poor Blasius felt keenly, because we, the homœopaths, were entrapping the *rich* and the wise. Good soul, Williams, was deeply affected. "Yes, indeed, awful!" was his concern for the "properties of the victims" whom he has attempted to recall as wanderers from his fold, by an affectionate threat that if "victims" will continue in their common-sense path of obtaining health, and will stubbornly refuse to listen to his warning voice, "the fate of their body and soul" is in danger. Noisy Cormack, who also affected much sanctity, equally declared his *animus*, and but for his slanderous statements, which formed the basis of the resolutions since advertised as a manifesto, I would not have troubled myself to send you this communication.

Dr. Cormack, in a letter published in the *Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal*, which has been reprinted in the form of a sixpenny pamphlet, and largely distributed, in order that he may have an opportunity of advertising a few complimentary notes addressed to him by a patient or patients, as a placebo for his grief and chagrin at their desertion from him to the growing tide of homœopathy, writes:—"I have not been able to hear of any practitioner who honestly relies on homœopathy for the cure of disease." This outrageous slander ought to be challenged at once.

I would propose that the Honorary Secretary of the "Association for the Protection of Homœopathic Students and Practitioners" do at once summon a meeting of the committee, in order that a brief yet comprehensive set of pungent resolutions, cautioning the public against the ignorance and wiles of our opponents, may be framed and published in the various morning papers. Allow me to inform the Honorary Secretary of the Association, that our generous chemist, Mr. Headland, to whom the matter was represented, at once, in consideration of the Association funds being young, empowered me to hold him responsible for the insertion of such resolutions in the morning papers.

I trust not one moment will be lost. I enclose my card, and am, Sir, your faithful servant,
A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF HOMŒOPATHIC STUDENTS AND PRACTITIONERS.

[We highly approve of our correspondent's idea, and with him trust the Honorary Secretary will call such meeting as advised.—ED.]

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I find that some of the most thoughtful of our body fear that this movement for an Association has been precipitate and premature. Sympathising as I do in the fullest way with their desire for peaceful seclusion from the strife of tongues attendant on political agitation, yet I feel assured that our only hope of peace in this life is by boldly repelling the aggression on our liberties. The question for us to resolve is, whether shall we encounter the foe at the frontier or at the gate of our citadel? The Professors of Edinburgh have now admitted the charge of interrogating a student as

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to whether he intended to practise homœopathically, and condemning him because he wavered. No one can read their account of the transaction, without coming to the conclusion that Mr. Pope's adhesion to homœopathy was the head and front of his offending. Now, let it not be supposed that our University is unusually bigoted, and did this of its own accord. Quite the reverse. Many of the professors are very liberal; but as a body it is timid, and cannot despise the threats of the *Lancet*. The *Lancet* lives by the support of the mass of ordinary practitioners. Till their feelings towards homœopathy change, the tone of their organ towards us will not change. So long as the *plebs medica* grumbles, the Tribune *Lancet* will roar; so long as the *Lancet* commands, the schools obey. If Edinburgh sets the example, is there any security that the others shall not follow? They have crossed the Rubicon. Let us beware of divisions in the senate.

Yours, &c.,

J. Rutherfurd Russell.

Edinburgh, August 18th.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Sir,—We are now commencing a third volume of the *Homœopathic Times*, and it would appear that a great struggle is at hand, one which should render the pages of this journal very important, as it must be used in a popular sense to arouse the energies of the dormant, to defend the oppressed, and maintain the invaluable doctrines of Hahnemann unflinchingly through evil and good report. On the medical practitioners much depends, and their unremitting attention to every case presented is of more moment than may at first sight appear, for if they fail, each failure marks one against them; this should never be forgotten. Cure Well—Cure Quickly, must be the motto. Theorising is of no avail, bring it to the test; the public have no time to study individual theories. Every man to his business. If I am ill, who can make me well? This is the question, and the answering this question, in fact, will bid defiance to the slander of our enemies, if enemies they must be called; you can bring no stronger evidence than the fact *I am cured*. This is the ground I have ever maintained while advocating the principles of homœopathy. Seven years ago, wherever I mentioned the word, I almost invariably met with the reply, "Ah, sir, I know, it's the water-cure; I never could take much water, it does not agree with me." But when I came to an explanation, and opened my wonderful magic box with its tiny globules, the attention was aroused (occurrences like these frequently happened in railway carriages), several heads would be bobbing to hear the simple law of Hahnemann expounded. As we proceeded farther, the subject became better known; here and there, a reply would be made, such as "My doctor says it is the diet; there is nothing in those little things to cure disease." "Well then," say I, "you shall not change your diet, only abstain from coffee, and we will prove to you that the diet alone does not play the all-important part. Next came the argument that homœopathic globules ccontained the most powerful poisons and have killed several persons. "What! the dose kill? you see this arsenic (showing a bottle of *Arsenicum*), I will now swallow several doses, and, if you wish me, the contents of this small bottle; thus proving it impossible." In this manner I have proceeded, and administered the first globule to some hundreds of persons. How does the matter stand now? Homœopathy is known to almost all: the virulence of the doctors, the bitterness manifested, the loss of temper shown by many of them when the horrid word has been pronounced, have done more real good than harm to the Cause.

About twelve months ago I called upon a lady of my acquaintance, whom I was surprised to see with her arm in a sling, she was evidently suffering much pain. On inquiry, I found she had been under medical treatment nearly six weeks, and her sufferings at night were almost unbearable; she told me she had passed the previous night without five minutes' rest. I was bold enough to promise a good night, if she would take some globules; after consulting her husband she consented. I dissolved six globules of *Veratrum* 30, for six doses; a third dose was administered at bedtime that night. On the following day she stated she had slept well until five o'clock that morning; the pain had left her, but the arm felt as if wrenched out of the socket, or as though it did not belong to her. I left her one dose of *Sulphur* 30, to be taken at the expiration of a week, and she has had no return of the pain. Now, Sir, this is all very well, her medical attendant could say nothing; his patient was cured in less than forty-eight hours, by a system of which he is totally ignorant. Many such cases may be recorded; but I do not see that so much benefit can be derived from this source as by a record of unsuccessful cases. If homœopathic practitioners would meet together and candidly lay down, each, their individual experience, more good would result from the consideration of those cases in which they fail to cure.

A friend of mine spoke to me, about fifteen months ago, respecting an eruption on the head of her little girl, a species of porrigo. I recommended homœopathy, and the child was placed under the care of a medical gentleman who had been converted, but had previously practised allopathy several years in the town in which they resided. He appeared to pay great attention to the case, and worked very hard at it, probably too hard, for he did not make any favourable impression on the disease in six months; indeed, the child was worse rather than better at the expiration of that period; and, to my great annoyance, was removed from under his care, and subjected to allopathic treatment, when *Mercury* and *Sarsaparilla* set the disease aside for a time; it, however, subsequently reappeared in a modified form, and was ultimately cured by a herbalist. Now it seems to me essential for the safe progress of the homœopathic system, that such cases should be recorded, for unfortunately I have another nearly the same as that just related, though in an opposite part of the country,

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which shared the same fate. Failure under homœopathy should be studied, and the result of any particular treatment made known. It may be unpleasant for medical men to publish their failures, but surely the attainment of knowledge and a more certain mode of cure would amply repay them for a little sacrifice of feeling under circumstances of such vital importance. There is another point requiring some attention at the present moment—the refusal of general practitioners to meet in consultation those who profess the doctrines of Hahnemann.

Now the public are the greatest sufferers from this unfriendly sectarianism. I will suppose that my wife is taken dangerously ill. Is it or is it not my duty to try every reasonable means likely to save life? I am of opinion that it is; therefore, after having expended all that legitimate allopathy can do, I should, even as an indifferent person, feel justified in consulting homœopathy. But how would the matter stand? The homœopath must take up the case with all its responsibility, single-handed, at the eleventh hour; left not only to combat the disease, but the effects of coarse drugs which have perhaps tended to exhaust the few remaining energies of his dying patient. Is this fair? would it not be more satisfactory to my mind, that he who had watched the case from the commencement should still remain at his post, anxious to see the result of a system which is unknown to him but in its name? can it be a disadvantage to know too much—to have a twofold power? Oh, no, this is not the case. An allopath, who a short time since listened to my argument in favour of homœopathy, replied, "What you say I believe to be true; but it won't do—it's against the shop." Yes, it is against the shop, and many persons are not willing to pay their money, unless they have quantity, or plenty of physic for it. Time and patience will overcome all this. The crisis has commenced, and it would seem urgently to call for a charter of protection. But I charge you, be not too hasty on this point; there is not much to fear, and an undue precipitancy may retard the attainment of this object some years, a circumstance we should all regret. Let homœopathy go on progressing in an honest straightforward course. Bring all the force to bear, and we shall soon enlist such power in this cause of truth as to withstand all opposition, and ultimately arrive in the haven of safety.

H. B.

Miscellaneous.

THE CENSUS FOR IRELAND, 1841-51.—Ireland,—the exception to almost every rule. in religion, in politics, and in social economics,—true to her character, is also an exception as to the rule applying to the General Census for 1851. The enumeration for Great Britain yields a result of increase of population to the extent of 2¼ millions, while Ireland shows a decrease of more than a million and a half in a population of eight millions, as follows:—

		1841.		1851.
Houses:	Inhabited	1,328,839	..	1,047,735
	Uninhabited, built	52,208	..	65,159
	building	3,313	..	2,113
	Total	1,384,360	..	1,115.007
Families		1,472,287	..	1,207,002
Persons:	Males	4,019,576	..	3,176,727
	Females	4,155,548	..	3,339,067
	Total	8,175,124	..	6,515,794
Population in 1841		8,175,124		
,, 1851		6,515.794		
Decrease		1,659,330		

Or, at the rate of 20 per cent.

Population in 1821	6,801,827
,, 1831	7,767,401
,, 1841	8,175,124
,, 1851	6,515,795

Now since the Legislature has not "repealed the Union," neither shall we, and so, adding the Census of Ireland to the general results for England and Wales, we find that the whole decennial increase of population in the United Kingdom amounts to only 604,220.—*Medical Times.*

MENTAL EXCITEMENT.—Bad news weakens the action of the heart, oppresses the lungs, destroys the appetite, stops digestion, and partially suspends all the functions of the system. An emotion of shame flushes the face; fear blanches it; joy illuminates it; and an instant thrill electrifies a million of nerves. Surprise spurs the pulse into a gallop. Delirium infuses great energy. Volition commands, and hundreds of muscles spring to execute. Powerful emotion often kills the body at a stroke; Chilo, Diagoras, and Sophocles died of joy at the Grecian games. The news of a defeat killed Philip V. The doorkeeper of Congress expired upon hearing of the surrender of Cornwallis. Eminent public speakers have often died in the midst of an impassioned burst of eloquence, or when the deep emotion that produced it suddenly subsided. Largrave, the young Parisian, died when he heard that the musical prize for which he had competed was adjudged to another.

OMNIPRESENCE OF GOD.—The same Being, whose eye is abroad over the whole universe, gives vegetation to every blade of grass, and motion to every particle of blood which circulates through the veins of the minutest animal. He takes in his comprehensive grasp immensity, and all its wonders. Yet is each individual known to him, as if he were the object of his undivided attention. He marks all our thoughts, and gives birth to every feeling within us; and with a power which we can neither describe nor comprehend, the same God who sits in the highest heaven, and reigns over the glories of the firmament, is at our right hand, gives us every breath we draw, and every comfort which we enjoy.—*Chalmers.*

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Rebiew of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

UNVEILING OF HAHNEMANN'S STATUE AT LEIPZIG.

The 10th of August, at Leipzig, was one of the most brilliant and cloudless days of the year, and, being a holiday, the good Leipzigers had donned their best attire, and were assembled in great crowds to witness the ceremony of unveiling the statue of that great man who, thirty years before, had been ignominiously expelled their city.

A large number of homœopathic practitioners had assembled from every part of Germany, and from many distant countries, from Italy, Spain, Denmark, England, Scotland, to assist in this work of respect for the memory of their master, and these being joined by a large number of the lay friends of the Cause, at twelve o'clock, marched in procession through the eager crowd, from the Hôtel de Pologne to the place where the veiled statue stood. A large space had been railed off round the statue, and tastefully decorated with garlands of flowers. The procession, having arrived on the ground, formed a circle round the statue, and a chorus sung an anthem. After this, Dr. Melicher, the president of the Congress, delivered an oration in honour of the Founder of Homœopathy, and at a signal from him, the canvas that shrouded it fell and revealed the statue, amid the plaudits of the assembled multitude and a flourish of trumpets. The chorus then sung an ode composed for the occasion, after which Dr. Melicher, addressing the chief magistrate and town council, who were present on the ground, solemnly delivered over the statue to them. The chief magistrate made a suitable reply, and commended the statue to the care of the citizens of Leipzig. Dr. Stapf now advanced, and laid a laurel and wreath at the foot of the statue of his late Friend and Master, and the procession then reformed, and marched back to the hotel, where an excellent dinner awaited them, to which upwards of 160 ladies and gentlemen sat down. Appropriate toasts and songs enlivened the entertainment, which was effectively presided over by Dr. Melicher. The festivities terminated by a ball in the evening, which was kept up with great spirit by the young folk.

CHOICE OF DILUTIONS AND REPETITIONS OF MEDICAMENTS.

By Dr. J. Perry.*

Communicated by Dr. Rosenstein.

If homœopathic physicians have adopted incontestably Hahnemann's principle, *similia similibus curantur*, because it has been confirmed a thousand times, it has not been the same with the quantity and the repetition of the doses; with reference to this subject the contradictions are very decided. The cause of this divergency of opinion is easily understood. The principle of homœopathy is based upon an acknowledged law, whilst the manner of dividing and administering the medicaments necessarily varies according to the opinions of different practitioners. Each school calls to its aid its individual experience, because it is now proved that the most varied powers, weak and strong doses, single and often repeated doses, cure diseases homœopathically, provided the remedy be well chosen. It is important

* This memoir was long since addressed to the Parisian Homœopathic Congress, in answer to the following questions: "At what degree of dynamization are the homœopathic medicaments possessed of the greatest efficacy in the treatment of acute and chronic maladies? To fix the characters of the morbid states, indicating the use of a given dynamization, in preference to all other dynamizations? What is to be thought of the repetition of homœopathic doses?"

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to inquire which, compared with the others render most service. In fact, it is more difficult to establish a comparison between the things which are relatively good, than to distinguish the good from the bad. We should investigate if there exists a sufficient reason to accord the preference to the higher or lower powers. If in acting so, we should not be justified in giving the preference to the entire series of powers, we should then, examine if in certain circumstances the higher powers have not the advantage over the lower, and *vice versâ*; what these circumstances are; and finally, if these depend upon the particular character of the medicaments or of the diseases, if they proceed simultaneously from the one and from the other. An intimate relation exists between the degree of power and the repetition, for that reason these two terms are included in the question put for competition by the Society. Although the choice of the remedy is always the first and the most important condition in the cure of diseases, the dose and the repetition of it should nevertheless be treated in the second place, because the success often depends on the dilution.

1. The *term* used to indicate the preparation of the medicament. Some pretend that the name is of no import; but this is a grave error, because each word carries along in its train accessory ideas which influence the mind of the inquirer. Some employ the words *dynamization* and *power*; others *dilution* or *attenuation*. These are two opposite views: one is dynamic, the other material. The proposition to abandon provisionally this point of litigation, and to distinguish the preparations only by numbers, has hitherto not been generally admitted.

Hahnemann has chosen the word power, which recalls to mind arithmetical relations; the term used in the system of Brown to designate the influences which act upon our excitability and which modify it,—influences under which we must range also our medicaments; whereas in the investigation of such an important question, we must as much as possible guard ourselves from all preconceived opinions. I shall maintain in this memoir the term employed by Hahnemann, which by its double signification favours this tendency, and which is generally used in homœopathic literature.

The other series of terms, which is the result of material intuition of the phenomena, finds also its justification, because it is impossible to deny a progressive diminution of medicinal particles. In fact, microscopic researches have proved in the case of metals, that their diminution may be seen until the twelfth trituration; we are by no means justified in denying this progressive division in the higher developed powers because the imperfection of our instruments do not permit us to perceive them.

We may explain the series of phenomena which take place during the trituration and succussion of the remedies as follows. In proportion as the cohesion of the particles lessens they extend progressively. It is also possible that the latent powers develope themselves simultaneously; but it must be proved that this development increases at the same time with the progressive division of the medicinal substance. As long as this fact is unexplained, and a divergency of opinion exists on this subject, the partisans of dynamism will continue to develope more and more the medicine, in order to increase its latent power; the materialists, on the contrary, will fear to diminish the effect of the medicine in pushing too far the attenuation.

2. The views on the *nature of the disease* have certainly been taken into consideration in the review of the question. We meet here two principal opinions. Hahnemann calls disease a change of state; he admits consequently, as the cause of it, a change which has been effected in the vitality of the organism. Others, who look upon disease as a parasite, treat it consequently as an independent being. The organism is, according to their views, the soil where it takes root, grows and dies. Some have in vie w to regulate the abnormal vital powers, and consequently a limited quantity of a weak medicinal power is sufficient; others wish to destroy promptly the supposed parasite, and therefore a stronger dose is requisite. Hahnemann has shown himself to be a good observer in this, as in other points, in administering in the treatment of *psora* higher powers, although, according to his theory, he should have recommended the lower.

3. It is through a deplorable abuse of language that the terms have been considered as identical, and have been confounded. *Strong doses and low powers, weak doses and high powers.* It is also in making no distinction between the words *volume* and *force* that recourse is ordinarily had to strong doses when an energetic action is to be produced. This confusion is in two ways injurious: the word *dose*, in a limited sense, should be applied to the form and to the quantity (one globule or a few drops); the term *power*, on the contrary, designates

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a mixture of a medicine with an unmedicinal vehicle, (such as sugar of milk or alcohol,) prepared according to the rules of homœopathy. Hahnemann, in diluting the substances, thought to separate the medicaments from injurious principles, but he soon perceived that this was not the way to weaken their curative virtues. It is very difficult to renounce prejudices, even when we think we are free from them, as we often commit the same error which we wish to avoid; so, likewise, do we grossly err in considering as identical the expressions largeness and force, because these two properties of a remedy exist conjointly. Those no less err who consider the higher powers weak, because the substance is diminished; the term dilution gave rise to this mistake.

4. We must also consider as an obstacle the moral disposition of the observer. The physician who proceeds with calmness and firmness, after having prescribed what seems to him the most appropriate on the present occasion, will wait in order to judge of the result. The too zealous or the too timid practitioner will order stronger and too often repeated doses, when the disease follows an unusual course. For which reason, we see many physicians who usually employ higher powers, often having recourse to the repetition of lower powers, in diseases, the course of which is rapid and grave. The mind of the observer is tormented by the fear of injuring the patient by refraining from acting; and by doing too much, mischief is done. The reflecting and cool practitioner will always obtain in such cases the most satisfactory results, because in the art of healing more injury is done by doing too much, than by doing too little.

5. We fear generally—and that is another prejudice—that exterior influences or a digression in diet, may counteract the action of the higher potencies; but experience teaches us that this is not the fact.

6. Another great obstacle, which is a hindrance to arriving at the discovery of truth, is the too great confidence which is generally accorded to some individual observations. Nothing is more prejudicial to the progress of truth than a blind faith in authority.

(To be continued.)

ELEGANT EXTRACTS FROM THE *LANCET*.

Our unfriendly friend, who with the worst possible intentions to homœopathy is doing the homœopathists the best possible service—the would-be *Thug*, who has not the skill nor the success of his oriental prototype—is very rich in a recent number.

He exhibits the brute temper of the gladiator in the worst ages of imperial Rome, unredeemed by one trait of intellect, unillumined by one ray of true philosophy, a mere animal with the animal propensity of destructiveness—but only, after all, a harmless brute. The hook is in the nostrils of this very unwieldy, "unlovely," ungraceful, ridiculous and fantastic Leviathan—of sprats. We suspect he will be sooner tired of out-pouring the slaver of his innocuous wrath, which he fancies is venom, than we shall be of holding him up to ridicule for his impotent imitation of the character of a medical dynast.

Let us whisper in his ear: he praises the Medical Faculty of the University of Edinburgh for refusing their diploma to Mr. Pope: five or six of the graduates of Edinburgh of Mr. Pope's year—led to investigate the subject by the unrighteous, unmanly, and unwise tyranny exercised by the medical corporation of Edinburgh, at the expense of a meritorious student—have engaged themselves to study homœopathy, in consequence of that very persecution. Another whisper for him: the President and Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England will assuredly *snub* the whining remonstrance of Dr. Hall.

First we give his attack on Mr. Kingdon. That gentleman has said he is not prepared to go the whole way with the homœopathists. He and Dr. Uwins were the two first of the allopathic body, after the introduction of homœopathy into England by Drs. Quin, Belluomini, and Romano, to recommend the study of it to the profession. But he has never entirely and thoroughly adopted it. We speak with all tenderness and respect of Mr. Kingdon, who has made no inconsiderable sacrifice in maintaining his convictions,—so far as he has gone; but those, like himself, who sometimes prescribe homœopathic remedies, and sometimes drugs *in gross*, must expect the sort of lashing the Editor of the *Lancet* has given Mr. Kingdon. We can only express our regret that he, and other worthy and honourable men like him, practise in this half-and-half way. The liberty of conscience we exercise ourselves in therapeutics compels us to respect that of these "borderers." We should rejoice that the whole truth of the Hahnemannian philosophy was received by them—and that they would enter fearlessly on the wide field of homœopathic practice. We do not justify their course; but it is competent to them to exercise their conscience, and to do what they believe to be best for their patients. Their practice is open—and, therefore, there is nothing dishonourable in it, though

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it is damaging to themselves and in some manner to homœopathy, which they advocate only *in degree*. We think it right to state that though the Editor of the *Lancet* has so worded it, as to make it appear that Mr. Headland furnished both the prescription for the homœopathic medicine and that for the allopathic compounds, that chemist is innocent of sending from his shop, now or at any time, such compounds.

"Determined to do our utmost to separate the impostures and idiocies of globulism from legitimate practice, and to eject those from our ranks who degrade themselves by its quackeries, we this week publish another instance of a man, pretending to a respectable position amongst regular members of the profession, yet mixing himself up with the practices of the homœopathic quacks. The individual we refer to is Mr. William Kingdon, of No. 2, New Bank Buildings, City. On a former occasion, Mr. Kingdon betrayed symptoms of perversion from the regular paths of the profession; but his friends had diligently excused them as a passing matter, and respectable men were glad to believe in the truth of the apology.

"We need not enter into further particulars of the charge we make against Mr. Kingdon, than to publish two of his recent prescriptions, *verbatim et literatim*. It will be seen that they are both recent, and they were both given to the same patient, for the same malady, within seven days of each other.

℞ Belladon. (3rd Dil) g^{i} vj
Saccha. Lactis. Gxii.
M. intime et Divid.
in chart iv. quar.
j nocte maneque v.
W. K. Chir.
June 7, 1851.

Mr——
From Headlands,
Princes St.
Hanover Square.

℞ Decoct. Cinchon. ℥vss
Sp: Ammon. arom.
Tinct. Cinchon. c.
aa ℥ij
M. 6tam part ter quotid.
s.

℞ Hydrarg. c creta Giij
Confect. Opiat. Gix
M. intime et Divid.
in pil iij quar j o, n,
s.

Mr—— W. K. Chir.
June 14, 1851.

"These prescriptions afford evidence, not only of Mr. Kingdon's perversion to globulism, but of a far worse state of things. We have before now received assurances that the globulists, whenever they fall into any difficulty, forsake their shams, and resort to the real resources of regular physic. Here is, as it appears, a speaking instance of it. On the 7th of June, Mr. Kingdon orders his patient globules of infinitesimal sugar and belladonna, made into powders; on the 14th of June, Mr. Kingdon prescribes full doses of bark and mercurial, just one week after his homœopathic trash. Can anything be more treasonable or bad, in everything relating to faith and morality, on the part of a medical practitioner? The only other explanation which the case admits of is, that Mr. Kingdon, being sent for as a regular medical man, and receiving payment as such, did nevertheless impose the globules upon his patient, without his patient's knowledge. But this supposition is, if possible, more damaging than the first.

"We see that Mr. Kingdon is one of the honorary fellows of the College of Surgeons of 1843. Surely he cannot be permitted to hold this diploma. Common honesty should suggest to him the propriety of returning it. We observe, also, that he is consulting-surgeon to the Stamford Hill and Stoke-Newington Dispensary. Can this continue? Will the physicians and surgeons consent to hold office in his company? Can Drs. Conquest, Dueshury, and Sieveking, the physicians, or Messrs. Reynolds and Toulmin, the surgeons, consent to act with Mr. Kingdon as consulting-surgeon?

"Our attention was formerly directed to the circumstance that a portrait of Mr. Kingdon was suspended in the meeting-room of the Medical Society of London, and which, we are informed, still continues. We believe Dr. Tyler Smith, in the course of last year, drew the attention of the Council to the impropriety of allowing the likeness of a person suspected of homœopathy to remain in such situation. This was disregarded by the Council at the time, but we trust it may now be amended. We must at all points separate the true from the false—the real from the sham—and legitimate medicine from this worst form of quackery."

In the next extract our dear friend thus expresses himself: "But we tell our professional brethren the time is now ripe; let them be firm and vigilant, and the doom of quackery and fraud is pronounced; the *advent* of science is at hand. Yet a little while and the sun of philosophy now struggling up the empyrean of pure and pellucid knowledge, will light with meridian blaze every corner of the realm of physic." Indeed!—so there has been no science, heretofore, in allopathic medicine; it has been deep night, and the sun of allopathy is now rising for the first time! "Save us from our friends," might the allopaths exclaim. What an admission! Yet this absurd writer denounces as quacks and impostors Hahnemann and his followers, who have stated that there is a natural law of healing, as there is a law of gravitation, and a law of chemical equivalents, and have declared that before the promulgation of this law, medicine was

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guess-work—the very admission the Editor of the *Lancet* has made for himself and his fellows. Mark the pitiful tone of the conclusion of the second extract, which we translate for the benefit of the Editor of the *Lancet*, as we doubt his knowledge of the meaning of the passage. "If you show yourself a lazy dog, and don't hurl down the sinners, Castor and Pollux, good bruisers though they were, can't save you, call on them as you will."

"Lord Fitzwilliam lately informed the House of Lords, that in the contest with the Court of Rome he expected nothing from the aristocracy. We regret also to have to inform our readers that in our struggle with quackery we expect little or nothing from the heads of the medical profession. They have too much reason to be well satisfied with things as they are, and view with ill-concealed dislike every commotion which disturbs the well-arranged circumstances that minister so beautifully to their comfort and well-being. This selfishness deserves no respect, and we shall give it no quarter.

"It is otherwise with the great body of the profession. Except in some remote rural districts, where, as related in our last number, a country practitioner encounters the conceit and quackery of a baronet's meddling wife, the great body of the medical profession is not only sound and honest, but quite willing to resist the enemies of science. A better proof of this could scarcely be given than that afforded by the late meeting of the Gloucestershire Medical Association. In vain the globulist bullied, and declared he would survive all remarks; in vain the chairman higgled and dodged; the meeting insisted on the expulsion of the unworthy member, and a letter of resignation, ready cut and dried for the purpose, was produced when expulsion was inevitable. The homœopath was indignantly cast forth from the profession. The conduct of the president was most reprehensible. We tell our medical brethren that it will be ever thus. The pleasant circumstance of 'being called in' rules the mind of the conspicuous individual who presides at public meetings. Such favours are of frequent occurrence, between the fashionable quack who ministers to the trifling disorders of pampered individuals, and the physician in vogue. They must be carefully watched. But we do not recommend quarrels. With the profession awake and aroused, there need be no fear of the leading physicians. They must always depend more upon the suffrages of the profession than on the patronage of two or three individuals, however great their names and extensive their possessions. But if there be obstinacy in error, let the time-serving physician or surgeon be set aside, and others brought forward in his stead; and let the quacks be ignominiously ejected from every provincial medical association in England. The 'rogues' march' is the only tune they will understand and fear."

"But we tell our professional brethren the time is now ripe; let them be firm and vigilant, and the doom of quackery and fraud is pronounced; the advent of science is at hand. Yet a little while, and the sun of philosophy now struggling up the empyrean of pure and pellucid knowledge, will light with meridian blaze every corner of the realm of physic. The foreign impostors who have been encouraged by great and scandalous carelessness, will seek in the dreary and benighted regions of their own lands fresh fields for their cupidity, and their wretched abettors amongst ourselves will have to find in the swell-mobs of other occupations less understood means of dishonest existence."

"The great body of the profession must now, however, step forward. Its serried ranks must appear, and overcome the pale inertia of the Colleges. Let there be no anger, no abuse; let all be calm and temperate as becomes a great profession. The exertion must be made. Si te secordiæ et ignavæ tradideris, nequicquam deos implores; irati infaustique sunt."

The Editor of the *Lancet* will find that the accomplished surgeon who presides over the College of Surgeons will not join in the hue and cry against homœopathy, and we suspect that the majority of the Council will agree with their President, that it is their true policy to leave the conscience of their members and fellows free in the matter of therapeutics.

"There is some hope that the Council of the College of Surgeons will take stringent steps with reference to the homœopathic quacks who disgrace their lists. We know that the Council have for some time past been frequently appealed to, and that individual members of the Council have promised their assistance in the matter. Dr. Hall's letter is a further step in the right direction, and must be followed by other, and, if possible, collective remonstrances, until the Council do their duty.

"An admirable letter, to which we shall take occasion to refer, appears this week, from Dr. Cormack, in the *Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal*, calling upon the great Association of which that periodical is the organ, to declare, at the coming meeting at Brighton, 'that the names of homœopathic practitioners, and of those who hold professional intercourse with them, cannot be on its lists of members.' The Association could not be more worthily employed than in such an honest deliverance of its unanimous opinion. If this pestilent quackery be strongly dealt with, then indeed will the Brighton meeting be memorable in the annals of the Association. We have every hope and expectation that the meeting will be large beyond precedent: and we trust we shall have to record that it has not been without fruit in the cause of legitimate medicine, as against the quackeries which now infest her very bosom."

One bit more, and we have done with this exquisite *Lancet* for this week. We presume the title of *Lancet*, now that the

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use of the lancet is nearly gone by, is kept on the principle of *lucus a non lucendo*. Why does not the proprietor change his name, and call himself anti-homœopath?

"THE MEDICAL DIRECTORY AND THE HOMŒOPATHIC QUACKS.

"*To the Editor of the Lancet.*

"SIR,—In the circular at present being sent to the members of the profession from the editors of the *Medical Directory*, is a question touching the continued publication or not of the list of the homœopathic practitioners. I have (perhaps to the surprise of those equally abhorrent of homœopathy as myself) given my assent to their names still being inserted, and I have given also my reason, which I will take the liberty of transcribing:—

"'For though it may confer upon them great notoriety, it will serve to point them out to the honourable portion of the profession, who will not therefore be in danger of committing mistakes after the manner of Dr. Murphy.'

"I am not, however, certain that some peculiarity may not attach to my views on this head, and I should therefore be very glad to be set right, if I shall be proved to be in error; for I would that my feeble assistance towards crushing the monstrous abortion of legitimate medicine should co-operate in the right direction.

"Your obedient servant,

"J. E. N.

"August, 1851.

*** "The names of the quacks should be wholly excldued from the *Directory*.

"If not, the *Directory* itself should be excluded from the house of every qualified regular practitioner.—ED. L."

ELEGANT EXTRACTS FROM THE MEDICAL TIMES.

THIS paper has not, for some time, written bitter things against homœopathy; but we suppose the conductors feel it to be necessary to bid against the *Lancet*, and the *Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal*, for favour with the allopathic practitioners. Let it not be forgotten that a year or two ago the Editor of the *Medical Times* asserted that homœopathy was extinct in the metropolis, and fitfully blazing in divers parts of the provinces, to go out suddenly. It is found, however, that homœopathy has too much vitality to be expunged by a sneer, and to be *burked* by a band of conspirators.

We give the elegant extracts, with our comments.

"Legitimate practitioners will also, we are sure, at the same time, record their desire that the names of those who practise homœopathy should be altogether omitted from the list of medical men."

This is pitiful enough; but who asked the Editors of the *Medical Directory* to insert those names? Did the homœopathists? We trow not. That, when applied to, they sent their qualifications and addresses, is palpable; but that any sought the notoriety of being advertised as homœopathists, we do not, for one instant, believe.

In the answers to correspondents we have these exquisite *morceaux*.

"The Provincial Association deserves the utmost praise. The example set by its members should be followed by every practitioner in the profession. No regularly qualified man should meet a homœopath in consultation."

We remark on this, that the homœopathic practitioners are as regularly qualified, as the Editor of the *Medical Times* knows very well, as any of their allopathic brethren. He should have worded his paragraph, "no regularly qualified man should meet any other regularly qualified man, if he practises homœopathy. The very fact of his being a homœopathist should put a ban on him: he is more accursed than the veriest villain in the world, from the mere fact of his being a homœopathist." Brave work, my masters! this is science! this is charity! this is bearing one another's burdens!

"Our eyes are always open," this wonderful Editor says. Indeed! as open as a puppy's just after birth—and no more open. He is purblind, who does not see that homœopathy is a *fact*. But we have no *euphrasy* for the cure of that mental blindness, no instrument for removing the hindrance of sight to that closed pupil. *Absit invidia verbo!*

"We are beaten by units"—truly so, the hundreds will beat your thousands, Mr. Editor.

"The voice has gone forth against the homœopaths. Their doom is overtaking them. If the profession be but true to themselves, the humbug and deception of this pseudo-science will be exploded in a very few years. Lord Robert Grosvenor, though high in rank, is not a man of sufficient talent or influence to advance the cause, and we opine that his connection with it has gone far to deprive him of the little reputation for judgment that he formerly possessed. It is notorious that the abettor of one form of quackery is the supporter in turn of all the others."

Lord Robert Grosvenor will be remembered by reason of his connection with homœopathy, when the ephemeral Editors of the *Lancet*, and the *Medical Times*, and the *Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal*, are forgotten amid the lumber of other forgotten things. The

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doom of the homœopaths has been overtaking them every day since the year 1796, but somehow or other, their doom has not overtaken them yet. In that time dynasties have been changed often,—and allopathic medicine has been changed often,—and peacocks and oxen have lived and died—but homœopathy has been marhcing onward tranquilly and securely.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30TH, 1851.

THE WOLF'S APOLOGY;

OR, THE EXCUSE OF THE EDINBURGH CLIQUE FOR WITHHOLDING THEIR DIPLOMA FROM MR. POPE.

THE Edinburgh professors have issued an exculpatory manifesto in their *Gazette*,—the so-called Monthly Journal of Medical Science. Although nominally a scientific periodical, this is in reality the organ of a petty clique, whose maxim is to write themselves up and their neighbours down. To show the trade spirit of the joint-stock concern, we may mention a recent transaction between one of the partners and a respectable publishing house in town. The Messrs. Griffin, proprietors of the *Encyclopædia Metropolitana*, conceived the idea of publishing cheap scientific manuals, and asked Professor Balfour to write one on botany, for although no authority in the science, yet, with Jussieu's plates supplied by the publishers, he was supposed equal to the task, and could powerfully assist its circulation. He jumped at the proposal, and agreed for £200 to do the work. The agreement was that the publishers, on the payment of the money, were to make what use they pleased of the hook. It was accordingly published and printed also in the *Encyclopædia*. After the sale of the first edition, the publishers applied to the Professor to correct a second, and offered him a handsome sum (£100) for his trouble. He declined, and said he should have nothing more to do with them, but would publish on his own hook. On this they applied to another Professor, who did what he could to amend the bad grammar and latinity of his northern colleague, and so a second edition appeared. Upon this our friend in the north waxed very wroth, repudiated his offspring, asserting that in its second birth its fair proportions had been so mutilated that he could not father it, and warned his class against this imputed bastard. The most glaring vices of this monster were, that the Hebrew words were wrongly spelt, rendering the work useless to biblical students (so that it seems in Scotland it is the practice to read the Scriptures in the original), and that the age of a plant in the Botanical Gardens had not been advanced in the second edition, but allowed, like an old maid, to stand still for two years. The Professor, being a holder of stock in the clique-gazette, covered his changeling with all manner of abuse in that organ, and insinuated that he, being but green (not yet sixty), and a child in all matters referring to book-making (though his father was a printer), had been duped by London sharpers, and was to be looked upon with extreme commiseration. The publishers, not liking to be so charged, and believing themselves to be just as honest as the northern star, published a reply to the insinuations of this *Ursa Major*. The reply is sharp, but contains no personalities. They sent an advertisement of their pamphlet to the so-called Journal of Science, *and it was refused insertion*. So much for the fair play of the north.

We shall now give the attempted exculpation:—

"Mr. Alfred Crosbie Pope having appeared before the second division of Examiners of the Medical Faculty, in the middle of June, underwent the usual written examination on the practical branches of medicine and surgery, and was afterwards subjected to an oral examination on the same subjects. He had satisfied several of the examiners; but *his surgical knowledge* was evidently defective. While under examination in midwifery, he was asked what doses of *Calomel*, *Opium*, *Tartar Emetic*, and *Aloin* he would give in certain diseases [supposing he treated

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the cases allopathically, being, of course, understood.] In reply, he stated correctly the doses usually given in medical practice, and when asked whether these were the doses which he himself would prescribe, he replied that they were. [Supposing his treatment to be allopathic.] He then underwent an examination on Materia Medica, the professors of that branch and of clinical surgery being present. [There is only one professor of Materia Medica, but professors now a days are not so particularly correct in grammar.] *His replies were satisfactory enough.* The only objection of any moment, indeed, being that his doses of medicine were somewhat large. [An error likely to be corrected in practice.] The Faculty having been furnished with positive information that Mr. Pope had avowed his purpose to become a homœopathic practitioner [by whom? do they pay spies or entrap students into such fatal confessions under the guise of hospitality?], after graduating, it was determined [beforehand?] that he should have an opportunity of answering the charge, [*i. e.* of condemning himself! how English! Not like the Inquisition!] The question was put to him by Dr. Christison [or he was *put to the question*, this is more correct], and the following are the very words of the conversation that ensued. [Who was reporter to this secret tribunal? The minutes will be curious for the future historians of medicine.] 'Well, Mr. Pope, *I am satisfied so far with your answers* [the big doses were no impediment], but there is another point on which I wish to be informed, and as it is better not to beat about the bush, I shall put to you a plain question, in order that I may get a downright answer. [Why was not this plain question put at the beginning?] I am told by a colleague that he has been informed, on good authority [who was the informer, and what reward did he get?], that it is your intention to become a homœopathist after you graduate; *after the answers you have this day given me*, I feel bound to say I do not believe it [so the examination was a trap]; am I right? To which Mr. Pope replies, 'I am not now a homœopathist, but after graduation I mean to inquire into the truth of it.' Professor Syme then remarked. 'Now Mr. Pope, suppose this inquiry which you meditate were to confirm your belief in the truth of homœopathy—what would you do with the diploma received from us—would you burn it, or return it?' [Did Jenner burn his? did any one demand this even of Dr. Samuel Hahnemann?] 'No,' replied he, 'I would keep it.' 'For what purpose?' 'To show that I had studied regularly.' 'Studied what—delusion, fallacies, nonsense? It would only show you had misspent four or five years in studying what could not possibly be of any service, aceording to your own view; and I am sure, upon reflection, you would see how inconsistent it would be with common honesty or common sense to use a diploma after ceasing to entertain the principles which were professed in order to obtain it. [Unless Mr. Syme lost his memory in his "veni vidi et *fugi*" escapade hither, he must have known that he was stating an untruth, for if homœopathists considered his teaching as delusions and nonsense, why should they have called him in to consult with them?] But recollect, Mr. Pope, I offer this remark to you as a friend, not as a professor. [The most tender mercy of the inquisitors is the *coup de grace.*] Mr. Pope then withdrew, and in what remained of his examination he made a satisfactory appearance, except in medical jurisprudence, in which, as in surgery, he was defective. The case being a new one, it was refesred to the whole Medical Faculty for decision. Of the thirteen members, eleven were present. After considering the whole circumstances, the Faculty unanimously resolved—

"'That serious doubts are entertained as to Mr. Pope's principles of practice, and that on this account as well as his insufficiency on some subjects of examination, he shall be remitted to the end of July, by which time he will have had *ample opportunity of making the inquiry into the truth of homœopathy, which he says he contemplates.*" [So these modern Athenians consider six weeks *ample time* to test a system of medicine, besides acquiring the necessary knowledge of medical jurisprudence and surgery! In short, he was given time to recant, and these instructors of ingenuous youth held out a bribe to induce him to do so, although they knew beforehand, from *undoubted* authority, that his conviction was of years' growth,—*O! pudor!*] This resolution, which admitted of his graduating this year, in the event of his satisfying the Medical Faculty [*i. e.* denying his faith], was communicated to him in conversation by the Dean [the famous Dr. Balfour, the innocent pigeon that the savage griffin plucked]. Mr. Pope [not relishing the ignominious terms of capitulation] withdrew at once from the list of candidates."—*Monthly Journal of Medical Science*, August, pp. 196, 197.

We remark that the account given in the professorial manifesto corroborates the

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statement made by Mr. Pope. *He was rejected for homœopathy.* No one can read the story without coming to this conclusion. To imagine that these good men had been suddenly impregnated with such a vivid zeal for absolute truth, as, on the slightest manifestation of hesitation on the part of a candidate, when bullied in the Old Bailey style, he should be refused his degree, is hardly credible. This new-born love of candour, at all events, presents a striking contrast to their former style of proceeding; for not many years ago, the Professor of Midwifery (Simpson) charged the Professor of Clinical Surgery (Syme) with the next thing to open falsehood, in a public letter, which we subjoin for the edification of their admirers. Nor are we aware that Professor Syme attempted to refute the charge. He probably found the "*tu quoque*" retort much more easy to give than a satisfactory reply. The letter is as follows:—

"To Dr. Beilby,

President of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh.

"My dear Sir,—I have obtained, from one of the Fellows of the College, a sight of a letter addressed by Mr. Syme to you, and printed and circulated by him. On perusing it, my first impression decidedly was, that such a production really required no reply on my part. Some of the profession, however, seem to think that its misstatements should be corrected in the same manner that they have been made. Pardon me, therefore, while I encroach for a minute or two upon your time and my own in making the few following observations.,

"1. I do most solemnly assure you, that in almost every minor detail, Mr. Syme's letter contains a disingenuous and untrue statement of the *res gestæ* of our accidental meeting and conversation, on the occasion which he describes; and when I taxed him directly with his indecent and unfounded attack upon me in the number of Dr. Cormack's Journal, that had been published that morning. I do not write this to accuse Mr. Syme of express want of veracity in the present instance. It is quite explicable, I believe, on other grounds. For, during our brief interview,—(it did not last above two or three minutes),—Mr. Syme was in such a state of tremor and agitation, that I conscientiously believe his recollection of what took place immediately before it, of what I said to him during it, and of what he himself did, was necessarily afterwards strangely perverted.

"2. Mr. Syme's principal and most grievous complaint of me to you and to others is, that at this interview I spoke to him of his conduct being 'contemptible.' I assuredly did so. But the expression was not,—as Mr. Syme evidently wishes you to believe,—applied in any—even the most remote degree—to the attack which he had just published. It was used, as I stated to himself most explicitly at the time, to indicate my opinion of his language and conduct in reference to me a short time previously, in the house of a mutual patient, when he made a visit, at which I was not present. I had predetermined, both for his own sake and for the credit of the profession, to tell him distinctly my impression on this point. The meeting in question afforded me the first opportunity of doing so.

"3. Among his other misstatements to you, Mr. Syme has incautiously hazarded one assertion, which unfortunately for himself, admits of refutation, not only by personal but by documentary evidence. Dr. Cormack, the Editor of the Journal in whose pages Mr. Syme's remarks were improperly permitted to appear, had, previous to their publication, informed me, that he had received for the next number of his work, a paper from Mr. Syme, containing an attack upon me. At my interview with Mr. Syme, I mentioned Dr. Cormack's opinion, as the official authority which led me to consider myself the special object of his animadversions. Now, Mr. Syme roundly affirms to you in his printed letter, that I had no grounds for making this statement. To show the degree of credence to be attached to Mr. Syme's strongest asseverations, I shall quote his accusation of me on this head in his own words, and contrast it with an extract from a letter which I received from Dr. Cormack, on the 5th July, in answer to one of mine, referring to the subject. I transmit you Dr. Cormack's autograph letter along with this.

"'*Extract from Mr. Syme's Letter to Dr. Beilby, dated 1st July.*

"It may be proper to add, that, immediately after this occurrence, I called upon Dr. Cormack to inquire if he had told the Professor of Midwifery that any passage of my paper had been written against him, and was assured by that gentleman that he had never done so.'

"'*Extract from Dr. Cormack's Letter to Dr. Simpson, dated 5th July.*

"'It is correct that I stated to you two or three weeks ago that I had received for the next, or July Number of my Journal a paper from Mr. Syme in which there was an attack upon you.'"

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"I feel assured that you will agree with mein this, that it is totally unnecessary to add a single word of comment.

"I remain, my dear Sir,

"Very respectfully yours,

"52 Queen Street, "J. Y. SIMPSON.

"July 28, 1845."

After perusing this, will any one believe that those who so readily bandy against each other charges of disingenuousness, will be roused to sudden indignation at the natural hesitation of an unfortunate youth put to *the question* by these unfeeling inquisitors? Unless it had appeared in the Inquisition Gazette, we should not have believed that the Professor of Clinical Surgery could have so entirely forgot what was due to his position. If they have any regard to their reputation let them gag the press.

IF we were inclined to believe one tithe of the vapid assertions made against homœopathy, we should be induced to suppose that our system and science was on its last legs. The "folly and delusion" which we are presumed to advocate would deserve to be extinguished, were it possible to prove a scintilla of the adverse evidence dished up in the most colorable manner by our opponents.

Homœopathy as represented by the allopathic profession is a mass of absurdity from beginning to end, and the public are called upon to scout its disciples and supporters as they would persons of demented intellect, or knaves who seek to profit by the introduction of self-evident quackery. But while the allopathic brotherhood are thus endeavouring to crush the doctrines of Hahnemann, the public do not apparently seem persuaded to cast them aside as ridiculous and unworthy of attention; on the contrary, a spirit of inquiry has been aroused by this fresh crusade, which promises greatly to benefit and assist our Cause.

The proceedings of the Scotch Medical Colleges, the Huddersfield and Halifax demonstrations, the Homœopathic Congress, are all events eliciting marked attention to our progress and success. Anathematized as we have been by the *Lancet* and the *Medical Times*, it is clear enough that the test of infinitesimal doses has created converts to our system from all ranks, and that the doom of boluses and black draughts has been unmistakably pronounced. It would, indeed, be surprising, after what has occurred with reference to the rapid strides which homœopathy has achieved within the last four or five years, were we to find the followers of the old school insensible to the inroad made upon their professional pursuits by their less antiquated competitors.

Self-preservation is the first law of nature. It is not remarkable, then, that the allopaths should seek to upset a science, the very basis of which so greatly interferes with their own notions of medical practice. The attempt is one, of course, which might have been anticipated, seeing the length to which they will go to accomplish any sought end. Homœopathists themselves would not have objected to a fair contest, conducted on honest principles, and followed out under circumstances which could not admit of partial inferences. In fact, they have all along and do now court investigation, if the question be approached in a proper manner, and no undue influence exerted to arrest the process necessary to establish its success or failure.

What greater proof of the sincerity of those who advocate homœopathy and its curative power can be required than this? The challenge has been before the world during the whole of the present century, but, with the exception of parties who have embraced the faith, few have dared to acknowledge its acceptance. And how do we account for the result? For the simple reason that no one has been sufficiently presumptuous, after having carefully examined the principles of homœopathy, to denounce it a fraud.

The majority who have examined have come over to our side. The remainder, blinded by prejudice and old associations, have deferred to what they describe as "wiser heads" than their own, and are

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therefore content to sit in darkness. It is only the rash writers in the allopathic press who have the hardihood to brand us as impostors and the promulgators of spurious doctrines, their abuse springing from the lowest sources of envy and ignorance. Eventually, however, they will discover the truth of the old apothegm—*Nihil semper floret; ætas succedit ætati.*

Correspondence.

HOMŒOPATHY IN HIGH PLACES.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Knowing that you gladly receive any information indicative of progress in a right direction, I venture to send you copies of two prescriptions that accidentally came into my hands at a watering-place in one of the eastern counties, where a malignant scarlet fever raged with fearfully fatal violence last year.

FOR SCARLET FEVER.

Sir James Clarke's Prescription.

"Extract of *Belladonna* 5 grains; *Cinnamon-water* 2 ounces. Number of drops according to patient's age, before breakfast, not exceeding twenty, in about two table-spoonfuls of water."

Dr. Locock's Prescription

For a boy ten or eleven years old, who was exposed to the infection.

"Extract of *Belladonna* 3 grains; *Cinnamon water* 1½ ounces; of the solution twenty drops, to be taken three times a day."

Do the allopathic physicians, who prescribe homœopathically, give honour to whom honour is due?—I am, Mr. Editor,

A LOVER OF FAIR PLAY.

[Most of our readers are fully aware of the fact that the practitioners of the allopathic school ever and anon resort to remedies given on the homœopathic principle.—*Aconite, Arnica,* and *Belladonna* have been again and again given in this way by many allopathists. The two eminent physicians, mentioned by our correspondent, have distinguished themselves by their gentlemanly forbearance, and their courteous demeanour towards their homœopathic brethren. Neither of them has ever made any difficulty of meeting in consultation, at the request of the patient, any homœopathic practitioner, not for the treatment, but for an opinion of disease. Other eminent men of the "Faculty" have no less stood aloof from the intolerant bigotry and insolent exclusivism of a certain class of allopathists.—ED.]

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Having for some weeks past been the subject of the grossest misrepresentation in the pages of the *Lancet,* respecting a case of strangulated hernia which occurred in my practice as surgeon to a Poor-law district in the Honiton Union, I shall feel obliged, with a view to set me right with the profession and the public, by your inserting the enclosed copy of my letter to the Poor-law Commissioners on the subject.

I am, Sir, etc.,

E. C. HOLLAND.

Honiton, April 30th, 1851.

GENTLEMEN,—Your letter of yesterday's date, No. $\frac{17833}{61}$, has this morning reached me, and I lose no time in furnishing the explanation you require.

It will perhaps be the better plan that I should give you a statement, chronologically arranged, and, in order to do this, I subjoin the particulars of interviews between John Collins, the son of the deceased, and my servant, William Corner, on the morning of March the 10th last.

My servant states that Collins called about half-past six in the morning, at my house; when, on being interrogated as to what he wanted, he replied that his father was very ill from great pain in the bowels, and wanted to know if I would let him have some medicine. My servant then asked if Collins wanted me to visit his father; to which he replied, no, he only wanted some medicine. My servant told him that I had been out nearly the whole of the night, and that I had not been in bed very long, requesting him, at the same time, to call again in an hour. Collins still expressed a wish to see me, and my servant came to my bedroom-door, and delivered the message. I told my servant to say that I was going to Farway in the morning, and that I would call and see his father. Collins then went away, and returned in half an hour. My servant saw him at the back-door at about half-past seven, and asked him what was the matter with his father. Collins replied that he had great pain in the bowels, and had been subject to a rupture complaint for several years; he stated, besides, that if his father was not soon relieved, he thought he would die. *Upon this,* my servant came again to my bedroom, and related what had passed, and I immediately went down stairs to see Collins.

I will now give you an open and candid statement of all the subsequent conversations and events.

On my interview with John Collins (the son), in reply to my inquiries, he stated that his father had great pain in his bowels, and was subject to a rupture complaint. I inquired whether the rupture was up or down. He stated he did not know, but that he knew his

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father was always able to get it back. I inquired if the bowels had been moved, and he told me that they had, late the evening before. I then asked if his father had been sick; the son did not know. I then sent him some powders, which, in my judgment, I believed best calculated to relieve the pain, to be taken every half-hour; and promised to see him some part of the morning. Having kept a professional appointment that I had made for that morning, I went to Farway to see Collins, and arrived at his house at about half-past one. On visiting him, I found him labouring under all the symptoms of strangulated hernia, but he had been sick only twice. On examination, I found that the hernia was by no means tense or painful on pressure, and I endeavoured, by a steady but unsuccessful attempt for about half an hour, to reduce it by the taxis. Having thus failed, and guided by the advice of Mr. Liston (Operative Surgery, 2nd edition, p. 481), in similar cases, I determined on operating, and accordingly sent Collins's son on horseback to Honiton with a note to Mr. Wm. Cox (a medical gentleman who occasionally assists me in my business), in which I requested him to come immediately to Farway, to bring Liston's hernia case, and also to request the assistance of another surgeon. Reflecting, however, that Liston's case did not contain all the instruments that I required, I sent another messenger on horseback, with a second note to Mr. Cox, for them. At about half-past four in the afternoon Mr. Cox arrived, accompanied by Mr. Burd, a surgeon, of Honiton. On examining the tumour, Mr. Burd said he would try the taxis a little longer, before proceeding to the operation.

Having some other patients to visit close by, I left Mr. Burd with Collins; and on my return, in about half an hour, Mr. Burd told me he thought the hernia was yielding. He shortly afterwards said that the stricture was exceedingly tight, and that no further delay to the operation ought to take place. I then explained to Collins the nature of the operation, and that it was the only means of saving his life. He appealed to several bystanders whether they would submit to it under similar circumstances; all of whom dissuaded him from it. I continued to press him further on the subject, but without avail. I then left him, and, on going down stairs, remonstrated with the parties who had dissuaded Collins from submitting to the operation, telling them that they were inducing him to throw away the only means by which his life might be saved. After this, the parties alluded to persuaded Collins to submit to the operation, and at about eight o'clock, I operated on him. After the operation, I ordered enemata of warm water every two hours, but this was neglected (as I was informed on the following day). I also gave him some *Castor Oil.* At twelve o'clock that night, I again visited Collins and found him in a tranquil sleep, the temperature of the skin thoroughly established, and his pulse seventy in the minute. On the following day, Mr. Burd and myself visited him again; we found him very comfortable, with a good steady compressible pulse, and he congratulated himself on having had the operation performed. I again ordered the enemata to be continued, and then it was I learnt that my instructions on this head had not been attended to properly on the previous day. On Wednesday, the 12th, on again visiting Collins, I found him in a very collapsed condition, and I learnt that there had been no evacuations from the bowels, which had become very tympanitic; my impression then was, taking all the present symptoms into account, that the portion of the intestine which had been strangulated had given way, and that the case was hopeless. I ordered wine and arrow-root for him, and on Thursday, the 13th, the patient died. Such, Gentlemen, are the facts connected with this case. I beg your best consideration of the remarks which I will now take the liberty of making. I must, however, at once most emphatically deny the assertion of Collins, that he had represented to me that his father was unable to return the hernia, when he called on me. It is obvious that there are many points of discrepancy between the statements of my servant, the man Collins, and myself, not only so far as regards the lapse of time, but also with respect to the substance of the conversations that took place. I would, however, request you to divest the statement made to you by Mr. Christie of the ignorant assumptions and fabrications with which it abounds, and attach to it only so much of importance as is due to a preconceived determination to surround what otherwise would have been an easily elucidated case with a parcel of parenthetical and supposititious deductions.

It would appear that you labour under a misapprehension, in supposing that Mr. Christie was the person who preferred the charge against me at the meeting of the Board of Guardians, on April the 7th. It is a duty I owe to myself, however, to undeceive you in this respect. You will be pleased to remember that the case, on which this charge is founded, occurred on March the 10th, on which day the Board of Guardians met; and another meeting was held on the 24th. It is somewhat curious that at this last-named meeting no charge of neglect in this case was preferred against me, or even thought of; but it having been announced to Sir E. Prideaux, Bart., of Farway (a gentleman whose name you will recollect as occurring in a correspondence between myself and the Board), that I had omitted to send in my tender for re-election to my district, he imagined that it would be a very favourable opportunity successfully to oppose me, by sending to the Board, on the day that the election took place, a charge against me which, on a *prima facie* view, could be construed only into one of the grossest neglect. Accordingly, on the 7th of April, a month after the case had occurred, a messenger was dispatched to John Collins by Sir E. Prideaux, to desire him immediately to put on his best clothes and to repair to Honiton with letters to the Board of Guardians, together with a written statement of alleged neglect of his late father on the part of myself, which he was desired to confirm. I must confess, I was somewhat surprised at hearing that a charge was to be brought

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against me on the subject, and more particularly so, as many persons in the village of Farway had announced to me that Sir Edmund Prideaux had expressed himself much pleased with the attention which I had paid to the deceased.

With respect to Mr. Christie, the Guardian of Salcombe, and the remarks contained in his letter to your secretary, with a copy of which I have been favoured by the clerk to the Honiton Board of Guardians, I feel it my duty to offer a few observations, although, from the unfair and ungentlemanly spirit in which those remarks are made, it would have been more consonant to my feelings to treat them with the contempt they merit, and have passed them over in silence. Lest, however, you might consider that by so doing I should admit the accuracy of his assertions, I think it better to adopt a different course.

I would inform you that Mr. Christie is a partially qualified member of the same profession as myself, and, for the first time, has this year been elected Guardian for Salcombe. That I was a stranger to him is perhaps true, but I was fully aware, although not knowing Mr. Christie personally, that he was a man quite prepared to adopt any unfair measures against one differing in the least from his own medical tenets. I was not prepared, however, to meet with such a total want of courtesy as he displayed in his mode of conducting his examination of myself on the subject in question—and when he put questions to me, totally irrelevant to the nature of the charge, I looked on them as impertinent, and hence the term "*hesitatingly*" so often appended to the answers I gave. The charge, it will be remembered, was one of neglect, my not having visited the deceased earlier, no allusion whatever being made as to the medicines furnished; but the whole of Mr. Christie's ingenuity was put into requisition, to bring the medical means I had adopted into ridicule. In the course of the examination, it is true Mr. Christie made use of his pathological skill in gainsaying opinions I offered; but that skill, put to the test by the works of such men as Mr. Liston and Sir Astley Cooper, will be found, on examination, to be exceedingly meagre and defective. I was told by Mr. Christie that the circumstance of the man having pain in the bowels ought at once to have informed me that he had strangulated hernia, it having been announced to me that the man was subject to a rupture complaint. Now, Sir Astley Cooper says, that pain in the bowels is never felt in strangulated hernia until it has passed into its last stage, but that the sensation of uneasiness is always referred to the diaphragm, and the patient complains of a feeling as if a cord were bound tightly round the upper part of the stomach; also, there is pain in the neck of the hernia. (Vide Lectures on Surgery, 8th edit., p. 262.)

Again, Mr. Christie assumed that the cessation of pain, on the day after the operation, arose from mortification, and was not at all indicative of convalescence. Taken in connection with the cessation of pain, the statement made by Mr. Burd and myself, that the man was better in every respect, that he had a nice moisture on the skin, that the temperature of the body was healthy, and his pulse seventy in the minute, Mr. Christie not only has no right to infer the existence of mortification, but betrays such an ignorance of the symptoms of mortification as the veriest tyro would blush at. Mr. Christie further assumes, that "Mr. Holland attributed the death of Collins to the omission of enemata which he had ordered."

Now, although I did not attribute his death to any such cause, still I may mention to you that Mr. Liston (Operative Surgery, 2nd edit. p. 493) laid very great stress on the necessity of copious enemata soon after the operation, and deprecated (Operative Surgery, 2nd edit. p. 481), in no very mild terms, the treatment which was usually adopted previous to the operation, by which he stated that many persons were hurried to their graves. I hear, moreover, that Mr. Christie has taken great pains to impress on the minds of many of the Guardians what, in his opinion, ought to have been done previous to the operation, and that the observance of it would have saved the man's life.

With respect to Mr. Christie's comments on the principles and practice of homœopathy, so ridiculous are they, and so gross a want of information do they display, that I should outrage my own feelings, and uselessly occupy your time, by further noticing them.

These are a few points to which I am anxious to refer, before bringing this letter to a close. In the first place, so very unusual is it for hernia to descend *when the subject of it is in a recumbent position*, that when a statement is made to a surgeon that a person is attacked some part of the night, after he had been in bed, with violent pain of the bowels, although he may be the subject of hernia, the idea of strangulation of the hernia would not be entertained. Again, with respect to the time when a strangulated hernia may become irreducible. Mr. Liston states (Operative Surgery, p. 479) that it very frequently is so, from the moment of its descent. He also puts surgeons on their guard, by suggesting (page 493) that although the operation may have been skilfully performed, still no movement of the bowels may take place, and the portion of intestine which had been strangulated may be perfectly paralysed, may give way at the strictured part, and death speedily ensue.

Can it be imagined that any medical man, when an announcement is made to him that a hernia could not be put back by the patient, would hesitate in affording his immediate aid? Had the son of this man made such a statement to me, I would not have delayed one instant in going to his rescue; and if I had suspected such a condition of affairs, surely I should have taken my instruments with me, and have asked the assistance of another surgeon, instead of hazarding the delay that must necessarily arise in sending from place to place for the requisite means.

So far as the want of skill in diagnosis is concerned, which Mr. Christie would, in his vulgar malignant remarks, induce you to believe me to possess, I feel persuaded that it is quite unnecessary for me to say one word.

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With a view to have the merits of this unfortunate case thoroughly investigated, I considered it a paramount duty to myself to request the coroner for the district to have the body exhumed, and to hold an inquest on the remains; but, in his reply, he stated that he could not consent to do so, from the circumstance of there being no charge against me that would warrant such a step.

I can only add, in conclusion, that it will afford me the greatest pleasure, should you think it desirable to prosecute the inquiry further, to attend at any tribunal, and on my oath confirm the accuracy of the statement, with which I have in this letter furnished you.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Yours obediently, E. C. H.
To the Poor-law Board, London.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In the number of your ably-conducted Journal for July 26th is inserted an article from the *Chemical Record*, entitled "Homœopathy tested by chemistry and found wanting." To show how ignorant is the writer of that article of Hahnemann's principles and writings, I take the liberty of sending the following extract from his work on Chronic Diseases, which completely demolishes the proposed test of our opponent. I quote from the translation by Dr. Hempel, vol. i. p. 188:—

"No one will feel disposed to suspect that quartz, rock-crystal,—some of these crystals containing drops of water which have been enclosed there unaltered for thousands of years,—or *white sand* are soluble in water or alcohol, or are endowed with medicinal properties. However, silica may be made soluble both in water and alcohol, by triturating it *after it had first been melted by means of an alkali, and then precipitated again from that compound.* By this process, the medicinal properties of silica are developed to an almost infinite extent." Then follows, in a note: "*Quartz or silica, unless they have first undergone this preparation, will not show any medicinal properties.* This is the reason why medicinal substances may be triturated in the porcelain mortar, together with the homœopathic medicine *Sugar of Milk*, without any silica becoming mixed with it. Some hypercritical homœopathists have apprehended such a result."

I only add, continue your reprint of our adversaries' objections to homœopathy, in order that their utter baselessness may be made apparent.

Your most obedient servant,
York, Aug. 18, 1851. CHARLES RANSFORD.

Miscellaneous.

HEALTH.—Take, for example, a young girl brought up delicately in town; shut up in a nursery in her childhood—in a boarding-school through youth, never accustomed to air or exercise—two things which the Most High renders essential to health. She marries, and perhaps dies when her life is essential to her young children. "What a strange Providence," say some of her acquaintance; "how mysterious that a mother should be taken from her children!" Was it Providence? No! Her Maker had assigned her threescore years and ten—a term long enough to rear her children, and to see her children's children; but her parents did not obey for her the laws on which life depends, neither did she obey them.

A father is cut off in the midst of his days. He is a distinguished and useful citizen, and eminent in his profession. A general buzz rises on every side, of—"What a striking Providence!" Not at all. This man studied half the night; he gave himself no time for exercise; he ate luxurious dinners, and drank various kinds of wine; he daily violated the laws of nature. Did Providence cut him off? Assuredly not; he cut himself off.

Young ladies often walk in thin shoes and thin stockings when the ground is frozen. You may see a healthy, blooming girl thus dressed, in violation of Heaven's laws: well, she catches cold, becomes feverish, and dies. "What a sad Providence!" exclaim her friends. Was it Providence, or her own folly?

A beautiful young bride goes to parties made in honour of her marriage. She has a slight sore throat—perhaps the weather is inclement; but she must wear her arms and neck bare, for who ever saw a bride muffled up to the chin. An inflammation of the lungs ensues, and she dies before her bridal days are over. "Alas, alas! what a strange Providence!" most people exclaim, "cut off in the midst of happiness!" Did she not herself cut off the thread of life?

A country girl, exposed to this changing climate, gets for herself a new, smart bonnet when she ought to purchase flannel: a rheumatism is the consequence. Ought that girl to sit down and say that the Lord has afflicted her? or should she charge it to her vanity, and avoid the folly in future?

Look, my friends, at the mass of misery—of piteous diseases, which are incurred by intemperance in eating and drinking; by neglect of exercise, cleanliness, and pure air; by intense study, or close application to business, without early rising, and the morning walk; by tight lacing and scanty dress, for fashion's sake. And this is imputed to Providence! Is there not impiety as well as ignorance in this? Were people to obey the laws of nature from generation to generation, many frightful diseases that cut short life, and lingering maladies that make life a torment or a trial, would be prevented. Those who best understand the human structure, and are qualified to judge, assert that this wonderful machine, the body—this goodly temple, would gradually decay; and that men would die as if falling asleep, if they were but wise.—*Mrs. Sedgwick.*

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Rebiew of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

ALLOPATHY AND HOMŒOPATHY COMPARED.

By a Progressist.

(*Continued from page* 49.)

When the body is in health it is supplied with a proportionate amount of muscular and nervous energy to provide for all its wants. As long as man was unacquainted with medicines, and his mode of life was in accordance with Nature, he remained healthy and strong. With the progress of time, stimulated food and artificial beverages assumed the place of plain diet, and the consequences of this luxurious mode of living soon made their appearance. Health, strength, and comfort now gave way to a state of chronical debility or enervation of the whole organism (the secondary action of these stimulants); derangements of the digestive organs, the functions of the mind, debility of the nervous system, etc., were created: this chronical languor and enervation (reduction of power) of the organism becomes complete. The original sickening agents now firmly stationed in the interior, causing symptomless debility, that is, the second decline of vitality, the organism desists from operating for its own recovery.

Medical men strove to remove these evils, and to restore the equilibrium of the system by a further encroachment upon Nature, and were forced for this purpose to have recourse to stimulating means; but when medicine was scarcely called into being, when Nature was left almost entirely to herself to repair the injuries and diseases of mankind, when art was yet unknown, and the science of medicine had not yet struggled into existence, it was to be expected that men would seek to relieve the few ailments that befel them by water or some simple remedy—his total unacquaintance with every medicinal remedy would alone lead him to do so. It was at the temple of Æsculapius, in Greece, that medical information was first recorded; diseases and cures were registered on tablets of marble, and the first professors of physic were the priests, who prepared remedies and directed their application. Medical and therapeutic agents were used in similar diseases as now. We read that Melampus of Argos, the most ancient Greek physician with whom we are acquainted, administered the rust of iron in wine for debility. The same physician gave hellebore to the daughters of King Prœtus, for melancholy. Bleeding was employed by Podalirius on his return from the Trojan war. We are told that the daughter of Damathus had fallen from a great height, and he cured her by bleeding from both her arms. Again, Helen administered to the guests of Menelaus a certain drug in their wine, called the Nepenthe, for the purpose of driving away their cares.

Since these days system followed upon system, error made way for error in the practice of medicine, as man digressed from the laws of Nature. Physicians were called on to produce an instant cure; they had recourse to stimulants—stimulant after stimulant, remedy after remedy was found inefficient, the body became accustomed to their use; the Faculty invented new remedies, until they have arrived at the great and flourishing extent of the Materia Medica of the present day. Purgatives are administered by the old school with a view of operating *revulsively* on the extensive surface of the alimentary canal, and how frequently does it happen that the unpleasant consequences of the medicine should

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induce the practitioner to reject them altogether, particularly in those cases where gastric and intestinal susceptibility is high: in vain he may temper them, and vary them, and give them in a thousand different shapes—these ill effects are reproduced, and very frequently aggravated. It is undeniable, that repeated doses of purgative medicine debilitate the intestinal canal, that they increase nervous susceptibility, whilst they diminish its contractile force, giving rise to frequent derangement of the digestive function. In reality, when we take a purgative, we cause a fit of indigestion. So true is this, that if the medicine is digested, the purgative effect does not take place, a very frequent case in robust children. This class of medicines present considerable drawbacks, especially with certain patients. The exuberance of intestinal mucus promoted by them, and the stimulation of the absorbent vessels, are physiological effects far from being clearly demonstrated. *Revulsion*, which a purgative will effect, is, in truth, the most useful and important part of the phenomena induced. It must be observed that I am here speaking of *cathartics*, purgatives of moderate activity; but when there are administered those of great energy, which are designated *drastic*, their use calls for the greatest caution; in fact, they should not be used at all. Experience has demonstrated that they have three great objections: they may cause excessive alvine discharges, or, in other words, hypercatharsis; they may give rise to a chronic inflammatory visitation of the mucous membrane; lastly, their use is frequently followed by constipation. Homœopathy objects to the habitual use of aperients—

1. "*Because they are unnecessary*, inasmuch as Nature herself, if not improperly interfered with, takes sufficient care of that function in healthy people."

2. "*Because they invariably create a tendency to costiveness*, in consequence of inactivity of the bowels, which is the necessary effect of reaction after previous excitement."

3. "Because they afford in habitual costiveness at most only temporary relief, and never cure the disorder radically."

4. "Because all aperient medicines exercise their influence, not only on the bowels, but also on the stomach and liver, and on the frame in general."

"If people, in the absence of better means calculated to strengthen the proper propelling power of the bowels, by restoring the diminished tone of the muscular fibre, would leave off the use of aperients altogether, and take a glass of cold, fresh spring-water night and morning, or, if necessary, have recourse to occasional simple injections of tepid, or better, cold water, living at the same time upon a proper mixture of animal and vegetable food, and taking sufficient exercise in the open air, they would have a fair chance of arriving at that degree of regularity which their constitution requires, and which they have vainly attempted to attain by aperient medicine." Again: "The disordered state of the digestive organs, which is so common in these countries, is in a great measure owing to the abuse of this kind of medicines, and that frequently such disorders as irritation, enlargement, induration, and torpidity of the liver, want of regular appetite, bad taste, and parched feeling in the mouth, weakness of digestion, so-called bilious affections, pain in the stomach, flatulency, piles, various diseased states of the rectum, sick headache, etc., are either the mere consequence of such abuse, or are more or less complicated with the effects of these medicines."*

"The very anatomist," says Dr. Black, † "takes up the wondrous tale of the efficacy of purgatives, and, demonstrating to his delighted audience the immense extent of the mucous membrane of the bowels, he congratulates them on the extensive field now displayed for the exercise of their purgatives. How contradictory in the allopath to despise purgatives administered by empirics! Morison and all his followers argue in this way, that if the licensed profession administer purgatives successfully in every disease, if they consider 'the bowels to be the sink, whose part is to drain all noisome filth, and keep the kitchen clean,' why should he not?

"Since no disease is treated allopathically without purgatives, we are either to conclude that the practice is unsuccessful, or that there is nothing erroneous in the advertisement of the Hygeian College, that 'their pills purify the blood, and heal all the ills that flesh is heir to.'"

"The intimate and essential nature of a disease," says Mr. Yeldham,‡ "we may venture to state broadly, that it consists, as far as we can understand the matter, in a disordered action of the part or parts most prominently affected. This being the case, it follows that, for the rectification of that disordered action, a remedy should be employed which will exert a direct influence over the seat of disease. The simple action of an aperient is to stimulate the

* A Concise View of Homœopathy, p. 132.
† A Treatise on the Principles and Practice of Homœopathy, p. 7.
‡ Homœopathy in Acute Diseases, p. 19.

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intestinal canal. Yet this is the agent which the allopathist employs, when the object sought is to rectify the defective performance of its duty on the part of some other, and probably distant, organ of the body. Has a patient inflammation of the eye? his physician purges the *bowels!* Has he inflammation of the *toe?* the same thing is done! Is there disease of the *lungs?* still he purges! Fever? still aperients! Gout, rheumatism, headache? whatever be the disorder, the remedy is everlastingly the same: like the laws of the Medes and Persians, it alters not. This mode of treatment would lead us to conclude that every disease has a *material* existence in the abdomen, and may be expelled by the physical force of aperient medicines!"

As various as are the causes of costiveness, the homœopathist is more successful in his treatment than the practitioners of the "old school" with their purgatives, which afford at the most but temporary relief, and more frequently increase the disturbance of the digestive organs. The habits of civilized society are incompatible with the enjoyment of health; nor can we calculate the immense sacrifice of life which is constantly made by the pernicious practice of stimulating the bowels with purgatives. The great principle should be to live according to Nature's laws, and assist Nature in her own way, when she is unable to perform her accustomed work. But instead of this, what do we see? As soon as we are born, we are crammed with butter and sugar, a dose of *Castor* or *Almond Oil*, or sugar and *Calomel*, which is rendered quite unnecessary by the mother's milk. The process of pregnancy and childbirth is one of the most natural and as holy as any ever set up by Nature, and the milk of the mother is sufficiently relaxing to evacuate the bowels of the infant. More harm is done by the officious interference of "doctors" with the bowels than any other organ. No sooner is the family physician consulted than he, nine times out of ten, will order some kind of cathartic. "Giving aperient medicine to the infant is reprehensible, because it lays the foundation for future costiveness. The tender surface of the infant's intestinal canal, which has never been in contact with any ungenial outward influence, is at that time exceedingly susceptible; and aperient medicine must, as such, necessarily create a temporary irritation in those organs." Not only by the young, the thoughtless, and the inexperienced is this purging considered "all right," but the more advanced in age rely implicitly upon the *ipse dixit* of their doctor; and nothing is too absurd for them to do, if these oracles only sanction it, even to the eating of *Magnesia* by the ounce, or taking physic daily. Now, it is not necessary to tell any well-informed person, one who is at all conversant with physiology, that this practice is entirely at variance with the laws of Nature. "Mankind," says Mr. Claridge, "like all other organic beings, ought to live according to Nature's laws, without pain, and die a natural death, *i. e.*, without illness or suffering." With us almost everybody dies from the effects of drugs. If mankind trusted more to Nature's laws, lived as they ought to live, they would, as a general rule, pass through the several stages of life, from infancy to old age, without sickness, enjoying health, serenity, and peace, their vital energies gradually wearing out, and at length the sleep of death would come without agony and without pain.

It is high time, oh, ye people of the nineteenth century, that ye began to think for yourselves, if not to act. The time is now come when people are beginning both to think and to speak, and the result is manifesting itself in the respect shown to homœopathy, and the advantages accruing from it. Most important it is, and most certain will it be, that homœopathy will ere long form a constituent part of general medical education; that young physicians of ability and education will devote themselves to its peculiar practice; that while it will more or less, in its leading principles, blend with other modes of scientific enlightenment, it will obtain for itself a due proportion of the growing intelligence, and that it will be rewarded with a college of its own.

Purgatives do not cure constipation—never did and never can: on the contrary, they increase the difficulty they were given to remove, by rendering the liver, etc., more unwilling to act, without being stimulated, than before. The primary action of a purgative is that of increasing the secretion of the alvine discharges; the secondary action is that of constipation, by debilitating the nervous energy of the intestines. Ten thousand men may swear to an error, and yet not make it a truth. Hundreds of things once believed by the learned have been repudiated by the same as unworthy of belief, "new light" having discovered to them the falsity thereof.

For years and years it was thought absolutely necessary to the salvation of small-pox patients to give them hot drinks, stimulating medicines, and keep them very warm. But now even the greatest advo-

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cates of drug treatment forbid all this, keeping the patients as cool as possible, and giving scarcely any medicine.

If they were mistaken in one case, why not in others?

Stimulants, wherever applied, whether to the stomach or intestines, leave behind a corresponding degree of debility. Take *Calomel*, for instance—and I do not instance this preparation of mercury because it is a popular bugbear, but because it is one of the most potent medicines in the allopathic school—it is almost sure to act upon the liver, and will remove obstructions there quicker than any other article, but it produces a disease ten times worse; making the old adage true, that the remedy is worse than the disease. Chronic diseases, it has been said, are acute diseases run to seed. The improper manner in which acute diseases are treated is the cause of their becoming chronic or sub-acute. No one would venture to say a disease had been cured when it had only changed its form. Take a person diseased, put irritating medicine into his stomach, and what is the consequence? Why, the whole system becomes diseased, and the case becomes aggravated: it is like throwing gravel on the railroad track to make the engine run easier. The old allopathic errors must die: the sun of homœopathy has risen on the horizon of our hopes, and, surrounded by the effulgence of its own beams, is rapidly attaining its meridian glory; and we firmly believe that from this altitude it will continue to dispense its blessings through all coming time.

(To be continued.)

CHOICE OF DILUTIONS AND REPETITIONS OF MEDICAMENTS.

Communicated by DR. ROSENSTEIN.

(Continued from page 67.)

I. GENERAL PROPOSITIONS.

1. It is asserted that we only know what is material, and that we can only observe the phenomena of movements, transformations, and changes. We should say, perhaps with more reason, that we observe only phenomena, without which we know absolutely nothing of nature, because a substance which produces no action upon us and upon what surrounds it, does not exist for us.

2. We give the name of *forces* to the causes of these phenomena; to consider them as independent of matter is to attribute erroneously to the exterior world an impossible phenomenon.

3. To discuss the *priority* of matter and force would constitute an ungrateful work, because we know but the active phenomena of substances, and it is through analogy that we ascend to matter and force.

4. If, notwithstanding this inseparable union of force and matter, we observe the action of a force extend beyond the material limits of a substance, this does not imply a contradiction. This action may be effected either by means of the transmission of internal phenomena upon the ambient point (as for instance, the luminous waves, and the vibrations of the voice) or through intermediate substances, as takes place in the attraction of celestial bodies and of the magnet.

5. Gravitation and centrifugal force constitute the most general forces; but I doubt if all phenomena could be explained by them.

6. The best known laws are those of gravitation, by which all the substances of our globe acquire weight, which is so much stronger as the atoms attract reciprocally, and are more dense.

7. We speak of *imponderable bodies* combined with light, heat, electricity, and magnetism, without understanding to what purpose these bodies and forces are serviceable. If the sun, by means of attraction which operates through its immensity, can draw the earth towards it, it has also the power to enlighten the terrestrial globe with its rays, without the co-operation of a half material vehicle. The idea of a natural philosopher to subordinate even weight to an imponderable material, although it has not been admitted by the learned, has at least had the merit of logic in the eyes of those who could not dispense with imponderable bodies.

8. In representing to ourselves a substance, in which interior phenomena or external causes have produced a complete neutralization of weight and of expansion, this substance is not *palpable*, and is consequently imponderable. The homœopathic medicinal powers approach to that state.

9. Everything is infinite in nature, from the immense space in which float a multitude of worlds, and the sun itself, which seems to be small compared with that space, down to the minutest animalcules, and to the atoms of our medicaments, of which we may push the divisibility until they become imperceptible to our senses.

10. It is impossible to form a clear idea of infinite space, because no point of comparison exists for us, and the measure which is used is either too large or too

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small for our powers of apprehension and comprehension.

It is singular, that whilst all the astronomical calculations are admitted without contest, comprising those of M. Leverrier, and the microscopic discoveries of animalcules are received with transport, the effects and presence of homœopathic remedies are denied, although some of them can be traced by means of a good microscope until the twelfth dilution.

It is easily forgotten that the epithets large and small, rapid and slow, high and low, are but relatives and not absolutes Sound travels about 1,400 feet in a second; its rapidity is great compared with that of a race-horse, but little compared with the rays of light, which pass through 42,000 miles in the same space of time.

The highest distinct sound makes 39,768 vibrations in a second, whilst the slightest luminous tinge, the red, makes 420 billions of luminous waves in the same time; the violet colour makes almost double that number In such cases, we may establish comparisons between the different degrees of swiftness, without being authorized to maintain that light is stronger than sound, and even without being able to pretend, so to speak, that the highest sound is stronger than the lowest, and *vice versâ*, because the idea of force cannot come into such a comparison.

11. Cohesion and affinity are attractions of the particles of a body towards its centre; their diminution and their augmentation obey, consequently, the laws of gravitation, unless they are changed by foreign causes.

12. The *force of attraction of bodies* diminishes in proportion to the square of distance from the centre of gravity. The same effect happens to all bodies in particular, consequently the expansive forces will increase in proportion as cohesion diminishes.

13. We call those forces latent which cannot act beyond the limit of space assigned to them; or those which find no analogous object upon which they can act. It is, therefore, the want of equilibrium which puts the force in movement; this removal from the centre is effected either through diminution of the cohesion of molecules with which the force is combined, or by contact of a substance having receptivity for it, and being analogous to its action.

14. Let us see how this applies to the homœopathic doses. The substance is divided *ad infinitum*; the diminution of the cohesion makes the force free, which is carried over to an analogous body. This force will exercise an action so much more energetic as the bodies become better identified with it, by the similitude of its morbid state.

15. As it is here not the question of the substance but of its activity, we may justly give the name of dynamization to our preparations, because it is evident that its manifestation of activity is increased when compared with that of its primitive state. The term power adopted by Hahnemann is almost synonymous.

Although all beings belong to nature, because they make a part of it, they establish, nevertheless, a contrast between themselves and nature, in constituting a *new centre*. This is a necessity, and it is only in this manner that they can hold out and preserve the peculiar character which rules them, they thus escape cosmical influences, or using them to their own profit. In this manner that force is developed which we call *vitality*, without knowing how to explain its nature or origin. Vitality does not exclude mechanical and chemical action, but subjects them to its own laws. The division of a substance which is effected in our higher potencies, does not modify the particular character; on the contrary, this character is manifested with an efficacy which is in proportion to the physical and chemical properties of that substance, as developed by the preparation. It is this activity of the particular character which authorizes us to speak of dynamism, and accord to it the preference over the ruder physical and chemical effects when brought in contact with vitality.

16. Proceeding from this point of view, in treating a substance after the homœopathic procedure, there results a development of its nature, intimately analogous to its physical properties, and which is manifested with so much the more liberty as the physical and chemical attraction is weakened. Hahnemann was justified in considering this procedure as a sort of dynamization, although this term is far from explaining the phenomena which are accomplished.

17. We ask, in the last place, what is that particular character which exists with so much persistency in minerals, vegetables, and animals, resisting all means of destruction, and abandoning them but with their existence—this character which, at the time even that the individual is to succumb, knows still how to preserve its species? Should this belong to the inferior degrees of the creation only? Is it not also the attribute of the higher degrees of the spirit which reasons, and whose ambition thinks itself often above nature? It is

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thus that the first roots of our faith in immortality origtnate, apart from Revelation.

18. It is not our purpose to discuss the cosmical laws; we wish only to recall to mind, that in the organism they do not disappear completely, and that they are subordinate to the vital force, and modified by it. But it would be an absurdity if we should explain dynamization through electricity, or by the obscure phenomena of infection.

II. EFFECTS OF MEDICINAL POWERS.

1. *Physical Effects.*—The specific weight is naturally diminished by the separation of molecules; for this reason a great number of atoms, even of very heavy metals, float on the surface of water and alcohol, whilst others remain in the centre or fall to the bottom, which may be easily observed by means of a microscope. For want of sufficient experience, we are unacquainted if by degrees other molecules fall to the bottom, or if the greater part remain suspended. In making experiments with a solar microscope, I can simply state that the number of visible atoms remained, in appearance at least, the same for the powers which were at rest, as those which had before been shaken. It seems to me, that all further researches on this point cannot lead to a useful result, because the most powerful magnifying instruments cannot bring to our view the primitive atoms, for the thousand points which we see are still divisible molecules.

2. The manner of the relation of the potencies to the reactives aid us but little in our inquiry. These chemical decompositions are impotent to affect the smallest molecules. The reactives disclose, in fact, the presence of arsenic carried to the millionth degree of power (about the third and fourth), but this is a very feeble result, when we consider the action of the higher powers upon the organism. According to Klaproth, 1,000 feet of water of 12° Réaumur dissolve but $2\frac{1}{2}$ parts of arsenious acid. Mayerhofer, on the contrary, strong in his microscopical experiments, pretends that arsenic is altogether insoluble in water, remaining there only in suspension. But the experiments alone do not suffice to prove this opinion, because the molecules really dissolved escape our sight. Briefly, what seems to be positive is, that the solubility of arsenic is very weak, perhaps even less than Klaproth thinks, who might easily consider as dissolved what was but suspended in the liquid. The chemical analysis of organical substances is still in its infancy; in general, the discoveries of organic chemistry have not yet given advantageous results for the treatment of diseases. In the mean time, chemists will do well to look for, in the first potencies, the presence of metallic salts, really dissolved in the vehicle.

There is another question to resolve, whether, in the dynamization, the chemical effect ceases in consequence of the annihilation of certain conditions indispensable to its manifestation. Suffice it, that the preparations of the homœopathists are not without efficacy, that experience shows them to have indisputable effects.

To be continued.

ELEGANT EXTRACTS FROM THE LANCET.

"ALL Quackledom is in rumour and alarm. The globulists of the Continent meet in Prussia to rejoice over their gains; those of England propose to meet in London to beseech our pity for their sorrows and their losses. In their oppressed and benighted native land, they hold on their course boldly under the protection of kindred quackeries in other things, but still with a strange feeling of a day of reckoning to come. In England the hour of doom has already struck, and they have no other refuge but, like the associated rogues, to appeal to feelings they have never respected. Before we listen to their appeal for liberty of opinion, they must wipe away the stains of their scandalous detractions, and show us that they have a single principle which deserves a moment's pause for consideration, or a single well-established fact on which reliance can be placed.

"There seems to be a singular absurdity in these men seeking our confraternity, while they not only renounce and denounce our doctrines in public, but in the most malignant and scandalous manner revile us in private. Themselves alone could make us believe a thing so incredible and so disgraceful. But there is not a doubt of the fact; and instead of seeking a separate existence, as they would do if they placed any faith in their doctrines, and really sought their establishment with confidence in their truth; on the contrary, the more we repudiate them, the more they cling to us. They are plainly conscious that their respectability, such as it is, is only a reflected one. It is from us they derive what strength they have, even while they revile us. They denounce the science of medicine as false; we proclaim their doctrines and their pretended facts to be lies, and themselves, to use plain language, cheats. There can be no alliance which is not as unprofitable to us as it is dishonourable to them. For this reason we are determined it shall endure no longer; but for this very reason they cling to it the more, and on this account they are so much alarmed by the present movement, which annihilates them and their puerile pretences. They still, however, seek to perplex and confound the public, and for this purpose they set no limit to their

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baseness. They would be both Mussulmen and Christians. With the dust of the cathedral on their knees, they would worship in a mosque. Teaching implicit reliance on globules, they employ behind the scenes the most dangerous and wicked means. Some, like the surgeon whose dishonesty was lately exposed, lend themselves to the vacillating humour of the public, and employ all means, having faith in none, and being probably as destitute of knowledge as of honour. Others thrust dangerous weapons into the womb and pour globules into the stomach. While the Edinburgh professor is willing, like the Vicar of Bray, to teach anything that will keep him in his place, or suppress anything which will bring him into risk.

"An absurd patience led the rogues into a great mistake. We congratulate the profession on their alarm. Let them meet. Let the heathen rage. Let them tell us their numbers. We shall hardly be frigbtened. Let them tell us of what silken lords find leisure from rational pursuits to wheedle with homœopathy, mesmerism, and all the allied abominations. Let them tell us of what silly women take counsel with them; and above all, let them tell us of what doctors keep a false faith with us, and give them encouragement and advice. We are prepared for all these things, and will grapple with them without fear, even should we find Royal Highnesses and their medical advisers in the ranks of our enemies. They may be assured we shall go on to the end, nothing fearing and nothing doubting.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH, 1851.

THE manner in which public attention has become engrossed by the struggle existing between homœopathy and allopathy for supremacy, is a fact patent to all who have in the least studied the progress of medical science. Never before was so fierce a warfare waged as that which at present distinguishes the proceedings of our opponents, who one and all seem to consider that they are engaged in a special duty in attempting to annihilate us—that is, if they can. The wish is certainly in this case the father to the thought, but the futility of the endeavour will before long be fouud out.

The most aggravating part of the business to the allopaths is, that while the small and junior members of their body are rabidly assaulting us with the coarsest epithets the vocabulary of Billingsgate can produce, we, to our perfect satisfaction, are daily being made acquainted with the recognition of our principles by some of their brightest ornaments, who do not hesitate publicly to adopt them whenever it suits their convenience. This must be highly exasperating to the gentlemen who "write down" homœopathy in the allopathic press, and who have invariably asserted for the last twelve or eighteen months, that this "sham and delusion" was nearly worn out.

It is not necessary to advert to recent events to strengthen our position in this respect. The *Lancet* has ample opportunity to rake up those transactions, and well its *employés* effect this description of business. Ours is the more grateful task of recording the steady and increasing success of homœopathy, and the important addition making to our ranks, both of professional and lay members. The doctrines of Hahnemann are now sufficiently appreciated by the public, to induce them to test them, and not to cast aside those principles which have been eliminated for their benefit.

In days that are past, the bigoted and prejudiced disciples of the old school would have discovered the task they have undertaken one of less onerous a nature than it in reality appears. The march of intellect unfortunately has set in with too strong a tide to permit them the exercise as formerly of that unbounded control over liberty and conscience, which in a measure constituted their prerogative. They learn this to their sorrow, and are therefore proportionately disappointed.

But for us, the crusade is one of remarkable significance. It establishes our position; it secures at least an augmented auditory. The larger the number of inquirers, the greater our prospect of conversion. In this manner, and through similar auxiliary means, will the truth concerning homœopathy be spread through the length and breadth of the land, and when that shall have been accomplished, the result need scarcely be predicted.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN.

We have the gratification to announce that another Scotch University, the *third*, has *pronounced* against homœopathy: we say the gratification, because the sooner we know the extent of this persecution the better. We insert two letters from Dr. Fyfe, who has taken on himself to represent Aberdeen.

"THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN AND HOMŒOPATHIC GRADUATES.

"*To the Editor of the Lancet.*

"SIR,—Having seen the letters published in the *Lancet* of Saturday last, regarding the graduation of John Say Clarke, at the University of Aberdeen, I beg to inform you that, at the time of his examination, not the slightest suspicion was entertained of his being a homœopathic practitioner, otherwise the degree would not have been conferred on him. I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

"ANDREW FYFE, Professor of Medicine,
"University and King's College, Aberdeen.
"Aug. 26, 1851."

We give also the communication of an anonymous correspondent of the *Lancet*. Dr. Blank would have done better to have given his name.

"A GLOBULISTIC GRADUATE OF ABERDEEN.

"*To the Editor of the Lancet.*

"SIR,—On looking over the list of graduates of the University of Aberdeen for this year, I perceived the name of "John Say Clarke, Bombay." I immediately communicated to Dr. Fyfe, that that gentleman was a homœopathic practitioner, residing at Canonbury-park, Islington; that he had been practising homœopathically for three or four years, (the period I am now sure I understated,) and that if he referred to a leading article in your journal of April 26th last, he would there see the name among the list of the most notorious globulists. The accompanying is Dr. Fyfe's answer to my communication, from which you will perceive that John Say Clarke has practised a most gross piece of deception upon the University of Aberdeen; and for the benefit of the profession, as well as in vindication of that most worthy member of our profession, Dr. Fyfe, as standing foremost in the Medical Faculty of the University of Aberdeen, may I request the favour of you to insert a copy of the same in the next number of your valuable journal?

"I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
"August 25, 1851." "ANTI-GLOBULIST.

"[COPY.]

"August 29, 1851.

"MY DEAR SIR,—Absence from home has prevented me from receiving yours till this forenoon. I am vexed to hear of Clarke being a homœopathist. I recollect him well, and most undoubtedly he gave the examiners no reason to suppose that he belonged to that class, otherwise, most certainly, he should not have had the degree conferred on him. On my return to Aberdeen, I shall take the opinion of the senators on the subject.

"With many thanks for your attention,
"Believe me, yours truly,
"Dr. ——." "A. FYFE, M.D.

THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION.

THREE hundred men, under Leonidas, defended the Pass of Thermopylæ against the Persian host. Three hundred medical men, on the part of the allopathists, have come to the assault of freedom in therapeutics. At the Annual Congress of the homœopathists, sixty medical men were present: we think these sixty more than a match for those three hundred. The *Lancet* is hounding on the persecution against us: nor is the war-cry of that unscrupulous journalist without effect. The Medical Faculties of three out of the four Scotch Universities have been frightened into pronouncing against homœopathy.

1. An individual, Dr. DAY, without any meeting of the *Senatus* of his University, took on himself to denounce homœopathy and re-claim his diploma from Dr. HALE. We are inclined to believe that the heading of one of the examination papers, which has been called a trap for the homœopathists, was also the work of an individual, and put there without the sanction of the *Senatus Academicus* of St. Andrew's.

2. The Medical Faculty of Edinburgh has virtually acknowledged that Mr. POPE was "remitted," and refused his diploma, after he had passed a very satisfactory examination, merely because he was a homœopathist. We have every reason to believe that the *Senatus Academicus* of Edinburgh did not sanction that proceeding.

3. An individual, Dr. FYFE, without any meeting of the *Senatus Academicus* of his University, has taken on himself to pronounce that Aberdeen will withhold diplomas from homœopathists.

It remains to ascertain the intention of the remaining eleven medical corporations

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of these kingdoms. We hope that this spirit of exclusivism may not cross the Tweed. But there is no saying how many more of those corporations may be frightened by the *Lancet*. "It is a very pretty quarrel, as it stands," as Sir Lucius O'Trigger said: and the courage to do right and resist wrong may ooze out of these corporate bodies, as brute courage did out of the fingers of Bob Acres. But the sooner we know which of them are against us, the better.

We fear not the issue for our Cause. We have, by means of our adversaries, an immense publicity given to the progress of homœopathy. For this gratuitous service we are much indebted to them. We are further indebted to the hostile periodical press for the expression of rage and manifest apprehension of our continued progress which is exhibited. This cannot fail to do us good even with the profession. We insert, from the *Brighton Herald*, a communication which speaks for itself. We think there should be a homœopathic association, like that of Brighton, in every city and town where homœopathy is practised.

"THE CLAIMS OF HOMŒOPATHY.

"*To the Editor of the Brighton Herald.*

"SIR,—Our attention having been called to the proceedings of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, reported in your paper of last Saturday, we have noticed with surprise and regret the manner in which the medical gentlemen belonging to that Association have expressed their opinions regarding homœopathy and its practitioners.

"We were well aware that a violent paper war has been waged for a considerable time past by the doctors who practise in the more ordinary manner against those who have adopted the doctrines of that illustrious German, Dr. Samuel Hahnemann; so long, however, as this was confined to the pages of the medical periodicals, though we may have deeply lamented that men belonging to an honourable and liberal profession should have so demeaned themselves as to give utterance, or approval, to such foul and abusive articles as have for many weeks past appeared in the *Lancet*, we did not feel ourselves called upon to express in any public way our conviction of the utter falseness of the accusations brought against homœopathy, and we fully approved of the quiet and dignified demeanour of the practitioners of this system, the majority of whom took no notice whatever of the calumnies heaped upon them by their avowed enemies.

"The case is altogether different, however, when a large body of medical men, assembled for the purpose of promoting the interests and advancing the science of this profession, deliberately issue a manifesto, which is declared to have been adopted unanimously, wherein they state, 'That homœopathy, as propounded by Hahnemann and practised by his followers, is so utterly opposed to science and common sense, as well as so completely at variance with the experience of the medical profession, that it ought to be in no way or degree practised or countenanced by any regularly-educated medical practitioner;' that 'it is derogatory to the honour of the members of this Association to hold any kind of professional intercourse with homœopathic practitioners;' and wind up by declaring that, 'in proposing these resolutions,' 'they are actuated by a strong sense of the importance of the subject in its relation both to humanity and morals.' We repeat, Sir, that when such a document as this has been published, and great pains taken to circulate it as widely as possible, and when, in addition, a letter containing a most scurrilous and false view of homœopathy, by Dr. John Rose Cormack, has been left at the hotels and other places of this town, we, as the Acting Committee of the Homœopathic Dispensary, feel it our bounden duty to set the public of Brighton right on this most important subject, and to show to them that we and the thousands,—yea, millions,—who now trust their own health and that of all dear to them to the care of homœopathic practitioners are not guilty of such unheard-of folly as these self-appointed judges would have us believe.

"It is impossible for us, in the space of a letter, to enter at all minutely into the relations between homœopathy and the more ordinary system of medical practice; but enough can be said to disprove the declarations made by our opponents; and those who may desire further information will find it in such works as the following:—'Homœopathy, its Principles, Theory, and Practice,' by M. B. Sampson; 'Truths and their Reception, considered in relation to the Doctrine of Homœopathy;' 'Principles of Homœopathy,' by Dr. Joslin; 'A Brief Attempt to show the Truth and Value of Homœopathy,' by J. E. Norton, M.D.; 'Health, Disease, and Homœopathic Treatment rationally considered,' by J. S. Sutherland, M.D.; 'Homœopathy, together with some Remarks on Asiatic Cholera,' by Arthur Guinness, M.D.; 'An Introduction to the Study of Homœopathy,' by Drs. Russel and Drysdale, and numerous others, which contain a full history of the rise, progress, and present position of this most important and beneficent medical reform.

"Leaving, therefore, those who desiderate a more complete acquaintance with this science to find it in some of the above-named works and pamphlets, we proceed at once to deal with the accusations so recklessly dealt out against the homœopathic practitioners by the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, in council assembled.

"It will be observed that the first resolution

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declares 'That homœopathy, as propounded by Hahnemann and practised by his followers, is so utterly opposed to science and common sense, as well as so completely at variance with the experience of the medical profession, etc.;' and Dr. Cormack, in his letter, paraphrases this as follows:—'The homœopathic dogma has, as far as I can judge, no adequate basis to rest upon; and the doctrine of infinitesimal doses is immeasurably beyond the grasp of my intellect.' Now, this may be all very true as regards Dr. Cormack himself; but if we look into the history of medicine, we shall find that the homœopathic law (which means that *like cures like*) has been more or less acknowledged from the earliest antiquity, having been distinctly traced in the writings of men who lived prior to Hippocrates, and being announced directly in one of the reputed works of that great father of medicine. Never, however, until the time of Hahnemann, was it made the groundwork and fundamental law of medical practice, or proved to be applicable to all diseases and all remedies. Dr. Cormack, however, tells us that this law, or dogma, as he pleases to call it, has no adequate basis to rest upon. But now let us hear what a distinguished professor of the very College from which Dr. Cormack boasts of having received his degree, and who, be it remembered, has always been a most bitter opponent to homœopathic practice, says regarding this very law of healing which the learned doctor of Putney ignores. In the first resolution passed by the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh against homœopathy (and which resolutions are published in an Appendix to Dr. C.'s letter), it is stated: That the College 'did, several yeas ago, publicly express its opinion of homœopathy and homœopathic practitioners, by peremptorily declining to admit into its body a candidate for its Fellowship who belonged to that denomination,' etc.

"Now, we have been given to understand that, on the occasion referred to in the above resolution, Dr. Christison expressed himself in words to this effect:—'Besides this, it is a piece of unwarrantable presumption for these men to arrogate to themselves the title of homœopathists, seeing the homœopathic law is acknowledged and acted upon by us all.' Dr. Christison, of Edinburgh, therefore, it would appear, saw some more sufficient basis for this law than has yet been revealed to Dr. Cormack of Putney.

"But, to us non-professional men, the practice of medicine is of vastly more consequence than the theory, and, therefore, we will pass on to that which more immediately concerns ourselves, viz., the doses which we are condemned to swallow when visited by sore affliction. In one respect we often think the ordinary practitioners are more literally homœopathic in their practice than the avowed followers of Hahnemann, for, while the latter give mild, gentle, and tasteless remedies for almost every disease, the gentlemen of the larger doses find it necessary to follow the rule—the more painful the disease, so much the more painful must be the treatment; the more violent the disease, the more violent must be the remedy; and in fatal cases we have often heard it lamented that the patients had become so exhausted by the disease as to be unable to bear the severe treatment necessary for their restoration.

"Now, however beautiful this may be in theory, we confess that we shrink from its practical application, and we must say that we should regard any discovery as a great boon which held out the promise of effecting a cure without all the additional distress of bleeding, blistering, purging, and the like. We had always understood that the question of the proper dose was one which could only be settled by direct experiment, and one would think, arguing *à priori*, that, since all medicines are poisons, the less the dose was the better, provided it effected the desired result. But no! we non-professional men have, it appears, made a sad blunder here. Hahnemann and his followers have been dinning it into the ears of the profession for the last fifty-five years, that medicines will act beneficially, *if properly selected according to the homœopathic law*, in doses too small to be capable of doing any injury to the health, and, in the majority of instances, so small as to be without taste or smell; but will it be credited, Sir, when we tell you that, in spite of all the pains these homœopathic gentlemen have taken to persuade medical men to examine into the truth of this statement, in the only possible way of doing so, namely, by giving the medicines or watching their effects when administered by others, the body of the profession have contented themselves by pooh-poohing the whole affair, and declaring, without the smallest experimental proof, that it is all nonsense and falsehood.

"But this is not all. If the whole question involved was one of the size of a dose; if the whole matter at issue was whether we should swallow a spoonful of what to our taste differs nothing from cold water, or should gulp down a nasty black decoction, whose very odour we are fain to avoid by grasping our noses with finger and thumb; if, to touch a more tender string, we had merely to decide whether a globule should be dropped between the lips of our restlessly slumbering infant, or whether, armed with the fell medicine-spoon, we should drench the poor child, heedless alike of its screams and struggles; if, we repeat, it were a mere question of dose, we might possibly submit and, rather than change 'our family friend,' consign ourselves, with some show of patience, to the torture of being cured. But, if we look a little further, we find it by no means limited to the matter of doses; for, if we examine the results of the two methods of treatment, we shall find that we have a much better chance of getting cured by the homœopathic doses than by the large and nauseous drugs of the self-styled orthodox practitioners; for, on referring to the 'Introduction to the Study of Homœopathy,' formerly mentioned, we find a statistical comparison of the results obtained in hospital practice by these two methods of treatment, from which it appears that in inflammation of

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the substance of the lungs (pneumonia), of those treated homœopathically about 1 in 15 died; whereas, when the same disease was treated in the more usual way, about 1 of every four cases terminated fatally. In inflammation of the covering of the lungs (pleurisy), as treated in the Edinburgh Infirmary, about every eighth case proved fatal, whereas in the same disease, treated homœopathically, only 3 out of 224 died. In inflammation of the bowels, treated in the ordinary way, 6 out of 21 cases died; while of 105 cases treated homœopathically, only three terminated fatally. Lastly, in the frightful scourge, the Asiatic cholera, it was found that while two-thirds died when treated in the ordinary way, two-thirds of those to whom homœopathic remedies were given recovered. Indeed, it was the satisfactory results of the treatment of this dire malady which led the Austrian Government to establish a homœopathic hospital in Vienna.

"But you will naturally ask, is it possible that men of a liberal and enlightened profession can hear these results and yet take no pains to ascertain their truth? To which question we can only reply, read the work entitled 'Truths and their Reception,' and you will find that analogous inexplicable facts have occurred in the history of every great truth given to mankind.

"Now, what we complain of,—and we think justly,—is, that these worthy doctors, who talk so loudly against homœopathy, and characterise it as 'utterly opposed to science and to common sense,' have never yet taken the only possible way of setting the question at rest, viz., by a calm dispassionate experimental examination of its claims. Of a truth, a goodly number of individual practitioners have fairly tested its merits; but the result has so invariably been that they have come over to the side of homœopathy, that we cannot help surmising that the great reason why the majority resist all their entreaties to try the system, is a secret fear that, by so doing, they should commit themselves.

"But you will remind us here that Dr. Malden, of Worcester, told you the other day, in his speech at the Pavilion, that 'When truth in this (the medical) art was discovered, it was criminal to conceal it—it belonged to the profession—it belonged to all mankind;' in which sentiment we perfectly agree with him, and would ask the learned doctor wherein lies the practical difference between concealing a truth one does know, and refusing to examine a new truth, declared to be of great value? But Dr. Malden goes on to state it is 'neither rational nor honest for medical men, like the homœopathists, to have secrets.' Now, this is a total misrepresentation. We do not believe the homœopathists have any secrets. On the contrary, they are perpetually courting inquiry. In almost every town where there is a homœopathic practitioner, there is a Dispensary, at which any medical man who chooses may attend and examine for himself; and in London and Manchester there are large hospitals, where the whole practical bearings of the system may be scrutinized. It is too bad, therefore, to speak of secrets and to hint at mysteries which have no existence save in the minds of those who will not take a fair and manly view of the case.

"We cannot help referring here to some remarks by Dr. Chas. Ransford, of York, who has recently adopted homœopathy, after being a violent and active opponent of the system for many years, which remarks were published last month in the 'British Journal of Homœopathy.' It appears that Dr. Ransford was for many years the highly esteemed and respected treasurer of the Royal College of Physicians, of Edinburgh, and, on the occasion of his leaving Scotland, two or three years ago, a piece of plate was presented to him by his colleagues. You may imagine, therefore, that they are not a little annoyed to find that their former treasurer has now become an avowed homœopathist from conviction, and has, moreover, published not only his reasons for becoming one, but has openly confessed the unfair and bigoted way in which he himself and his former colleagues wilfully shut their eyes against conviction.

"Dr. Cormack, in his letter already mentioned, has the rashness to state that 'the worse part of homœopathy is the DISHONESTY of the majority of those who live by it. When patients are once secured, they are, I think, very rarely treated in accordance with the principles of Hahnemann;' and further on he declares—'I have not been able to hear of any practitioner who honestly relies on homœopathy for the cure of diseases.'

"Now, Sir, if we answered Dr. Cormack in the way he deserves, we should make use of very strong language; but we forbear. We, however, can confidently declare that we ourselves know several honest homœopathists,—men who both believe and practise according to the principles of Hahnemann, and men whose characters will bear the closest scrutiny and investigation, who have adopted homœopathy solely because they believe it to be true, and who would be among the very first to lay it aside were it proved to be no longer worthy of their confidence. But hear what Dr. Charles Ransford says on the subject:—'Still with all the apparent difficulties and absurdities (as we styled their doctrines), our patients resorted to these heretical practitioners—and generally assured us, to our ill-concealed mortification, that they received benefit at their hands. Notwithstanding our prognostications of the ephemeral nature of the system, it continued to increase in favour, and its disciples were to be found amongst the most intellectual and calm-thinking members of society. We said to one another, "What do these men give their patients?" One physician informed the writer that tartarized antimony, in small doses, would act as a sufficient aperient; and doubtless that this was the preparation exhibited for the purpose in cases of constipated bowels. Ashamed is the author to confess that he and others, utterly ignorant of the subject, and refusing to inform themselves by actual experience, not merely suspected, but asserted, that men of unimpeachable integrity gave ordinary drugs, under

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a feigned name, for the purpose of producing certain effects; without trying the effects of remedies upon this (the homœopathic) principle, we publicly declared the entire band of homœopathic practitioners as unworthy of our society. By these acts we virtually, if not really, asserted that they were banded together to propagate a delusion and a fraud. What a proof this was of our own extreme credulity! and of the "characteristic obstinacy of the medical profession."'

"Dr. Cormack, however, goes still further, and gives an example in which a so-called homœopathic practitioner actually gave large doses of aloes as an aperient. All we can say is, that if this was actually the case, the person so acting did not deserve the name of homœopathist and would have been denounced by his brethren. But Dr. C. must forgive us if we doubt his statement; for the fact is that, week after week, for a long time past, the *Lancet* has been giving similar cases, *most of which we have been able to trace, and found to be so gross a tissue of misrepresentations*, that we are becoming very chary of believing the reports of so-called homœopathic cases which appear in the publications of the avowed enemies of this system.

"We must, however, hasten to conclude this letter. The case is simply this:—For the last twenty years there has been a rapidly-increasing number of well-educated medical men in this country, amounting to at least 160, who have conscientiously declared that, after careful investigation of the doctrine and practice of homœopathy, they have found it to be a safer, milder, and more certain mode of curing diseases than that more usually practised; and have avowed their intention to employ it themselves and endeavour to extend its benefits to their suffering fellow-creatures. These men have, moreover, published all the particulars of this method of practice, and have urged their medical brethren to examine carefully into its merits; while, on the other hand, the medical profession have never ceased to abuse and vilify these their former colleagues, changing their ground of accusation from time to time, but ever striving, though in vain, to oppose their progress; at one time declaring their medicines to contain nothing at all; at another, denouncing them as the concentrated essence of the most deadly poisons; at one time they asserted that the so-called cures performed by homœopathists were nothing more than natural recoveries, and then, again, finding they had burnt their own fingers by confessing too much, and acknowledging that persons got on best when left alone, they shifted their ground, and accused the homœopathists of dishonestly professing to give small doses, but, in reality, administering large ones; as if we could not distinguish between tasteless remedies and a lump of aloes. Thus, we repeat, while the homœopathists have cautiously pursued their course of doing good, and invited others to join them in their beneficent art, the medical men of the old school have scorned the offer to examine into the merits of their cause, and contented themselves with dogmatically denying their assertions and belying their characters. They have never fairly tested the practice, nor have they brought forward any single well-founded arguments against its theory. In this state of matters, it is rather too much to expect that free-born Englishmen, who have learned to think for themselves, should quietly submit to be drilled into swallowing blue pills and black draughts, *et hoc genus omne*, when experience has told them they can get on better without them. And, for ourselves, we can only say that, as long as we find the practical result satisfactory, we shall abide by it, and so long as we find that numbers of the poor flock to our Dispensary (between 3,000 and 4,000 since the opening of the Institution), the majority of whom have tried in vain to find relief at the other medical charities of this town; and so long as these suffering creatures pour their grateful thanks into our ears for the benefit received from the treatment pursued by our medical officers, we shall boldly advocate the claims of our Dispensary, and use our best endeavours to disseminate the knowledge of homœopathy among our friends and neighbours.

We remain, Sir,
Your obedient servants,
JOHN FAWCETT,
ARTHUR H. HULL,
J. SULLIVAN,
JOHN MALLETT,
JOHN COLLINGWOOD,
HENRY JAMES, Hon. Sec.,
Acting Committee of the Brighton Homœopathic Association.
August 21st, 1851."

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—It is very amusing to witness the grotesque antics of the *Lancet*, in its Quixotic attempts to put down homœopathy. If "laugh and grow fat" be practically correct, we shall certainly be indebted to even the *Lancet* for a considerable quantity of "Nature's own padding." We confess to it, that we have lately derived both amusement and gratification from his weekly exhibition of zeal for the good old days of the "lancet" and the blister; but we have derived more than usual fun from a late number. In that number this modern Quixote has bestowed even more attention than usual on the subject which troubles him so much—to wit, homœopathy. He has "whacked" it in every "leading article" in the number; he has kicked it in the review, and marshalled his army of "correspondents" against it. He did not forget to give it such thrusts as the opportunity afforded in his "answers to correspondents;" and in the same number declares it a "*mere waste of time to notice the sophistical fancies of homœopathists.*" Not at all, Mister *Lancet:* it does good in many ways. For one thing, it affords great amusement to the homœopaths, and thus

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helps their digestion; for another, it helps on their Cause, by setting unprejudiced people a thinking. We would not have you stop your abuse on any account, so long as you are "the lancet." No; the office of the "lancet" is to cut, and we sincerely hope it will cut until it cuts for the last time, and then is closed—closed only to be opened many years hence, when some future Sampson wishes to illustrate the history of "Truths and their Reception."

But our *Lancet* friend has his lucid periods at times, as one extract will show. He says in a leading article in the number referred to, in giving advice as to the best mode of putting down this "futile" system, which he had declared it a "mere waste of time to notice:"—"LET THERE BE NO ANGER, NO ABUSE; LET ALL BE CALM AND TEMPERATE AS BECOMES A GREAT PROFESSION." Excellent! Let us quote some few samples from the same number of the *Lancet*, to illustrate his unique ideas of "no anger, no abuse; let all be calm and temperate." Within the compass of six pages he designates the obnoxious doctrine as "absurd," "heretical," "futile," "sophistical fancies," "imposture," "vile and wicked imposture," "quackery," "fashionable quackery," "pestilent quackery," "worst form of quackery," "sham," "a wicked system of humbug and imposture," "alike repugnant to honour, honesty, and truth." This is pretty well for a beginning of the illustrations of what he means by "let there be no anger, no abuse; let all be calm and temperate." Within the same compass he designates the practitioners of the system,—"quacks," "homœopathic quacks," "globulistic quacks," "pestilent quacks," "violators of their college oath," "wanderers from the paths of science," "panderers to the popular delusions of the day," "deluders of the public," "disgrace to the college," "shams," "treasonable and bad," "homœopathic fools," "foreign impostors," "swell mobs," "rogues," and "traitors." This also is not amiss from one whose advice is "let there be no anger, no abuse; let all be calm and temperate as becomes a great profession." There is a proverb in Lancashire, "Where there's least room there's most thrutchin" (pressure).

The number of the *Lancet* referred to is for August 9th.

A LOOKER-ON.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In the course of my reading last night, the following thought occurred to me. I do not send it on account of its intrinsic merit, but to induce others to send their single, isolated thoughts to you, that thus the *Homœopathic Times* may become a kind of armoury, from which future writers may derive valuable materials for the defence of homœopathy.

I am persuaded that very many thoughts on very many subjects are entirely lost to the world, from the non-existence of a register for isolated thoughts. Few persons can be deeply interested in any subject, without having original and valuable thoughts occasionally suggested to their minds in relation to it. Of such individuals, some have not the time to elaborate their thoughts into a letter, whilst others are deterred, by the idea of the implied importance of addressing a letter to the Editor of a periodical: the consequence of which is, the loss to the community of much that is original and useful. As a remedy for the evil, permit me to suggest the policy of your opening a column for "Thoughts," and inviting the homœopathic world to send such as occur to them, how crude soever they may be—not, of course, pledging yourself to insert *all* that are sent, but only such as you may deem worthy of preservation. For some weeks, perhaps, you will receive very few; but I cannot doubt, that when once the plan becomes extensively known, you will obtain many very valuable thoughts well worth the space devoted to their registration.

But it is time that I came to my Night-thought. Mankind is very apt to consider that there must be some very complex cause for every apparently complex effect: hence the fluid medium and vortices of Descartes were much more satisfactory to the minds even of philosophers than the simple law of gravitation propounded by Newton; and it took much argument to convince the scientific world of the truth of "the Newtonian theory." Should it, then, be a matter of surprise, that the complex systems of allopathy with its fluid medium (draughts, etc.), making a vortex of the stomach, should be so acceptable to the multitude, and that it should require much argument to convince the world of the truth of Hahnemann's simple law of healing, and of the power of infinitesimal doses?

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

F. J. SMITH.

Oak Lodge, Highgate,
Aug. 30, 1851.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

34, South Castle Street,
Edinburgh, Aug. 25, 1851.

SIR,—In the history of homœopathy there never was a time when it was more incumbent upon those connected with it to avoid anything which might serve as a handle to our opponents than the present. I am led to this remark by the observations of Dr. Rosenstein on "Allopathic and Homœopathic Quackery," which appeared in your last number. He asks, "What right have chemists to prescribe?" As one of that body, I unhesitatingly reply, none. The avocation of a homœopathic chemist is a respectable, though laborious one, but that respectability will be materially injured if he travel beyond the legitimate sphere as a *chemist*, by taking upon himself duties belonging only to the medical practitioner, who has spent many valuable years in the acquisition of the knowledge required to perform what the chemist, with his limited knowledge of such subjects, endeavours to do. It is not a question of taking a fee from the pocket of the medical man, but it is an important one to the Cause. The chemist will find, that to keep up with the progress of dis-

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covery in the boundless field of chemical science, which the public has a right to expect from him, will leave him little leisure time to acquaint himself with "anatomy, pathology, physiology, etc." Besides, the combination of the two is unjust to the pure chemist and the physician, to say nothing of their incompatibility. If the allopathic chemist is regarded unfit for his profession without an acquaintance with chemistry, how much more is a knowledge of it required by the homœopathic chemist, the delicacy of some of whose manipulations is as great as is required in a laboratory of research. The chemist may do much to disseminate the truths of homœopathy, but I do entreat all who make a practice of prescribing, to at once discontinue or follow the honourable and legitimate course, by protecting themselves with a diploma, and then turn their attention *solely* to the healing of the sick.

Trusting that my brethren perceive the subject in the same light as myself, and apologizing for this encroachment on your space,

I remain, your obedient servant,

JAMES BROWN.

Miscellaneous.

CHESTER HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.—(Cases, to be instructive, should record failures as well as cures.) *Case.*—The following case details the consequences of large doses of *Mercury*, given as it would appear, most wantonly, the patient only labouring under a common cold at the time. It also illustrates the power which *Aurum* possesses to antidote the poisonous effects of *Mercury*; lastly, it exemplifies a well-known peculiarity of *Rhus*, the power to cure all kinds of symptoms which are worse *when lying down*. In reference to this peculiar power of *Rhus*, the writer remembers a case, treated by Dr. Chapman, which showed it forcibly. A medical man, had suffered from pain in the spine at the small of the back, for some years; he had been treated by many eminent allopathic practitioners, and had undergone an immense variety of both external and internal treatment, not only without benefit, but every day growing worse. The singular feature of his case was, that when lying down, he had incessant pain in the spine, which abated when he stood erect; so invariable was this rule, that on one occasion, when he had to travel a long distance by coach, he was compelled to stand during the whole journey. *Rhus* was prescribed, and before it, this and most of his other symptoms vanished, his health became in a little time comparatively restored, and he resumed his practice—this time to practise homœopathy. Some time afterwards he was seized with another illness, which proved fatal. His medical attendant, anxious to know the state of the old disease of the spine, had it examined, and found complete decay of two or three of the lumbar vertebræ. But what was thought remarkable, a new shell of bone had grown around the carious parts, and, judging by its quantity and appearance, its commencement might be dated from the time the *Rhus* had produced a favourable change in the disease, and which is also remarkable, with the interior of the bones decayed away, this shell of bone did the duty of perfect vertebræ for several months, during which the patient, considering himself quite convalescent, followed the laborious duties of the medical profession.

Case.—Henry Dutton, æt, 25, was under medical advice, took *Mercury* to salivation for a common cold, and again took cold when recovering from the effects of the *Mercury*, and thus occasioned his present illness. He complains of a violent pain, shooting in the fore and back part of the head, down the face and into the teeth; he has also pain in the loins, and is so weak and nervous, that at times he cannot speak to any one. His appetite is variable; he has dysuria, and urine of a deep brown colour, both of which came on when taking the *Mercury*. The pains are most decidedly *worse at night*, and so much *increased by lying down*, that he is compelled to walk about most of the night. Prescribed *Aurum* 3, one pilule thrice a day. April 21st. Better in spirits; had better nights, and is generally improved. Continue *Aurum*. May 19th. Has had no pain for a fortnight; sleeps well; is not nearly so nervous, but there is a little lightness or giddiness in the head occasionally. Continue *Aurum*. 23rd. On the 20th, the pain in the back of the head suddenly returned, with sickness, vomiting, faintings, and a drunken feeling. These sensations are much worse when lying down, so much so, that he dare not lie down for more than a few minutes at a time. The last two nights he has passed entirely without sleep. He has profuse perspirations during the night. He has no appetite, but great thirst. Ordered *Rhus* 3, a pilule every three hours. 24th. Feels a little better; could lie down a little last night. 29th. Lies down and sleeps pretty well now; is less nervous than he has been for a long time. Continue *Rhus*. He did not again return to the dispensary, and judging by the great improvement at his last visit, is considered to have been cured.

BENEFICIAL EFFECTS OF INDUSTRY.—A spirit of industry, when once it has been excited in the common forms of education, may be transferred to objects of more exalted dignity, and more extensive utility. It qualifies men for the highest and for the lowest employments. It gives perseverance to the workman, and firmness to the statesman. It opens a broader field for the display of every talent, and inspires us with new vigour in the performance of every social and religious duty.—*Family Friend.*

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

THE VITAL PRINCIPLE, OR VIS MEDICATRIX NATURÆ.

By Dr. Strong.

In a former "Study," printed in No. 96 of the *Homœopathic Times*, an imperfect attempt was made to ascertain how far Hahnemann's theory of chronic diseases, commonly known as the psora theory, was consistent with acknowledged pathological truths. To what extent the dim shining of a student's lamp may illuminate an obscure or even mysterious subject, others may best judge. One result to the writer of that investigation, was a profound conviction of the vast powers of Hahnemann's genius, of his learned research and diligent sifting of facts. A commendation not intended to be bestowed here on his very careful and original provings of remedies upon the healthy (though his *Materia Medica Pura* alone were enough to found the fame and immortalize the memory of any one man), but particularly on the cases and opinions he has selected from various literary and medical authorities of ages, languages, and schools, far apart from his own; and on his still more wonderful capabilities of generalization and abstraction. His invaluable writings, it is almost superfluous to remark, are rendered distasteful to the reader by an aggressive acrimonious tone, and a lamentable bitterness of feeling continually recurring, which, however pardonable in an ill-used genius, far in advance of his age, are not the less repugnant even to his admiring followers. But besides the colouring just alluded to, they will never, from their compressed style and German inversions, become popular with us; be it said without the slightest disrespect to their present English dress. The Organon especially reminds one too much of the insufferable sentences and unreadable pages of John Hunter; but notwithstanding, to the apprehensive mind this remarkable book abounds in

> "Thoughts too deep to be expressed,
> And too strong to be suppressed."*

Section XV of the Organon may be cited as exhibiting a fair sample of a Hahnemannian sentence, wherein the violent contortions of a mighty thought, struggling with incapable language, end in a sort of dishonourable and most unattractive compromise.

"§ XV. The affection of the morbidly deranged, spiritual dynamis (vital force) that animates our body, in the invisible interior, and the sum total of the outwardly cognisable symptoms produced by it in the organism, and representing the existing malady, constitute a whole; they are one and the same."

Much resembling Cuvier, an admirable faculty of observation and of discrimination, early developed in the German student, laid a sure foundation for the grand generalizations in his various writings, which, when we first come upon them, like the sudden burst of a noble landscape, almost seem to take away the breath of the traveller. The development of such minds is uniform. "Particular matters of fact," says one of our soundest writers, "are the undoubted foundations on which our civil and natural knowledge is built; the benefit the understanding makes of them is to draw from them conclusions, which may be as standing rules of knowledge, and consequently of practice."* Tracing up some of the chief medical "conclusions" of his day, to the "particular matters of fact" on which they rested, Hahnemann soon detected the illogical nature of several of them, and in their stead he has, with oracular acumen, attempted to substitute a set of conclusions, which prejudice and bigotry alone, to this day, have hindered the world from either receiving or examining. The masterly views which he was thus led to take, fairly amount to a revolution in medical doctrine as well as in practice. They may be stated as under.

Disease is produced by none other than a morbid affection of the vital force, or principle.

The importance of an exact study of symptoms.

The *specific* action of the articles of the Materia Medica.

The proving of remedies upon the healthy body.

* Geo. Withers.

* Locke, Conduct of Understanding, sec. xiii.

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Minute or subtilized doses.
The repetition and sequence of remedies.
A judicious dietary.
The doctrine of chronic diseases.
The Homœopathic Law.

Such are the chief heads of the Hahnemannian doctrines, and they constitute a very wide series of subjects, which the medical student must make himself master of, in addition to his ordinary routine education, before he can become a competent homœopathic practitioner.

As utilitarian and experimental as the age can desire, these doctrines are raising a clear and commanding voice; already they have silenced the vulgar clamour of the populace, and enlisted in their favour the aristocratic element of the nation, while backed by numbers, they knock even now at the grey and moss-grown portals of the ancient Æsculapian halls and temples. But to return: to appreciate properly the full value and scope of an axiomatic doctrine enunciated by a great mind—the secret corollary perhaps of unrecorded impressions, observations, and facts—we may often advantageously reverse the constructive mental process, descending from the rule to the example, from generalities to the particular. The text that suggests the present train of analytical considerations is the following very important one from the twelfth section of the Organon: "IT IS THE MORBIDLY-AFFECTED VITAL FORCE ALONE THAT PRODUCES DISEASES."

More than probable is it that none of those theories dignified even with the title of *first laws*, such as the attraction of matter, gravitation, the *vis inertiæ*, etc., are really exact expressions of those commands by which the Creation of this world is ordered, although they may very well be the expressions of facts in nature. Just so the *vis insita*, vital force, or the breath of life, is a conventional mode, coeval with the origin of man himself, of expressing that of which we witness only the effect. Nor need any one captiously object that this "*spiritual dynamis*" is not a "particular matter of fact;" for the human mind appears to be so constituted, that though continually led into the grossest errors or most absurd delusions by its habit of theorising, yet it actually is incapable of turning its observations to any profitable account without a theory (good or bad) to connect and arrange these by.

The physiologists dwell but little upon the subject, or give it a colouring of their own. Thus Richerand: "Peu de gens aujourd'hui contestent l'existence d'un principe de vie, qui soumet les êtres qui en jouissent à un ordre de lois différentes de celles auxquelles obéissent les êtres inanimés, force à laquelle on pourrait assigner, comme principaux caractères, de soustraire les corps qu'elle anime à l'empire absolu des affinités chimiques, auxquelles ils auraient tant de tendance à céder, en vertu de la multiplicité de leurs éléments, et de maintenir leur température à un degré presque égal, quelle que soit d'ailleurs celle de l'atmosphére * * * L'hypothése du principe vital est à la physique des corps animés ce qu'est l'attraction à l'astronomie —mais il faut de ne prendre ce terme qu'au sens métaphorique et figuré." (Nouveaux Elémens. Ed. 1833.)

Dr. Carpenter, quite towards the close of his elaborate work (page 631), remarks: "The progress of research obviously leads to the conclusion, that in every part of the living body there is an inherent and independent vitality, which enables it to grow and maintain its normal structure and constitution, so long as it is supplied with the requisite materials; and that changes in the character of the tissue can be referred to nothing else than to alterations in its properties, resulting from external agencies, or to alterations in the materials supplied for its renewal."

So much, by way of apology, for this postulate—"*vital force*."

Like Stahl and Boerhaave, or indeed all other physicians, Hahnemann found that he could not teach, or perhaps scarcely practise, his new system of remedies without proposing a plausible theory of disease. He had discovered, by the infallible process of experimentation, a set of agents which seemed to apply themselves to the finer parts of our organization—agents which, destitute of taste or odour, and which from their extreme attenuation equally escaped the senses of sight and touch, yet produced each its specific effect, not only on the senses and sentient parts of the frame, but upon bone and muscle, upon the secretions, the excretions, and every living laboratory, whether of the body or of the mind. These agents, so fabulously minute as to defy measure or weight, and almost to baffle calculation, seemed most to resemble malaria or contagious effluvia, or even the yet more subtle powers of galvanism and mesmerism. The similarity indeed was close and obvious. But when, turning from his experiments or provings, as he called them, with these agents upon healthy persons, he applied them to individuals who were the subjects of disease, and discovered that these medicaments possessed marvellous controlling powers, each according to its "hidden virtue," he was compelled to protest against the coarser doc-

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trines of the older schools—against the mechanical "*error loci* of the blood-globules" as a theoretical cause of disease; and equally against "spasm of the blood-vessels," "crudities of the humours," "or phlogiston," the *plurima mortis imago* of a bygone age. Still less could he recognise "depraved secretions," or "pathological lesions," as *causes* of disease, when these very conditions frequently appeared as the sequelæ of the provings he had instituted. For if he could produce such-like morbid symptoms artificially at pleasure, by means of his new medicaments, it was quite probable, and indeed almost certain, that thence could not be the true starting-point of natural diseases, but that he must ascend a step higher in the chain of causation.

In such a dilemma, we may fairly picture to ourselves Hahnemann pondering over this abstruse subject, and passing in review the various conjectures and hypotheses that ancient learning, still older tradition, or modern experiments, offered for its solution. What then, he must have asked, is this internal principle,—this wonderful and ever-active power, which, in some sort or other, equally pervades animals and vegetables—this fleeting and evanescent energy, which, unseen by the eye, untracked by the understanding, is only known, like its great Author, by its effects? Can life, as some have imagined, be the result of a general harmony or consent of action between the different organs of which the vital frame consists? His experience of disease negatived the crude supposition.

Can the principle of life be inherent in the blood, or possibly, as hinted in the Mosaic writings, can the blood itself be regarded as the principle of life? An expression used by Homer, *πορφυρεος θανατος*, or *purple death*, shows that this idea was entertained by the Greeks. In this country, the name of John Hunter is immortalized by his experiments upon the blood; and yet more recently, Majendie, an eminent physiologist of Paris, has searched the sanguine element, and tested its alterations experimentally *usque ad nauseam*, without, however, arriving at any definite conclusion.

Some have imagined that the vital principle was an exquisitely subtle gas or *laura*; by turns assumed to be identical with caloric, with oxygen, then with galvanism,* or mesmerism: and at this notion of a vivifying essence, the speculations of our great Master seem to have arrested their career.

Now, though we may suppose that Hahnemann followed some such train of reasoning as his experiments above alluded to would of themselves suggest, there were not wanting meanwhile pathologists of a far different school, who, taking another pathway, yet arrived at the self-same conclusion. Among them is our very learned and judicious friend, Dr. Copland; nor can we think of omitting here so flattering a testimony as the following, from an author who, having no theory of his own to serve, has so unconsciously contributed to the confirmation of that which is now under our consideration.

"*Ætiology.*—Although the various textures and organs of the body display the fixed combinations of mechanism, and the most beautiful principles of action presented by the physical world, yet they are entirely under the dominion of life, by which only they are actuated, and on which they entirely depend for the functions they present. It is not upon the textures or organs themselves that the causes of disease generally make their first impression; and even when they are brought in immediate relation to a particular organ or structure of the body, we have no evidence to furnish that they derange those parts by primarily affecting the machinery of which they are composed; but, on the contrary, from the gradual manner in which derangement is produced, from the nature and effects of the disorder which follows, and numerous other considerations, it may be inferred that they make their first impression upon the vital endowment of the organ, disordering the functions which it performs under the dominion of life. * * * * With few exceptions, the causes of disease *first* modify the manifestations of *life* in some one or more of the systems and organs with which it is allied. * * * From this and what has been already stated, it will appear that a great proportion—nay all—of those disorders of internal parts, which have been viewed as *intrinsic* predisposing and exciting causes of disease, are in truth pathological conditions or existing states of disease, induced by some one or more of the causes specified above, and ready to produce further disease, or to lead on to a salutary change, according as the existing state of vital power or resistance, and the influences or agents acting on it, may determine the procession of phenomena, or incline the balance."*

The most unequivocal language is here employed; but if imagery can assist to set the idea of Hahnemann in a more clear light before some of our readers, we will

* Billing, Principles of Med. *passim.*

* Dict. of Practical Medicine.

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venture to adorn our argument with a highly poetical passage from "Paradise Lost." It is where Satan (an incorporeal being, like the "Spiritual Dynamis") receives a wound from the weapon of Michael the Archangel; and the trope in this new sense is sustained admirably, even to the armour or outward covering being disordered from the gash inflicted with an invisible steel:—

——"Then Satan first knew pain,
And writhed him to and fro convolved; so sore
The griding sword with discontinuous wound
Pass'd through him: But the etherial substance
Not long divisible; and from the gash [closed,
A stream of nectarous humour issuing flow'd
Sanguine, such as celestial spirits may bleed,
And all his armour stain'd, erewhile so bright."
BOOK vi.

A philosopher asserts a new doctrine, and adduces in its support very original and peculiar experiments; these consist in the provings of drugs upon the healthy subject, and the administration of them to the sick. Yet in his day, and ever since, the materialists of the widely-spread school of Broussais have not hesitated recklessly to assert the contrary: for instance, to ascribe many and various kinds of fever to an affection of the glands of Peyer;* and the very favourable reception accorded to this clumsy and ill-concealed sophism offers a striking illustration, by the way, of the gregarious tendencies and weaknesses of the human mind, amongst even a well-educated and, here and there, highly-lettered class of society. In direct antagonism, therefore, to Broussais and his eminent and richly-endowed followers, and some gifted countrymen of our own, stands the dogma of Hahnemann, "IT IS THE MORBIDLY-AFFECTED VITAL FORCE ALONE THAT PRODUCES DISEASES."

When, in order to cover the effects of your own obstinacy, which caused you to miss the train, you treat your daughter to a view of the electric telegraph—or when you forward to your astonished wife a smart red morocco case, containing your photograph, by Kilburn or Beard—when, I say, you are guilty of these base subterfuges, you tacitly recognise the existence and full activity of agents of that class called *immaterial*. The older chemists reckoned three of these—light, heat, and electricity, in addition to the sixty or seventy simple bodies constituting our globe. Modern research has added to the number, galvanism, magnetism, chemical affinity, and odyle; nor can we, without injustice, exclude vitality from this list of "imponderables." In an age, then, signalised by the discovery and skilful adaptation to man's use of the mysterious powers above named, why should materialism be more rife among physicians than amongst other classes? Why should Dr. Billing be counted almost heterodox for maintaining that most diseases invade primarily the nervous energy? Are the professors of morbid anatomy the chief disseminators of so strange a belief, through an overweening conceit of the importance of their labours?

The late Dr. Abercrombie, of Edinburgh, was a striking example of the materialist school. Throughout his valuable "Researches into the Diseases of the Brain and Spinal Cord," he seems to have applied all his energies to one point—the discovery of a connection between the morbid appearances in the encephalon and the symptoms during life. One interesting series of cases is headed thus: "Apoplexy *without* any morbid appearance, or simple apoplexy." And the section on serous apoplexy concludes thus: "It is probable that the affection which has been called serous apoplexy is to be considered as simple apoplexy, terminating by effusion." Here, then, between serous and simple, between deaths and recoveries, is a pretty large group, amounting probably to one-half of all the cases of apoplexy that occur in practice, *distinguished* by an absence of morbid appearances; and yet the writer continues a materialist!! On the topic of paralysis, he writes thus: "In the general pathology of paralysis there is much obscurity. We find it connected with a great variety of morbid conditions of the brain, and on the other hand, we find all these existing without producing it. We cannot attempt to explain these difficulties, and must content ourselves with a simple view of the facts as they stand, in the present state of our knowledge." Did it never occur to this acute thinker to question the doctrine he was supporting, viz., that paralysis invariably depends upon some organic change of structure; or was he too timid to avow openly the conclusion to which his own facts and observations so markedly led him?

A few words now as to the importance of establishing a sound theory of disease. The old practitioner troubles himself very little about the abstract principle of vitality. When he has relieved one of the symptoms, we will suppose pain, by blood-letting, he trusts to the *vis medicatrix naturæ*, a deity who presides over diseases only, to step forward and remove the others. If he can produce a good night by means of

* Vide a recent work of the eminent pathologist, M. Louis, of Paris, on Adynamic and Ataxic Fevers, etc.

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opiates, the goddess, it is to be hoped, will again prove propitious: and thus day by day, one or two of the most prominent symptoms are combated, leaving poor Nature to deal with the remainder. What is all this but a practical acknowledgment, a partial recognition, of a vital principle in difficulties? Symptoms may be compared to the evidence brought forward in a court of justice: the most trifling incident is sifted, and the whole is connectedly laid before the jury. Nor is the trial but for one offence only, of which the counterpart is to be found in the well-known aphorism of Hunter, that two diseases cannot coexist in the same individual, or at least that one of them must overpower and silence the other. Therefore the entire collection of symptoms is referable solely to one disease: there is an observable *unity* in the deviations from health; a fact which has been much obscured by the vague employment of the phrase "sympathetic symptoms." An ailment is very rarely, if ever, limited to a single spot or point; the whole system is from the first informed of it: thus it is said by military men that a gunshot often occasions no pain at the instant, but that almost invariably the man falls, though the wound may eventually prove to be but slight.

Now the evidence which the vital principle gives of its troubles and sufferings is occasionally most unexpected, and certainly such as anatomy and physiology by themselves would not at all lead one to anticipate. This grouping of symptoms is well shown in the following case.

A gentleman's cook, single, about five-and-thirty years of age, consulted me on the 5th of March, 1851, for a cancer of the left breast, which had been condemned to excision. For the last twelve months she had noticed a lump in the bosom near the nipple, where she once had an abscess. On examination, three tumours can be distinctly felt, nearly united together, hard, almost stony; flat, and not painful on handling. On a change of weather it burns and feels inflamed. It is worse and swells at the period. She has lost much flesh, and become extremely weak; complexion dirty-looking. Bowels confined. Catamenia every three weeks, scanty. For two or three years past has experienced a difficulty in swallowing, about the back of the tongue. She cannot swallow meat, and sometimes cannot drink; can eat dry bread best; a sour taste in the morning. Legs and knees ache by day.

Of such a case, what satisfactory diagnosis could be made? In what school of medicine is taught the connection of symptoms such as are here detailed? Yet they must all arise from *one* disease; it is *one* affection that we have before us, not a complication of two or three maladies, if there be truth in Hunter's axiom. What has induration of the mamma to do with the throat? What has difficulty of swallowing in common with an aching of the legs and knees? The patient meanwhile is particularly anxious to know the *name* of her complaint. What if, notwithstanding so many months of suffering, there be *no organic seat* of disease! what if the organs implicated, sympathise not with each other, as heretofore taught, through nerve and ganglion and absorbents, but through the vital force that animates them, whose tale of woe they thus tell, whose sufferings are expressed and manifested in this way! The wonderful provings instituted by Hahnemann disclose sympathetic relations upon healthy persons, which in natural disease the old school, regardless of their conflicting and even contradictory theories, would denominate "a complication of affections." According to Bœnninghausen, there is one drug which covers all the symptoms, those, namely, of the pharynx, mamma, uterus, bowels, legs, complexion, and nutrition; she therefore had given to her *Arsenic*, two globules of the 30th dilution in six parts, one each morning.

March 19th. A little pain in the bosom, which was rather more swelled. Bowels confined, only one motion since the 5th. She can swallow better, and feels her throat somewhat sore. *Nux vom.*, three drops, 12th dilution, a sixth part every eight hours until the bowels are relieved.

24th. Medicine makes the head ache still; a very scanty motion on the 21st; before that no passage for fourteen days. Appetite has improved. Catamenia lasted two full days. She has gained flesh, and has much less burning in the mamma; at the last period it was swollen only, not painful. Legs and knees are very much better. Can drink much better, but cannot yet swallow meat; has experienced an itching eruption, now subsided. Repeat *Ars.*, two globules, 30th dilution, in six portions as before.

April 14th. Bowels are quite regular now daily. Appetite good, but thirst all day, and the mouth feels hot. Catamenia again at three weeks, but lasting four days. Bosom feels better, pain only occasionally, and not severe; she can now swallow food or liquids pretty well; much itching about the trunk. On the chin there is still an eruption of papulæ. The head and eyes have been giddy and much tried. *Sacch.*

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28th. Examination. No tumours to be felt in the bosom; the gland feels almost quite natural to the touch. Can eat meat now if cut small; some irritation still about her, and some giddiness.

A perfect cure of this ugly-looking case was thus effected in two months, by means of an almost incalculable small amount of mineral matter; and surely no one can peruse the details, without admitting how much better the doctrine taught by Hahnemann accords with the facts—*i. e.*, with the morbid symptoms, with the small bulk of the remedy, with its provings, with the cure—than any other scheme which has yet been brought before the world.

In conclusion we may observe, that Hahnemann's theory can now no longer be denounced as visionary or as unsound; its supporters are too numerous for the one, and the success of his system of cure too well admitted for the other. Physiologists indeed disregard or shun the question of the vital principle; pathologists differ widely amongst themselves respecting its very existence, let alone its being the seat of disease; but all who have been cured by a course of homœopathic medicines, and all who have scientifically proved these medicines on their own bodies, are convinced of the truth of Hahnemann's assertion, by that inward argument from which there is no appeal—the testimony of their own sensations.

CHOICE OF DILUTIONS AND REPETITION OF MEDICAMENTS.

Communicated by Dr. Rosenstein.

(*Continued from page* 84.)

3. The scent perceptible in minute particles of very odoriferous substances. According to J.O. Müller, five centigrammes of musk divided into 320 quadrillions of molecules still retain their odour. It is the same with many other substances, although the experiments have been made with little precision.

4. Patients affirm that they have occasionally detected the taste of certain medicaments, such as *Sulphur*, administered at a very high power, and it has sometimes happened that they have not been mistaken. But until positive observations have undeniably established the fact, we must consider this pretended perception as illusory.

5. We have long known that we could recognise substances in the higher powers. Five centigrammes of carmine are perceptible in ten kilogrammes of water, and each of its colouring particles has but the dimensions of 1-50,000,000th of an inch. The ductility of silver is such, that eight millions of leaves of this metal superposed constitute but a thickness of one line and a quarter, and yet taken separately are all very visible. Mayerhofer, by means of a microscope magnifying from 14,000 to 90,000 times, has recognised the presence of a metal in the 9th, and up to the 14th trituration, according to the different properties of metals. With reference to zinc, the diameter was from the 1-120th to the 1-200th of a line. Thus, for example, five centigrammes of the 3rd trituration of zinc (decimal scale) contain 576,000,000 of divisible molecules; these molecules are all of the same dimensions in the triturations, but they diminish in volume according to their division; therefore it seems to me that they should appear smaller. The results of experiments proved the higher powers to have, in fact, but a limited importance. In devoting myself recently to researches of this nature, I think I have discovered, with some appearance of reality, metallic atoms in the alcoholic powers 12 to 30. Making allowance for the insufficiency of our instruments, and for the imperfections of our observations, these experiments are not less profitable to the science; in showing us the presence of material particles in the higher powers, they prove that the substance exists there. Nothing authorizes us to deny in the 15th power the existence of a metal which we have found in the 14th, because its presence there is less palpable; we might, with equal reason, maintain that there are not more stars in the heavens than are visible to us.

This progressive divisibility which we observe in opaque metals also belongs to all really soluble medicinal substances, and which consequently escapes the sight. As to the latter, their solubility increases the divisions from the first numbers, and we may infer from this, with reason, that the dynamization follows a much greater progression in the subsequent numbers.

The metals particularly and, in general, the insoluble substances, do they require a higher dynamization to disengage all the powers? The lower potencies, do they suffice for soluble substances? Other researches than those which have hitherto been made will be necessary to resolve these questions.

These microscopic experiments refute in a striking manner the arguments of the adversaries of the higher potencies; they will understand that we attribute to this progressive division of substances their penetration into the smallest con-

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duits of the organism. If five centigrammes of the 3rd trituration of zinc contain already 676,000,000 of molecules, this proportion must considerably increase for the 30th, and the number of atoms contained in a moistened globule must be so great, that the effect could not escape even the materialists, provided they act upon a part of the organism liable to be impressed by them, viz., upon a diseased part, and of an analogous tendency.

6. The action upon the sensitive point of the organism will always be the main support (fulcrum) for the medicinal powers.

Hahnemann, as we know, attributed, in the first instance, to the dilutions the property of modifying the too energetic hostile action of the medicaments. But having perceived that the action of these preparations was far from being weakened, and that many of them showed even a greater energy of action than the pure substance, he was led to adopt a different opinion, in affirming that the trituration and the succussion of substances determine the development of the curative virtues. This assertion met with numerous objectors; many taxed it with exaggeration, and a secession was on the point of taking place among the partisans of the new doctrine. However, Hahnemann, pursuing his experiments on healthy subjects, made use almost exclusively of the higher potencies (18 to 30), particularly with the so-called antipsoric remedies. This agitation gradually abated; arguments were no longer raised upon the possibility of action of the higher powers, but rather upon the more or less convenience of the lower and higher powers; this was an advancement. The Proving Society at Vienna also made trials with the higher potencies, and the symptoms produced by those of silver were evidently more numerous and more important than those furnished by the lower powers. The experiments made with *Muriate of Soda* gave still more conclusive results; and it was with a marked repugnance that the organ of this Society declared the action of these powers more energetic and more characterised. This acknowledgment is of a high importance for the solution of the question to be answered. Whilst the daily use of common salt produces upon the healthy organism no appreciable effect, this substance employed in a state of potency has produced upon various subjects submitted to experiment characteristic phenomena, and often reappearing.

7. *Effects produced upon the diseased organism* by remedies chosen according to the law of similarity. The opinions of homœopathic physicians upon the use of potencies are contradictory; some extol the lower powers, others, on the contrary, praise the highest: some employ both; there are some who act according to fixed rules; others proceed in an arbitrary manner. What is the use of these different procedures, and which is that which obtains the most cures? Although documents based upon the authority of numbers would have answered this important question, it would be necessary to give a portion of the greater and less aptitude of the practitioner, as well as accessory circumstances favourable or unfavourable to the cure.

The reason many medical men do not attach the least importance to the degrees of dynamization is that, in their view, the difference which exists between the various potencies is so insignificant as to escape observation, and consequently of no utility to the physician.

If the question were only to point out the difference between the potencies near to each other, this opinion might be justifiable; but there must be a considerable difference between the 1st and the 200th potency, and as nobody disputes this fact, this difference should be rectified.

The attempts which have hitherto been made to form laws upon this matter have completely failed. However, all seem to agree, that the physician should dispose of the whole scale of potencies. The higher potencies have of late regained that favour of which the lower potencies ten years since appeared to have deprived them.

During the latter part of Hahnemann's residence in Germany he proclaimed the 30th potency as the most convenient to obtain a certain uniformity in experiments. He thought that this potency would suffice under all circumstances, and would have the advantage by its action over the lower. In France, Hahnemann seems to have employed much higher powers; however, I do not think that he often went beyond the 30th potency.

The author of this memoir has seen, at different periods, physicians pass from the lower and middle potencies to the highest, then go back after a short time to the lowest, and ascend soon to the 30th, and beyond. On his part, he reserved to himself the whole series of potencies; he would never follow exclusively any of these tendencies.

III. PROPERTIES OF THE HIGHER AND LOWER POTENCIES.

1. The choice of a potency should be subordinate to the individual case. *No*

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potency could absolutely be preferred to all others.

2. The effect of each potency is certainly ruled according to *immutable natural laws;* but it is difficult to give it a form; a correct interpretation is necessary in each case, which a skilful observer alone is able to give.

3. *All the potencies cure diseases,* but each potency does not equally produce a perfect, prompt, and a sure cure.

4. The physician who by a long habitude has become familiar with the effects and the duration of action of such or such series of potencies, may cure with certainty by means of less appropriate potencies on the other hand, the practitioner accustomed to employ exclusively lower potencies will often have to deplore the result obtained with higher potencies, and *vice versâ.* We must know the effect of each series, the results obtained either by repeating or suspending the use of each of the potencies, and finally, the means of neutralizing the injurious effect of that which is less suitable for the disease, and to supply its place.

5. There exists, in fact, a *marked difference* between the higher and lower potencies, but it is impossible to determine at first where the higher potencies commence. There are intermediate degrees, which, according to the various medicaments, approach sometimes nearer to the higher potencies, at other times to those of the lower. The difference between the mother tincture and the 1st or 6th potency seems much greater than that which distinguishes the 6th and the 10th, or a higher power. The more we rise in the scale, as in the higher potencies, for example, the more sensible is the difference which exists in their effects. It becomes at last so weak, that it is almost imperceptible between the 200th and the 400th. The potencies between 6 and 18 have long since been considered as the middle, but since the employment of the higher potencies, this place has been assigned to the 30th.

6. According to the example of many allopathic physicians (who seem to glory in it), in prescribing large doses without producing intoxication, a great number of homœopaths also commit a great error in prescribing higher and higher potencies, in order to see how feeble a dose it would require to produce a salutary change; such a proceeding confuses the true observation of nature,

7. *The medicaments administered in substance are far from exercising upon the organism an equally energetic action.* This action is, on the contrary, extremely varied. Certain therapeutical agents, such as the noble metals, *Carbo,* and *Silica,* produce no effect; others, common salt, for example, act in an almost imperceptible manner; others produce but a slight action, as *Asparagus, Leontodon,* or they are endowed with a great energy, and affect vitality powerfully, as the narcotics, *Belladonna, Nux vomica, Opium.* There are besides those which we have signalised, others possessing a chemical action, disorganizing or destroying the texture, such are the concentrated mineral acids, many metallic salts, *Sublimate, Arsenic.* The dynamization produces in them accessory and very important changes, by which we may profit, provided this injurious action has been neutralized without modifying or weakening the specific power. The energy of action of substances appertaining to the first category becomes free, when their efficacy becomes manifest; those of the second do not undergo a very marked change, they only lose their taste and their odour; those of the third are deprived, to the profit of the diseased, of their injurious action, by which means they become genuine curative agents; the others partake of a similar advantage, and lose at the same time their chemical destructive properties. Evidently the advantage is altogether for the first; the substances of the second gain but little by their transformation; those of the third and fourth gain much. Therefore, for some medicaments the dynamization is necessary, others allow it; the result for all is an augmentation of curative virtue, which becomes penetrating and less tumultuous. If we cannot accord this eulogy to all the medicaments, it is at least certain what is a necessity for some is at least optional for others.

9. *To develope the specific medicinal virtue is the true sense and only aim of the dynamization.* In this point of view we must judge the nature or the utility, and what is inadmissible in it. When the question is to operate a partial destruction, to narcotise, to introduce in the organism absent constitutive parts, there can be no question of our potencies. But when it is our intention to rouse the latent specific properties of medicaments, which, before they are subjected to this operation, remain almost without effect, or produce but an imperceptible action, as certain metals, the neutral salts, and the alkalies, then the potencies are suitable, and cannot be replaced.

10. The medicaments in substance and the lower potencies employed in the pure experiments, provoke symptoms relatively of a greater gravity, but more superficial and more *fugace,* (*fugax*); the higher potencies, on the contrary, produce symp-

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toms less tumultuous but graver, and of a longer duration. It has been asserted that the lower potencies are applicable in acute affections, whilst the higher answer better in chronic maladies. This precept would be excellent, if it did not implicate numerous exceptions, whereas more predominate laws bring considerable modifications in its application.

This result obtained by experimenters fully accords with the observations of physicians of the old school. Massive doses, as for instance, 50 or 100 centigrammes of *Calomel*, produce violent effects, but at the same time more transient than the same substance administered in a fractional dose from two milligrammes, repeated for many weeks. The same relation exists between the 1st and the 30th potency. In a theoretical point of view, it is very doubtful whether in acute affections it would always be suitable to proceed in a violent manner; we must consider that the acute maladies are often sudden and transitory manifestations of a morbid chronic state, and that a therapeutic agent whose action does not extend profoundly will be altogether insufficient. In these cases we must, on the contrary, administer, with a due regard to their repetition, medicaments endowed with an energetic action, and which penetrate into the economy. These are precisely the higher potencies, of which experience has proved the good effects in these cases.

11. It has been advised *to administer first a lower, following it by a higher potency* when it does not produce the desired effect, and when it is necessary to give a second dose. This advice is wise and useful; but nothing proves that it is always necessary to act so, in order to obtain good results with the higher potencies. Again, it has been recommended to descend from the higher to the lower potencies, when the first have proved insufficient. This procedure will but rarely answer. What is true in this proposition is, that if it is advantageous to change the potencies in repeating the medicaments, then it is natural that a stronger potency should follow up a weaker one.

12. But this point presents yet another very important feature. The lower or higher potencies do not alone determine the *promptitude, and the more or less duration, of the action of the medicament*, the nature proper to the therapeutic agent contributes also. In relation to this, the medicinal substances offer extremely varied conditions. *Camphor, Coffee*, and *Aconite* act very rapidly; *Rhus, Causticum*, etc., provoke but slow effects. The choice of the remedy, according as its exercise is slow or prompt, is of great importance. We have seen that the degree of potency may modify the effects of a medicament administered; for example, in a higher potency it loses in effect much of its promptness. Experience shows, besides, that these rules have but a secondary signification, although we should also pay regard to them; but the principal influence of the duration of action depends on the course of the disease, to which everything should be subordinate.

To be continued.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH, 1851.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF HOMŒOPATHIC STUDENTS AND PRACTITIONERS.

WE have great pleasure in calling the attion of our readers to this Association. They have seen the intemperate and ill-tempered Resolutions of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association; three hundred allopathic practitioners met at Brighton for divers purposes laudable enough—but did not part without endeavouring to do what they could to damage, by denouncing, homœopathy—a method of practice of which they absolutely know nothing.

If homœopathy has been tested, and found insufficient, why do they not publish their evidence? Why repeat idle assumptions, and malicious assertions? Why not delegate two or three of their body to conduct, in concert with two or three of our body, a full series of experiments? We should not object to name three of the London College of Physicians to examine the evidence, and pronounce a decision on it. The choice of these umpires should be ours. Definite rules should be laid down for the conduct of the series of experiments. Would not this be a more sensible way of endeavouring to arrive at a just conclusion, than the very silly and inglorious method of clap-trap declamation, and rash assertion?

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The Resolutions of the Committee of the Association for the Protection of Homœopathic Students and Practitioners are very few, but are very pertinent. The language is calm and temperate. Let us examine them, briefly, in detail.

"1. Homœopathy is thoroughly reconcilable with science and common sense, is in accordance with the experience of some thousands of medical men, and deserves the study of practitioners and the confidence of the public."

Is it not so? let the objectors disprove this proposition. Let them *show* that homœopathy is irreconcilable with science and common sense, and that it has not been borne out by the experience of several thousands of medical men, and then they might have some excuse for saying, that it does not deserve the study of practitioners and the confidence of the public. Let them disprove our published statistics.

"2. The framers of the hostile Resolutions referred to, and other prejudiced opponents, are totally ignorant of homœopathy, avowedly refusing to study its principles (in the writings of Hahnemann and of others,) and to witness its practice in the homœopathic hospitals and dispensaries, to which they have been repeatedly and cordially invited."

Is it not so? let the objectors show that they have studied the principles, and have witnessed the practice of homœopathy. Let the three hundred provincials, or any three, or any one of them, give satisfactory evidence that they have *studied* the principles and have *seen* the practice of homœopathy."

"3. Notwithstanding their difference in the treatment of disease, there can be nothing derogatory in homœopathists and allopathists—equals in education, science and social position—consulting together at the request of patients and their friends as to the nature of the malady."

Is it not so? let the objectors show the immorality of such consultations for such a purpose, and, meanwhile, let the public be assured that well-educated and experienced medical men who are homœopathists, do not seek for such consultations, and only agree to them at the request of their patients. There are many homœopathic practitioners who are quite as able as any of the allopathic body to decide on the nature of disorder or disease; and we are assured that, from their knowledge of the properties of medicines—in kind and amount very different from, and superior to that possessed by their opponents—and from their having a definite law for the application of their remedies, they know much better than those opponents how to treat disorder and disease.

The question whether homœopathy is or is not true, is a public one. It concerns the well-being of the present and of all succeeding generations. Let the public look to it—and mistrust the enemies of homœopathy, who abuse they know not what, and wilfully and perversely, and, because wilfully and perversely, wickedly refuse to investigate the claims of a method of practice they think proper to denounce without inquiry.

"ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF HOMŒOPATHIC STUDENTS AND PRACTITIONERS. At a meeting of the Committee, held on the 1st of September, in consequence of the recently published resolutions of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, and other allopathic bodies regarding homœopathy, it was resolved,

"1. That homœopathy is thoroughly reconcilable with science and common sense, is in accordance with the experience of some thousands of medical men, and deserves the study of practitioners and the confidence of the public.

"2. That the framers of the hostile resolutions referred to, and other prejudiced opponents, are totally ignorant of homœopathy, avowedly refusing to study its principles (in the writings of Hahnemann and others), and to witness its practice in the homœopathic hospitals and dispensaries, to which they have been repeatedly and cordially invited.

"3. That notwithstanding the difference in their treatment of disease, there can be nothing derogatory in homœopathists and allopathists (equals in education, science, and social position) consulting together at the request of patients and their friends as to the nature of the malady.

"4. That the resolutions of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Asssociation, representing as they do, the opinions of only a small fraction of the allopathic body, are in themselves, and for the reasons given above, utterly valneless.

"WM. MACDONALD, M.D., F.R.C.P.E.
Professor of Civil and Natural History in the University of St. Andrew's.
JAMES CHAPMAN, M.A. Cantab., M.D.
EDWARD HAMILTON, M.D., F.L.S.
DAVID WILSON, L.R.C.S.E.
THOMAS LEADAM, M.R.C.S.
ROBERT E. DUDGEON, M.D., Secertary."

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Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Many of your readers are doubtless interested in the progress of hydropathy as well as homœopathy. I have thought, therefore, that a brief notice of its efficacy in acute disease might not be unacceptable in your columns; especially as in most hydropathic treatises, attention is almost exclusively devoted to the application of its various methods of treatment in cases of a chronic kind. My own experience, however, for several years past has convinced me that in many of the acute diseases, the result of which is so more than doubtful under allopathic treatment, a judicious employment of the means which hydropathy places at our disposal will not less than in chronic ones prove a very important addition to the curative art. Of this, the following case will serve as some illustration.

This patient came under my care in November, 1845. Her brother and sister had just fallen victims to typhus, but not under hydropathic treatment. Her age was twenty-four, and the symptoms were as follows: delirious, with incessant and incoherent talking, great excitement, anxious expression of countenance; constant movement and restlessness; complained of intense burning and distracting sensation within and at the top of the head, which was accompanied by general heat of the skin, more especially in the abdominal region.

Treatment.—For the general symptoms, successive entire damp-sheet packings, but each for only a short duration, were had recourse to. This was accomplished three times during the first twelve hours of the treatment, though not without some difficulty, owing to the extreme restlessness of the patient. At the same time, thick diaper bandages several times doubled, and scarcely wrung out from fresh spring water, to which a freezing mixture was added, were applied to the scalp and forehead, and changed every few minutes as they became warm. The packings were followed by tepid ablutions, and after the first of them the patient became cooler, soothed, and tranquil; and whenever the febrile exacerbation recurred, the treatment was repeated, and in addition a wet bandage was occasionally applied to the abdomen.

In this way, at the end of twelve hours, and after three packings, and the other means mentioned above, the fever was completely subdued, the head cool and comfortable, and the pulse, which previously could not be counted, was reduced to sixty. Delicious and refreshing sleep, attended by gentle perspiration, followed. From this time the treatment was modified, with the view of inducing a restorative and tonic rather than sedative effect; the damp-sheet packings, which had been previously each only of a quarter of an hour's duration, were now prolonged, but were applied less frequently; the subsequent ablutions or baths were changed from tepid to cold as circumstances indicated; and more and colder water was given internally, and in a few weeks the patient was restored to her usual health.

Thus, by the suitable adaptation of the simple means of hydropathy alone, we have been enabled to meet and check the varied symptoms of this dangerous disease throughout its progress in an unusually aggravated case; and it may reasonably be questioned whether any other known methods of treatment could have been employed which would have had equally rapid effect in the earlier and more active stages of the disease, and at the same time have conduced to so speedy a restoration of health and strength. I may add that I have met with similar success in the use of the varied appliances of the water-cure in several other severe cases of this disease, as also in small-pox, croup, bronchitis, and other acute affections.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
WM. FORBES LAURIE, M.D. Edin.
Dunstable, Bedfordshire,
Sept. 5th, 1851.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

—— Rectory, Sept. 2nd, 1851.

SIR,—While my physician (a homœopath) was lately visiting me professionally, my servant came into the room in much alarm, saying that my horse, which I had ordered to be harnessed, was suddenly taken very ill with the colic. I asked the doctor what was best to be done. He recommended *Chamomilla*, and at once mixed twenty-five drops in about a pint of water, which he kindly saw administered. Upon his leaving me, he told me, if the horse were not better in an hour, to repeat the dose. As the hour expired, I went, not without some misgivings, to the stable, and found the horse rolling on the ground, evidently in much pain; and when he was made to stand up, his head hung down nearly to the ground, his eyes were dull and heavy, and the flanks heaving violently. The groom said it was a *bad case;* that he thought he knew the horse's constitution better than the doctor, and suggested that the horse had better be bled immediately. I thought differently, and saw a second dose of the *Chamomilla* given. In less than half an hour, to the astonishment of all who saw it, the horse was PERFECTLY WELL, and has continued so to this time.

I do not suppose that you take the veterinary art under your protection, but this case proves at least that a *small* dose can have an almost instantaneous effect on a large powerful horse; and *à fortiori* on a delicate human frame.

What will the allopaths say to this? They may, with their usual politeness, call me a fool or a knave, but I can tell them that I am a living proof of the value of homœopathy.

I send you my name, though I do not wish you to publish it, even if you think the case worthy of notice.

I am, your constant reader,
C. H., Rector of ——

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To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

DEAR SIR,—Should you find place for the insertion of the following article on Metallotherapeia, I shall endeavour to send you a second one regarding this interesting therapeutical branch of science, which is already acknowledged by many of the first physicians in Paris, notwithstanding the homœopathic law is its basis.

METALLOTHERAPEIA;

OR, THE EXTERNAL APPLICATION OF METALS FOR THE CURE OF CERTAIN DISEASES.

Communicated by Dr. ROTH.

I have had repeated opportunities in your journal of observing the truth of the law "like cures like," partly by extracts from the writings of allopathic physicians, partly by the interesting communications of the effects of electricity in diseases, similar to those which are produced by it, and partly by showing the homœopathicity of movements and water in certain diseases, which explains the good results of these natural agents as being based on the only real law of healing. It is gratifying to have another proof of the truth of the great Hahnemannian law in the external application of metals in different diseases of the nerves. This new therapeutic application of metals is a recent discovery of a young French physician, Dr. Burg, who is no homœopathist, and who has been kind enough to give the necessary theoretical and practical information in this hitherto empirical application. Having had occasion to witness some of the effects produced by metals, permit me to call the attention of our homœopathic colleagues to the subject. The primary effects of copper and gold, externally employed on the skin, have been already observed. Hahnemann recommended the external use of copper in cholera; the external application of iron or steel in different cramps of the arms and legs is in many countries a popular remedy, and I have lately read some observations on the strengthening effect of steel-filings, which were placed in a small linen bag on the eyelids in a weakened eyesight. To those who are acquainted with the power of mesmerism, the different influences of various metals are also known. All these facts ought to induce us to examine the effects of Dr. Burg's system of Metallotherapeia, of which the following short account, published in various French journals, may prove interesting.

Dr. Burg, who has occupied himself during several years with the most *delicate* and very little known phenomena of the pathology of the nerves, has invented for their cure a system of what he calls metallic *armatures*. He presented lately to the Institute of France two of his apparatuses, one in steel, the other in copper, with a paper on the means of instituting an examination of the patient by metals, in which his discovery is set forth by the following four *propositions*.

1. The majority of those diseases known as neurosis, hysteria, hypochondriasis, catalepsy, megrim, spasms, gastralgia, different kinds of neuralgia, and certain forms of *madness*, show nearly always, or rather always, a diminution (more or less pronounced, according to the degree of the case) of the sensibility or of the muscular force, or more frequently of both.

2. In the greatest number of patients in whom the sensibility or the muscular strength is diminished, both return and become *normal*, by the application of pieces (*plaques*) of metal on the affected parts; the metal is chosen according to certain conditions, which are not yet known to us, and consists, in one case, of copper, in another of silver, steel, gold, etc.; sometimes it is a definite *mélange* of metals, and in this case it is almost nearly always an *alloy* of metals.

3. All patients who are treated by the external application of large pieces or *armatures* of the metal, which without doubt produces the return of the sensibility and muscular strength, are rapidly cured, whatever may be the intensity and duration of the disease.

4. If there is a nervous affection with diminution of sensibility and muscular strength, the difficulty of the cure consists in the determination (choice) of the single metal or the mixture of metals which is capable of reproducing the normal state of sensibility and muscular strength.

For this purpose, and for the use of physicians, Luertan, an instrument-maker, manufactured, according to Dr. Burg's directions, a set of instruments for the examination by metals, which consist of—

1. Several long pins of platina or steel.

2. A small dynamometer, with the necessary divisions for the indication of the muscular strength.

3. Thirty or forty little pieces of different simple metals, or of a mixture of metals.

These pins and the dynamometer are used in order to examine the degree of the sensibility and muscular strength; afterwards, one or more pieces of metal are employed on those points in which the sensibility is the most defective, and the different metals are successively tried, till one is found under the influence of which the sensibility is revived on the part whereon the metal had been placed.

As soon as this result is obtained, a large ring, in the form of a bracelet, 15 to 16 centimetres wide, must be made of the same metal, which is destined to encircle that arm where both the sensibility and muscular strength are diminished or entirely absent; if after a certain time (one or two hours are generally sufficient) both these powers are manifested, and certain phenomena become visible, which are distinctly to be observed as often as the metal acts, and which consist in a feeling of *formication*, heat, and perspiration, then a whole *armature* must be prepared, which consists of ten principal pieces, namely, two large rings for each limb, and two large pieces for the trunk, which are employed in such a manner that they cover large portions of the skin. By this process, which is an entirely new treatment, the cure,

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according to Dr. Burg, is always sure, excepting in those very rare cases in which the metal displays no action on the sensibility and muscular strength.

For the confirmation of his discovery, the inventor published a certain number of observations, which had been made in one of the most frequented hospitals of Paris, and which are signed by the assistant house-surgeon (*interne*).

In 48 cases, 28 were cured by copper.
" 8 " by steel.
" 4 " by silver.
" 2 " by gold.
" 6 were only slightly and slowly influenced by copper, and in several other cases it acted only on the sensibility.

According to different observations in the hospitals at Paris, the metallotherapeia was useful in many cases of spasmodic affection; also in patients afflicted with cholera, in the year 1849. Two physicians sent into the department of the Haute Marne, during the same epidemy, used frequently these metallic *armatures*, with such success that the application of metals became almost a popular remedy, and in many families where there had been a patient with cholera, they improvised, even before the arrival of the doctor, such metallic bands, which were of ready access in these localities, as the majority of the inhabitants are cutlers by trade.

I am, yours truly,
M. Roth.

16, Old Cavendish-street, Cavendish-square.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Sir,—The *Homœopathic Times* of Saturday, August 23, contains an article by Dr. Rosenstein, on one part of which, headed, not very justly so, "Homœopathic Quackery," I think a few words are necessary.

A lady had consulted a homœopathic chemist in a case of a cold, and the chemist had prescribed and apparently incorrectly.

Dr. Rosenstein inquires, "What right has the allopathic or homœopathic chemist to prescribe? No right whatever."

I think I am correct in stating that the conduct of the chemist in question must be looked upon as the exception and not the rule, as I believe our fraternity are not in the habit of prescribing. I am able to speak confidently of one chemist, Mr. Turner, of Manchester, and it is his rule, as it is also my own, never to prescribe under any circumstances, however strongly solicited.

Such a rule should be universal with all who come before the public as homœopathic chemists.

The chemist, as Dr. Rosenstein observes, "knows nothing (necessarily) of anatomy, physiology, or pathology;" and it is apparent that if the dignity to which homœopathy is beginning to attain in our country is to be preserved and to increase, unqualified persons must not take upon themselves to prescribe. I am informed by a lady recently returned from New York that it is by no means uncommon, in the cities of the United States, for unqualified persons to possess themselves of a stock of the medicines and the requisite books, and commence the practice of homœopathy, and the pursuit would seem to be sanctioned to some extent, as my informant herself has seen carriages in waiting, and that frequently at the door of an individual, whose sole title to the dignity of a medical man was having been a druggist.

This state of things is much to be lamented, but remark on it is unnecessary, as to all who comprehend the subject, it must be clear that in proportion to the extent that unqualified persons trespass on the province of the regularly educated and qualified practitioner, must the true interests, *status*, and extension of the cause of homœopathy itself suffer and languish.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,
Wm. H. Billing.

Glasgow, August 28, 1851.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Sir,—I was one of those who were inclined to think it better for us to have two homœopathic hospitals in London on a small scale, rather than only one on a larger, thinking that the species of rivalry which would exist between them, might have a wholesome effect in urging each to increased exertions. I am now, however, of a different opinion, and therefore beg to suggest, through the medium of your columns, a plan for promoting a fusion of the two. Should any of your readers be able to suggest an improvement upon my plan, either privately to some of the leading homœopathists, or publicly through your columns, so much the better.

It appears to be generally understood that the chief opponent of a union of the two hospitals, is a layman who has done great service to our cause by his writings, but who has unfortunately had an irreconcilable quarrel with one of the medical men attached to the Hahnemann Hospital, and who is determined that the rules of any hospital which he supports shall be so contrived as virtually to exclude this, to him, obnoxious individual from becoming one of its medical officers. Some, if not all, of the medical officers attached to the Golden Square Hospital affirm that the blame of keeping the two hospitals apart rests not upon them, but upon this layman. Now, however grateful we may be for the assistance he has rendered to our Cause, we can have nothing whatever to do with his personal quarrels, nor ought they to be allowed to interfere with any steps that may be judged necessary for teaching our system.

Unfortunately, this person seems to exercise a sort of mesmeric influence over some, obliging them to act in a manner not consonant with their better judgment, and in this way the overtures made by the *Board of Management* of the Hahnemann Hospital to that of the Golden Square one appear to have been rendered nugatory.

I propose, therefore, that three or four of the London subscribers to the Hahnemann Hospital should seek out an equal number of the subscribers to the Golden Square Hospital, and have a

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conference with them, and that they should draw up between them a short, clear statement of the disadvantages and dangers of the present system of separate hospitals, and of the advantages which would result from their union; and that a copy with their signatures attached should be transmitted to each of the subscribers to the hospitals, with a request that they would state in a reply whether they were in favour of a union, and if they would sanction these six or eight, or whatever the number may be, forming themselves into a permanent committee, to be considered as acting in the name of the general body of the subscribers, and having power to take the necessary steps for promoting a union of the hospitals.

As soon as a sufficient number of subscribers had consented to offer the alternative of continuing to subscribe, if a union were effected, or of withdrawing their subscriptions from the hospital whose Board of Management should throw obstacles in the way of a union (and perhaps of transferring them to the other hospital), it would become necessary to consider the mode in which the united hospitals should be in future carried on; and certain suggestions touching that point I shall be prepared to offer when required.

In a matter like this two considerations alone should have weight; first, whether it will be advantageous for the common weal that a union be effected; and, if so, how that can be brought about. We cannot stop to consider how it will affect this person or that body of men.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
GEORGE FEARON.

Birmingham, Sept. 4th, 1851.

P.S. If such a mixed committee be formed, it should be notified in the *Homœopathic Times*, in order that suggestions may be sent to it.

Miscellaneous.

ON TIME.—In all the actions that a man performs, some part of his life passeth. We die with doing that for which only our sliding life was granted. Nay, though we do nothing, Time keeps his constant pace, and flies as fast in idleness as in employ.

An hour of vice is as long as an hour of virtue; but the difference which follows upon good actions is infinite from that of ill ones. The good, though it diminishes our time here, yet it lays up a pleasure for eternity, and will recompense what it taketh away with a plentiful return at last. When we trade with virtue, we do but buy pleasure with expense of time; so it is not so much a consuming of time as an exchange.

Time is a ship which never anchors; while I am aboard, I had better do those things that may advantage my landing, than practise such as shall cause my commitment when I come to the shore.

All that have obtained for themselves great and permanent reputation, have won and secured it by patient and persevering labour: by treating time not as a waste land fit only for stubble and the goose, but as a true estate of which no corner is to be left uncultivated. Locke carried his note-book in his pocket, to catch the scintillations of even common conversation. Pope employed the wakeful moments of the night. They felt as did Arnault, when he replied to the objection of Nicole, who on a new work being proposed said—"We are now old, is it not time we should rest?"—"Rest!" exclaimed Arnault, "*have we not all eternity to rest in?*" Hear how Hazlitt, in the green vigour of his genius speaks to us from his grave: "The more people do, the more they can do. He that does nothing renders himself incapable of doing anything. While we are executing one work, we are preparing ourselves to undertake another."—*Family Friend.*

SYRIAN NOTIONS OF MEDICAL PRACTICE.—A doctor is thought nothing of here unless he resorts to violent remedies. I was told a curious anecdote of a *soi-disant* doctor, who acquired a great reputation in Beilan. He was much given to administering emetics, and having a very delicate patient, resorted as usual to this method of cure, leaving in the hands of the patient's brother three strong doses of emetic, which he directed should be administered at intervals of three hours. The brother, finding the first powder had no immediate effect, gave the unfortunate invalid the remaining two within five minutes. The result was violent sickness, succeeded by spasms and cramp, which, in a few hours, terminated fatally. Next day the doctor was astounded to learn, on inquiring, that his patient was dead; and evinced his concern in his face. "Never mind," said the brother, "it was so fated; but Mashalla! you are a great doctor: the medicine you gave never ceased operating till the moment of my brother's death. It was a fine medicine, and if it couldn't cure him, nothing earthly could.—*Neale's Eight Years in Syria.*

WOMAN'S INTUITION.—The perception of a woman is quick as lightning; her penetration is intuition, almost instinct. By a glance she will draw a deep and just conclusion. Ask her how she found it, and she cannot answer the question. A philosopher deduces inferences, and his inferences shall be right; he gets to the head of the staircase (if I may so say) by slow degrees, mounting step by step. She arrives at the top of the staircase as well as he; but whether she flew there is more than she knows herself. —*Sherlock.*

OUR FIRST FAULT.—Our first fault, like the prolific poppy of Aboutage, produces seeds innumerable. The wind wafts them away, and we know not where they fall nor when they may rise; but this we know, that they meet us at every step upon the path of life, and strew it with plants of bitterness.—*Mirror.*

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Rebiew of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

HAHNEMANNIAN ESSAYS.

No. XXIII.

"The way to conquer Nature is to obey her," was a grand saying of Bacon. Nature demands our reverence: there is a spiritual life in human nature: the word is an expression for something higher and holier than is dreampt of by materialists. The allopaths, as medical men, are materialists; they deal with gross medicines to act on the gross material of the body. They think not of the wheel within wheel of the wonderful organism of the human body. They boast of the antiquity of their method of treatment.

"Old mother of records,
Thou know'st her pedigree then; whose daughter is she?"

Let them answer. Came this allopathy from Tubal-Cain? Was it antediluvian? Was it known to Job? Was it known to the watcher of the stars on the lofty towers of Babel? Did the Chaldean sages and the Egyptian magians practise it? Who was Esculapius? How was it that prescriptions were written on tablets, and suspended in the temples? What was the condition of medicine before Hippocrates?

Wonderful Cöan! we acknowledge thy greatness, thy pains-taking, thy patient watching and looking at a patient; thy partial recognition of the homœopathic law; thy almost anticipation of Hahnemann. How was it that two thousand years should pass before thy real Successor should appear? Let the materialists answer. We confess that we cannot, except by saying that it so pleased the Arbiter—the All-father. We only know that from Hippocrates to Hahnemann, though twenty centuries intervened—nearly one-third part of the existence of the human race—there was but a step; that no real, downright, substantial progress in therapeutics was made in the interval. Great men were there in the interval—Paracelsus, Stahl, Boerhaave, Harvey, Sydenham, and hundreds more before them—but still no real progress. What hindered them? They wanted that law of healing, of which Hippocrates had a glimpse, but whose *generaiity* it was reserved for Hahnemann to enounce.

It is enounced. The wide world is ready to receive it in its beneficent applications. What hinders? The bigotry of the old school; the pride of sciolists; the fears of the timid, who love to skirt the coasts with which they are familiar, but dare not put to sea; the pharisaical over-righteousness of those who will stand on the old ways because they are *old*, who prefer to worship Jupiter Tonans to listening to Paul in the palace of Nero; the fear of change; the superstitious idolatry of material images, of the cap and red gown, and the serpents; the promptings of selfish respect and of self-interest; the awe of Authority; the dread of collegiate censures, and of the scurrilous attacks of a wanton press; the natural tendency to acquiesce in the condition of things as each finds them; the submission of youth to teachers; the scepticism of adult age. Hindrances enow! and right willing are we to make all due allowance for all fair hostility. It has been seen that homœopathy is looked on as some "Gorgon or Chimera dire;" it is denounced as quackery; it is branded as dishonesty; at one time it is said that its remedies are *nothing*, at another time, concentrated and deadly poisons.

Can homœopathy be really hindered? Assuredly not. The progress of science,

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and the daily experience of myriads, confirm it. It includes in its vast scope all curative agencies and appliances. Good allopathy, that of cautious and observant practitioners, when its cures are analysed, will be found to have been on homœopathic principles, though the men who practise it would shrink with horror from the imputation of practising homœopathy. Such is the force of prejudice.

Blasius is a notable man; the sun stands still for him: he thinks his word is law; he gives his *veto* to homœopathy; he will not meet any homœopathic practitioner: snubbed formerly by the *Lancet*, he is now praised by the same ephemeral pundit, because he "stands by his order," and says sharp things of homœopathists. Is *Blasius* content?

Rosulus is a *stickit* doctor; he has conducted a journal; he is, in his own estimation, an authority; he wants notoriety, fame, renown—grist for his mill. *Rosulus* rushes into a border war against homœopathy; he accuses a clergyman of blasphemy, because he believes in homœopathy; he loads all homœopathists with opprobrious epithets; he is the Iülus, the "*spes altera*" of allopathy. Is *Rosulus* content?

From the sedgy banks of the Cam, from the borders of Isis, from collegiate cities and towns, from village and hamlet, from mountain and valley, from hall and garret, rush the swarming foes of homœopathy.

"The doughty heroes entering in the lists
To make fierce war with homœopathists,
With dreadful aspect and undaunted hearts,
Hither and thither throw their poisoned darts;
Nor summer heat, nor winter cold they shun;
Heroic hearts! their office must be done.
They rush infuriate on their ready prey;
The sword is drawn, the scabbard thrown away.
The battle is not always to the strong;
And justice, sometimes, triumphs over wrong.
The followers of Hahnemann keep their own,
And the down-beaten heroes sigh and moan;
They lose their battle, and they rage the more,
While to their screams their halls, rebellowing, roar."

Can they not see, will they not believe, these one-eyed and one-sided partisans, that they greatly advance the Cause of those they call their opponents? If homœopathy be not true, can they not prove that it is untrue? If it be not real, can they not prove its nonentity? But if it be a substantive thing, if it be a very fact, a truth indeed, how can they quench it by ungentlemanly outrage, vehement denunciation, and blustering animosity? Truth of any kind must prevail.

Legitimate medicine! illegitimate homœopathy! Go into court, *Blasius*, and prove the legitimacy of your dogma, and the illegitimacy of ours. We demand proofs.

The wondrous time is teeming with prodigies; all real science is showing the might of imponderable forces, and of the subtle spirits of all skyey and telluric influences. The course of events—the history of nations, of the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms, and the cosmic arrangements of all creation, show that every thing is under law and governance. Is the so-called science of therapeutics, the art of healing, to be the only thing without a law? Go to!

Certain it is that the virulent opposition shown by a portion of the allopathists, the malice, hatred, and uncharitableness exhibited by some few, and the entire absence of all fairness in the way of dealing with a subject that concerns the destiny of mankind, are producing a strong sensation on the public mind, and that is in favour of the persecuted, of homœopathy.

But the roots of our doctrine are so deep, the stem so full of sap, the branches so full of life, that homœopathy must endure, and flourish. It has already undergone and outlived the stage of hostile persecution in other lands; the same fate attends it in Britain. We are sorry, however, that any men of mark among our opponents should be illiberal, and without inquiry, and merely from a rash prejudice, refuse to concede the claim of genius to Hahnemann, and of honesty to his disciples. We are sorry that three Scottish Universities should have been terrified by the *Lancet* into a huckster-like exclusivism; but we feel assured that our Cause gains daily accessions of strength from these unworthy assaults, and frequent recruits from the ranks of our reckless antagonists, in consequence of their illiberality, unfairness, and brute violence.

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CHOICE OF DILUTIONS AND REPETITION OF MEDICAMENTS.

Communicated by DR. ROSENSTEIN.

(*Continued from page* 101.)

13. THE experiment of a therapeutical agent upon the healthy body does not manifest itself immediately, but *successively*. Employed in substance or in lower potencies, the remedy produces well-characterised primary effects; the use of higher potencies determines rather consecutive effects, which are of longer duration. For this reason it has been recommended that the medicinal symptoms should be divided into two series, and that the primary effects should be employed for the cure of acute maladies, and the consecutive effects for that of chronic affections. Closely examined, this idea loses much of its apparent value when we consider the numerous difficulties opposed to its execution. Hitherto we have not been able to account for the primary and secondary effects; a predominant action has been attributed to the medicaments, and the organism was looked upon altogether as passive. The consecutive effects have been considered as a particular development of power, or reaction of the organism against external attacks.

Later, the consecutive effects have been considered, so to speak, as the progressive movement, and the penetration of the medicinal force into other systems and into different organs. Without inquiring which of these theories is most correct, it is no less certain that neither one nor the other can remain without influence upon the precept that we have expressed, and which can have no real value until the true nature of the primary and consecutive effects is illustrated. Besides, in a given case, it is extremely difficult, sometimes almost impossible, to determine to which class of the phenomena such or such a symptom belongs, the more so, from the alternating effects adding further to the confusion. Finally, the line of demarcation which separates acute from chronic maladies cannot be distinctly traced; whereas the transition of these morbid states is frequently observed.

14. All affections follow a more or less fixed course, and then terminate; they are either acute or chronic, according as the termination arrives with more or less promptness. The objection made above, according to which this division could not always be sustained for particular cases, cannot be taken into consideration here, because the question is not to class a given disease in such or such a category, but to ascertain the relation which exists between the course of a known malady when left to itself and that which it will run after the use of a medicament whose duration of action and natural tendencies are familiar to us. The question then is, what is the relation existing between a disease whose course is almost known, and a medicament of which we know the shorter or longer duration of action?

With respect to this, experience teaches us that an affection which runs a rapid course may be modified in a prompt manner even by medicaments whose action is slow, chosen according to similitude, and chronic affections may also be cured by medicaments of a speedy action. This seems to prove, evidently, that *the more or less rapid action of a medicament principally depends upon the nature of the disease.* The law should be formed as follows: *the natural course of a disease determines principally the more or less prompt action of the medicament, as well as its duration.*

In this manner we succeed in curing acute diseases with medicaments which act slowly, and with higher potencies; and *vice versâ*, chronic affections with remedies of a prompt action, particularly in taking care to administer those of higher potencies, which certainly penetrate deeper into the organism. Therefore as the natural course of a disease constitutes its character, and regard should be paid to the choice of the remedy, it follows that a chronic affection oftener finds its correspondent remedy amongst those which produce a slow action, than amongst the more rapidly, acting remedies. However this sort of analogy may, much less than others, serve here for a rule, experience teaches us, in fact, that remedies acting slowly, otherwise well chosen, cure acute maladies, as well as those whose action is more prompt.

15. We have seen that the duration of action of a medicament principally depends upon the natural course of a disease, and the use of a remedy with a slow action may singularly shorten the duration of an acute affection. Moreover we have seen that, although this law is predominant, it does not exclude that which demands we should take into consideration the duration of action and the penetration proper to the medicaments, as well as those acquired by the degree of potency.

It is the simultaneousness, the concurrence of these different laws opposed to each other, or nullifying each other, which cause so many restrictions to the considered precepts, simply as exceptions, with-

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out being able to explain them, and which have favoured in practice the extreme diversity which prevails in this respect in the posology.

Although under the governance of more simple laws, the heavenly bodies, in attracting each other, undergo in their revolutions various modifications and perturbations; the gravitation of the planets towards the sun is always the fundamental law; but even here, the gravitation of the planets in this attraction does not allow any variation in the natural course of their evolutions. In the domain of liberty, in the organism, this reaction, these perturbations of different forces, must necessarily be more frequent, unless the laws are false and without effect.

16. When an isolated case presents the union of *three conditions*, which all bear towards the same point, for instance, a chronic affection, a medicament acting slowly, and a high potency, then the effect of the remedy is considerably increased, in such a manner as to favour the cure. It is the same in the coincidence of an acute malady with a remedy whose effect is prompt and of a low potency. In the latter case, we may derive considerable advantage in administering higher potencies, to make the action deeper and more durable. For this reason we may generally, also, in acute maladies, accord the preference to the higher potencies, without failing in the rules before mentioned. The dynamization seems to have this great advantage, to render the action of the therapeutical agent more penetrating, without offering the least inconvenience.

17. If we were always certain of having chosen the appropriate remedy, which unfortunately is not the case, when we hesitate on the choice to make between many medicinal substances which seem to be indicated, a higher potency would generally be preferable, because we can modify at will the effect, either in waiting, or in repeating, or in administering a dose excessively small.

The following objection has been made on this subject: Is it not to proceed without aim, first to increase with many efforts the medicinal virtues, by means of the dynamization, then to diminish them by administering a small dose? Could we not procure the same result in a more simple manner? Those who reason in this manner have forgotten that the high degree of penetration attributed to the potencies has a very precious advantage. We frequently obtain cures with the different potencies, but the higher potencies only furnish surprising cures. To arrive at this result there should be perfect harmony; then the effect almost approaches the marvellous, even in the gravest cases.

18. It was intended to regulate the *degree of potency by the duration of the disease.* Setting aside the difficulty of ascertaining the real beginning of chronic affections, all this reasoning rests upon a false hypothesis. What relation can there be between two things so different as the duration of a disease and the degree of a potency? Besides, we have not sufficient knowledge of the laws to which the disease and the cure are subordinate, to enable us to rely upon arithmetical calculations.

19. Such is the confusion which prevails in the ideas of volume, of height, and force, that the higher potencies are considered as particularly apt to be opposed to severe pain, attributable to the exaltations of the sensibility, and the lower potencies have been considered inefficacious and inopportune for robust constitutions, which is also a false supposition. Such reasons do not suffice for practical data. It is precisely the contrary which takes place; the sensibility being exalted to a high degree, we should rather refrain from the use of the very high potencies.

20. The homœopathist knows better than the old-school practitioner how to prolong the term of existence of persons affected with incurable chronic maladies. In all cases we should rather avoid the use of the higher potencies than to give them the preference.

21. Strictly speaking, *there are no local maladies,* but there are localized affections; for this reason, that the first attack of a morbific agent is ordinarily local. Thus, for instance, badly-digested food affects the stomach; the air penetrating the air-passages attacks the nasal and the bronchial mucus; burns and contusions touch the skin and the subjacent tissue; chancre and the virus of the itch strike the cutaneous system. *All these forms do not only admit, but demand the use of low potencies,* particularly chancre and scabies, when they are of recent origin.* In all the other morbid states which we have enumerated, the whole system being often sympathetically affected, the higher potencies may be used with more advantage. The therapeutic procedure of experienced practitioners fully accords with this rule.

22. We should be careful not to confound with these local essential maladies, those which are but the natural consequences of a general cachexy. Of this number are polypes, secondary syphilitic ulcers, consecutive affections of the itch;

* See the 8th proposition.

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here the higher potencies suit better than the others. It is the same with chronic nervous maladies, as epilepsy, neuralgies, and neuroses.

23. The doses of a homœopathic medicament cannot be small enough, so as to render it inferior to the force of the disease.*

This is not the place to examine if a strong dose is always injurious, but it may be said, *en passant*, that the harmlessness is rather in the lower than in the higher potencies; for this reason, that the higher potencies are always employed in the form of globules, whilst of the others, drops and grains are administered. Experience has confirmed the opportuneness of both these modes of administration.

To be continued.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE RHODE ISLAND HOMŒOPATHIC SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of the above Society was held in Providence on the 7th of May last. A large audience attended, and listened with great attention to the first lecture on homœopathy ever delivered in the island. Dr. Charles Neidhard, Professor of Clinical Medicine in the Homœopathic College of Pennsylvania, delivered the Annual Address, from which we extract:—

The object of the Society, as expressed in their Constitution, is "the advancement of the science of homœopathy," a vast subject, not only important to the members of the Society, but to the public generally, which every year take a deeper interest in these annual addresses of medical men, giving a *résumé* of its progress during the year. In former times the public cared very little about medical controversies, because all the innovations in medicine did not establish the science on a sounder basis; but the discovery of a new and eternal law of cure has naturally riveted all eyes. The people wish to understand the true grounds which made such a great body of physicians deserters from the regular ranks, being well aware that upon the truth or falsehood of their convictions, their own lives as well as that of their families may depend.

It is a pleasant task, when the physician, whose sympathies are almost exhausted by a reiteration of the same routine duties, can for a moment at least free himself from his arduous calling and look back with his friends and fellow-physicians to the past. The homœopathic reformer is then particularly inclined to ask himself, if the faith of the community in his favourite doctrine has been strengthened. Have the eyes of the people generally been further opened to the light of the new science? and do our colleagues of the ancient system still persist in what we must call their blindness? On all these points a favourable answer may be given. Homœopathy has never made more progress than at the present period. Homœopathy has at an early day enlisted in its favour the voices of some of the most intellectual and noble men of the age. It has on its side the good wishes of the hopeful and generous, and above all, the sympathies of a vast number of those restored to health by its means. Some of the most distinguished men of the old system, like Tessier, of the Hôpital St. Marguerite, in Paris, and Dr. Varley, in a discourse before the Royal Belgian Academy of Medicine, have only lately offered their testimony in favour of the science, and eminent professors in our country have acknowledged their belief in the truth of the homœopathic principle; but strange and paradoxical as it may appear to you, not in the Hahnemannian doctrines. I trust they have been sincere.

It is well worth while to canvass the whole length and breadth of our doctrine on occasions like the present, in order to be again reassured whether we, the advocates of this doctrine, are on the right track, whether the great law, which we have selected for our guiding star, is truly that great law of nature which we claim it to be, and which was revealed to man by a superior power for the cure of his diseases. I hope to be successful in this lecture in convincing my audience in some degree, at least, of the supremacy and universality of the Hahnemannian law of cure.

When Hahnemann first promulgated it to the medical world, the latter felt perfectly amazed. Not a few independent medical men were struck with its inward truthfulness; many openly confessed their belief of its consonance with other laws of nature, but at the same time declared that it was by no means new; a few vain-glorious professors at the universities, and authors of very sublime systems of medicine, completely denied the existence of such a law. But although many had more or less faith in the homœopathic law of cure, few physicians nevertheless adopted it at that early stage, because it was connected with another doctrine, that of the infinitesimal doses, which they were not prepared to adopt, although it was but a necessary consequence of the former. Let us endeavour to grasp some of the hidden meanings of this law, although in our obscure human mental vision, we may never be able to unravel its whole inward mystery—never fathom its whole depth. Let us examine the reasons and arguments which may be advanced for placing it on an unimpregnable basis.

In the first place stands the great fact, that from the time of Hahnemann, from the time of Hippocrates, and as far as any records are left, from the beginning of all times, all true cures of diseases were always performed according to the homœopathic law. Hahnemann, in his Organon, quotes about fifty cases of such homœopathic cures, which he has collected from the writings of different allopathic physicians of all times.

The evidence in favour of the homœopathic

* See Organon.

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law from men distinguished in medical science, is not unimportant. In the writings attributed to Hippocrates there occur the following remarkable words:—"Vomiting is cured by vomiting. There are diseases whose cause and remedy are of the same nature, or homogeneous."

A Danish army physician, of the name of Stahl, says distinctly:—"The rule generally acted on in medicine, to treat by means of oppositely acting remedies, is quite false and the reverse of what it ought to be. I am, on the contrary convinced; that diseases will yield to and be cured by remedies that produce a similar affection *(similia similibus)*, burns by exposure to the fire, frost-bitten limbs by the application of snow and the coldest water, inflammation and bruises by distilled spirits, and in like manner I have treated a tendency to acidity of the stomach by a very small dose of *Sulphuric acid*, with the most successful result, in cases where a number of absorbent remedies had been fruitlessly employed." Dr. Saint Marie, at the head of the Lyonnese Faculty, has said in his Medical Formulary:—"It is certain, that we sometimes cure by acting in the same direction as Nature does, and by completing through our means the salutary efforts which she has commenced, but which she has not the power to accomplish. It is thus, that at an epoch, when *Quinine* was unknown, irregular intermittent fevers, characterised by sopor, have been cured by *Opium*." He also refers to diarrhœas as having been removed by drastic purgatives, and epilepsies cured by an empiric, by means of a remedy which in the first twenty-four hours caused more violent attacks of the disease. He continues: "It is impossible that these cures should be nothing but lucky hits, they are undoubtedly to be ascribed to some great Therapeutic Law."

Messrs. Merat and Delens have written: "It is a remarkable circumstance to see some remedies recommended to cure nearly the same diseases, which other practitioners see them produce. Messrs. Trousseau and Pidoux (Therapeutics, 2nd edit.): "Experience has proved that a great number of diseases are cured by therapeutic agents, which seem to act in the same manner as the cause of the evil to which they are opposed." Dr. Fodera: "A disease of irritability may be cured by irritants."

Haller, Stahl, and Linnee are of opinion, that to treat diseases by contraries is completely false and absurd.

Descartes, in his "Outlines of Medicine," has established the fact that "like cures like."

Professor Eshenmayer says: "Homœopathy is the direct method, and allopathy the indirect. Of direct methods there can only be one, of the indirect, many, as the antiphlogistic, resolvent, revulsive, deobstruent, etc. By the direct method an impulse is given to the specific reaction of the healing power, so that the disease is not only attacked in its effects upon different organs or systems, as with the indirect method, but in its origin and seat, whereby it is prevented from passing through its different stages. Why should this not be possible? Why should we not be able to find agents having a direct effect upon the specific reaction of the healing power? There is no reasonable ground to doubt it. With homœopathy, experience has already strongly corroborated this by facts. To pretend to deny it, displays either ignorance, stubbornness, indolence, or dread of the new system.

Similar admissions with regard to the truth of the homœopathic law might be quoted from the works of Paracelsus, Hunter, Sydenham, Hiester, Stoerk, Van Helmont, Brera, and many others.

At a later period, Dr. Amador de Rosnero, one of the most distinguished professors of the University at Montpellier, uttered the following language: "Practically, homœopathy is a method which may be added to those already existing, but generally surpasses the others. It is one road more, but one more direct, on which one passes with greater celerity and with more speed and comfort even. The new therapeutics addresses itself to the vital forces in order to cure a disease, as the vital pathology investigates these forces in order to understand their growth. The doctrine of vitality has always professed the great principle, that, above all, the vital force was the original source of the disease, and therefore it was, above all, against these same forces that the agent was to be directed, which was to destroy the morbid changes. By the great and beautiful discovery of Hahnemann, the sphere of vitalism has been greatly enlarged, and, what is more, he has placed this doctrine on a practical basis, which will continue to exist henceforward beyond a doubt.

In addition to the above, an advanced section of the allopathic school, comprising some of the most eminent physicians of modern times, acknowledges the truth of the homœopathic law in a limited sense, it strenuously, however, denies its universality, for which we contend.

These physicians, for instance, could never disavow those familiar illustrations of the homœopathic law, which are now known and understood by every one, such as the prevention of smallpox by vaccination, the cure of frost-bitten limbs by snow, burns by application of heat, the quicker and more permanent removal of heat from the body by a cup of hot tea, than by a drink of cold water. Sea-sickness is best cured by following the motions of the ship, as every sailor knows.

Says Hahnemann: "Why does the brilliant planet Jupiter, disappear in the twilight from the eyes of him who gazes at it? Because a similar but more potent power, the light of breaking day, then acts upon these organs. By what means does the soldier cunningly remove from the ears of the compassionate spectator the cries of him who runs the gauntlet? By the piercing tones of the fife, coupled with the noise of the drum. By what means do they drown the distant roar of the enemy's cannon, which carries terror to the heart of the soldier? By the deep-mouthed clamour of the big drum.—Neither the compassion nor the terror could be suppressed by reprimands or a distribution of brilliant uniforms. In the same manner, mourning and sadness are extinguished in the soul, when the news reaches us of a still greater misfortune occurring to another."

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I will now review the different faculties common to man and animals, and then those common to man alone, which strikingly illustrate this law.

You have often heard it laughingly said, that the best cure for love is the possession of the beloved object, which is quite true. Opposition to it on the side of parents, guardians, or friends will only strengthen this passion, as the experience of all ages has shown. Nostalgia, home-sickness, that singular disease, with which the Swiss nation are particularly affected, is cured by a return to their mountain home, or the removal of the patient to a mountainous country, similar to his own. A Swiss lady of my acquaintance, whose health, strength, and spirits were rapidly failing from this disease, whilst living in a large and crowded Atlantic city—she was only the shadow of her former self—was immediately restored by removing with her family to a beautiful and romantic region in the Blue Mountains, which somewhat resembled her own Swiss home.

Fear.—We can best cure a timid man of fear, by placing him in situations of great danger, where all his courage must be exerted, causing him to disregard all fear. Thus the young recruits are seldom able to stand the first onslaught of the enemy, they will only gradually become accustomed to scenes of danger, while the veteran of a hundred battle-fields, like the war-horse in Job, "mocketh at fear, and is not affrighted, neither turneth he back from the sword."

Pride.—A proud man is never cured of his pride by the utmost exercise of humility on the part of his dependant, but only by a dignified and manly behaviour. The more the latter humbles himself, the more arrogant becomes the former.

Vanity.—A lady of my acquaintance lately wrote from the West Indies that, according to her opinion, ladies could be easiest cured of their love of finery by seeing the West Indian negresses extravagantly indulge themselves in the same propensity without measure or sense. The best lecture on the subject would not have an equally beneficial effect.

The modern treatment of the insane is entirely conducted on homœopathic principles. The physician never flatly contradicts the absurd vagaries or ravings of his patient, but apparently enters into his feelings, and gradually seeks to draw him out of it by his own inward impulse, by addressing the small portion of good sense that is still left to him. Thus a very beautiful girl in a state of insanity fancied she had become very ugly, and was inconsolable. Her parents, friends, and admirers did not contradict her, but pretended that they could hardly look at her on acccount of her extreme ugliness. This had the desired effect, and she again became sane.

The celebrated Sir Astley Cooper had the misfortune on a journey to be carried by mistake into an Insane Asylum, and to be subjected to the medical treatment of a madman, who gave himself out for a physician. His prescription was the following: first, venesection; then the douche-bath and starvation; finally, the great shower-bath, extraction of three teeth, bastinado, and incarceration. Astley Cooper himself says: "I trembled all over, for such treatment would certainly have made me insane."

Nature, if left to her unaided exertions, will cure homœopathically. The microscopical discoveries of the allopathic physician Kaltenbrunner always seemed to me to contain the most powerful arguments in favour of the truth of the homœopathic law. A person receives a wound, but leaves its cure entirely to nature. How does the latter effect it? In all cases for the cure and dissipation of the morbid inflammation, a state perfectly similar to it is developed, which Kaltenbrunner calls the curative inflammation. "Driven with accelerated motion, masses of the globules of the blood (here and there) rush by starts from the capillaries and pour themselves into the parenchyma of the inflamed part. Here they lie, as bright red spots or islands of different sizes. Soon the whole wound is surrounded by these islands, and the intervening tissue becomes highly turgid. This process which appears at first at the circumference of the inflammation, by degrees also involves the centre, completely resembling the morbid inflammation, and it is by its means that the morbid changes produced by the latter are gradually extinguished."

Now the homœopathic principle cannot be more beautifully illustrated than by these discoveries. That what is called allopathic medicine is not in the least supported by them. Thus Nature itself confirms the homœopathic law.

Many of the operations enjoined in the system of Swedish medical gymnastics are strikingly in conformity with the homœopathic principles. Thus for vertigo it is usual to use a whirling movement of the head or the neck; for congestion to the head, pressure on the jugular veins; for hot palms and soles, frictions on these parts; for swelling of the extremities, ligature above the swollen part; for hæmoptysis, percussion on the chest, etc., all which operations produce the same symptoms they are employed to remove.

If anything, however, were wanting to convince us in a familiar and incontrovertible manner of the truth of our fundamental principle, we need only refer to the cure of the diseases of the dumb creation, by homœopathic medicines. The most confirmed sceptic could not withhold his assent, if he saw old chronic diseases in animals gradually yield to the influence of the proper homœopathic specifics, particularly if he had seen the same disease remain stationary, or gradually become aggravated under the other treatment. Although any allopathic physician can at any moment satisfy himself of the truth of this asssertion by attending the different homœopathic veterinary establishments existing in this country, he is too firmly convinced in his mind of the folly of the homœopathic doctrine, to avail himself of these means of information. He prefers to dwell on the power of the imagination of the homœopathist as a reason for opposing homœo-

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pathy, which argument of course fails here in the case of animals. Unfortunately for him, they are cured without knowing much about it.

The poets also come to our aid in their advocacy of the homœopathic law. The beautiful verses from Shakespeare, commencing—

"One fire burns out another's burning,"

are well known to you all; and the celebrated physician and poet, Paul Flemming, already had a knowledge of homœopathy and practised it in the seventeenth century, as may be seen from one of his poems, which I will here subjoin in a free translation:

"A wise physician he, who, from the self-same source
Doth draw the antidote and bane.
Of this, a single grain works more efficiently
Than that long draught.
Is that physician to be praised who writes
Prescriptions yard in length to win
The thanks of the apothecary?"

A Latin poet also gives the following:

"Balnea, vina,
Venus consumunt corpora nostra;
Sed vitam faciunt balnea, vina, Venus."

After we have once established the truth of the homœopathic law, the comprehension of the action of the infinitesimal doses becomes comparatively easy, because they both are identical. This can hardly be controverted at the present day, when we remember that the disease and the homœopathic remedy are so nearly related to each other, resemble each other in so many points, that the medicine, prescribed according to the homœopathic law, would be most destructive in its operation, if it were taken in too large doses, in the same way as the report of a cannon may completely destroy the hearing, already sensitive from disease. You will thus perceive that a dose of the true homœopathic remedy, that which has some affinity to the disease, cannot according to its nature be otherwise than small.

Allopathy, on the other hand, acts consistently in giving large doses of its remedies, because these remedies generally stand in no relation whatever to the disease; but when this does accidentally happen, the consequences are most deleterious.

The mineral, vegetable, and animal kingdoms contain innumerable substances, which all have some affinity to man and his diseases, and this does not merely relate to what may strictly be called medicines, but every substance, particularly food, has some affinity to a particular constitution, or man. As certain manures will only improve certain soils, in the same way definite articles of diet and medicines will only be consonant to the individual nature. It is here, where the law of idiosyncrasies becomes so closely united with that of homœopathy. This will explain to us why one person is made sick by the same diet that agrees so well with another.

My aim, which I hope I have at least in part attained, was to impress upon your minds my conviction of the following truths:

1. That the homœopathic law is not merely a rule devised by man, like allopathy, hydropathy, and other methods, but a divine law of Nature.

2. That all the greatest powers of Nature are of the most subtile kind, but must have some affinity to man or his diseases, in order to produce a powerful and striking effect.

3. That both being thus related to each other, the dose must be necessarily small, and consequently the law "*similia similibus*" and the homœopathic dose must stand or fall together.

One word more in conclusion: the great issue between the ancient and new system of medicine is the old contest between matter and spirit; and every one will be obliged to take part in it, sooner or later, and range himself on one side or the other. In the chemical laboratory, in Liebig's theories, is now sought the health of mankind, and this at a time when all over the world the best minds are proclaiming the advent of a more spiritual era.

As yet there stand many proud structures, in different parts of our country, devoted to medical teaching of what we must call the false and exploded doctrine of allopathy. In saying this, I, of course, do not refer to the auxiliary sciences of medicine; I mean that the general prevalence of the present allopathic doctrines has been rather fatal to mankind, in which belief I am fully sustained by the testimony of the most celebrated allopathic names, which it will not be necessary here to quote. In a reformatory science like homœopathy, which still requires much cultivation to perfect it, I would, however, rather favour a certain humility of spirit, and a contempt to win laurels by any unworthy means. Let its own inward truth be its only weapon, and that will surely in the end carry the day. In the distant horizon I see a light arise, which is becoming gradually brighter and brighter; it is our own divine science of homœopathy, whose rays will entirely dissipate the darkness created by the ancient method.

In the words of Jean Paul Richter, I say to you: "There will come another period of time, when it shall be day, and when man shall awaken from his lofty dreams only to realize them; because he shall lose nothing but sleep; and upon the eastern gate of this century is written: This is the road to virtue and wisdom, even as upon the eastern gate of Chersonesus stood the inscription—'This is the road to Byzantium.'

"Infinite Providence! thou wilt cause the day to dawn! as yet, however, lingers the twelfth hour of the night. The midnight birds of prey are upon the wing—the spirits knock—the living dream."

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH, 1851.

WE have heard favourable reports of the Homœopathic Congress held lately at Paris. The proceedings passed over in the most satisfactory manner, and there were repre-

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sentatives present from most quarters of the world. This will prove another awkward fact for the *Lancet*, and probably it may invite the wrath of the Editors to make it the source of fresh attacks upon our principles and practice.

But for such a course of conduct we do not care. What we look at is the success of our philosophy; that is becoming every day more certain, and therefore we can afford to suffer our adversaries to rail at their leisure. When we now find that homœopathy is generally courted instead of being reviled as formerly, no occasion exists for our betraying fears for its progress. Based as the principles of the science are on truth, they have only to be widely disseminated to be proportionately appreciated.

It is the extremely simple nature of Hahnemann's doctrines, associated as they are with the experience of every-day life, that render them so popular when once they are studied. Unencumbered by the professional mystery of the old school, neophytes readily enter into the practical detail of that which, according to the labyrinth of ancient etiquette, would take them years to acquire. The "royal road" thus opened is naturally distasteful to the allopath, because it lays bare the fraud and deceit so long successfully practised upon the unsuspecting public.

The iniquity encouraged by the colleges, under the immediate sanction of the highest names in the allopathic profession, will, ere long, receive its due reward. The period is fast approaching when the respective administrations of those institutions will discover that the public have become as enlightened as themselves on the fallacies they have propagated. When it is too late they will wish they could retrace their steps, and reconstitute their bodies on some higher and surer foundation.

The experience of the last decade must teach them that the scales are fast falling from the vision of their victims, and that the more extensive the circulation of homœopathic principles become, the more certain is the issue of the doom that awaits them. It merely requires homœopathists to be true to themselves, to achieve this result much earlier than their opponents calculate or desire.

To work out this end, all ought to co-operate zealously together. Any lukewarmness must be set aside—steady, persevering endeavours must be made to give full effect to the progress of the Cause, which, for the sake of humanity at large, deserves our most cheerful and unrelaxing support. By these means we shall work such a revolution in the theory and practice of the old school of medicine, as shall benefit not alone health, but also the pocket,—the latter a thing of no mean importance with most classes, whether high or low, but especially among those whose resources are diminished when incapacitated by sickness from following the occupations in which they are placed. The length of the doctor's bill has, from time immemorial, constituted a ground of complaint with the public, and the public have now the remedy in their own hands.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Sir,—It has been, for the last seven years, my good fortune as well as my pride to bring over many converts to the system of Hahnemann. Many have first heard of homœopathy from me; many more have been built up in their belief; while numbers of all ranks have, at least, been convinced by the effects of the globules I have administered to them, that infinitesimal doses of medicine are by no means powerless, and that those who scoff at them, as utterly ineffectual for good or evil, speak foolishly and presumptuously of things which they neither understand nor take the trouble fairly to investigate. Judge then of my astonishment, when I was lately presented with a pamphlet, from an anonymous well-wisher, which, it was stated, was to convince me that homœopathy was a complete imposition from beginning to end. The pamphlet is termed "Homœopathy Unveiled," by William Perrin Brodribb, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, England, etc., etc.

On turning to the *Homœopathic Times* of June 14th, 1851, I find this pamphlet criticised in the nineteenth Hahnemannian Essay, but, on a perusal of the pamphlet and essay, I am disposed to think that the essayist has treated Mr. Brodribb rather too mercifully.

With your permission, and for the benefit of your readers, I will mention some of Mr. Brod-

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ribb's weak points, from which I think it will be evident that he does not deserve the title which the essayist awards him of an honourable opponent.

Mr. Brodribb sets out with stating that the disciples of Hahnemann may fairly be allowed to say, "Do not reject without investigation; and, before you condemn, fairly examine." He then adds, "Truth can never suffer from being thoroughly sifted; while observation and experience teach us that a slight and partial examination of a subject often serves only to confirm us in the belief of error." He then goes on to state, that because "the public are very imperfect judges of many questions, and especially in medical science," "therefore it seems to be a duty especially incumbent on members of the medical profession to inquire into the merits of a system claiming for itself not only new and valuable discoveries, but also the only true and safe method of healing."

After such an exordium, every reader of "Homœopathy Unveiled" expects, and has a fair right to expect, investigation, fair examination, a thorough sifting; above all things, no slight or partial examination, but a full inquiry into the merits of the homœopathic system of medicine.

Deluded reader, I wish you may get all this! The ink has not ebbed dry in Mr. Brodribb's pen before he dissipates all hopes of fair treatment, by stating, "At the very threshold, however, of our inquiry into the truth of homœopathy, we meet with assumptions so gross, and pretensions so extravagant, as to render investigation absolutely puerile and absurd." Of course, Mr. Brodribb could not be expected to condescend to inquire into such follies. Honest Brodribb! straightforward investigator! fair examiner! thorough sifter! may I not well compare him to an unwilling horse which, when put into the shafts to draw a heavy carriage up a steep hill, not relishing the job, yet from old habit willing to please its masters, makes pretence to touch the collar, and then, disappointing the reasonable hopes of the bystanders, jibs and upsets the equipage into the adjoining ditch?

Yet Mr. Brodribb would make us believe that he will do the work after all: "Notwithstanding the disagreeableness of such a voluntary humiliation, I determined to enter upon the work, and to the best of my ability to examine and judge for myself. For this purpose, I resolved to study the doctrines and principles of the system, to test the homœopathic medicines, and to witness the practice as seen in the hospitals."

Now, then, he has got his neck against the collar again, the carriage is righted, and we shall get up the hill after all. But no! will it be believed that of these three points, which to the best of his ability he is going to examine, he writes *not one line* upon the last; while of the second he says but *very little*, and that not at all after the manner of a straightforward investigator, a fair examiner, or a thorough sifter?

Being a non-medical by profession, I do not pretend to argue with Mr. Brodribb upon the first point, the study of the doctrines and principles of the system. I leave him to the M.D.s. At the same time, I cannot help pointing out one or two strange statements for an impartial pamphleteer. Mr. Brodribb finds fault with Hahnemann for "rejecting all instructions from others." He accuses the great founder of our system of "laying down, as so many principles and laws, the wildest and most theoretical notions, and of assuming as true, propositions which no amount of experiment can ever verify and establish." Again, he states that Hahnemann, "by a false generalization, has built upon the doctrine *similia similibus curantur* a superstructure entirely fictitious and imaginary." Now one would think that our impartial Mr. Brodribb would have produced good reasons to support these statements. But what do we find? Merely the *ipse dixit* of allopathy; partial, unfair, uninquiring, unsifting allopathy. "With certain exceptions," writes the oracular Mr. Brodribb, "it is a misstatement of facts to represent medicines as capable of producing symptoms corresponding to real diseases." Again: "We have reason to believe that the great majority of medicines have certainly no specific power." Again: "In a very few instances only, we can ascribe to certain remedies a specific power of counteracting certain morbid actions." Again: "The beneficial action of all other remedies (save *Cinchona*, *Mercury*, and *Sulphur*) is secondary, and only auxiliary to the powers of nature, by placing the body in circumstances more favourable to the spontaneous decline of diseases." Again: "*Lead* will give rise to the symptoms of colic and of paralysis, but it will not cure those affections." Again; "We find that all these medicines are in reality reduced to the same level of nothingness, by the infinitesimal doses in which they are given." Again; "Nothing in the fictions of poetry or romance, or even in the lying wonders of a credulous superstition, can surpass the pretensions of these magical, wonder-working globules."

Now really, after all these oracular statements, one would believe that Mr. Brodribb had gone through all the homœopathic pharmacopœia as a prover, and found the whole to be neither more nor less than a fudge.

Has he done so? Let us proceed to his *second* point of inquiry. "I resolved to test the homœopathic medicines." What does he appear to have done in this way? "I have often given to persons homœopathic medicines, but without their producing any effect. I have also repeatedly made trial of them on myself by taking some for several days together. I have taken daily for a fortnight some globules of *Rhus Toxicodendron*. I have taken also, for the same period, globules of *Nux Vomica*, of *Aconite*, of *Pulsatilla*, of *Mercurius*, and of *Arsenic*, and on each occasion without feeling the slightest effect whatever."

How barren is Mr. Brodribb's statement with reference to his practice on others! "I have often given to persons homœopathic medicines, but without their producing any effect." Now, when a man sits down to unveil homœopathy,

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he certainly should have told us who his patients were, men, women, or children; what were their complaints; and what the homœopathic remedies he gave them. I do not feel satisfied myself that this bold pamphleteer understands enough of the system of homœopathy to treat the simplest case. I gather this from one part of his *brochure*, where he says, that it is allopathic practice to give a few drops of *Laudanum* to send a man to sleep and relieve pain; and then argues as if it would be homœopathic practice to dilute these in gallons of water, and then give an equal number of drops to produce the same results. I should not be at all surprised if he has been giving a globule of *Jalap*, with the idea that the homœopathic law is that such an infinitesimal will purge a patient, as well as a bolus of the same medicine. If such be Mr. Brodribb's apprehension of homœopathy, I cannot help fancying that he is not much unlike an aspiring mathematical student, who fancies himself a thorough geometrician, though he has never fairly got over the *Pons Asinorum*. I imagine that most non-medical homœopaths know more of homœopathy, and have more fairly tested its merits than Mr. Brodribb. I can safely say, that I have very seldom administered globules without having their powers recognised by rich and poor, and that, had I the time and space, I could mention many cases to show the plain effects of the medicines on men, women, and children. I will mention one instance which any one may test, namely, the administration of *Aconite* to infants, when suffering from teething. Suppose a child to have been awake for a couple of hours, unable to rest, with its gums inflamed and hot; screaming, and refusing to be quieted. One globule of *Aconite*, in a teaspoonful of water, will relieve that child, and permit it to fall asleep, free from pain, in from five minutes to a quarter of an hour. I have tested this, many a time and oft, upon my own children. To nurses it appears almost miraculous, so instantaneous, in general, is the relief. I will mention one more case, to show the effects of *Belladonna* in relieving the head. A little boy of mine, of three years and a half old, had a bad feverish attack, his head becoming very much affected, and his extremities very cold. I instructed my wife to give him a globule of *Belladonna* to relieve these symptoms. In less than a quarter of an hour, he called out, "Mamma, take the bedclothes off my feet, they are so hot." On feeling his hands and his feet, they had become hot and burning, like the rest of his body, and his head was relieved. I mention these cases, because such young children are not influenced by faith, to which Mr. Brodribb quietly attributes any apparent results of our system.

I only wish that twelve honest allopathic doctors would form a jury to witness the treatment of infants *only*, under a year old, and I suspect when they had seen a few bad cases of croup, bronchitis, etc. etc., successfully and speedily cured, that they would be obliged to give a verdict against Mr. Brodribb, and acknowledge that homœopathy is, *at least*, a real curative principle, and not a downright imposture.

But I must not forget that Mr. Brodribb also tested the homœopathic medicines on himself. I cannot say, however, that I think his statement on this point is satisfactory. It is, to say the least, very meagre. Let me endeavour to fill up the void, and picture to you Mr. Brodribb testing the globules. I will imagine our honourable opponent swallowing the infinitesimals on rising from bed, then shaving with Naples soap strongly perfumed with peppermint, washing his face and hands with camphor soap, and his teeth with a camphorated dentifrice; then, his toilet being nearly completed, greasing his hair with pomatum scented with essential oil of almonds, and perfuming his handkerchief with eau de Cologne. Follow him into his breakfast-room, and see him taking a couple of cups of coffee and one of strong tea, a well-peppered mutton chop, or a leg of a chicken well flavoured with cayenne. Perhaps after his morning meal Mr. Brodribb smokes a cigar to promote digestion. Possibly this is not his only acquaintance with the Virginian weed, perhaps he takes an occasional pinch of snuff between whiles. After this, in the course of the morning, I will imagine him strolling into some favourite chemist's shop, and snuffing up some of the hydra-headed scents of such a *locale*, or passing through the wards of a hospital and inhaling a few infinitesimal exhalations of the old school of allopathy. I next see him, in my mind's eye, at his luncheon, some bread and cheese, with a glass of the best bitter ale (genuine malt and hops), send him out strengthened to visit his patients. Next, I trace him to the dinner-table; where some highly-peppered soup flavoured with asparagus, if in the spring, or with celery in the winter, some roast beef and horseradish, some mild Portugal onions, and a salad, make up his meal, which is washed down with some more bitter beer and a glass or two of wine; another cup of coffee probably follows, and then, with a cup or two of tea at a later hour, our honourable opponent's consumption of solids and fluids ends for the day, and our straightforward investigator, our fair examiner, our thorough sifter, goes to bed, flattering himself that he is proving globules in the most exemplary manner. Now this picture may be a little exaggerated, but if so, it is Mr. Brodribb's own fault, as he has never given us an idea how he dieted himself while he tested the homœopathic medicines; we are not even sure that our honourable opponent did not swallow the globules upon a full stomach. I imagine that one-fourth part of the transgressions in diet, etc., which I have pictured to myself, would be sufficient to neutralize the effects of any globules.

But to proceed with Mr. Brodribb's meagre statements. "Desirous of testing them as fairly as possible, I have requested homœopathic practitioners to give me any of their medicines, offering to take them in any dose, and for any length of time they pleased, but these offers have always been declined." It would have been well had the names of these practitioners been mentioned; for my part, I cannot believe that any fair inquirer would be thus treated. He then finishes this part of his subject by de-

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claring, "From the trials made of the medicines on myself, and from all other means of judging, I do not hesitate to declare that these globules have no more effect than so many particles of starch or of sugar: that, like the gods of the heathen, they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good." What were his other means of judging? He should in common fairness have mentioned them.

I come now to Mr. Brodribb's *third* resolution. "I resolved to witness the practice as seen in the hospitals." But as I cannot find another word on this point in the whole pamphlet, I conclude *his other means of judging* must stand for this. Now, if Mr. Brodribb had stated, "I saw, on such a day, a case of pneumonia die in the London Homœopathic Hospital, under Dr. A.; and I saw a case of erysipelas die on another day in the Hahnemann Hospital, under Dr. B.; and they were such cases as, in all human probability, would have done well under severer treatment," then he would have wound up his pamphlet with at least an apparent triumph over Hahnemann and his followers. As it is, I can only suppose that Mr. Brodribb has either never put his foot inside a homœopathic hospital, or that, if he has done so, he has not been able to strengthen his case. Possibly it is only by an oversight that we have his threefold resolution in the exordium, he having, on second thoughts, considered it advisable not to touch upon the third division of his resolution when finishing his pamphlet.

Mr. Brodribb's performance, "Homœopathy Unveiled," is, in point of fact, an absurdity; the *first* part is the one-sided judgment of allopathy upon homœopathy (the judgment given before the evidence has been produced, and one-third of which evidence is withheld), merely because its doctrines are strange and unaccountable to the old school; the *second* part, the testing of the medicines, is got over in one page out of twenty-eight; the *third* part, and to an Unveiler of Homœopathy the most important one, is burked altogether. The testing of the medicines and the failure of the hospital practice (could such failure have been discovered, we should have heard of it), ought to have been the data upon which to condemn Hahnemann and his system. As it is, our great Reformer of medicine is branded as insane by one who has shown so little common sense as to rush into print, and exhibit so perfect a knowledge of his subject, as absolutely to omit the most important part of it before he reached the limit of twenty-eight octavo pages of large type. I fancy Hahnemann's mind was of a somewhat sounder and more extensive calibre than that of our pamphleteer. Leaving it to yourself and your readers to decide whether you consider Mr. Brodribb to be a wise man and an honourable opponent,

I remain, Sir, faithfully yours,

A NON-MEDICAL OBSERVER.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—The last few numbers of your journal, in which you relate the proceedings of the Universities of St. Andrew's and Edinburgh, of the College of Physicians of Edinburgh, and the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, have given us intense delight, so intense indeed, that from a casual reader of your excellent pages I shall henceforth become a regular subscriber.

The homœopaths of Great Britain ought to look upon the indirectly suicidal acts of those foolish men as an invaluable godsend, and inwardly rejoice at them. Those short-sighted persons could never have done anything else half so good for the advancement of homœopathy. Human nature is, and ever will be, callous to the lesson of history. Only, for God's sake, strike the iron whilst it is hot—don't let it get cold again. The glove has been thrown down, let homœopathy take it up with a vengeance! Agitate, agitate, agitate. Don't keep only on the defensive, attack the lion in his own den. The *Lancet*, *Medical Times*, and other allopathic journals, furnish you with innumerable cases, which are libels on common sense and common humanity, and form excellent starting-points for attack. Believe me, the enemy is driven to a last desperate effort. Forward with your best troops and at them!!

Sir, I have been many years on the Continent, and have known intimately the Coryphæi of homœopathy; indeed, I may say, I know a little of homœopathic science and practice, and I rejoice additionally at the present attacks on homœopathy, because there is, *at last*, some hope that the homœopathic practitioners will thereby be pushed (not to use a more forcible expression) *into a sense of their own dignity*. Hitherto it has been a source of pain and regret, not to say indignation, to those who are acquainted with the spirit of Hahnemann's doctrine, and have gone in their study of it beyond Messrs. Jahr and Co.'s little books, that too many of the professors of those glorious truths, instead of assuming that proud and lofty stand which the inseparable importance and outward interest of homœopathy imperatively required, have, in their anxiety to conciliate their step-brethren of allopathy, entirely lost sight of what was due to themselves as men of science, to their illustrious master and his saving doctrines. On this subject, I should like to be allowed to address you on a future occasion. Let us hope that henceforth the disciples of Hahnemann will assume that lofty and independent stand to which they are entitled, and if they truly save life and restore health, the public will not be slow in recognising them among the greatest benefactors of mankind, and award them such a position as will be inferior to none in the state. They will have the additional merit of rescuing the truly noble profession of medicine from the present degraded social position to which vulgarity, ignorance, and uncouth treatment of disease have reduced it. Medicine requires as much external as internal reform, and it appears to be the especial duty of the homœopaths to reconstruct the whole edifice from its foundation.

Apologizing for the length of this epistle,

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

CAVENDISH W. LEONARD.

Birmingham, Sept. 1, 1851.

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To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR, — It may be encouraging to the public advocates of homœopathy to know how this noble cause of humanity is finding its way into and making progress in remote districts of the country. Here is a district containing a popu- of about 4,000, and, although largely supplied with allopathic doctors and druggists' shops, it is forty miles distant from the nearest homœopathic physician. Were we to continue to be drugged according to the common system until a physician of the new school arrived amongst us? The grave might have been our lodging-house ere that, for until more populous districts are supplied, the lesser ones must be content to be without one. Many of us are taking the matter into our own hands, and doing the best we can in the meantime, anxiously desiring that a properly qualified person may at some future time settle among us. And who can blame us? When, finding that *Nux vomica* and *Sulphur* are more efficient in relieving constipation than *Salts, Senna*, or *Castor oil*, etc., does not common sense dictate the use of them rather than these nauseous drugs? Or, finding that *Belladonna* is more efficient in curing sore throat than mustard blisters and pungent gargles, is it not more easy and natural to apply the one than these others? Just so; and that is being done. What think ye? There are five cases of homœopathic medicine in this district, and another is to be added shortly, and besides domestic treatises to them all, there are several "*Jahrs.*" Rest assured, with these means we are not idle, and there are many, from personal experience of the healing virtues of the new science, who are enthusiastic in its advocacy, through good and bad report. It is becoming a living fact, and pregnant with agitation. Put it down! The *Lancet* may as well attempt to bellow down the rising sun, and hinder it from illumining the world with its cheering beams. That wrathful Goliah, that would tread the truth and the best of men under his feet, may cease his mad ravings; for young homœopathy, like young David, will, ere long, lay his huge dimensions in the dust, and wrench from his clutches the reeking instrument that spilled the life's blood of thousands. Pooh! will we allow a brandishing lancet to pierce our veins now, and drain away the stream of life, while a few drops of *Aconite* will do the work infinitely better? Or consent to swallow a bitter aloetic pill, when a sweet little globule will do? No, no, it won't do. No assertions of the medical press nor anathemas of colleges will make the public believe that bitter's sweet, and sweet's bitter. And mark this, it is the public that is to settle the matter. The doctors exist for the public, and not the public for the doctors; and so far as the public are concerned, and have had opportunity, they are rapidly giving in their adhesion to homœopathy. Suffering humanity over the whole land is sighing for this divine gift, and physicians duly qualified to apply it have only to make their appearance to be welcomed as benefactors. In the meantime, lay homœopaths must do their duty in their own circles in spreading the new system, to open up the way for physicians at once entering upon a work of usefulness. This has been our work for some time past, and with no small success. Scarcely a day passes by, but some patient applies to be treated by the little tasteless doses, after having been drugged to their loss by all the heterogeneous mass of compounds in vogue in the old school.

Take one case for the present as a "*tit bit*" for the *Lancet*, A woman, who had been treated by her family doctor for about thirty years, and was nothing the better, but much the worse, complained of the following symptoms:

1. A swelled stomach.
2. Inability to bear her clothes round the hypochondria.
3. A tickling cough, which allows her no rest during the night.
4. Difficulty of breathing.
5. Palpitation of the heart on making exertion.
6. Great languor in the morning, and difficulty in rising from the bed, from weakness, with dry tongue and bad taste in the mouth.
7. Water-brash.
8. Great fatigue after a walk, with pains in the loins.
9. Occasionally feverish, with flushed cheeks, and cold hands and feet.
10. Inclined to speak much about her disease despondingly.

Nux covering all the symptoms, with the exception of water-brash, which indicated *Sulphur*, the former was given principally for several weeks, with an occasional dose of *Sulphur*, and to her no small astonishment and comfort, she was completely relieved. The cough is entirely gone, and, as she expresses it herself, "I am a new person."

Dunse, Berwickshire, August 28. RUSTICUS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Wickwar, Sept. 1, 1851.

SIR, — Some articles have appeared in the *Lancet* concerning me and the affair of my resignation of membership in the Medical and Surgical Association of this county. The report of the proceedings at the annual meeting on the 10th of July, given in the *Lancet* of August 2nd, is substantially correct, though a little coloured. As to the comments made on that report in subsequent numbers by the editor, whose lucubrations you have honoured by transcribing in your paper of Saturday, the 30th of August, I feel quite incompetent to make any reply to them, so little versed am I in the slashing style of those precious *morceaux*. I will, however, with your permission, make a few statements bearing on the matter, so that you may know the origin and progress of it.

I was present at a quarterly meeting of the Association at Stroud, in the autumn of last year, where, after dinner, the conversation incidentally turned on the subject of homœopathy,

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and I mentioned that I had prepared and administered medicines in accordance with Hahnemann's principles, with success, in several instances. Previous to our breaking up, the secretary said, that if I, or the other gentleman who spoke about homœopathy, would prepare a paper on the subject, it might be brought forward at a meeting of the Association to be called for the purpose. The matter rested there; and I was debating whether I should call a meeting for the purpose of entertaining the subject, when I heard, that some of the members resident at Cheltenham, having seen my name in the list of homœopaths in the Directory, intended to propose my expulsion from the Association at the next meeting in April. I then consulted the President of the year, who is my relative, and he advised me to avoid, if I could, any public noise about the matter, and to tender my resignation. My own feelings seconded his view. I felt, that to continue a member of an Association whose members would repudiate me, was to remain in a humiliating position, revolting alike to my pride and delicacy. Therefore I sent to the secretary a letter of resignation, to be presented on the next day of meeting, and did not attend personally. The secretary was from home at that time, and his representative did not read my communication; I know not how it was, but so it was. No one mentioned my name, or that of homœopathy, and the matter remained in *statu quo* until the annual meeting.

I was present at that meeting, and found a very small number of members present, most of whom were of Cheltenham. Dr. Brookes rose to move that a reporter from the *Lancet* be admitted; which was objected to; but the objection was waived, on my stating that I knew the object of having the proceedings reported, and that I had nothing to fear from any investigation that might be made into my principles or practice. Dr. Brookes then proceeded to read a speech, under strong excitement, in the course of which he said that either he or I must be a rogue. "If you believe in homœopathy," said he, turning to me, "you must think I am a rogue." "No, no," from myself. The President.—"I deny it." Then, falling foul of the council, Dr. Brookes lost the thread of his discourse, and fell into a tirade of abuse of the council and officers, and homœopathy, preventing Mr. Wilton for about half an hour from reading my letter which he held in his hand. At length, Mr. Wilton seized a lull in the tempest, and read as follows:—

"DEAR MR. WILTON,—I have had some communication with the President of the Medical Association respecting the bringing forward a paper on the new therapeutic system termed homœopathy. On canvassing the matter very fully with him, I have come to the conclusion, that it will be better not to press the matter on the notice of the Association, especially as the profession have so determinedly set their faces against any innovation in the received system of drugging. And as I do not wish to create any disturbance in the Society, I had rather resign membership in it, than be looked upon as an obtruder of heretical opinions on a body so select, so united. I must claim the right of independence in the forming of my opinions on matters of practice; and if I be placed in the position of a dissenter with respect to the received doctrines of therapeutics, I must secede. Therefore I request that you will be kind enough to offer my resignation to the Society at the next meeting.

"Believe me to remain very faithfully yours,
"ADRIAN STOKES.
"Wickwar, March 28th, 1851."

To this Dr. Brookes had nothing more to say than that he wished it had been read before. The motion was put and seconded, that my resignation be accepted, and I was no longer a member of the Association.

It is a fine thing, Sir, to be the champion of orthodoxy in the provinces, and to stand up and do battle in the gap that young homœopathy has made in the bulwarks of old allopathy. How grateful and congenial the praise of the *Lancet* must be to such a champion! During the volley he fired against me and my adopted system, I said but very few words, knowing that my letter would be the best answer to the insinuated charge of dishonesty. Truly, it is hard to kick against the pricks! It were to be wished, for his own sake and that of good manners, that this warlike champion had somewhat restrained his ardour for the protection of "his doxy," and that he had spared his wrath and his breath; but let us hope it will not annihilate us, but that we may, like Mr. Weller, in a similar case, "manage to surwive it." 'Tis a pitiful case to be reduced to such a style of argument as that of the *Lancet* and its second. When men are reduced to that, it shows clearly enough they have no other leg to stand on; and if so, that one is crippled indeed.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
ADRIAN STOKES.

Miscellaneous.

PLANTS vitiate the air of a room at night, *not* because they part with carbonic acid, and inhale oxygen—for a human being would vitiate it more in this way—but from their powerful odour, which has a most violent effect on the nervous system of some persons.—*Chambers's Ed. Jour.*

A MEETING of homœopathic practitioners has been held at York this summer, at which it was resolved to establish a provincial homœopathic association, to be called "The Lancashire and Yorkshire Homœopathic Association," for mutual co-operation and to protection, and promote, by frequent meetings, friendly intercourse between the members. Dr. G. Atkin was appointed Interim General Secretary.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Rebiew of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

LETTER TO ROBERT CHRISTISON, M.D., V.P.R.S.E.,

AND PROFESSOR OF MATERIA MEDICA IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

Sir,—The price at which men purchase a prominent position in any walk of life is the liability they incur of having their words and deeds submitted to the ordeal of public opinion. Upon this ground, therefore, I claim the right of making a few remarks on your official "Inaugural Address" to the graduates of 1851. The responsibilities, the labours, the experience of twenty professional years strengthen my claim, but had others been wanted, a voice from within whispers that the task is a duty which cannot be passed over at a time when the public ear and the public eye are filled with a great medical question, which, however unpalatable it may be to you, is rapidly undermining the science of therapeutics.

With every wish that you may continue to enjoy the reputation which your researches in toxicology have so justly earned for you, the day is approaching when the merit of these researches will be proved to consist in the evidence they afford of the truth of homœopathy. It is strange indeed to see the right hand unwittingly putting down the left, to witness your toxicology digging the grave of your own therapeutics. Considering, therefore, your sad confessions, your chair was the very last one of the Faculty from which it was becoming a graduation address to emanate.

I heartily concur with that portion of your address wherein you point out the position of the young physician. Your hints as to moral and religious conduct are highly satisfactory; your exhortations to study continuously are well called for; and if you throw cold water (as lavishly as if you had been the hydropath you sneer at) upon the zeal of the youthful graduates, by telling them that a few of their number, a chosen few, *may*, after a lifetime of zeal and labour, perhaps be successful in attaining the loaves and fishes, it is the more excusable, as it assimilates so nearly to a reflection of your own career.

I am inclined, however, to anticipate a more liberal amount of success to the graduates of 1851; but the portion of your address which demands the deepest consideration of these young physicians, consists in its wonderfully candid but not less lamentable confessions as to the condition of your own department, therapeutics.

It is exceedingly gratifying to me, a homœopath, who some years ago became sensible of the deficiencies which you now publicly acknowledge, to note how impossible it is for any allopath to speak or write a word upon his own "doxy," without immeasurably damaging it. You can scarcely have had any idea of the effect produced upon the graduates, and reproduced ten thousand fold upon the public, by your acknowledgment that, "of all medical sciences, therapeutics is the most unsettled, and most unsatisfactory in its present state, and the least advanced in progress, and surrounded by the most numerous and most deceitful sources of fallacy." You exhibit a professional picture to the graduates which must perplex them sadly; you justly praise the high advancement of all the elementary branches and distinct collateral sciences; you tell them that upon these is based "physic," with which they are now loaded and sent forth to distribute it as best they may; but you candidly tell them that physic is trash, although founded upon such noble sciences. You strengthen the position of your opponents by quoting the opinion entertained of physic by a very eminent legal authority, "Glassford," who, in his Principles of Evidence, thus speaks of therapeutic inquiries: "In reasoning as to the probable effects of particular remedies on the human body, the condition and circumstances of the latter are so various in different cases, and the number of concomitants which are to be considered, in addition to the more obvious facts and symptoms, is so great, that the utmost exertion of human sagacity, founded upon the largest induction of particulars which any one mind is capable of embracing and retaining, can do no more than approximate to that real evidence, of which the case

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seems by its proper nature to be susceptible."

This legal elucidation of the value of therapeutics is worthy of the subject. At one sweep, the astuteness of the "law" consigns unhesitatingly the science you are appointed to teach to that "incalculable mass of rubbish, the offspring of delusion and imposture," which you allude to in a subsequent part of your address. With legal acumen so close at your elbow, and with the experience of its application to medical affairs so brilliantly displayed by that "polished gentleman" who conducts the *Lancet*, it is difficult to explain your motives for such a gratuitous admission. Nay! your legal authority has not even saved from the wreck of therapeutics *Bark* and *Lime-juice*, *Mercury* and *Arsenic*, so long your only surety, and purloined from a system better than your own. It was most unkind of your judge not to leave you one step in your position, although an unmerited one.

It gives me a stronger hope than I had, that a dawn in therapeutics is succeeding a night of darkness, when you, its most distinguished teacher, make the following admission:—"We have no new instruments to aid inquiry, no galaxy of talent concentrated on its cultivation, no great discoveries, even few great improvements commensurate at least with its vast importance, or with the improvements made in other medical sciences, and as for the theory of therapeutics, embracing a generalization of the action of remedies, an accurate description of the physiological effects of each, a just idea of their therapeutic influence, and a knowledge of the condition for employing them, we are little in advance of our predecessors thirty years ago."

In such a sweeping confession of the feebleness and stand-still character of the science which affords you a "chair," you might under ordinary circumstances gain golden opinions, but with the public prepared to weigh the value of it, you have merely proved that "a silk purse cannot be made from a sow's ear." The illustration, I admit, is coarse, as most old saws are; but it fits the subject to a hairsbreadth, so I shall not expunge it. But had the confession above quoted been followed up by a statement that within the last fifteen years (a period only embracing half the time you specify) so rapidly and steadily had the consumption of drugs of all kinds decreased, that not a half of the amount then used passes now through the excise department annually, you would have thereby afforded the graduates some guide at least as to the retrogression of therapeutics in so far as substance is deemed of importance. But when it is remembered that this rapid extinction of the drug trade points significantly to the ultimate annihilation of your therapeutic chair, I am compelled to identify your interests as bearing a more intimate analogy to the "vendors of universal medicine," than any which characterises the homœopathic physician, although you, with little taste and no correctness, class them in the same category. Hence your attachment to a cause which, even according to your own showing, is hopeless indeed.

I conceive that the forty-five graduates of 1851 owe you a debt of gratitude, for having put them to some extent on their guard against trusting to your therapeutics. Armed with the confidence your doctrines must afford them, they may well go forth with fear and trembling. But your candour will benefit the public health, and open still wider the public eye. To my knowledge, three of the forty-five have already commenced the zealous study of another system of therapeutics more highly recommended to their notice by those who profess a knowledge of them.

Studiously avoiding all mention of homœopathy, or the law of specifics, perhaps from a feeling of consistency with your acknowledgment of its truth on a former occasion, you tackle the knotty point of infinitesimal doses; but when you say, in allusion thereto, "this creed, in no respect perhaps more repugnant to common sense than that it involves the disregard and annihilation of the entire therapeutic experience of twenty centuries, has taken root in every country in Europe, has obtained a footing in the palace as well as in the cottage," you certify that it is a great fact; and although you mistake the number of its votaries, and have characterised the influence possessed by them by the word "poisoned," a word more useful to you and your system than to me and mine, I receive the omen as a bright pledge of the future.

You say that "all true discoveries have made way first among the votaries of the science most immediately concerned with them," and the first example by which you endeavour to support your assertion, and by far the most important one, is the "antivariolous property of vaccination." Passing by your omission of its homœopathicity, I deeply regret you have made so unfounded a statement, which all historical evidence so emphatically disproves. I cannot think of insulting a man of your reading by referring you to the career of Jenner, but I

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recommend the graduates to whom your words were addressed, to make themselves familiar with it. That which applies to one profession applies equally to every profession. Thirty years have scarcely elapsed since an individual of talent, yearning to advance himself and benefit his fellow-men, boldly struck out the idea of navigating the ocean by steam. He was a landsman, and he urged his problem of iron, and fire, and water, in direct contravention of the views of men who had passed whole lives upon salt water. But the clear-headed mechanician held out, and certain points in river navigation were gained. References were made to navy boards, and naval committees were formed from the House of Commons. Trinity boards were set by the ears, and the men of masts and canvas felt themselves insulted collectively and individually; masts and canvas had stood the test of forty centuries, since the good ship Argo unfurled her topsails and tripped her anchor in search of the golden fleece. But not the less, rivers have been stemmed, and coasts tracked, and broad oceans furrowed, by vapour-impelled keels. The landsman beat the seaman upon his own element; the masts and canvas of forty centuries gave way in less than forty years; the therapeutics of twenty centuries may fall in twenty years.

But, Sir, can you explain to me that most extraordinary feature in the condition of modern medicine, the total want of all argument on your side? Before you can continue to exact implicit confidence from the patient, you must show your system to be worthy of it. Has it escaped your notice that the world turns round, and will scarcely linger at your therapeutic pace? The orthodox word "legitimate," when applied to medicine, looks imposing; it is conservative both of beauties and flaws, but when looked for to compare it with heresy, it cannot be found, for each medical authority has a "legitimacy" of his own. The Coroner for Middlesex and his very worthy deputy thought they had it, and made a grasp at the phantom, but found it to consist of air; their legal studies had evidently not carried them into "Glassford."

In the nineteenth paragraph of your address you most justly hint that the forty-five graduates still require some instruction as to the points in your Protean science worthy of acceptance, or deserving of rejection; and as you in a former paragraph told them that "there can be no physician without physic," one might naturally expect that you were at length about to solve the great problem; that having for four sessions taught them what you show to be of such doubtful value, you were ready to make the *amende*, and tell them something really worth knowing. But, alas! "instead of bread you give us a stone," in a string of mawkish sentimentalisms.

You have left them to learn by *ex cathedrâ* means that that magnificent instrument of diagnosis the microscope (which you lament can do nothing for the advancement of your therapeutics, owing to their bulk) is perfectly applicable to homœopathic therapeutics, that metallic triturations can be traced down to their twelfth dynamization; and if the detection can at present go no further, it is the fault of the instrument, for the metal is still in existence. You may, perhaps, shrink at this application of the searching lens, but, Sir, it can only reach materialism after all; it cannot divulge the subtle influence that telegraphs the sympathy between mind and matter. Could He who poised great spheres, and sent them rolling in thousands in a waste, and all under the control of general and special laws, frame no more perfect law of healing for his ailing creatures than that of getting rid of one ailment by the artificial production of another?

In conclusion, I congratulate you on your third and unerring guide by which to keep clear of sins against professional etiquette, that sin of deepest dye, the premature advancement of any hard working man; it is such a scientific and literary production, that I shall quote it. "Should these characters be not enough to enable you to distinguish the true from the false in therapeutic innovation, there is yet a third criterion remaining. No upright physician ever attained great success in practice on a sudden, or at an early age. For the success of such a one, experience is a necessary condition, and for experience, time. No physician ever found himself immediately raised from obscurity into great employment by either inventing or adopting a novelty in therapeutics which has subsequently stood the test of inquiry and of time. When, therefore, you may chance to see a professional brother swimming swiftly into fame and fashion on the current of some new popular dogma, I trust you may not even envy him for his prosperity." Certainly! knock him down, and kick him when down, for his presumption, for he has no business to get in before you. This suggests to my memory the good old-fashioned coach in which you have professionally rolled, in contradistinction to the railway whizz of your obstetric contemporary, whose ten

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thousand a year will enable him to bear the taunt, I doubt not.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your very obedient servant,
Sept. 12, 1851. SIGMA.

CHOICE OF DILUTIONS AND REPETITIONS OF MEDICAMENTS.

Communicated by DR. ROSENSTEIN.

(*Continued from page* 111.)

IV. REPETITION.

SHOULD we repeat, or wait? The answer to this question has an importance, and a greater influence upon the success of the treatment than the determination of the potency.

The partisans of the low potencies often repeat; those of the higher very seldom, never immediately. In admitting a certain influence to the species of the disease and to the duration of action of the medicament, repetition is less requisite in chronic affections and with therapeutical agents of slow effects, and *vice versâ*.

Hahnemann rejected in the origin all repetition, admitting it only for the remedies with alternating effects, when the expected amelioration was slow, or when an aggravation was manifested in the symptoms. He thought that many remedies permitted the repetition better than others. Before a second dose is administered, a new examination of all the pathological symptoms should be undertaken; when, if the symptoms have simply diminished in intensity, without any other change in the state of the disease, and consequently the amelioration has ceased to make progress, then another therapeutic agent should be chosen.

Before the invasion of the cholera, many had expressed a doubt as to the sufficiency of a single dose. Hahnemann afterwards published a memoir on the treatment of cholera, in which he advocated repetition of the requisite doses.

From that period the repetition of the doses has been abused. The necessity of repeating the doses, in many cases, has led to the admission of the proposition of Ægidi, the dissolving the medicament in a great quantity of water, and in that manner renewing its use. It has been considered that the toxic effects of the frequent repetition might by these means be neutralized. Hahnemann strongly approved of this mode of use, which offers great advantages to the physician and to the patient. It has this inconvenience, however, that in the summer the solution decomposes easily, when it stands any length of time. It is still doubtful whether the medicament produces a different effect in solution or in dry globules, the difference is not very great; the solution is, in many cases, highly to be recommended.

The so-called advocates of specifics, *specificists* (specifiker), who made themselves masters of the theory of the doses and low potencies, courted the approval of the old school, and wished to effect a union between these and the old theories; but this is altogether a mistaken view.

It was then that Gross, and subsequently other physicians, recommended the repetitions of the high potencies, generally in aqueous solution, administering them for a few days only, and then waiting the consecutive effects. This procedure differs essentially from the uninterrupted repetition. This method was not generally approved, the common method being considered preferable,—administering a dose and then repeating it, according to circumstances. Perhaps we shall succeed in laying down a general rule in the following propositions:—

24. There exists no rule which can be adopted in all cases; we must often rely upon the judgment and the spirit of observation of the physician. Here, again, it is better to individualize than to generalize.

25. *The degree of elevation of the potency, and the repetition of the dose, complete themselves mutually.* There exists between them the same relation as between space and time.

26. I have an intimate conviction that the *first action* of a medicament *is the strongest.* Completely strange to the organism, the remedy acts upon it as a new impression upon the senses, or a new idea upon the mind, whilst stronger impressions and ideas, often renewed, have but little or no effect, owing to habit. Every therapeutic agent, frequently employed, submits easily to the influence of habit; it becomes more and more inert in its action on the sensibility, unless it serves as an antidote, as many practitioners pretend. Every observer free from prejudice, and who does not wish to confuse pure observation, seldom repeats; he is convinced that the first dose produces a more penetrating action than the second and the third. For instance, *Aconite* 1, calms the pulse and the over-excitement of the sensibility, whilst the subsequent potencies act comparatively slower; if one repetition has been useless, it should be avoided as much as possible.

27. The *prompt repetition of doses increases the effect,* but to a certain point only, beyond which it is impossible to go.

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28. Therapeutic agents of a prompt and short action demand and admit more frequent repetition, such as *Ipecacuanha, Chamomilla, Coffea*, etc., than those of a penetrating action, as *Silicea, Causticum, Sepia*, etc.

29. A similar relation exists between the lower and higher potencies. The former, when they are indicated, may be oftener renewed, and with more advantage than the higher. For the latter, the intervals should be more distant, and more time allowed for the exhaustion of their action.

30. With respect to diseases, acute affections allow a more frequent repetition than chronic maladies. We should, on the contrary, restrain the repetition when the maladies called acute are not entirely owing to a transitory morbific influence, the organism being otherwise healthy.

31. There are slow tenacious maladies, generally characterised by a small number of symptoms, as for instance, the affections of the reproductive system, the bones, the skin, the glands, which are very difficult to extirpate. It is necessary in these cases to repeat only at long intervals, if we wish to obtain good results.

32. There are other affections which manifest themselves periodically, the patients seeming healthy in the intervals, as epilepsy, etc. These require repetition at long intervals, in order to prevent relapses.

33. In observing the course of a disease after the action of a dose, the physician will positively know if he should wait or repeat. Whilst the amelioration continues, viz., as long as the progress of the disease is satisfactory in the limits of possibility, the repetition is useless; in acute affections it is even injurious, and retards the cure in chronic phlegmasies.

34. The practitioner ought carefully to distinguish the effect of each *fractional division of the dose*, the use of which he should continue until reaction manifests itself, *repeating the dose* even when the effect is produced, or when it begins to subside. The prompt repetition in the first period of the use of a remedy, viz., the division of a dose, provided the receptivity of the disease be weak, is useful, and sometimes necessary, when the organism does not manifest reaction. This is a new technical procedure, whose value is appreciated by good practitioners. But here we must pay attention to the nature of the disease, its inert and insensible character, or its violent and painful character. A wart and a prosopalgia both constitute chronic affections, but very dissimilar; they may exist for years. One, so to speak, without inconvenience and without increase; the other causing excessive pains, alternating in mild and violent paroxysms, and thus undermining health.

What we have said relative to these two forms of disease, is more or less applicable to all the others. A minute examination, distinguishing periodical remissions from real ameliorations, and a scrupulous observation of the natural course, are the only means to avoid confusion and precipitation. We may, for this reason, in the first period of the use of a medicament, repeat the higher potencies several times, without approving of this procedure afterwards.

35. The repetition of the doses, at an ulterior epoch, and during the general improvement of the symptoms, often hinders the cure; perhaps an antidotal relation is here also manifested between the doses administered before and afterwards.

36. If the amelioration stops, or follows a retrograde course, and the signs of the disease remain the same, not in intensity but in point of form, then the *repetition is necessary and salutary;* however, it seems also suitable to change the potency, either higher or lower. The periods cannot be fixed in an absolute manner, seldom less than eight days; they might often be prolonged with advantage until three and even four weeks. It is in this manner only that obstinate maladies of the bones, skin, etc., are cured. Of course, these intervals of repetition are often limited to some hours in acute affections.

V. Summary.

1. The high potencies (from the 12th to the 30th) are, in general, the most suitable; in the majority of cases, they often replace the others.

2. The lower potencies correspond in preference with affections of a recent origin which are locally manifested.

3. The very high potencies greatly excel the lower in chronic deep-rooted maladies.

4. It is indispensable in acute affections to repeat the dose. In *chronic maladies* we must wait some time, so as to permit the remedy *to produce its action;* they do not, however, absolutely resist all repetition, sometimes they demand it, but at longer intervals.

5. *The duration of action of the medicament* depends principally upon the *particular character* of the disease, the *force* of action, the nature of the medicament, and the height of the potency. It is particularly the latter which determines the greater or lesser degree of penetration of the therapeutic agent.

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REPORT OF A MEETING OF HOMŒOPATHIC PRACTITIONERS IN MANCHESTER.

A MEETING of homœopathic practitioners and their supporters was held on Thursday morning, in the Homœopathic Dispensary, Bloom Street, for the purpose of taking steps to second the efforts now making in London to procure a charter of incorporation, and thus to put the homœopathists on the same footing as the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons in respect to the granting of diplomas. Mr. W. R. JOHNSON presided.

Mr. E. PHILLIPS, in proposing the first resolution, briefly sketched the history of the proceedings which had rendered the proposed step necessary. He spoke of the treatment which Dr. Henderson and Dr. Ransford had received in Edinburgh, of the tyrannical bearing which had been exhibited towards Dr. Hale, of Norwich, by the University of St. Andrew's, and towards Mr. Pope, by the University of Edinburgh, the governing bodies having shown the most determined hostility to homœopathic treatment, and having persecuted those of its practitioners with whom they could deal. The *Lancet*, which had been the spur in all these matters, had at last succeeded something nearer home, and within the last week or two the Medical Provincial Association had passed resolutions similar to those which the College of Surgeons had sanctioned; and within the last week the Medico-Ethical Society of Manchester had become enlisted in the matter, and had memorialised the College of Surgeons on the subject in very harsh terms. This was coming near to each individual, and it therefore behoved them to consider what should be done to meet their opponents. Dr. Bardsley, and the other gentlemen who had signed that memorial, seemed willing to pander to the low desires of the profession, and the homœopathists felt called upon to raise their protest in some way. He therefore proposed—

That this meeting views with regret the course adopted by the colleges and other bodies to put down homœopathy, and denies and protests against the right of any corporate body or association constituting but a minority of the medical profession to dictate to others what course of treatment should be adopted in their practice.

Mr. W. ARMITAGE seconded it. He conceived that in an age when there was free trade in food, there should be free trade in the practice of physic. He had tried both systems; he had been satisfied with the old one, but he was much better satisfied with homœopathy; and he conceived that every confidence should be placed in those who practised it.

The Rev. R. DURNFORD, rector of Middleton, supported the resolution, because he was one of the oldest believers in the system in England, having had the advantage of a personal acquaintance with the illustrious founder. He supported it also on another ground, because it was in opposition to an uncalled-for and tyrannical proceeding. At a time when the principles of liberty were so well understood, it was strange that the medical profession should seek to put out a new light. He should be ready to assist in any measures to secure homœopathy from the attacks of its enemies, whether open or concealed.

The resolution was then put and carried.

Dr. WALKER proposed the next resolution, in a brief speech, from which we make the following extracts:—As a member of the medical profession, it is, I confess, peculiarly painful to me, to find that a question which ought, by our opponents, to have been treated on purely professional and scientific grounds, should have been by them thrown *extra limites*. It is not, as a general rule, the mode in which any scientific question should be discussed, nor is it, perhaps, the manner in which any great scientific truth can be settled; but as the feeling of the allopathists is so decidedly that of a desire to extinguish us—to lop us off as dead branches from the tree of legitimate medicine, it behoves us to throw aside all rules of professional etiquette, conventional formulæ, etc. which restrict professional men in their intercourse, and to fall back upon that great moral code, which, so long as we do no evil, not only justifies but moves and pushes us on to defend our principles and ourselves, when unjustly and cruelly attacked. The words have gone forth from their colleges and associations, to the effect that we have forfeited our position as men of science and morality, that we are ignominious and degraded, and that we should be scouted as the Pariahs not only of medicine but of society itself. All this, were it confined to mere words, might be borne, and like any other *brutum fulmen*, treated only with contempt: but when to the hard words, which break no bones, are added acts and deeds that strike at the right of private judgment in medical matters, it is high time we should declare that we have rights and opinions which, if attacked, we are prepared to uphold and defend. But we are prepared to go even further than this, and say to our adversaries, "If you possess rights which you abuse, and employ the circumstances which your position give you to oppress us, we shall cease to be simply defensive, and put ourselves into an aggressive shape, and with more energy than you have, and equally determined with you, not cease our active warfare, nor rest satisfied until we have destroyed your effete institutions, encumbered with the relics of a barbarous age, and eradicated all your old world's notions and murderous ideas with respect to the treatment of disease." Such is the position which I, as an individual, am prepared to take in the coming conflict of opinions, and, on looking around me at the medical gentlemen here present, I venture to say that they hold the same opinion with myself, and are ready, heart and hand, to unite not only in the dissemination of homœopathic doctrines, but in a bold effort to destroy those bodies whose conduct but too well justifies the remark of an eminent writer, that they are but the black rocks in the river, which obstruct the stream, move not, but show by the

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surging of the waters around which way the current of knowledge tends. It is clear that the public, as a body, have no guarantee of even a minimum amount of medical knowledge in a man to practise his profession, unless he be possessed of a diploma or licence from one of the seventeen corporate bodies. A demand at present exists everywhere for practitioners who practise in accordance with the principles inculcated by Hahnemann. The Universities have set their face against conferring their diplomas, unless the applicant shall pledge himself not to practise homœopathy. Various bodies are taking legal advice as to how they may deprive those already holding them of their diplomas. Medicine is an honourable profession, which many who are unworthy strive to enter into. Unless some remedy be devised, the demand for practitioners, exceeding the supply of those qualified, will lead men of no medical attainments at all to seek to creep into the ranks of the profession, whose excuse will be, and none can contradict them, that they have been refused admission in consequence of their homœopathic opinions, and thus obtaining the sympathy of simple individuals, will bring disgrace upon the cause of homœopathy, and, from their ignorance, do serious mischief to those who put themselves under their care. It appears to me, to obviate this state of things, which must inevitably happen, that the homœopathists should either obtain a royal charter or a legal enactment to put them on a level, in the eyes of the public, with their allopathic enemies. Such a charter would not only secure us against the intrusion of illiterate and designing men, but it would do more—it would show that the individual possessed, beside the knowledge of the ordinary modes of treating disease, a correct acquaintance of the great therapeutic principle of "*similia similibus curantur*" in disease. For even now, with the diploma of our adversaries, the mere fact of a physician saying, "I believe in the truth of homœopathy," is no proof that he is able to practise it. Such a college as the charter or enactment would give us would thus secure to us a constant supply of well-qualified, enthusiastic, young men, to whom we, the 150 or 160 now existing, might safely leave the Cause for the benefit and instruction of the next generation In conclusion, to my medical friends now present I would say, that whatever the amount of provocation we may receive from those in this town, we should never forget that we are men of education, of breeding, and representatives of a great principle—that we are gentlemen, and that we leave to the leadiug physician of Manchester and his worthy *confrères* the congenial task of vulgar abuse and impotent reviling. Dr. Walker resumed his seat, after proposing the following resolution:

That the course pursued by the Universities, etc., towards homœopathic practitioners and students of medicine, leaves them no other means of redress than the seeking to obtain a charter of incorporation of a college, which shall be empowered to confer degrees, and grant licences to practise medicine.

Mr. HENRY DIXON being deeply indebted in his own person to homœopathy for the removal of a disease of four years' standing, and being convinced of its truthfulness by six years' study, together with the experience he had had in the Dispensary in Manchester, had much pleasure in seconding the resolution. He did not regret the course the allopathists were taking—it was only the natural one, if homœopathy was true, for error invariably sought to crush truth, if it could not be got rid of in any other way. This dispute was one of some moment to the old practitioners, for the homœopathists were curing patients whom they had had long under hand, and thus were taking away the confidence which hitherto had been placed in them.

The resolution was put and carried.

Mr. W. P. HARRISON proposed the next resolution:

That a branch of the General Association for the Protection of Homœopathic Students and Practitioners be herewith organized, and that the following gentlemen be requested to act as a committee, with power to add to their number:—Mr. E. Phillips, M.R.C.S., chairman of committee; Dr. Robert Walker, L.R.C.S. Ed., Dr. J. M'Dowall, Mr. W. P. Harrison, M.R.C.S., L.A.C., Mr. W. Scholefield, M.R.C.S., Mr. C. C. Tuckey, M.B., M.R.C.S.I., Dr. Knowles, Mr. A. Pope, Mr. W. R. Johnson, Mr. G. Wildes, Rev. R. Durnford, Rev. Canon Slade, Rev. R. Fletcher, Ald. J. J. Parker, Rev. J. Gwyther, Rev. C. F. Smith, Rev. A. A. Bagshawe, Mr. W. McCall.

Dr. TUCKEY, M.B., seconded the motion, which was carried.

The CHAIRMAN, before vacating his seat, said, that an association had been formed in London, about six weeks ago, to take up this matter, and he had no doubt the result would be that a college would be established, with power to grant degrees.

The SECRETARY (Mr. Turner) announced some pecuniary details, and the Rev. R. Durnford having taken the chair, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Johnson for his conduct in the chair, and the meeting separated.

At a meeting of medical practitioners held the same day, it was resolved unanimously:

1st. That the memorial signed by Dr. Bardsley, and purporting to come from the Manchester Medico-Ethical Association—wherein the members of the Royal College of Surgeons, who practise in accordance with the homœopathic principle, are stigmatised as ignominious and degraded—is unfounded in fact, and grossly insulting to its members.

2nd. That as it is notorious that the Medico-Ethical Society of Manchester is not constituted of a majority of the members, nor possesses the weight of talent or respectability of the profession of Manchester and its vicinity, its resolutions are as unworthy of consideration as they are gratuitous and insolent.

3rd. That the homœopathic practitioners of Manchester lament that their adversaries should be so deficient in argument as to have no better weapons wherewith to carry on their opposition to homœopathy than vulgar abuse and personal invective.

(Signed)
EDWARD PHILLIPS, M.R.C.S.
ROBERT WALKER, M.D. and L.R.C.S. Ed.
JOHN M'DOWALL, M.D.
WM. PHILIP HARRISON, M.R.C.S. and L.A.C.
WILLIAM SCHOLEFIELD, M.R.C.S.E.
C. C. TUCKEY, M.B. and M.R.C.S.I.
ALFRED POPE, Alum. Med. Edin., and House Surgeon to the Manchester Hom. Hospital.
G. S. KNOWLES, M.D.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH, 1851.

"WHEN rogues fall out, honest men are likely to come by their own." The verification of the old adage seems in a fair way of being confirmed with regard to homœopathy. The allopaths, when quarrelling among themselves, as they are very freely doing at this moment, let facts escape which must sooner or later tend to destroy the basis of the fallacious system they are endeavouring to support at the expense of truth and suffering humanity.

A curious letter appeared in the *Times* the other day, on the subject of the strength of certain medical preparations as used on the authority of the several pharmacopœias issued under the sanction of the Colleges of London, Edinburgh, and Dublin. According to the respective volumes, that which may be administered as a useful and effective medicine on the theory of the London allopathic profession, may, if prescribed in the manner directed by the schools of Edinburgh and Dublin, cause results of the most serious character. Indeed, under such a course of practice, "killing" would be considered "no murder," since the authority of the pharmacopœia would be sufficient to nullify any charge of negligence that might be preferred.

The writer of that letter did a great and essential service to the public, when he announced the discrepancies existing in this particular between the practice of the three allopathic schools. How the heads of the Colleges will relish the exposure, bruited as it has been through the extensive circulation of the metropolitan press, we shall not stop to inquire. The fact has become patent to the world, and it will remain for them to explain it away. It has, however, very opportunely transpired, because it will present in a clear and impartial light the fallacies that even an acknowledged "M.D." has found in the prescribed formulæ of his own profession.

Such glaring inconsistencies have only to be every now and then made known to those who suffer daily and hourly from the false doctrines propagated through allopathy, to induce them to give homœopathy and its principles a proper investigation, and the contrast, once attempted, will bring with it an immediate refutation of the slanders cast upon our system.

All these disputes tend to one culminating point, viz., the advancement of homœopathy. The true and devoted disciples of Hahnemann see and feel this, and hence the small concern expressed at what would under other circumstances be regarded as the dangerous onslaught of enemies whose power was feared, and whose protection was sought after.

But the opposite is fortunately the true view of the case. Homœopathy will and must advance, despite every exertion to arrest its progress. If allopaths will not confess the error of their way, and conform to the revelations made by Samuel Hahnemann, then must they be content to find themselves rejected as bigots, and proportionately ridiculed. Homœopathy is destined to absorb allopathy, not alone because it is more lofty in its scientific, but also because it is more lofty in its philanthropic aspirations.

ALLOPATHIC THERAPEUTICS.

WE invite the attention of our readers to a letter to Dr. Christison, of Edinburgh, in our communications of this week. This very over-rated toxicologist, who has privily ploughed with other men's heifers, and enjoyed the fruits of their labours, without a due and fitting acknowledgment of his obligations, delivered a short time ago (the 1st of August, 1851) what is absurdly called an "Inaugural Address" to the graduates of Edinburgh, of the present year.

Let us consider a few points of this very Christisonian address.

I. Our orator exhorts the newly-capped graduates to cultivate the *practice of medicine* as the main occupation of their lives. He insists on the necessity of paying diligent attention to pathology and *therapeutics*.

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"There can be no physician without physic, no medicine without therapeutics. The only true end of medical knowledge is the cure of diseases. But there can be no cure without remedies. Neither can remedies be of any use unless you know them, and how to give them, and what effects to look for from them *in health* and in disease." *Nota bene*, Hahnemann was the first to *prove* medicines, by giving them to persons in health; and no British school of medicine has yet thought proper to follow the example of Hahnemann and his disciples. Remark again, that Professor Christison has not had the honesty to acknowledge in his inaugural address that the homœopathists do what he recommends to be done.

II. Our orator, the famous professor and teacher of *Materia Medica*, says of therapeutics, "of all the medical sciences, it is the most unsettled and unsatisfactory in its present state, and the least advanced in its progress." But he makes no honourable mention of homœopathy, which is not unsettled nor unsatisfactory, and which has already made great advancement in its onward progress.

III. After confessing with the most amiable simplicity, that his own kind of therapeutics has made no progress in the last thirty years (he might quite as truly have said that it has made no real progress since Hippocrates, that is, for some two thousand years, for it admits of proof, that all good allopathic treatment is on homœopathic principles) after denouncing the inventors of some Universal Remedy—inwhich denunciation we join him — after disentombing the forgotten memory of St. John Long, and throwing a dart at the water establishments, our orator thus speaks of homœopathy:—"Wildest of all, and widest in its epidemic range, because most cunningly disguised in the borrowed trappings of science, a practice has lately arisen (it dates from 1796), which demands belief in the assumption that all curable diseases may be cured by remedies so inconceivably minute, that no sense, no balance, no microscope, no chemical analysis, no human means whatever, can discover the slightest trace of them in what is administered,—that you can never have any surety of their presence, or any well-grounded assurance of their absence, that they defy the finite faculties of man to form even a distinct conception of them, either with the aid of figures and the eye, or with the help of a vivid imagination. Nevertheless, this creed, in no respect perhaps more repugnant to common sense than that it involves the disregard and annihilation of the entire therapeutic experience of twenty centuries, has taken root in every country in Europe, has obtained a footing in the palace as well as in the cottage, and has in the end poisoned the faith even of a few votaries of medicine."

When Professor Christison shows by measure and balance, by microscope or chemical analysis, the miasms that generate pestilence, the *semina morbi*, seeds of disease, he may sneer at the minute doses of the homœopathists with more propriety. When he tells us that he has *fairly tried* them in the treatment of disease, his opinion will be of more worth. Professor Christison has, heretofore, acknowledged his belief in the homœopathic law; and he knows right well that the dose is a thing apart from the law. His admission of the progress homœopathy has made is valuable; but his arithmetic is at fault. From 1796 to 1851 not less than 4,000 medical men have practised homœopathy in every part of the world; upwards of 1,000 practise it in the United States at this day:—we think he cannot call such a number "a *few* votaries of medicine."

IV. The audacity of the professor's assertion, that "all true discoveries have made way first among the votaries of the science most immediately concerned with them, and have become matters of faith and interest with the public at large only in the second instance," is so utterly ridiculous, that we are surprised at his venturing on it.

Bark made its way very slowly among medical men, and was long known as Jesuits' Bark, because priests not doctors used and introduced it.

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Inoculation was introduced into England by a lady, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, and the practice was at first *resisted* by the profession.

James's Powder was introduced by an individual, and the use of it was long resisted by the profession.

Vaccination was long and fiercely resisted by the profession, and the testimony of Jenner himself is, that no physician "after forty" received it.

Harvey's doctrine of the circulation of the blood was very long resisted by the profession.

A lady of France translated for continental Europe Newton's Principia, and a lady of England translated for the English the great work of La Place,—showing that astronomers required to be taught the value of Newton and of La Place. These instances might be easily multiplied.

The Medical Faculty of Edinburgh, the Royal College of Physicians of that University, and —— Professor Christison, have now pronounced against homœopathy. They do our Cause justice in the importance they attach to it; and they show how important they deem it to be by their savage hostility, which partakes more of the character of reckless despair than of the deliberate judgment of reverend doctors, pharmaceutical sages, and sober Galenists.

Edinburgh, St. Andrew's, and Aberdeen have pronounced against homœopathy. Which of the other Medical Universities, Colleges, and Halls will follow their example?

Professor Christison, one of the great authorities on the subject, has fully acknowledged that allopathic therapeutics is worth little or nothing, as may be seen by those who choose to read his "Inaugural Address" in this month's number of the *Monthly Journal of Medical Science.*

Review.

A Letter addressed to Dr. Rose Cormack. By the Rev. T. R. Everest. William Headland, 15, Princes Street, Hanover Square.

This is a setting of thorns for the Rose of Putney.

Dr. Rose Cormack has stated that he had never known any patients who had been under homœopathic treatment, who had not been *allopathed* by their homœopathic practitioners. This gentleman has made himself conspicuous for his zeal in behalf of allopathy, and for his savage hostility to homœopathy. It has been stated of him,—whether truly or not, he knows—that up to the time of his recent *manifesto* against homœopathy, he had been wasting his sweetness on the desert air of Putney, for that he had only had one patient in that neighbourhood, and that patient had been withdrawn from him, and placed under homœopathic treatment. We hope his anti-homœopathic fury has brought some grist to his mill.

He has met with an awkward customer in the Rector of Wickwar, who, it is hoped, will write another, and another, letter to Dr. Rose Cormack.

As most of our readers and a large body of the public will read Mr. Everest's letter, we content ourselves with two extracts.

"Once upon a time, it is said, there lived in Dorsetshire an eccentric old farmer whose name was Cawse. The rooks used to give the old man a great deal of annoyance alighting on his wheat-fields and committing great havoc there; but he was rather indolent, and bore the annoyance as patiently as he could for some time. At last, one morning the rooks had gone what the Irish call "beyand the beyant," and Farmer Cawse could stand it no longer; so he seized an old gun, crept slily along the hedge, and fired, not at any individual among them, for he was a humane man, but "promiscuously into the lot," as he said. The rooks rose as one bird cawing very loudly, on which the farmer was heard to say with great exultation, "Ah! Cawse! Cawse! indeed. Thee mayst call me what names thee do plaze, thee mischievious rascals, it do do my heart good to hear thee, vor I do learn vrom thy chattering as I have peppered zum on ye, and vrightened all the rest."

"You will say, perhaps, Sir, that the story is a stupid one and quite out of place here. It may be so; I will not defend it. You say I am everything that is base and bad and vile and shocking. I am very sorry for it and hope I may mend by and by. You say the homœopathic doctors are quacks and impostors. Let it be granted. And you say that all the archbishops, bishops, peers, members of parliament, clergy, and in short, all those who believe in Homœopathy—who you tell us are many in number—are knaves and fools. Very well, Sir. I will concede to you, if you like, that all those children born into the world who may be suspected by their mothers' vigilant obstetric attendants of any leaning to Homœopathy in the *paulo post futurum* state, should have their necks twisted in infancy, so that Allopathy may have a

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chance of being left at peace. But we cannot bring about this same desirable wringing of necks. And there is a great Public which cares neither for you nor me and merely says, when it reads your well-flavoured Philippic, "Pooh! it's only another case of 'Farmer Cawse!' the doctors abusing those who have been peppering and frightening them." Don't you think, Sir, you would produce more effect on this great inert Public, if, instead of calling me names, you were to do that which you have been taunted, provoked, and dared to do, over and over again for forty years past, and which I now again dare you to do, that is, publish an account of the experiments you have made with homœopathic medicines on homœopathic principles?"

We have heard of the operation of skinning eels; we fancy Dr. Cormack after reading Mr. Everest's letter must have felt very much as we may suppose a skinned eel to feel.

"Such is your system, Sir. It stands like a milking-stool, on three legs; each leg is a mere theory, and a mistake in any one of your theories upsets the poor patient. Hahnemann followed a different plan. He collected the changes of which a patient complained and chose that agent which produced similar changes in the healthy. If the doctor knows what that is, and will apply it in right doses, he has done all that medicine can be made to do. You have no law of cure at all. Tom told Dick, who handed it over to Harry, that cod-liver oil was good in phthisis! Jenkins informed Robinson, who told it to Brown, that he had heard from the celebrated Stiggins, that dandelion was a fine thing in dyspepsia! How can you go to sleep, Dr. Rose Cormack, with such a miserable assortment of rubbish in your head? Is it in such terms as these that Nature's laws are enunciated?

"The consequences of all these childish hypotheses are most terrible. Medicine, or treatment, which has reference to an imaginary state, and it is imagined will be serviceable in that imaginary state, is prescribed in sad reality. Symptoms caused by that treatment ensue; the patient gets an accession of suffering; he sees and knows nothing of that magic relief so often communicated instantaneously by dynamic remedies when properly selected. No one can distinguish between the symptoms caused by disease and the symptoms caused by the doctor's treatment; the patient dies, or recovers after a long convalescence. But the worst part of the story is quite unknown, which is this, that a treatment which has no reference to the complaint, always sows the seeds of future malady; and he who might have passed his life without any need of medical aid if he had never called in a doctor, having once had the misfortune to do so, imbibes disease from those hands at which he sought cure, and must call in a doctor again at some future day.

"You seem to imagine, Sir, that it is a sufficient answer to all these things to abuse me and call me naughty names. I tell you of facts. Try them if you like, and give us the results. But how are these facts altered by calling him who speaks of them a naughty name? Do you think, Sir, that by pelting with mud him who is sowing good seed, you can prevent that seed from germinating?

"You *dare* do it, I have no doubt; indeed, why should you not? nobody minds your naughty names; the bumble individual who is now addressing you the least of all. But there is one thing you dare not do; that is, make experiments to disprove Hahnemann's facts and deductions, and publish the results. THAT you dare no more try than you dare try conclusions with a locomotive."

We conclude our notice of this pungent letter with the Rector's excellent motto from dear old Burton:—

"With all the rhetoric thou hast thou canst not so recall him but he will persevere in his dotage. It is

'Amabilis insania et mentis gratissimus error.'

Tell him what the event will be—no persuasion will take place, no counsell, say what thou canst. Demonstrate—he is irrefragable still: bray him in a mortar, he will be the same; shew him his several follies and absurd fopperies; force him to say veris vincor, make it as clear as the sun, he will err still. He says, 'I will doe as I have done, as my predecessors have done, and as my friends now doe.' Say now, are these men mad, or no? Heus, age, responde? Are they ridiculous? Are they sanæ mentis? Have they common sense?—BURTON, *Anatomy of Melancholy*."

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In compliance with the wishes of those warmly interested in the new truths unfolded to mankind in the present century, I solicit the attention of *mothers* in particular to the pain and sorrow inflicted by large doses of medicine, causing the most melancholy results to the infant constitution, when the administration of homœopathic doses would have been attended with the most beneficial effects, without the risk of injury to the little sufferer. Notwithstanding my inadequacy to describe the cases submitted, I am led to do so, in the hope of attracting the attention of young mothers.

A boy, named Slater, about ten months old, backward in teething, and in consequence suffering intensely from fits, which medical practitioners on the old system were unable to arrest, came under my notice.

On reference to the invaluable work of Dr. Epps on Domestic Homœopathy, I was induced to try the indicated remedy—*Belladonna*, one quarter globule every four hours. Its success was almost immediate, and by a few days' perseverance, the fits entirely disappeared.

The mother of this child some time after-

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wards was afflicted with large swellings on both sides of the throat, very painful, and reducing her to a skeleton. She became an out-patient of the Derby Infirmary for two months, without deriving benefit. On application to me, I gave two globules of *Aconite*, dissolved in eight teaspoonfuls of water, of which she took two doses, with an interval of eight hours. The inflammation decreased, but the swellings remained the same. I then gave four globules of *Belladonna*, one every four hours. One of the swellings disappeared, and the other considerably decreased. I then tried two globules of *Ignatia*, which did much good; still the swelling, pain, and difficulty of swallowing continued obstinate. Afterwards *Nux Vomica*, which nearly cured her, and two globules of *Mercurius* entirely effected it, and she has now better health than she has enjoyed for years.

George Picher, about thirty-eight years of age, met with a severe accident by being crushed between two carriages at the Railway Station, Derby. He was severely bruised externally, and appeared to be so internally. The pain was such, that he was unable to sleep or extend his arms in any direction. A medical man of talent treated the case allopathically, for some days, without success. A domestic acquainted me with the circumstance. I sent him two globules of *Arnica*, to be taken, and *Tincture of Arnica* to be applied externally. The globules were continued for six doses, and the man's sufferings entirely removed.

I enclose my name,

August 21, 1851. And remain, etc.," M. E. F.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Wickwar, Gloucestershire, Sept. 1, 1851

Sir,—I enclose some cases selected from my note-book; not as possessing any peculiar interest for their phenomena, or the mode of treatment, but to show you that the homœopathic system is making way in this remote rural district; and that the *poor*, who are by no means slow in appreciating anything that benefits them, come in crowds to my weekly gratuitous consultations, and eagerly seek, as they cheerfully and gratefully acknowlege, the good they get from the treatment. I usually see over forty patients gratuitously every Wednesday.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

Adrian Stokes.

CASES.

Caroline Webb, aged 17, tall, full bust, blue eyes, fair hair and skin, became the subject of typhus fever, caught by kissing the corpse of a young girl who had died of it a short time before. I saw her on the 22nd of November, 1850; she had been ill a week, and presented the following symptoms:—Looks stupid; the eyes are dull and heavy, and staring; the head is heavy; tongue dry; urine red and scanty; bowels confined. She is thirsty; has little sleep, and is delirious at night.

Bellad. 6, 3 gl. in pulv., hod.; repet. cras.

24th. Faculties much disordered; she screams and struggles, and tries to escape.

Tra. Hyos. gtt. ij, in ʒvj aq.; coch. parv., 3a hora.

The medicine quieted the alarm and fear; the tongue is loaded; head heavy; bowels confined.

Bry. a. 6, 3 gl. h. s.; rep. mane.

27th. The alarm and agitation, with screaming, and struggling to escape, have increased to a great degree. The breath is quite spent in her efforts to get away; the limbs are in a state of tremor; there is subsultus of the tendons at the wrist. She knows me when I rouse her, and asks to get out to the chair. *Bryonia* relieved the bowels and the ardor urinæ. Tongue dry and brownish; pulse weak and 130. Talks nonsense; wags her had from side to side; no sleep; all night delirious, and tossing about.

Rhus tox. gtt. j, in ʒvi aq.; coch. min. j, 4ta hora.

28th. Her aspect is alarming; fatuity is stamped on the features; the head, limbs, and body are in continual agitation, and the lower jaw is moved convulsively and rapidly up and down. She lies on her left side, the head driven into the pillow; the eyes closed; nose sharp; a few red spots like fleabites are on the right arm; the mother says there are more on the body. Passed urine, but no stool; subcrepitous râle on both sides of the chest; dry cough.

Rhus tox. 6, 3 gl. in aq. ʒvj; coch. min. j, 6ta hora.

29th. Agitation greatly subsided; had a quieter night; opens her eyes, shows her tongue steadily, and answers questions. Right cheek flushed, the left pale; tongue dry; bowels open. The spots have disappeared from the arm, and some have come out on the lower part of the back. There is a dark, angry-looking spot on the point of left elbow, surrounded by pimples; less oppression of breath, but more wheezing, with expectoration of thick frothy mucus.

Cont. med. 8va hora.

30th. Has had some naps of sleep, of an hour each; the agitation has nearly subsided; the head is clearer; the wheezing diminished; the cough frequent, but loose, and the expectoration of frothy mucus is free; the bowels are rather confined, and grumble; sweats much at night during sleep.

Phosph. 9, 3 gl. in ʒvj aq.; coch. min. j, 6ta hora.

Under this the cough got better, the sweats diminished; but on the 2nd of December there was tympanic condition of the colon, with dark fluid fetid motions; pulse 120, strong.

Phosph. 12 ut supra.

This medicine rendered the abdomen softer, and on the 4th a gentle, soft perspiration appeared over the whole body. Is rather deaf; bowels no longer purged.

6th. Has been disturbed by cough the last two nights; had a motion this morning, firm. Ecchymotic patches on the ends of the fingers, beside the nails; one of them has the epidermis raised by sanious fluid.

Mercurius sol. 6, 3 gl. in aq. ʒvj; cap. coch. min. bis die.

13th. For three days had an aggravation of

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cough, with expectoration of thick, white, sticky matters, streaked with blood, and patches of rust-coloured sputa. Tongue clean and moist; bowels open; skin moist and supple. After the three days this state subsided, and a sore red spot appeared on the extremity of the coccyx. For this she had *Secale;* afterwards *Arnica* internally and in lotion. The sore sloughed, and retarded her recovery for six weeks. She took no medicine for it, but was well fed, and had *Ung Cetac.*, with an occasional application of *Arnica* to the sore.

It is easy in this case to trace the progress of the disease from its commencement in the brain, through the lungs and bowels.

On the 27th and 28th of November the nervous symptoms had attained their greatest intensity, and presented a very unfavourable aspect. I found, on reference to the Materia Medica Pura, that *Rhus* covered the symptoms very closely, and was convinced of the propriety of my selection by the aggravation it produced. Here I fell into the doubt and distrust of dynamic remedies which some occasionally experience whose faith wants the confirmation of long practice, but I saw and acknowledged in the aggravation that took place the truth of the principle "*similia similibus;*" and acting on that other principle laid down by Hahnemann, that medicines in their dynamic form counteract the effects of the material doses of the same remedy, I gave the 6th dynamization of *Rhus*, which removed speedily the severe symptoms produced by the tincture. The *Phosphorus* carried her very safely over the affections of the lungs and bowels, and there was no difficulty in the case afterwards. When she recovered from the tedious ulcer on the coccyx, she was well; there were no medicinal maladies to subdue, and the convalescence was short and pleasant.

William P. Carpenter, aged about 54; thin, sallow, sober, serious, of melancholy temperament, with grizzled black hair, eyes black, and their lids very bushy; was seized on the night of January 8th, 1851, with vomiting and purging, chills, giddiness, intense frontal headache, aggravated by moving the eyes, which are dim, and half closed. The face is pale; the tongue white and loaded; the voice very weak; thirst; and pain in stomach and bowels. Pulse quick and weak, 120.

12 noon, 9th January *Bell.* 6, 2 gl. in a wineglass of water, a teaspoonful every hour.

3 p.m. Passing again by his house, I looked in, and found him weaker; the tongue brown, dry; face and skin pale; thirst; great prostration; stools liquid and frequent.

Ipecac. 4, 3 gl. in ʒiij water, a teaspoonful every two hours; after which *Bry. alb.* in like manner.

The vomiting and purging were aggravated at first by *Ipecac.*, and after the second dose relieved. The *Bryonia* brought out a rash of red miliary character on the legs; stools frothy, pale, and thin. Can only take water, which runs through him directly.

Merc. sol. 6, 2 gl. in ʒiij water, a teaspoonful every four hours.

11th. Head better; voice stronger; slightly delirious last night; tongue getting moist; the efforts to vomit are abortive; abdominal tenderness, especially about the ilio-colic valve; tenesmus; stools frequent, without pain, sometimes brown or yellow, preceded by rumbling in the colon. Pulse 120, weak; considerable thirst for cold drinks, but he fears to drink, because it increases the purging.

Acid. Phosph. 9, 3 gl. in ʒiij water, a teaspoonful three times a day.

13th. Only two stools since the evening of the 11th; they were firmer. Tongue moist, cleaning from the point; is less thirsty, and feels better. Awoke this morning, and called out for some mutton, vowing he "would'nt stand the slops any longer." Pulse 100; skin cool and soft.

Cont. med.

17th. Had a small hard motion after four days' constipation; head a little swimming; voice weak; appetite returning; less thirst; sleeps pretty well. To have mutton-broth and rice for diet.

Acid. Phosph. 12, 6 gl. in six powders, one every morning.

23rd. Better and stronger; is pretty well, but for feeling weak; has a pain in both legs, at the upper part of the tendo-achillis, worst in the left; it hinders him in walking.

Lycopod. 6, 3 gl. in ʒiij water, a teaspoonful twice a day.

Feb. 14th. Has been improving in strength and appetite; bowels regular. Has ridden out, and walked a mile out and back; this made the legs so sore, that he was knocked up for some days, and he took the crotchet into his head that the "nasty water-cure" had driven the fever into his limbs; whereas, had it been well physicked out of him, he would have been "all right;" consequently, he refused any more *water-cure*, and got pains in his arms, for which he applied to allopathy, and did not fail to abuse me heartily for *my* pains. But I take the liberty to think, that had it not been for this same "water-cure," as he called it, which cut short his disorder on the fourth day, he might hardly have fared so well as he did. The great remedy in this case was *Phosphoric Acid.* It was most clearly indicated by the state of the bowels on the 12th of January; and it was so admirably fitted to the character of the individual as well as to the symptoms, that I felt regret at not having hit upon it at first. Immediately after the first dose of it he got relief; there was a check put to the progress of the case at once; and this attack of fever, with its severe gastric complications, was hurried through its course, and stopped in four days. The opponents of the homœopathic system would say it was a case cured by Nature on a critical day. I am willing to concede so much as this; I never saw a case cured that was *not* cured by the powers of Nature; for if the organic forces be insufficient for the prompt suppression of an attack of disease, it either becomes chronic, or the patient dies. But I feel assured that homœopathic remedies, properly chosen and rightly dosed, can so aid and assist the efforts of Nature, as to enable her to get rid of disease

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in a manner resembling very nearly her own processes. The constitution of the patient is not oppressed or injured by large doses of drugs, and the stimulus of the properly-chosen homœopathic remedy being no greater than what is necessary to rouse the system to the point required for the suppression of the symptoms, the patient gets well far sooner than if he were tormented with large and frequent doses of violent medicines. This may be particularly observed when you can see the case at its commencement; and before the disease has made much head. It is then easy to shorten its course, and render it mild and safe; whereas, if once it be developed, the most we can do is to conduct it to its termination without bad result.

Another case of fever which I attended this summer was even more favourable than the above, inasmuch as the man (a labourer) was able to resume his labour after only a fortnight's confinement to the house. I fortunately saw him the day of invasion, with a red face, and in tears. The first medicine given was *Acon.*; then *Bry. a.* and *Rhus t.* At the end of the week he was convalescent, and the aching of the limbs that remained was removed by *Lycopod.* I wish the homœopathic public to remark these cases; they will see how important it is to have medical assistance at the outset of an illness, and not to wait, as too many do, until the disease is fairly rooted. The two cases of fever last mentioned were cut short, and the convalescence was, so to speak, null. The case of C. Webb was not seen until the girl had been ill a week, and then all that could be done was to steer her through with as little damage as we could.

I would call the attention of masters and the friends of benefit societies to these cases; they may see what *can* be done by homœopathic treatment, and what an amount of time and suffering is thereby spared to the poor man, and what a saving is effected in the benefit funds. The attention of the poor-law authorities, too, might be worse bestowed than on a consideration of them.

Ellen Davis, aged 12, temperament nervous, lymphatic, and sanguine. Hair brown; eyes hazle; sensitive disposition. Has been a year under homœopathic treatment. Was suddenly taken with giddiness, chills and vomiting at noon of the 15th of February, and has been sick every day since. Was ill a week before I saw her; vomited green matter; was worse after anything taken into the stomach. Has had *Castor Oil* and *Tra. Rhœi* given by her mother. Complains of pain and weight in stomach; tongue coated with white fur.

Feb. 15th. Head very heavy; pains across forehead; bowels open. Rather thirsty. Has lost flesh.

Arsenic 9, three powders, two globules in each; one night and morning.

23rd. Vomiting less severe; the mucus ejected is stringy. Head heavy; she dozes and mutters deliriously; tongue white, with red edges; pulse strong, 100. Cough coming on.

Hyoscy. 4, three powders, two globules in each; one night and morning.

25th. Has been delirious; eyes are dim, and upper lids half closed; stomach less painful; tongue cleaner. Bowels loose; the motions are ejected suddenly, are yellow; still vomits. Diet of toast-water. Does not urinate without a motion.

Hyoscy. 7, as above.

26th. Head less heavy, eyes less dull; weight in stomach, and distension with wind; still vomits, but very little. Is thirsty. Bowels loose; no pain on pressure. Temper irritable.

Coffea 3, three globules in the morning, each day.

29th. Cough severe; vomits everything but toast-water, and that begins to disgust her. Bowels loose, without pain. Great thirst.

Phosph. 5, three globules in ʒvj water; one teaspoonful twice a day.

31st. Cough increased; large mucous râle extensively heard; expectoration commencing. Head and stomach better. Bowels open six times in twenty-four hours. Yesterday evening passed urine for the first time without a motion. Gruel, rice.

Cont. med. 4ta hora.

March 1st. Yesterday being the seventeenth day of the fever, a rash came out in the evening; it seems under the skin, and feels rough.

2nd. Cough better, bowels less open. Is much better.

Cont. med. bis die.

6th. Goes on improving. Bowels more firm; skin dirty, and inclined to peel.

Phosph. 6, in ʒvj water; 1 tsp. bis die. Broth and meat.

13th. Has been down stairs three days, a short time each day. To-day frontal headache severe, with vomiting and great thirst. Skin peeling; a little pustule on back of right hand.

Bryon. a. 15, in ʒvj water; 1 tsp. ter die.

15th. Head and stomach soon relieved by medicine. Continues improving. Takes a little mutton. Some little pustules about thumb of right hand.

After this she rapidly proceeded to recovery, convalescence being remarkably short and free from unpleasantness. In a fortnight her parents removed from the place, and I have not seen her since.

Miscellaneous.

LAUGHTER.—Laughter is a most healthful exertion; it is one of the greatest helps to digestion with which I am acquainted; and the custom prevalent among our forefathers, of exciting it at table by jesters and buffoons, was founded on true medical principles.—*Professor Hufeland.*

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

ALLOPATHY AND HOMŒOPATHY COMPARED.

By a Progressist.

(*Continued from page* 82.)

What has been said on the subject of purgatives* will in a great measure apply to emetics.† Emetics may be said to act in two ways: first, by the ejection of bilious or mucous matters contained in the stomach by the efforts of vomition; secondly, by the *shock given* to the *whole system.* The præcordial anxiety that precedes and accompanies the retching soon reacts on the principal organs. Independently of the bilious matter thrown up, vomiting augments the secretion of mucus from the bronchi, as well as the secretion from the kidneys and skin; a slight or even an abundant perspiration generally succeeds the cold sweats, leaving the patient, almost invariably, in a state of weariness and debility; although tranquillity, sleep, and a feeling of comfort may be, for a short period, experienced. Who has not observed the violent perturbation and exhaustion caused by vomiting? Now, I can affirm that it is possible to produce the same effects without fear of consequences by homœopathic medicines.

To observe facts with care, and to generalize with caution, is the grand law of sound medical practice; but when facts abound, and they all call for the same construction, we ought to learn to profit by the lesson. It is neither easy nor safe to prescribe emetics in the heroic doses given by the "old school." Have we not all observed, after the use of these remedies, extreme irritability of the digestive organs, protracted diarrhœas, cerebral congestions, an attack of apoplexy, the rupture of some of the large vessels of the thorax, spitting of blood, the sudden formation of a hernia, or strangulation, where such had already existed. The stomach will not tolerate the large doses prescribed by the allopathic school. Less than the suitable dose produces no effect; a large dose occasions great irritation, which may terminate in inflammation of the peritoneum; and "in cases of frequently-occurring chronic nausea, he (the old-school physician) produced, with a view of furthering the intentions of Nature, copious evacuations of the stomach by means of powerful emetics—never with a good result, often with bad, not unfrequently dangerous and even fatal consequences."*

To cases based on pathological grounds, the observations I have made sanction my admitting that in the greater number of them the homœopathic method may be substituted for emetics, calculating the effects we want to produce. The old system of giving emetics has been frequently practised and much abused, although they require for their administration as much practical acumen and pathological knowledge as any other class of medicine. I would have a man treat himself to an emetic, that he may know the inconvenience occasioned to the patient. I recollect reading in an American journal an anecdote of a doctor calling upon a gentleman who had been some time ailing: he put a fee into the patient's hand, and took the medicine he had prepared for the sick man. He was not made sensible of his error till he found himself getting shockingly ill, and the patient getting rapidly better. He was an undoubted "regular."

I beg, Mr. Editor, your permission to leave this sickening subject, and to make a few remarks on what is going on in the medical world. The bigotry of old physic appears even stronger than it used to be; but "the time has passed away when the oil from kittens boiled alive was considered an admirable application for wounds; when toads roasted alive were administered for asthma, and the hairs of mad dogs for hydrophobia; when the powdered thigh-bone of an executed felon was considered a spe-

* "Saline aperients are given to allay febrile excitement, but their exhibition requires great discrimination. While purgative medicines preserve a regular state of the body, care must be taken that they do not aggravate the debilitating effects of fever."—*Dr. Hamilton on Purgative Medicine.*

† Determining the *blood* to the *surface* has led to the administration of emetics in the early stage of fever, which have been employed where blood-letting is considered unnecessary.

* Organon, p. 36.

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cific in dysentery,* and ointment was applied to the inflicting weapon in order to cure the wound; when physicians placed confidence in phylacteries, and watched with intense anxiety the influence of black and white days, and the aspects of the stars; and when they hurried their unfortunate patients to an untimely grave, in attempting to quench the fires of fever and inflammation by diligently feeding the consuming flame." The time of the doctrinaires is gone past. The age is more practical and less theoretical than it was twenty or even ten years ago; and the people are far more interested in the great question of homœopathy, which appears more at large in all men's eyes as the paramount question of our time. The College of Physicians of Edinburgh may reject their fellows, the members of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association may prate, but homœopathy must advance—truth will predominate. At a meeting of the members of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association at Brighton, on the 13th and 14th of August, Dr. Malden (a physician more celebrated for his puns than his practice) addressed the meeting, and got heartily laughed at for endeavouring to throw light upon, or to bring into ridicule, a subject on which he appears profoundly ignorant. It has been said—

> "The wise man examines before he judges;
> The fool judges before he examines."

We read in the *Brighton Herald*, August 16th: "On the return of the members to the Music-room, Dr. Malden delivered a most amusing lecture on empiricism, and by the unmerciful lashing he gave the "watermen," hydropathists, and mesmerists, he kept the assembly in a roar." Now ridicule is a weapon whose point rankles and festers wherever it alights, and if there be one thing requiring a greater degree of moral courage than another, it is to bear to be laughed at and to be accounted an easy dupe. Ridicule (a weapon the doctor usually fights with) is never employed in a good cause, though it is the common resource in a bad one. Medical men are aware of the rapid strides made by homœopathy, and are fully conscious that if they cannot impugn it, and convey to the minds of the public some dishonesty on the part of its professors, the system is likely to make vast inroads in "old physic," if it does not annihilate it altogether.

> "Different men have different opinions;
> Some likes leeks and some likes *inions*,"

are words often quoted by a Worcester physician, and we are inclined to believe by the gentleman "who kept the assembly in a roar" with his tiny witticisms "and more absurd abuse" against homœopathy. In the lines just quoted, the doctor allows different opinions and different likes. He, too, most likely would claim his right of selection without interference, and as an allopath, would choose the leek as the more powerful plant of the two; then upon what grounds does he crack his jokes at those who choose the milder of the two, namely, the onion? A physician once said to his neighbour, who practised with nostrums, "How is it that you get so many more patients than I? I have laboured hard to acquire a knowledge of my profession, and am indefatigable in the pursuit of it; but where I get one patient you get a hundred." The nostrum-monger, to please the vanity of the doctor, said, "I tell you how it is: in every hundred persons there are ninety-nine fools and one wise man; the wise man you get, the fools come to me." Wise men are more abundant than in those days, and they are on the alert; the ninety and nine have advanced with the improvement of the age, and the time is not far distant when the truth of homœopathy will shine forth as bright as the sun at noon-day. It is a work of the Almighty, not to be smothered by a few wretched puns.

There are no set of men so fully alive to manœuvre as medical men. It would be pronounced *infra dig.* to advertise that Dr. So-and-so may be consulted, etc.; but, to get over this difficulty, Dr. So-and-so publishes a book, condemned or not, he advertises his book, and does not omit to state that it may be obtained at his residence. This is not advertising oneself,—it is merely advertising one's book, and considered fair play. Dr. Cormack, perhaps, feeling himself somewhat in the shade by the side of the Thames, makes a violent attack on homœopathy at the meeting of the members of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association at Brighton, not forgetting to propose that the resolutions shall be inserted in the *Times* newspaper, the *Morning Post*, the *North British Advertiser*, *Saunders's News Letter*, and all the British and Irish medical periodicals;—an extensive manœuvre to inform the public that Dr. Cormack lives at Putney. "The worst part of homœopathy, in my opinion," says Dr. Cormack, "is the dishonesty of those who live by it. I think it is that this fashionable quackery is so susceptible of adaptation to the most contradictory prejudices of *shallow men and women*, as to have become a sort of Protean deceit and a

* The great philosopher, Lord Bacon, believed in the virtues of charms and amulets; and the celebrated Mr. Boyle seriously recommended the thigh-bone of an executed criminal as a very powerful remedy.

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distinct medical heresy." After this he says, "the homœopathic dogma has, as far as I can judge, no adequate basis to rest upon; and the doctrine of infinitesimal doses is immeasurably beyond the grasp of my intellect." Now I do ask upon what grounds Dr. Cormack calls this a "medical heresy," when he admits he is so "thick in the clear" that he cannot conceive the basis on which homœopathy is founded. Dr. Cormack may, with equal propriety, pass judgment on the power of a piece of machinery of which he knows not the principle, or give an opinion on a book he has not seen. But he confesses it is "beyond the grasp of his intellect:" all, therefore, he may bluster forth will pass by us as the idle wind that we respect not.

Dr. Charles J. B. Williams, at the same meeting, "entered into some statements showing the utter absurdity of infinitesimal doses, and deplored that the wealth and influence of the rich (ah, there's the rub!) and the lives of the poor are sacrificed to uphold a monstrous fraud, *the prevalence of which has made it so notorious.*" Dr. Charles J. B. Williams has gained some celebrity for the use of the stethoscope, and were the doctor to apply this instrument to the chest of a patient who had been treated homœopathically, the sound would surely be found to be—"No more of your Protean doses for me. Dr. Williams, look about you, put your house in order; homœopathy is no 'monstrous fraud;' it must and will prevail. No more cod-liver oil to make me fat:* I will get fat upon something more agreeable. I will improve my constitutional power by homœopathic measures, and throw your physic to the dogs."

It is most true that, with the exception of those who run away with the cream, medical men are engaged in a perpetual struggle to maintain themselves in their proper station. The law of self-preservation will be uppermost, and there will be a prejudice against everything that may lessen the means of subsistence. It is impossible not to admit that this argument must bias the minds of many against any change that may endanger the hope of their gains, and that tend in any degree to supersede their orthodoxy.

All these reasons are operating, not so much against homœopathy itself, but against the inquiry into its principles and efficiency. It is for this reason we are anxious to promote investigation. "It is somewhat strange," said Sir William Knighton, "that though in many arts and sciences improvement has advanced in a step of regular progression from the first, and we look back to ancient excellence with wonder not unmixed with awe, medicine seems to be one of those ill-fated arts whose improvement bears no proportion to its antiquity, although anatomy has been better illustrated, the Materia Medica enlarged, and chemistry better understood."

To return to the meeting at Brighton and to the Music-room, where Dr. Malden is amusing his hearers. Dr. Malden continued, "that it was neither rational nor honest for men like the homœopathists to pretend to have secrets." They do not pretend to have secrets; their profession is to have no secrets; and as a proof of this, all medical men, friend or foe, are invited to their hospitals, that they may see and investigate their practice. The term of humbug, empiric, or quack certainly cannot attach to the homœopathic practitioner while he explains the principles upon which he moves physiologically, supports his theory on the amount of his experience on the most rational grounds, lays down in plain terms the plans he means to pursue, conceals nothing, and has no private opinions. Those who have ventured to move out of the beaten track, or soared beyond what is called the acknowledged practice of the day, who have devoted their time to investigate homœopathy, have been stigmatised by such offensive appellations. The meaning of the word "humbug" is to cheat, or one who cheats by a fictitious character. The meaning of the word "quack" is that of a boastful pretender to arts which he does not understand, an artful tricking practitioner in physic, one who keeps from the world the knowledge of the component parts of his nostrums. It is scarcely less humiliating than it is surprising, to reflect that the mind of man, with all its aptitude for carrying out the general designs of the Creator, should allow that universal failing, "interest," to have dominion over his judgment. Common sense and common honesty are qualities no more universal among the "faculty" than elsewhere. I do not hesitate to say, there is not a homœopathic physician who would not say to this facetious doctor, "who kept the assembly in a roar,"—Let us take two cases as much alike as possible in their general character; take one, Dr. Malden, and give me the other, and see which will be most benefited in the shortest time. These are the facts we wish to introduce. These

* Dr. C. J. B. Williams remarks that "it (cod-liver oil) is a highly nutrient material, and it is admitted by all who have used it that it possesses, in a remarkable degree, the property of fattening those who take it for any length of time."—*Homœopathic Times*, No. 106, p. 6.

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are the proofs the "orthodox school" shrink from.

No wonder that allopathic physicians generally are active in waging warfare against homœopathy, when such a heavy blow is to fall on their lucrative practice. Allopathic physicians may frighten their patients about the supposed dangers of homœopathic poisons; but while two-thirds of their patients die, two-thirds of those treated homœopathically recover, evidently showing that homœopathy is one-third more advantageous *to patients* than allopathy.

Oh, reader, if you be afflicted, let me entreat you, as you value your life and happiness, give up those enormous and ruinous doses of drugs! I am confident you will be blessed with health. Are you suffering under chronic disease, the sooner you resort to homœopathy the better. It is hardly possible for you to imagine the extent of the sufferings which result from large doses of medicine. The whole system of allopathy is one of *weakening*. We are still labouring under the accumulated prejudices of ages on this subject; but surely the time will come when science shall cease to perplex and confuse, and the object of all study will be the discovery of truth. This is not a fanciful conclusion, but a rational sequence—an inference, in the present period of improvement, that any one may draw. Doctors have now proved themselves the most staunch bigots we have. There are many and noble exceptions, but it is a general rule nevertheless. They still advise the "blue pill and black draught." Depend on it, this opposition to homœopathy will do great good. It will cause the people to think, and it will cause them to change rapidly from the belief in heroic doses of medicine, and pay more attention to the laws of life which God has put into our bodies.

The welfare of the nation—the lives of our fathers, mothers, and children are vitally interested in this subject. Let us inquire who are the parties at present making this outcry against homœopathy? The answer presents itself: the parties whose interest it is to oppose it. Ask a doctor how many patients he has killed; ask a lawyer if he ever told a lie; ask a fish-woman if her fish are stale: neither one nor the other would admit the fact. The cause of humanity compels us to speak out, and direct the attention of patients to the safe and simple system of therapeutics discovered by the immortal Hahnemann, and set it before the eyes of a wondering world; and when people shall have become a little wiser, the principle "similia similibus curantur" will be universally regarded as the greatest blessing to suffering humanity.

It would be highly praiseworthy in medical men to cease from objections suggested by ill-will, inspired by interested motives. Let the opponents to homœopathy give themselves the trouble to dive into its principles and merits; let them watch the treatment, and they would soon abandon their reproachful aspersions. Medical men have very generally refused to examine what they have prejudged, and they have branded with obloquy all those who have professed to practise or to believe the principles of homœopathy. Yet by so doing they place themselves in a false position. It is to be lamented that they are so opposed to it, the largest ground of which is, doubtless, the interference with their pecuniary interests; for in proportion to the merits of homœopathy and its success, so is their opposition. This is the bad part of human nature. All those who thrive by the practice of physic, directly or indirectly, physicians, surgeons, consulting-surgeons, apothecaries, chemists, druggists, etc., decry homœopathy.

Bacon said, "The human mind is always governed, not by what it knows, but by what it believes; not by what it is capable of attaining, but by what it desires or fears." Bacon also said, when he wrote, that "science could hardly boast of a single experiment which had served to increase the power, to diminish the suffering, or to augment the happiness of mankind." Were this great philosopher now to return to the earth, he would have the satisfaction of seeing vast changes. Bacon was the first philosopher who laid down plans for extending knowledge of universal application; who ventured to assert that all the sciences could be nothing more than expressions or arrangement, and that the first step towards the attainment of real discovery was the humiliating confession of ignorance. That such an innovating discovery as Hahnemann's should not meet with the immediate popularity and patronage of medical men, is not wonderful, when we consider the slow progress of all reforms in established forms, whether material, social, or political.

It is not so many years ago, and yet to be forgotten, that the government introduced the system of roads that will long perpetuate the names of M'Adam and Telford. About four thousand district Acts of Parliament were obtained for the improvement of turnpike-roads, and yet the broad-wheel road-waggon, the stage-coach, and the post-chaise have given way to the all-

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powerful locomotive. In the year 1825, when the plan for the Liverpool and Manchester line was brought before Parliament, evidence was given on the capabilities of the locomotive engine then in use, in which a speed of three miles and a half, four miles and a half, and even seven miles per hour was attained, with a load varying from forty to seventy tons gross weight—a capability which the counsel for the opposition appeared to regard as somewhat visionary. Between 1825 and 1849, some millions have been expended on railways, and a speed of thirty miles an hour, inclusive of stoppages, has been maintained, and traffic in many instances has more than trebled. The same power has been applied to ships, and nothing is thought now of crossing the Atlantic Ocean, 3,000 miles, in nine or ten days. To understand how to produce so much power, it requires the study of the laws of nature in regard to the waves' motion, derived from general experience, and the mechanism to render this power effective for the vessel's propulsion; all which is fully proved to be adequate to the purpose of moving the same forty miles an hour, be it by steam or any other power.

Medicine, like all other sciences, has gained more from individual discovery than from centuries of theory. Its history, resembling that of other systems, contains a striking illustration of the ignorance of mankind dispelled by the master-stroke of genius, a detail of human passions, prejudices, fluctuations, and imperfections, at one time degenerating into mere dialectics and book-learning, fostered only by ignorant monks and women—at another period blending in the lofty abstracts of the Platonian philosophy. The system of Galen, which fell in the sixteenth century, was speedily followed by Harvey's great discovery of the circulation of the blood. This naturally led to a complete revolution in the opinions of men, and since that time numerous medical systems have arisen, whose several partisans have sought to claim for their various dogmas the title of pre-eminent.

It is not our object to discuss the merits of these numerous pretenders; we only seek for the theory we advocate an impartial investigation and examination of our principles.

We most ardently wish that Dr. Justus Liebig, Professor of the University of Giessen—a name which stands at the very head of the ranks of modern scientific philosophers; a learned and practical physician; honoured by his Prince; one of the most distinguished men of the present day; who has published works which have been greatly commended by all the learned societies in Europe; few men have led such a life of scientific industry, or shown so much ardour in the pursuit of knowledge, which no difficulties could repress; there is scarcely a branch of physical or chemical science to which he has not contributed some important discovery; he has made a vast number of analyses and experiments; his works on animal and vegetable life are splendid instances of great acuteness, profound judgment, and untiring, well-directed labour: it is impossible in this brief mention of his name to recapitulate a tithe of his philosophical labours—we wish, we say, this enlightened and polished philosopher had examined and investigated before he made use of the following words: "Can we wonder that men wholly ignorant of physiology and chemistry, although in other respects rational, should adopt the absurd notions of Hahnemann, that his doctrines should prevail in Germany, and find disciples in all countries?" We think, had he investigated the system fully, we should not have received this condemnation of absurdity, and I think he would have admitted that they harmonise with that nature which in his writings he describes so eloquently.

Hahnemann says, "it is indispensable that every practitioner of the healing art should be a chemist." A physician must not only know scientifically the composition of his drugs, but he must also make himself acquainted with the causes wherefore they are beneficial. There are schools of chemistry springing up in many directions, and it is fitting to allude, whilst on the subject of these schools, to the laudable courage and perseverance of Dr. Sheridan Muspratt, a pupil of the illustrious Giessen Professor, and Professor of the Liverpool College of Chemistry, who, after suffering the most narrow-minded opposition from the Company of Apothecaries in London (or, as that most accomplished gentleman, editor of a medical journal, that was conceived in distress, born in poverty, reared in scurrility, and matured in abuse, would designate them, "the Old Hags of Rhubarb Hall"), they having refused to accept Dr. Muspratt's certificates—a gentleman prepared by nature, by edueation, and by his habits of study, for effecting such an institution for the benefit of his fellow-townsmen—succeeded in carrying out his able plans, and has established a College of Chemistry in Liverpool, that gives promise eventually to surpass its envious oppressor. Unity is strength. If we persevere, we shall have our College.

(To be continued.)

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LETTER TO ROBERT CHRISTISON, M.D., V.P.R.S.E.,

AND PROFESSOR OF MATERIA MEDICA IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

No. II.

SIR,—The concluding paragraph of my last letter, inclusive of criterion and deduction, illustrate the flimsiness of the partition separating the trading from the scientific features of the profession; such intricacies were safely kept from the public gaze, until a bold-hearted physician, some ten years ago, dared to lay bare the wheels and pinions composing the moral machinery of the profession. Mankind owe that physician a deep debt of gratitude, although he somewhat unscrupulously built a system of his own upon the Hahnemannian doctrine, and christened it by a new name. Such trifles are so common in the profession as scarcely to be deserving of notice, indeed the plagiarism might be called "strictly professional;" for example, from Mesmer's discovery we derive "hypnotism," "electro-biology," "odyle;" and from Hahnemann's discovery we derive "chrono-thermalism." The process, you will observe, is exceedingly simple; merely coin a name (it *must* be from two or more Greek words), apply it to any doctrine or thing already known, but be prepared to insist on its perfect originality, and the thing is done. You will observe that the manufactures above quoted have been successfully carried out by members of your party, partisans, if not believers, in allopathic therapeutics. Nay, the trade in "marvels" may "bend the noble nature" of one man as easily as the "trade in books" may "bend the noble nature" of another. You see, therefore, what a beautiful problem medical morality is, and how little it differs in allopath and homœopath, in hydropath and mesmerist. Alas! human clay is human clay, very little above brick-making, or "stopping a bung-hole," and science puts but a thin glazing over it, after all; it is much the same whether within or without collegiate walls, and if now and then a little may be found of porcelain purity, how rarely can it be mistaken for Dresden or Sevres!

But your inaugural address is far from uninstructive; it gives the graduates undoubted evidence that they have not got what they were in search of: but with instruction it combines amusement, for the repeated offers of friendly assistance in that barren, untrodden arctic circle of therapeutics having led us on, and on, and on, in hopes of better things, you say, "I am afraid I can add nothing farther to encourage you, in the brief time allotted me in these observations. But I may perhaps aid some of you to avoid, in your inquiries after truth, the snares of imposture and by-ways of delusion, into which in these days, perhaps more than at any prior period, the young physician is apt to be betrayed. Do not, however, overrate my capabilities in this respect. Your time will not allow me, though I were *able* otherwise," etc. Now, with many thanks for this kind offer (which, when we remember that the graduates are all "polished off" and licensed to practise their trade, and have no intention of attending any more "*courses*," may be considered "as all in my eye," etc.), there is no chance whatever of any one overrating anybody's capabilities in developing therapeutics into a healthy science. You need not be in the least afraid of such an occurrence, the thing is literally impossible. Nor is it any detriment to you who have so justly earned a permanent station among men of science as a toxicologist and analytical chemist, that you are as feeble as any other man when you touch upon a science which is no science at all; which has arrived at the most humiliating position in the estimation of all medical men above mediocrity in intellect and acquirements. No man knows this better than you do, and knowing it, you would do well to pause ere you use so unsparingly such terms as "knavery," "imposture," and "delusion" to any innovation, how little soever such innovation may square with your notions of probability; for how easily may the innovator cast back the retort, if it pleaseth him, "Every man is the best keeper of his own conscience."

You think it necessary, however, to account for the non-advancement of therapeutics, by saying it is simply on account of its "difficulty," "the unsatisfactory condition of the subject," "and the seductions of simpler and more promising pursuits."

Can "difficulty" be assigned as a cause for this? Why, eighteen hundred years before the Christian advent, the Hindoo in his hamlet, the Chaldean in his watch-tower, could gauge great globes and calculate dread comets; and eighteen hundred years after that era, a medical philosopher cannot expound the intrinsic value of a five-grain pill. It *may be* neglect of the subject "for more promising pursuits," and I believe *it is so;* but if from being on a wrong path we get on no faster on our journey than we have done during the twenty centuries you boast of, the public may get tired of waiting, and they are tired of waiting. How comes it, then, that one man of science, the astronomer, can predict to a nicety the advent of

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a star, a planet, a comet, an eclipse, centuries before it does come; nay, that he could do so three thousand years ago, and that in 1851, the accumulated therapeutic knowledge of as many years cannot span with any certainty the period of action of a scruple of jalap? Simply because the astronomer bases his calculation on an unerring law—a fact—whilst the therapeutist scorned a law, because he could not discover one, and remained ill-contented with a fallacy.

I now come to the analysis of a most important portion of your address, wherein you point out the few triumphs, the few great truths, that must still keep the wreck afloat; and what do we find? that you despatch them as summarily as if you were truly ashamed of them. It reminds one of the Irish cabman's "keeping a bit of raw for dashing through the town." But again, what do we find? "vaccination." Alas! poor Jenner, look up, if only for a moment, and record the fact, even with a tear! "Scurvy," "alkaloids," "delirium tremens," "stimulants and opium," "quinine!" Whisper it to the shade of Samuel Hahnemann! "*Calomel* and *Opium!*" bear witness, ye patients with spongy gums, and perforated skulls, and nightly aching limbs, to "*Calomel* combined with *Opium.*" It is the best thing for you imaginable; please to be helped to a little more; it will take down your inflammation, if you have any; it is strictly antiphlogistic, according to schools. But, above all, we find, as the crowning triumph, the "modern treatment of the calculous diatheses"—for which, in the very next edition of the "Dispensatory," we expect to find a universal elixir worthy of Paracelsus, and far more valuable than Cleopatra's extravagant draught (a shocking sign of the druggists of those days), which dissolved pearls, whilst the modern one can dissolve a stone in the human bladder. But until the next edition does come out, let us see what therapeutics can do for the calculous diatheses. Admitted, then, that with the assistance afforded by the present condition of therapeutics the solution of a calculus has not been arrived at; it may still be hoped that the diathesis or tendency to the disease can be arrested. Can you name a drug or a combination of drugs that (irrespective of baths and other hygienic means) can increase the secretion of urea, or limit the secretion of that substance when in excess? Can you control, by any drug or combination of drugs, the elimination of uric acid for one single week after the discontinuance of alkalies? Can you convert oxalic acid into sugar, or sugar into oxalic acid—the chemical difference, as you well know, being quite infinitesimal already, not worth mentioning? Can you name any drug that can remove cystine from the renal secretion, or render it soluble? Can you, for a single day, render alkaline urine acid? If you can do so by drugs, give it out to the world, and witch us all with it; for as it is, "the modern treatment of the calculous diatheses" is the grossest specimen of palliative hocus-pocus. But, Sir, I can tell you a secret worth knowing, if you will promise not to divulge it; these diatheses, with the exception of the phosphatic, are all frequently and permanently cured, without medicine of any kind, by those men whom, according to your address, the "auri sacra fames" has tempted "to preside over these "Neptunian mysteries" of hydropathy: your contempt for their system cannot possibly exceed their contempt for yours. An upright conscience is the only nobility of professional nature, and what save this can enable each "innovator" to wage successful war with such unequal numbers? but estimating the science of therapeutics exactly at the value assigned to it in your inaugural address, it gives rise to grave thoughts indeed, when we are reminded that the appraiser so lately participated in a professional and official demonstration against his own colleague, because he valued it as lightly, and did not trust to it in his private practice. If, therefore, by your address to the graduates, and your participation in the professional intolerance of the day, you have roused a most just recrimination, be assured that it is not to detract from the estimable points of your scientific, much less of your private reputation, to both of which I and my party are all ready to do full justice. But, Sir, if, as it has already been, we must needs keep our hands upon our weapons to protect our own, be assured we have already made far too good a fight to give in now; for so firm is the belief of every homœopathic convert in the truth of his law, and so constantly is his faith confirmed by daily results, that not a man of them but will say in its defence—

"lay on, Macduff;
And damned be him that first cries, *Hold, enough.*"

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your very obedient servant,
Sept. 25, 1851. SIGMA.

DIPLOMAS; A CHARTER; AN EXAMINING BOARD.

By Dr. Fearon.

THE Northern Colleges have by their recent acts brought into an acute state

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that contest between the two schools which had been hitherto proceeding in a semi-active manner, and for this all good homœopaths ought to be especially thankful to them; as we may now hope that we shall be freed from the danger of a mongrel practice—a species of medical Puseyism—increasing in our ranks. The blow, however, which the Edinburgh University has aimed at us, will very probably recoil with fatal effect upon itself. In seeking to extinguish us, it is not unlikely that the professors will find, in the course of a few years, that they have put an extinguisher upon themselves as an Examining Board; for if we establish an efficient Examining Board of our own, as homœopathy progresses, students may go to Edinburgh for some courses of lectures, but the chances are that the majority will prefer being licensed by the Homœopathic Board of Examiners. Having compelled us, for safety sake, to enter into an investigation of our respective positions, the Northern professors may find that they have aroused in us an analytical spirit which will not be contented until it has thoroughly examined all the machinery connected with allopathy, and thrown aside or re-cast all those parts which are not in keeping with our altered circumstances. I believe that even in our own ranks scarcely any one has yet comprehended how complete a change, not only in its practice, but even in its very machinery, the profession has been destined to undergo by the enunciation of the doctrines of *similia similibus curantur* and of small doses.*

It was recently stated by Dr. Strong, in the *Homœopathic Times*, that we did not appear to have made out a sufficient case to warrant an application for a charter, supposing us to wish for one. Now I think that he and others, who may be of the same opinion, have fallen into this error in consequence of their not having sufficiently considered our position. The very fact of our being engaged in promoting so radical a change in the practice of medicine as we are, forms of itself a sufficient reason that we should establish a school for teaching our doctrines, and an Examining Board for ascertaining whether those students who intend practising as homœopathists have first taken the trouble to acquire a proper knowledge of the system.

It seems to me that for some time past the homœopathists have been pursuing a course which was extremely likely in the end to bring diplomas into disrepute, while Edinburgh and St. Andrew's have unwittingly come forward to their rescue. To understand this, we must take into consideration the nature of a diploma.

A medical (or surgical) diploma is a document granted by certain authorized parties to a student, in testimony of his having gone through *all* those studies which are considered necessary to qualify him for practising his profession, and of his having passed through a satisfactory examination in ALL the branches of the healing art. Under such circumstances, the existing medical diplomas of this country are, in the hands of a homœopathist, more ridiculous than the tragedy of Hamlet with the part of Hamlet left out by particular desire; since in the examination to obtain them, *two* principal parts are omitted, viz., those of the Homœopathic Materia Medica and Practice of Physic. If a diploma thus obtained after only half an examination is to be considered, in the hands of a homœopathist, as of equal value with the diploma in the hands of an allopathist, obtained after a *full* examination in the line of practice which he adopts, where are we to stop? Is there not a danger that the public will come to question the use of diplomas—to ask why, if an examination can be dispensed with in the two principal branches of study, it should not be also dispensed with in the minor ones? and may they not come to the conclusion that diplomas are merely upheld by the profession in order to create a species of monopoly? Such a conclusion, however erroneous, would yet be warranted by the circumstances of the case.

For my part, considering that a homœopathist with no other than an allopathic diploma is a "doctor" only according to the letter, but not according to the *spirit*, of the law, I should refuse to give him that title, if he demanded it as a right, and should only accord it to him as a matter of courtesy: and this remark is applicable, not merely with regard to the minor diplomas of St. Andrew's and Aberdeen,—scorned as they generally are by even the allopaths,—but also to the higher class ones of Edinburgh, etc. In fact, the only diploma of an allopathic college which can, in the possession of a homœopathist, be considered as a *perfect* diploma, and as having lost nothing in value by the change of creed of its holder, is that of the *London* College of Surgeons, since that college alone does not profess to examine in the Practice of Physic and Pharmacy. Its very imperfectness as an allopathic diploma

* Wherever there has been a false creed, a degree of faultiness and imperfection will be found to pervade all the means which have been devised for its propagation.

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renders it the less objectionable when held by a homœopathist.

If additional reasons for establishing an Examining Board of our own are desired, we may derive one from the consideration that the present plan of compelling the student, who has become convinced of the truth of our system, to get up all the trash of allopathy, and to pass an examination in it, before he can be allowed to devote himself to the study of homœopathy, is no small hardship upon him; and the hardship becomes a very serious one, in the case of those students whose pecuniary means are just sufficient to enable them to go through the ordinary curriculum of study, but are insufficient to allow of their devoting an extra year to the study of a new system before obtaining employment.

A short time back I urged a student, to whom I had lent some books upon homœopathy, and some of whose relatives I had attended, to continue his investigations into the system. His reply was that he had already a strong suspicion of its truth, but did not yet wish his faith in it to become more confirmed, as it would be some time before his studies were completed, and he should then have to pass an examination in allopathy, and were he previously to become quite convinced of the truth of homœopathy, he should lose all feelings of interest in studying the allopathic Materia Medica, and his mind being no longer in his task, it would become a disgusting drudgery to him, and would consequently cost a far greater expenditure of mental effort than under ordinary circumstances. I felt the force of his objection, and ceased from urging him further.

The term "trash," as just employed, may seem a harsh or even unjustifiable one; but rightly understood, it is not. There were many forms which the Pantheists considered it necessary to be gone through in order to be made one of their priests, but which, when viewed in connection with Christianity, were simply "trash:" there are many likewise which may seem essential to Roman Catholics, but which to Protestants are "trash." So also there may be various items of study which the allopaths may consider absolutely necessary for their mode of practice, but which, in relation to our more advanced and purer one, are mere "trash."

A convert to homœopathy, who was possessed of a surgeon's diploma, once intimated to one of our well-known homœopaths, who is himself an M.D. of Edinburgh, that he intended to return to that place for a season, in order to obtain a physician's diploma. The reply was, "You have already a legal diploma—why not be content with that? to obtain the other you will have to learn a quantity of trash, which will be of no use to you in your future practice, and which you will be glad to forget as soon after your examination as possible."

I cannot understand how any one, who is already in possession of a legal diploma, can suppose that he will acquire any additional title to the confidence of his patients by going to St. Andrew's or Aberdeen, and getting himself tested and stamped by the professors of a creed opposed to his own,—a creed too which he is endeavouring to undermine, and which he daily proclaims to be false and dangerous. Such diplomas can only be obtained in one of two ways; either the candidate deceives the examiner by leading him to suppose that he will treat diseases in a mode in which he does not intend to treat them, or, the examiner being desirous to obtain the graduation fees, and the candidate to obtain the diploma, there must be a tacit understanding that each shall shut his eyes to the facts of the case; and thus there will be a collusion between them to humbug the public. A diploma of this character seems to me of no more value than waste paper.

Another reason in favour of an Examining Board of Homœopathists is furnished by the fact that it would much increase the chances of his becoming a good practitioner, if from an early stage of his studentship the student had his mind fixed exclusively upon the mode of practice which he intended to follow, instead of upon that which he meant to ignore. There can be no question that a much superior body of homœopathists would arise, if students were required first to learn the system, and then to give proofs, by an adequate examination, that they had learnt it, before they started as homœopathic practitioners, than is likely to be the case at present. They would then start from a point of knowledge which is now only arrived at after the practitioner has groped his way by means of experiments upon patients during the first year or two of practice.

Should there be any difficulty in obtaining a charter, or should the obtaining of one involve any large expenditure, I can see no reason why we should not dispense with it, and proceed as soon as we can to form a school and appoint a Board of Examiners of our own. True, the diplomas granted by such a board would have no legal value, but that would be a small matter, providing we succeeded in inspiring

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the adherents of our Cause with a respect for and confidence in them. It must be borne in mind that we are medical dissenters, inasmuch as we dissent from and wish to reform the hitherto existing medical practice. Now what have other dissenting bodies done? what course did the early Christians pursue? Did the Apostles, dissenting as they did from the established religion of their day, advise the Christian communities to wait until they had a charter from the governing powers, before they ventured to examine the eligibility of candidates for admission into their body? They, indeed, knew that they were in possession of a truth from on High, and therefore needed not government sanction for adopting all requisite means for its propagation. But we also know that we are in possession of a heaven-ordained truth. Why then should we, more than they, remain in listless inaction, until government, "for a consideration," should be pleased to put a stamp upon us, just as it, as a *quid pro quo*, puts its stamp upon the compounds of Morison, Holloway, and Co.*

Look at the history of the different modern dissenting sects, the Independents, the Baptists, the Quakers, and the Free Church of Scotland. Did they pretend that it was necessary to wait for a charter before they could teach their systems or examine students and ordain ministers? Their unorthodoxly-ordained ministers are ineligible for government places, and for livings in the state church, and in like manner our unchartered diplomas would be *for a time* ineligible for the army and navy and other government appointments; but surely we could bear such exclusion as well as they do.

All we have to do to ensure our diplomas being respected and valued, is to take care that such a body of examiners be chosen as would be calculated to obtain the confidence of the homœopathic public, and this could be done as well without as with a charter; for I do not suppose there is any peculiar mesmeric virtue in the latter to ensure an infallible state of clairvoyance on the part of those who would have to select the examiners. For my own part, I believe that truth in medicine, as well as truth in religion, will be found liable to become incrusted with error, and its progress to be retarded by state connection and government patronage.

* Physicians with only Scotch diplomas cannot now legally practise within a certain distance of London, and are ineligible for election to some of the metropolitan hospitals, and, if I am not mistaken, throughout England Scotch diplomas have no legal value, and would only be recognised in a court of law through courtesy.

If we had a council for the homœopathic body, similar to that which I some time ago proposed, the arrangements for forming a Board of Examiners and the selection of the latter would naturally devolve upon them. This project of a council I have not dropped, but intend shortly to take some further steps regarding it.

The University of St. Andrew's having *peremptorily* demanded back the diploma which it had conferred on Dr. Hale, that gentleman was of course precluded from complying with the demand at the time it was made; but I should certainly now advise him to offer to return their diploma, if they will return his graduation fees. He will be virtually not a whit less of a "doctor" without it than with it, it being, in fact, of no practical value to him, as he was previously in possession of a legal diploma. Should it be returned, he can perfectly well continue to style himself "doctor," the designation being merely employed as a notification of the line of practice (that of a physician) to which he intends to devote himself.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH, 1851.

"THE homœopathic Cause must flourish." So said a friend of ours the other day, when recounting the success of the past five years; and in this sentiment our readers as well as ourselves will doubtless agree. But the exertions used, which have brought us indeed to this favourable position, must not be relaxed; on the contrary, they ought to be quadrupled, if possible, to put to blush and to shame our adversaries, who, knowing our progress, endeavour to treat us with undeserved scorn, and to repudiate our principles.

Nothing is easier, the allopaths think, than to ridicule homœopathy, believing that in this manner they can stifle the truth. As yet they have monstrously failed in doing so, and the future, if we may judge from the past, presents even a less cheering aspect in this particular. Racked to their wits' end, they have used up nearly every available argument; and now, unfortunately

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for them, they discover that they have made less impression upon the public than in days gone by. Having studiously palmed off all descriptions of assertions, and having condescended to manufacture lies, they have been caught in their own snare, and are now proportionately distrusted. They have truly grown lean upon our good fortune, and vent their spite through every channel at their command.

All this, however, should be accepted by the disciples of Hahnemann as an assistance to the development of the philosophy which they have come forward to promulgate. The interference of their opponents is the key-note of success. In whatever shape or through whatever source it may transpire, they may rest assured that it arises from the appreciated movement making by homœopathy. Allopaths feel it and see it daily, and fearing to acknowledge the prejudices which surround their own system, they are unprincipled enough to deny the feasibility of the reform sought to be established.

It will not suit them thus to dally with the pure truth evolved through homœopathy. A tardy recognition of the humanising influence it exercises on the world at large may perhaps come when it is too late. The public are already alive to the benefits to be derived from the extension of this mode of practice, and, examining for themselves, will decide accordingly.

Review.

THE GENERAL HOSPITAL, BIRMINGHAM. *The Crisis; another Warning addressed to the Governors.* By THOMAS GUTTERIDGE, M.R.C.S.

WE have received a pamphlet bearing the above title. Its contents are evidently directed against what is alleged to be the mismanagement of the General Hospital in Birmingham. With the views of the author, sound though they may be, we cannot altogether coincide, because they fail to interest us in their practical development. From an allopathic administration in hospital affairs, we can very well understand how mismanagement and lavish expenditure may go hand in hand, and we have no doubt that in this and other establishments of the kind, there is plenty of room for reformation, if the public themselves would set about correcting existing evils. Until that period shall have arrived, we fear little good will be effected.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

DEAR SIR,—I have read with pleasure various communications from the pen of Dr. Rosenstein in your valuable journal, and regret that I must beg to differ with him as to the sentiments and assertions contained in his article (in No. 108) on Allopathic and Homœopathic Quackery; although my remarks may appear to be impregnated with the odour of the Pharmacy Homœopathic, I trust, should you think proper to insert them, you will give me credit for sincerity.

I intend commenting slightly on each assertion or sentiment, and conclude with proposing what in my opinion would advance the cause of homœopathy.

In the Doctor's opening paragraph, he aludes to what he has been pleased to call the excess of freedom in this country, by the people of all classes being allowed to patronise patent medicines; to the mercenary views of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and of the vendors.

On referring to the Austrian Government returns of the mortality in cases of cholera in Vienna, the Doctor will there see that of those who suffered from that disease, and were treated allopathically, or by what is still by the majority considered the legitimate mode, 30 per cent. died, of those treated homœopathically, only 8½ per cent. died; and at Wishney Wolotschok in Russia, those treated allopathically and those who were left to Nature and their own caprices were on a par; so that those without medical treatment stood as fair a chance of recovery as those who were treated by the practitioners of the old school. Now as Rome was not built in a day, neither is it possible that all the world can be supplied with qualified medical men of homœopathic principles in our generation. Still, although the people have not the evidence of these returns before them, they have the *great fact* that they have as much chance of recovery without the assistance of the practitioner of the old school as with him.

The Doctor then asks why the Government allows this patent-medicine vending, and why these vituperations are heaped on homœopathists? This is begging the question, for the patent medicines are secrets, or are supposed to be; the homœopathic chemist has no secrets, even in the case of the *Euphrasia* referred to: or else the Doctor does not understand the character of the English people; the government of a free people not having the power to say at what price or in what manner eternal life shall be bought, much less what means shall be adopted to restore health. Then again it is admitted, on all sides, that persecution tends to make converts; for the reason that the public inquire into the subject, or the reason that persons are persecuted, and the greater the question at issue the greater will be the reaction.

The Doctor then, in a minor key, tells us

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"the medical man has much to contend with;" if truth is his cause, so much the more glorious the battle. Still it is my opinion that the patient has, under certain circumstances, *much more* to contend with; for such is my confidence and that of many of my lay friends in homœopathy, and the horror I have of the after-effects of *Calomel*, bleeding, etc., that rather than be treated according to the old practice, I should think "to do nothing" by far the best policy.

He then alludes to the mischief arising from taking patent medicines. In answer to this, I think I have just shown that the mischief is as great by taking allopathic doses prescribed by legitimate practitioners as by Morison's pills or any other patent medicine.

The successful treatment of a child by Dr. Rosenstein is then introduced. Of this few if any of your readers will doubt. After this comes a desperate onslaught on the works on homœopathy and those who use them; and something about a lady who bought a bottle of Eyebright (*Euph.*) of a chemist. This, I think, will not interest either your lay or medical readers, so I shall pass it over, reserving to myself as to who was most to blame, the lady or the chemist.

We then come to the question as to the right of the chemist to prescribe, and as to what they know, and with what the Doctor thinks they ought to be content.

As to their right to prescribe, if they are competent to do so, none but those who think they ought to have free trade in every trade but theirs could object; but for the policy, I think it *decidedly bad*, more particularly if there is a practitioner at hand; and as to what they know of this or that, I say it is a mere assertion on the part of the Doctor to say, "they know nothing." But with reference to what they ought to be content with, this is a matter on which the learned Doctor may be able to be enlightened; and to this end, I would merely ask him to add to what he has paid his chemist within the last twelve months the amount he would have allowed his patients to have expended with the chemist (if it had been under his control), multiply that by the number of homœopathic practitioners, and divide by the number of chemists, he will then be able to form an opinion of what a chemist ought to be content with, instead of jumping at conclusions, under the idea that they do things so much better in Germany.

In reference to the attenuations, which I am informed by qualified homœopathic practitioners is *still an open* question, the Doctor has clearly shown that the veriest tyro could not have been more at fault than to have selected an attenuation that "did not produce the least effect."

The protection afforded by the Governments of Germany stands high in the Doctor's estimation. This, I think, does not accord with the views of Englishmen; and, for the information of your readers, I will endeavour to show how *effectually* the Germans are *protected* by the Governments from every description of quackery. By their antiquated arrangements, they require that every person intending to establish himself in his *trade or profession* (*or to marry*) shall have served his apprenticeship, travelled for three years, served two years in the army, and given other proofs of his capabilities. These are some of the reasons why so many are met with in other countries, from which they are liable to be recalled at a short notice; failing this, or not returning at the proper time, they forfeit their rights. The moral or religious effects of this it is not my intention to discuss, but it is my opinion that they do not tend to the desired end, in support of which I would cite the progress of homœopathy in America.

My object in thus noticing Dr. Rosenstein's remarks, is not with the presumptuous wish or intention of attempting to alter his views (he as one of the great family having a right to his opinions), but to endeavour to spread the Great Truth which the Great Architect of the universe in his wisdom has communicated to man, and to this end I would propose that course which is only now becoming practicable, that our qualified medical practitioners should prescribe instead of giving the medicine, this I consider would give increased confidence; and as society tolerates the hanging out of the sign of the chemist, only there the information is to be sought, he would be at liberty to speak of the advantages of homœopathy, and to hand a list of the homœopathic practitionera in his own and other localities.

Yours truly,

Sloane Street. CHARLES LANE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I did hope, for the sake of that internal peace which is so essential to the success of homœopathy, that the hackneyed question of the union of the two London Homœopathic Hospitals would be allowed to rest in undisturbed oblivion; and I think that Dr. Fearon has betrayed a sad lack of judgment in reviving the subject at the present juncture, and still less good taste in the manner of doing it. His letter shows how indiscreet it is for a person to write about matters which he does not understand. I happen to be in a position to know that the "Layman" to whom he so pointedly and unwarrantably alludes, has, from first to last, most scrupulously abstained from interfering in the affairs of the London Homœopathic Hospital, and that he exercises at the present time no more control over its management than Dr. Fearon himself. Besides, the idea of this gentleman exerting "a sort of mesmeric" (or any other) influence over the Board of Management, "so as to make them act in a manner not consonant with their better judgment," is abundantly refuted by its own absurdity.

But, apart from all personal considerations, there are many good and sufficient reasons why the two hospitals should not be united. Dr. Fearon himself, furnishes an excellent one. Without informing us of his reasons for changing his opinion, he admits that he was, in the first instance, in favour of two hospitals on a

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small scale, in preference to one larger, "thinking that the species of rivalry which would exist between them might have a wholesome effect in urging each to increased exertions."

Has he been disappointed in his expectation? Does he believe that without this rivalry the homœopathic public would have been so closely canvassed as it has been—that such festivals would have been celebrated—such funds collected, or that at the present time we should have possessed a single hospital affording accommodation to as many patients as the two separately? If he believes this, I do not. On the contrary, I am persuaded that it is to this rivalry and the stir in the homœopathic world, to which it has given rise, that we are mainly indebted for the sudden elevation of homœopathy to its present commanding position, and the consequent dismay in the ranks of our opponents. This rivalry, which, whatever may have been its pristine character, is now assuming a generous and honourable tone, if not injudiciously interrupted, will continue to exercise the same wholesome influence; preventing that apathy and indifference which a monopoly too often engenders, and keeping alive that vigilance and activity which are the natural offspring of competition.

Again, the influence of these institutions being rather *moral* than physical, that influence necessarily increases in proportion to their number. Nothing is easier than to get up *one* institution in connection with almost any quackery or professional hobby. Of this there are numerous instances in this metropolis. But there is this distinguishing mark about them, that originating for the most part in, and being sustained by, the determined perseverance of a single individual, they generally expire with their authors, and have therefore no power of multiplying. Not so with those institutions which, like our hospitals, represent a broad principle in science. The multiplication of such institutions is one of the strongest proofs of the soundness of the system from which they spring, and of the firmness of the hold which that system has upon the public mind. Let one of our hospitals fail, or the operations of the two become curtailed by an amalgamation, and it would instantly be construed, and fairly so, into a sign of hollowness in the homœopathic system, and of a corresponding failure of public confidence in its healing powers. However desirable therefore it might have been in the first instance to have but one hospital, now that the two have commenced a separate existence, they must stand or fall separately.

One word concerning the cry which is so constantly raised for large hospitals. I think this cry very unreasonable. The time has not yet arrived for large hospitals. Homœopathy itself is but in its infancy in this country, and our hospitals, small as they are, representing fairly and honestly the actual condition of the science, are quite as large as the circumstances of the times warrant us in expecting them to be; and are much more likely to be permanently successful, if allowed to grow and expand *pari passu* with the extension of homœopathy, than if they are forced up into an unnatural, precocious, and inconsistent maturity.

Permit me, in conclusion, to suggest to Dr. Fearon, whether he might not more profitably occupy his time and attention in urging the homœopaths of Birmingham to establish a hospital, than in tendering gratuitous advice to his metropolitan brethren, who thus far, at least, have shown themselves quite equal to the management of their own affairs.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
London, Sept. 17, 1851. LONDINENSIS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—The subject of homœopathic chemists prescribing has been already alluded to in the *Homœopathic Times* (Nos. 108 and 110), by Dr. Rosenstein and J. Brown, Esq.

I quite agree with those gentlemen that homœopathic chemists ought not to prescribe, it being distinctly the province of the physician; and it were well if the same law which confines physicians and chemists to their respective departments in Germany had force in England.

Would it not be *wise* to take *this* into consideration, as well as the protection of homœopathic medical students? An exception in favour of the physician in very acute cases, where delay would be dangerous, of course must be made. It would be a means also of preventing unqualified persons from assuming the title and occupation of "chemists."

Chemists would then be supported by the prescriptions of the physician, and not dependent on selling "shilling bottles of medicated globules." Moreover, homœopathy itself would thereby be greatly augmented.

OMEGA.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—The following instance of orthodox rage occurred an evening or two ago, and may be worth recording, both as a subject for laughter and as exemplifying the spirit of the present day.

A gentleman, a stranger in the neighbourhood, and moreover an entire stranger to homœopathy, was recommended by a friend to supply himself at my shop with a small quantity of *Tincture of Arnica*, to apply to his corns; on approaching my establishment, and not being aware that there was war between the two systems, he made bold te enter the enemy's camp, *i. e.*, the shop of an allopathic chemist (who by the way also writes himself Doctor and Surgeon and Accoucheur), for the purpose of asking the whereabouts of the homœopathic chemist, innocently supposing he was committing no intrusion. He civilly inquired of a lad behind the counter if he could tell him where the homœopathic chemist's was, somewhere in the neighbourhood. The boy stood confused for a few seconds, not knowing what to reply, when suddenly there darted from behind a desk, foaming with rage and fury, a gent, who sputtered, "What business had he to put his foot inside his door to ask such a question?" Quoth

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he, "Am I, a legally-qualified and many-years' established member of the orthodox profession, to be insulted by inquiries about that damned humbug, the grossest fraud and deception of the day?" The astonished gentleman remonstrated with the man of pills, and demanded how he could behave in such a manner to a stranger to the neighbourhood, for asking a simple and a civil question; nevertheless, the anger of the pilulist rose higher and higher, the violent motions of his arms indicating that it would be a relief to him, if he only dared, to pitch into the stranger; fortunately the counter of the pilulist separated them, or the poor gentleman might have received striking proof that there is some great difference or other between allopathy and homœopathy; however, he took the hints which were thundered at him to leave the shop *instanter*, marvelling as he went, whatever could have raised the dander of the doctor, who had treated him so *unfairly*. The Wakleyism and Billingsgate he had encountered, however, produced this remark, when he told me of the above passage of arms a day or two afterwards. "I now see," said he, "that the shoe must pinch very hard indeed, to have such an effect as to cause a man belonging to a liberal and gentlemanly profession to descend to use vulgar abuse, and put himself into a violent rage at the mention of the word homœopathy; but what I have just encountered convinces me there must be something in it worth examining, and I shall therefore turn my attention to it." This is not the only case that has come to my knowledge of converts being brought over to homœopathy, simply by the abuse and scurrility heaped on it by people who call themselves gentlemen. I know of at least one medical practitioner who has been converted to homœopathy within the last three months, only by reading the incessant attacks made on it by the *Lancet*, which induced him to inquire a little, and this brought him in contact with homœopathic physicians, and enabled him to see the success of their practice, which has resulted in his becoming a medical heretic himself, and now he is a hopeless and incorrigible homœopath.

I send you my name and address, and am,

Yours, etc., P—

HOMŒOPATHIC CHEMIST.

Miscellaneous.

PANIC AMONG THE DOCTORS.—In consequence of the panic exhibited by the members of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, at Brighton, from their loss of patients and practice, and their failure to check the progress of homœopathy, hydropathy, and mesmerism, by sophistry and slang, it is suggested by a friendly homœopath that they should join those of their alarmed brethren in London who may be too old or too prejudiced to learn, and, with Punch and his wise dog Toby at their head, present a petition to her Majesty the Queen, praying for a suspension in their favour of the laws of freedom of thought and liberty of opinion. Something like the following would embody the feeling and speeches of the assembled association:—

"May it please your Majesty, etc.

"We, Mr. Punch, Toby, and the undersigned members of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, pray for a monopoly in physic and for protection. Homœopathy, hydropathy, and mesmerism are seducing and curing our patients.

"We are all liberal and tolerant, but we have one toleration for ourselves and another for other people; and we consider all who differ from us dishonest rogues and unprincipled blackguards.

"We have consulted General Haynau on our case, and he is of opinion that, if we are weak in argument, and cannot stand the array of facts against us, we should use the strong arm and put down this revolutionary medicine.

"But may it please your Majesty, homœopathy has more than 3,000 medical converts, 'traitors from our ranks,' and we shall be done for without Haynau logic.

"We deny that men have a right to think and act for themselves in medical matters, and we would request that you will have every lady whipped who refuses the lancet and blue pill.

"We pray that Mr. Wyld be directed to erase from the face of the earth a place called Malvern—that hotbed of reform in medicine: our chronic patients are to us as Chancery suits in law; they sing songs of praises in that strange land, and sometimes hang their hereditary crutches on the trees thereof.

"We would express particularly our horror at those little books and boxes that prevent our being called in—we tell our people that they are nonsense and powerless—in the same breath we declare the globules to be deadly poisons—all in vain! it is true we know nothing about them, except that they look small, and, without protection, your petitioners will look so too.

"At our time of life, it is too hard to be called on to learn new systems. What if people don't live quite so long under our way of treatment, the world is populous enough! What if the new system injure fewer and cure more than the old one! The public has no right to think this of importance; Haynau says so.

"We would further request that your Majesty will graciously respect our antiquity and our prejudices, and then

"Your petitioners will ever pray, etc."

Should this petition be unattended to, the friendly homœopath can only recommend one other way of proceeding, and that is that the members of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association should make themselves at least tolerably acquainted with the practice of the new systems before they attempt to abuse or refute them.—*Worcester Herald.*

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

LETTER TO ROBERT CHRISTISON, M.D., V.P.R.S.E.,

AND PROFESSOR OF MATERIA MEDICA IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

No. III.

Sir,—When you favour me with a satisfactory answer to my queries in reference to the allopathic treatment of the calculous diathesis, I shall then, but not till then, be willing to designate your boast of it, by a more gratifying term than the *idle twaddle* I can prove it to be; but having disposed of it, let us carry the investigation into an analogous department, and endeavour to arrive at the true value of a very large class of drugs, which in dispensatories are asserted to possess a power termed "diuretic." Medical students are informed by all allopathic books of the diuretic properties of these; and therapeutic lecturers, to be consistent, must stand by the dispensatories that represent them. Now you know well, indeed no man knows better, that there is no such thing in existence as an allopathic diuretic, yet no change takes place in text-books to warn the student against such fallacy. Can you name any one drug in the long column composing this misnamed class, that can increase the elimination of solids in the renal secretion by a grain; its density by one degree upon the urinometer scale? Until then you have no diuretic; and until then the retention of the term in medical works is only a deception, for it leads the young medical man to think that he has a power over disease which his teacher knows does not exist; and it leads the hoodwinked patient to trust in him. But the assertion that such totally fabulous effects belong to allopathic diuretics, tallies well with the discrepancies of the various dispensatories in point of dose and preparation, so ably illustrated by late articles in the *Times*, and other public prints. I pray you, consult Glassford upon these points, for the latter comes strictly within the pale of forensic inquiry. It must startle the nervous portion of the public to be informed that a dose of a drug, which taken according to the London or Dublin authorities is supposed to be harmless or curative, if taken according to the quantity advised by the Edinburgh volume, is only just inferior to a round of grape or canister-shot in its *certainty of action*. In the very first case in which I am invited to a coroner's court, I shall inquire, with deep contrition for my homœopathic sins, which of these great authorities is most to be depended upon; perhaps some of the local Glassfords may throw some light upon a matter which appears at present to be in a state of *inconvenient* darkness, to say the least of it.

Consideration upon these points forces me back to one of noted interest,—the morality of physic. A veritable Janus! double visaged! one mask of the most noble features, browed with benevolence, conservative of confidence in the midst of families, peerless in principle, proud in its purity; in these attributes justly valued, and in them not one whit surpassed by him whose still more elevated calling it is to teach frail man to soar even above these. Turn round the lay figure, and behold the other mask. Faugh! Are there here any failings to counterbalance those noble traits which I would fain not lose sight of? Bear with me, Sir, and go a masking. Let me conduct you to the great Babylon of our day; we will step into this carriage-beset door, and consult Dr. Smalltalk, whose spoke of the professional wheel is at present uppermost; let us parade our old prescription. If no curled-up lip or shrugged-up shoulder betrays the failing of professional nature, the *Rhubarb* and *Soda* of his recipe will at least denote the retrograde movement of therapeutics to a most becoming and harmless point of simplicity. Have citrates, muriates and sulphates, iodides, proto-sulphates, proto-iodurates, super-sesquinitrates, and bi-meconates been at last replaced by *Rhubarb* and *Soda?* Go to! Dr. Smalltalk, thou art verily an old lady, albeit thou hast "Oxon" after thy name. It is plain thou knowest nothing of the great science of therapeutical chemistry. Alas! poor iron, can such an expenditure of thee be thought of in these days of

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"rails?" If she only knew it, each china-faced young lady with transparent lips, requires as much of thee as would make a locomotive, leaving out the brass.

Let us ask for Dr. Smalltalk's views on medical morality, and draw him out upon the subject of Scotch Universities, and hear what he has got to say on the obstetric value of chloroform, and the relative merits of the tractor. If an anatomist, as he doubtless is, perhaps he can tell us the systolic and diastolic action of that man's heart, who, when his only child was in peril, trusted its precious life to *homœopathy* in the hands of a brother professor, and trusted not in vain, but who, nevertheless and thereafter, graced with his august presence a meeting of the Faculty, called for the purpose of persecuting the practitioner whose aid he had invoked. Did that parent get up to defend him? Did he strike one blow, even — only one? We have not heard of it, if he did; but this we do know, that the "resolutions" against the practitioner were "*unanimous*." Go forth! Professor Henderson, go forth! and battle for the cause you have so chivalrously defended; a great truth has armed you in a panoply of steel, a clear conscience covers you with a trusty buckler. Go forth! and again, and again, and again save the life of that child; it *may* hereafter repay the debt of gratitude its parent has refused you; the moral odds between the systems will soon be equalized. Let Dr. Smalltalk review the *Monthly Journal of Medical Science*, and begin at the very beginning, the wrapping-sheet. Lo! that "galaxy of talent," the absence of which in the neglected therapeutic field you so deeply deplored in your inaugural address, has at last found an object on which to concentrate its gigantic energies. Does it require six such leviathans in science to keep the chin of a two-shilling periodical above water? No wonder that a homœopath fights a winning fight against any numbers. But it is no difficult matter to weed from among them those who are supported by, from those who support the lavish expenditure of type and printer's ink. To the "six" we throw out a suggestion; resolve yourselves into a committee for the investigation of therapeutics; let any three overhaul each drug in their Materia Medica; let the remaining three make experiments in homœopathy, and publish them; re-name the *Monthly Journal of Medical Science*, convert it into the *Quarterly Journal of Therapeutic Inquiry and Homœopathic Experiment*;" the names will make it sell, if it were not worth a maravedi. You would thus shine forth as worthily occupying the neglected field of therapeutics; but leave out such bright gleams in the horizon of medicine as are betrayed by the easy and friendly terms upon which we find (at page 301 of your September issue) that the two most prominent surgeons of the Modern Athens live within the same half mile. Keep these men asunder; they will fight until nothing is left save the coxagral bones. Nor would the two-shilling natural proportions of the "Journal" bear stuffing with the whimpering letter of a vanquished man of science, who, having burnt his fingers, most unaccountably administers to himself a conscience-stricken castigation. A gratuitous self-sacrifice we can conceive no man making, whose judgment in such matters exceeds the elevated standard of a gosling's.

I fear I have been a heavy affliction to you, but the times demand it. But one word on "consistency," the want of which has been laid to the charge of Dr. Henderson, because he retained his Chair of Pathology, his therapeutic principles having undergone a change. Placed in juxtaposition with the professor on the point of consistency, I think your "inaugural address to the graduates of 1851" will render the therapeutic chair a somewhat trying seat to sit upon, for with open war formally declared against us by the faculty to which you belong, and your department embracing the point at issue, we are not likely to permit you to remain as one of those

"Gentlemen of England, who sit at home at ease,"

for with all our faults you will admit that we are rather plucky fellows than otherwise. For my part, I shall watch with deep interest the advancement which therapeutics make before 1852, and I promise you a few remarks thereon; never mind the "difficulty," but put your shoulder to the wheel, and let us see what you can make of it, for, according to your address, none of the "galaxy" have tried as yet, the subject being so uninviting, which is rather a pity, as sick men have been waiting, and you would forget the discrepancies of the "dispensatories." Meantime, having settled our "drug account," I shall regularly peruse the *Monthly Journal of Medical Science*; but keep your weather eye open, for being at war, by your own manifesto, I shall pitch into you and your University without the least ceremony, that moment you leave a therapeutic opening.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your very obedient servant,

Oct. 4, 1851. SIGMA.

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CLINICAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE USE OF ASTERIAS RUBENS, A SPECIES OF ZOOPHYTE.

By Dr. Petroz.

Communicated by Dr. Rosenstein.

Dr. M. Petroz, the well-known homœopathic physician, has lately given us the pathogenesy of this valuable remedy in the *Journal de la Société Gallicane*, 1850, which I hope to communicate in the next number of the *Homœopathic Times*.

M. M—, a general officer, aged seventy-four, suffered from the fatigues of the Egyptian campaign, being subject to vertigo and violent shocks in the head; his face was very red; the pulse hard and frequent; appetite good. He suffered from extreme constipation, twelve or fifteen days passing without alvine evacuation, and when it took place it consisted of very hard matter, round, and of the size of an olive. The patient suffered during the day from muscular contractions of the lower extremities, great agitation in the night, enjoying but little sleep. His walk was unsteady; the contraction of the muscles seemed difficult, resisting the will; influenced by the state of the brain, and still more by that of the stomach, his sight became impaired, through the excess of contractility of the iris; the pupils were completely closed.

Asterias, 12th dilution, one drop taken every six days, caused a cessation of the congestive state of the brain; the liberty of influence rendered to that organ made the alvine evacuations easier and more regular, which occurred every second day; the cramps in the lower extremities were diminished; sleep became more tranquil and longer; the sight remained in the same state. The general health has now continued good for more than a year.

Experiments on the healthy body easily give, and sometimes in excess, the symptoms which characterise the derangements of the functions; but never to the extent of showing the alterations of the tissues, not even the first signs. We must then resort to clinical experiment, on the results of which, when confirmed by repeated experiments, we can rely.

A woman of Franconville-la-Garonne, aged forty-eight, of a soft lymphatic constitution, suffered during many years from a scrofulous ulcer on the left side of the neck, extending from the commencement of the growth of the hair to the clavicle. Its size was at least five centimetres. The edge of this ulcer, and some parts of the skin in its centre, were hard; the skin was without elasticity.

This woman, the mother of seven children, accustomed to much fatigue, badly fed, had received no medical assistance. When she asked my advice, I mitigated her sufferings by the ordinary means, but could not remove the evil until I thought of *Asterias*, 12th dilution, of which I prescribed one drop twice a month, and I had the satisfaction of effecting a complete cure with this remedy. For the last two years this poor woman has been able to bear the greatest fatigue, exposing herself to the inclemencies of the weather without the least inconvenience.

"Drawing pains towards the internal part of the chest, from the front to the back, under the left nipple; this pain extended from all the internal parts of the arm to the extremity of the little finger.

"The whole of the left side of the chest was painful; movement increased the uneasiness.

"A sensation as if the left breast were drawn inwards."

These symptoms and the preceding observations led me to make the following trial:

A country woman of the Valley of Montmorency, aged fifty-six, of a dry constitution, as most women are who labour in the fields, had on the left breast a scirrhous tumour, adhering at its base to the chest. *Belladonna*, *Carbo animal.*, *Cicuta virosa*, *Silicea*, etc., were prescribed, with little or no result.

The patient, discouraged, discontinued the treatment, but she returned seven or eight months after, and told me that a dark red speck had formed at the point of the tumour, from which, on removing it, blood had flowed for several days. In this manner commenced the cancerous ulcer, which at the time I saw the patient already occupied the whole breast. This ulcer had then a circumference of about twenty centimetres, discharging a very fetid ichor; the edges were of a pale colour, raised, mammillated, and hard. The patient experienced lancinating or smarting pains, particularly at night, which prevented her from sleeping; she had no appetite; the constipation was very great; the skin dry, and of an earthy colour; the glands in the armpit were swollen and hard; the skin covering the sternum was tumefied and painful; the right breast was becoming scirrhous; and there was extreme emaciation; in fact, the whole character of the cancerous cachexy indicated that the woman was approaching her end.

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I ordered *Asterias*, 15th dilution, one drop every eight days. Its first effect was marked by a diminution of nocturnal pains, which permitted the patient to enjoy a little sleep; she could also take some nourishment. A second dose of the medicament, given six days after the first, improved her general health; the skin lost its dryness; the face had its natural colour, and she improved in strength daily. After the third dose, a remarkable change in the ulcer could be perceived; its edges had lost their sensibility, and the ichorous discharge was without fetidity; it was thicker, and had more of the nature of an ordinary suppuration. Cicatrization soon followed, and the ulcer healed rapidly.

A lady, aged sixty, of a strong constitution, had a tumour on the left mammary gland, the date of its commencement she could not remember. This tumour existed when the patient became a mother, and had not been modified by pregnancy and frequent lactations. The tumour was of the size of a newborn child's head; it was insensible to the touch, very hard, angular round the nipple, which was retracted; the skin was smooth. Upon a point of its surface a bluish spot could be discerned, denoting the commencement of the formation of the fungus hæmatodes of Hay, which is one of the distinctive characters of the progress of scirrhus to cancerous degeneracy.

The patient, whose health generally was good, only experienced at times shooting pains in the tumour. She took *Asterias*, 18th dilution, one drop every eight days. Under its influence, in the course of a few months, the gland diminished in size, but the varicose spot, which still presented greyish points, became of a deeper colour, extending over the surface, excoriated, and blood escaping from time to time. This excoriation had not the aspect that we usually find in the hæmatoid tumours; the base was smooth, being formed of a tissue of sanguineous capillaries, and varicose. The patient did not feel any pain; there was no ichorous fetid discharge, such as generally succeed effusions of blood. From this circumstance it is to be hoped (the tumour having been removed) no relapse will follow.

A lady, aged forty-eight, of a nervous-sanguine constitution, had been ailing more or less since the age of puberty; at a more advanced period she had an engorgement of the neck of the womb, which was cured, but left the fear of degeneracy; since then she has not had good health. A twelvemonth afterwards an engorgement formed itself on the right breast, in which the whole mammary gland was comprised; it was hard, unequal, presenting a point of adhesion with the nipple, which was retracted. The patient felt shooting pains there, which commenced at the vertebral column about the fourth dorsal vertebra. This part was so painful that the slightest pressure was insupportable. In the tract from the spine round to the breast, was a knotted cord, tender to the touch. On the external side of the tumour, which increased in size daily, a fungus hæmatodes, as in the preceding case, formed itself, which soon projected about two centimetres. An abundant hemorrhage ensued, and some days afterwards a fetid ichorous discharge. The engorgement extended from the breast to the glands of the armpit; the disease advanced rapidly. *Asterias* was employed, without result. If we take into consideration that the experiments made with this medicament developed its symptoms mainly on the left side, the failure of the remedy employed for the disease on the right side may, perhaps, be accounted for.

A young woman, aged twenty-two, of a delicate lymphatic constitution and very irritable, had suffered since the age of twelve years from headache, and a feeling of strong pressure upon the anterior part of the brain, extending below the eyes. This pain was one day so violent that she fell down, and remained a few minutes without consciousness; her countenance was pale, and her jaws locked. Such was the first attack; after which she felt great fatigue, with a sensation of anguish in the epigastrium. Similar attacks returned at more or less distant intervals, which varied from ten to twenty days; there were convulsive movements in the extremities; the attacks returned at the commencement of a meal at the close of the day, and were readily brought on by any emotion, particularly a contrariety, and generally after three o'clock in the afternoon.

In the hope that the period of puberty, which was approaching, would terminate this disease, treatment was considered unnecessary. The first menstruation took place, however, without any change being produced; the patient remained feeble and looked pale. Under the influence of a treatment, the basis of which was *Sulphur, Calcarea, Belladonna, Cicuta, Hyoscyamus*, etc., the patient was relieved; the attacks were less frequent, and the health generally better, notwithstanding the continuance of the attacks. At the commencement of August, 1850, a dose of *Asterias*, 24th dilution, was employed every five or six days; from that time the attacks ceased

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the face lost its paleness, and her general health was restored.

A person from Atis-Mons, aged fifty-six, of a plethoric constitution, accustomed to sedentary employment, had suffered for eight years from epilepsy. The first attack being mistaken for apoplexy, bleeding was resorted to; the second followed in the course of a year, the subsequent attacks within three and two months, and then every fifteen days; the attack was ushered in by trembling over the whole body. During four or five years there had been no loss of consciousness, but hallucinations, dreams; the patient thought he was away from his home amidst strangers; he heard voices which interrogated him, and to which he answered. The attacks were characterised by a deep blue colour of the face, foaming from the mouth, with convulsive shocks in the extremities. For the last two years there has been a loss of consciousness. Since the end of September, the patient has taken four doses of *Asterias*; there has been no fit for ten days; the trembling has returned, but has not been followed by an attack; the general health is good. *Asterias* is continued.

FULMINATIONS AGAINST HOMŒOPATHY.

(*From the Spectator.*)

THERE must be some truth in the homœopathic doctrine of the efficacy of minute doses. In Edinburgh, the favourite haunt of medicine and medical practitioners, there are only five homœopathic doctors—a number scarcely to be detected by microscopic inspection among the swarms of licentiates who jostle each other in the streets; and yet, it appears from a batch of pamphlets recently sent to us from the modern Athens, their presence has excited a consternation among the orthodox medicos, the effects of which might supply worthy matter for the pen of a Swift, or a Molière, or a Rabelais—who was himself a physician.

The first fulmination against the homœopathic heresy in Edinburgh emanated from the College of Physicians. These learned Thebans, in full divan assembled, passed a series of resolutions, in language such as has rarely been adopted by an anteprandial meeting. After premising that no person could be ignorant of the light in which the College regards homœopathy, they declared that all fellows who become homœopathic practitioners "endanger the reputation of the college," that they become "merely nominal fellows," "and hold a false position and spurious credit." They further protested, that all such renegades from the true medical faith "must necessarily be alien to the other fellows and to the profession at large," inasmuch as "no fellow of his College, or any other physician, can by any possibility, without derogating from his own honour and the honour of the profession, meet professors of homœopathy in consultation, or co-operate with them in the other common duties of professional life." The practical application of these dogmas was a broad hint to the black sheep against whom they were levelled, that they ought forthwith to resign their fellowships. The Council of the College were directed to transmit copies of the resolutions to all known offenders; and their secretary, catching the peculiar spirit of courtesy that inspired them, subjoined to the name of Dr. Henderson, in the copy transmitted to that gentleman, not his legitimate title of "Professor of Pathology in the University of Edinburgh," but the designation "Practitioner of Homœopathy"—which the Doctor, without any desire to disclaim it, might warrantably object to, on the ground of the *animus* which dictated its selection.

Fielding's Colonel, mad on the point of honour, with his favourite phrase of "the immortal dignity of man," is thrown into the shade by the more than Castilian punctilio of the Edinburgh physicians. These gentlemen, it appears, would hold it degrading to assist a fellow-being struck down by apoplexy, if a homœopathist held him in his arms. And Fielding's Mrs. Slipslop could not have emphasised the words "low creatures" more felicitously than the secretary to the College did the title "practitioner of homœopathy." Judging by their anti-homœopathic resolutions, and forgetting for the moment their many real claims to respect, one might fancy the Edinburgh physicians to be a cross breed between a Brahmin with all his pride of caste and a lady's maid with all her airs and *minauderie*.

But the Faculty of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh were resolved to outdo their neighbours of the College of Physicians. Soon after the latter had promulgated their resolutions, a student of medicine, suspected of homœopathic leanings, underwent the examinations preliminary to the obtaining of a diploma. The professors expressed themselves satisfied with his answers, till it occurred to one of them to ask him whether it was true that he intended to practise homœopathically. The candidate for medical honours replied, that he could not give a decisive answer till he had studied the subject; which, he added, he had determined to do. He was then asked whether, in the event of his becoming convinced of the truth of homœopathy, he would burn or return his diploma. He replied, that considering the diploma a mere attestation to the amount of medical knowledge he had attained, he saw non ecessity for doing so. He wss then given to understand, that the Faculty would not pass him until he became convinced of the fallacy of infinitesimal doses. Habit has reconciled men to the practice of exacting from licentiates of theology solemn declarations, not merely that they believe but that they will always continue to believe, certain doctrines; but the Edinburgh Faculty of Medicine is, we imagine, the first that has exacted from a candidate for a diploma a vow always to believe in a certain medical theory and adhere to a

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certain mode of medical practice. The professor could afford to smile at the impertinence of a College who had no power to remove him from his chair; but the luckless student was deprived by the Faculty of that diploma which he had fairly earned by industrious and intelligent study. The College could only show their teeth—the Faculty could bite.

The position assumed by the medical Canutes of Edinburgh is ludicrous. They are endeavouring by a new test act to arrest the rising tide of medical inquiry and experiment. They would deserve to be laughed down—the only treatment adapted to their case—even if their proceedings affected homœopathists only. For, whatever those gentlemen may think, homœopathists are quite as much entitled to fair play, and the common courtesies which gentlemen of education practise in their intercourse with each other, as allopathists or any other pathists. But the mock-heroics and oppression of the Edinburgh doctors have a wider range of application. The artillery they have been playing off against homœopathy might be turned upon any other doctrine or practice against which they happen to be prepossessed. The progress of medical science can be retarded, if not arrested, by allowing corporate bodies to exact promissory vows against entertaining any new opinions. But *cui bono*, even to the obstructors? In our parallel theological experience, enforcement of tests has best served to thin the established churches.

HOMŒOPATHY AND ALLOPATHY.

From the Christian Times.

POPERY is not confined to Rome or to Oxford, it being, in fact, an apotheosis of self, and self-possessing, in this great free kingdom of ours, a *copiosa felicitas* of putting on as many dresses as there are characters in the mighty masquerade of human life, it pervades all the departments of social existence. In our Senate, it represents a patriot bowing his neck with graceful reluctance to the patronage and emoluments of office; in the Church, it sighs "*nolo episcopari;*" even in the various spheres of philanthropy it sometimes surreptitiously presides over those orbits in which revolve other interests besides "refuges" and soup tickets; while in the severer and higher regions, such as those which this empire boasts, of physic and of law, it assumes the shape of public spirit, and enters its indignant protest against the unreasonable demands of those who think that, in the one, justice concerns itself exclusively with securing the rights of the community; or, in the other, that a patient can presume to recover by any treatment, or any scale of doses, except those prescribed by the London and Edinburgh Pharmacopœia. Such is self—ever constant, and yet ever Protean. It flourishes now in units, and, anon these units, multiplying and reproducing themselves, grow into the thriving corporation of a many-headed *ego*—but whatever or whoever is its exponent, it is always true to the description of it in Sacred Writ: "There is one, and there is not a second."

But our readers will naturally ask, What has all this to do with homœopathy or allopathy? We will tell them. Everybody knows that, within the last dozen years, a medical practice has been creeping into notice, asserting the pretensions of a legitimate science, but undertaking that department commonly called "therapeutics," in a manner so entirely different from what has been regarded as appertaining to the ordinary privileges of prescriptive authority, that many of the affiliated and dependent allies of the old system have taken just alarm lest the hereditary consumption of drugs should be abridged, and thus the craft by which many rise to wealth should be endangered. The heavy shot of the prerogative battalions have been found, in various critical skirmishes, to be no match for the quiet, unpretending, and yet matchless skill with which their guns have been answered and silenced by the pigmy pieces of the new school. The Cowes Yacht Club have done "*koutow*" to the lines of the "saucy" America, and Messrs. Bramah have honourably, though under protest, paid forfeit to the great Yankee picklock. In these cases the vanquished were foolish enough to let our cousins from the United States have English fair play, that is, a fair stage on which to beat them if they could; and this they did, incontinently, unmistakably, much to their credit; and we, for ourselves, congratulate them on their laurels, only wishing they may challenge us again, and be as manfully met again. But *verbum sapienti*—the old medical school are not thus prepared to put on a green livery; they know better; and accordingly instead of taking up the gauntlet thrown down by the followers of Hahnemann, and choosing umpires to decide on the merits of their respective systems, they have, with a proper pride which is refreshing, and entitles them to the gratitude of every dispensary in the kingdom, from "Savory and Moore" down to the "Galen's Head" at the *ultima Thule* of the land, not only ignored their pretensions, but have determined to cut the whole community dead, and absolutely to scout even their personal acquaintance—

> "Now this is noble, and bespeaks a people proud
> And jealous of their honour"—

yes, the Medical Faculty of the Universities of St. Andrew's and Edinburgh, backed by the Royal College of Physicians, have resolved to refuse the degree of Doctor of Medicine to all students who will not pledge themselves not to practise homœopathy, and the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association of Brighton assembled for the purpose of promoting the interests and advancing the science of their profession, deliberately issue a manifesto, which is declared to have been adopted unanimously, wherein they state, "That homœopathy, as propounded by Hahnemann, and practised by his followers, is so utterly opposed to science and common sense, as well as so completely at variance with the experience of the medical profession, that it ought to be in no way or de-

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gree practised or countenanced by any regularly educated medical practitioner;" that "it is derogatory to the honour of the members of this Association to hold any kind of professional intercourse with homœopathic practitioners;" and wind up by declaring that, "in proposing these resolutions," "they are actuated by a strong sense of the importance of the subject in its relation both to humanity and morals." How people dare to be cured of long-standing maladies by such a set of empirics, is for them to settle with the old doctors; nevertheless, the new school are not altogether satisfied with this proceeding, and, indeed, we ourselves cannot help thinking, perhaps simply enough, that it would have been more generally acceptable, and more in accordance with the idle prejudices of the English character, if the M. D.s had done what the Yacht Club and Messrs. Bramah did—that is, summoned their rivals to a fair trial, and let the public see who were right. However, this they have not done, and we think that the pretenders have got up a case of which at present we cannot foresee the end; but we somewhat surmise that, after all, this heresy may succeed, for that it is making formidable progress is notorious; and it is within our own knowledge that a family recently at Brighton, wishing to consult one of the misguided leaders of the proscribed sect, was told that his hands were so full that he could not make an appointment without a day's notice. This is disheartening to the cause of the "real old original XXX" Esculapian College. Moreover, the homœopathists are arrogant enough to say that they will have a charter of their own, and are daring enough to put their pretensions into a plausible shape as follows:—

"Medicine, as a science, includes the anatomy and physiology of health—the chemistry, natural history, and botany of the Materia Medica—the anatomy and physiology of disease, and the theory of therapeutics, or the operation of remedies; and, as an art, it consists of rules for distinguishing diseases, and for the selection of remedies appropriate to each. Now, of this category, the first *seven* contain facts and doctrines quite as valuable, in the eyes of the homœopathist, as in those of the common practitioner. There is, then, but one department of the *science* of medicine, in which the two systems can be at variance. And, in the *art*, of the two sections into which it is divided, the distinguishing of diseases and adaptation of remedies, the former is common, in all its details, to the two systems—the latter alone can be the subject of any controversy."

With such specious arguments as these, we may well tremble lest homœopathy may be palmed upon society, just as vaccination and gas-lighting have been, notwithstanding, from historical recollections which we published in a former number of our journal, we showed that *they* also were proved by *most respectable* authority to be—what the same kind of authority has predicated of homœopathy—"utterly opposed to science and common sense."

But we must stop. We hope our readers will excuse this trifling on our part; but we really have no heart to treat the subject in any other light than as one that is to be laughed at for its effrontery; while at the same time we feel convinced that this senseless crusade is calculated to do immense good to the cause which it designs to crush. The earth *would* go round in spite of the Pope; and we may be sure that if pain and human woe are relieved by homœopathy, the emancipated sufferers will persist in preferring heretical ease to orthodox anguish. The successful system *will* circulate round the centre of truth, whether it be in physic or in phy sics.

NOTHING LIKE IMPUDENCE.

A BAKER'S dozen of phlebotomizing Guernsey allopaths have gladdened the heart of John Rose Cormack, Esq., M.D., by some congenial nonsense, which that worthy gentleman, who "is thankfu' for sma' mercies," has inserted in the *Lancet;* and on the strength of which it is given out that "homœopathy is repudiated in Guernsey." These sages are great masters of style, as well as dealers in drugs. Their epistle, short as it is, is rich in inflated absurdities strung together by threes.—"In our humble opinion, the principles of truth, honesty, and morality were elucidated, the science of medicine vindicated, and the injurious tendency of homœopathy — its hollowness, absurdity, and dishonesty—demonstrated by clear, comprehensive, and irrefragable facts." "Having throughout firmly, advisedly, and conscientiously resisted all attempts to hold intercourse with homœopathic practitioners, or to countenance a system, the offspring of quackery, the refuge of imposture, and the nursling of dupes." How very fine! Verily, this beats the Welsh triads all to sticks! They are masters of impudence, moreover; nor is it surprising, as it requires some impudence to be an allopathic practitioner, each man's *nostrum* being scouted by his fellows. They hope that those wicked homœopaths, who "pertinaciously shelter themselves under the *ægis* of medical institutions, will ultimately be exposed and repudiated!" Here is Satan rebuking sin with a vengeance! Who would ever dream that nearly one-fourth of that small band of high-minded moralists are men who "shelter themselves under the *ægis* of medical institutions," (we thank the Jews for teaching us that word,) by taking the imposing title of M.D., though guiltless of anything like a University education? What would the parsons say, if the theological associates of King's College (whose two years' course is allowed by some bishops, instead of a bachelor of arts' degree) were to dub themselves doctors of divinity? And these laborious hammerers of triads "are now calmly waiting the course of events," hoping, as it seems, that something in the chapter of accidents may turn up in their favour. This is the old story:—

"Rusticus expectat dum defluat amnis; at ille,
Labitur et labetur in omne volubilis ævum."

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11TH, 1851.

THE GREAT EXHIBITION.

THIS affair is at an end. The Crystal Palace may stand awhile, but its contents are about to be dispersed to the four quarters of the globe. Its princely originator is said to have thought that his scheme carried out, as it has been, would produce a disposition to perpetual peace.

Whatever its peace-inspiring effects may be on "furious Hun, and fiery Frank," on Sclave and Scandinavian, on Italian and Iberian, on Jew and Gentile, on Turk and Infidel, on Anglo-American and Cuban, on Rome and Tahiti, we know not; but it has not smoothed the ruffled plumes of the allopathic opponents of homœopathy, it has not acted as a lenitive to their choler; the *Lancet* is not less rabid, and the *Medical Times* is crowing a little crow.

Professor Simpson is not tamed; Professor Syme is not less bellicose; *Auld Reekie* is in fumes; St. Andrew's is like "the painted chief with pointed spear," ready to slay; long-slumbering Aberdeen is roused to rage by the utterance of her Fyfe; and Glasgow is the "last of the Mohicans" in his war-paint.

But the year of the Great Exhibition will be memorable in the annals of British homœopathists: the princely originator of that *big bazaar* has this year had his stud treated homœopathically, and it is said that one of Her Majesty's best horses has also been just successfully treated in the same manner, and cured of an illness that was thought to be mortal: four Universities have anathematised homœopathy; Dr. Rose Cormack has shed some of his virtuous indignation on it; Mr. Kingdon's picture has been removed from the library of Bartholomew's Hospital; Mr. Pope has been refused his diploma, because he professed an intention to inquire into homœopathy; divers are thought worthy of being published as homœopathic martyrs: and there are abundant signs of fierce war against "*globulism*"—"homœopathic quackery"—"homœopathic delusions,"—and so forth. Ah! gentle German Prince, your Exhibition *has not* produced universal peace—as yet.

THE homœopathic public must be prepared to support the Cause they have espoused in the most enthusiastic manner, if they wish in reality to find it prosper. It is not because our system has made progress, that we are now to relinquish our endeavours, and imagine our task completed; on the contrary, we shall be required more than ever to exercise a vigilance over our proceedings which shall not permit our adversaries to gain the least advantage.

They have struggled long enough to find weak points in our principles and practice, and with all the astuteness they are possessed of, they have done the best to damage the reputation of Hahnemann and his disciples. But, unfortunately for themselves, they have not succeeded, in a manner which can afford them encouragement, and hence we have not become alarmed at the high tone of vituperation assumed. Homœopathists, lay and professional, have only to be true to themselves, and they will be sure to surmount the difficulties which have been thrown in the path of their progress.

Allopathy is doomed beyond doubt to encounter a speedy discomfiture. The fallacies abounding among its practitioners are every day rendered more apparent. The spread of homœopathy, under such circumstances, cannot fail to be proportionate, and therefore the greater our exertions to promulgate the truth, the sooner will the reward be secured. It is manifest that the public are alive to the beneficial influence arising from the development of our system, otherwise we should not be so repeatedly called upon to furnish evidence of our success, neither would homœopathic publications command so ready and increasing a market.

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The spirit of inquiry evoked is one of the most unmistakable recognitions of success. As the watch-cry formerly was "agitate," we now find the appeal, "investigate," fully sustaining us in our onward career. Their combination, now that the allopathic profession have opened a rampant persecution, may with due decorum be urged, since with agitation on one hand, and investigation on the other, the seed once sown will assuredly produce a harvest.

To achieve a success worthy of our illustrious predecessor we must work with becoming zeal. Our opponents themselves already are acquainted with the kind of people they have to meet. They were barely prepared for such steady adherence, such inflexible conduct on the part of those who have arrayed themselves under the standard of homœopathy; and they are less likely than ever to remove them from their colours. Once more, we have only to recommend perseverance and zealous co-operation to strengthen us in the struggle in which we are now engaged.

Review.

The Lesser Writings of Samuel Hahnemann. Collected and translated by R. E. Dudgeon, M.D. London, Wm. Headland, Princes-street, Hanover-square.

(Communicated.)*

The grammarian line, *Nemo mortalium omnibus horis sapit*, is not more true of Hahnemann than of every author who has written much, than of many an M.P. whose speeches stand recorded against him in *Hansard*; and yet (so lofty was the ideal standard we had assigned him) our first impression, in glancing at the volume before us, was one of regret that these "Lesser Writings" should have been published in their entirety. But as we advanced, and scanned the various papers and essays—at one time viewing them *en masse* as a catalogue *raisonné* of the sequence of ideas by which a mind of might arrived at a grand result; at another, smiling at the bright and playful style in which some of his earlier visions are expressed, or at the deep earnestness that of itself may carry conviction along with it; anon shading down into grave melancholy and bitterest sarcasm, as he became convinced of the disappointment, contempt, or opposition that awaited him. As these reflections evolved themselves, we began to agree cordially with the translator's very judicious remark, that "to form a just estimate of the genius and learning of Hahnemann, and of the gradual and laborious manner in which he developed and perfected his great Medical Reform, it is necessary to study not only his more finished and larger works, the *Organon*, the *Pure Materia Medica*, and the *Chronic Diseases*, but also his miscellaneous medical writings, here collected into one volume." Lively episodes are interspersed here and there, such as the amusing account of Hahnemann's "strengthening balsam (the composition of which was kept secret) for the treatment of old sores and indolent ulcers," mentioned in the translator's preface, as the circumstance that has given rise to the accusation, magnified by transmission through a host of eager calumniators, of his having sold a *nostrum* for all diseases. We may fairly look upon it as one of the old mercantile customs of the period, long before the *Lancet* had sprung into existence, or its sharp point had persuaded divers professionals into being gentlemen, who were not such previously by inclination or by habit. Towards the close of his career, it is averred that Hahnemann again manifested a *soupçon* of reserve to at least some of his pupils; and while exemplifying in the most lucid manner his admirable method of examining the patient, the order of the symptoms, etc., he latterly declined telling what particular medicine he ultimately made choice of. Pointing to his work on the *Materia Medica*, he was wont to say, "You will find everything fully detailed here."

A paper on "Canine rabies," published in 1792, and headed by a droll figure of a dog, will serve us as a barometer to gauge the exact height of professional orthodoxy at which our author then stood. In discussing the treatment of the bite of mad dogs, caustic potash, he says, should first be applied to the wound; he then insists that we should do "all in our power to comfort and console the patient, and tranquillize his circulation. A moderate bloodletting in plethoric individuals, or a glass of wine given to persons of an opposite constitution, will suffice for this purpose. If this frightful disease can by any means be prevented, it is by such means; but *not by any internal medicine* hitherto known.

* We have not ourselves reviewed this book, as the publisher has not sent us a copy of it.

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The part of the skin which, although not broken, may have been wetted by the saliva of a dog which has become suspicious from having bitten others, must be diligently rubbed with potash, and washed continually for an hour with a solution of the alkali. If a blister be afterwards applied to the spot, then all danger will be more than warded off."

Imbued with such prejudices of theory and of old-school lore as these, well may we of the present day mark with admiration and profit the throes, painful alike to his intellect and to his *morale*, that must have attended each successive disentanglement from the maze, until at length, the fetters of his mind reft and cast away, he stood forth a free and emancipated hero, fully prepared to cultivate those broad fields of science which had already become his own by the unimpeachable right of conquest.

The first article in this series (published in Leipsic, in 1789) bears a presumptuous and offensive title, "INSTRUCTION FOR SURGEONS RESPECTING VENEREAL DISEASES;" presumptuous—for he was then only in his thirty-fourth year; but in his style not a whit less oracular than the more meritorious expressions in the Organon that we have long been reconciled to, such as, "I have taught my followers," "I have explained the doctrine," etc. Much more modest and befitting his true vocation or position, is a paper written seven years later, and containing the precious germ of his marvellous discovery; it is thus headed, page 296, "SUGGESTIONS FOR ASCERTAINING THE CURATIVE POWER OF DRUGS."

The sublime bust and pure intellectual profile of the great Hahnemann have been not inaptly placed in comparison with that of a lamented and highly-gifted statesman, the late Sir Robert Peel; but, probably, many more and closer points of resemblance may be disclosed, in collating the arrangement and composition of this Essay (of course making abatement for the disparity of the subjects treated of) with those of some of his senatorial speeches. Traces of a methodical mind are strikingly conspicuous on both sides. The breadth of ground on which Sir Robert invariably took up his first position, the numerous and varied classes, whether of persons or articles, to which he appealed, or on which his arguments were founded, the astounding enumeration of advantages comprehended in his proposed measures, and his well-known ponderously involved sentences with episode of practical application fresh and new, winding up with statistical slips of paper ready prepared, in his side pocket, and enforced by true and elegant language—all these are equally characteristic of our Hahnemann.

It may be added, that a devotion to the public good, and a noble disregard of ostentation and honours, complete a comparison honourable to both of these eminent individuals.

We shall cite from this Essay an example or two of the peculiarity of style just alluded to. Having defined the very limited extent to which chemistry first, and then botany, are likely to guide the physician to a knowledge of the medicinal powers, he proceeds:—

"As regards this method also (botany) therefore, we come to the conclusion, that it cannot be considered as a sure principle to guide us to the knowledge of the medicinal powers of plants. Nothing remains for us but *experiment* on the human body. But what kind of experiment? Accidental or methodical? The humiliating confession must be made, that most of the virtues of medicinal bodies were discovered by *accidental, empirical* experience, by *chance;* often first observed by non-medical persons. Bold, often over-bold, physicians then gradually made trial of them.

"I have no intention of denying the high value of this mode of discovering medicinal powers—it speaks for itself. But in it there is nothing for us to do; chance excludes all method, all voluntary action. Sad is the thought, that the noblest, the most indispensable of arts is built upon accident, which always presupposes the endangering of many human lives. Will the chance of such discoveries suffice to perfect the healing art, to supply its numerous desiderata?" * * * * "Such a precarious construction of the most important science—resembling the concourse of Epicurean atoms to make a world—could never be the will of the wise and most bountiful Preserver of mankind. How humiliating for proud humanity, did his very preservation depend on chance alone. Now it is exhilarating to believe that for each particular disease, for each peculiar morbid variety, there are peculiar directly-acting remedies, and that there is also a way in which these may be *methodically* discovered."

And now, as our limits are nearly reached, let us turn to a lighter passage, both for the sake of the contrast and to show how well the artist has executed on English canvas a copy of a German masterpiece.

"There have been till now but three current modes of treatment (the *treatment of diseases* having apparently not yet been discovered), viz., *the treatment of the name, the treatment of the symptom, and the treatment of the cause.*" *

"*Treatment of the Symptom.* (A portrait.)—In ordinary every-day practice, however, it is not required that we should trouble ourselves with anxiously attending to single

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symptoms. When once we have got over the first irksome years incidental to young beginners—years they undoubtedly are of irksomeness and care, when we are still anxious to discover the adequate, the helpful, the best for our patients, and when the tender conscience of youth gives us much trouble—when once we have got over these pedantic years, and have got some way into the period of divine routine, then it is a real pleasure to be a practical physician. Then we have only to assume a dignified mode of carrying the head, speak in a tenor voice, so as to inspire respect, give great importance to the movements of the three first fingers of the right hand, and present a certain authoritative something in the whole management of the voice and attitudes of the body, in order to be able to exercise perfectly in all its details, the golden art of the *savoir faire* of the routine physician. Of course, the smallest details of the attire of the equipage, of the furniture, and of the array of servants, must be all in harmonious keeping.

"If our whole thinking power and memory during the four-and-twenty hours of each day are completely absorbed in such matters, this renders us all the more successful as physicians. Our whole practice, be it said between ourselves, consists in two or three innocuous mixtures, well known to the chemist, in as many compound powders adapted for all cases, in an expensive *tinctura nervino-roborant*, a few juleps, and a couple of formulas for pills, either for acting on the blood or the bowels (*nostrums* and *routine remedies* if you will), and with these we get on capitally. My steaming horses rattle up to N's door, I descend from my carriage, assisted by the respectful domestic, with helpful speed, but with an air of deep thought and a dignified mien. The attendants of the patient throw open both wings of the door of the sick-room. In silence, and with abased head, stand esteem, confidence, and semi-devotion, in a row, to allow the deliverer to approach the sick-bed. 'How did you sleep last night, my good friend? —your tongue! your pulse! The powders ordered yesterday may be discontinued. The mixture prescribed here is to be taken alternately with the pills indicated below, followed by the julep every half hour.' Taking a pinch of snuff with an air of profound gravity, seizing my hat and stick, and making a practised bow, the degree of which is regulated for every one in particular according to his supposed importance or rank, this constitutes the whole of the important comedy (shall I call it business?) for which we are paid as a consultation, and which we repeat as often *per diem* as the serious looks of the surrounding friends seem to render it necessary; for they are the barometer of the danger, since we have neither time nor inclination to ascertain it for ourselves in all our cases. 'And how many visits of this sort do you pay in one day?' 'Do you imagine, you simpleton, that I can keep up my establishment with less than several dozens of visits in a forenoon?' 'What Herculean mental labour?' 'Ha! ha! ha! to scribble down on a long strip of paper one of the eight or ten routine prescriptions that I can reckon up on my fingers, and can seize on in the dark without a moment's thought, the first, the best that occurs to me at the moment, without the least reflection; do you call that mental labour? It is a much more difficult matter for me to find a pair of handsome bays to supply the places of my used-up afternoon horses! *hoc opus, hic labor!*'

"I have just now also much difficulty in thinking of the appropriate dishes of the sixth *entrée* of the entertainment we are to give tomorrow fortnight, so that it may be distinguished for its rarity in respect of the season of the year, for its suitable elegance, and for its brilliant tastefulness. *Et hoc opus et hic labor!*"

We have no doubt but this entertaining collection of Essays will command a large sale eventually, and find a numerous body of readers.

* Observations on the three current methods of treatment. From *Hufeland's Journal*, published in 1809.

A TRIP TO LEIPZIG.—THE HAHNEMANN JUBILEE.

By Discipulus.

From the Edinburgh News.

[Although neither our readers nor ourselves may choose to burn incense upon the altar of homœopathy, or bow the knee to the image of Hahnemann, yet they will not object to accompany our spirited correspondent in his visit to Germany, that they may see the fashion in which our cousins there do honour to one of their accredited heroes.]

After having done duty, like other provincials, for two days at the Royal Bazaar in Hyde Park, we started for Dover to make the most of our brief holiday. Arriving there at half-past eleven o'clock at night, we encountered a scene of indescribable confusion. A multitude of porters contended fiercely for the luggage, and the victorious party having piled a cartload on a large barrow, set off, with a speed and noise of a fire-engine, to the quay. The event showed we had need of all our speed, for the boat was already off; we hailed it, and seeing what a multitude we were, it put back to within a trunk-throw of the edge, the porters pitched the luggage on board and we followed in its wake, and in a few minutes we were on our voyage. Being midnight, we asked for beds, and were directed to the cabin. On descending, we found it filled by successive layers of human beings, quite a model for a slaver; perceiving an unoccupied crevice above the third tier, we picked our steps, amid a polyglot of execrations from the half-awakened mass of sleepers, to the edge of a sofa, where in profound sleep lay an exhausted Sclav or Teuton, and making a pedestal of his chest, we reached our dormitory.

Passing through Belgium, by way of Ostend and Liege, we hastened on to Cologne, and were soon upon the berhymed river. It is always a pleasant variety floating on the Rhine, not so much on account of the scenery, which has always appeared to us much over-

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rated, but for the abundance of amusing scenes the steamers afford. The dinner on deck is a great treat. The sharper with his large moustache, his low brow, keen eye, wide trousers, and polished boots, brushing his hair before the engagement with his pocket brush, and adjusting his whiskers at the looking-glass on the back of it; then the resolute German, pleased at the prospect of a good long uninterrupted *edification;* next the London party—the pursy old gentleman, out of all patience at the sour wine, weak soups, and endless succession of anonymous and unintelligible fractions of fish, fowl, and flesh, while his interesting daughter does her best to keep him in good humour, and tries to speak German, learned specially for the occasion, to the *garçon*, who, supposing it English, pertinaciously replies in the Rhine dialect of that tongue. But we forget that most of our readers are probably familiar with such scenes. Our objection to the Rhine is its want of a background; you see at once all that is to been, pretty headlands and picturesque ruins, but nothing grand. The Danube is far finer. There we have always to the picture a frame of snowy-peaked hills, which are delightful to the eye from the contrast of light, and are a sort of stepping-stone to the imagination into the remote unknown they bound and barrier.

We left the Rhine a little way from Frankfort, and proceeded next day to Baden Baden, *en route* for Switzerland. But it was otherwise determined. The evening of our arrival was calm and beautiful, but soon we felt the deadening sensation of an approaching storm. The clouds lay like large slates upon the sky, and for some hours vivid flashes of lightning leapt from edge to edge without any thunder. As night closed in we returned to our hotel, and had scarcely reached it when the rain came down like a tropical waterspout; it continued, along with thunder and lightning, all night, and in the morning the roads were impassable. A small brook, a mere burn on the yesterday, was today a tumbling roaring river like the Rhone. The kitchen of the hotel was filled with water, tables and chairs were floated away, trees soon began to come down, and heaps of firewood. One hotel (the English) was surrounded with water—its inmates had to be removed in carts; streets had become canals, and invalids were carried on men's shoulders to the higher parts of the town. What where the inhabitants about all this time? Most of them wrapped in huge cloaks, with umbrellas over their heads and pipes in their mouths, were contemplating the work of havoc, and perhaps speculating on the laws of hydraulics, only doing nothing. It was a strange contrast to such a scene at home, exhibiting so strongly the little power of self-help in the German character, and it might well suggest an anxious thought of how this great people were to work out their freedom. What can be done for a nation without a history and without a faith? Is it not regeneration it needs; it has never been born. The German nation is an agglomeration of atoms bound together by pressure from without, not a constellation arranged by forces acting from within; and yet great even in its present chaos! a huge leviathan unconscious of its might, on which two-headed vultures strut, guzzle, and flap their regal or imperial wings.

So much for Baden, the most agreeable lounge and most dangerous hell-trap in Europe, where gambling goes on from night to morning; and under the gayest and most fascinating surface there trickles incessantly a black rill of crime and misery.

Our Swiss tramp being knocked on the head by this unsought water-cure process, for the roads and railways were destroyed, we had nothing for it but to make for Leipzig with all the expedition in our power. In our way thither we spent a night at Cassel, lately so famous for its bold assertion of constitutional freedom. It has suffered much by the quartering of so many troops upon it, and it tells us the sad lesson that a little state cannot be free unless isolated by sea or mountains—a lesson which we fear Hungary likewise teaches. We spent the following night at Halle with one of the most distinguished theologians in Europe, and one of the most popular professors in Germany. He corroborated the observation we had long ago made, that Protestant Germany was probably the most irreligious country in the world. And it is in some respects the worst kind of irreligion, as it presents nothing offensive to the taste of the moralist. Sentiment, morality, and mesmerism are equivalent to religion there; they neither believe nor disbelieve "anything beyond the teaching of Goethe, that noble dome lighted from beneath."

On entering the Blumenberg Hotel at Leipzig, on the morning of the 8th of August, we found some of our English friends already there, who had come for the same object as ourselves. The day was spent in visiting old acquaintances whom we had known some ten years ago when studying here; and in the evening we had our preliminary meeting. The following day was the chief diet of this strange general assembly. The hall of meeting was spacious, and tastefully ornamented with trees and garlands; and the company assembled, to the number of about one hundred and thirty, presented a curious appearance to an English eye. They had come from all parts of Europe. To begin with the most remote, there was Dr. Nunez from Madrid, physician to the Queen of Spain, decorated with a broad blue ribbon, besides many orders, quite the courtier in air and figure. Then we saw an ardent disciple from Copenhagen, who looked rough and tough, and fit for service in the hard north. From Rome had come a German by birth, who had won a large reputation in the Eternal City. Our neighbour, Hanover, had sent a polished deputy—physician to the Crown Prince. Besides the representatives of the large cities, who formed the bulk of the assembly, there were also men with huge beards from the inland provinces of Hungary and Bohemia; and seated beside some pale, studious Northern German, might be seen a gay and debonair inhabitant of the south, whose dark moustache and easy

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carriage would hardly have squared with our idea of professional decorum. This motley multitude were all attentively listening to an interesting paper which was being delivered from the reading-desk, when a sudden explosion was heard. The speaker stopped, most of the assembly rose. Another louder than the first, and again another and another! The president thundered with his hammer, and entreated them to remain, to no effect. A rush was made to the door, and those who stayed anxiously speculated on the cause. Some said it was a new revolution; others that it was a gunpowder plot to blow all homœopathists into "sparables" in the twinkling of an eye. At length the tide rolled back again, and it turned out to have been the igniting of some powder canisters and fireworks in the next house. One person had been wounded, but the timely aid of thirty homœopathic physicians prevented alarming consequences from the incision in the thumb, and this Guy Fawkes is expected to do well. After the *sederunt* terminated, the meeting broke up into little groups to give and get reciprocal intelligence of the good Cause. This was highly encouraging and satisfactory. In some places, as Madrid, it is almost the prevalent method. The court physician is a homœopathist, many professors are so; there is a regular homœopathic clinique, and students may take their choice as to the system they wish to pursue. In Vienna it is also very strong. There are two or three homœopathic hospitals, and a thoroughly equipped school for teaching it. The homœopathic practitioners in Vienna are probably the most highly cultivated physicians in Europe. The physician to the King of Bavaria, too, we understand, is a disciple of Hahnemann's, but he was not at the meeting. In short, in many parts of the Continent the homœopathic practitioners are so numerous that in announcing the arrival of a physician, in an hotel for example, if he is not a homœopathist, he is called an allopathic doctor. This we have seen in a newspaper. It was fixed that we should meet on the following day at ten o'clock. The ceremony was to be at noon.

Accordingly, we all reassembled, dressed for the most part in grave professional attire, as proper for the ceremony we were about to celebrate; and after hearing an oration and certain odes, we formed into a procession four deep, and headed by the president, emerged from the vast hotel into the street.

Leipzig is an old-fashioned picturesque town; the houses are as lofty as those in our High Street, and the streets about as wide. It is surrounded by beautiful promenades, somewhat like our Meadows, formerly fortifications. Down one of those streets, lined by a dense crowd in their holiday attire, every window a cluster of eager faces, the sable stream rolled on, till we arrived at an open space, where stood a statue, muffled in sackcloth covering, surrounded by a strong paling, outside of which the whole population of Leipzig had gathered. Arrived within the barrier, a full instrumental band played a solemn anthem, and then a chorus of boys took up the chaunt and sung a hymn in honour of Hahnemann. The chief magistrates of the town then stepped forward, and the president of the Congress delivered to them the deed of gift of the statue, and made an oration to the assembled multitude, and received a grateful reply from the burgomaster. At the end of his speech he gave the word for removing the veil, and in a moment the statue stood revealed.

Hahnemann sat there, as if surprised and interrupted at his work. On his left knee, and held in his left hand, is a book, in his right hand a pen. He is looking up from occupation, with an air of quiet serenity, which suits well his massive and symmetrical head; one might suppose him perplexed somewhat at being thus recognised, and almost fancy a slightly sarcastic smile played on the lip, at the acclamations of respect and joy from the crowd beneath him, the inhabitants of that city where he had wandered many a day disregarded—that city which expelled him for the deed which they now honour. But the smile is ours, not his; he is gone where this posthumous honour will be of no avail. It is the old story—they stone the prophet and build his sepulchre. Had any of the garlands that they hung so thick around his statue been awarded to him by his (almost) native town when he was struggling with his foes, his writings might have been less rancorous—his reformation less turbulent.

With the unveiling of this statue the object of our visit ended, although once more we reassembled at a grand banquet, where toasts were proposed between the courses, so that it lasted for four hours, enlivened by brilliant music and songs, in which the whole company, not less than one hundred and fifty, joined. So terminated this memorable festival—memorable on any hypothesis of Hahnemann's character. There has lived no man in this century who could attract from so great a distance such a band of mourners round his tomb—men of every nation in Europe, of every variety of mental development. The spirit of Hahnemann is likely to prove more than a match for our medical bodies. "For *thought* is more powerful than parks of artillery; and were it yesterday, or were it a thousand years ago, writes and unwrites Acts of Parliament, moulds the world like soft clay." The thought of Hahnemann will outweigh the deeds of his opponents. It will run the same course here as in Germany—be neglected, patronised, opposed, reviled, partially accepted, and after this generation has passed into silence and oblivion, universally adopted.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Amongst the lessons furnished by history, two admit not of dispute. First, that persecution seldom fails to injure the cause of the persecutors; second, that persecution seldom fails to advance the cause of the persecuted.

Allopathy has turned persecutor, homœopathy

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is its victim, We are, then, in a favourable position; let us see that we lose not the advantage our position presents. And in order to this, we must calmly consider the exact state of affairs, and mark the courses that are open to us to adopt.

The Scottish Universities have resolved on refusing medical degrees to homœopathic candidates.

Persons practising without degrees are liable to prosecution.

Now the first thing suggested by these considerations is, that we should seek to obtain charters for our hospitals. But until this privilege be secured is there any occasion for our remaining inactive? I think not.

Two courses are, I apprehend, open to our would-be practitioners. One, to take legal proceedings against the university refusing the degree; the other, to practise without a university degree, and run the risk of legal proceedings being taken against them. And I cannot for a moment suppose that if any man of standing were to announce in your columns, that he was prepared to adopt the former course, or that the latter course had been taken against him, that funds would be wanting to meet the necessary expenses. But be this as it may, I will not believe that the martyr spirit is in this age so dead, that there is not a man to be found unflinching enough to risk whatever consequences the trial might entail.

Now let us imagine the first of these courses adopted, and the result—a mandamus commanding the refractory university to grant the degree. The moral effect of this triumph would be inconceivably great. Let us next imagine the mandamus refused, homœopathy would be in no worse position than at present.

The second course would now be open to our hero. Let him practise without *a university* diploma. I do not say, let him practise *without a diploma;* for here I would suggest to our homœopathic practitioners that it would be their duty, after ineffectual recourse had been had to the legal tribunals of the land, to select from amongst themselves men duly qualified by their attainments to examine candidates for the profession, and to grant them some such diploma as this—C.P.H., Certificated Practitioner of Homœopathy.

And can we conceive the individual or the association bold enough to prosecute such a practitioner? If not, our Cause would be triumphant. But let us now take the worse possibility; let us suppose the practitioner tried, condemned, incarcerated. Within one month from the date of that incarceration, I do not hesitate to predict the walls of the House of Commons would ring with plaudits drawn forth by some champion of freedom, our hero being the subject; within two short months homœopathy would have a chartered school of medicine, and long ere this our hero would be again breathing the free air of heaven, having earned for himself a name amongst the martyrs of England. In whatever light, then, our position is regarded, there is abundant evidence for believing that the day of our triumph is at hand.

I have been compelled, from want of time, greatly to condense the thoughts which the consideration of this important subject suggests. I do hope, however, that it will be taken up and enlarged upon by those who have time at their command, in a manner and with an eloquence worthy of the theme.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
F. J. Smith.

Brussels,
Boulevard de Waterloo, No. 2,
October 3, 1851.

Miscellaneous.

Dr. James Esdaile, will long be remembered as the father of painless surgery amongst us. Amidst a storm of ridicule and derision, Dr. Esdaile, some five years since, commenced systematically to practise surgery on patients rendered insensible by mesmerism, and continued in this way to perform the most painful and difficult operations with perfect success. To satisfy the general scepticism which prevailed on the subject, a committee of inquiry was appointed, and ultimately a mesmeric (government) hospital established, where painless surgery was practised with much more uniformity and success than it had ever been under the influences either of ether or chloroform, and with entire exemption from the dangers attendant on the administration of drugs. Dr. Esdaile leaves India in the prime of life, to resume, we trust, in his native country, the career of honour and of usefulness he has hitherto pursued in Bengal.—*Bombay Times, June* 24.

Conscience.—The good or evil we confer on others very often, I believe, recoils on ourselves; for as men of a benign disposition enjoy their own acts of beneficence equally with those to whom they are done, so there are scarce any natures so entirely diabolical as to be capable of doing injuries without paying themselves some pangs for the ruin which they bring on their fellow-creatures.—*Fielding.*

Early Rising.—There is no time spent so stupidly as that which inconsiderate people pass in a morning, between sleeping and waking. He who is awake, may be at work or at play; he who is asleep, is receiving the refreshment necessary to fit him for action; but the hours spent in dozing and slumbering are wasted, without either pleasure or profit.—The sooner you leave your bed, the seldomer you will be confined to it, for early rising conduces to healthfulness. When old people have been examined in order to ascertain the cause of their longevity, they have uniformly agreed in one thing only, that they "all went to bed, and all rose early."—*Family Friend.*

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Rebiew of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 116. Vol. III. | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1851. | Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

Communications.

LECTURE

Delivered on October 9th, at the London Homœopathic Hospital, in the presence of the British Homœopathic Society, and of several of the Lay Supporters of Homœopathy, the Earl of Belfast, Mr. Sampson, Mr. Hallett, Swein, etc., and several Allopathic Practitioners.

By Dr. Quin, President.

The subject to which I am desirous of directing your attention this evening, gentlemen, is pregnant with the most important results to science. It will, I feel convinced, not only open a wide field for inquiry and investigation into numerous phenomena which, till now, have only been matters of conjecture, but will lead to the elucidation of many of the hitherto hidden secrets of nature. I trust I shall also be able to demonstrate to you that the beautiful invention and brilliant discovery which I am about to describe, involves the confirmation of the numerous facts connected with our doctrine, which have been questioned, up to the present time, by the great majority, of the medical public.

For the great good which will inevitably arise from this important discovery, we are indebted to a gentleman of great scientific acquirements and experience, Mr. Rutter, of Black Rock, Brighton, who is the inventor of the instrument I am about to describe, which demonstrates the different currents of electricity that pass through various parts of the human frame, when in contact with the earth, and under the influence of terrestrial electricity. By means of this instrument, the inventor has been enabled to discover not only the various normal effects of the different electrical currents which exist in the body, but likewise a variety of modifications and changes which these currents undergo, when the hand of the operator is brought in contact with the thumb, index, or hand of another person; with inanimate matter, with a variety of different metals, with vegetable and animal substances; also the alterations which different medicinal substances produce upon these currents. Mr. Rutter is not only able to demonstrate, in the most satisfactory manner, the polarization of our bodies, and those parts where the north and south poles are situated, but likewise the alterations which take place from change of position, from the vertical and sitting position to the recumbent, as also those which take place from other circumstances hereafter to be mentioned.

He is also able to demonstrate most clearly the difference between the male and female currents; and that the latter are generally in an inverse or antagonistic state to those of man; also, that certain positions of the arms and hands arrest the effects of these currents upon the instrument.

Dead animal matter, brought into contact with the hand of the operator, or with any person, or any number of persons forming a chain by holding one another by the hand, the one nearest the operator holding his hand, and the dead matter being put into the hand of the person most remote from him, almost immediately stops the movements produced on the instrument by the electric current. Mr. Rutter has, however, carried his discoveries still further; for he has ascertained, and is able to prove most unerringly, that nocuous matter, whether animal or vegetable effluvia, or miasms, or mineral or vegetable poisons, in fact, all substances capable of producing death, have the same power of stopping the action of the instrument, as I have just described dead matter to have. All the experiments were conducted in the most simple and unpretending manner, and were explained in the most lucid and unequivocal language. They were repeated over and over again at the wish of several of the persons present, and the results were each time unvarying and unerring, so as to carry conviction to all who witnessed them, even the most sceptical.

Mr. Rutter, who is a man, as you may suppose, of great scientific knowledge, leaves no loophole for scepticism; the beautiful series of experiments made by him all tending to corroborate and affirm one another. The instrument is so subtle, and the demonstration so clear, whilst the experiments are at the same time so delicate and exact, the same cause

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repeated invariably producing the same effect, that no one can resist the positive evidence of the undeviating action of this scientific and truly philosophical instrument. To prove that the effects produced upon the pendulum are the result of terrestrial electricity, influencing the instrument through the body of the operator, he first sets the instrument in action whilst standing on the ground; he then, after it is in full motion, insulates himself by standing upon a stool with glass legs, when the action of the instrument immediately stops. One hand is then put in communication with an electric machine, when the action is immediately resumed; the communication is again cut off, and the action ceases. A person standing on the ground is then desired to touch the hand of the operator, when the movement of the instrument recommences; the hands are separated, and the motion again stops. A piece of silk thread is then put round the wrist of the operator, and the other end or the ball of silk, of which the thread round his arm is part, is allowed to be upon the ground, forming a communication with the terrestrial electricity, and the motion of the instrument is immediately again set a-going. On the thread being cut or unwound from the wrist, the motion ceases, no vibration or oscillation is perceptible; but immediately on the operator descending from the insulating stool, and coming in contact with the ground, the instrument feels his influence, and the motion commences. I shall now proceed to give an account of some of the very interesting experiments which I witnessed, in addition to those I have just narrated to you; but before doing so, I will endeavour to give you a brief description of the instrument, and although this description is very imperfect, it will enable you better to understand the following experiments, which took place in my presence. Two ladies and five gentlemen, besides the operator, were present, all eagerly and carefully watching the movements of the instrument, and starting objections and difficulties, all of which were most satisfactorily answered and explained by Mr. Rutter, whose clearness, patience, and courtesy are beyond all praise. The perfect good faith with which the experiments were conducted was apparent to all, and must be to every one, before he is ten minutes in the room with Mr. Rutter.

I must, however, explain that Mr. Rutter is devising a new instrument specially for the purpose of exhibiting the phenomena which have been the result of his investigations. The instrument I am now about o desc ribe is the first one he has experimented with. It was roughly constructed of various loose parts of some electrical apparatus, which he had at hand. A pillar of wood fastened in the centre of a large circular stand, is carefully screwed to the table; the upright pillar has a brass top, about the same circumference as the wooden pillar; from this projects outwards, at right angles, a rod of brass, this ball terminating at the extreme end in a small forceps, from which is suspended, by a very slight thread of silk, a small elongated piece of sealing-wax, much in the shape of a common clock lead-weight. Around this pendulum of sealing-wax and half-way up the silk is a glass shade, much like a lamp glass; this stands upon a round piece of glass, over a diagram, somewhat like the one here described, the object of which is merely to protect the pendulum from the current of the room and the vibrations of the air caused by people moving around the instrument. The point marked B on the diagram, is placed opposite and nearest to the operator; the line from B to A being in the same direction as the brass rod from which the sealing-wax pendulum is suspended. It may not be quite irrelevant here to state how I am enabled to lay before you this evening the interesting experiments of Mr. Rutter's exquisitely subtle instrument, the more so, as the presence here of my noble friend the Earl of Bedfast is very significant; for it is to his kindness I owe the pleasure of Mr. Rutter's acquaintance, and the extreme happiness of having witnessed the various experiments which I am about to detail to you. It is true, that in August last I was informed by an allopathic professional friend of mine, that he, with several colleagues, had seen Mr. Rutter's instrument, and was very much interested by some of the experiments performed by that gentleman in proof of the electrical currents passing through the body; but it was not till after my return from Paris, that my mind was thoroughly awakened to the importance and bearing of Mr. Rutter's discovery. On hearing the interesting and elaborate account given to me by Lord Belfast, I eagerly embraced his kind offer to introduce me to Mr. Rutter, and lost no time in going to Brighton.

With these preliminary observations, I shall now proceed to describe the experiments and the mode of operation of the invention. The manner in which the operator is put in communication with the instrument, is by placing his finger and thumb one on each side of the brass top of the stand, and slightly holding it. In a very few seconds, the pendulum, or weight

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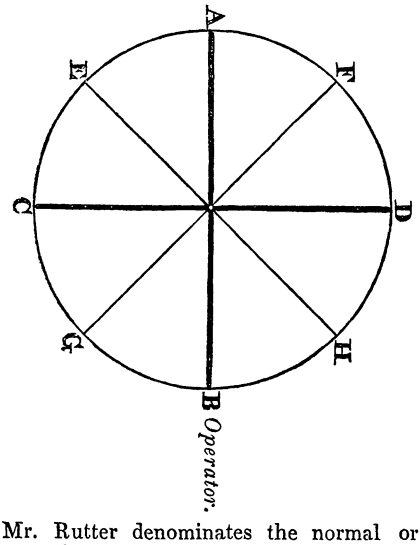
attached to the silk thread, is seen to have several oscillatory movements, till it finally moves round in a circle from left to right, or in the direction on the diagram of from B round to H. This circulatory motion



Mr. Rutter denominates the normal or natural action of the electric current when not disturbed by extraneous causes. The pendulum continues to go round in a circle from left to right as long as the finger and thumb are in contact with the instrument. If the operator's index is alone left in contact with it, the thumb being removed, the circulatory motion almost immediately ceases, and the weight takes the motion of a clock pendulum, moving in the direction of from D to C on the diagram. Then if the thumb of the operator is alone left in contact with the instrument, and the index removed, the weight changes its direction, and makes a direct cross with the movement last described, and moves in the direction of from B to A; this motion continues as long as the thumb alone is touching the instrument. Then if the forefinger is closed against the instrument, and it is held slightly between the thumb and finger, the normal rotatory motion from left to right, or from B round to H, again takes place, and continues to move in the same direction as long as the operator holds the instrument between the index and thumb. I was then requested by Mr. Rutter to put my index on his left hand, when the rotatory motion began immediately to change into the pendulum action, as from D to C. When this action was well established, I was requested to place my thumb on his left hand, he all the time holding the instrument between his forefinger and thumb, when the pendulum motion changed, making a cross with the movement last described, and passing to and fro from B to A. My whole hand being then placed on the left hand of the operator, the weight immediately changed and moved from F to G. When my thumb was placed on the left hand of the operator, he holding his right thumb in contact with the instrument, the action was neutralized.

Another curious and interesting phenomenon was now demonstrated by Mr. Rutter. If a person of the female sex puts the index or forefinger on the operator's hand, the pendulum, instead of moving as when the index of a male is in contact with the hand, from D to C, moves from B to A. When the female thumb touches the hand of the operator, instead of moving from B to A, as in the case of the male thumb, the pendulum immediately moves from D to C; and when the whole hand of a female is placed on the hand of the operator, the movement becomes circulatory in the direction of from B round to G, that is, from right to left, the exact reverse of the normal motion.

The next experiment was one of great interest, and exemplified in a beautiful and indisputable manner the experiment to which I alluded in a former part of the evening, viz., the instrument being stopped by the operator when put in contact with dead animal matter. After having put the instrument in full normal action by applying the finger and thumb of the right hand a dead fly being put on his left hand, the motion of the pendulum immediately ceased; on the fly being taken away, the motion recommenced. A chain of several men, holding one another by the hand, was formed; a female placed her hand on that of the man most remote from the operator; the motion of the instrument was immediately reversed, the circulatory motion being from right to left. A dead fly was then put upon the left hand of the female, and the motion immediately stopped.

A wire of copper, 500 feet long, encased in gutta percha, was then added to the chain of men—the one farthest from the operator held one end of the wire, and the female the other end; the female influence was immediately sent through both the wire and chain of men, and a corresponding action was again set up; which was again stopped immediately by the dead fly being put upon the other hand. Similar experiments were made with other dead matter;

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even merely by holding the hand over or near the dead matter, the aura of which equally stopped the motion.

When Mr. Rutter wishes to stop the motion of the pendulum, so as to pass to another experiment, he usually takes a piece of ivory in the left hand, and stops the motion immediately. If a person of the female sex merely breathes upon the hand of the operator, it immediately changes the current to the female; if a man breathes upon her hand, her other hand being in contact with the operator, the male influence is immediately perceived on the pendulum. If a hair of a female is placed on the hand of the operator, or the hand of the last of any number of men in contact with him, the female current is immediately produced. The same phenomenon is produced by a pocket-handkerchief worn by a lady.

The next set of experiments performed by Mr. Rutter were to prove the polarization of the body. This was beautifully and most satisfactorily demonstrated, by placing a permanent steel magnet upon the table in the direction north and south. On placing the hand over the south pole of the magnet, the normal current was produced, and when over the north pole, it came to a dead stop. If the hand is then put within the sphere of the magnet, but to the left or west, the pendulum moves from F to G, and when put on the right or east, it moves from E to H, and again put to the north pole, the instrument stops.

Then, if one hand of the operator is put to the back of the head of a person standing near him, the current is normal, but if put to the forehead, the motion immediately ceases, proving the south and north poles to be in the back and fore part of the head. If the hand is then put on the right shoulder, the action is normal, but if to the left shoulder, the action is reversed, and acts as the female current. In the recumbent posture the north pole leaves the forehead, and takes refuge in the diaphragm. Bringing the hand of the operator in contact with the forehead no longer now stops the instrument, but if he places the hand over the diaphragm, the motion immediately ceases.

Another extraordinary fact is, that the magnetic currents are reversed below the pelvis, the right leg having the same action as the left arm, and the left leg the same action as the right. Again, these change when the body is vertical, and when it is recumbent. These experiments were most satisfactorily proved over and over again, on different individuals in the upright and recumbent positions.

We now come to another class of experiments, a class particularly interesting and important to medical men, viz., the effects upon the electric currents by different metals, and I beg you carefully to bear in mind the different actions of the pendulum whilst under each metal.

After the instrument had been put into the normal motion, a considerable piece of *Tin* was put into the operator's left hand, the normal action was immediately changed into the pendulum action from B to A.

The normal action was again set a-going on the *Tin* being taken away, and some *Fluid Mercury* was put into the operator's hand. The normal motion was immediately changed from H to E.

A piece of *Copper* changed the normal action into the female current, reversing the circle.

A large piece of *Zinc* changed it from H to E.

A piece of *Iron* gave an elliptical motion from H to E.

A *Platina* chain changed the motion from B to A.

A piece of *Lead* from D to C.

Mr. Rutter then showed the action of *Chalk*, which produced an elliptical action from E to H, exactly the reverse of the *Iron*, which was from H to E.

A large piece of *Flint* changed the normal motion to one from H to E.

A piece of *Phosphorus* immediately caused a total cessation of the motion.

After the normal action was produced, *Iodine* stopped it immediately.

A piece of *Ammonia* immediately set the normal action going, and increased it considerably above the natural force.

Some *Table Salt* reversed it, giving the reverse current.

The *Ammonia* was again put into the operator's hand, when the normal action in full vigour was again produced. A small piece of horse-dung put in the same hand with the *Ammonia*, immediately counteracted its action, and stopped the motion.

Now, gentlemen, I feel certain that you have perceived that it was not without an object that I requested Mr. Rutter to have the kindness to experiment before me and the persons present, upon the above metals and other substances, the whole of them being materials from which we extract some of our most valuable medicines. *Stannvm* (tin), *Mercury*, *Cuprum* (copper), *Zincum*, *Ferrum* (iron), *Platina*, *Plumbum* (lead), *Calcarea* (chalk), *Silicea* (flint), *Phosphorus*, *Iodium* (iodine), *Natrum muriaticum* (salt), and *Ammonia*, are all homœopathic remedies familiar to most of our patients. No one, whether lay or

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medical, who believes in homœopathy, could witness Mr. Rutter's beautiful and delicate experiments with the dead fly, the hair of a female, the hankerchief, the aura from dead matter, and other substances, and not immediately feel convinced that he had at the same time, by his brilliant discovery, settled the question of the infinitesimal doses employed in homœopathy possessing influence. So obvious, so self-evident is this, that the Earl of Belfast, the instant he saw an experiment made by Mr. Rutter upon some gold, exclaimed, "Oh! gold is employed in homœopathy. Pray test some globules of *Aurum* upon the instrument." His lordship, who has for a considerable time been a patient of mine, will tell you that he immediately felt that Mr. Rutter had removed the great stumbling-block to the progress of homœopathy. The same idea must occur to you all, as did to every one at all acquainted with homœopathy.

Well, one globule of *Stannum*, of the fourth attenuation, was placed by me in the palm of the hand (that being the most sensitive part) of Mr. Rutter, after he had set the instrument in action. The pendulum went immediately, moving from B to A with as quick and as strong a motion as when the same metal in mass was put into his hand. One globule of *Mercur. sol.* 12, changed the action, and the pendulum went from H to E.

One globule of *Cuprum* 30, reversed the normal action, and produced the reverse current.

One globule of *Zincum* 30, sent the pendulum from H to E.

One globule of *Zincum* 200, did the same.

One globule of *Zincum* 200, dissolved in one ounce of water, and a drop of this solution put into Mr. Rutter's hand, produced exactly the same result, both when the instrument was in repose and in action.

One globule of *Ferrum metallicum* 6, gave exactly the same elliptical motion described above as produced by the *Iron* in mass. (*Sulphate of Iron* was also tried in mass, with precisely the same result.)

One globule of *Ferrum aceticum* 3, gave the same elliptical motion, only rather a stronger movement to the pendulum.

One globule of *Platina* 3, moved the pendulum in the direction from B to A.

Plumbum 30, one globule, caused it to move backwards and forwards from D to C.

Calcarea carbonica 30, one globule, gave the reverse of the elliptical motion of *Iron*, and moved it from E to H, as the *Chalk* did above.

One globule of *Calc. carb.* 200, had exactly the same effect.

Silicea 30, one globule, changed the motion to one from H to E. This experiment with the homœopathic infinitesimal quantity of *Silicea* greatly gratified Mr. Rutter, as he had only that very morning experimented upon *Flint* for the first time.

Phosphorus 30, one globule, immediately caused a total cessation of the motion of the instrument.

Iodium 30, one globule, produced the same effect as *Phosphorus*.

One globule of *Ammonia* 30, increased the normal action visibly.

Natrum muriaticum 30, one globule, reversed the normal action, and gave the reverse current just as the *Table Salt* did.

I then proceeded to place other homœopathic preparations upon the operator's hand, and the following were the results, only one globule of each medicine was used:

Arsenicum, the instrument stopped.
Dulcamara, motion from B to A.
Opium, motion ceased.
Arnica, reverse of normal action, or reverse current produced.
Nux vom., stopped the motion.
Ignatia. reverse current.
Acid. hydrocyanic., stopped.
Belladonna, ditto.
Sulphur 30, reverse current.
Sulphur 800, exactly the same both in direction and in force.
Pulsatilla 12, stopped.
Bryonia 30, reverse action.
Non-medicated Globules, no change upon the normal influence of the operator.
Ipecacuanha 3, reverse current.
China 6, ditto.
Rhus 30, ditto.
Stramonium 6, stopped.
Drosera 3, ditto.
Kali hydr. 30, ditto.
Spongia 3, ditto.
Ledum palustre 12, ditto.
Capsicum 3, ditto
Cayenne pepper, same effect exactly.
Colocynthis, reverse current.
Digitalis, stopped.
Cannabis, reverse current.
Hyoscyamus, stopped.
Lycopodium, ditto.
Filix mas, ditto.
Euphrasia, reverse current.
Ruta 3, stopped.
Sabina 6, reverse current.

Some experiments were performed upon several other medicines, but I shall reserve them for another lecture. In a former part of the evening I mentioned the fact of the two thumbs neutralizing each other's

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effects. In the same manner, two metals having the same action upon the currents, being brought in contact with the operator at the same time, neutralize each other's action, and the normal current is restored. Two vegetable medicines, having similar effects upon the normal current, when experimented upon separately, if brought in contact with the operator at the same time, also destroy one another's effect, leaving the normal current to go on, if it was in a state of action when the experiment commenced, or bringing it to a full stop, if it was in a state of repose when the first of the two medicines was applied. Dr. Madden, who I believe was the first homœopathic practitioner who witnessed Mr. Rutter's beautiful experiments, has recorded in the *British Journal of Homœopathy* for this month, among other experiments, the action of *Mercury* and *Bismuthum* upon each other.

I believe, gentlemen, I have now brought before you the leading points of the truly beautiful experiments of Mr. Rutter, and I feel confident that you will agree with me, that science has made a gigantic stride by the philosophical instrument and important discovery of that gentleman, and that homœopathic practitioners especially are greatly indebted to him for having proved the physical action of our remedies in infinitesimal quantities upon the human body; and that you will join with me heartily in doing honour to him for the great impetus he will be the means of giving to our Cause. The only reason for sorrow is, that our revered master, Hahnemann, is not alive to witness this triumphant proof of his own great discoveries. I have probably explained very imperfectly some of these interesting experiments, but I shall be happy to answer, to the extent of my knowledge, any queries that may suggest themselves to you, and I am sure Lord Belfast will corroborate the statements I have made to you respecting these experiments, and will at the same time assist me in solving any difficulties you may have, which he is well capable of doing, from the careful manner in which he has watched and examined these experiments.

At the close of the lecture, which was listened to with great interest, and received with much applause, a very interesting conversation took place on the importance of Mr. Rutter's discovery, in which Dr. Chapman, Mr. Vardy, Mr. Kidd, Mr. Reynolds, and Mr. Yeldham, took part, and the Earl of Belfast corroborated, in some observations, the account given by Dr. Quin of the results of the experiments.

LETTER TO ROBERT CHRISTISON, M.D., V.P.R.S.E.,

AND PROFESSOR OF MATERIA MEDICA IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

No. IV.

SIR,—I believe I was right when I said I should prove a heavy affliction to you, but the war is of your own seeking; as ye have sown so shall ye reap; now gather in your harvest—public opinion. Glean it from the columns of the *British Banner*, the *Witness*, the *Spectator*, and the *Christian Times*. Is the draught refreshing? are you not inclined to exclaim with the poet—

"Give me back, give me back the wild freshness of morning ?"

I say again, gather in your harvest—garner up the bruised feelings, the blackened hearts, the damaged reputations, the broken gallipots; convert them into medicated pillows, and serve them out to your wearied heroes to sleep upon.

The imprudence that led your University to the contest is only equalled by its lack of courage in the *mêlée*. You have been signally defeated in three short months upon a battle-field of your own choosing. Your University charged headlong, "like a bull into a china-shop;" you followed this wild leader, in your capacity of examinator; a tyro in homœopathy rode roughshod through your ranks, and bowled you down like ninepins. There are many *Mr. Popes*—equally stout-hearted as that noble youth was, equally honest as he, and who are ready enough to make your ears tingle with honest convictions; convictions that *must* have due weight with you, for they have forced you into a position which for a long time you supposed to be ours—a conscience-stricken one, veil it as you may. You no longer feel the death of a patient so lightly as you once did. "*All has been done that can be done*," is not heard so often in the chambers of death. The battle is over, and we look o'er the field, and of all the vanquished who fought in your ranks, saving yourself, we find none, no not one, worthy the ink that has been spilt upon him.

Next time you aggress, enlist better soldiers; have a gathering of your clans, and summon the *real* names in allopathy to your aid, and if they hang back, denounce them. Is he who, in his secretarial capacity, prostituted his official pen to the clandestine transmission of a private insult on his own account, a fitting partisan for *you?* Can the heart of such a comrade in arms as the big-letter paragraph-writer

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of the *Lancet* throb in sympathy with yours? Are you satisfied with such a compeer as the man who lately "ran a-muck" at Brighton, and chose a philanthropic clergyman as the *safest* point of attack; who tastefully and most truthfully premised (what might have been hoped might prove a scientific discussion) by lamenting his own deficiency of brains, his own leadenness of comprehension. God knows, no one doubted it, but he was under some apprehension lest it might be doubted; for he insisted upon proving it by mounting a broken-kneed hobby from the allopathic stable, a stubborn, foul-mouthed, ill-bred, hard-bitted brute, which, as Putney had no gift of equitation, bolted with him *instanter*. He rode like a sack of corn, and, as might have been expected, soon pitched upon his skull; but as he had told his friends there was nothing in it, and it was known to be pretty thick, no one was alarmed, and the more so, as his hobby was but a donkey. He must have taken up some confused idea of having lived in the times of the "*Roses*," for a voice somewhat fainter was heard begging to be favoured with *an ass*. "An ass, an ass, my practice for an ass!" passed through the assembled three hundred.

Whether it was that the very liberal offer of the practice, or the mere impulse of instinct, or in illustration of the axiom that, "unlooked-for circumstances are always sufficient to bring out minds capable for the occasion," I know not, but at this juncture appeared upon the stage Dr. Malden, of Worcester, who, perhaps feeling himself peculiarly fitted for the post, kindly offered to accommodate the Putney man, and to a crowded audience of ladies and gentlemen he performed the part in a manner so truthful, that many of them doubted its being au imitation at all. Caps and bells! a physician's "charivari." We wager this worthy has acted his part of Punchinello for the last time; if not, we have a rod in pickle for him.

In repulsing successfully such men as these, we take no merit to ourselves. But with you it is different; we have a respect for you, although you have joined *them* in denouncing us as "*illegitimate practitioners*;" and the term naturally leads us to inquire into the *integrity* of our *professional fathers and mothers*: but "legitimacy" is as inapplicable to your side as its converse is to ours. You brought Glassford to prove it; the Coroner for Middlesex has frequently put on his gown and wig to prove it; and Mr. Justice Maule stereotyped it in the sensitive parts of Thomas Membury Wakley, on the 8th of October, 1849, a day that functionary will not readily forget. Last of all, you have proved it in your October number of this year (p. 398). So totally inapplicable are the forces and subtleties of the law to medical cases, wherein no criminal intention forms the basis of procedure, that a conviction could not be got against a poaching greengrocer, whose Pharmacopœia contained one remedy, "*Composition Powder*." Even with the greengrocer's case we have a little admixture of science; for after being indebted to the *candour of the accused* for the information that bayberry bark and hemlock-spruce bark formed the most active of the ingredients, the analytical department is confided to Dr. Letheby, whose aid carries us no further than "*cayenne pepper and ginger*," vegetable compounds being quite as inapproachable by chemical analysis as homœopathic globules; yet there was bulk enough to *kill*, and chemistry could not detect it. The "composition powder" proved a "*powerful stimulant*;" judge, jury, witnesses, lawyers, and lookers-on saw that day it was a "*powerful stimulant*." Hold up thy head, thou vile greengrocer, and hear thyself convicted of administering a powerful stimulant! But stay; let us just turn up the pages of the Edinburgh Dispensatory. Have we no "composition powder" here, no "powerful stimulants?" All is as mild as maternal milk. We back the arsenial solution, the prussic acids, the corrosive salts, to say nothing of the Dispensatory "*discrepancies*" in certain preparations, to produce occasionally the same effects in the hands of a green doctor that the "composition powder" did in the hands of a greengrocer; the danger to the public is much on the side of the Pharmacopœia; for *green* doctors are to be had in every street, whilst a practising greengrocer is a comparative rarity.

You condescend to give us Dr. Coffin's formula; we have seen it for the first time through your periodical ink, and see no right an allopath has to complain of it; it is quite as good as many in your Dispensatory, and a great deal better than some I could quote from it. Dr. Coffin has proved himself a true allopath; but he has a moral advantage over most of the allopathic school—his name alone affording a warning of approaching danger, such as we wish preceded the approach of every qualified man who prescribes gross substances; and if it be asserted that the doctor has no merit in the name bestowed upon him by his male parent, we say he has, for he might have repudiated it, and taken one instead that offered no warning.

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But the greengrocer's sin consisted in administering a combination, the ingredients of which he did not know; an undoubted misdemeanour, if not a crime, but not surpassing the qualified man's, when it pleaseth him to prescribe a dose of James's powder. In so far as moral turpitude was concerned, all charge was abandoned by the men of law, for there was no *intention;* and this mountain of iniquity resolved itself into the *greenness* of the greengrocer, who unwittingly killed his man. In point of therapeutic principle, the difference between the administration of "composition powder" and "James's powder" does not amount to a thistledown; to draw a distinction would savour strongly of straw-splitting. We assert, therefore, that the greengrocer only did without a degree that which the *green* doctor occasionally does with one; but the former poached upon the latter's *preserves*, or rather *reserves; ergo*, the Editor of the *Pharmaceutical Journal* would have hanged him as high as Haman.

But we homœopaths have cause to complain of the greengrocer's practice, for it recalls many a case of inflammation of the bowels, and many a "*powerful stimulant*" to our memories; and we would not have been sorry had a conviction followed on a moiety of the charge; but neither judge nor jury would listen to it for a moment. There must have been a strong influence acting upon the judge, a powerful spell hanging over that jury. It was the Englishman's characteristic (when untrammelled by corporations), a love of fair play, which, rather than forego, they somewhat overstepped; it was the influence of professional persecution, so eminently distinguishing the medical body, and so ineffably disgusting to the people's common sense, that acquitted the man Stephens. Must we then legislate anew? Must the Lycurgus of law and the Solon of physic lay their heads together? Perhaps it were as well: they have some work before them. They may begin by equalizing the doses of the *Dispensatories*, and that most serious point settled, let them decide upon the *smallest dose a physician may prescribe without criminality*.

Alma Mater! thou art now a granddame; tottering, feeble, addle-pated, we volunteer thee instruction in our young philosophy; conning thy bitter task, bitter even as when thy grandchildren first presented it to thee, how doubly bitter hast thou made it to thyself; 'tis a lucky thing for thee we deal in globules instead of black draughts, for many a dose we shall compel thee to swallow. "The battle is not always to numbers, the race not always to the swift;" but fully contented with what we have done, we are ever prepared to do more.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your very obedient servant,
October 11, 1851. SIGMA.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18TH, 1851.

THE mercenary motives dictating the opposition of the allopathic phalanx is beginning to attract the attention of the public. It is perceived, by all who take the least notice of the vituperative attacks to which homœopaths have lately been subjected, that they mainly spring from those who have more at heart the question of pounds, shillings, and pence than the true elevation of medical science.

Loudly as these gentlemen may proclaim against the advance of quackery, the progress of jobbery, and the conceits of wild-brained enthusiasts, few are so prone as themselves to damage the cause which they have unfortunately espoused, since their steady perseverance in rejecting everything new, shows they are not prepared to admit the least change in antiquated customs or opinions. The result, therefore, is their condemnation by all sound and well-thinking people, which, sooner or later, must terminate in their defeat.

But as to their endeavours to check the career of homœopathy, they are positively futile. Our principles and our practice possess inherent recommendations, which it is impossible they can overthrow. The attempt may again be made, but it cannot possibly succeed. The disciples of Hahnemann now comprise an associated body, numbering some of the highest and best-educated in the land. Lay as well as professional members work with an ardour worthy of the conflict in which they are engaged—a conflict for the pre-eminence of truth as arrayed against falsehood and dogmatic precedent.

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The prosperity of homœopathy has been essentially tested by this late crusade. Instead of finding the enemy disturb our ranks, we are gratified by discovering that they have gained an accession, and in some cases, even at his expense. How mortifying this must prove to the promoters of the movement! Doubtless, it was thought that it merely required a little skirmishing to drive us from the field, but this has been the grand mistake. The debatable ground has been assumed in a becoming spirit, and it must be contended for inch by inch, if Hahnemann is to be adequately represented, and his philosopy popularized.

The period has in reality arrived when allopaths must be taught to discern that in the struggle between themselves and homœopaths, the only method of satisfying the public, with regard to the merits of the respective systems, will be by a full and fair inquiry into the principles advanced by their opponents. If they can, with any show of justice, refute these, then homœopathy must meekly submit and bare the neck to accept the merited disgrace. Already, the world at large is acquainted with the basis upon which we rest our reputation, and by such a process we are willing to be judged.

We invite the attention of our readers to the Resolutions of the British Homœopathic Society, which appear in our advertising columns.

THE NEW MAGNETIC INDICATOR.

Most of our colleagues are by this time aware that Mr. Rutter, of Black Rock, Brighton, has recently invented an instrument, which, besides its vast importance to the science of magnetism in all its forms, holds out the means of *demonstrating* the fact that the homœopathic medicines do act on the human organism. This is a discovery which would have gladdened the heart of Hahnemann, had he been in the life of th e body: this instrument, which affords the means of proof of a fact the opponents of homœopathy have always rejected without inquiry, has been discovered at a most opportune time. We suppose Professor Christison will now change his opinion of homœopathy, and, having changed it, will lose no time in avowing that he has done so.

Drs. Quin and Madden are entitled to the best thanks of all who are interested in the progress of homœopathy, for having brought the subject of this important discovery before the homœopathic practitioners. It is our pleasant duty to announce it to the homœopathic public. The experiments with this instrument, in proof of homœopathy, can be made, when Mr. Rutter has made it public, as well by non-medical as by medical men, provided always they have the necessary patience and knowledge. The investigation conducted by non-medical inquirers wonld add great weight to the testimony of medical men. We trust Faraday will take the subject up; and that every chemist, who deserves the name, will do likewise.

It is Dr. Madden's good fortune to live at Brighton; and of the homœopathic practitioners, he was the first to see Mr. Rutter's instrument and experiments.

The Earl of Belfast, a friend and supporter of homœopathy, no sooner saw the instrument and some of the experiments, than he also at once saw its applicability as a test of the homœopathic doses of remedies; and it seems that any one, medical or non-medical, who sees the instrument and some of the experiments, cannot fail to discern at once that applicability.

We heartily congratulate Mr. Rutter on his happy discovery and brilliant invention; and we trust that he will as soon as possible publish his intended book on the subject. All persons interested in magnetic science, and in homœopathy, will eagerly look for its appearance.

This has, indeed, been a very important year for our Cause. Before the close of it we may be in possession of Mr. Rutter's own description of his instrument, and detail of his experiments.

We commend the subject to the hopeful consideration of our colleagues, our readers, and the homœopathic public at large. An

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excellent lecture on it by Dr. QUIN will be found in another part of our present number.

THE Editor of the *Lancet* of last week is at his wits' end. The poor creature is floundering in the Stygian depths of an unenviable *limbo*.

We rejoice to find, from his authority, that another Professor of the University of Edinburgh, Dr. GREGORY, has proclaimed himself a homœopathist. In the ebullitions of his irrational fury, he absolutely proposes the Lynch law! We remember when the Editor of the *Times* recommended *brick-bats* to be used to the Duke of WELLINGTON. This *liberal* editor of the *Lancet*—this *Coryphæus* of the allopaths, recommends Lynch law for the homœopathists! "Lynch law is not confined to the backwoods of America." A nice expression this for a man who never did set—the Thames—on fire. He absolutely gloats over the memory of poor EDMUND KEAN, a man of genius, of whom it would take innumerable editors of the *Lancet* to make an infinitesimal portion.

This nice boy, rollicky Tom, riding on his Bellerophon (*Billy-Ruffian*, as the sailors say), absolutely tries to stir up the Edinburgh students to rebellion against their teachers.

He makes valiant war against all progress in therapeutics. "*Stare super vias antiquas*" would be his motto, if he ever read Scripture. He is in a terrible rage; his own son does not disavow homœopathy—in fact, has said that in his private practice he uses it.

"Oh matre pulchrâ filia pulchrior"—
Oh Tom much better than the father Tom.

Where will this huge absurdity end? There was never a smoke without fire. There surely must be something in that dread thing homœopathy, when for months together the Editor of the *Lancet* assails it, week after week. "*Væ victis*" was the cry of the heathen over their vanquished: "Repent and live" is the better saying of a better religion. Let the Editor of the *Lancet* repent; let him shrive himself; let him wash and be clean. There is a great deal of coarse, rude vigour in the fellow. We rather like him: he is a fine specimen of the animal. Let him be intellectual, moral, spiritual—if he can.

WE said in our last number that the *Medical Times* was crowing a little crow—how very small a crow it is our readers may judge for themselves, for we reprint the editorial leader on homœopathy. We only wish the crow was louder, the voice more articulate, the oracle more distinct. The slip-shod of the *Lancet* is reproduced; assertion follows assertion without any attempt at argument or proof. The absurdity and quackery of homœopathy are asserted, and the want of personal integrity is imputed to the homœopathic practitioners. All this has been done before, and done more vigorously. It is plain to us that this task of writing down homœopathy is not congenial to the Editor of the *Medical Times*: he cannot fail to have some misgivings that he may be wrong now, as he was two or three years ago, when he asserted that homœopathy was extinct in the metropolis.

But in the article we are about to quote, he says, from personal knowledge, that he has seen some of our medical body needy practitioners, and therefore did not wonder at their secession. It is not improbable that both in homœopathy and allopathy there are men who have been needy practitioners. We know there are some who never had any practice at all; and doubtless there are others who do not find the practice of medicine their vocation, and who might say—

"My poverty but not my will consents,"

as the starved apothecary said, when he gave poison in exchange for money. There are probably hundreds of general practitioners who loathe what they feel to be the necessity that is laid on them to make a living by selling drugs to their patients. Why do not the Editors of the *Lancet* and the *Medical Times* take up the cause of the general practitioners, and encourage them to change their bad and indeed un-

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warrantable practice of getting themselves paid, not for their skill and time, but for the medicines they dispense? It only requires a little moral courage, and the *consent* of all of them. Let them *agree* to be paid for *their time*, and not for their drugs; and they will be happier and more respectable men.

This is a reform and an improvement in their condition, however, which homœopathy will effect for them. The homœopathic practitioners are only paid for time and skill, and never for medicines. This practice will prepare the public for a change in the way of remunerating the general practitioners throughout the country.

The Editor of the *Medical Times* writes: "We have seen you transferred in a single night, in some cases, into practitioners of a system which boasts of the study it requires, and the patient investigation which it demands, and we marvelled at your audacity." So do we, if such persons there be; but we know them not, and we should be glad to be told who they are. Till then, we do not believe our contemporary's assertion.

He says he has watched some of our practitioners, and found them ready to be a bit of everything to please their capricious clients. We do not know whom he means. The few who sometimes use homœopathic remedies, sometimes allopathic,—and they are but very few,—do it to their great disadvantage; but they do it openly and conscientiously. They show they have not entered into the spirit of homœopathy; that they are content to rest in the outer court of the temple amid the cattle and the litter, and have not pushed forward even into the ante-chapel of that glorious health-temple.

If the Editor of the *Medical Times* can show that any one of our body practises dishonestly, let him do so: we have no wish to screen such an one.

Let him give us argument, and we will try to answer it; proofs or alleged proofs of his assertions, and we will sift them; attested failures in conduct of any of our body, and we will examine into the testimony; downright *Lancet-like* abuse, and we will reprint it;—but our readers will find that nothing, so far, has been said, which has not been said before. He promises to deal no longer in mere *generalities:* we shall look for his specialties with great interest.

"OUR RELATIONS WITH THE HOMŒOPATHISTS.

"To associate with men whose characters you traduce; to use all arts to gain admission to a body, and thereafter to vilify and affect to despise it; to profess certain opinions in order to acquire a professional status, and, whenever you have done so, to ridicule and denounce them; to swear adherence to a profession that you may acquire the right to practise, and thereafter to embrace a medical heresy, that you may the more successfully pander to the follies of the rich and fashionable; to adhere neither to the one nor to the other, but to practise either, as the absence of all principles admits, and the whim and caprice of a patient demands;—these are the achievements of modern philosophy,—these the triumphs of homœopathic morality.

"To heap abuse, impute vile motives, and denounce in every possible way, during years of mistaken forbearance, the members of an honourable profession, and yet to raise the cry of persecution, when the pretended bond of union is severed; to print whole volumes, and to circulate journals to prove that regular medicine and homœopathy are diametrically opposed and can never be brought to agree in any one point whatever, and yet to complain of injustice when medical men, acting on this information, decline to be parties to deceiving the public by allowing them to suppose that a regular and a homœopathic practitioner have aught in common; to call in a surgeon to cure intractable external cases where the powerlessness of your pretended treatment can be the more readily observed, and then to denounce surgical appliances as cruel, barbarous, and unnecessary;—these are the characteristics of a science which comes, as one of its eloquent advocates affirms, having as 'its errand, mercy; its means, love; its object, peace; its emblem, hope.'*

"If you believe homœopathy to be true, we do not blame you for practising it; but we call upon you to take your stand on the merits of your new system, and not to support yourselves on ours, like the parasite which clings to while it injures the noble tree. We have no objection to your sharing with the Morisons, the Gosses, and the Perrys of the present generation, the fruits of fashionable folly or popular credulity; nor do we forbid your eclipsing the glories of Doctors Solomon, St. John Long, and Greatrex of the past; but we do declare, that you shall not do this in the guise and garb of the regular practitioner, or that he shall, in any way what-

* Sermon preached in aid of the Hahnemann Hospital, by Rev. Thomas R. Everest, Rector of Wickwar.

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ever, give the sanction of his name and character to the means by which you seek advancement.

"We do not, we cannot object to your founding colleges which shall rival the 'British College of Health,' or even to your becoming colleagues of the illustrious 'Professor Morison;' but we do denounce this monstrous absurdity,—that any of your number shall hold professorships in any of our colleges, shall teach there doctrines which he cannot believe, or he would not practise as he does, and shall have the audacity to defend this incongruous union, this outrage on all morality.

"We have seen you as needy practitioners, outstripped in the race for legitimate practice, your hearts doubtless sickened with hope deferred and long-delayed success, and we did not wonder at your secession. We have seen you again, in some cases, transformed in a single night into practitioners of a system which boasts of the study it requires and the patient investigation which it demands, and we marvelled at your audacity. We have watched you yet further, and have observed in you the obsequious servants of fashionable caprice, trimming your sails to suit each breeze that blew,—now homœopathists, now hydropathists, now anything else,—and we were not surprised at your success.

"You may load our tables with 'clever' pamphlets, you may talk of 'New Test Acts,' and 'recent conspiracies;' your two philosophers, Henderson and Ransford, may publish to the world cases, before which *Professor* Holloway must hide his diminished head, and Lord Aldborough's leg no longer walk the course without a rival;—but there are certain broad principles of common sense and common honesty which have been violated, which must be proclaimed, and these, not all the talent of your legal advisers shall succeed in concealing beneath the flimsy cobweb of ingenious sophistry.

"Hitherto homœopathy has been the toy of the fanciful, when the disease was slight and likely to cease spontaneously, and its victims have lulled themselves with the hope, that if serious disease did attack them, they could fall back on the appliances of legitimate medicine; now this delusion must be dispelled, and they must be taught that their alliance with this quackery is for better and for worse, and that if while it subsists, the ordinary treatment is required, it must henceforth be administered by those bastard homœopathists who practise indifferently either way.

"In the name of our profession, we have accorded our thanks to those medical bodies, who, roused from the lethargy of years, have acted a noble and independent part. All honour to the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons of Edinburgh, the Faculty of Glasgow, and our own Provincial Association. But what are the metropolitan colleges about? Why do they allow others to lead when they must eventually follow? Are they emulous of the character of being the only practitioners who consult with homœopathists? How long will they, spaniel-like, lick the feet of the men who abuse them? How long will they consent to blind the public to the fact, that between regular medicine and homœopathy there can be no alliance, that every man must now decide for himself how he is to be treated, but that from henceforth, when the new system fails, he is not to seek to engraft upon it the old.

"We confess ourselves utterly at a loss to understand the immobility of the metropolitan colleges. Have they no duties to discharge to the profession and to the public? Is there no responsibility laid upon them to give an utterance in regard to this modern heresy? What is their office, and why were they instituted? Are they the public guardians of professional character, or are they not? These are questions which are every day put, and which must, sooner or later, be answered. Mere *vis inertiæ* will not now avail; a great opportunity was thrown away when they refused to lead the van in this movement against quackery; now they must be content to bring up the rear. Often and justly has the profession at large been offended at what they have done; let them not add to their past transgressions new grounds of offence, and give us occasion to remind them of what they have left undone.

"But, whatever apathy may affect certain public bodies, however sloth may overcome, or indolence oppress them, however the personal success of their individual members may render them indifferent to the interests, and far more to the character of the profession, enough has already been done to vindicate both. By now acting, they will scarcely add weight to the movement, but they will remove a grievous stain from their own character. The clear and distinct deliverances of the Northern Colleges and Faculties, the determined and manly attitude of the Provincial Association, above all, the ability of the speeches at the Brighton meeting, the separate publication of which we gladly hail, are amply sufficient to vindicate the profession as a body, and to free it from all charge of homologating the absurdities of quackery, or battening on the garbage of error.

"As a body, the profession are done with all tampering with homœopathy, and have renounced all intercourse with its professors. Individual exceptions may occasionally occur, for which we would prefer to seek an excuse rather in ignorance than in cupidity; but let those who have now deliberately recorded their opinion of this gross imposition remain true to the principles which they have voluntarily professed, and these exceptions will soon disappear. Let them act on the opinion they have declared, that there are three classes of men with whom they can have no friendly dealings: first, Real homœopathists; second, Bastard homœopathists; third, Those who on any pretence meet either of the former in consultation,—and the separation will be effectual and complete.

"Let homœopathists secure what amount of practice they can. A certain proportion of our race are born to be the victims of imposition, and it matters little whether they receive it at the hands of Dr. Goss or Dr. Ransford, Professor Holloway or Professor Henderson. But *we* must have no alliance with *them*. The grounds

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of our renunciation are clear and distinct. No new code of medical ethics is invented to supply them; no 'New Test Act' is framed to provide them; they rest on the acknowledged foundationss of common honesty and common sense.

"We shall deal no longer in mere generalities; our duty, alike to the profession and to ourselves, demands that we should sift this question to the bottom, expose the shallow sophistries by which it has been ingeniously perplexed, and exhibit the solid foundation on which the resolutions of those various bodies who repudiate homœopathy and the homœopathists are based.

"The time for indifference is past; further forbearance would be thrown away; we proclaim open war; our ethics admit of no accommodation, no compromise whatever.

"If homœopathy is to continue to exist, as a bitter and permanent satire on the folly and credulity of mankind, let it have schools and colleges, diplomas and professors of its own. One thing we must declare; our licenses shall not be given to cloak imposture, our right hands shall not be stretched out to encourage quackery, and still less shall our youth continue to be tampered with, and their principles undermined by the ridiculous folly, loose morality, and contemptible meanness of the men who, to the disgrace of those in authority be it said, occupy chairs in our Universities. True, they may not have courage to teach what they profess to believe; but this subterfuge shall not avail them: true, they may have dishonesty enough to teach what they profess to condemn; but this palpable immorality shall not shelter them. Their very presence in such situations must be injurious to the minds of ingenuous youth. If they speak what they believe, they instruct in error; if they are silent, they instruct in deception."

Review.

The British Journal of Homœopathy, No. XXXVIII. London; Highley, 32, Fleet-street.

THE October number of this quarterly is full of interesting matter. Those who take an interest in the history of medicine will read with great pleasure Dr. Scott's lectures on that subject, of which we have the second in this number of the journal. The incidental confirmations of the well-known fact that the ancients had *glimpses* of the homœopathic doctrine, are very interesting.

Those who appreciate the philosophic spirit, enlightened by a large catholic benevolence, will read Dr. Russell's oration with pleasure.

Mr. Sharp's "Inquiry into the Truth of Homœopathy" has been reprinted from this number of the journal, and should obtain a large circulation. Mr. Sharp is a man of science, a man of remarkable endowments and attainments; and his acceptance of the homœopathic doctrine and practice is a matter of congratulation to all those who are interested in our Cause.

We have next a paper on Typhilitis, which we have not yet had time to read.

The "Persecution of the Homœopathists" is the next article. This paper has also been reprinted, and should be largely circulated by all the well-wishers to homœopathy. To show the supineness and indifference of those to whom it belongs to push the circulation of such papers, we may observe that we have not seen any advertisement either of Mr. Sharp's "Inquiry," or of the "Persecution."

The Clinical Notes by Professor Henderson are resumed. There is a very interesting case, furnished by Dr. Black.

Amid a variety of interesting "Homœopathic Intelligence," there is a communication in the form of a letter from Dr. Madden on Mr. Rutter's new *magnetic indicator*, which is likely to be so valuable in affording a demonstration of the fact that our doses do act on the human organism.

In the account of the Homœopathic Congress at Paris, the writer does not mention that Drs. Quin, Curie, Dudgeon, Ackworth, D. Wielobycki, and Mr. Reynolds represented the homœopathists of Britain; nor does he mention the compliment that was paid to the British homœopathists, as well as to himself, in the election of Dr. Quin as general president of the Congress. Dr. Petroz was the president in ordinary, and Drs. Davet and Nunez were the vice-presidents.

The *British Journal of Homœopathy* is now, we believe, the *oldest* medical quarterly published in these kingdoms. It represents the medical science of the day, as well as the scientific aspect of homœopathy, and we should like to see the *Lancet* and the *Medical Times* enter on a dissection of it. Let it be one of the *specialties* that claim the attention of the *Medical Times*.

The following extract, showing the condition of homœopathy in France, will be read with great interest:—

"The state of homœopathy in France, as far as we could ascertain, is extremely satisfactory. The behaviour of the Faculty of Medicine in Paris towards homœopathic students, presents an agreeable contrast to that of sundry Faculties in our own country, of which we have had occasion to speak very freely. Our readers are aware that it is no unusual thing for a student to write and defend a homœopathic thesis before the Faculty of Medicine in Paris; we have already had occasion to mention several instances of this sort, and a thesis of this character is now before us, which was presented this

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year by a graduate, Dr. A. Leboucher. It is entitled, '*From the action of medicines on the healthy person, how far may we form conclusions respecting their therapeutic application?*'"

Such a thing as rejecting a candidate on suspicion of his homœopathic leaning is utterly unknown in France, and the recalling of a degree on account of the holder practising homœopathy would never be dreamt of. As regards this thesis, we may mention that a student cannot be sent back for that, whatever be the subject he chooses to write on; and an excellent safeguard against *plucking* candidates on account of homœopathic tendencies lies in the fact of the examinations being conducted publicly. The same is the case with the examinations in Germany, therefore it is that we never hear of such an enormity taking place either in France or Germany as that which happened to Mr. Pope in Edinburgh. We feel convinced that it is the secrecy with which their examinations are conducted that inspires the Edinburgh magnates to the commission of such Star-chamber acts as the rejection of Mr. Pope; and we believe it would be for the interest and advantage of homœopathists in particular, but also of all candidates and of the public, that the examination of all the licensing bodies should be conducted here, as on the Continent, in public. "They order these things better in France," and so they do also in many other countries that are immeasurably behind us in other respects, but where such inquisitorial proceedings as we witness here are not tolerated.

"The number of the homœopathic practitioners is rapidly increasing in France, and they are being reinforced by some of the most intelligent and distinguished amongst the rising generation of medical men; several of this year's converts are young men who have obtained the highest distinctions during their medical studies, and have acted as *internes* to some of the most distinguished professors of the old school.

"We paid a visit to Dr. Tessier's hospital. He has 100 beds, which are generally all occupied, and the arrangements of the hospital pleased us very much. The wards are airy and high, and the hospital is well situated and well served. Two English practitioners were attending regularly the practice of Dr. Tessier while we were there, and we doubt not this will become a seminary for the education and instruction of inquirers. Dr. Tessier is a man of the greatest talent, courteous and communicative, and thoroughly skilled in all the learning oi the old school, a first-rate pathologist, an admirable speaker, and with an engaging simplicity of manner. He informed us that he had never met with anything but uniform kindness and respect from the Central Bureau of Hospitals, although at various periods there have been medical men among them, and such is the case at present; not the slightest opposition has been offered to him in the change that he has carried out in the medical treatment of his patients. This behaviour of the directors of the hospital towards Dr. Tessier presents a striking contrast to that of the managers of the Edinburgh Infirmary towards Professor Henderson. In fact, in every phase of the homœopathic campaign in this country we have encountered an amount of narrow-minded bigotry and intolerance, that is without parallel in any part of the Continent, even in those countries where freedom of opinion on other points is attempted to be extinguished altogether, and ultra-conservatism and hatred of change is the ruling passion amongst their governors."

Miscellaneous.

On Tuesday next, October 21, the Hahnemann Medical Society will hold its next meeting.

Washington.—Washington has no resemblance whatever to Napoleon. He was not a despot. He founded the political liberty at the same time as the national independence of his country. He used war only as a means to peace. Raised to the supreme power without ambition, he descended from it without regret, as soon as the safety of his country permtted. He is the model for all democratic chiefs. Now you have only to examine his life, his soul, his acts, his thoughts, his words; you will not find a single mark of condescension, a single moment of indulgence, for the favourite ideas of democracy. He constantly struggled—struggled even to weariness and to sadness—against its exactions. No man was ever more profoundly imbued with the spirit of government, or with respect for authority. He never exceeded the rights of power, according to the laws of his country; but he confirmed and maintained them, in principle as well as practice, as firmly, as loftily, as he could have done in an old monarchical or aristocratical state. He was one of those who knew that it is no more possible to govern from below in a republic than in a monarchy—iu a democratic than in an aristocratic society.—*Family Friend.*

A cheap but good Tooth Powder.—Cut a slice of bread as thick as may be, into squares, and burn in the fire until it becomes charcoal, after which pound in a mortar, and sift through a fine muslin; it is then ready for use. I can answer for its *efficacy*, having used it *continually*, for upwards of *eight years*.—*Family Friend.*

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

INAUGURAL LECTURE

Delivered at the London Homœopathic Hospital, Thursday, 23d October,

By Dr. Quin.

In almost all ages the creations of the man of genius have been preceded by certain approximations to the truths involved in his discoveries. These approximations, however, generally lead to no results. They again lie dormant and reappear, at different epochs, in other but still imperfect forms, until his master mind, disdaining the beaten track by which experience slowly arrives at the attainment of truth, soars beyond all competitors, anticipates the knowledge of future ages, and grasps, as it were by a spirit of divination, some deep and long-hidden mysteries of nature. The discoveries are no longer barren in results. The wand of genius disencumbers them of their earthly envelope; experiment succeeds experiment, induction follows induction, until a system arises conveying knowledge and benefit to mankind.

Of the many approximations which preceded the great discoveries of our revered master, Hahnemann, the most curious, and perhaps the most nonsensical, are the notions of Crollin, a physician of considerable celebrity in his day. He was a disciple of Theophrastus Paracelsus, and flourished in the middle of the sixteenth century. He had a strange manner of interpreting the axiom of Hippocrates, *similia similibus curantur*, which Hahnemann adopted as the motto of his discovery and doctrine; for Crollin entertained the idea, that those substances in nature which resemble most closely the symptoms of diseases in external appearance, colour, and smell, are the most suitable for their cure. Strange and absurd as this may appear to us, there is no doubt that it is an approach towards homœopathy. Had he spoken of an internal similarity in the effects of the remedies, instead of an external resemblance, he would have been nearer the truth.

According to his scheme of treatment, *Gamboge* would, I suppose, have been employed in jaundice, *Digitalis* in purpura hæmorrhagica, *Agaricus Muscarius* in some pustular eruptions, and *Lycoperdon Bovista* in some round tumours. It is, however, worthy of remark, that some of our strictly homœopathic remedies are physiognomically such as he would have prescribed. Those remedies, in fact, where the internal or homœopathic similarity is accompanied by an external likeness in colour or form to certain signs of diseases. But the point where he approached still nearer to Hahnemann's discovery, was his condemnation of the practice of using large doses. He contended for the superior efficacy of very small quantities in the treatment of disease. He says, in the German edition of his works, "The soul, or the proper form of each substance, has more numerous and more powerful effects than the body and its matter can ever have; this is because the nature of everything depends upon its form. Many advantageous consequences follow this; as, firstly, because the sick can much more easily take and use a small quantity of medicine, seeing that many declare they would rather die than swallow whole cupfuls of coarse and dark-coloured potions; in the second place, because, by the repeated use of such small doses of medicine, the stomach is not injured, seeing that in consequence of their efficacy they meet with no obstacle."

It is interesting to reflect how near Crollin was to making the discovery upon which Hahnemann, two centuries later, founded his system of medicine. Had he not confounded the soul or dynamic power of the medicines with their external form, and had he tried them upon the healthy body, and watched and recorded their pathogenetic effects, there is reason to believe that a system of treatment somewhat similar to that now practised by us would have been discovered two centuries before Hahnemann brought it to light. Again and again, in the interval between Crollin's publication of his "Basilica Chymica" and the advent of Hahnemann, did scintillations of the truth appear, which required but the breath of genius to fan into a flame of light. In the works of Van

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Helmont, Sydenham, Hoffmann, Stahl, Boerhaave, and Haller, isolated foreshadowings of Hahnemann's discovery occur; but the author who has approached nearest in his presentiment of the truth of the homœopathic law is Dr. Stahl, a surgeon of a Danish regiment, who wrote, in the middle of the last century, "that the rule adopted in medicine, that diseases ought to be cured by opposing remedies (*contraria contrariis*), was altogether false and incongruous; that he was convinced that, on the contrary, the disease ought to be conquered by a remedy which would have the power of producing a similar state of suffering (*similia similibus*); that it was in this manner that burns were cured by approaching the affected part to the fire; that frozen members were restored by the application of snow or the coldest water; that inflammations and contusions were cured by distilled spirits; and that it was by following this law that he had cured the tendency to acid upon the stomach, by prescribing small doses of *Sulphuric Acid*, whilst other physicians employed in similar cases a number of absorbing powders without success." Hahnemann quotes the above observations in his Organon, and likewise Hippocrates, Boulduc, Dethardding, Bertholon, Thoury, and Stoerk, all of whom had some suspicion of the homœopathic law. He also quotes the practice of the common people to apply warmth to burns, and cold to frozen limbs.

In the works of men of genius in different ages, will be found allusions to precepts similar to those inculcated by Hahnemann. Cicero, Bacon, Shakespeare, and many others, have passages indicating a presentiment, or proving a knowledge of the homœopathic law to exist in their time. Cicero, in the "Tusculanes," among instructions given to cure a young man madly in love, recommends change of place, and the destruction of the old love by inspiring a new one, on the principle upheld by some, that one nail drives out another; in Cicero's own words—"loci denique mutatione tanquam ægroti non convalescentes sæpe curandus est: etiam novo quodam amore veterem amorem, tanquam clavo clavum ejiciendum putant." Shakespeare's knowledge of the homœopathic law *similia similibus curantur*, or "like cures like," is familiar to you all. In the comfort given by Benvolio to the lovesick Romeo, he says—

"Tut man! one fire burns out another's burning;
One pain is lessened by another's anguish;
Turn giddy, and be holp by backward turning;
One desperate grief cures with another's languish;
Take thou some new infection to thy eye,
And the rank poison of the old will die."

Thus, it is evident, that in different epochs, in ancient as well as in modern times, men of all countries, and of all classes and occupations—the orator, the philosopher, the physician, the poet, the peasant—had some presentiment or foreshadowing of the existence of the great law which guides the practice of the homœopathic physician, so often were men on the threshold, without entering the temple of truth. It was reserved for Hahnemann to discover *this universal law in its fullest scope*, and to found upon it a system of therapeutics, the most complete and the most beneficent. From all that he has done to perfect this system of medicine, it is evident that no other single mind could have accomplished what that of our great Master did: no one but he could, in the span of one man's life, have brought his discovery to such an advanced state. When one contemplates the innumerable experiments performed, and the various works published by him; when we reflect upon the incalculable blessing conferred on mankind by him, we know not which most to admire, the transcendant genius which produced the discovery, the unwearied industry with which he carried his researches into nature, the wonderful powers of observation which characterised all his investigations of disease, the ardent disposition and enthusiasm which bore him through all the difficulties that beset his path, or the high intellectual faculties and moral qualities, great fortitude and undaunted courage which enabled him to promulgate his doctrines throughout the universe, and found on an imperishable basis his system of medicine.

And here it becomes my painful duty to allude to those unjust and uncharitable attacks with which the memory of this great and good man is assailed, for his constant efforts to enlighten and benefit mankind, and to record my protest against the impediments which are thrown in the path of his followers to carry out his practice, and promulgate his doctrines. It is, however, but the repetition of the persecution which has attended upon most innovators and benefactors of their species; but the day is fast approaching when justice will be rendered to him.

The discovery of another man of genius will do more to induce those who have been opposed to his doctrines, to study and investigate the system of medicine he has bequeathed to us than all that his disciples can say or write,

The great barrier which has prevented the majority of the members of the medical

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profession from inquiring into homœopathy, has been their repugnance to entertain, for a moment, the idea that the exiguous doses of medicine administered by homœopathic practitioners can have any effect whatever upon disease. This barrier is now broken down by the brilliant discovery and beautiful invention of Mr. Rutter. No conscientious physician, whatever may be his preconceived opinions, who once witnesses the continuous stream of interesting experiments upon masses of different medicinal agents, and upon the homœopathic and infinitesimal doses of the same medicinal agents upon the human frame, by Mr. Rutter's instrument, will be justified in delaying the trial of homœopathy as a means of alleviating and curing the sufferings of his fellow-creatures. Mr. Rutter's instrument will, by opening the eyes of our professional brethren to the power which infinitesimal doses have upon living matter, I repeat, do more to hasten the investigation and adoption of homœopathy as a system of medicine, than years of efforts on the part of Hahnemann's followers, prejudiced as their allopathic colleagues are against them. They forget the old Latin philosophical axiom—

"Tota in minimis existit natura."

Mr. Rutter's discovery will recall it to their memory, and force conviction upon them.

How beautifully prophetic of the discovery of Hahnemann, and of the confirmation afforded of that discovery by the beautiful instrument invented by Mr. Rutter, is the observation of the Swedish philosopher, Swedenborg, who was born sixty-seven years before Hahnemann. He says, "It is a constant law of the organic body, that large, compound, or visible forms exist and subsist from smaller, simpler, and ultimately from invisible forms, *which act similarly to the larger ones, but more perfectly and more universally, and the least forms so perfectly and universally*, as to involve an idea representative of their entire universe."

Now, gentlemen, permit me to draw your attention to some more experiments with the instrument of Mr. Rutter, which have been made since I had the honour of addressing you last. They took place in the presence of twelve gentlemen, who accompanied me to Mr. Rutter's. Three of the twelve are non-professional, three are allopathic physicians, not believers in homœopathy, and the remaining six are homœopathic colleagues, medical officers of the two homœopathic hospitals. All the various experiments described in my last lecture, in relation to the modifications upon the normal current produced by the operator's left hand being touched by the index, thumb, or whole hand of a male, and by the forefinger, thumb, and whole hand of a female, etc., were repeated. And here I may remark, *en passant*, that in an excellent lecture delivered by Dr. Madden on Mr. Rutter's instrument, the night before last, I understand from a gentleman who was present, he took exceptions to what he erroneously supposes I stated in my lecture of the 9th of October respecting the difference between the effects of the male and the female upon the normal currents. Every one of my observations had reference solely to the effects of each sex through the hand of the operator, and not upon the instrument itself independent of the operator, as a more careful perusal of my lecture will show. There is no mention whatever in it of the *normal* currents of the male and female being different.

I understand that Dr. Madden also pointed out a discrepancy between the account of the effects of *Belladonna* and *Aconite*, and other medicines, as recorded by me, and those observed by himself. Whether the difference is owing to some idiosyncrasy I cannot at present determine, but future experiments will clear this up; meanwhile there is no doubt that the effects recorded in my lecture were produced by *Belladonna* and *Aconite*, not once, but over and over again, in the presence of several of the gentlemen now present. I have witnessed several hundred experiments upon Mr. Rutter's instrument, and I have never found it vary once; the same cause repeated invariably produces the same effect. Try the instrument as you will, it never errs; it has all the certainty of a mathematical equation. If any variation does occur, it is not the fault of the instrument, but arises from some influence upon the operator foreign to the experiment under investigation. When this influence is detected and removed, the instrument immediately responds to the proper influence of the substance experimented upon; the variation furnishing additional evidence of the truthfulness of the instrument.

After Mr. Rutter had gone through the series of beautiful experiments, of a purely physical and philosophical kind, he requested me to take the direction of the medicinal experiments (if I may so call them), for the satisfaction of myfriends present. Experiments with the seven following substances gave the following results, it being understood that the pendulum always was started in the normal action before each experiment.

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Some *Silver foil* placed in the hand of the operator changed the normal circular motion to the reverse circulatory movement, *i. e.*, from B round to G.

Platina foil changed the normal motion to the pendulum movement from B to A.

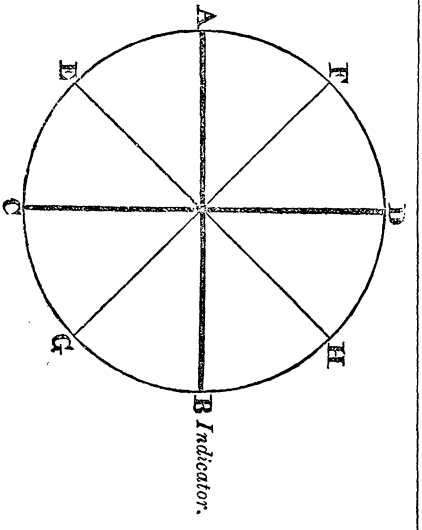
Gold leaf changed the normal circular motion to the reverse circular motion.

Copper foil gave the same direction as *Gold.*

Iron, in bar, changed the normal circular motion to an elliptical motion from H to E.

Zinc plate produced the pendulum motion from H to E.

Flint, in mass, gave pendulum movement from H to E.



When the above six metals and the *Flint* had been experimented upon, and the effects noted down, I delivered to the three allopathic physicians seven bottles, each bottle containing globules of one of the substances just experimented upon, viz., *Ferrum, Argentum, Cuprum, Aurum, Zincum, Platina*, and *Silicea*, and requested them to test, one after another, the seven different substances, by putting one globule in the left hand of the operator, and not to let either Mr. Rutter or myself know what globules they tried in succession, but to be careful to observe the effect of each globule upon the instrument, and compare it with the effects just produced by the larger quantities of the same metals.

One globule of *Platina* 6, placed in the hand of the operator, changed the normal current to the pendulum motion from B o A.

Cuprum 12, one globule, reversed the normal current.

Argentum 6, one globule, ditto.

Ferrum 30, one globule, produced immediately the elliptical motion from H to E.

Aurum 12, one globule, gave the reverse current.

Silicea 30, one globule, when placed upon the hand of the operator interfered with the normal current, but did not produce the same action as the *Flint*; but on being dissolved in a wineglass of distilled water, and a drop of the solution being placed on the hand, the normal motion was immediately changed to the pendulum movement from H to E, as had occurred from the mass of *Flint.* Mr. Rutter, who had shown the effects of the different poles of the *Flint* earlier in the experiments, explained why the globules undissolved did not act properly until dissolved. I understood him to say that he had discovered that all substances capable of being crystallized gave their special action from their base; and the solution of the globule in water, resolved it into its base, and its special action was immediately produced from H to E.

Zincum, one globule, immediately changed the normal to the pendulum motion from H to E.

Some of these experiments were repeated, and the result was the complete conviction on the part of the three allopathic physicians, of the undoubted action of each of the globules in changing the currents in precisely the same direction as the larger quantities of the metals and the *Flint* had done.

In corroboration of this conviction I may state, that one of the allopathic physicians then present has already recorded in print his opinion of the power of infinitesimal doses. He says: "The experiments were now conducted, in a great measure, with the view of testing the truth of homœopathy, or, at least, the power of infinitesimal doses, and I am bound to declare, as one perfectly free from bias, that whilst the experiments were of the *most searching character* that we could all devise (whether disciples of the school or not), they eventuated in every case in proving the power of the infinitesimal agent. Mr. Rutter, I should observe, is no homœopathist. There was not a single failure, although, as I have said, all our ingenuities were taxed to raise difficulties. Dr. Quin produced some globules which had been in his possession twenty-five years; their effects were perfect."

Some *Fluid Mercury* was put in the operator's hand, and the normal was changed to the pendulum motion from H to E.

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One globule of *Mercurius solubilis* produced precisely the same effect.

Two higher attenuations of *Mercurius solubilis* produced the same effect.

Black Oxide of Mercury ditto.

Strontian in mass gave pendulum motion from F to G.

One globule of *Strontian* 18, gave precisely the same action.

One globule of *Baryta carbonica* produced the same motion as the *Strontian*.

Black Oxide of Manganese, in powder, reversed the normal current.

One globule of *Manganesium* 28, gave precisely the same action.

One globule of *Arsenicum* 30, put in the hand of the operator, gave reverse circular motion, evidently an effect of the *Manganese*. Operator washed his hands.

Another globule of *Arsenicum* was tried, and gave pendulum motion from H to G, not the proper action of *Arsenicum*, which was prevented probably by the effect of the *Soda* in the soap with which the operator had washed his hands. Other globules of lower attenuations were tried, but the proper action was not produced; the hands were again washed, but in plain water, and one globule of *Arsenicum* 30, was placed on the back of the hand where no previous medicine had been put, when the pendulum came immediately to a dead stop *i. e.*, the proper action of *Arsenicum*.

One globule from each of three other very high attenuations of *Arsenicum* was put on the back of the hand, and the pendulum each time instantly came to a dead stop.

Some *Potash*, in crystal, was placed on the hand, and gave the reverse normal current.

One globule of *Causticum* 30, gave the same action.

One globule of *Arsenicum* 6, placed on the hand, brought the normal current to a dead stop. Some *Carbonate of Iron* was put upon the hand, the globule of *Arsenicum* still remaining; the normal current was restored. On the globule of *Arsenicum* being removed, the elliptical motion of the *Iron* was then immediately set up.

You remember the effect which dead animal matter produced upon the instrument, as exemplified by a dead fly, when put upon the operator's hand, bringing the pendulum to a dead stop. I was desirous of ascertaining how far a globule of each of the animal substances employed as remedies in homœopathy would coincide in effect with the influence of the dead fly.

Accordingly, one globule of *Lachesis* 30, was placed on the operator's hand, the pendulum having at the time the normal circular motion; the effect was to stop it immediately.

One globule of *Sepia* 30, had the same effect.

One globule of *Castor* 12, ditto.

One globule of *Cancer fluviatilis* 3, ditto.

One globule of *Oleum animale*, ditto.

One globule of *Cochineal*, ditto.

One globule of *Oniscus asellus*, ditto.

You will observe, that all of the above animal medicines had exactly the same effect as the dead animal matter, in bringing the instrument to a stop.

But now follow experiments with other homœopathic medicines extracted from animal matter, where the results were different.

One globule of *Cantharis* 30, (the Spanish fly), reversed the normal motion, causing the pendulum to go from B round to G.

One globule of *Aranea diadema* produced the normal action.

One globule of *Carbo animale* caused the pendulum to pass to and fro from F to G.

One globule of *Moschus* caused the normal circular action, but very feeble.

These last four experiments have only been performed once each, and as the experiments with all the above medicines followed one another in rather quick succession, they will require to be repeated several times before we shall be authorized to conclude that they are all quite correct.

I shall now point out to you some expements of the greatest possible interest to the homœopathic physician, which demonstrate in the most triumphant manner the correctness of Hahnemann's wonderful observations upon the powers of certain substances to antidote the effects of various medicines upon the body. I shall confine myself this evening chiefly to *Camphor* and *Coffea*, which, as you are well aware, are the antidotes most frequently recommended by Hahnemann against the action of many vegetable, and some mineral and animal substances.

We will first examine the influence of *Camphor* upon the motions produced upon the instrument by those medicines, against the effects of which it is employed as an antidote in homœopathy; and then test the influence of *Coffea* upon the effects of those remedies against which it is used as an antidote. You will bear in mind that *Camphor* produces normal rotatory motion, and *Coffea* a diagonal motion from H to E.

Upon *Cantharides* being placed in the left hand of the operator, the normal circular current from left to right is, as I have already shown you, reversed and moves from right to left; upon *Camphor* being placed with the *Cantharides* in the hand, the motion of the pendulum is stopped.

Acidum nitricum, one globule, causes the reverse circular motion; on *Camphor*, one

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globule, being added, the normal action is produced.

Acidum phosphoricum, one globule, causes the pendulum to stop; on *Camphor*, one globule, being added, the normal action is produced.

Ammonium carbonicum, one globule, produces the normal action; on the addition of one globule of *Camphor*, the motion immediately stops.

Arnica, one globule, produced the reverse rotation; on *Camphor*, one globule, being added, the motion is stopped.

Baryta carbonica, one globule, changed the normal action to pendulum motion from F to G; on *Camphor*, one globule, being added, the normal action was immediately produced.

Bryonia, one globule, produced reverse rotation; *Camphor*, one globule, being also placed in the hand, brought the motion to a dead stop.

Drosera rotundifolia, one globule, produced the pendulum motion from H to E; on *Camphor*, one globule, being added, the motion stopped.

Lycopodium, one globule, produced a very uncertain action on the instrument; conjoined with *Camphor*, the normal rotation immediately set in.

I will now point out to you the influence of *Coffea* upon the action of medicines to which it is an antidote.

Phosphorus, one globule, brought the normal action immediately to a dead stop; conjoined with one globule of *Coffea*, the normal rotation was produced.

Belladonna, one globule, arrested the normal rotation, and brought the pendulum to a dead stop; on being conjoined with *Coffea*, one globule, the normal rotation immediately commenced.

Chamomilla produced an immediate stop upon the normal current; on one globule of *Coffea* being placed in the hand along with the *Chamomilla*, the normal rotation immediately commenced.

Nux vomica, one globule, stopped the instrument; on *Coffea*, one globule, being added, the normal rotation was put in motion.

Valeriana caused the normal motion to cease; and when conjoined with *Coffea*, the pendulum took the normal rotatory motion.

In one of the above experiments, one globule of *Belladonna* seemed to produce no change upon the normal action, but upon the same globule being dissolved, the motion of the instrument was immediately brought to a dead stop; after which, on *Coffea*, one globule, being added, the normal current came back again; and on the *Belladonna* being taken away, the pure action of the *Coffea* developed itself, and the instrument moved diagonally to and fro from H to E.

One globule of *Coffea* was put in the hand, whilst the normal rotation was going on, it immediately changed it to a diagonal motion, from H to E, and on one globule of *Pulsatilla* being put on the wrist, the normal current was restored; afterwards one globule of *Arsenicum* was placed on the hand, and the pendulum immediately stopped.

Another circumstance connected with these curious and beautiful experiments is worthy of being mentioned to you. Several of these experiments were performed with homœopathic medicines, some very recently prepared, and others which I have had in my possession 2, 4, 12, 16, 20, and 25 years. Some of them were made by myself, others bought in Leipsic, Dresden, Vienna, Naples, Paris, and London; and none of them failed in producing each its characteristic influence upon the motion of the instrument.

The different experiments which I have laid before you, and the many modifications which, I have demonstrated to you various medicines have upon one another, illustrate, in a most remarkable and beautiful manner, the soundness and correctness of one of Hahnemann's discovery, that the virtues of medicines do not depend upon the quantity in which they are prescribed. No sensible difference has as yet been detected between the effect produced by a substance in a large mass, and the same substance in the minutest homœopathic dose.

In recording the various experiments which I have brought before you, I must hold Mr. Rutter entirely free from any responsibility for any errors which may have crept into my description of the powers of his beautiful instrument. I have mentioned, at an earlier part of the evening, that many of the experiments were made in very rapid succession, and future experiments, more carefully and deliberately made, may possibly prove some of the results to have arisen from the lingering effects of the substance immediately preceding the one under experiment; but in the present stage of the discovery, any slight errors of description do not in the slightest militate against the extraordinary powers of the instrument. The essential and paramount fact at present is that, thanks to Mr. Rutter's discovery, there exists a means of proving that the most infinitesimal quantities affect the human frame in a most visible manner. In a future lecture, I shall have a variety of other interesting facts to bring before you.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25TH, 1851.

THE MAGNETOSCOPE.

THE inventor of this instrument has called it "magnetoscope." The interest attached to the experiments made with it to prove that the homœopathic remedies, in the minutest doses given by homœopathists, do act on the human organism, is of the most intense kind.

Our readers will find another excellent lecture on the subject by Dr. QUIN in our present number.

On Tuesday evening Dr. MADDEN delivered to a crowded audience a very excellent lecture, before the Hahnemann Medical Society. He showed a great variety of most interesting experiments with the Magnetoscope. Nothing could be more clear and perspicuous than his language, and no experiments could be more beautifully performed than his were.

It would be very difficult to overrate the importance of the Magnetoscope. It is quite clear that Mr. RUTTER has not only invented the instrument, but that he discovered the action upon it of small particles of matter, and also the magnetic condition of all bodies, in the investigation of which he has no doubt been ably assisted by Dr. MADDEN, who naturally directed Mr. RUTTER'S attention to experiments with homœopathic preparations. No one can see the experiments of Mr. RUTTER or Dr. MADDEN without seeing the applicability of the instrument as a test of the homœopathic remedies, of the fact of their acting on the human body. But it is also clear that the full credit is due to Dr. MADDEN of having immediately instituted an elaborate series of experiments to ascertain the value of the instrument to homœopathy in particular. He has had the start—was the first on the course, and has brought to the task qualities and attainments which admirably fit him to conduct and systematise such experiments. But the field is so large that there is plenty of room for all to work in it, who have the necessary time, patience, perseverance, and other qualifications. Honour to whom honour is due: let every one who works have the praise due to him. While therefore we give Dr. MADDEN full credit for having at once seen the value of the instrument with respect to homœopathy, and for having at once instituted his series of careful and most satisfactory experiments, we are very glad to see Dr. QUIN actively engaged also in experimenting with the Magnetoscope; and we know that others will be soon engaged in like manner.

NOTHING but sheer impertinence can give force to allopathic persecution. Day by day and week by week, we find the advocates of the old school of medicine raising objections to the reformed principles sought to be introduced through the disciples of Hahnemann, not on tangible grounds, but on the mere shallow pretexts which arise from prejudice and well-accredited vindictiveness.

The certainty that these self-constituted logicians have set themselves up in judgment on a question which they cannot appreciate, is evidenced by the circumstance that they refuse to test what is propounded for their edification, according to the ordinary rules of scientific investigation without endeavouring to explain away the principles which have been so successfully evolved through the homœopathic treatment of the last few years; they, despite the astonishing cures performed, or the amelioration produced upon suffering humanity, revile them as being the representatives of a new species of quackery, and brand those who practise in the school as "globulistic impostors."

Now, would it not be better, with the view of setting the public right upon the question at issue, to pursue some calmer and more philosophic mode of inquiry. Vile invective and unhesitating misrepresentation will never achieve a result such as allopaths desire to bring about. It can only be after a laborious and patient inves-

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tigation of the character by which medical knowledge has been previously built up, that any individual can be permitted to call in question the truth of the doctrines of Hahnemann. If the allopathic professors will accept the challenge thus offered them, all who have embraced homœopathy will, we are assured, be delighted to afford them an opportunity for following out the inquiry.

It is not creditable to the parties who take upon themselves the conduct of publications associated with the progress of medical science, to adopt a one-sided view of the struggle now excited between allopathy and homœopathy. All individuals connected with the former must be "true and honourable" in their profession; the latter (because they are homœopathists) can only be "black sheep" and the "perpetrators of a sham." Would it not be more charitable in those who apparently possess so much knowledge, to endeavour to demonstrate to their less intelligent *confrères* the fallacies which they so loudly protest against, and which they announce to be so self-evident? Every such attempt would be received with becoming consideration; whereas the contrary course merely causes derision at the expense of those who have assumed the high office they have not been called upon to fill.

Waiting patiently for some fresh manifestation of the gall-and-wormwood bitterness of our antagonists, and remaining contented *ad interim* with the steadily increasing prosperity of our Cause, we shall be prepared to bide our time, and attend the issue of coming events.

EXTRACTS FROM THE LANCET.

"It goes well," as the French say. In the following leader of our amiable contemporary, it is made to appear that Dr. Francis Hawkins, registrar of the College of Physicians, has been a party to making Dr. Sydney Hanson, one of our colleagues, eligible to the office of physician to the Leicester Infirmary: and Sir Henry Halford, M.P. for Leicestershire, and son of the eminent physician, so long Court physician, and president of the aforesaid College, has been another party thereto. In another place will be found the correspondence between Mr. Newman and *Parisius*, the present president of the College.

"In the month of April, 1851, we expressed a determination not to refer unnecessarily to the past, but to publish every case in which physicians and surgeons of repute allowed themselves to be mixed up with the doings of the homœopathic quacks. Since that time our promise has been faithfully kept. Various anonymous writers have charged one or two parties high in the profession with homœopathic meddlings and consultations, and we have been accused of partiality because the accusations have not been published. The answer is, that they have not come before us with the authenticity of the accusers, and therefore but one course has been open. On the present occasion it becomes our duty to state some almost incredible circumstances respecting a physician whom position and connection should have kept far aloof from all dealings with globulists, or irregular practices of any and every kind. We shall hail with pleasure any refutation or explanation, but we are bound to say that the following circumstances are related on the statements of gentlemen of undoubted character and veracity.

"Some time since it was proposed at the Leicester Infirmary that the physicians who might be candidates for office in the institution should be legally qualified to practise; that is, that they should either be doctors or licentiates of Oxford and Cambridge, or graduates of other universiti , and fellows or licentiates of the College of Physician of London.

"It is known that the late Sir Henry Halford, when Dr. Vaughan, practised in Leicester, where his family had, and still has, considerable influence. The present baronet has also represented that county for several years. To this proposal respecting the eligibility of physicians, an amendment was moved by Sir Henry Halford, to the effect that any person qualified to practise as physician in any part of the three kingdoms should be eligible for election, which really meant any man having an English, Irish, or Scotch degree alone. Although there are some degrees of the United Kingdom of no great value, we could hardly quarrel with this liberality, had no censurable motive worked behind. Still it was hardly seemly for the son of the late president of the College of Physicians to make an indirect attack on a body, who, in the person of the late Sir Henry Halford, conferred the chief honour of which his family can boast. This is explained, however, by the accident that the present baronet has become a prey to the homœopaths and their fooleries.

"But we now come to the reason lying at the bottom of these proceedings. In the event of a vacancy at the Leicester Infirmary, the only person practising as a physician, and eligible under the proposed regulations, is Sydney Hanson, a person possessing a Glasgow degree, and busily engaged in the practice of globulism. It was to render this man eligible that the amendment was proposed, and it is believed that the Halford interest would be strong enough to

SUPPLEMENT

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carry such a candidate into office. The most extraordinary part of the history still remains to be told. The amendment given in by Sir Henry Halford was, we are assured, in the handwriting of Dr. Francis Hawkins, registrar of the College of Physicians, and one of the elects of the College. Dr. Hawkins is, we believe, related by marriage to Sir Henry Halford. We are aware that the College of Physicians has no provincial jurisdiction. But in any case, he should have been the last person to act against the spirit of the College of which he is one of the chief officers. That he should have been aware of the purpose which the amendment had in view is incredible. We make this publication with great pain, for we are loath to give the enemies of regular medicine such a triumph as that which it necessarily involves; but it is an absolute necessity in the present state of things to place such matters on public record.

"Our columns are open to Dr. Hawkins, and we shall hail with pleasure any satisfactory explanation of the matters we have referred to. We may mention, in conclusion, that on more than one occasion our correspondents have inquired how it comes that Dr. Hawkins can retain the post of physician to the Duchess of Gloucester, when it is well known that that noble personage is herself a globulist, busily engaged in the patronage and dissemination of this vile form of quackery."

We cannot omit another exquisite testimony to our progress, from the columns of the same unfriendly friend, the *Lancet*. It seems, then, that after all his blustering, the College of Surgeons has not yet been bullied into an official condemnation of homœopathy. Alack, for the poor *Lancet*. The steel instrument is condemned to rust with the lance of Don Quixote, and the spear of Thersites; and the medical journal may pass away into the land of the forgotten. Is all thy vigour, is all thy athlete-like hardihood come to this, mighty Editor?

"The meeting of the Council of the College of Surgeons on Thursday last has not led to any very satisfactory results. While the condemnation of globulism and the tricks of globulists was unanimous, the Council decided that they would wait to see what steps the censors of the College of Physicians were disposed to take, the council feeling that in such a matter the *medical* authorities should be the first to act. We believe the legal advisers of the College of Surgeons, aided by some of the members of the Council, were directed to frame an answer to the gentlemen who have memorialized the College, embodying this opinion, and at the same time conveying the most unreserved condemnation of homœopathy.

"In our last week's number, we mentioned that the president of the College of Physicians had summarily refused to examine a homœopath for the license of the College. We believe that on Tuesday the president and censors met, to revise the list of fellows, licentiates, and extra-licentiates. We trust they have resolved to omit the names of Dr. Mackintosh, of Torquay, and Dr. Smart, of Scarborough, both extra-licentiates, and both figuring in the *Medical Directory* for 1851, and in various homœopathic documents, as homœopaths. We believe these parties to be the only persons connected with the College avowedly practising globulism; It cannot be supposed, that if they have the power, the present censors will be delicate about the expurgation of the College list, and this, with an enforcement of the laws of the College respecting consultations with improper persons, would be a sufficient precedent for the College of Surgeons. The Council of the College of Surgeons have now thrown the responsibility of tolerating homœopathy upon the College of Physicians, and we trust the latter body will act promptly and decisively in the matter."

EXTRACTS FROM THE MEDICAL TIMES.

"The Medical Society of London has resumed its meetings. It has done so by endeavouring, as far as in it lay, to put down irregular practice, especially the leading delusion of the day, homœopathy. We are glad to see this. It is a step in the right direction, and we hope the Society will obtain that support from the profession it at present so much requires."

It seems the fellows of that Society are not in that happy accord on other subjects, which they enjoy in reference to their denunciation of homœopathy.

"It was stated by one of the officers of the Society, that the funds of the Society would not allow the publication of its anti-homœopathic resolutions. Several members expressed their readiness to come forward with their subscriptions to promote this end! When they are officially published we shall be glad to give them circulation."

The Editor of the *Medical Times* takes notice of the experiments of Mr. Ceely and Mr. Badcock to reproduce the *vaccine* disease in the cow, by inserting into the animal the small-pox virus. We have always known that this disease in the cow was derived from small-pox in the human subject. The Editor of the *Medical Times* shows his unfitness to appreciate the doctrine of Hahnemann by his assertion: "the question of the essential *identity* of the two diseases is determined." The origin of the cow-pox disease has been determined; but it is a *similar*, not *identical* disease, when compared with small-pox. The disease of the human subject has been modified by the constitution of the cow. We hope Mr. Badcock will publish his experiments with the series of daguerreotypes.

"Oh, John Bull! verily thy simplicity is

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great, thy swallow is large, thy maw capacious! Puff them well, advertise them widely, and you take at the same time, and with equally implicit confidence in their virtues, thirty-two puncheons of 'effective ingredients,' three million of bottles of the 'remedy,' and globules of charcoal diluted to the decillionth degree, Warburg's pyramids of physic, and Hahnemann's invisible drug! in your eyes Warburg and Hahnemann are both equally virtueful, especially Master Hahnemann."

The Editor boasts that he extinguished Warburg by an article; why has he had to try so many articles on Hahnemann?

In one of his notices to correspondents, the Editor says: "Minute doses of *Belladonna* have been prescribed as prophylactic of scarlatina, with great apparent advantage, years before the disciples of Hahnemann were in *esse*. It has remained for an Editor of the present day to claim the writers of such prescriptions as participating in their delusion" (that of the homœopathists). We do not know who claimed Sir James Clarke and Dr. Locock as homœopaths, because they prescribed small doses of *Belladonna*, as a preventive of scarlatina. These eminent physicians, it may have been said, had derived that practice from the homœopathists, and were so far using homœopathic treatment. The assertion of the Editor is a rash one, that *Belladonna* was so used years before the disciples of Hahnemann were in being,—before Hahnemann declared its prophylactic virtue. Let him name author, language, edition, volume, and page. We give him the whole sweep of medical literature, from Hippocrates to Hahnemann. But where are his promised *specialties?*

DR. MADDEN'S EXPERIMENTS WITH MR. RUTTER'S MAGNETOSCOPE.

(Communicated).

Dr. Madden, of Brighton, delivered a lecture before the Hahnemann Medical Society, on Tuesday last, on the observations he has been engaged with for the last three months, in reference to the action of medicinal substances on the Magnetoscope. The meeting was very numerously attended both by members and others, as these observations have created no little sensation amongst those interested in homœopathy.

Dr. Madden began by stating that in the early part of August, his attention was directed by Mr. Rutter to the action of common salt upon the motions of the pendulum attached to the Magnetoscope, which action Mr. Rutter supposed to be due to the crystalline arrangement of that substance. He (Dr. Madden) surmised that this action might be owing to something else, and he immediately commenced a series of experiments with various medicinal substances, and found that they each produced an action on the direction of the pendulum, in most cases differing widely from each other. He thereupon called Mr. Rutter's attention to this remarkable fact, and since that time Mr. Rutter and Dr. Madden have been engaged in earnest in carrying on an extensive series of experiments; some of the most curious of which Dr. Madden exhibited before the Society.

The first indications of the effects producible by the magnetic currents existing in our bodies upon the pendulum, were given by Dr. Mayo, in a work of his that appeared in the early part of this year, wherein attention was directed to the old and familiar experiment of a gold ring suspended in a tumbler from a silken thread, and held as steadily as possible betwixt the finger and thumb; immediately commencing a pendulum movement, which gradually attained to such a height as to cause the ring to stick against the sides of the tumbler. Dr. Mayo applied this old experiment to the discovery of the *od* or *odylic* force in bodies, and ascertained that he could thereby detect the axis of a crystal which had been cut. Mr. Rutter, who was a gentleman of the highest attainments in physical science, had immediately commenced a series of investigations on an instrument, which he invented for the purpose, which secured much greater accuracy than the original pendulum held between the fingers. Dr. Madden exhibited all his experiments upon an instrument so contrived that the operator could not voluntarily influence the movements of the pendulum. He showed that, when he grasped the brass knob with the finger and thumb, a circular movement in the same direction as the watch-hand on the dial-

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plate was produced, which was called the direct motion. When he touched the knob with the forefinger only, the pendulum vibrated across the table of the instrument, say from north to south (though the points of the compass have nothing to do with its vibration); and that when he applied the thumb only, the vibration was from east to west, or at right angles to the former. A female, on touching the instrument in the same manner, produced exactly the same motions of the pendulum; but what was very remarkable was that, on a male setting the pendulum a-going in the normal direct manner, if a female grasped his hand the motion was instantly reversed. The same extraordinary circumstance took place, if the pendulum were set a-going in the normal direction by the female influence, and a male grasped her hand.

The male influence was shown to exist in a letter written by one of that sex several weeks previously, when laid upon the operator's hand the current was immediately roused. Sleep, Mr. RUTTER had discovered, roused all the currents, and a letter written by a somnambulic female in the sleeping state, when put into Dr. MADDEN's hand, without his knowledge of the circumstances under which it was written, had no influence in rousing the current.

Some substances acted by stopping all action in the pendulum, such were *Bone*, *Arsenic*, *Opium*, and when the operator stood upon the isolating stool with glass legs, the motion was equally stopped; but Dr. MADDEN showed that when he took two of these stopping agents into his hand at once, as *Bone* and *Arsenic*, the normal current was instantly restored; or when he stood on the isolating stool, and took a piece of *Bone* into his hand, the normal current was at once set up, hence Dr. MADDEN infers that the agency producing the motions is not telluric. In this phenomenon Dr. MADDEN differed from Mr. RUTTER; for when the latter stood on the isolating stool, *Bone* held in the hand produced no action; but if he took both, *Bone* and *Arsenic*, or *Opium*, the normal current was at once restored. This power of *Arsenic* in stopping the normal current was exhibited as well by a single globule of the 40,000th dilution as by a quantity of the first trituration. *Sulphur* in substance, in the 30th dilution and in the 7,000th dilution, had equally the effect of reversing the natural current. To exhibit the effects of trituration, Dr. MADDEN took some untriturated *Lycopodium* into his hand, which had no influence on the pendulum, but a portion of same *Lycopodium* in the first trituration produced an immediate effect. To illustrate the principle of *similia similibus*, Dr. MADDEN showed that whilst *Arsenic* and *Opium* separately stopped the motion, when taken together into the hand the normal motion was immediately set up. Dr. MADDEN then created much amusement by exhibiting what he called the principle of *contraria contrariis*. *Belladonna* and *Cantharis* both cause an elliptical pendulum motion in the north-west direction; but the one causes the direct motion, the other the reverse. When both were placed in the operator's hand, there was at first a long pause, and, at length, after an apparently painful struggle of currents, resembling the convalescence under allopathy, the normal current was feebly restored. Dr. MADDEN exhibited many other most interesting and satisfactory experiments, which excited great admiration, and called forth repeated bursts of applause. He called attention to the circumstance that in Dr. QUIN's lecture there were numerous and most important errors, probably occasioned by the hurry with which it had been composed. He showed that out of sixteen actions of medicines recorded by Dr. QUIN, the actions of twelve differed from those produced by the same medicines on himself, and though the motions produced by several of the medicines differed, according as they were acting through Mr. RUTTER or himself, he had since ascertained that the actions, as described by Dr. QUIN, were in many instances not the same as those actually produced on Mr. RUTTER. Dr. MADDEN said it was much too soon to lay down any rules as regards the actions of the different me-

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dicines on the pendulum, as a great many anomalies presented themselves which required explanation, and different individuals, in many cases, produced a very different influence on the actions of the medicines.

In conclusion, we may observe that every one was highly gratified by the eloquent lectures and interesting experiments of Dr. MADDEN, and whilst the sole honour of the discovery of this wonderful instrument belongs to Mr. RUTTER, to Dr. MADDEN incontestably belongs the credit of having directed Mr. RUTTER's attention to the different actions of medicinal substances, and particularly homœopathic agents, and of having indefatigably and unremittingly pursued, for near three months, daily investigations upon this point, which is so interesting and important to the homœpathists. We trust that Mr. RUTTER and Dr. MADDEN will continue to pursue the researches they have so auspiciously commenced; and we anxiously look forward to the time when their experiments and investigations shall have been so perfected and matured, which can only be after long months of careful assiduity, as to enable homœopathy to derive all the advantages which we anticipate will accrue to it from this valuable discovery.

[We request our readers to suspend their judgment and opinions concerning the anomalies and discrepancies in the experiments heretofore made with the Magnetoscope, by Mr. RUTTER and Dr. MADDEN. The field is so vast—what has yet been done so little in comparison with that vastness—that we must pause, and watch and wait.—ED.]

THE MAGNETOSCOPE OR "ODOMETER."

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—The further we advance in knowledge and science, the more does it appear that there is "nothing new under the sun" (not even homœopathy itself), as the adage hath it. In common with most of your readers, I felt, on witnessing Mr. Rutter's marvellous experiments, so clearly described by Dr. Quin in the *Homœopathic Times*, 18th October, 1851, that phenomena calculated to impress us more and more with awe had been only just discovered. It was my good fortune, however, to hear Dr. Madden's admirable lecture delivered before the Hahnemann Medical Society, on Tuesday evening last, as well as to witness the beautiful experiments so neatly and scientifically arranged by him. It flashed across my mind, at the mention of Dr. Mayo's name, as the writer by whose recent work Mr. Rutter had been stimulated to prosecute the inquiries which promise such boundless results to science, that I had read a description of some experiments very similar to those I had seen performed by Mr. Rutter and Dr. Madden. The next day I had a search in my library, when the very work alluded to, and which I read last June, came into view.

The title of the work is, "ON THE TRUTHS contained in POPULAR SUPERSTITIONS, with an account of MESMERISM; by Herbert Mayo, M.D., formerly Senior Surgeon of Middlesex Hospital; Professor of Anatomy and Physiology in King's College; Professor of Comparative Anatomy in the Royal College of Surgeons, London, F.R.S., F.G.S., etc."—Second edition.

No doubt your professional readers are well acquainted with the philosophic attainments of Dr. Herbert Mayo, who, when about to reach the zenith of fame, was, through ill health, obliged to retire from London practice to sojourn on the banks of the Rhine, where he now superintends a water-cure establishment, and where, it would appear, he still luxuriates in philosophic investigations. Dr. H. Mayo does not himself claim the discovery; but he shall tell his own tale. It seems probable that the discovery, like many others, no doubt, resting upon the dusty shelves of our libraries, may have been overlooked, from the announcement being the twelfth and last letter but one of the second edition, and not contained in the first, yet I have just been informed that *Chambers's Journal* took notice of the experiment with the ring some time back.

He commences thus:—

"LETTER XII.

"THE DIVINING RING; OR, THE ODOMETER.

"Qualis ab incepto" shall be the motto of this twelfth letter, the materials of which were undreamt of by me, when some three months ago I remitted the new and corrected edition of 'the Letters' to England. The occasion which led me to the knowledge of the facts I have to mention, and their bearing, tally curiously with what has gone before.

"For it is again winter, with its long solitary evenings, against the tedium of which I had to seek a resource; and I bethought me, this time, of occupying myself with looking into the higher mathematics. Accordingly I sent to Herr Caspari, professor of mathematics in the gymnasium at Boppard, to solicit him to give me the instruction and assistance which I needed; and he obligingly came, in the evening of the 31st of December, to sit by my bedside and converse with me. And I went over preliminarily my schoolboy recollections of the elements of mathematics, and was pleased at finding the remembered difficulties vanish before the explanations of my well-informed tutor. And I learned, to my vast delight, that the inability

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under which asymptotes labour to touch hyperbolas is a purely arbitrary one, like the legislative prohibition not to marry with one's deceased wife's sister; but that, unlike the latter, it can be evaded; inasmuch as an asymptote, by changing its name and forfeiting its properties, may at any time unite itself with the object to which it had before been infinitely near. Again, I found my boyish distrust and disbelief in sines and cosines replaced by an intelligent and well-satisfied acquaintance with them. And I even obtained a glimpse of the higher analysis itself, pointing with its unerring finger to the exact height, else unmeasurable, at which my candle should stand in the centre of my round table, to shed upon it its maximum of illumination.

"A liberal hour being over, and my dolphin-like recreation ended, my new friend entered into desultory chat, and asked me, among other things, if I had not written something on the divining-rod. I replied to his question by giving him the copy I had of 'the Letters;' and promised, as a New-Year's gift for the morrow, to present him with the implement itself. And I lent him Von Reichenbach's book on Od, with which he was unacquainted. Then he told me that there were two or three experiments, possibly akin to trials with the divining-rod, with which he had been familiar for years, and which he had shown to many without receiving an explanation of them. He said that as far as he knew they were original and his own; and that he would willingly show them to me. He wanted only for that purpose a piece of silver, a gold ring, and a bit of silk. These were easily found. And he attached the silk to the ring, which he then held suspended by the silk over a silver spoon, at a distance of half an inch.

"Shortly the ring shaped its first vague movements into regular oscillations in a direction to and fro, or towards and from Herr Caspari. I will call such oscillations *longitudinal*. It was evident to me, that this phenomenon must be akin to the motion of the divining-rod.

"Then, at Herr Caspari's suggestion, I summoned the maid, who was directed to place her hand in Herr Caspari's unengaged hand. On her doing so, the oscillations of the ring became *transverse*. How pregnant was this fact! An Od-current had been established between the two experimenters; and the apparent influence of the two metals on each other had been modified.

"Herr Caspari told me that, as far as he knew, these experiments would only succeed when made with silver and gold, and a bit of silk. But he said that he had still another experiment to show me, which he did the following day. He said he had a little pea-like bit of something, which he had been told was *schwefel-kies*, that exhibited another motion: when held suspended by silk over either of the fingers, it rotated one way; when held suspended over the thumb, it rotated in the contrary direction.

"Herr Caspari left me, after agreeing to assist me in the further examination of these phenomena; and the New Year coming in found me in busy thought how to elicit, through variations of Herr Caspari's experiments, some important physical evidence as to the reality and agency of Von Reichenbach's Od-force, which its discoverer now holds to be the same with the diamagnetic influence.

"In ten days we have succeeded in disentangling the confused results which attended our first experiments; and as I see no likelihood of extending them at present in any new direction, I present them to the reader now, as complete as I can at present render them. I have used the term 'divining-ring,' partly because I have a vague idea of having seen Herr Caspari's first facts adverted to in some publication under that name; partly because it is really thus far deserved:—if you place a piece of silver on a table, and lay over the table and it an unfolded silk pocket-handkerchief, you can discover where the silver lies by trying with a suspended ring each part of the surface. The ring will only oscillate when held over the silver. But now I have to substitute another name for the sake of precision.

"A fragment of anything, of any shape, suspended either by silk or cotton thread, the other end of which is wound round the first joint either of the forefinger or of the thumb, I will call an *Odometer*. The length of the thread does not matter. It must be sufficient to allow the ring, or whatever it is, to reach to about half an inch from the table, against which you rest your arm or elbow to steady your hand. If there be nothing on the table, the ring or its equivalent soon becomes stationary. Then you test the powers of the odometer by placing upon the table under it what substances you please. These I would call *Od-subjects*.

"I have armed the odometer with gold, silver, lead, zinc, iron, copper; with coal, bone, horn, dry wood, charcoal, cinder, glass, soap, wax, sealing-wax, shell-lac, sulphur, earthenware. As od-subjects I have likewise tried most of the substances above enumerated. All do not go equally well with each odometer. For example, an odometer of dry wood remains stationary over gold; while it oscillates with great vivacity over glass. The respective habitudes of different odometers to different od-subjects, is one of the simplest points of investigation, which the facts I am narrating suggest.

"A gold ring with a plain stone in it was the first odometer which I employed, and it is one of the most largely available. And gold forms in general the most successful od-subject. Sulphur likewise displays very lively motions in the odometer. But the material which I finally employed to verify the following phenomena was shell-lac, a portion a full inch long, broader towards the lower end, then cut to be lancet-shaped. The odometer moves more sluggishly with some than with others, and in the same hand on different days; and doubtless is capable of manifesting a greater variety of effects than I have yet elicited from it. I can only pledge myself to the certainty of my being

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always now able to obtain with the shell-lac odometer all the results mentioned in the XXVII. experiments which first follow. Over rock-crystal, however, the shell-lac odometer acts very feebly; but a glass odometer moves with brilliant vivacity. I would besides advise the reader to try a gold-ring odometer, in preference, for experiments X., XI., XII., XIII.

"Then here are the results:—

"I. Odometer (we will suppose armed with shell-lac) held over three sovereigns heaped loosely together to form the od-subject; the odometer suspended from the forefinger of a person of either sex. *Result*—Longitudinal oscillations.

"II. Let the experimenter, continuing experiment I., take with his or her unengaged hand the hand of a person of the opposite sex. *Result*—Transverse oscillations of the odometer.

"III. Then, the experiment being continued, let a person of the sex of the experimenter take and hold the unengaged hand of the second party. *Result*—Longitudinal oscillations of the odometer.

"IV. Repeat experiment I., and, the longitudinal oscillations being established, touch the forefinger which is engaged in the odometer with the forefinger of your other hand. *Result*—The oscillations become transverse.

"V. Repeat experiment I., and, the longitudinal oscillations being established, bring the thumb of the same hand into contact with the finger implicated in the odometer. *Result*—The oscillations become transverse.

"VI. Then, continuing experiment V., let a person of the same sex take and hold your unengaged hand. *Result*—The oscillations become again longitudinal.

"VII. Experiment I. being repeated, take and hold in your disengaged hand two or three sovereigns. *Result*—The oscillations become transverse.

"VIII. Continuing experiment VII., let a person of the same sex take and hold your hand which holds the sovereigns. *Result*—The oscillations become longitudinal.

"IX. If the odometer be attached to the thumb instead of to the forefinger, it oscillates longitudinally; but on approaching the thumb so as to touch the forefinger, the oscillations become of course transverse.

"X. Repeat experiment I., but let the Od-subject be a double row of five sovereigns, each disposed longitudinally from you, and hold the odometer over the middle of the double row of sovereigns. *Result*—Longitudinal oscillations, but the excursions are inordinately long. Still, on touching the forefinger with the thumb, the oscillatioos become either transverse, or the odometer moves in an ellipse, of which the long axis corresponds with the axis of the double line of sovereigns.

"XI. Dispose ten sovereigns longitudinally from you in two parallel rows, an inch and a half apart, and hold the odometer over the middle of the interval. *Result*—Longitudinal oscillations.

"XII. Modify experiment XI. by holding the odometer not midway, but nearer one of the rows of sovereigns. *Result*—Oblique oscillations.

"XIII. Dispose ten sovereigns heaped in a short longitudinal group, and hold the odometer over the table half an inch to one side of the middle of the heap. *Result*—Transverse oscillations.

"From the latter experiments and their modifications, it became evident that the magnitude and shape of the Od-subject have each a direct influence on the result. A greater force of attraction evidently exists towards the greater mass.

"XIV. Odometer held over the northward pole of a magnetic needle contained in a compass-box under glass. *Result*—Rotatory motion in the direction of the hands of a watch.

"XV. Odometer held over the southward pole. *Result*—Rotatory motion in the direction contrary to the motion of the hands of a watch.

"XVI. Repeat experiments XIV and XV., with the difference of touching the forefinger implicated in the odometer with the thumb of the same hand. *Results*—The rotatory motion, observed in the two experiments referred to, become exactly reversed.

"XVII. Hold the odometer over the centre of the needle. *Result*—Oscillations at right angles, or transverse, to the axis of the needle.

"XVIII. Hold the odometer over, and half an inch to one side of, the centre of the needle. *Result*—Oscillations parallel to the axis of the needle.

"XIX. Repeat experiment XIV. Then, during its continuance, place a pile of three sovereigns on the compass-box, in front of the northward pole of the needle, and about an inch from it. *Result*—Direction of original rotatory motion reversed.

"Then follow experiments with results exactly parallel to the preceding, having the greatest physiological interest.

"XX. Hold the odometer over the tip of the forefinger of your disengaged hand. *Result*—Rotatory motion in the direction of the hands of a watch.

"XXI. Hold the odometer over the thumb of your disengaged hand. *Result*—Rotatory motion against that of the hands of a watch.

"XXII. Hold up the forefinger and thumb of the disengaged hand, their points being at two and a half inches apart, Hold the odometer in the centre of a line which would join the points of the finger and thumb. *Result*—Oscillations transverse to the line indicated.

"XXIII. Modify the preceding experiment by holding the odometer half an inch to one side of, and over, the middle of the line indicated. *Result* — Oscillations parallel to the said line.

"XXIV. Modify experiment XXII. by approximating the ends of the forefinger and thumb of the disengaged hand, so that they touch. *Result*—The odometer no longer moves.

"XXV. Forefinger and thumb of the disengaged hand held upwards and apart, sustaining a short file longwise between them. Odometer then held over the last joint of the finger. *Result*

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—Odometer stationary. Odometer then held over the last joint of the thumb. *Result*—Odometer stationary. Odometer then held over the middle of the file. *Result*—Oscillations parallel to the long axis of the file. Thumb of the odometer hand then applied to the finger that sustains the odometer, and experiment continued. *Result*—Transverse oscillations.

"XXVI. Odometer held over the northward pole of the magnetic needle, and its consequent rotatory motion in the direction of that of the hands of a watch established. Then advance the finger, or the thumb, either alone, towards the odometer. (The odometer should be held in these experiments half an inch above, and a little wide of, or before, the apex of the needle.) The finger, or the thumb, is then to be brought as near to the odometer as is consistent with not touching it in its rotation. *Result*—Direction of the rotation reversed. Then join the finger and thumb, and hold the two thus brought into contact in the same proximity to the odometer. *Result*—The rotation returns to the former direction; that is, to the direction of the motion of the hands of a watch.

"XXVII. Odometer held over the radial (or thumb) edge of the wrist. *Result*—The same as when held over thumb. Odometer held over the little-finger edge of the wrist. *Result*—The same as when held over either of the fingers. This difference in result extends a third the length of the forearm, over the middle of which the odometer becomes stationary.

"XXVIII. A portion of rock-crystal five inches long, about two wide and deep, placed on the table with its long axis transverse to the operator. Glass odometer held over the middle of the upper plain surface. *Result*—Oscillations parallel to the axis of the crystal. Position of the crystal shifted, so as to make its axis point *from* the operator. *Result*—Oscillations as before parallel to the axis of the crystal, but lougitudinal to the operator. Then the thumb applied to the forefinger. *Result*—Transverse oscillations.

"XXIX. Glass odometer held suspended over one apex of the crystal. *Result*—Rotatory motion in the direction of the hands of a watch. Odometer held over the opposite end. *Result*—Rotation in the direction contrary to that of the hands of a watch.

"XXX. The last experiment repeated. The forefinger of the operator's unengaged hand brought near to the odometer in each of its two varieties. *Result*—The previous rotatory motion reversed. Then the point of the thumb brought into contact with the odometer finger. *Result*—The original rotatory motion re-established.

"I will add, in reference to the first and simplest experiments, that the interposition of several folds of silk between the od-subject and the odometer renders the motions of the latter less brisk.

"The development which I have thus given to the few, isolated, and long-hoarded experiments of Herr Caspari, was not so simple an affair as it may seem to be. For several days I was in doubt as to the genuineness of the results, so capricious and contradictory were they. It was only when I had discovered, that approaching the thumb close to the other fingers of the odometor hand had the same effect with bringing it into contact with the odometer finger, that I succeeded in obtaining unvarying results. The interest of those experiments is unquestionably very considerable. They open a new vein of research, and establish a new bond of connection between physical and physiological science, which cannot fail to promote the advancement of both. They contribute a mass of objective and physical evidence to give support and substantiality to the subjective results of Von Reichenbach's experiments. They tend to prove the existence of some universal force, such as that to which he has given theoretical shape and form, under the designation of Od. And such an universal force—to be just even to a charlatan, if he was one—what other can we deem it to be than the long-vilipended influence of Mesmer, rendered bright and transparent and palatable by passing through the filter of science?

From the foregoing, it would appear that the clue to these wonderful and pregnant phenomena (if not the *discovery*) is due to Herr Caspari.

In the concluding and thirteenth letter, Dr. Herbert Mayo gives what he calls "the solution" of these phenomena, and alludes to many beautiful experiments, which I have not yet seen performed either by Mr. Rutter or Dr. Madden. Dr. H. Mayo is unequivocally of opinion that the agency "is neither more nor less than Von Reichenbach's od-force;" and it seems to me, that the experiment so satisfactorily illustrated by Dr. Madden, would tend to prove this: from the fact that *Bone*, which arrests the normal current when the operator stands on the ground as effectually as when he stands on the insulating stool, sets the current in motion when grasped in the hand, the operator being on the insulating stool. According to Dr. Madden, when Mr. Rutter is insulated, the *Bone* has no influence in setting agoing the current until he holds another substance, such as *Arsenic* or *Opium* with the *Bone*. There is here something like a proof that, under circumstances apparently disconnected with telluric influence, an agency is set free, by whatever name it may be called.

Dr. H. Mayo's solution is intensely interesting, and will amply repay deep study, if not tend to explain many "*abnormalities*," which seem already to have arisen with different experimenters.

Dr. Mayo illustrates his solution by eighteen diagrams, and furnishes an explanation of the circulars or "*clock-rotation*," similar to that given by Dr. Madden. The following points seme quite clear at present:—

Baron Von Reichenbach discovered odylic force.

Herr Caspari seems to be the *discoverer* of what I would call *odic polarity*.

Dr. Herbert Mayo has, through a philosophic genius, given these discoveries something like a definite form.

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Mr. Rutter has *invented* a fixed instrument to measure or explore the unknown (Od) force, and has called his wonderful and delicate instrument *magnetoscope*, which is not a new name, bye-the-bye, as Sir W. S. Harris speaks of a similarly-named instrument to explore magnetic currents. Were Mr. Rutter to satisfy himself that the new force belongs to Reichenbach's (Od) force, then I really think "*Odoscope*" would be a more appropriate name, seeing that the instrument infallibly *explores*, while it does not, in the strict meaning, *measure* the force.

Mr. Rutter, being deeply versed in physical science, and a cautious, persevering philosopher of a very high order, has, as was naturally to be expected, already made, and will no doubt continue to make, many important discoveries, and in no direction more fruitful than to homœopathic science. Dr. Madden, since he saw the applicability of the instrument to the proof of our most infinitesimal particles of matter influencing the human frame in health and disease, has exerted himself experimentally in a most praiseworthy and scientific manner.

To Dr. Quin's scientific energies in the way of demonstration and propagandism, the profession must feel much indebted. Other experimenters will, no doubt, rapidly multiply; and in order to enter upon their task fully equipped, it would seem desirable that all should make themselves acquainted with the literature of the subject.

Brook Street. Faithfully,
D. Wilson.

Review.

The Cure of Chronic Diseases by Movements. By Dr. Roth. London: Churchill.

This is altogether a novel but valuable addition to our medical literature. To raise gymnastic science out of the crude and often injurious practice of empiricism, and on the basis of a sound physiological anatomy to found a definite treatment by certain predetermined movements, each having a beneficial aim in view, was certainly a task well worthy the suffrages of a thankful profession. Such was the task which it occurred to Ling, the Swedish originator of this system, to essay; and with how great success the publication before us will show. The most prominent feature of the present system is its extension beyond the limits of ordinary gymnastics to diseases other than spinal curvatures, club-foot, contractions, etc.: in the present work we find indications given for its application in asthma, incipient consumption, contracted chest, and many diseases of internal organs, which are affected by the transmission of vibrations from the surface, and, if we may form any opinion from the cases which are here recorded, with more success than at first we should feel disposed to expect. We think, notwithstanding, that in many of the diseases to which it is here proposed to apply it that the treatment by movements must, after all, form but a useful adjunct to more certain and direct medical treatment.

Dr. Roth deserves our best thanks for the publication of this system for the first time in an English dress, thereby opening up a novel and very important branch of professional knowledge to our study. As a system it was early spread over the Continent, after its first promulgation in 1814, by royal ordinance, under the auspices of the Medical Association. In Russia, the Superior Medical Board made a very favourable report respecting it last year, by order of the Emperor. In all these countries its success has more than satisfied the warmest expectations of its supporters.

The fundamental principles of Ling are stated as follows:

"First. To strengthen and cure the body by movements acting on the system of blood-vessels, by promoting and regulating the reproductive processes.

"Secondly. To strengthen and cure the organism by movements acting on the nervous system, by promoting and regulating the nervous activity.

"Thirdly. To strengthen the organism itself, and cure by movements acting on the blood and the innervation, which is but another expression of the physiological principle that life can be preserved and cured only by life itself."

"The movements which we use to cure diseases are, as well as the pharmaceutical substances, not prescribed by chance, but according to the diagnosis of the disease, and the constitution of the patient; they are are put in a certain order, and form a prescription of movements, which is to be followed exactly, and not changed, excepting the medical man find it necessary to do so during the treatment."

In order to show the mode of action of an external (movement) agent on internal parts, he says:

"Whatever exists in our body, either as a part of it or as a foreign substance, must at a certain moment have a definite shape; therefore every change of the space in one part necessarily produces a corresponding one in the surrounding tissues—a change that is thenc propagated to the most remote parts of the body and which depends, with respect to its form upon the amount of the alteration produced by the first movement. However inconsiderable may be the angle produced either by the position of the body itself or by an external agent upon a vessel, nerve, tendon, muscle, etc., a change is necessarily produced in the parts ad-

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joining, which diminishes in the more remote tissues, as undulations from any cause, in air or water, finally disappear. Usually, if this angle happen to be originated in the more important portions of a nerve, muscle, etc., the corresponding change will be greater according to the largeness of the angle, which becomes more sensible after every shock, or external force, directed upon elastic parts: all others, being inelastic, do not permit the external forces to form an angle which is directed inwards; they receive the immediate shock and break, because at the same time they resist, the external force. Experience teaches that different trades and arts act differently as well on the internal as external being of those who are engaged in them. Many trades have power to change the bodily proportions of those who learn and execute them; and this even though the workman have ceased growing before he enters upon the occupation. Commonly there is developed a hypertrophy of single muscles, bones, textures, whole limbs, and even of such internal organs as are principally exercised by the trade; while such parts as are kept continually during the occupation of the trade in a state of inactivtty become emaciated, and begin by degrees to waste away. Partial movements, repeated thousands and thousands of times, increase the reproduction in single organs, and thereby produce the greatest changes, even the most perfect metamorphoses in external and internal organs. If, on the contrary, the state of rest is too long protracted, the absorption in the inactive organs is predominant, and the reproduction ceases either for the most part or entirely. Hence it follows, as a natural consequence, that when a limb has become crooked from a partial exercise of its muscles, the curvature would be cured, if the weakened antagonists are exercised as often and to the same amount as the preceding, which must now rest for a period proportionate to their former exercise. A healthy organ daily exposed to continued pressure emaciates and atrophies. So it is very natural that parts which by disease have become hypertrophied, will also by the same means lose their increased volume. The least pressure upon a nerve irritates it, if increased it becomes painful, one still more intense benumbs it, and if the pressure be very violent and sudden, the nerve is paralysed. If this were not the case, a violent shock, stroke, heaving, etc., could not become fatal, but would only destroy the nearest tissues.

"The mechanical agent has also an extensive (quantitative) influence; for too early or excessive exercise, that is, more than the body can support according to its age, constitution, etc., puts a stop to growth in the youth, and causes weakness. Our general custom of doing all with the right arm produces a greater development of its bones, whilst those of the unused limbs become weaker. Therefore, only right and well-used movements are really beneficial; while those used improperly and misapplied, as at present in most gymnastic or orthopœdic institutions, as well as neglect of movement or inactivity, are each in the same manner followed by bad consequences."

The difference between this system and the orthopœdic is that, in the latter, that which is accomplished by mechanical instruments is in the present effected "by the living organism itself."

"In the first, the vital reaction is not generally taken into consideration, while in the latter, this becomes the basis of the treatment, which the external influence is but the agent to provoke. Thus it is that generally in the common orthopœdic treatment, no cure can be effected without injuring, more or less, another organ. We feel it our duty to call the attention of the professional and lay readers to this subject, because, without denying the successes of orthopœdic treatment, the question is, whether by exchanging one disease for another, which is so often worse, we do not pay too dearly? In the treatment by movements we make only a momentary use of any external apparatus, and never employ in diseases of the trunk stretching-instruments; these are sometimes employed only as accessories in contractions of single muscles of the extremities, and even then not constantly. The subjects of orthopœdic treatment by instruments are principally those curvatures of the spine and limbs which result from a contraction of the muscles on one side, with relaxation of those on the opposite."

And again he asks—

"How can we suppose that such vigorous changes, not merely of external form, but also of muscular structure, bones, and all other organs, are to be cured by the purely mechanical action of an apparatus, which can only repress the prominent organic parts, and forcibly extend the contracted muscles, without permitting the development of the curative reaction of the vital power. The treatment by apparatus alone can therefore be useful only in very small curvatures of the limbs existing but for a short time, because the muscular relaxation is not largely developed, and therefore the extension of the contracted muscles (although but little affected by the apparatus) still allows to the weakened antagonists, in some degree, a more vigorous contraction, which, continued for a longer period, may possibly have some effect. But when a change of texture in the muscles, bones, and internal organs has taken place, particularly if there is a substitution of fat and tendinous masses, no cure can be effected by the use of machines alone. Thus we see that many of those patients who undergo the torture of lying horizontally upon stretching-beds for years, or of wearing the different pressing-girdles, after all, still retain their curvature, which is diminished, if it be so, at the expense of some other organ."

The system becomes divisible into two well-defined parts: the hygienic—including the management of the nursery and boarding-school, and the superintendence of healthy development by means of suitable exercises—and the therapeutic, in its divers

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applications to disease. On this subject the author gives the following indications:

"The general indications for the treatment by movements are the same as for any other treatment.

"1st. We must know what is the object of the treatment, and

"2nd. What is its aim.

"The special indications for the treatment by movements are—

"1st. Restoration of the right shape and form, as for instance, for curvatures, etc.

"2nd. Restoration of the right position and direction of the parts, as for instance, of ruptures, etc.

"3rd. Restoration of the mobility of the parts, as for example, incomplete anchylosis.

"4th. Removal of solid and liquid matters, and foreign bodies from the cavities and textures of the body.

"5th. Restoration of nutrition, assimilation, and reproduction of the whole body or single parts.

"6th. General change of substance, principally of the muscular fibres.

"7th. Increase of the activity of the skin, lungs, heart, liver, etc.

"8th. The diminution and increase of the activity of the nervous central organs.

"9th. The alleviation of pains.

The pathogenetic effects of movements and frictions, occasionally alluded to, would have formed an appropriate and pleasing introduction to the work; and we should have been pleased had Dr. Roth pointed out, as he described them, the undoubted homœopathicity of many of the movements. The hackneyed blacksmith's biceps; the well-known forms of the jockey, the weaver, and artisan bending over his long work through sixteen hours in the day; the sailor, soldier, tailor, etc., and the effects of training upon the pugilist—all form excellect illustrations of the pathogenetic effects of gymnastics.

"According to the particular constitution, sitting gives rise to many diseases, varying with the occupation; the student who works more with the head, who reads or writes near the table, suffers, besides the immediate consequence of the continual pressure produced by the angles on the nerves, vessels, and other organs of the abdomen, from bad digestion, bilious disorders, ... constipation of the bowels and other abdominal diseases; he is liable to excitability, melancholy, headache, giddiness, singing in the ears, bad temper; the head hangs forward, because the continual extension of the muscles of the neck produces weakness and less contractility; therefore such persons cannot keep the head erect; the chest becomes narrow, the breathing difficult and asthmatical, the shoulders come forward, the trunk is stooping, the legs emaciated, stiff, and inflexible; the skin dry and rough. This is in general a mere outline of bookworms and other learned men, who neglect their physical development, either through idleness and ignorance of these bad consequences, or through their being entirely absorbed by their intellectual studies. People who sit continually and work also with their arms, like weavers at the loom, often become disposed to many diseases of the organs of the chest, as hæmoptysis, phthisis, palpitation of the heart, etc., diseases generally of a congestive or inflammatory character, produced by the artificial stagnation of the blood in the abdomen, and the activity in the chest increased by the movements of the arms. If only one or the other arm is exclusively engaged in the trade, deviations of the spine, with or without any disease of the chest, undermine the general health, which nothing will remove, except change of occupations; needle-women, copiers, drawers, etc., belong to this unhappy class."

That strong active movements of the arms produce hypertrophy of the heart is deserving of attention, but we think also, of further research and observation: the statistics of certain trades would soon establish the result.

We had marked several passages for further extract, but our limits restrict us to an exceedingly sensible article upon dress, which we heartily commend to the attention of our fair readers, assuring them that the very general exposure of the ill-effects of the present corset is leading to its gradual disuse.

"The stays impede the activity of the intercostal muscles, the expansion of the thorax, and consequently of the lungs; they produce many diseases by the mere mechanical pressure ..... The narrowness of the thorax is followed by dislocations, distortions, and curvatures of the ribs, chest-bone, and vertebræ; by curvatures of the spine in all directions, round back, high shoulders, the adhesion of the parietes of the thorax with the internal organs, asthma, short breathing, cough, irregular circulation of the blood ..... blood-spitting, ulcers of the lungs, empyema, general emaciation, phthisis, hydrops, etc. The secondary symptoms of this vicious state of the circulation are congestions to the head, headaches, giddiness, lethargy, apoplexy, inclination to fainting, pains of the eyes, bad sight, humming in the ears, hemorrhage from the nose, etc.

"By the inward pressure of the ensiform cartilage of the chest-bone, and by the compression of the abdomen, the activity of the stomach is deranged, the digestion is bad, the appetite is deficient, cardialgia, eructation, nausea, sickness, vomiting of blood and food, flatulency.....are developed. The continual pressure of the short ribs of the right side on the liver produces inflammation of that organ, induration, bilious disorders, an impure yellow colour of the skin, increased nervous sensibility, bad humour and irritability, jaundice, ascites, etc.

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"The pressure on the short ribs of the left side produces inflammation, induration, and ulceration of the spleen. The pressure on the dislocated tender muscular parts and of the crooked spine is followed by diseases of the kidneys..... inguinal hernia, irregularities .....hysteria, uterine epilepsy, etc.

"Dr. Ludwig, of Leipzig, observed the impression of the busk of the stays on the forehead of a newborn infant."

We trust the rapid sale of this highly scientific volume, which must be deeply studied by all who would appreciate its merits, and the philanthropic aims which the author has in view, will induce him shortly to favour us with a handbook of movements for general use, which would prove a valuable supplement to Dr. Roth's larger and more scientific work. The illustrations are cleverly executed, and the work admirably got up.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR, — In your impression of Saturday, October 11th, is an article extracted from the *Christian Times*, in which the writer alludes to a trial between allopathy and homœopathy being desirable, instancing the cases of the American yacht beating all our English yachts, and the American gentleman picking the impregnable lock of Messrs. Bramah and Co.

Now, Sir, I should wish the public to know that that is just the position which we homœopaths assume. We challenge them (the allopaths) to a trial, nay more, we defy them; we will take their very best men, and their very worst cases, and beat them as surely as that the "America" did beat all her competitors, or that Mr. Hobbs did open Messrs. Bramah's celebrated lock. Nor do I think we should require thirty days to accomplish the feat, but might manage it in about as short a time as it took the "America" to win her prize.

But, Sir, your readers should know that they (the allopaths) will not come to the trial; they dare not, because they know that they would most assuredly be beaten.

It happens that in Madrid they have a professor of homœopathy, Dr. Nunez, Physician to the Queen of Spain, being the gentleman who holds the appointment. The Editor of the *Lancet*, commenting upon this fact, informs his readers that it was brought about by the "regulars" foolishly consenting to a trial; of course they were beaten; the result was the above professorship. We all know that it is not those who have justice and right on their side who object to go to trial, but those who fear that by a fair trial their long-cherished and blindly-followed dogmas would be scattered to the winds. They will not trust themselves into the hands of an intelligent jury; they say they might meet with another Justice Maule, who did so dreadfully maul the rising son of the *Lancet's* Editor in a recent trial. No, say they, "We have a law, and by our law homœopathy *ought* to die. It is, however, a consolation that they are just able to perform what their celebrated "*ought*" stands for—viz., nothing.

Your humble servant,

F. W.

82, Old Broad Street, City.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Having been educated among scientific allopathic practitioners, you may imagine it was not without considerable reading and experience that I have become *so truly* a homœopathic convert.

Among various other topics of interest, I may mention a work I obtained lately at Tunbridge Wells, "A Medical Topography of Tunbridge Wells, etc. By Robert Hutchinson Powell, M.B., M.D., etc. etc."

A few extracts may serve to show that, however unwittingly, allopathy *does* testify to the wonderful truths of homœopathy.

"A reaction sometimes follows, denoting a *critical* tendency to re-establish the balance and tone of the system; if judiciously selected and adapted to the individual case, it need not alarm; but should distressing symptoms ensue, the water should be discontinued or used with appropriate medicine." (Page 3.)

"To prescribe them (the mineral waters) with success, it is, therefore, not sufficient to be only superficially acquainted with their general action, but we must possess a thorough knowledge of the specific effects of every spring, not only with reference to disease, but also to the state of every variety of constitution and temperament," etc. etc. (Page 4.)

"Dr. Ure (Chemical Dictionary) observes;—'It appears to me that the peroxide and its combinations are almost uniformly irritating, causing heartburn, febrile heat, and quickness of pulse. Many chalybeate mineral waters contain an exceedingly *minute quantity* of proto-carbonate of iron, and *yet exercise an astonishing power* in recruiting the exhausted frame. I believe their value to be derived simply from the metal being *oxidized* to a *minimum*, and diffused by the agency of a mild acid through a great body of water, in which state it is rapidly taken up by the lacteals, and speedily imparts a ruddy hue to the wan countenance.'" (Pages 16, 17.)

"Mr. Amsinch says:—'Certain it is that the mineral waters produce a more powerful effect than is observable from any artificial preparation of iron; whether this arises from the *minute division* with which chemical bodies are united to water, so as to render them more diffusible over the whole system, and more active in the stomach, or that the acids of the stomach are more capable of acting upon the ferruginous principle when so diluted, I will not attempt to prove. Nice is the accuracy of the modern chemist in investigating the component parts of mineral waters, yet analysis is not so

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far to be depended upon as to supersede the experience ofeffects.'" (Pages 19, 20.)

"Again, Sir C. Scudamore (Analysis of the Mineral Warers of Tunbridge Wells) remarks: 'Some persons, I know, when in perfect health, have made trial of the water, and not finding from it any notable effect, *have most unjustly undervalued its powers*, which ought not to be expected in any very marked manner, unless on the invalid. An exception, however, presents itself to this observation, as I can assert from experience, that all persons in *full health cannot* make free use of the water with equal impunity. A plethoric habit, with vessels easily excited to strong action, might find it to be a very injurious stimulant.'" (Page 24.)

"Dr. Granville jocosely questions the efficacy of what *he terms* the homœopathic quantity of 'oxide of iron,' in the spring, citing Mr. Hutchinson's steel treatment of tic douloureux, in which as much as 80 grains of *the oxide* of iron have been given; and he perverts Dr. Scudamore's expressions, which, far from sanctioning, were evidently intended to anticipate and refute such scepticism." (Pages 23, 24.)

"Dr. Joy (Lib. Pract. Med., vol. v. p. 293) says: 'The tonic effects of chalybeates appear, however, in a great proportion of cases, to be most *satisfactory* and *permanent* when administered in *moderate* quantities, as well as in a *very soluble and dilute form.*'"

"It is worth noticing, also, that Dr. Granville (Spas of England, vol. iii. p. 415), in his laboured encomiums showered on the Bath waters, deemed it necessary to write nearly a page of precautionary advice to 'such patients as cannot bear the action of steel' in water, which contains, according to Mr. Phillips's analysis, the really 'homœopathic' quantity of one-ninth of a grain in a gallon, or *twenty times* less than the quantity contained in the Tunbridge water. It is on this class of invalids especially that the really admirable compound, presented as a free gift from the cunning laboratory of Nature, exerts its curative action, unequalled by any artificial preparation of iron. The iron is, as it were, smuggled into the circulation," etc. (Pages 27, 28.)

"But it is not the most potent or the most soluble medicines that are the most useful or efficacious." (Page 34.)

"If a proper selection of such cases were made, and all other essentials duly observed, the invalid would gratefully acknowledge the happy change wrought on a feeble system by the chalybeate, even without the intervention of any 'homœopathic' views to assist belief in its sanative properties." (Page 28.)

May we not say, that these are remarkable allopathic testimonies to the truth of that very marvellous system, *homœopathy?* especially as the writer observes (p 12), "To this freedom from all other saline constituents, *the minute quantities existing cannot exert* any influence."

Yours, etc.,

U. M.

In reference to your wondrous paper in the *Homœopathic Times* of last week, shall I send this short extract from Dr. Powell's work?

"Mineral waters are produced by condensed aqueous vapour of meteoric origin, which penetrating the surface and fissures of mountainous districts," etc. (Page 2.)

"Dr. J. Johnson states, that the quantity contained in the Tunbridge Spa, namely, a quarter of a grain of iron, in a pint of mineral water, held in solution, will act more efficiently on the human constitution than *ten times that quantity* taken in pills, powders, or potions, as prepared by the chemists." (Page 26.)

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Seeing that the *Lancet* has pushed forward its "forlorn hope," threatening to storm our citadel, and put to the sword every one of us homœopathic practitioners, it is our bounden duty, or rather it is absolutely necessary, that we, sinking all minor differences, seek strength in union, and present a firm and unbroken front to our unscrupulous adversary. It is true, our system has been too long before the world, and is now too well appreciated to be subverted by any efforts the *Lancet* and its disciples can bring to bear against it. Nevertheless, we should act as though its powers were equal to its will, and rest not till we have reduced our would-be oppressor from a threatening to a defensive condition. If we will not crush the snake, we must at least remove its venomous fangs, and thereby give a clear stage to the medical practitioners, and students who may wish to join our ranks. To effect this, we must first procure a charter, as a legal recognition of our rights—a college will follow in due time; then, and not till then, may we relax in our exertions, and afford to treat with contempt the hostile demonstrations made against us!

I may here state that I was formerly opposed to homœopathy, and that I practised strictly according to the "old system," for many years, with an average amount of success. Having charge of an extensive district, I had ample opportunity of testing the virtues of drugs and depletion, and must confess I was often bitterly disappointed by the result, and ready to exclaim, "There is no balm in Gilead!" Yet, *nolens volens*, I was forced to go on in the old track, knowing no better. A whisper of homœopathy had indeed reached me, but casually and unfrequently; however, understanding nothing of its principles or merits, I was content, with the medical crowd, to set it down as an absurd novelty, whose little day would soon pass by, and to jump at the facile conclusion, that if cures were ever effected by it, they were due, not to infinitesimal doses, but to the strictness of the regimen enjoined. At length, it was my fortune to become acquainted with a lady warmly attached to the new system, and through her strong representations of its efficacy, I was induced to promise that I would give it a trial. I did so, with much scepticism at first, but soon had cause to be astonished at the results of this novel practice. Many acute cases

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yielded, as if to a charm, so speedily was the relief afforded, and cures were achieved even in some of the most unpromising forms of disease, over which, treated by the old plan, I should have possessed little control.

I was myself, in the course of my investigations, stricken by a febrile attack, and employing homœopathic remedies alone, was happily enabled to resume my duties in a few days. I had opportunities of testing their efficacy on the members of my family, and found excellent results in all cases. I also employed them largely with various patients in my district, and, even under the disadvantage of an imperfect knowledge of the system at that time, effected better cures than heretofore. Let it not be objected, that I worked on the imagination, as my patients, in nearly every instance, were ignorant of my having made any change. Moreover, a large proportion of them were young children. Ascertained facts being, in my estimation, better than any theories, however venerable or antiquated, I could no longer withhold my assent to the important truths enunciated by that great Medical Reformer, Hahnemann, and determined, as a consequence, to adopt them in my future practice

It seems to be inevitable, however unjust and absurd (though we might hope better things in the light of the nineteenth century), that men who change their opinions, no matter how conscientiously, must encounter persecution and hard names from their fellows. Still, I know not whether to admire most the audacity or the ignorance of those individuals who style us charlatans. In the first place, we are equal to themselves in education, and in knowledge of the old system; and, secondly, we have the great advantage over them of being masters of the new, concerning the principles of which they seem to be in utter darkness. It is pitiful indeed to see these persons, either unwilling to institute a fair inquiry, or incapable, through prejudice, of taking any but a distorted view, endeavouring to fix the stigma of quackery on a large body of men, as honourable and well qualified as themselves. It appears, that they charitably attribute to some of us the most paltry and sordid motives. I suspect that the parties who flung this stone themselves live in the thinnest of glass houses, and that their very disinterested solicitude about the public may be resolved into anxiety for their own pockets!

Amidst the splendid discoveries and brilliant innovations of recent times, is the science of medicine alone to remain mediæval?

Following the arguments of our allopathic opponents, all inventors, with their followers, must be quacks and impostors, as well as those who adopt the new system of therapeutics!

I appeal to any candid person, if I, as a conscientious physician, find a better method of healing than I was wont to employ, am I not bound to give my patients the benefit of it, or shoul I I rather sacrifice them to some time-honoured theory, "refusing to hear the voice of the charmer," and consoling myself for an untoward result with the reflection, that I had acted according to the dicta of Hippocrates or Boerhaave? Again, if a patient die whilst under our treatment, no matter how desperate the case, it is, according to them, not even justifiable homicide, but murder!—no laughing matter.

Of course, the men who thus taunt us never meet with grim Death in their practice; their thrice-fortunate clients invariably make good and speedy recoveries. Alas, the registers of mortality tell a very different story! How numerous are they who have cause to deplore the fatal facility of that dangerous little instrument the lancet, too often the last refuge of ignorance, and thus in a reckless make-believe used to spill that precious vital fluid, which can never be renewed in its integrity.

Whatever *our* shortcomings, we at least are guiltless of this blunder. We essay not to steer the shattered vessel through the Scylla and Charybdis of old physic, depletion and mercury. *We do* not impair the vital energies, by prostrating drastic medicines. and never give our patients reason to complain that "the remedy is worse than the disease." But whilst defending ourselves, we by no means claim infallibility. We know that the best-directed human means must sometimes fail, and simply contend that under homœopathic treatment, cures are more frequent and speedy, and effected with infinitely less detriment to the strength and future well-being of the patient.

I believe that many of the heads of the profession, men full of years, honours, and experience, so far agree with us, as rarely to give their patients any, save the most gentle, medicines, trusting almost entirely to regimen, and interfering as little as possible with the healing efforts of Nature.

We fearlessly leave our good Cause, with our characters, in the hands of a discriminating public, confident that they will emerge brighter from the mass of obloquy now so unsparingly flung on them by the more ptejudiced of our allopathic brethren.

"Truth is great and must prevail."

I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

Sept. 27, 1851. M. B.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I was told some time ago by my former medical friend, who, I believe, meant well when he said it, that I should certainly return, soon or late, to "the good old path;" this was some two years or may be more ago.

I had received for some years, and others with me, many a blessing in sickness from God, through what I, and VERY MANY MORE, believe to be His law, discovered by Hahnemann, now called homœopathy; and among the rest of the benefits, I had found *considerable* relief in severe boils or carbuncles.

I shall state in a note to this, for the benefit of all whom it may concern, how my carbuncles were dealt with homœopathically. Suffice it now to say, that *when the pains came on I took two of the little despised dots* of the kind which I will state in a postscript; according as each kind was indicated, and AS SOON AS THE PAINS RETURNED, which, if I remember rightly,

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was generally in from three to four hours, *I repeated the little dose*, and invariably found relief n a few minutes.

Formerly I had *two, at the least*, troublesome carbuncles lanced, and one of them lanced (*I well remember*) a second time, by what is called the *crucial* incision, to allow the burrowing slough to escape from the tumour.

Since I began to avail myself of homœopathic treatment, I have had at least three *very* painful boils; at each time I experienced I may say incredible relief under the *treatment*, which I will state below.

I am always very much occupied, but should I have a little time I would send you, if they proved acceptable, further reasons (occasionally in a line or two) than the present for pursuing STILL my last six years' path and more.

I would not intentionally give offence to those who, not having tested the medicines fairly, are not acquainted with their effects in disease, and so they speak against the practice; but should this meet the eye of medical men, editors, or others who know of any cases similar to that which I shall particularise, I should hope at least that they might be persuaded to suggest to the afflicted parties to put to the test these simple means. I need not say that relief is not to be expected from the medicines I shall presently name, unless the symptoms accord.

I lived simply on good, plain, digestible food, as I had been accustomed to do; took but little if any wine; attended to all my occupations as usual; although, in two cases, a friend of mine, a medical man, at each time said, "that is a bad boil; you ought to have it lanced—you must lie up." My friend still smiles at homœopathy, and so do I. He knows that I did not lie up, that the boils were not lanced. He does not examine into it. I receive benefit with others; *at all events thus far, for nearly six years and a half* (of late with the effectual assistance of a neighbouring practitioner), *we have recovered of our maladies, severe or mild*, UNDER THE TREATMENT! I am thankful to God, whose law of healing is assuredly had recourse to, if practitioners understand their business.

As for myself, I sometimes feel it a duty, scorned or approved, to state facts, and they are certainly VERY stubborn things.

If God gives to man a truth, in due time God will assure man that it is a truth that He has given. All opposition is vain when God works. Still He works by his instruments; He may work by this little attempt. At all events, the writer says, His will be done.

Respectfully yours,

H. B. D.

1st. When the appearance of the boil was red, inflamed, and of erysipelatous character,—*Belladonna.*

2ndly. Assuming a more livid appearance, and burrowing and very hard round the swelling, —*Lachesis.*

3rdly. On the formation of matter,—*Hepar S.*

On one occasion I apprehended mortification, and took *Arsenicum.*

The best lint, "Tipton's patent," dipped in water, and applied from the beginning by means of oiled silk or thin gutta percha, with the white adhesive plaster, is pleasant, and prevents rubbing; this I found very desirable under allopathic or homœopathic treatment. Sufferers will find it the lightest, and every way the best poultice.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I regret that you did not publish in the *Homœopathic Times* the letter which gave rise to your leading article of September 27th. It is true that it has appeared in some of the London papers, but I should have wished, and still hope, to see it recorded in your weekly publication, as "a heavy blow and great discouragement" to allopathy.

That letter proved that, owing to the different strengths of the medicines according to the formulas of the Pharmacopœias of London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, the unhappy patients are always in imminent danger of losing their lives. The accompanying extract from a weekly paper proves that the powerful drugs of the allopaths are not only highly dangerous to their patients, but to themselves.

Who is there that knows the blessed truth of homœopathy, with its small and safe doses, who does not earnestly long to see the time arrive when no doctor shall be able to kill either himself or his patients by administering such potent masses and extracts of poisonous drugs?

I remain, Sir, faithfully yours,

A NON-MEDICAL OBSERVER.

"MELANCHOLY DEATH OF DR. BADELEY, OF CHELMSFORD.—On Sunday afternoon the unfortunate gentleman was suffering from toothache. The pain being intense and without intermission, about four o'clock on Monday morning he went into his study for the purpose of procuring something to alleviate the acuteness of the attack. In doing so, unhappily, he partook of a considerable quantity of morphia. Mr. Bransby Cooper, of London, was immediately sent for by a telegraphic despatch, and all the members of the profession in the town were summoned, but their efforts proved abortive; the unfortunate sufferer lingered until one o'clock, at which hour he expired. The deceased gentleman only a short time since read before the College of Physicians a paper on 'Mind and Matter,' which has since been printed. Dr. Badeley was brother to the eminent barrister of London, and he leaves behind him a family of ten children."

"THE LATE DR. BADELEY.—On Tuesday, an inquest was held on the body of Dr. Badeley, at the Saracen's Head, Chelmsford. From the evidence of the medical gentleman examined, it was clearly demonstrated that the cause of death was apoplexy, that being produced by the morphia or opium which was taken by the deceased. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

LECTURE

At the London Homœopathic Hospital, on Thursday, October the 30th,

By Dr. Quin,

President of the British Homœopathic Society.

In conformity with the promise given at the close of my last lecture, to bring before you a variety of other interesting facts connected with Mr. Rutter's instrument, and its bearing upon the effects of infinitesimal quantities upon the human frame, I shall, in the course of the present lecture, make you acquainted with some further experiments, which corroborate in the most unequivocal and satisfactory manner many of the observations made by Hahnemann nearly half a century ago. Before, however, entering upon the description of these experiments, I am desirous of calling your attention to the circumstances which led to the invention of the beautiful instrument, and to the discoveries which have emanated from it. I am the more anxious to do this, because I think it but justice to Mr. Rutter that his conduct should be fairly and honestly represented.

It may be in your recollection that in my first lecture I stated that I believed Dr. Madden was the first homœopathic practitioner who witnessed Mr. Rutter's experiments, and I referred to the action of *Mercury* and *Bismuthum* upon each other, recorded by Dr. Madden, among other experiments, in the *British Journal of Homœopathy* for this month; and that in my second lecture, when alluding to some exceptions which he had taken in his lecture of the 21st October, against some experiments of Mr. Rutter's, recorded by me in my lecture of the 9th October, I spoke of Dr. Madden's lecture as an excellent one, and merely added that I could not then determine whether the alleged discrepancies between the account of the effects of *Belladonna* and *Aconite*, as recorded by me, and those observed by him, were owing to some idiosyncrasy, but that future experiments would clear this up, meanwhile that I could not doubt the accuracy of my account of *Belladonna* and *Aconite*; for the experiments upon these substances had been performed over and over again in my presence, and that of several colleagues. In making these remarks, on the two several occasions when I lectured here, I did justice to the priority of Dr. Madden's witnessing the powers of Mr. Rutter's instrument;—and to what I had heard of the excellence of his lecture on the 21st instant.

Since then I have seen, in the *Homœopathic Times* of last week, what would seem to be an authorized communication of his lecture, in which it is stated, that in the early part of August last his (Dr. Madden's) attention was directed by Mr. Rutter to the action of common *Salt* upon the motions of the pendulum, which action Mr. Rutter supposed to be due to the crystalline arrangement of that substance. Dr. Madden said that he surmised that this action might be owing to something else, and commenced a series of experiments with medicinal substances, the result of which he communicated to Mr. Rutter. Allusion is then made, in the account of the lecture, to an alleged experiment of Dr. Herbert Mayo's with a gold ring suspended in a tumbler by a silk thread, whereupon the ring takes a pendulum motion, so strong as to cause the ring to strike against the sides of the tumbler. It is also stated that Mr. Rutter had discovered that sleep reversed all the currents.

Dr. Madden then called attention to the circumstance, that in Dr. Quin's lecture there were numerous and most important errors. He showed that, out of the actions of sixteen medicines recorded by Dr. Quin, the actions of twelve differed from those produced by the same medicines on himself; and he had since ascertained that the

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actions, as described by Dr. Quin, were in many instances not the same as those actually produced on Mr. Rutter.

A division of honour and credit is then awarded by the lecturer to Mr. Rutter and himself; honour to Mr. Rutter for the discovery of the instrument, and credit of an incontestable character to Dr. Madden for having directed Mr. Rutter's attention to the different actions of medicinal substances, and particularly homœopathic agents, and for having indefatigably and unremittingly, for nearly three months, pursued daily investigations upon this point. I learn from several colleagues, who were present at the lecture, that the communication quoted above is a very faithful account of the lecture, but that Dr. Madden had added, in the course of his observations, that he was afraid, from what had passed at Dr. Quin's lecture, that the merit of the application of the discovery to the different actions of medicinal substances, was due equally to Drs. Quin and Madden, whereas it was due to himself (Dr. Madden). Now, gentlemen, I, for my part, most cheerfully and readily disclaim all pretence to any credit whatever, of any kind; neither in my thoughts, in my lectures, nor in my conversation, have I dreamt for a single moment of assuming any merit. My admiration of Mr. Rutter and his discovery is too deep and sincere to permit me to entertain, for an instant, any notion of pretending to dispute with any one the honour and credit which are due to Mr. Rutter alone. I should as soon think of disputing the discovery of America with Columbus, to whom, I learn, Dr. Madden in his lecture very naturally likened himself. For me to enter into a dispute with Dr. Madden about our respective merits in this matter, would be like raising a storm in a bucket of water on the seashore, near the Black Rock, in which were struggling two small minnows, who imagined themselves great members of the finny tribe in the neighbourhood of a Leviathan, such as Mr. Rutter is, when compared with us, in the broad and deep ocean of science. Gratitude, however, and respect for Mr. Rutter make it necessary for me to state the exact truth concerning this matter, as far as it is at present known to me.

With regard to Dr. Madden's first statement in his lecture, that Mr. Rutter attributed the action produced by *Salt* on the pendulum to the crystalline arrangement of that substance. Mr. Rutter denies that he ever attributed the action of the *Salt* to its crystalline form. Nay, the *Salt* used was finely pulverized, and he dealt with the smallest perceptible particles in the experiments he showed to Dr. Madden. It appears, then, that Dr. Madden must have greatly misunderstood Mr. Rutter.

Mr. Rutter, several months before Dr. Madden had seen his experiments, knew the action of minute doses of *Sulphur*, of *Salt*, and of various medicines; he knew that the hand of a person put in contact with his left hand, whilst he was operating with the instrument, reversed the normal current, that person having taken the day before a small dose of *Calomel*, whereas the hand of the same person, before he took the *Calomel*, gave the diagonal motion usually produced by the male hand. The gentleman who had taken the *Calomel*, did not inform Mr. Rutter of it till after the effect had been tested. This took place two months before he had seen Dr. Madden. Mr. Rutter had previously witnessed similar effects from different medicines and particular kinds of food on members of his own family.

The effect of water, in which a steel magnet was dipped for a second, upon the instrument was familiar to him long before he had seen Dr. Madden; the effect of a dead fly; of ivory held in the hand; of the *emanations* from dead animal matter, and from various substances; of breathing upon the hand of the operator, or upon that of any person, or the last of a chain of persons; even a single hair of a female, of a handkerchief, after it had been held a few minutes in her hand, etc. etc.—all these experiments with medicines, either in the most minute doses, or even from mere *emanations*,—all these effects were shown to a great number of persons before he saw Dr. Madden.

Dr. Madden says, that in Dr. Mayo's work attention is directed to the old familiar experiment of a gold ring suspended in a tumbler from a silken thread, and that the pendulum movement attained such a height as to cause the ring to strike against the sides of the tumbler; now any one who will peruse that work, will find that not one single word is said about the tumbler experiment. It is not mentioned by Dr. Mayo, and, it is likely, was not known to him; if it had been, he would no doubt have mentioned it.

Mr. Rutter disclaims the discovery attributed to him by Dr. Madden, that sleep "*reversed*" all the currents. What Mr. Rutter believes is, that the recumbent posture transposes the polarizing influence of the currents. The circumstance mentioned concerning a letter written by a somnambulic female, is unknown to Mr. Rutter. Mr. Rutter had not heard of

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of it before, and has never seen a case of somnambulism. With respect to the alleged numerous and important errors made by Dr. Quin in his lecture, and to the allegation that the effects of twelve out of sixteen medicines recorded by Dr. Quin, differed from those of the same medicines on Dr. Madden; and to the statement that he (Dr. Madden) had since ascertained that the actions so described by Dr. Quin were, in many instances, not the same as those actually produced on Mr. Rutter, I have merely to state that Mr. Rutter has been so kind as to read my first lecture carefully over. He cannot discover these numerous and important errors. Of the forty-eight experiments with different globules of medicines. Mr. Rutter has repeated forty-two and has only found two trivial errors. One I find is an error of the printer, and the other a mistake of the transcriber. I am at a loss to know upon what authority Dr. Madden has stated that the actions described by me were not those produced on Mr. Rutter; not, certainly, upon Mr. Rutter's authority. So much for the twelve discrepancies out of sixteen medicines.

The experiments recorded by me were made with medicines, spontaneous and indigenous to the countries whence they were brought, prepared carefully by myself or by Mr. Headland, or by other careful and conscientious chemists in the different countries I named in my last lecture; they all told the same tale when experimented upon. Mr. Rutter has a remarkably healthy, strong constitution, which has never been tampered with by medicine. When one sees such statements put forth by Dr. Madden, of differences between the action of medicines upon the healthy frame of the gentleman who instructed him how to experiment with the magnetoscope, and upon his own body, one is naturally led to inquire from what source does Dr. Madden obtain his medicines, and if one can depend upon his body being sufficiently free from lingering medicinal effects, originating before his conversion to homœopathy.

It would have been wiser and more in consonance with professional courtesy, had Dr. Madden not been so eager to condemn. He has a great advantage in being so near Mr. Rutter, whose urbanity, courtesy, and simplicity make him beloved and respected by all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance. He would have learnt, in addition to all that he has already been taught by Mr. Rutter, and have profited by the knowledge, that from the earliest period of his (Mr. Rutter's) investigations, idiosyncrasies, abnormalities, and irregularities presented themselves, and were justly considered by him as valuable evidence; for, as he correctly remarks, if currents so feeble, set in motion by causes apparently so trifling, pass through and influence the body, is it matter of surprise, if organism, disease, temperament, mental relations with the physical, etc., etc., should affect, control, subvert, or change the direction of these currents? If the breath from the lungs of a bystander be sufficient to reverse for the time the currents, is it wonderful that some are more, others less, susceptible to atmospheric or telluric electricity?

If any person could produce equal results with the magnetoscope, Mr. Rutter most pertinently remarks that he would have less confidence in it, and when it is found that those who most anxiously wish to set the pendulum in motion have not the power of doing it, it is evident that the *will, the wish*, or the *anticipated result* is not an element in the experiments.

In the same number of the *Homœopathic Times*, is a letter written by Mr. Wilson respecting the magnetoscope of Mr. Rutter, in which he reproduces an account from Dr. Herbert Mayo's interesting work on the "Truths contained in Popular Superstitions." This had already been produced in *Chambers's Edinburgh Journal*, No. 375, March 8th, of this year. In this letter of Mr. Wilson's there is a laudable and well-meant endeavour to settle chronologically the merits of the different persons whom he considers entitled to credit for advancing the knowledge of the magnetic currents; but a longer acquaintance with Mr. Rutter, and a more intimate knowledge of his antecedent labours in science, would have proved to him that Mr. Rutter is the last man in the world to allow the merits of his predecessors to be ignored or concealed, and he has too much liberality and conscientiousness, and too much real merit and genius, to think of founding a name by appropriating to himself the discoveries of others. In a lecture delivered by him in a literary and scientific society, last April, he entered fully into the facts which had preceded his. But before I enter more fully on Mr. Rutter's lecture, I will give a brief history of the discovery. It was the tumbler with the pendulum suspended in it, and the analysis of its phenomena, which first revealed to him the law which, he believes, governs all the phenomena.

Dr. Herbert Mayo's interesting experiments did not become known to him till the 2nd of April last, through an article in *Chambers's Edinburgh Journal* of March; there is reference to some of Reichenbach's experiments in the same article. He had not previously seen Baron Von Reichen-

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bach's work. He only became possessed of a copy about three weeks ago. Dr. Mayo's experiments left him still in the dark. If it had not been for the happy thought about the terrestrial electricity or the polarizing effect of telluric currents, he would not have pursued the subject to its present issue.

Mr. Rutter, in the most liberal manner, has endeavoured to supply information to all who have sought it, and has never refused to show his experiments. Upwards of 400 persons have seen many of them. He has never sought to publish them, and it is only at the intercession of numerous friends, to whose judgment he thought it right to defer, that he has consented to give publicity to his experiments through the press. The work shortly about to appear is intended as an authorized record, and is entitled "*Magnetoid Currents, their Forces and Directions; with a description of the Magnetoscope, and a series of experiments.*"

Most important truths are in process of development by the phenomena which are constantly going on under his observation. It is this conviction, and a desire to forward these truths, which encourage him to persevere and devote his time to making experiments. Hitherto they have absorbed much time, and not a little money.

The lecture of Mr. Rutter in April last, had for subject, "Remarks on certain Electrical Phenomena in connection with Human Physiology." Mr. Rutter "having bespoken the indulgence of his audience, not for science, not for philosophy, but for the feebleness and ignorance of him who now essayed to speak of some elements, which he believed to be truly electrical, and also connected with human physiology," he proceeded, with the humility and modesty ever the characteristics of true merit, to remark "that he was but a gatherer of other men's stuffs," literally but a collector of fragmentary thoughts, putting them in a connected form, so that they might be understood and valued, and that thus he might prevent their being seized by the charlatan, and used as helps to trickery and imposture." After giving some interesting information on electricity, the voltaic battery, magnets, the electric telegraph, magnetic electricity, and thermo-electricity, the leech barometer, terrestrial magnetism, etc., "Don't say," exclaimed Mr. Rutter, "that we don't live in an age of mystery. Mysteries were rising up amongst us every day. We were living in the midst of mysteries, which God was revealing to us for the good of his creatures." He then alluded to the discoveries of Faraday, Snow Harris, and Sir Humphrey Davy. He afterwards spoke of the "remarkable researches which had long been going on by Baron Von Reichenbach." "He (Mr. Rutter) pretended not to say whether all that had been published was correct or not; he knew nothing about it, except what he had read. But within the last few months, a little scintillation of truth had broken out. And he held, that so long as we had that which was substantial truth—true philosophy, true science, a part of Nature's own operations, without reference to opinion or evidence—we were bound to exhibit that truth. Truth was no secret: it was only when attempted to be made a secret, that it was driven among errors and used for base purposes."

"Herbert Mayo, a name well known in literature, had been long in ill health on the Rhine or somewhere on the Continent; among other things, it seemed he wished to refresh his mind with a little touch of mathematics. He sent for a professor, and took his first lesson. Afterwards they began to talk of other things. The professor said he had heard that Mr. Mayo had written on various topics, and, he added, "I have a little thing here I should like you to see." He showed it to Mr. Mayo, who was surprised, but he connected it for the moment with some of Reichenbach's experiments. The wonder was that he did not connect it with something else. He (Mr. Rutter) had carried it further. Mr. Mayo tried the experiment, and he wrote a little account of it, and called it the "Od influence." Reichenbach calls it "Od force." Whilst in one case we had to deal with persons in a certain state, for it seemed a certain state of health or a nervous irritability was required, the case which he referred to seemed common to all, diffused through all nature, the lower animals probably partaking of it as we do ourselves, and yet all apparently bound up in the great band of electric agencies."

After showing a number of beautiful experiments, which made evident the different motions, some direct rotatory, some reverse, some longitudinal, and others transverse, etc.; also the power given to water of causing motion by dipping the magnet for a second in the water; the effect of a hair of a lady producing the same effect as herself; and the positive evidence of the effect of the *aura*, from the finger producing the same effect as contact had done; likewise the fact that breathing or blowing on the back of the hand reversed the motion of the pendulum, and that blowing on the palm, gives a longitudinal motion;—

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Mr. Rutter expressed his belief, that the human body is really and truly a species of voltaic arrangement; that there is true duality and polarity, except that instead of dealing with metals, and acids, and decomposing substances, we had all the Od things in the world, everything in fact that we touched, tasted, or handled. The subject was, no doubt, intimately and deeply connected with health and disease, the emotions of the mind, the desires of the heart, and the objects which presented themselves every day; and he thought there were some analogies, equally close and compatible with the original motion of electricity, to justify him in saying that the human body exhibited, probably in combination with electrics and non-electrics, and magnetism, enough to warrant the title given to his subject, namely, certain electrical phenomena in connection with physiology. All that he had done and all he professed to do was to present a correct illustration of certain electrical phenomena, the common property of all who were labouring to leave the world better than they had found it. Might he not suggest the magnetic state of the body to have something to do with the action of medicines which had metals for their bases? He had reason to believe that this influence operated on the lower animals."

"The dog always followed his master home; the horse knew his way in the dark, though blindfolded he knew when his master was on his back; pigeons found their way an immense distance; the vulture found the newly-slain on the battle-field, and came hundreds of miles to the spot. It was usual to say that he scented his food, but he came with his face to the wind. He had no more difficulty in understanding how the influence arising from pointing to a lady's hand might lead to the reversal of the motion of an oscillatory body, than how a vulture knew that his meal was prepared a hundred miles off, although the rotundity of the earth must interfere with his vision. One was as inexplicable as the other. His (Mr. Rutter's) object was to strike one scintillation of truth before his audience. Try it, he said, and then draw inferences. Whatever the inference, the facts were true. If it were good, let them get good out of it. He was sure there was no evil in it, because it was one of God's operations."

Gentlemen, I have quoted Mr. Rutter's lecture at some length, but I feel assured that you are gratified that I have done so. The practical knowledge, the philosophical research, and admirable sentiments contained, do honour to the head and heart of its writer. Such sentiments and such broad, philosophical, and philanthropical views cannot but elevate the mind to higher aspirations; and I am sure you look forward with the same longing and impatience that I do for the forthcoming work of Mr. Rutter. I anticipate an incalculable amount of good to flow from it on our poor suffering fellow-creatures, as well as that it will be a fountain of knowledge to the philosophic inquirer; and I earnestly hope that every respectable homœopathic practitioner will arise as one man to resist and expose any attempt to appropriate the well-earned credit of Mr. Rutter's discovery, and to do homage to him to whom we owe such a deep debt of gratitude,

I called your attention at our last meeting to the effect of *Flint* upon the pendulum; since then, some admirable experiments have been made by Mr. Rutter, beautifully illustrating the effects of crystalline forms. *Rock Crystal* (a pure form of *Flint*) gives four distinct motions to the pendulum. 1st. When the apex of the primary axis is placed in contact with the left hand, an oscillation takes place from F to G. 2nd. When the base of the *Crystal* (the part by which it had been attached to the rock) is placed in the hand, oscillation from H to E. 3rd. Upon the *Crystal* being laid across the hand, the apex from the operator, reverse rotation takes place; and 4th, when the apex is towards the operator, direct rotation takes place. Now, the extraordinary thing is, that a globule of the thirtieth attenuation, or the decillionth of *Silicea*, displays all these four distinct motions as completely and satisfactorily as the mass of *Rock Crystal* does, by changing its position in the palm of the hand of the operator; but it is of course impossible to predicate what will happen whilst dealing with so small a portion of the substance. The motions can only be obtained by frequently moving the globule, and at every such change of position, one of the four directions is a constant result. When the experiment was tried last, it only required five changes to arrive at the four different motions. When the globule is dissolved in water, a drop of the solution gives oscillation to and from F G. Mr. Rutter attributes this to the polarizing effect of the *Crystal*.

The present explanation will take the place of the observations made by me in my last lecture upon the effects of *Flint* and of a globule of *Silicea*, the result then obtained having been the effect of the base of the *Crystal*, and not of the apex of the primary axis.

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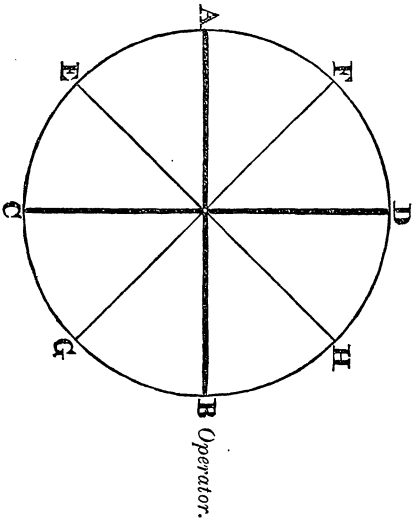
On some crude metallic *Antimony* being put upon the left hand of the operator, the normal circulatory movement is immediately changed to the reverse current. One globule of *Antimonium metallicum* was put upon the operator's hand; the effect was to change the normal circulatory motionin to the reverse current. *Tartar Emetic*, one globule, had the same effect, being an additional proof to those already furnished, of the soundness of one of Mr. Rutter's discoveries; namely, that all compound substances invariably act in accordance with the powers of their base.



On *Alumina* 30, one globule being placed on the operator's hand, whilst the pendulum is moving in the normal circular action, the reverse circular motion immediately takes place.

Cina 9, one globule, brings the instrument to a dead stop.

Causticum 30, one globule, produces the reverse rotation. On *Coffea* 3, one globule, its antidote, being conjoined with the *Causticum* on the hand of the operator, the normal action is immediately produced. On the *Causticum* being removed, and the *Coffea* left, the special action of *Coffea* sets in, the pendulum motion from H to E.

Cicuta 30, one globule, causes the reverse rotation.

Cocculus 12, one globule, brings the pendulum to a dead stop. When *Camphor* is added, both the *Cocculus* and the *Camphor* being in the hand of the operator at the same time, the normal action is feebly set in.

Colchicum 12, one globule, causes the pendulum to move in the reverse rotation.

Conium 30, one globule, immediately stops the pendulum. On *Coffea*, its antidote, being added, the normal rotatory action immediately commences.

Crocus sativus 3, one globule, produces a reverse elliptical action from E to H. On its antidote, *Opium* one globule, being conjoined, the normal rotatory motion immediately sets in.

Jalappa 3, one globule, produces the reverse rotation.

Mezereum 12, one globule, causes the instrument to come to a dead stop. On its antidote, *Camphor* one globule, being added, the normal rotatory action immediately commences.

Petroleum 18, one globule, gives the reverse rotatory motion. On its antidote, *Nux vomica* 30 one globule, being added, the pendulum immediately stops.

Rhabarbara (*Rheum*) 9, one globule, produces the reverse rotation.

Sambucus nigra 3, one globule, produces feeble normal rotation.

Acidum nitricum 12, one globule, causes the pendulum to take the reverse rotatory motion; conjoined with its antidote *Camphor* one globule, the normal rotation is immediately produced.

Secale cornutum 30, one globule, produces the normal rotation; conjoined with its antidote *Camphor* one globule, the pendulum is brought to a dead stop.

Nothing can be more beautiful and more satisfactory than to witness the results upon Mr. Rutter's instrument of the experiments with the antidotes to these various medicines, indicated by Hahnemann in his works. Our revered master, by dint of long, patient, and persevering experiments upon the effect of various medicines upon the healthy body, discovered a number of antidotes to some of these medicines, and in other instances, only to some of the effects of each medicine experimented upon. In other instances, he corrected many errors into which medical authors had fallen, with respect to the powers of some antidotes. Mr. Rutter's instrument corroborates in the most satisfactory and most beautiful manner the experiments of Hahnemann.

In the course of these experiments of Hahnemann, he discovered that some antidotes had the power of neutralizing *all* the effects of the substances against which they were prescribed. On the other hand, he found that he could not by one single antidote overcome the entire action of some substances, the effects of which he wished to neutralize. He was obliged, therefore, to direct his experiments in such a manner as to discover how he could neutralize by

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different partial antidotes—if I may so call them, the effects produced upon different organs by certain medicines. Hence we find several antidotes recorded in Hahnemann's works against one single medicine: one, for instance, to neutralize the effect of that medicine upon the brain; another to overcome its action upon the circulation; a third to modify its effects upon the stomach or bladder; and a fourth to calm the irritating or the depressing action upon the nervous system.

Hitherto, I have merely, as far as I recollect, recorded the effect of one single antidote against one remedy. I shall now bring under your notice a few experiments where several antidotes in succession were tried against one single medicine. These antidotes being those indicated by Hahnemann. For example, the two antidotes to *Graphites* are *Nux vomica* and *Arsenicum*.

On one globule of *Graphites* 30, being placed on the operator's left hand, the reverse elliptical motion from E to H set in. On *Nux vomica* 30, one globule, being added to it, the pendulum immediately stopped. On the *Nux vomica* 8, being taken away, the elliptical motion was immediately reproduced. On *Arsenicum* 30, one globule, being added, the pendulum immediately stopped.

The two antidotes indicated against *Helleborus* are *Camphor* and *China*.

On one globule of *Helleborus niger* 12, being put in the operator's hand, the pendulum stopped. On one globule of *Camphor* being added, the normal rotatory motion immediately set in; the *Camphor* was removed, and the pendulum again stopped. On one globule of *China* 30, being added, the pendulum action from E to H immediately set in.

The antidotes to *Sabadilla* are *Pulsatilla* and *Camphor*.

One globule of *Sabadilla* brought the instrument to a dead stop. On one globule of *Pulsatilla* being added, the normal rotatory action immediately commenced. On the *Pulsatilla* being removed, the instrument again stopped. One globule of *Camphor* was added, and the normal rotation immediately set in.

The antidotes to *Senega* are *Arnica*, *Camphor*, *Bryonia*, and *Belladonna*.

The effect of one globule of *Senega* upon the instrument was to bring it to a dead stop. On being conjoined with one globule of *Arnica*, the normal rotatory motion set in. The *Arnica* was removed, and the pendulum stopped. *Camphor* was added, when normal rotation set in. On the *Camphor* being removed, the pendulum again stopped. One globule of *Bryonia* was then added, and the normal rotation again reappeared. The *Bryonia* 30, was removed, and the instrument stopped; and, finally, on *Belladonna* 30, one globule, being added, the reverse rotatory motion immediately set in.

Now, gentlemen, you have of course borne in mind that the globule of *Senega* was during the whole of the last experiment in the hand of the operator; that before the *Senega* touched his hand, the pendulum was going round in the normal rotatory direction, and that the *Senega* brought it to a dead stop. Permit me to recall to your memory, that the natural effect of *Arnica* placed in the hand of the operator, would be to cause the reverse rotatory motion, but its effect, finding the hand already under the influence of the globule of *Senega*, was to produce the normal rotatory motion instead of the reverse. The natural action of *Camphor* is to produce the normal rotatory motion, and in this instance it neutralized the effect of *Senega*, which had brought the pendulum to a stop. The natural effect of *Bryonia* is the reverse motion; conjoined with the *Senega*, however, the normal motion is produced. When the globule of *Belladonna* (the natural effect of which is to stop the pendulum just as the *Senega* does) is added, a different action from any of the three other antidotes is set in, that of the reverse rotatory motion.

I cannot imagine anything more beautiful or more delicate than these experiments. Mr. Rutter, who is no homœopath, is perfectly astonished and enchanted at the additional means which the discoveries of Hahnemann give him (Mr. Rutter) of proving the delicate and truthful action of his instrument.

To us homœopathic practitioners, the beautiful invention and discovery of Mr. Rutter is precious beyond all calculation; as a means of calling attention to, and spreading homœopathy among, our allopathic colleagues. I know not how you feel, gentlemen, but my heart is overflowing with gratitude to Mr. Rutter, for all that his discovery may be the means of doing for our Cause.

He has unconsciously but most correctly described himself in his lecture, extracts of which I have given this evening. He is indeed, one of those "who are labouring to leave the world better than they found it." I cannot close my lecture more fitly than by quoting the beautiful words of Mr. Rutter, so expressive of the character of his own mind—"We were living in the midst of mysteries, which God was revealing to us for the good of his creatures."

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LETTER TO ROBERT CHRISTISON, M.D., V.P.R.S.E.,

AND PROFESSOR OF MATERIA MEDICA IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

No. V.

SIR,—A weekly editorial writer, a partisan of yours, and co-agitator to Scottish Universities, with that amiable weapon the "*Lancet*," but hitherto much inferior in his Billingsgate department to the noted whipper-in, has just come out with a "perfect burst" of *morality, medical morality!!* His exacerbation of abuse sinks maudlin into tears; he weeps bitterly at the "*vile motives*" imputed by us to the pill philosophy; regrets the long forbearance that prevented him from hanging us all some years ago; and requests to know what right we have to *object to persecution.* This individual, who in a professional lifetime has not added one tittle towards the advancement of therapeutics, but who, nevertheless, from a dire necessity for a perfect devotion to "sixpences," yelps mellifluously at those who have, and who throws off his polished paragraphs so exquisitely refined, that we, brought up in a rugged-school, feel quite "at sea" whilst perusing them—this individual, I say, has, like the frog in the fable, inflated himself to an alarming extent. Alive to the great allopathic principle, that "vile motives" are all on our side, and that *viler motives*, when coming from his own, must be taken for sound arguments, he dives at once, with the tears still undried upon his malar bones, into the *Lancet* vocabulary, and picks out the *choicest* words he can find there. He is *nice* too in his selection, as we might expect from such a man; and favours a portion of us with the gratifying designation of "bastard homœopaths," and as "needy practitioners outstripped in the pace of *legitimate practice.*" He hates homœopathy and homœopaths with that *bitterness* which only an apothecary can realize; but the *bastard breed* is his especial aversion: he curses them in his heart as no one ever cursed but Dr. Slop; and he thus metes out his anathemata proportionally, because he thinks the latter have less chance of breaking down. He never sleeps but a demon sits upon his chest in the shape of a homœopathist; the shades of allopathic patients flit round his couch, and he awakes to the chanting of Io Pæans for the fading greatness of pestle-and-mortarism. When the future rises up before him, and weekly sixpences seem dwindling into fourpenny-bits, the gaunt spectre of starvation rouses him for "*another go;*" but down again, he dreams on and mutters, amid disturbed slumbers—

> "Thou shalt live on thy pain,
> With a fire in thy heart,
> And a fire in thy brain;
> And sleep shall obey me,
> And visit thee never,
> And the curse shall be on thee
> For ever and ever."

He asserts that he has seen instances where men that were allopathic at night have awoke thorough homœopaths in the morning. We have heard of "genuine Macassar," or "bear's grease," or some such pomatum of note metamorphosing a deal box in one night into a hairy trunk, but we have not seen it; but this editor has seen it: let him denounce *the man*, or bear the stigma he has incurred of asserting a falsity.

In applying the offensive term of "bastard homœopaths," he endeavours to bring discredit on any admixture of the systems; he will admit of no scale in homœopathic intellect, no proportion in homœopathic advancement. He forgets how many miles it is from the heights of Giessen to the low swamps of Putney. He calls upon us to stand or fall by the merits of our system; he debars, or would debar, all patients from having any voice in the matter, and hints that henceforward no patient who has once patronised homœopathy can possibly obtain advice from an allopath, for the allopaths have determined not to render it. Could he possibly effect this, it would be a boon to us. Whenever we feel in want of allopathy, we know where to find it; we shall certainly not come to him. When vindictive, invidious, contemptible twaddle like this is foisted upon the public notice in lieu of logic, we may well blush for the venal condition of medicine, rendered respectable through age. When one who conducts what is a professed guide to the condition of medicine in its catholic phasis, says to his patient, "If this don't cure you, you may die, for you shall not try anything else," the question occurs to me whether, after all the resources of allopathy had failed in any case, and you had said, "Now let me see what globules can do," would your conscience, even if they failed, upbraid you for the trial? No good man would; neither do I blame the homœopath who leaves no stone unturned in case of failure. Sir, human life is far too precious to be set upon a dictum. No doubt we can boast of better things than "the modern treatment of the calculous diathesis;" but we are short of what we could wish. We expect, however, to advance far faster than you do, for from the first we had a small bright star shining in our

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horizon, which, as it advances towards the zenith, is at this moment promising development into a planet of the first magnitude.

The "vile motives," for which this editor sheds crocodile tears, would, taken by themselves, form a severe drag at the end of our moral beam. But as fair a proportion of our ranks are *independent of practice* as in yours; and when we remember those five-barred gates to innovation,—fat practices of many annual thousands, snug official berths, favourable positions before the public, and especially *fears of brotherly kindness and charity from "the profession,"* in the event of secession,—we think the heavier weight is at your end of the beam, and that, in point of courage, we beat you all to "smithereens."

As to bandying "motives," the *Lancet* has taken weekly care always to keep us in his debt. He promised on one single occasion to treat the subject with the "calmness and dignity becoming a great profession"—in other words, to behave like a gentleman; but his very next issue showed how impossible it was for him to act in opposition to his inherent nature: perhaps his weekly sale would have suffered. He could not keep this hastily-formed resolution; and why? Human dross would not permit him; when he made the promise, he forgot how the dire necessity of eating and drinking compelled him (even if his natural inclination did not imperatively order him) to write articles suited to the capacity of several thousand practitioners, whom shame is only slowly emancipating from the elevated function of goading mucous membranes; whose moral feelings have ever been enslaved by remuneration for drugs sold by *quantity*, and the efforts of whose brains were considered by patients, and tacitly admitted by themselves, as not worth paying for.

When induced to allude to such opponents, whose science and logic so beautifully fraternize towards the well-being of their fellow-men, we irresistibly address our pen, ink, and paper in the words of the poet—

"To such vile uses do we come, Horatio."

Pshaw! are you never to have done with "*motives*," and never to commence investigation? We leave these gentry, weekly editors and all, whose classical phraseology lights stale upon our hearts, whose pointless arrows fall blunted from the convex of our shield.

"A thousand archers, with unerring eye,
At once let fly,
And with their hurtling arrows fill the sky;
In vain they fall upon him fast as rain;
He bears a charmed life, which may defy
All weapons, and the darts that whiz around,
As from an adamantine panoply
Repelled, fall idly to the ground."

Let me try to coax you towards science. The subject is quite exhilarating, don't you feel it so? I do; "it makes one feel quite jolly," for we shall have such rare bits of morality; no fear of wearying. You leave to us the proving of our medicinal actions, and we may do so. We leave to you to disprove them, and you have not advanced therein the step of a musquito. We in vain invited you to watch our proceedings, to record our cures and our failures alike, but that was not to be thought of; if we could not prove them according to the Paracelsian theories of the day, we could not be listened to. Would it have been different twenty years ago? I ween not; we should have been called to prove them by the standard for the time, whatever that was. It was in vain, when cures were not believed, that we illustrated our medicaments by the subtle agencies of the various imponderables, the secret miasms in various localities, and the specific poisons of certain forms of disease, and, tired of the dispute, we scarcely thought, in our day at least, any means would turn up to prove to materialists that their heads were as thick as brickbats.

Because our therapeutic views differed, we were denied the use of the microscope; because we scorned your chemistry of digestion, in so far as it afforded any guide to remedies, you said the stethoscope was ignored by us; but we used these like yourselves, and excelled you in their therapeutic application.

We have extended the diagnostic powers of the microscope to therapeutics, which you cannot do beyond simple aggregation and crystallization; nor is there any chance whatever that you will be able to arrive at even this state of therapeutic advancement. So long as infinitesimal doses can be proved to the satisfaction of the public by a more than average amount of cures, it matters little in reality whether a scientific proof of their potentiality can be obtained or not; the days have been for a long time fleeting by when the estimation of medicaments is to be regulated by bulk, and we look forward most wistfully to a cheering season, when the practitioner's brains are held in somewhat higher estimation than his boluses. Alas! that it should have been so tardy hitherto. We must rest our proof of medicinal power on the observation of our patients, on the evidence given by registrars of deaths, who must certify the *nature of the*

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cases in which our deaths occur. I think science, when applied to therapeutics, is looking our way, and oozing out at your fingers. A late essayist on homœopathy has made use of the following quotation, which being Baconian, and not *his*, you may peruse with *safety to your honour*, which, I can assure you, is as dear to me as that of any young lady's whatever. "The poet that beautified the sect that was otherwise inferior to the rest, saith yet excellently well: It is a pleasure to stand upon the shore and to see ships tossed upon the sea; a pleasure to stand in the window of a castle, and to see a battle, and the adventures thereof below: but no pleasure is comparable to the standing upon the vantage ground of truth (a hill not to be commanded, and where the air is always clear and serene) and to see the errors and wanderings, and mists and tempests, in the vale below: so always that this prospect be with pity, and not with swelling or pride."

The advancement of homœopathy is the therapeutic locomotive of the day. Your lumbering waggon is passed by; the power of persecution cannot upset our engine; and, true to the failings of poor mortals, the "swellings and the pride" come unbidden to her aid, and wing her wheels along the road of science; massive iron indicates her strength; brazen chimneys typify her aggression on your party; whilst your deceptive vehicle is far behind, thirty years at least, by your own showing.

Look then around you! take a survey of our relative positions, and strike a balance for the last three months. Are your hopes greater than they were? Is there one homœopathic practitioner fewer? Have you weaned from their belief one patient, for ten who have joined us from the effects of your outcry? Have you had a single public journal in your favour, save the venal organs of the medical press? I trow not. Have you dared to put your idle boast of expulsion to the test in a single instance? You have not dared, and why? because once more "at sea" on the subject of *legitimacy*, your legal advisers hinted the scrape you would be in. What, then, have you done? Have you set the Forth in flames? Have you squashed homœopathy? Have you made any friends? Have you exalted the dignity of the medical profession in its catholicity? No, you have done none of these; what, then, have you done?—why, rejected Mr. Pope.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

SIGMA.

October 25, 1851.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST, 1851.

THE inhabitants of Ross, in Herefordshire, are in a fair way of becoming acquainted with the virtues of homœopathy. In another part of our paper will be found a lengthy report of what has recently transpired at a meeting of the Governors of the Dispensary, in consequence of Dr. STRONG's fearless advocacy and introduction of our practice into that Institution.

We are glad to notice that the result of the debate did not turn so much upon the attempted obstruction of homœopathic practice, as it did upon the question of the rules allowing any departure from the old-established custom of the Dispensary. It is curious to observe the modified views of the public upon the vital topic of medical reform. Not long ago any such endeavour would have been scouted with the fiercest anathemas, but now the contrary happily proves the case. The public, as a body, are evidently favourable to an examination of our principles, and would readily adopt them, were it not for the rabid opposition created by professional prejudices.

This was fully evidenced by many of the observations made at Ross. As yet, however, upon a finely technical point the Governors of the Dispensary gained the day; the resolution for altering the rules, so as to permit a continuance of homœopathic practice, having been negatived. Thankful are we to discover that the press shows no backwardness in giving due publicity to proceedings of the kind in question. The *Hereford Times*, from the columns of which we have abridged our report, furnished in detail the debate, and in a spirit of impartiality reflecting credit upon its conductors.

The short address of Dr. STRONG at the conclusion of the discussion will be read with interest. He stood before the audience and clearly explained his position. Possessing a thorough and complete conviction

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that homœopathy is the right system, he has adopted it, and will carry it out to the best of his ability. Having thus unbosomed himself on the question, none can now attack him for boldly standing up in defence of his principles.

The demonstration at Ross will vastly assist the progress of the philosophy of Hahnemann. It has already made way in the county of Hereford, and its disciples are gradually increasing. Strong testimony was borne by two or three of the speakers to the favourable results of the introduction of homœopathic practice, and the prospect of its future success.

In every town and in every county we trust before long to see practical illustrations of the onward career of homœopathy. We have struck terror into the hearts of our adversaries by our bold and unflinching perseverance. Zealous co-operation on all sides must speedily achieve us a victory, which shall astonish the highest among the allopaths, despite their attempts to crush us under foot, and to bring us and our system into ridicule.

THE MAGNETOSCOPE.

We trust our readers have not been at all staggered by the seeming discrepancies between the experiments made by Mr. Rutter, as recorded by Dr. Quin, and those made by Dr. Madden, with this instrument. We doubt not that these apparent discrepancies will turn out to be "confirmations strong"—of the instrument, and of its virtue.

The Marquis of Worcester evidently, as may be seen from his "Century of Inventions," knew in principle the steam-engine. The renown of Black and Watt and Fulton, is not diminished thereby.

Reichenbach, Caspari, Herbert Mayo, and Rutter are, without doubt, the leaders in this new field of physical science. The rest must be content to follow in their wake. We have seen Mr. Rutter and his experiments. There never was a man more ingenuous, more direct, and more straightforward than Mr. Rutter. In a few weeks we shall have his book, and he will tell us all he has yet known of magnetism, of magnetoid currents, and of odic polarities. We believe that his experiments are fully reliable, and that his so-far interpreter, Dr. Quin, has faithfully represented him.

We are very glad that scientific men like Mr. Sharp, Drs. Quin, Madden, Sutherland, and others, are actively engaged in experimenting with this instrument—the results will be, so far as homœopathy is concerned—"a heavy blow and great discouragement" to the brute opponents, who only see an argument in numbers—and have no notion of any strength but that of physical force. By physical science shall *their* physical force be proved to be 0.

"It goes very well" with us. We are not daunted; there are more for us than against us; for Truth alone is a match for a million of Scythians, and this time Truth is *not at the bottom of a well.*

All may hear who have ears, all may see who have eyes, and all may understand who have any faculties of vision.

We must again, however, insist on the necessity of caution in drawing inferences or any absolute conclusions from the experiments already recorded by Dr. Madden, and by Dr. Quin. Many a little bark coasted the shores before the law of the magnet was discovered, and applied by navigators, and before mathematical science was so brought to bear on navigation, that at last illiterate captains were enabled to "take observations," and "work them out" by printed tables.

"The sweetest and best harmony is, when every part or instrument is not heard by itself, but a conflation of them all, which requireth to stand some distance off:"—so the workers must work, and the observers must watch and wait, while the various series of *facts* are carefully accumulated, digested, and compared, till at length, at the touch of the appointed harmonists, they fall under certain law and governance. Meanwhile hope, and a good conscience, and a spirit of truthful inquiry, and love for mankind, are very good things.

EXTRACTS FROM THE LANCET.

Our contemporary was, in his last week's number, very rich on the subject of homœo-

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pathy. He has been obliged to whitewash Dr. Francis Hawkins and Sir H. Halford, who are, it seems, quite innocent of any favourable tendencies towards homœopathy.

He denounces, in very coarse terms, Dr. Calvert Holland, who has returned to Sheffield to practise medicine, because he is now a homœopathist. Dr. Holland is well known as a physiologist; and has published two works of very great practical value: "The Vital Statistics of Sheffield," and "Diseases of the Lungs from Mechanical Causes." Of the latter work we have the following praise from our contemporary: "Dr. Holland is an able and experienced writer, whose name has been long familiar to the medical public. It was, therefore, with some curiosity that we opened his work on the mechanical causes of pulmonary disease, as we felt certain that a man of his great medical knowledge and sagacity, located as he has been in the very centre of one of our large manufacturing districts, could not fail to throw great light on the interesting point of hygiene and pathology, which he had undertaken to elucidate; nor were we disappointed in this respect. Dr. Holland's searching and elaborate account of the morbid and hygienic state of the workmen who are exposed to the inhalation of the metallic and petrous dust, created during their grinding operations, is the most complete and the most practical we have ever read. Dr. Holland's directions with regard to treatment are sound and practical." —*Lancet*, Feb. 10th, 1844.

The people of Sheffield will not value Dr. Calvert Holland the less, now that he has returned to them, because he has availed himself of the better light in therapeutics, that shows the therapeutic art is advancing in this age of progress; and will not value him less for the vituperation, nor value him more for the praise of the *Lancet*.

In his leader, he quotes approvingly the profane expression of the royal infidel, falsely called Frederick the Great, "Providence always takes the side of the strongest"—a saying as false, in the sense of the king and the *Lancet*, as it is impious. History has shown that the battle has not always been won by the more numerous battalions, for more than a quarter of a century the tribes of the Caucasus have kept, and still keep, at bay the Scythian hordes of the Autocrat Nicholas. We admonish our contemporary that truth is always the strongest, and that time is the surest interpreter of what is really true; and we advise him to continue his assaults on homœopathy,—if he will, but avoid expressions that right-minded persons consider to be impious. We can only afford space, this week, for one extract from his columns:—

"At a meeting of the committee of the London and Provincial Medical Protection and Benevolent Society, held on Monday last, the following pithy and significant resolutions were proposed, seconded, and adopted unanimously. At all points the globulists are attempting to connect themselves with the regular practitioners of medicine, and at all points they must be met and repudiated as quacks, belonging to the order of knaves or fools, or the two combined.

"'That in the opinion of the committee of the London and Provincial Medical Protection and Benevolent Society, the practising homœopathy by legally qualified medical men is calculated to excite ridicule, and thus to lower the profession in public estimation.

"'As one of the principal objects of this Society is to raise the tone of public feeling towards the profession, the committee feel that, by including among their members professors of homœopathy, they would be directly opposing the objects of the Society.

"'The committee therefore decide, that any member of the profession who professes to practise or does practise homœopathy, is deemed ineligible to be a member of this Society. The committee are further of opinion, that they could not conscientiously employ the power of this Society in collecting moneys from the public for homœopathic attendance, believing, as they do, homœopathic practice to be an entire imposture.'

"The thanks of every honest member of the Society are due to the members of the committee. It would indeed have been a prostitution of the powers of the Society, if they had been lent to enforce upon the public the bills of homœopaths for globules. The step taken was absolutely necessary, for several of the homœopaths had actually, we are informed, sent their globule accounts to the Society for collection."

THE MEDICAL TIMES.

In one of his notices to correspondents, the Editor says: "Let our correspondent lay before us an authenticated case, in which any physician or surgeon, however high his social station, has met a homœopath in consultation, and we, in our turn, will bring it before the profession. No high-minded medical man can meet a quack, and least of all a homœopath."

This is pretty strong. Let us parody for him one of the apothecary's scraps of Latin from Cicero: "There is one class of opponents we cannot tolerate; the awful brood springs from the ashes of S. Hahnemann. At a recent festive meeting of

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their number, the wretches were unshorn, unwashed, shirtless, aud hose-less: and there was such a roar of dissonant voices! there were gathered together every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented. Wherefore, my readers, don't be frightened; be calm as we are, and lay aside your alarm, if ye have any."

This is the key-note to the leader of five mortal columns of the *Medical Times*. But as the Editor is strong, why is he not merciful? *Was he never in that cave of Adullam? Was he never in distress, never in debt, never discontented?*

We confess to his good gifts—his talents, his learning, his extent of reading, his literary ability; but we cannot give him credit for his knowledge of homœopathy. He has only dabbled with the subject. He has been among the cattle and litter of the outer court; he has never even entered the vestibule. In this case he merits the poet's advice—

"A little learning is a dangerous thing;
Drink deep, or taste not the Hahnemannian spring."

Such a writer should do something better in the way of argument than he has yet done in his papers, "Our Relations with the Homœopathists." In his No. II, under this title, he addresses himself personally to the homœopathists. We can only afford room for a few gems from this *Phillipic*. "Hahnemann began his career with vulgar and common quackery;" for which he quotes the authority of Dr. A. Wood!—wonderful authority whereon to rely!

"You employ considerably upwards of 200 drugs, and we defy you to point to one of them, of the action of which on the healthy body you have any accurate record."

Rash Editor! We have Hahnemann's "Materia Medica," and "Chronic Diseases," and numerous other books, in which there are authentic provings of our medicines—many of them re-proved lately by a Medical Society at Vienna.

He next proceeds to show that the practice of some homœopathists is not in accordance with the rules of Hahnemann, and with the views of Mr. Everest. The diversities in doses and the repetition of doses depend on *how* men understand and practise homœopathy.

We are sorry that we have not time to dissect this leader. It is cleverly done. We give the closing sentence: "Well may the kind-hearted pity you, the honest despise you, the sarcastic sneer, the indignant condemn, and all united proclaim, in a voice which cannot be misunderstood, that from such a system, whether its professors be the deceivers or the deceived, the upright and scientific physician must for ever stand aloof."

We close with a free rendering of another passage from Cicero, set to the students at the preliminary examination of Apothecaries' Hall.

"There is a law not witten in the books of allopathy, which our Founder won from Nature herself, which we have learned from him, and according to which we practise; and thereby we defend our patients, and ultimately our successors will be able to defend mankind, from lancet and drugging: every way of promoting health and maintaining life is honourable. Therefore we are indifferent to the attacks made on us by a hostile medical press; therefore we care not for the reproaches, and dread not the menaces of our foes: there is none of them we would not help—none of them we do not feel for. We only regret that a better and worthier spirit is not manifested towards us. The public time, and posterity are our judges."

THE EAST *versus* THE WEST.

[The following extract from the *Morning Chronicle* of Calcutta, August 29th, 1851, will not probably improve the digestion of the Editors of the *Lancet* and *Medical Times*, nor improve the temper of the "Faculties" of the Scotch Universities. This is a capital article, and there is a love of fair play in Calcutta touching our medical doctrine, which we should be glad to see in Great Britain. We have the gratifying knowledge that in every part of the British Empire our doctrine is being made, known, and our practice is being adopted. This effect is produced by the weight of testimony, and by the force of experience.—Ed.]

"We have lately had many communications addressed to us on the subject of homœopathy and the practice of globular medicines, and infinitesimal dosing as it is called, but we refrained from publishing them, as we could not well understand the drift of the senders, and thought they were either deluded enthusiasts or ignorant charlatans. We have, however, altered our opinion somewhat on the matter, though not homœopathists either from conviction or practice as yet, and our reasons for listening to the new doctrines are as follow:—Firstly, we have had a series of pamphlets and periodicals handed to us for examination and perusal, which relate to this system of medical practice; and secondly and more forcibly, we have watched attentively for a considerable time the system of persecution and downcry that has been organized at home against the practitioners engaged either as

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amateurs or as qualified medical men in its spread and dissemination. The perusal of the former has much amused and pleased us, and the consideration of the latter has gradually fixed our attention more and more, until at length it has engaged our sympathy and commanded inquiry. Wherever persecution begins, a sense of right ends on the part of its promoters and abettors, and the mind of an educated person is led to suspect that that person or body of men, or science, which it is endeavoured to hunt down is formidable by truth, a conscientious advocacy of right and reason, and a superiority over the worn-out deceptions of the pack who are hunting down their victim, and endeavouring to cover him with ignominy or annihilate him by falsehood, misrepresentation, and persecution. All these are now at work in England, and to what point? Not to protect the public from empirics, men of bad reputation or broken down in trade, trying to support themselves by delusion and chicanery, but against regularly educated men of the highest grade of qualification, universally respected, and for years distinguished in the medical profession, who, throwing aside the shackles of education and prejudice, have been bold enough to adopt and practise the homœopathic system of medicine, giving up, in many instances, large practices and great emoluments, for what they conscientiously believe to be a better system of medicine, more suited to reason, truth, experience, and the human frame. There can be no doubt that there is a strong and valuable deposit of truth at the bottom of the system of persecution that has been adopted towards these men, conscientiously giving up what they have been educated to look upon as infallible and confirmed in its truth by the practice of ages, and still more conscientiously giving up the large emoluments and high position to which its practice had introduced them.

"The perusal of the Homœopathic Journals above alluded to has awakened in us a lively conviction of the great value of the system of medical practice of which they are the mouthpieces; if not to the extent its most sanguine admirers and practitioners would go, at least so far as to make us wish to see these matters calmly discussed, without abuse, prejudice, or violent language, which it strikes us have in the present instance been all on the side of the old-system gentlemen. People in the medical profession are, it seems, beginning to think, and the public at large are beginning to feel and believe that the old system, and the present system, of dosing human beings with enormous quantities of nauseous and noxious drugs, is a barbarous and a vicious one, and we agree with them and are certain, that if the practice and study of homœopathy should be productive of no other beneficial result, they will at any rate modify the disgusting, hurtful, and savage practice which, as we have said above, is most painful to the patient, sometimes utterly ruinous to the constitution, and not very creditable, even in the most successful cases, as they are called, to the medical practitioner. The expenditure of drugs to an enormous amount, both in value and quantity, has killed many, has very seldom saved any, and must as a system die out, giving way to partial homœopathy, or an entire adoption of that system, if its enemies should persecute it well, and so cause a quicker appreciation of its value in the public mind, than would have been established for a long time had it been treated with the indulgence which is generally the fate of visionary schemes and theories, devoid of truth and built on a shaky foundation.

"It will perhaps be said that the publications to which we have above alluded, are so many impositions, and full of false cases and reports. We don't think so. Their contents are apparently as true as the pages of their rivals and traducers, and they are temperate, calm, and devoid of abuse and ill words, which the others are not; and hence another reason for suspecting that the right is on the side of those who believe themselves best in the contest, and show that they can afford to be good-humoured and calm.

"It may be said that the homœopathic system of medicine is not suited to this country and tropical diseases. This is nonsense. If a system of medicine be founded on truth and reason, it is suited to all climates, countries, and seasons, if not, it is suited to none, and cannot be upheld by its antiquity, wide prevalence, or its powers of persecution, and its readiness to have recourse to them. Certainly the fine old English system of medicine has been doing wonders for the undertakers in Calcutta of late, and has frightened many into an acquaintance with homœopathy, which they never before thought of cultivating, and which has ended in their being entirely convinced of its truth and superiority. We shall give extracts from the journals above alluded to in the course of a few days."

THE MAGNETOSCOPE.

[We have great pleasure in reprinting the following communication from the very able and philosophical physician who was one of the party present at Mr. Rutter's lecture and experiments, on the 16th inst. This gentleman is an M.D. of Oxford, and a Fellow of the College of Physicians. —Ed.]

To the Editor of the Torquay Directory.

Sir,—I have to-day had such an intellectual treat that I cannot help communicating some of the particulars, in the hope that, though I may fail utterly in conveying a just conception of what I have seen, some of your readers may be tempted to take a run up to London and down to Brighton, for a few hours, with an introduction to Mr. Rutter, a gentleman who will, I am sure, open to your mind a new field of wonders and delight, as he has this day done for a dozen of us, who went down by special invitation to witness his experiments with his newly-invented instrument, to which he has given the name of Magnetoscope, as demonstrative of magnetic influence to an extent which might hitherto have been deemed as unattainable.

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Mr. Rutter, you must understand, is a gentleman who, though statedly occupied in other matters, has given a great deal of attention to magnetic phenomena, and in the course of his experiments has been led into a train of ideas and of practice which must surely immortalize his name, and elevate it into the highest ranks of scientific discoveries. For my part, I cannot hesitate to pronounce what I have seen to-day as the most marvellous of all the marvellous things of the present day which have come under my cognizance, and yet I feel that my poor intellects were unable to take in one-half of the instruction presented to them,—much less, then, can I convey to you any just idea of these novel observations, and I should allow the matter to bide its time, but for the irresistible impulse which I feel to be concentrating my own recollections, whilst I would no less desire to enlist your interest in the matter.

Did you ever hear of an old-fashioned experiment, which is said to be marvellously uniform in its results in a steady hand, viz., holding a shilling suspended by a silken thread between the finger and thumb, the elbow resting on the table, so that the shilling hangs within a wine-glass; under such circumstances the shilling begins to vibrate, and strike the sides of the glass any number of times which may agree with the existing hour. I have never seen this experiment tried, and am only concerned just now with the simple *vibration*. Well, it would seem that Mr. Rutter's experiment sprung from this small origin. His apparatus consists of a stand of wood with a stem, perhaps a foot high, then an arm of glass terminating in a long point of brass, capable of clasping a silken thread, to which is suspended a pendulum of red sealing-wax, which hangs within an elongated bell of glass, with glass bottom, standing on the table. The point of the pendulum is, exactly in the centre, marked by cross lines, to which is added another transverse diagonal line.

As I was unprepared with materials for note-taking, I was content to catch general ideas, without endeavouring to bring away details, which I hope soon to have in the publication which Mr. Rutter contemplates, and hopes soon to have before the world.

To the springing-point of the arm the operator applies his finger and thumb, and at the same time directs his eyes and attention to the pendulum; this very speedily assumes a rotatory motion (from left to right, I think). If now the finger be removed, the pendulum assumes a new motion. If, on the contrary, the thumb be removed, and the finger remain on the instrument, the pendulum moves in the opposite direction. The same results ensue if a bystander places his finger or thumb on the operator's hand; in that case the finger neutralizes the action of the operator's thumb, and the action of the finger remains, and so *vice versâ*. Further, these effects are produced with unerring certainty, if there be a chain of a dozen people holding hands, and one alternately adding the power of his finger and thumb on the hand of the last.

We next arrive at a startling fact: the very reverse effects are produced by the contact or influence of a male and a female, so that if the pendulum be working in any given direction under the influence of a male, it immediately begins to move in the opposite direction under the influence of a female. This was well exhibited by forming a chain of individuals, by the successive and alternate additions of a male and female; on each alternative the pendulum changed its direction. But further, a long chain of males being formed, their influence was immediately neutralized by the addition of a female at the end of the chain, the last link always giving the direction or influence to the whole.

We next turned to the varying influences exerted by different parts of the same body. For instance, the hand of the operator being held near the back of another person's head, the pendulum took one direction, from the forehead it received a different direction, and these corresponded with the movements produced by contact or approach to the south and north poles of a magnetic bar. The hand being placed on the top of the head, the pendulum immediately came to a perfect stand-still.

We next tried a good many experiments with magnetic bars and a magnetic sphere; certain motions of the pendulum being produced by the approximation of the disengaged hands of the operator towards the different parts of the bar or sphere; these motions were modified, reversed, or stopped, by the pointing at different parts of the same agents, by the hand or hands of the bystanders. Not only metallic bars or spheres were thus powerful, but a hazel stick produced no less decided effects, and I may add, that a glass of water, magnetised by one of the company, was no less efficacious. Of course, there are many who would not believe this, but I do not hesitate to affirm it not only as a fact, but as one with which no error, much less deception, could have been practised. Indeed, any approach at deception amongst a company of a dozen, all bent upon investigation, would be an absurdity, for in that case, every man's hand, head, and heart must have been against his neighbour's.

Reverting to the influence exerted by the human body, it was shown, first, that the effects produced varied according as they were derived from the head, the chest, or the abdomen; and further, that the leg and arm of each side opposed each other, and agreed diagonally; and further, that all the influences were reversed, when the individual from whom the operator received them was in the upright or horizontal position.

Such is the faintest possible outline of the experiments which occupied us for about a couple of hours, when we were glad to take a little walk and a little refreshment, and then we returned with increased interest to the *charges*, and the influences indicated by this wonderful though simple medium as resulting from the contact of various metallic and other substances.

I should, indeed, have mentioned earlier that dead animal matter invariably produced a speedy and perfect cessation of all motion. Thus, if a dead fly was dropped into the hand of the last

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of a long chain of persons, the pendulum, however violently agitated before, ceased to move; hence it was found very convenient to have at hand a piece of ivory, which, taken between the finger and thumb, acted with as much precision and rapidity as the hand applied to the strings of a harp to stop sound. This, in the course of the day, saved us much time in changing from one experiment to another.

Up to this period our experiments had been for the most part isolated, and only calculated to afford grounds for synthetical conclusions; but they were now conducted in a great measure with the view of testing the truth of homœopathy, or at least of the power of infinitesimal doses, and I am bound to declare, as one perfectly free from bias, that whilst the experiments were of the *most searching character* that we could all devise (whether disciples of the school or not), they eventuated, in every case, in proving the power of the infinitesimal agent, and of the correctness of the views entertained of their action, as laid down by the most trustworthy writers on the subject. Mr. Rutter, I should observe, is no homœopathist; in fact, he professes to manipulate, so as to make clear and read off the characters of various matters tested with reference solely to their magnetic powers. I suppose one might look upon him as a Linnæus in his own line.

In the first place, many metals and other matters were examined in the mass, some purified, some native, and especially the following: gold, silver, platinum, iron, copper, zinc, and mercury. Each of these communicated its own peculiar motion to the pendulum, three of them, however, exhibiting the same kind of motion. A very fine silicious crystal was next experimented on, and was found to communicate a different motion according as the major or minor axis was laid on the palm of the operator, and according to the direction of the axis with reference to the poles. All these effects were carefully noted on paper by one of the party. Bottles of globules were now intrusted to my care, as being in the category of heretic and unbeliever. The course I adopted was to place on the palm of the manipulator, in succession, a globule of one of the phials bearing the name of one of the substances the movements caused by which had been noted. No one knew what that was. I then requested the manipulator to declare the direction of the pendulum's motion, and this was compared by all with the previously-noted effects of the mass. The first results were strikingly demonstrative of the efficacy of the globules—the identity of motion was instantly visible. But presently we were all a little staggered—the results were unsatisfactory, and it was only by the unshaken faith of the manipulator and another gentleman that the truth was elicited. We were exactly like a pack of hounds—we had overrun the scent and were at fault; but a little steadiness and perseverance carried us to a satisfactory result in every case, without exception. In fact, the motion had been declared before the pendulum had definitely settled itself, which after the first few experiments required some seconds to accomplish; indeed, at last it was thought advisable that the manipulator should wash his hands—when, *horribile dictu!* matters were found to be worse, until he had washed off the soap he had previously used, and then things went smoothly for a time. At the second check, recourse was had to the back of the hand and the wrist, and then the scent was again breast-high.

Silica in globules gave us the most trouble of anything,—the movements did not tally; but it was found that the motion noted as communicated by the crystal was naturally derived from its major axis, and no one could tell how the particles were arranged in the globule, whilst Mr. Rutter had ascertained that the direction of the axis affected the movements to the extent of the last subdivision of which he could take cognizance. Under these circumstances recourse was had to a drop of water, and when the globule had partially dissolved, it immediately and distinctly communicated the correct motion to the pendulum. Recourse was had to the same means in the case of several refractive globules, and *always* with a satisfactory result; there was not a *single* failure, although as I have said, all our ingenuities were taxed to raise difficulties. Dr. Quin produced some globules which had been in his possession twenty-five years—their effects were perfect. He also produced some lately sent him from the Continent, of an attenuation far exceeding anything hitherto attempted. The motions communicated by them were as distinct as those communicated by the masses. I next requested to try the effects produced by matters said to be antagonistic or rather antidotal; when the motions arising from the contact of *Pulsatilla* being noted, those occasioned by *Coffea* were found exactly to counteract them. In like manner, several substances were found to counteract one another exactly in accordance with the views of the homœopathists, some being tried on myself. *Arsenic*, for instance, invariably brought any and every motion to a stand-still, and again, at my request, motion was recommenced, in spite of the *Arsenic*, by the action of a specific, such as *Iron*.

To one not prepared by full faith founded on experience, nothing could be more astounding than these facts; unto one desiring confirmation and demonstration, nothing more satisfactory and gratifying. I must not omit to add our concluding experiment. Hahnemann, it seems, gives directions for the preparation of a medicine from a certain base; one of the best and most distinguished chemists of the day declares that by the formula it must be rendered perfectly inert. Nevertheless, it was found that the globule thus prepared readily gave results identical with those given by the base.

This is a long communication, but I could not shorten it, nor indeed wish it shorter; remember it results from a sessions of four hours' duration; remember too, that it is not intended (in any sense) to be a homœopathic communication. Immense as the value of the Magnetoscope is as a means of testing and proving the power of homœopathic medicines, to confine or connect Mr. Rutter's discovery with homœopathy or any one branch of science, would be to limit in a nut-

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shell that which embraces all creation,—air as well as earth and water; for I should have told you of other sensible effects produced by different aurœ or exhalations. P.

THE HOMŒOPATHIC SYSTEM AT THE ROSS DISPENSARY.

(Abridged from the *Hereford Times.*)

As our Ross readers are aware, Dr. Strong, one of the physicians to the Ross Dispensary, having changed his views in medical science, and adopted those of the celebrated Hahnemann, becoming what is generally termed a Homœopathist, has treated his patients in the Dispensary according to the new views he entertains. In a letter by Dr. Strong, published on the 3rd of September last, the following passage occurred:—"It has been introduced into the Ross Dispensary with great success, and to the perfect satisfaction of the Governors of that Institution." In consequence of these circumstances, an extraordinary general meeting of the Governors of the Dispensary was convened by the following requisition, sent to the secretary, J. W. R. Hall, Esq., and advertised in the *Hereford Times*:—"To J. W. R. Hall, Esq., honorary secretary to the Ross Dispensary.—Sir,—We, the undersigned five Governors of the Ross Dispensary, request that you will be pleased to call an extraordinary general meeting of the Governors of the said Institution, in accordance with the seventh rule of the same, to be held at Barrett's Hotel, Ross, at twelve o'clock at noon, on Monday, the 20th day of October next, to consider and decide whether or not the medical officers of the Institution be allowed to treat the applicants for relief under the homœopathic system of medicine, and also to take into consideration the letter of Dr. Strong, which appeared in a Hereford paper, upon the subject, in so far aa it refers to Ross Dispensary.—Edward Prichard, Henry Chellingworth, Charles Richardson, George Garbett, James Barrett.—Dated the 29th September, 1851."—"In compliance with the foregoing requisition, I hereby give notice that a meeting of the Governors of the Ross Dispensary will be held for the purpose therein named, at the time and place above mentioned.—J. W. R. Hall, hon. secretary.—Ross, Oct. 1, 1851."

On Monday last, a meeting of the Governors took place at the Dispensary house, at twelve o'clock, but the room becoming inconveniently crowded, an adjournment took place to the Assembly-room, at Barrett's Royal Hotel. The following Governors were present:—Whaley Armitage, Esq., W. Bridgman, Esq., Capt. Cuppage, Revds. Dr. Ogilvie, T. P. Symonds, J. Webb, W. C. Brant, T. C. Curteis, T. T. Lewis, H. C. Morgan, G. Garbett, — Price, T. Hill, Esq., J. W. R. Hall, Esq., W. P. Hooper, Esq., H. Chellingworth, Esq., — Tisborne, Esq., C. Richardson, Esq., Mr. W. Cary Cocks, and Mr. Barrett. C. E. Thomson, Esq., and G. Strong, Esq., two of the medical officers of the Institution, were also present.

The Rev. Dr. OGILVIE, rector of Ross, was unanimously called to the chair, and, having read the requisition calling the meeting, entreated the gentlemen present to co-operate with him, so as to render his duties light and easy.

W. ARMITAGE, Esq., rose and said that if no gentleman was prepared with a resolution, he would claim the indulgence of the meeting to move as as a substantive motion what he had intended as an amendment. Allow me (said the venerable speaker) to congratulate you on the very flourishing condition ofour Institution, which has never been in a better condition than it is at present, or given more general satisfaction. Gentlemen, I attribute that position to three causes: first, the prudence and consideration shown in the resolutions and rules of the society; second, to the unwearied labours of an indefatigable secretary, who, from the time of its formation, in which he took an active part, down to the present time, has never relaxed his exertions in its behalf; and thirdly, to the excellent character and exertions of its medical officers. It certainly struck me with surprise to find that we were to be convened together for an object, in my experience without precedent, to decide whether the medical officers of the Institution should be allowed to treat the patients of our Dispensary according to the homœopathic system. Gentlemen, I more than doubt whether we have a right to dictate to our medical officers as to what mode they shall practise, having expressed our confidence in them by electing them, and without any interference from without. I much regret the absence of the gentleman whose name is the first in the requisition particularly; because at the last meeting of the committee he pronounced a sort of anathema on the homœopathic system, when, on referring to the list of patients, it appeared to me somewhat remarkable that there was an almost equal proportion of cures to patients under both systems. On that occasion, Mr. Prichard wished to inquire into some cases which had been treated homœopathically, and on being asked if he would like to have the names of all the patients who had been so treated, and expressing such a wish, he was at once furnished with the name of every such patient, and therefore I much regret his absence, inasmuch as we cannot tell the result of his inquiries. The gentlemen who signed the requisition are all members of various professions, and what, I should like to know, would they think of the man who should come forward and dictate to them the mode in which they should conduct the business of their professions, of which he was himself totally ignorant? Would Mr. Prichard submit to a lecture on banking from one who knew nothing of the subject; Mr. Chellingworlh, on agriculture; Mr. Garbett, on divinity; or Mr. Barrett, on the management of his hotel? There is one gentleman present who has studied homœopathy for many, many years, and I question if he is not the only one present who has studied it, yet we, the Governors of the Ross Dispensary, are called upon by these five gentlemen to dictate to our medical officers as to what they ought or

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ought not to do. In cases of complaint, we have the charge supported by evidence, the accuser and accused are brought before us, and we have then a right to inquire into the circumstances of the case, but wanting these, in this time of the day, we ought not so to commit ourselves. We may next be called upon to decide whether they shall use cod-liver oil or any other medicine, the efficacy of which may be discovered. I have a pamphlet in which many instances are recorded of new discoveries in medical science having been first violently opposed and afterwards adopted. Dr. Brown was thus opposed. Dr. Jenner, to whom I once had the honour of an introduction, whose invaluable discovery has almost annihilated that loathsome disease small-pox, was opposed. One medical gentleman in London gravely announced his fears that the introduction of animal matter into the system would produce a revolution of the feelings. In the little town of Ross, the medical men of that day refused to receive vaccine matter from Dr. Jenner, although he offered to give it to all, and it was only after Mr. Westfaling offered to vaccinate himself, that it could be done. I well remember the difficulty I experienced in getting my own family vaccinated, and I mention this to show that medical men generally are slow to receive new discoveries. We are Englishmen, and as such, I ask you to give fair play to Dr. Strong and the system he has introduced. I have not studied homœopathy, but the anathema which has appeared three times in my Hereford paper, the last time at the express desire of a Governor of the Ross Dispensary, although it had appeared twice before, contains an error I take this opportunity to correct. It states that the system was founded by a "half-crazy old man." Now I have the pleasure of stating that this "half-crazy old man" retained the full enjoyment of his faculties to a good old age, and that his conversation was cheerful and mild in an eminent degree, and when it was told him that one celebrated doctor after another was denouncing his system, his reply was, "I care not, if they will but examine it." Mr. Armitage was proceeding to combat objections raised against homœopathy, when it was suggested from the chair that it would be irrelevant. He then concluded by proposing a resolution to the effect that the meeting, seeing no ground to distrust the prudence or skill of the medical officers of the Ross Dispensary, does not consider it necessary at the present moment to set any limit to their exertions, but rather to confine itself to the more congenial duty of thanking them for that zeal and ability they have invariably shown in carrying out the efficiency of this Institution.

The Rev. G. GARBETT seconded the resolution.

Mr. CHELLINGWORTH wished to state that he signed the requisition with the best intention of benefiting the Institution, He had heard from some of the working classes that a new system was being introduced into the Dispensary, and thought a meeting of the Governors was necessary to satisfy the public on the subject.

The Rev. T. CURTEIS moved an amendment, declaring that the 13th rule of this Institution rendered the meeting incompetent, to sanction among the medical officers of the Institution, the use of any medicines in the treatment of patients except those which are supplied by the Institution itself. The speaker, at length, contended that Dr. Strong was just as much bound to treat the Dispensary patients according to the rules, as he himself was bound to preach by the Thirty-nine articles to which he had subscribed. He begged to ask whether, according to the 13th rule of the Institution, homœopathic medicines were kept and dispensed at the Dispensary.

Mr. HALL: Certainly not.

Mr. CURTEIS: That being the case, I wish to ask Dr. Strong whether, having accepted office under certain rules to which all are bound, he does supply medicines from the stores of the Dispensary or not?

The CHAIRMAN decided that Dr. Strong, not being a governor, could not be catechised.

Mr. CHELLINGWORTH seconded the amendment.

Mr. BRIDGMAN thought that there was nothing in the 13th rule to prevent homœopathic medicines being kept at the Dispensary. It was, he thought, quite competent to Dr. Strong to keep them there and dispense them. He suggested an alteration in the rule, if the amendment were carried, expressly allowing the practice of homœopathy when desired.

The Rev. T. T. LEWIS wished to ask the committee if any application had been made to them to supply homœopathic medicines.

Mr. HALL considered homœopathy was inadmissible in the way it was practised by Dr. Strong; and if it were introduced into the Dispensary, it can only, he said, be done by expressly altering the rules with that object, and therefore he should vote for the amendment of Mr. Curteis.

Mr. BRIDGMAN: I am clearly of opinion that, under the present rules, homœopathy cannot be practised; but, having in my own neighbourhood seen cases where benefit has been done to patients under that treatment, I should wish to see the rule altered to let in that practice, if it is competent to this meeting to do so.

The CHAIRMAN: It is clearly open to us at this meeting to alter the rule, if we feel disposed. Perhaps Mr. Bridgman will propose such alteration. I am quite satisfied it can be done by us to-day.

Mr. HALL: I am of opinion that no such alteration can now be made. This is an extraordinary meeting, "provided only that a notice specifying the purpose of the meeting and signed by the secretary be published in the two Hereford papers." Now, the purpose of this meeting, as stated, is to "consider and decide whether or not the medical officers of the Institution be allowed to treat the applicants for relief under the homœopathic system of medicine; and also to take into consideration the letter of Dr. Strong, which appeared in a Here-

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ford paper, upon the subject, in so far as it refers to the Ross Dispensary." Nothing is said about any alteration of the rules, and the object of the meeting is to decide whether Dr. Strong's practice is in accordance with the rules. It is therefore clearly impossible under this notice to make a fresh rule to let in the practice of homœopathy.

After a desultory conversation, the CHAIRMAN recalled the attention of the meeting to the position of the business, and asked Mr. Bridgman if he wished to submit a motion for an alteration of the 13th rule.

Mr. BRIDGMAN replied that, as the general annual meeting would be held the first week in January, he would not press the question further at present, but would leave it to some gentleman of the committee to give notice at their meeting in December to admit words in the 13th rule excepting homœopathic medicines.

The Rev. CHAIRMAN then rose, and said he had carefully considered the subject for some time past, and the question he proposed to himself was this—"Is the practice of the system called homœopathy consistent with the rules of the Dispensary?" He had satisfied himself that such practice in the Dispensary was perfectly in harmony with its rules.

Dr. STRONG rose and said: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, owing to the peculiar position in which I appear before you to-day—not as a governor, but by courtesy as one of your medical officers—I crave your special leave to address a few words to the meeting. It is now about nine years since I had the honour of being elected Physician to this Dispensary. During that time my studies and observations, and the intercourse that I have enjoyed with intelligent minds in other localities, led me gradually to make trial of an improved system of therapeutics. For some time former prejudices struggled with my convictions. I went up to town, and in the large Dispensaries and Hospitals there, watched the practice for many weeks. Convinced at least of its superior efficacy, I resolved to extend to the patients of this public Institution the advantages of my laboriously acquired experience. For the last two years my mode of practice has been openly professed, and must have been well known in the neighbourhood. I have also published from time to time in the medical periodicals the particulars of remarkable cures (some of them Dispensary cases) that present themselves in the course of my practice: still no objection was ever raised or opposition offered by any of the governors. However recent occurrences have plainly shown that I had mistaken the long-continued silence of the governors for an acquiescence of the entire body in my proceedings; and under these circumstances nothing could be more desirable for all parties than the present investigation. I cannot sit down without saying that I feel greatly indebted to those gentlemen who signed the requisition, and took the trouble to convene the present meeting, for affording me this public opportunity of avowing my opinions and of placing myself in a proper light before the Governors.

The amendment and resolution were then severally put from the chair, and the amendment was carried by a majority of 9 to 6.

Correspondence.

MR. RUTTER AND THE MAGNETOSCOPE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

"Palmam qui meruit ferat."

SIR,—Being present at the illustration of the magnetoid currents, and of their application as a test of homœopathic remedies, given by Dr. Madden at the Hahnemann Hospital, I was sorry to hear expressions indicating a spirit of rivalry, about the precedent application of Mr. Rutter's discovery to the test of our homœopathic globules, as though such simple diversion or variation of the experiments, or extension of the test to a class of objects beyond those in Mr. Rutter's immediate possession, could in any way be considered a *discovery;* for assuredly Mr. Rutter could never have intended to limit the application of his instrument to the objects by which he was casually surrounded. Mr. Rutter started by declaring that all substances, animal, mineral, and vegetable, had a specific influence upon the magnetoid currents of the human body, and he invented an instrument to demonstrate this. Now, Sir, I speak for truth and justice, and maintain that if a goldsmith had been admitted to Mr. Rutter's study, he would have said, "I wonder if it will enable me to tell pure gold from alloy; let us try." Or, a mineralogist would have suggested a trial of *all* his varieties of minerals; and a chemist would have tested his chemicals or drugs, but neither of these would have declared to his fellow-labourers in science that *he* had made *a discovery*, because he had suggested a variation in the experiments as they were being shown to him, or had prosecuted them at his own home. He would have said, "Mr. Rutter's instrument shows us this or that as well as the other, and I find it is very useful to our body, who cannot be too grateful to Mr. Rutter." No doubt it must be very gratifying to him to find that such insignificant things, almost "without form and void," as our globules are supposed to be, attest the truthfulness and delicacy of his instrument, but so would a pebble from the seashore. Hahnemann discovered the law which regulates our therapeutics. He applied it in practice, and gave it publicity; but did the first man who applied it to animals claim any merit of a discovery? Any other mode of putting it, is, to my mind, nothing less than diminishing, by attempting to share, the credit of the discovery and invention, and I do think that the free and unrestrained liberality with which Mr. Rutter has received all scientific inquiries, commands a respect to his honourable candour and fair fame, and *a delicate sensitiveness* to his merit as a discoverer. Indeed so little restraint has he imposed upon those whom he has favoured with his confidence, that we have a

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demonstration of *his* experiments as the groundwork of others, made upon an instrument *before* he has given his views, his instrument, or his experiments to the world. With, however, much emotion we have received these demonstrations of his discovery; we are certainly surprised at this. How few men would have permitted their work to be anticipated, and the first impress of their experimental discoveries to have dawned upon the world through any foreign medium; or allowed their freshness and briliancy to be dimmed by the over zeal of an inquiring neighbour. The question is not whether Dr. Quin or Dr. Madden had precedence—neither had; and it matters little, nor have we heard that Dr. Quin makes the shadow of a claim to any discovery at all, but refers all the results of the tests of every kind back to the discoverer of the instrument and its objects, to whom alone all honour is due. It is not my desire to abridge Dr. Madden of any merit to which he may be fairly entitled. If he has been foremost in directing our attention to the testing the value of our globules, by means of Mr. Rutter's instrument, he is thankworthy. His zeal for his profession is well known, and his efforts to bring into the focus of inquiry and discussion all debatable points, and to determine, if possible, the exact limits of the homœopathic law, are creditable to his spirit of investigation, inasmuch as they stimulate thought, induce a deeper reflection and study of certain parts of homœopathic treatment, although we have not always been convinced by his reasonings nor accepted his views, and have elicited open and healthful discussion. For this we thank him; but we thank Mr. Rutter still more for the opportunity his philosophical instrument has afforded us of demonstrating to our profession, and to the world, the power of infinitesimal globules to influence the magnetoid currents in the human body, and the existence in them of a something which chemistry has failed to prove.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

THOMAS R. LEADAM.

12, Wyndham Place, October 23rd, 1851.

THE CHEMICAL RECORD TRIED, AND FOUND WANTING.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Homœopathy, properly speaking, is the expression of a therapeutic law—*similia similibus curantur*—or of a therapeutic direction—*similia similibus curentur*. As a system of medical practice, however, it involves the administration of medicines in minute doses, and these medicines unmixed with any other medicinal ingredient. Accordingly we find that our opponents have at various times attacked homœopathy on these grounds:—

1. The law *similia similibus curantur*.
2. The infinitesimal doses.
3. The physical impossibility of preparing medicines unmixed with other ingredients.

And I think it will be found of great service to the homœopathic public, occasionally to condense into a short article whatever has been advanced by our opponents against one or other sections of our system, together with the arguments by which their statements have been met.

In the present paper, I propose to take up the last of these divisions, and to show from your own periodical how triumphant has been the vindication of homœopathy.

On the 19th July last, the Editor of the *Chemical Record*, in a leading article, "Homœopathy tested by chemistry, and found wanting," asserts that the disciples of Hahnemann maintain, that—

1st. "Medicines to act homœopathically must not be admixed."

2nd. "That silica, even in doses so small that it cannot be weighed, is a homœopathic medicament."

In omitting from his first proposition the words "with any medicinal ingredient," the Editor has been guilty of a very serious mistake, as will presently appear, for on these words the whole argument turns; and as I cannot believe that so respectable a periodical as the *Chemical Record*, would be designedly guilty of so flagrant an error, I shall attribute the misquotation to carelessness, and only, in passing, recommend the Editor to be more particular in future for his own sake, and for the sake of scientific truth, especially when, as in the present instance, he intends making his own logical deductions the basis for the abuse of a system whose propositions he has not been careful accurately to quote.

Having laid down these two propositions, he proceeds to state, "that during prolonged trituration, the mortar in which such trituration takes place is abraded," and he thus concludes his article, "hence not one solitary globule of Hahnemann's physic-store can exist without a notable admixture of silica;* and such admixture, according to a received canon of the obscure old man of Msissen" (proposition 1) "is fatal to the exercise of the homœopathic medical power."

Now this deduction would, of course, be irresistible, were proposition No. 1 correct; but the omitted words, "with any medicinal ingredient," being taken into consideration, the question arises, is the material introduced by the abrasion of the mortar a medicinal ingredient? That it is not so, we shall presently show by a quotation from Hahnemann's works; meanwhile we must continue our narrative.

On the 26th July, in a leader, the *Homœopathic Times* administered a severe castigation to the *Chemical Record*, and accused the Editor of ignorance of Hahnemann's writings.

On the 2nd of August following, the Editor of the *Chemical Record* replied, in a strain of great irritation, repeating his propositions, with the *omitted* words, and vindicating himself from the accusation of ignorance of Hahnemann's works, by quoting a passage from the Materia Medica,

* It will not be denied that, in the supposed case the medicine to be triturated would be greater than the amount of silica abraded; but it is here conceded that the *lesser* ingredient is present in a notable quantity in every homœopathic globule; *a fortiori —the greater!!* "Fas est," etc.

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Pura, on *Carbo animalis*, cayenne pepper, and nutmegs.

Again, avoiding everything in the shape of a retort, and giving the Editor of the *Chemical Record* full credit for the truth of his assertion, that he had heard some of the works of Hahnemann descanted on at lectures, and has subseuuently perused the same, I must, nevertheless, be allowed to contend, that the legitimate construction of a man being acquainted with an author's works is, that he is at least acquainted with whatever that author has written on the particular topic under discussion. And in this sense it is obvious that the *Chemical Record* is ignorant of Hahnemann's works: 1st, because it misquotes one of hls fundamental propositio ns; 2nd, because it omits all reference to the answer provided by anticipation by Hahnemann to the very argument it had been insisting on.

An article such as this in the *Chemical Record* of the 2nd of August did not, of course, advance the argument one iota: accordingly we find no notice taken of it by the *Homœopathic Times*.

Having in vain waited a fortnight for a rejoinder, the *Chemical Record* on 23rd August, in a leader, headed "The Homœopathic Quacks," sums up the whole case, concluding that homœopaths are either "fools or knaves," once more repeating the mutilated proposition on which its entire argument is based, viz., "that medicines to act homœopathically; must not be admixed;" whereas the actual proposition is, "with any medicinal ingredient." Had the Editor of the *Chemical Record* waited till the 30th of August, he would probably have avoided committing himself as he has done; for on that day appeared in your journal a letter from Dr. Ransford, with the following quotation from Hahnemann on chronic diseases:—

"No one will feel disposed to suspect that quartz, rock-crystal,—some of these crystals containing drops of water which have been enclosed there unaltered for thousands of years,—or *white sand* are soluble in water or alcohol, or are endowed with medicinal properties. However, silica may be made soluble both in water and alcohol, by triturating it *after it had first been melted by means of an alkali, and then precipitated again from that compound.* By this process, the medicinal properties of silica are developed to an almost infinite extent." Then follows, in a note: "*Quartz or silica, unless they have first undergone this preparation, will not show any medicinal properties.* This is the reason why medicinal substances may be triturated in the porcelain mortar, together with the homœopathic medicine *Sugar of Milk*, without any silica becoming mixed with it. Some hypercritical homœopathists have apprehended such a result."

It is impossible for an unprejudiced mind to peruse this quotation without being convinced that the Editor of the *Chemical Record* was "ignorant of Hahnemann's works," in the legitimate sense of those words, when he published those articles which have called forth these remarks, and that the extract in question is a complete refutation of his entire argument.

For thus stands the case. Homœopathy asserts that medicines to act homœopathically must not be admixed *with any medicinal ingredient.* The *Chemical Record* quotes this proposition *minus* the last four words; asserts that none of our globules are free from silica; and deduces thence that, according to our own showing, our medicines cannot act homœopathically. The logical conclusion from the *true* proposition is, of course, *provided silica obtained from the simple abrasion of the mortar be a medicinal* substance. That it is not a medicinal substance is proved by the extract from Hahnemann given above; and thus it follows, that homœopathic medicines are not prevented acting homœopathically by reason of their being mixed with silica. But this was the assertion of the *Chemical Record. Ergo*, the *Chemical Record* is wrong again: it must either have wilfully misrepresented the case against homœopathy, or have been ignorant of Hahnemann's works. There is no pretext whatever for the former supposition. *Ergo*, it must be concluded that the Editor was ignorant of Hahnemann's works.

Under these circumstances, there is but one course open to him, and it is this:—honestly to avow his ignorance, and to apologize for the language into which that ignorance betrayed him.

And now let us see the conclusion of the whole matter. The most able of the allopathic journals, actuated by the most violent hatred to our system, and resolved on doing its utmost to crush it, has put forth all its power in an endeavour to prove our chemistry at fault, and has signally failed: so far, therefore, as the chemistry of homœopathy is concerned, it may fairly be regarded impregnable.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

F. J. SMITH.

74, Old Broad Street, London,
Oct. 14, 1851.

P.S. As a proof of the ability with which the *Chemical Record* treats subjects with which it is acquainted, I beg to add the following extract from that journal of 4th October instant. The article is headed "The discrepancies between *our* (the allopathic) pharmacopœias.—Whatever *danger* may have existed in past times, on account of this discrepancy, it is evidently increased *to a most alarming degree*, by the circumstances of rapid transit between the three kingdoms, which railroads and steam navigation have brought about. It is a very pleasing reflection to cross the mind of a travelling valetudinarian, that a prescription written in England *would subject him to the chance of death*, were he to have it dispensed in Scotland or Ireland; *yet such is literally the case!!!*"

I think your readers will congratulate themselves on having escaped from a system of which its professors are compelled thus to speak.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Sundry errors, typographical and others,

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having found their way into the report you published last Saturday of my lecture on Mr. Rutter's magnetoscope, I shall feel obliged by your correcting them. At page 186, top of second column, I am stated to have said that Mr. Rutter supposed the reversing action of common *Salt* to be due to its crystalline arrangement; this, however, was not the case. Mr. Rutter evidently considered it a specific action of the *Salt* itself, although others who saw the experiment suggested that it might be due to its crystalline condition.

At page 187, first column, second paragraph, the influence of letters is erroneously stated. It should have been "the *female* influence was shown to exist in a letter written by one of that sex several weeks previously, when laid upon the operator's hand the current was immediately reversed;" indeed, no less than three times in that paragraph the words '*roused*' and '*rousing*' are printed, instead of *reversed* and *reversing;* lastly, near the foot of the same column, it is stated that I had inferred "that the agency producing the motions was not telluric." Now the fact is, that while the experiment I exhibited, viz., bone restoring to me the normal current when standing on the isolated stool, certainly militates against Mr. Rutter's explanation of the currents being produced entirely by terrestrial magnetism, yet I certainly did not infer from this that the agency was not telluric, but simply pointed out the anomaly, of which, indeed, there will be found a great many on close investigation. I was much pleased to observe the editorial note at the close of the report, urging caution upon those who might feel disposed to draw conclusions from what has already been made public connected with this most interesting subject. For my own part, I regret that the matter has been so much canvassed before the appearance of Mr. Rutter's pamphlet, which should have been the first public notification of his discovery. When I first saw his experiments, and proved their applicability to homœopathic remedies, I obtained his permission to send the notice that appeared in the October number of the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, but I should certainly not have done anything further, and had no intention of lecturing on the subject, until it was in a manner forced upon me by circumstances over which I had no control. My great fear is, that hasty conclusions will lead to much disappointment and great confusion. The whole subject requires further elucidation before we can draw any just inference from the results; and my own experience is, that every day's experience tends to modify considerably the views one might be, at first sight, disposed to take.

I remain yours truly,
HENRY R. MADDEN.

76, Grand Parade, Brighton,
Oct. 28, 1851.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—The terms "presumptuous and offensive," which the reviewer of the *Lesser Writings* in one of your late numbers applies to the title of the first work in the collection, viz., "Instruction for Surgeons respecting Venereal Diseases," are not justified, when we take into consideration the different relation that existed among the various grades of the medical profession in Hahnemann's younger days and our own time, and the intrinsic merits of the work itself. The "surgeon" of former times in Germany—and this is still the case in many parts—was a very inferior personage to the Doctors of Medicine and Surgery; he was a person of very little education, kept a barber's shop, and his practice was mostly confined to shaving, bleeding, cupping, leeching, dressing wounds, and extracting teeth. His education scarcely allowed him to gather the little knowledge of surgery he possessed from the more scientific works on the subject, hence it is that Hahnemann has written the work in question in a semi-popular style, and has entered into some minutiæ of treatment, which we would not expect to find in a work addressed to the more educated of the profession, and doubtless he was induced to write a work of this kind, from having frequently witnessed the bad results of the treatment of syphilis ordinarily pursued by the common sort of barber-surgeons, under whose care the malady would frequently come, from its apparent external nature and trivial character. The new and original views unfolded in the book would also justify the title of "Instruction," even if addressed to his equals in medical rank. Among other important innovations on ordinary practice we now find, I may point to the caution against burning off the primary sore, a practice that was almost universal then, and still prevails to an unfortunate degree; the condemnation of the practice of pushing mercury to salivation, and the indication of the true test of the cured disease; the substitution of a new preparation of mercury for those in common use, which is known to this day in Germany by the name of "Hahnemann's soluble mercury;" the discovery of a preventive to the bad effects of mercury when administered in excess, viz., *Hepar Sulphuris*, which we still use for the same purpose in homœopathic practice, for the most part unconscious that we owe its discovery to Hahnemann's chemical skill, and not to the homœopathic analogy of the two substances. I might multiply examples of the original views contained in this little work, but the above will suffice. I may only add, that on an examination of the contemporary medical literature, I find this work of Hahnemann's most favourably reviewed in *Hufeland's Journal*, and largely quoted as an authority by many of the principal writers of the period.

Your obedient. servant,
R. E. DUDGEON.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

NOTES OF IMPRESSIONS AND OBSERVATIONS OF HOMŒOPATHIC PRACTICE AND PRACTITIONERS IN FRANCE AND GERMANY.

By Carroll Dunham, M.D., of Brooklyn, New York.

My first studies in Paris were made at Tessier's clinique. The general results of his practice appeared to me quite favourable—*very* favourable, when compared with those of any allopathic clinique at Paris, and better, I think, than than those of Fleischmann's public practice at Vienna. Still, in Tessier's practice I saw nothing striking, nothing indicative of either the profound knowledge of Materia Medica, or the great sagacity in discerning indications which have characterised our *Masters*. Moreover, the extreme haste with which the daily visits were despatched, and the great taciturnity of the *Primarius*, whose disposition the opposition to him and slander on the part of his allopathic medical brethren are said to have soured, rendered vain all hope of greater advantage to the visitor, than would accrue from simple observation of the cases under treatment. Clinical remarks, the fruit of experience, so very precious to the novice, I never heard from M. Tessier. Nevertheless, one might reasonably hope for considerable advantage from simple observation of the considerable variety of cases which the 103 beds of M. Tessier's clinique should present; and doubtless one *would* profit, were not *this*, like most of the French hospitals, half *almshouse* as well. Patients are suffered to remain in the wards days and even weeks after complete recovery, on the simple plea of inability to maintain themselves outside. However humane, this practice very much diminishes the interest of hospital attendance. I do not think that at any one time, I saw in Tessier's wards two-thirds of the number of really interesting and instructive cases that were always to be seen in Wurmb's hospital of thirty-three beds, at Vienna. Thus, and because no endeavours are made to assist or instruct students and visitors, the largest of our homœopathic hospitals is, so far as education is concerned, almost worthless. Valuable it is, however, in a statistical point of view, and I am glad to be able to say, that from the method observed in examining and recording cases, the reports seem to me entitled to entire confidence. As for peculiarities of practice, nothing struck me as new or noteworthy, save the pretty frequent and generally successful use of *Cannabis* in the last stages of pneumonia and pleuritis—stages corresponding in some degree to those in which *Sulphur* is so efficacious, yet differing essentially from those in which *Sulphur* is indicated.

Among the homœopaths of Paris, my earliest and most frequent visits were paid to M. Croserio, who, beside valuable practical information, freely imparted, had much that was very interesting to communicate respecting the professional and private life of Hahnemann during his latter days. He says, that Hahnemann used frequently, and with great advantage, the 60th potency, and that he never thought of abandoning the psoric theory, which, Griesslich says, he *did* abandon. Croserio told me he has, on many occasions, treated small-pox with *Thuja*, as recommended by Bönninghausen, and that his success has been constant and complete, fully justifying the high esteem in which the practice is held by its discoverer. But Croserio is very particular in stating he employed the 200th potency of *Thuja*, and that he did not repeat the remedy oftener than Bönninghausen had done, or that if he *did* repeat it, he gave, as advised by the latter, an intercurrent dose of *Mercurius*. In short, he has followed as nearly as possible the road which Bönninghausen says led him to a successful treatment. This is a point to be noted. Ere long, we shall have reports of a large number of cases of small-pox treated with *Thuja* by Wurmb, at his hospital in Vienna, without any favourable result. And this will be, by some, considered decisive evidence against the practice—negative evidence though it be. On such evidence one could scarcely disregard the positive testimony of so upright a man and so wonderfully acute an observer as Bönninghausen, supported, as he is, too, by the results of Croserio's practice

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and of that of two of our own most eminent practitioners. One scarcely knows how to understand or account for the discrepancy between the results of trials made by these men and others instituted by Wurmb and his coadjutors, until one examines closely, and sees whether the trials were fairly made in both instances. It is a pity that such examinations are not more frequently and more carefully made when discord in experience arises. They might save some of our younger members the discredit of stigmatizing as "dotards," "old enthusiasts," and "false observers," many of those earlier scholars of our Master, to whose laborious age, and generous spirits, and keen, wary observation they owe great part of what they are.

Such an examination in the present case shows, on the part of those who assert a want of success, considerable deviations from the method recorded by Bönninghausen. Croserio and all who *advocate* the practice as successful, observed exactly his prescription. Wurmb has not done so. He gives *Thuja* 30, *a dose every two hours.* Undertaking to test a proposed mode of treatment, he seems to assume that only one of its three or four elements is of real importance, disregards the others, and, if unsuccessful, claims to have made an impartial trial, and to have reached a reliable conclusion. This *petitio principii* has been, since the dark ages, the curse of our profession, and even *we* suffer now from its influence. By what right does Wurmb assume that the alleged benefits of Bönninghausen can come alone from the *Thuja* as *Thuja?* May they not be in part due to the form and mode of its administration? May they not even entirely *depend on* such certain mode and form? Into every question concerning any practice said to be successful, the questions of dose and potency enter as elements. They may or may not be important, but we have no right to assume *a priori* that they are unimportant —no right to neglect them in any experiments undertaken for the purpose of testing the practice. Suppose Faraday should undertake to test one of Dumas' experiences, but should assume it to be a matter of no consequence in what proportions he adds one of the ingredients, or how long he subjects the mixture to the action of heat before again disturbing it, and, failing, should publish to the world that Dumas' observation is good for nothing; what reputation would Faraday thereafter bear in the scientific world? We physicians act thus not seldom, and without excuse; for hear what Wurmb says about some of the allopaths, who tried *Belladonna* on Hahnemann's recommendation of it as a prophylactic for scarlatina: "Hahnemann advised to give *Belladonna* in the form of tincture, to give it in small doses, not frequently, and finally to give it only in cases of true scarlatina of Sydenham. Instead of doing this, the allopaths gave the extract—often a worthless preparation; gave it in large doses, gave it frequently, and finally gave it very often in cases of mixed purpura and scarlatina. Then, not succeeding in more than half the cases in which they tried it, they pronounced it a failure." In almost his own words we shall have to say of Wurmb: "Bönninghausen recommends *Thuja* 200, given seldom, and never to be repeated without an intercurrent. Wurmb gives it in the 30th, *very* frequently, and without an intercurrent remedy; and not succeeding, pronounces Bönninghausen's alleged experience a fallacy." Fallacious it may be, but this is not the way in which its fallacy can possibly be established.

Among the Parisian physicians, I became acquainted with but one who seems to have devoted to the subject of the "high potencies" attention and abilities at all commensurate with its importance.

M. Perry has been experimenting for years with the preparations of Jenichen, and with others prepared by himself from the lower ones of Jenichen. The striking results which he communicates are arresting the attention of the younger members of our fraternity. In the practice of M. Perry is easily discernible the same peculiarity that distinguishes the method of all who have obtained any considerable success in the employment of the high potencies. He appears, with reference to every case, to pass in review before his mind the whole Materia Medica, without any preference (so to speak) for a few of what it is fashionable to call "*specifics.*"

I heard from M. Perry a singular instance of the acuteness of sensibility to which the senses of patients are sometimes exalted. A lady, so severely affected with pneumonia, that the allopath previously called in in haste had bled her from both arms, was treated by M. Perry with *Aconite*, followed by *Sulphur* and *Phosphorus*, all of the 15th dilution. After one dose each of the *Sulphur* and *Phosphorus*, she said that one was *Sulphur* and the other *Phosphorus*, and continued to identify each remedy, however disguised, and however her attendants endeavoured to mislead her. *Tartar Emetic* she also recognised. *Aconite* and *Belladonna*, however, were without decided taste. As the intensity of the malady subsided, her taste became less acute.

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When in good health her powers in this respect were not extraordinary.

I have at this moment a patient convalescent from pneumonia, with fierce delirium, whose organs of hearing have been, during her whole illness, almost supernaturally acute. She heard at a distance of 200 feet through closed doors, what I, distant thirty feet, and listening too, failed to hear. As she recovered, her powers of hearing sank to a normal condition.

I note that at your last Congress, globules so made as to stand the tropical heats were mentioned as a desideratum. At New Orleans our colleagues use globules of *Sugar* and *Starch*, made at Geneva, in New York. The apothecary, Lehrmann, at Schönnigen, in the Duchy of Brunswick, told me he had succeeded, after many trials, in making globules from the crystals of *Milk-sugar*, without previous solution or any admixture. He made them for warm climates, and says that they answer the purpose perfectly.

[We trust we shall be favoured with a continuation of Dr. Dunham's very interesting and valuable observations. When he has completed such a series of his European observations as he will favour us with, we shall feel at once obliged and honoured by receiving from him communications concerning homœopathy in the States—and his own practice.—ED.]

LETTER TO C. H. F. ROUTH, M.D.,

19, DORSET SQUARE, LONDON,

Physician to the St. Pancras Royal General Dispensary.

SIR,—After the society we have been accustomed to at the literary boards of the weekly medical press, in reference to the discussion of the homœopathic question, it is an inexpressible comfort to meet with a gentleman who does not think it necessary to bespatter us with the direct terms "impostors and liars." Since the noted era when Dr. Forbes showed the possibility of being equally strong in argument without these, every man of your party who has taken up the pen repudiated this idea of propriety, and has so profusely lathered himself with compliments and us with their converse, that I am quite surprised to find direct terms of abuse absent in your paper in the *Medical Times* of the 18th October, and I have only now recovered sufficiently from the surprise to enable me to analyse your remarks.

When I see a physician of respectability standing out in bold relief to his fellows on the stormy therapeutic field, ready to splinter a lance in his cause, and willing to risk his reputation on the manner in which he can disprove the subject he attacks, I congratulate myself. In entering on this discussion, therefore, I do so with renewed feelings of hope. But specially being desirous to recognise you as a gentleman, I wish I could recognise you as an impartial judge and deep-seeing philosopher. The title you give your paper has led me astray, for it impressed me with the idea that you were in a transition state, investigating the therapeutic effects of homœopathy, and not the theoretical reputation of it, and I was rather fearful you might have merited the designation of "bastard homœopath," so tastefully selected by your Editor, but it turned out not to be so; it turned out that you were a prejudging foe, that you, a physician of a few years' experience, came to pronounce judgment as a judge, not to discuss merits as a barrister. You came as a judge *full fledged*, every pinion of your wing dripping with professional decorum, erected from an allopathic sense of justice, though in direct contravention of the laws of feathers; and in this guise you do not hesitate to decide *against* a science in which you have by no means shown that you have even matriculated as a student of the first year.

We had high hope that you would premise what offered to be a good paper, by giving us the basis of all profitable argument, viz., a history of cases of acute and chronic disease, treated in conformity with homœopathic principles; and had you erected your judgment upon these, and had they been ever so few, you would have taken the right road at all events; but, like all that have gone before you, you have disdained any road, started off wildly across a barren heath, and have afforded me this opportunity of reclaiming you. The treatment of cases, their symptoms being duly recorded, the medicines and potencies registered, the results, whether cures or fatal, can alone advance you one step in this contest. Colleges, associations, and societies are ready enough in forming "resolutions" for us to laugh at, but not a man can be induced to take the only effectual way of putting us down, and *we* point it out to you.

Deficient, therefore, from the very first in the most essential element for your argument, *experiment*, you, in lieu thereof, commence the usual lamentation on the inroads we make in *legitimate* practice, a term we have in vain sought a solution of. We have sought it out in law, and hunted for it in physic, but in vain; but being in

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every allopath's mouth, it *surely must be an entity*. We offer a reward for it. Your lamentation concluded, you put on an air of candour calculated to make the public think you intend well, and that, contrary to the *great professional spirit*, you have done us *more than justice;* for you admit abundantly our influence on the public, nay, upon the highest minds and clearest heads of it, and you promise to consider it fairly, and you break through that promise before you arrive at the end of the first half column, for at the twentieth line you agree with the decision of the Scottish Universities. This decision being given so *early*, we look over each column in hopes of seeing the "*cases of failure*" upon which it is founded, and alas! there are none. We cannot by any chance find out whether you have read a single homœopathic work, and yet you soon afterwards condemn this meagreness of inquiry by saying, "that something more is needed in this inquiring age than a mere declaration;" we quite agree with you.

I have, however, to thank you for your disapprobation of the spirit with which your party has endeavoured to crush homœopathy; and I have to thank you for your refutation of a certain portion of Dr. Christison's inaugural address, in which he asserts that Harvey and Jenner's discoveries, along with all other real discoveries, were hailed joyously by the profession. In strict conformity with the great allopathic principle of disagreement, you and he are the antipodes of each other. You give powerful illustration of the invariable intolerance of the profession, by their rejection of the very best parts of it. You bring this intolerance down so late as the difference between the Board of Health and the College of Physicians, and, contented with this display of candour, you think you have done enough. You apply your sense of justice to globulism, and at *once* declare it to be *false;* and you say "this opinion is the result of fair inquiry," and "disdaining abuse," for which I am most thankful, you continue, "and endeavour to show my opinion to be founded on logical ground."

Learned Sir, spare us your logic! One single experiment in scarlet fever, in pneumonia, in typhus, in chronic constipation, were worth a bushel of it. We have been so be-lathered with allopathic logic on homœopathic doctrines that we are quite wearied of shaving; we are quite surfeited, for the same dish has been served up to us weekly, heated over and over again in each new essayist's oven, so that our stomachs go quite against it. But your paper being all logic, to the total exclusion of experiment, I am forced, in self-defence, to show the shallowness even of that.

Is it reasonable to admit readily the homœopathic law to a certain extent, and to persecute, to excommunicate those whose belief in it is more extended? Is it good logic to make diet an objection—the same regulations as to diet being open to you? The first of these you settle by asserting, that Hahnemann arrived at the conclusion of its universality upon the evidence of forty cases (I wish you had recorded one-fourth the number), and you forgot to mention that these forty cases were followed by a long lifetime of them. According to allopathic custom, you confound the appreciable doses necessary for experiment upon the healthy frame, with the infinitesimal doses, proved by his after-experience as sufficient for the cure of disease. You use the term "mimicking disease," as one pointed out by the medical jockey-club to be well calculated to wean an inquirer from his pursuit. You decry "universalising" medicine, or, in other words, you denounce a "law" of medication—a natural guide to physic—because upon "the authority of a few facts," although we daily offer you hundreds of cases in confirmation of these.

You complicate this question by raking up the word "idiosyncrasy," by which you infer that all our cures are chance cures, whilst we look upon them as the general sequence of a correct choice of remedies. At this era of your paper, and in *some distress*, you fall back rapidly on the *old reserve of infinitesimal doses*, and safe behind them, you declare that many homœopaths have altogether discarded infinitesimal doses as forming any part of the system they practise. Were I to take the *Lancet* for my model, I could justly apply a hard term to you for this statement, which I dare you to prove, and I trust you may escape from the ordeal less defiled than Dr. Glover is.

Having admitted the occasional applicability of homœopathy, we offer you unbounded instances of its more extensive application, and because we do so and prove it by taking away your patients, you make war and "*Resolutions*." Throwing a screen over the doctrine after this admission, you creep within the shelter of infinitesimal doses, which is quite distinct from the doctrine; and your courage rising with this feint, you favour us with an algebraic calculation of great merit, in which the German Ocean forms a convenient medium of solution, and having taken the trouble to calculate the number of drops in a square mile of salt water, you refer triumphantly to

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the exposure of infinitesimals by Dr. Forbes and Dr. Alexander Wood. I hope Dr. Forbes has made you a handsome acknowledgment for this tasteful conjunction, the spirit of these authorities and their manner of treating the subject being so identical, to say nothing of the laurels lately gained by the latter in his official capacity. Had you but taken one-half the trouble to treat a case of disease in accordance with the views of him whose statue in bronze already adorns the city of Leipsic, it would have gone further in this dispute than the measurement of the Pacific into cubic inches.

'Tis five years since Dr. Forbes wrote, during which we have lost nothing in our homœopathic *status;* then, as now, your party waited for the spontaneous subsiding of a "popular delusion:" you are waiting still. Go down to Deal; take your stand upon the beach, and rebuke the sea for its encroachments—the land once was where the Goodwin beacon stands. Sir, no logic, not even yours, can by one feather's weight cause refutation or acceptance of infinitesimal doses. But whilst the only feature in your paper is that it is all theory and no practice—all conclusions, and no right shown to draw them—we offer you our theory, be it right or wrong, but based upon a triple foundation, that all your faculty cannot gainsay by a hair's breadth. This triple basis is, experience, acceptance by the public, and evidence shown by registrars of deaths.

You try to prove, if our views are correct, as medicinal power *must* exist in our "*media*," sugar of milk and water, that *carbon* must contaminate the former, and various impurities the latter; and you leave out the very essence of our infinitesimal theory—for *that, if admitted,* would have upset you—I mean the dynamizing power of trituration. You forget that the carbon of the one and the salts of the other have had no power developed by this means, and that, if developed, unless homœopathic to the pathological condition of the patient, would not be followed by any action. This, *your fallacy,* is no fallacy, except in so far as *your elucidation* of it makes it so. You add to your accumulated difficulties the assertion of a Dr. Glover, "that a London homœopathic chemist was in the habit of supplying his customers with simple sugar of milk, but labelling them by the medical names, and that the cures effected by these were equally satisfactory." But you *somehow* forgot to mention that this Dr. Glover had been signally refuted by Dr. Hayle, of Newcastle; that Dr. Glover had failed lamentably in substantiating the charge, and consequently is, up to the present moment, in that enviable position in which every man must be who makes an accusation and fails to prove it. On investigation, no trace of the accusation could be discovered beyond Dr. Glover's pen and ink: it is put down as a foundling at his door, and a fine promising boy he has got of it.

But, Sir, had it been traced to any chemist, what a withering sarcasm it would have passed on Dr. Glover's system and yours!!

Surrounded, then, by the difficulties of homœopathic therapeutics, as Dr. Christison was by the allopathic, you rejoice that "in allopathy we are able to trace the good or deleterious influence of drugs." Patients! *lay this unction to your moaning hours.* We never get a new patient, but we are able to trace them distinctly; we have extended experience in this way; and as patients seldom come to us when good effects have resulted, we are, I think, justified in supposing that the "*deleterious*" predominate.

At this epoch of your paper, you get into such a confusion, between our little *pilule* dispute, the science of imponderables, as illustrated by miasmata, odoriferous effects, chloroform, Dr. Snow, vaccination, and putrid game, that when we get to the end, and remember the relation that all this bears to a *course of experiments,* we ask, "cui bono?" We must begin again, Sir. Experiments you *must* give us, in accordance with symptoms, and justly recorded; and you must give them with the humility of a student, and in whatever they come short we will point them out to you. We would not accept the giant of Giessen himself in the light of a homœopathist, unless he can prove a stern apprenticeship. You already find you have got no trifling matter before you. You have far and wide declared uncompromising war with those who, if left alone, would simply have extended their own doctrine; and having been so imprudent, we shall give your therapeutics no quarter. We shall refer you to the registrars of every parish in which a homœopath practises, and compel you to compare his death-certificates with those of allopaths around him.

The united powers of algebra, logic, and chemical analysis having, as you suppose, routed us for the twentieth time on infinitesimal doses, we are just where we were—curing a good many of your patients; I mean your party's patients—it would not be proper to cure yours—and working steadily for our cause. Spare us then the logic, the algebra, and the precise number of drops of the German Ocean! for the same

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theory has been already illustrated by the Lake of Geneva, a proportion better suited to general capacity.

Meantime I would ask you, how it happened that, in the report of the meeting of the Medical Society of London, Dr. Camps was compelled to vote for the "*Resolutions*," although "*sorry they had been brought forward?*" How was it that, when Dr. Camps, appalled at the extent of allopathic drugging, and anxious to do something towards remedying this crying evil, attempted to give an illustration of it, and related "that a general practitioner sent in medicine for an *infant*, his bill for which, he said, amounted to £48!!! although *only three or four visits had been paid*," the candid allopath was called to order for *intruding irrelevant matter?* Fathers! mothers! little babies! you little know now great is the importance of "*Resolutions*" *against homœopathists*, and what a trifling matter a £48 *bill for drugs to an infant* is. Dr. Camps, you may decamp; there is no accommodation for you in that room; but you are an honest fellow, whatever your creed may be, and worth any fifty of the London Medical Society's members.

Sir, I congratulate you on your brotherhood of the London Medical Society, and on the "Resolutions" that have just emanated from it. I congratulate that body on the noble stand it has made in defence of a tottering fabric, and on the exalted position its presidential dignitary has just worked out for it. The laxity in medical ethics, the private practice of "globulism," have been thoroughly washed from a medical rag. Can you inform me if the water with which the purification was effected was much contaminated thereby? I should think it had been—a scum upon it, or some such like, or more professionally speaking, a pellicle. It is rather sharp work to be passed seven times through a Society's furnace, and come out—a cinder. The countenance of Medical Decorum has been furbished up wonderfully in this instance: we had always a light opinion of that body; indeed, we have often heard it hinted that she was "no better than she should be," and we have no doubt she stood much in need of the furbishing; but why, instead of whitewashing, do you apply the blacking-brush? Poor Medical Decorum was begrimed extensively; the blandness and smiles of the accused, the forgiveness of the London Medical Society, the promise to "never meddle with globules again," proved unavailing; for Medical Decorum was just "as Mr. Briggs appeared after he came out of the brook."

With the contents of that brook adhering to her presidential paletot, the "Resolutions" are entered upon. We know not whether most to admire the penitential candour on the surface, or the poltroonery that shines through it.

How was it that your august editor did not stand up and insult "Medical Decorum" on the spot, as "a bastard homœopathist?" He has done so to some of us, whom she imitates servilely: was she spared because of promises for the future? Paint her portrait, surround it with a frame of triple gilt, place it upon the same square-feet of your wall from which you have removed the portrait of your late president, and let the London Medical Society, when it meets, glow with generous feelings under the benignant smiles from the canvas of its *Great Whitewashed*, to whom the oil of allopathy has once more adhered in its pristine stickiness. Let Medical Decorum beware of this oiliness, for it is dangerous to all parties. We know of one petty partisan of yours, who perilled his fellowship by dealing in oiliness, but it was hair-oiliness. Excuse the alliteration, but the words came so readily to hand, that my pen recorded them obediently.

But I cannot pass over this resolution-hatching *sederunt* of the London Medical Society, without doing justice to the obstetric features of the evening. One feels particularly charmed with the gentleman whose speech of some ten lines embodies more really *original matter* than the columns of the other obstetric philosophers. After it was stated that ladies in this country *will dance the polka beyond a term at all prudent*, he proves it by a gratuitous confession, that "he was sorry to say he had himself seduced a patient so as to lead her to do that." We do not for a moment doubt this, because it is confessed to; nevertheless, this mode of illustrating obstetric science is rather too exhilarating,—it almost takes away one's breath. As no hurricane passed over the countenance of Medical Decorum, not even a cloud, but as, on the contrary, the jade seemed to enjoy this outrage to the feelings of all ladies in an interesting situation, we would suggest, as being likely to advance obstetric science, that this practitioner be requested to exhibit his experiments at the Society's next meeting, and to this suggestion we add a recommendation (to this obstetric dancing-master) to put a Simpson's tractor in his pocket—it might prove a great comfort to both parties; and to this recommendation we add a request, that Dr. Malden, of Worcester, might be invited to attend. He will then learn that laughing is only a

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gratification according to the side of the mouth from which it comes, and that dancing is only an enjoyment when the tune is in good time.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
Nov. 1, 1851. SIGMA.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH, 1851.

EVERY fresh movement in homœopathy tends to promote the confidence of the public in the growth of the system. That such would be the case we have fearlessly predicted for some time past. The vital importance of its influence upon the destinies of the great human family we have always endeavoured to point out in a clear and intelligible manner, and we are much gratified by knowing that our services in this respect have been appreciated.

The disciples of homœopathy have in their present struggle experienced all the hardships which attend the introduction of a new discovery, but they will be amply compensated by the future brilliant results awaiting the development of their science. Already have those prominently associated with its progress found the difficulties surrounding their early endeavours gradually giving way before the light of reason and the increased freedom of public thought. Under the influence, then, of such encouraging auspices, they may go on their way rejoicing, being perfectly assured that the opposition encountered will ere long be thoroughly cleared from their path, leaving them undisputed possessors of the field, for which they have so vigorously contested.

Nothing can more surely indicate the tendency of public feeling on this question than the late demonstrations which have taken place in the provinces. In the first instance evidently intended to crush homœopathy and its followers, not one of these proceedings have been brought to a close, without eliciting circumstances favourable to our Cause and our pretensions. Whether we turn to the right or to the left, the same prospect is apparent. Huddersfield with its noisy declamators; Ross with its dispensary orators; or even Brighton with its allopathic professors—all evince unmistakable symptoms of furnishingtheir quota of homœopathic progression.

Nor shall we stop here. The marvellous revelations made every day in connection with the practice and principles of medicine as evolved in the philosophy of Hahnemann, must plainly teach those who promote due inquiry, that there yet remains in store much for the universal benefit of mankind. This is no idle boast, and our opponents are quite alive to the fact, but their prejudices will not permit them to confess the truth. It is alone through prejudices thus created that homœopathy has been denied a fair hearing in times gone by. Such obstacles, however, have now been in a great measure removed, and it requires no prophet to assert that allopathy and its adherents will eventually have to make place for more successful compeers.

THE MAGNETOSCOPE.

"Man! the Discoverer, whosoe'er thou art,
Honour to thee from all the lyres of song!
Honour to him who leads to Nature's heart
One footstep nearer!"

THE intense interest which has been excited by the experiments made with Mr. RUTTER'S *Magnetoscope*, has awakened the attention of all thoughtful homœopathists to magnetic science. The liveliest hopes have been entertained that, by means of this instrument, there may be a direct physical demonstration of the fact, so long established by experience and statistics, that our very minute and even infinitesimal doses do act on the human organism. Such a demonstration by physical science, that is, the physical discovery affording unequivocal proofs of the theorem, would indeed be an invaluable aid for the conviction of the sceptical inquirer. Proofs of another kind we have in abundance that our medicines do act; but those from physical science, which have been hoped for from Mr. RUTTER'S instrument, would go far to satisfy the objectors who will not at present listen to us, nor examine for themselves.

Let us consider what, it has been affirmed, may be expected from this invention:—

1. That thereby the action of the homœopathic remedies, even in very infinitesimal doses, may be rendered evident to the senses.

2. The physical demonstration of the homœopathic law.

3. The proof that the action of our remedies is, in a certain sense, totally independent of quantity.

These propositions are derived from Dr. MADDEN'S communication to the Editors of the *British Journal of Homœopathy*.

Whether the experiments that are now being made will issue in confirmations strong, in direct proof of the propositions attempted to be proved, remains to be seen.

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The views of REICHENBACH, Dr. BUCHANAN, HERBERT MAYO, Mr. RUTTER, and various other persons who have entered on this subtle field of magnetic investigation, are of the utmost importance. The science of *electro-pneumatics*, if that shall be found to be the suitable expression for the aggregate of facts in reference to imponderables, and the relation between the magnetic condition of the subtle, impalpable, and invisible properties or qualities of matter (in contradistinction to gross quantity and the rude force of bulk), and the magnetic condition of the human being, cannot fail to exert a vast influence on the human race. We are only at the starting-point.

We should not be discouraged now, or at any time. Truth is the thing sought after, and those who search for truth must be hopeful as well as patient. Those whose character of mind is cautious and sceptical, as well as those whose genius is dogmatic and sanguine, will be engaged in these investigations, which have been opened up for us by the philosophers we have named. By a careful accumulation of facts, and by cautious induction, a law or laws may be at last determined—*quando physicum terminatur in mathematico*—that is when the physical discovery is shown to rest on undeniable proofs.

The facts already recorded and accumulated in relation to this vast field of observation are so very interesting and important, that none of us should be discouraged by reported discrepancies, which science will no doubt solve, or by rumours of failure in this or that direction: none of us should look with a sectarian regard on this new science, nor strive

"To bring down to party what is meant for mankind."

Those who feel the importance of the dynamics of imponderables—the miasm and the breath, the exhalation and the emanation—the skyey and telluric influences—magnetism in all its forms, mineral or animal, electricity, and thermo-electricity,—the perpetual changes that are taking place every instant, by atomic revolutions, in the waste and supply of every animated being, whether of the elephant or of one individual atom of the myriads that live on a leaf,—must use the knowledge already gained with desire for advancement, and must desire progress without fear and distrust.

To persons of this stamp, if everything is not gained at the first step, there will be only a keener desire to go farther into the wood. It was by intuition divinely given, that the dweller in Eden named all the creatures of which he was made to be the lord: but it was by accumulated observations made by previous worthies that such men as Jussieu, and Linnæus, and Cuvier, and Buckland, reached their nomenclatures and classifications. As we cannot by intuition penetrate the mystery of the vital dynamics of the universe, in the aggregate or the individual, in Behemoth or the invisible atom, we must arrive, we or our successors, at the goal we desiderate by the patient labours of many high-souled, and deep-thoughted, and large-hearted inquirers. To them will be precious indeed the internal truth of things, which this new philosophy seems destined to reveal to us.

Traces of it indeed are to be found in the writings of the ancient philosophers, as those will find, who will consider the doctrine of "similar parts" of Anaxagoras, of the doctrine of "atoms" of Leucippus and Democritus, the teaching of Empedocles concerning the "discord and concord," and the speculations of Heraclitus on the "resolution of bodies." This was a "sprinkling of natural philosophy"—the seed was sown, and after very many days it seems in our time to be springing up to the harvest.

But these inquiries must be conducted in a fair and tolerant spirit. "As it is a caution given in religion, that faith be shown by works, the same is excellently transferred likewise to philosophy; that it be judged by its fruits, and the sterile be counted vain; and the more so if, in place of fruits of the grape and olive, it produces but thistles and thorns of disputation and strife."

The excellent inventor of the Magnetoscope is confident, it is believed, in the exact accuracy of his experiments, and the unvarying character of his instrument. That his numerous and varied experiments have been made most cautiously and honestly, and that the results have been faithfully recorded, is not doubted for an instant: but the question is, if the instrument acts independently of the will and of the muscular motion of its inventor, as suggested by DR. HERBERT MAYO in his third edition, and if the same results can be obtained, not by all, but by other experimenters: or would be obtained by himself, if he or the instrument were placed in certain conditions. His forthcoming book, "Magnetoid Currents, their Forces and Directions, with a description of the Magnetoscope, and a series of experiments," is anxiously looked for. All who look to his invention for proofs of homœopathy to be derived from physical science, are naturally anxious to have direct teaching from the master himself, and earnestly hope that

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his instrument may be found, on the repeated experience of other experimenters, to perform what has been predicated of it, independently of the *will*, or of the *muscular motion* of the operator. Under any circumstances, he has laid the scientific world, and all those who love their kind, under great obligations. Let us hope that he has indeed found the key to open this palace of delight—and if not yet found, still be it his—to find it!

Correspondence.

THE ODOSCOPE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—As it is obviously your wish, as it is your duty and interest, in these stirring times, to keep the homœopathic public *au courant* (so far as it may be in your power, by the assistance of your colleagues, foreign and domestic) of whatever is of scientific as well as practical importance to homœopathy, I make no apology for sending the following rather long extract from the *Zoist*, vol. iii.

It was to Dr. Buchanan's experiments I alluded on witnessing Mr. Rutter's, both of which seem wonderfully to accord in *sensitiveness*.

The Magnetoscope (or what I prefer calling Odoscope) has, from letters which I have seen, been found to answer all Mr. Rutter's most sanguine anticipations. Nay, I understand he, by an extensive series of experimental investigations, considers his invention and discoveries as established facts in physical science. It is to be hoped no hasty conclusions will be arrived at by any one engaged in these wonderful experiments, as it has occurred to me, by a very little experience, that a *compound influence* and *certain conditions* are essential to the manifestation of the phenomena,—conditions which established facts in magnetic science fully warrant as being honestly legitimate, as all who have carefully studied Reichenbach and others must be aware. I will not venture a suggestion, however, at present, but, like the President of the British Homœopathic Society, look forward "with longing and impatience to the forthcoming work of Mr. Rutter."

Louisville, May 10, 1843.

"Dr. John Elliotson.

"SIR,—The moral courage and energy with which you have maintained in London the cause of truth, have inspired me with the desire to render my feeble tribute of respect to so eminent an example of qualities unfortunately too rare among the distinguished of the medical profession. My inclination to address you has been increased by the manner in which your name has been mentioned to me by your friend T. C. Grattan, and by Professor Caldwell.

"I take the pen now to give you some sketch or hint of what I have been doing, and to communicate to one, who I trust would shrink from no truth from any source, some of those things which a prudent man would not communicate to the public. In *profound* science—in discovery—there must be exoteric and esoteric knowledge.

"Last January I forwarded you from New York, by the house of Wiley and Putnam, a copy of a pamphlet published in this city, and a copy of the *Democratic Review* (the most influential and respectable monthly in our country), containing a friendly and liberal essay upon the science of neurology. From Boston I forwarded you, by Mr. Grattan, a copy of my diagram illustrative of the phrenological portion of neurology. These I hope you have received.

"I deeply regret that I have not been able to devote my time and energies exclusively to the cultivation of the science, which I might have brought by this time to a much more perfect state than that in which it is. The science of mind, I have asserted, is strictly a mathematical science; but I have made little progress in giving it the exactness and developing the facts by which this may be proved.

"As to the discovery that the brain may be excited and its functions ascertained by touching the different organs of the head with the human fingers, I presume you have by this time seen enough of the phenomena, and in your experiments made discoveries enough, to show you how vast a field lies unexplored. The most successful method which I have used for discovery, is not to touch the organs of my subject, but to make him place his fingers upon the various parts of my head, from which I wish him to derive an influence. Each organ radiates its own distinct and peculiar *nervaura*, which when received by another person stimulates in him the corresponding function. The impressible person may thus be compelled to act out the character of any organ which you wish to investigate. In some of the impressibles the influence transmitted through either hand will affect only one-half of the system, and it will be necessary to bring both of their hands into contact with your head that they may not experience a one-sided effect. This would not be very pleasant; but I have frequently distorted my subjects in that manner, making them feel contradictory passions in the two hemispheres, and giviug a double expression to the countenance. The most unnatural and terrible experiments may be made in reference to the relations of the hemispheres. It is even practicable to split the man in two—to destroy all co-operation between the two sides of the body, by passing the hands along the median line of the head, so as to form an influence between the hemispheres. The results of this experiment are so frightful that I never dared to continue it, but have always speedily arrested it by touching the organ of Self-possession upon the side of the head (marked upon my diagram, Self-possession).

"The physiological functions of impressible persons may be as effectually controlled by touching others' heads, as by having any excitement attempted upon their own. Just

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before I left Boston, I relieved the wife of Dr. T. (while labouring under profuse menstrual complaints), by placing her fingers upon the upper part of the region of Cautiousness, where lie the organs restraining the sexual functions. Having a good stock of health myself, I have rendered much more pleasant and effectual service to the impressible in this manner than by touching their heads.

"The impressible constitution not only feels the influence of the human brain, but feels the influence of any medical article with which it is brought into contact. Thus small quantities of medicine placed in the hand of a susceptible subject, will affect him as powerfully as if it had been taken into the stomach. The results are developed almost instantaneously. In this manner I have found it practicable to ascertain the exact physiological tendency of any medicine uncomplicated with any morbid influences, by trying it upon healthy subjects, and to discover in what manner each mental or physiological function is affected by any medicine or article of diet.

"It is not even necessary that the medicine should in all cases be in contact with the hand. The influence of the medicine which can pass through the arm to the body, can also pass through intervening substances to the arm. Incredible as it may seem, I can assure you that I have had several subjects who could feel distinct medicinal impressions from substances which were contained in envelopes of paper, in boxes, or in phials. Persons of this delicate structure of course feel the efficacy of the homœopathic infinitesimal doses, and the prevalence of impressibility in various degrees accounts for the success of Hahnemann's doses. One of the homœopathic *globules* held in the hand would affect Mr. I. so sensibly, that he could describe a long list of symptoms produced in himself similar to those related by the homœopaths, when he knew nothing of the medicine or its effects. Medicinal influences, however, are not transmitted with speed and efficiency, unless the medical agency is transmitted into the system by a stream of the *nervaura*. Electricity and galvanism have been proved capable of transmitting the medicinal influence of any substance through which they are passed. I have proved that the *nervaura* has the same power. When we place our fingers in contact with the medicine which is touched by the subject, a stream of nervous fluid is passing from our hand through the medicine to him. This *nervaura* makes him feel promptly effects which would otherwise hardly be produced.

"The facts which I have just stated have inspired me with a determination to make a critical review of the Materia Medica, and investigate the properties of medicinal and alimentary substances in reference to the human organization. I hope thus to lay down the true laws, not only of therapeutics, but of dietetics, derived from the relations between the various species of food and the various mental and physiological organs of the brain.

"The impressible constitution is an inexhaustible wonder: it does not require the presence of any appreciable quantity of matter to affect it! The *nervaura* of the human brain and body will produce as great effects as ponderable medicines. The *nervaura* may be transmitted through any good conductor, and produce its effects as well as when the subject is brought into nearer contact. Thus by placing a pencil-case upon the cerebral organs, I have been able to affect the subject who touched its other extremity, and have sometimes made the experiment more striking by previously blindfolding the subject. Even articles which have been placed in contact with the human head will retain enough of the *nervaura* to give a strong impression to the subject.*

"But what is most wonderful of all--a fact which should never be stated but to those who are prepared 'to believe all things possible'—the paper upon which we write receives and retains a sufficient amount of the influence of our minds and bodies, to impart to another a correct conception of them, and of the sentiments expressed in our writing. I have made my subjects describe the impressions received in this manner, and I would mention the result of one of my experiments made last winter in my chamber with Mr. Inman, brother of Henry Inman, the distinguished American artist, to whose politeness I am indebted for the delivery of these lines. I placed in Mr. I.'s hands four letters unopened—all from men of marked character—one of whom was Professor Caldwell. Holding each between his hands, without even seeing the superscription, he gave his impressions in reference to the men from the effect they produced upon him. It is no exaggeration to say, that I could not myself have given a more correct description. (I beg you will bear in mind that my operations are *always* conducted in the natural state,—no mesmeric preparation or somnolence is permitted).

"The question has probably occurred to your mind, how far the mesmeric sympathy between the operator and subject interferes with the results in the cerebral excitements which I practise. I do not doubt that those who proceed according to formulæ of mesmerism alone, may be deceived from that cause. I believe the experimenters in England, as well as the United States, have operated almost solely in that condition of the system with which mesmerism had made them familiar, and have not adopted any simpler plan. I have the best evidence that my mental condition or design does not control the results in my subject, as I have necessarily often mistaken the positions of organs, and found it entirely impossible to develope their functions until I touched the exact

* "The *nervaura* of each organ radiates and passes through the atmosphere, but with less facility than through good conductors, as flesh and metal. There are very few *non-conductors* of the nervaura. Hair, bone, feathers, beeswax, and a few other substances, have the best claims to that title. Glass is a pretty good conductor. All forms of cerebral action, whether *thought or feeling*, admit of radiation and conduction from the brain. I have no doubt that impressible constitutions may be found capable of catching and describing these radiations. My experiments, however, have been chiefly by conduction."

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points of their location. I always find the organs lying in fixed and certain positions, and their functions equally certain. Like the keys of a musical instrument, they respond only when touched; and if we have a good instrument, we elicit a full and distinct note (invariably the same) at every point we touch.

"The impressible constitution, which I have sometimes called my psychometer, gives me the means of making an unlimited *diagnosis* of all others. It feels and manifests every physiological action, morbid or healthy, and every mental action resulting from the influence of any part of the brain with which it may be brought into contact. By this sympathetic diagnosis, I have found it practicable to explore the functions of the living brain—*to trace the boundaries of convolutions* by the aura which they emit—to discover the degree of natural or artificial activity in the organs, and to ascertain the states of health and disease throughout the system. Have you fallen upon those things—and if so, how far have you carried them? The *cultivators* of science are few and far between. In our own country, Lilas Jones, Esq., of New York (author of a very respectable volume upon phrenology, etc.), has taken a most active part in the philosophical cultivation of neurology. Dr. S. Fonz, author of 'Climatology,' etc., has taken a lively interest in the subject. Professor Caldwell, as usual, has been a bold and fearless advocate of truth. In Great Britain I fear you have the same complaint to make. Scientific men dread new truths. The Edinburgh men I fear are cold-blooded conservatives. It will give me much pleasure at any time to hear from you, or to receive any document showing how the cause of truth is going on, or what is your individual progress. If I can reciprocate the favour in any way, command me as you please. Receive the assurance of my higheet respect, with the hope that you may live to be as justly appreciated and admired by all your contemporaries as by "Your humble servant,

"Jos. R. Buchanan."

"Louisville, May 12, 1843.

"My dear Sir,—By the politeness of my young but distinguished friend, Dr. Buchanan, I am permitted to add a brief postscript to his letter to you. Of this I avail myself the more promptly, and with the higher pleasure, because it affords me an opportunity to offer you an assurance of the lively and grateful remembrance I cherish of the many favours and courtesies I received from you in London. It is also peculiarly gratifying to me to be able to assure you of the entire confidence you may place in the Doctor's statements (strange and startling as they may appear to you) respecting his experiments in neurology. I have not myself either witnessed or performed all those experiments; but from those which, I *have* witnessed, and from what I know of Dr. Buchanan's character, I entertain no shadow of doubt in relation to the others.

"We live in most eventful times. I firmly believe, and have long believed, that we already perceive the dawn of a new epoch in anthropology, which. through discoveries in relation to the nervous system (the brain of course included), is destined to throw into 'shadows, clouds, and darkness' all our previous knowledge in that important branch of science . . . . .

"With the most distinguished regard,

"I have the honour to be, my dear Sir,

"Yours, very faithfully,

"Ch. Caldwell."

It is somewhat singular and worthy of note, that Dr. Buchanan should have broached such intensely interesting views nearly *two* years before the publication of Reichenbach's Researches. Between the latter—Dr. Buchanan's "*psychometer*" and Mr. Rutter's magnetoscope (if found to be all that its scientific inventor confidently predicates), there will be found to exist, in my opinion, an intimate and indivisible connection.

It will no doubt interest your readers to know that Dr. Buchanan is one of those who, when the "Eclectic Medical Institute" of Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1849, determined on establishing a homœopathic professorship, warmly supported the appointment, to fill which, Dr. Storm Rosa, of Painesville, was elected by the State Homœpathic Convention, to whom the nomination of a professorship was entrusted.

Dr. Rosa thus writes, which makes us acquainted somewhat with the liberal character of the "Eclectic Medical Institute" of Cincinnati, as well as the character and attainments of Dr. Buchanan, the distinguished author on Neurology.

"The unequalled liberality of this Institute is displayed not only in the establishment of a chair of homœopathic medicine, but in the appointment of a homœopathist, Dr. H. P. Gatchell, to the Chair of Anatomy. These things were done, too, at a time when the Institute was not obliged to look to collateral aid for success, but when it was in a most flourishing condition. It had already advanced in four years from a class of fifty to one of a hundred and fifty.

"While other schools had nothing but ridicule and misrepresentation to bestow upon homœopathy, the professors of this school were accustomed to speak of it with respect, and to commend its claims to the attention of their students.

"Such magnanimity should not pass unregarded. It is not so common as to justify us in holding it cheap. And I trust that there is sufficient generosity among homœopathists to enable them to appreciate it at its true value. There is no reason to apprehend a disposition on the part of the students of this school to treat homœopathy with disrespect, when their teachers are of such a stamp.

"I am now lecturing to a class of nearly one hundred and seventy students, and have among them a large number who design to graduate as homœopathists than has the Philadelphia school in the second year of its existence. With the homœopathists of Cincinnati the chair is decidedly popular, and is daily becoming so. The chair is a permanent one, and western physicians may send their pupils in the confidence that they will have an opportunity of learning ho-

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mœopathy with as perfect an exemption from unfavourable influences as in any other school.

"No inconsiderable inducement to attend this school is found in the fact, that Dr. Buchanan, the Professor of Physiology, not only recognises the truth of the law *similia similibus*, but has also developed a profound and beautiful system of physiology, that analyses the human constitution more thoroughly and exactly than any previous system, but also affords a better basis for pathology and Materia Medica. I anticipate great benefit to the science of medicine from the splendid discoveries of Dr. Buchanan. And I hope that homœopathists will manifest the same liberal spirit towards the results of his labours that the Eclectic School has manifested towards homœopathy."

The gigantic spread of homœopathy in America cannot be wondered at, when we are informed that, independent of the number of students qualifying at the homœopathic schools, Dr. Rosa is lecturing at the Eclectic Medical Institute, in 1850, "to a class of nearly *one hundred and seventy* students, and has among them a *larger number who design to graduate as homœopathists* than has the Philadelphia school in the second year of its existence."

After this, our British universities and schools of medical education may take a hint—their professors and teachers learn wisdom; for *they* as well as *we* "live in most eventful times."

Yours faithfully,

Brook Street. D. WILSON.

THE "ODOMETER."

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Mr. Wilson's interesting letter in your last number instantly set me to work to test the experiments therein recorded. I think I have detected the cause, or one cause, of the "discrepancies" mentioned as having occurred with different experimenters, both as respects Mr. Rutter's Magnetoscope and Caspari's Odometer. At first, my success in repeating Dr. Mayo's experiments was very striking. But, as with Dr. Mayo, the results soon began to be "capricious and contradictory," and this in spite of all precautions. It now occurred to me that the *will of the operator* might be at least a modifying force, if not indeed the sole cause of the various movements of the pendulum. Subsequent experiments, conducted by myself and by several of my friends, confirm me in this opinion. That the will of the operator is the sole moving power, I cannot yet assert; I merely suggest its possibility. Nor can I deny that the substances named by Mr. Rutter, Dr. Quin, and Dr. Mayo may exert specific influences on the pendulum. Indeed, my first trials (in which I had certainly no *intention* of willing the movements) gave different kinds of oscillations, according as the pendulum was held over gold, silver, copper, etc. It also appears to me, that the oscillations in a direction to and from the person of the operator are more easily produced than those from right to left and back again. Still, even in the first trials, I might unwittingly have had in my mind the idea that the pendulum would move in a certain direction. If this subject has not already engaged the attention of Mr. Rutter (and no mention thereof occurs in the able lectures of Dr. Quin), I would venture to suggest it to him. Mr. Rutter indeed believes that, under similar circumstances, the result of each experiment is always the same, whether or no the operator is aware beforehand what that result will be. But the Magnetoscope has with other operators given rise to certain discrepancies. The experiments I made were conducted, not exactly with the instrument described by Mr. Rutter, but with the very simple apparatus employed by Dr. Mayo, or a modification of it. Now for the results.

Make a pendulum, consisting of a sovereign, (or a bit of sealing-wax, or of wood), attached to a piece of silk thread (or of common string). It is probable that the silk or string attached to almost any other solid substance would answer as well; but the above-named articles are those to which I confined myself. The results were exactly the same, whether gold, or sealing-wax, or wood formed part of the pendulum. They were the same, whether the pendulum were suspended over a sovereign, a shilling, a penny, etc., or whether simply suspended over the table; *i. e.*, in all cases *it was the will alone which produced the results.* The experiments succeed best when the silk or string is attached immediately to any part of the operator's hand, without any intervening substance. But, in order to remove the suspicion that the oscillations might be unwittingly influenced by slight movements of the fingers or hand, I have also attached the pendulum to a fixed point, *e. g.*, to the frame of a picture; and on touching the loose end of the string, above the point of attachment to the frame, the pendulum was still completely under the control of the will, but the movements were fainter, and excited with greater difficulty. When my eyes were shut, or when I did not touch any part of the string connected with the pendulum, the will had no influence. Placing dead animal substances upon the operating hand never produced any influence upon the vibrations. When a person, having a feeble concentrative power, and who was therefore unable firmly to fix his attention upon a given direction of the pendulum, conducted the experiments, the oscillations were correspondingly feeble and uncertain; but when I placed either of my hands upon the engaged hand of the operator, I easily and powerfully influenced the pendulum. It may here be observed, that in some few experiments which I have at different times made, with the view of "mesmerising" various persons, I have never succeeded in producing any result.

I thus found that in whatever way my hand was connected with the instrument, I could invariably, by my will alone, almost instantly cause the pendulum to oscillate in any given direction. It is merely necessary for me to think of any special direction, or of a cessation of movement, and the pendulum immediately acts accordingly. The effort required to produce these results is very slight. In this way

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the pendulum can be caused to move backwards and forwards from the person of the operator; or from right to left, and back again; or in any direction between these two currents; or elliptically; or in a circle, either "normal" or "reverse;" or, lastly, it can be brought to a dead stand. The movements may be rendered fainter or more marked at pleasure.

In concluding these hasty notes and suggestions, it is only necessary to remark that they are offered as facts, unaccompanied by theory; that I know not if similar results have previously been noticed; and that, with due precautions, any person can immediately confirm or refute them by repeating the experiments.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A PHYSICIAN.

London, Oct. 30, 1851.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Having been privileged to be a witness of the experiments performed by Dr. Madden at the Hahnemann Hospital, on the 21st instant, I have been rather surprised to observe that none of your correspondents have suggested what appeared to me to be their true explanation, viz., that all the movements of the pendulum were due to involuntary motions of the operator's hand.

My reasons for coming to that conclusion were numerous and weighty; among them were the following:—

First. It is a well-known fact that ideas in the mind do excite such movements in the hand and fingers as well as in other parts of the body. The common experiment of suspending a ring in a glass, and finding that it will (in a large number of cases) strike the hour against its sides, establishes this point.

Secondly. I ascertained that exceedingly slight motions of the fingers, when applied to Dr. Madden's instrument, had the effect of producing all, or nearly all, the various motions of the pendulum which he had shown us.

Dr. Madden also expressly admitted (subsequently to the lecture) that motions could be so produced; and while declaring himself thereby convinced of the reality of the force supposed, avowed his want of perfect satisfaction with his instrument as a means of demonstrating it. He stated also that various contrivances had been employed to obviate this defect, but that hitherto it had not been possible to produce the movements on any instrument in which such communication of motion was *impossible*, owing, as he conceived, to the dissipation or non-conduction of the force, in accordance with the known laws of electricity.

Thirdly. After the lecture, Dr. Madden kindly consented to make various additional experiments; one of which was the following. Having established the normal motion by his right hand, a letter, written by a gentleman, was placed in his left in such a position as to be out of his sight: *the motion was reversed*. After the normal motion had been re-established, a letter, written by a lady, and received that day by a gentleman present, was placed in his hand, with a blank leaf only visible: the motion was not affected.

Several experiments were made with globules, the nature of which was unknown to him; but as the results were doubtful, and he was at the time in a state not only of exhaustion but of pain, it would not be fair to dwell upon them. I would remark, however, that the fact of the *reversal* of the current by a gentleman's letter proves that there must be a power capable of producing such an effect, of which Dr. Madden has not taken cognizance. My own opinion is that that power was the idea in his mind that the letter was a lady's, and that the reason why the lady's letter did not reverse the motion, was the idea that it was a gentleman's.

I would not have written this letter, if I could suppose for a moment that I should be understood as making any charge of deception or contrivance against Dr. Madden. Such a thought is as far from me as it can be from any one. To my mind, the experiments are of the most intense interest, as tending greatly to enlarge our physiological knowledge, for they go to prove an intimacy of connection between the bodily and mental states, which, without such evidence, we should hardly conceive possible, and thus throw a most valuable light upon many of the most obscure and apparently unaccountable facts connected with our nature. Not that the principle is new. We see hourly illustrations of it in the ever-varying expressions of the human face—expressions produced, as is well known, by involuntary and unconscious muscular movements, which follow with the most marvellous rapidity and exactness all the various shades of thought and feeling.

I might adduce many other arguments in support of the view I have taken, but I am unwilling to trespass on your space. I would merely suggest that the different motions obtained by different individuals, and the fact stated by Dr. Madden that *practice* is desirable in order to produce them with accuracy, are very significant of their real nature. I have not had the happiness of witnessing the results obtained by Mr. Rutter; yet I cannot but think it probable that they are referrible to the same physiological law, and will be found to be so on farther and more complete examination.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

London, Oct. 27, 1851. J. H.

MR. RUTTER'S MAGNETOSCOPE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I have already expressed, in my letter of the 28th, the hope that those of our number who have become interested in the statements made by Dr. Quin and myself, respecting the applicability of Mr. Rutter's Magnetoscope to homœopathy, would be cautious as to the opinion they might feel disposed to form, as I considered it too soon to decide positively as to its merits. It is, I can assure you, no pleasant duty which I have now to perform, viz., to make known the fact that my recent experiments have detected a most serious source of fallacy in all the previous ones, and go far to show that it will be of

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little or no real value to us as demonstrating the action of homœopathic remedies. Some days before I delivered my lecture at the Hahnemann Hospital, I had discovered, to my great disappointment, that the instruments employed by myself and Mr. Rutter were not so fixed as they appeared to be, and that every slight *voluntary motion* of the operator's arm was sufficient to produce any of the various movements. I therefore begged of Mr. Rutter to devise some modification of the instrument, for the purpose of overcoming this source of fallacy, or, rather, as I then felt, of preventing sceptics from declaring that the motions were *manufactured*, in place of being induced by the passage of a current. Mr. Rutter, however, was and is so convinced that he is altogether *passive* during the experiments, that he cannot see the necessity of any modification of the original machine. I should mention here that it is a very difficult thing to devise an instrument which shall be absolutely rigid, and in the construction of which none of the laws of induction shall be infringed. Many apparently unexceptionable instruments have been devised which have failed, but the failure could always be accounted for by the infringement of some of the known laws of induction. I am so strongly impressed with the fact, that the mere possibility of producing these movements voluntarily, reduced the whole series of experiments from the high standing of a demonstration down to the much less satisfactory one of individual testimony, and I knew so well that unconscious muscular movements occur in us every day, that I resolved to sift this matter to the bottom; do, if possible, what Dr. Quin already believed Mr. Rutter had effected, viz., to "leave no loophole for scepticism." We all know that winking is a voluntary motion, and yet, unless we are actually attending to our eyelids, we are altogether unconscious of this muscular movement. Now it was long ago pointed out to Mr. Rutter, and he has fully acknowledged the fact, that *unless you pay attention to the pendulum no definite movements take place.* The idea occurred to me that possibly this attention to the pendulum drew off my attention from my own body, and that I might accordingly make unconscious muscular movements capable of influencing the machine. I determined, therefore, to watch the pendulum and attend to my own sensations at the same time. I found, to my dismay, that when I resolutely determined not to move my body in the slightest degree, *no motion of the pendulum took place when I held the instrument in the usual way.* It is of great importance to note here that when I attended to my sensations I did not become conscious of any muscular movements, and it was only by a conscious voluntary determination to remain rigidly in one position that I checked the action of the pendulum. Thus far my investigations had proceeded on Monday, Oct. 20th. I accordingly had an interview with Mr. Rutter, for the purpose of communicating to him my doubts and fears, and had determined, in the event of his sharing in them, to give up my intended lecture of the next day; Mr. Rutter, however, assured me that he could contrive an unexceptionable instrument, albeit he could not see the necessity of altering his present one, and in the hope that this would soon be done, and being still confident that I remained passive during all the regular experiments, I proceeded to London the next day, and delivered my lecture at the Hahnemann Hospital, which step I have never ceased to regret, for the following reasons. As soon as possible after my return home, I commenced an elaborate series of test experiments, which have now been repeatedly performed in the presence of several friends, among others, before Dr. Sutherland of Leamington, and Dr. Dudgeon, and which tend strongly to corroborate my fears respecting the trustworthiness of the experiments; for I find—1. That in the ordinary condition of the magnetoscope, *any motion which is anticipated invariably takes place.* 2. *If I apply merely the point of any of my fingers to the brass ball and wish for any motion to occur, it takes place immediately, without my being conscious of any muscular motion on my part.* 3. If a medicine is put into my hands without my having any possible clue to its nature, the motions no longer coincide with my former observations; so much so indeed, that of *six medicines which have been tested in this way four times each, no one agreed more than twice, and two of them gave different motions every time they were tested.*

An important point, however, still remained to be proved, viz., whether the movements were produced by unconscious muscular motions communicated to the instrument, or whether they were really due to currents set in motion by the exercise of the will. To ascertain this, I arranged a series of experiments, from which it appears, that whenever a machine is so constructed as to admit of the greatest effect being produced by the smallest amount of mechanical motion, (which is unfortunately the case with Mr. Rutter's instrument, it being in fact a combination of three levers acted upon at the most advantageous point, to obtain the greatest effect from the smallest efforts,) such machine will act perfectly as a magnetoscope, even though all the known laws of induction are set at defiance in its construction; while, on the contrary, *every modification of the machine which increases its immobility, decreases in the same proportion its apparent sensibility to the so-called magnetic currents.* Under these circumstances, I fear we are bound to conclude that Mr. Rutter's magnetoscope in its present form is not applicable to experiments with homœopathic remedies; nay, more, that the very existence of magnetic currents passing through our bodies cannot be said to have been proved, until the experiments shall have been successfully repeated upon a more perfect instrument. I do not mean to deny that there is much which is very curious, and much that demands further inquiry in Mr. Rutter's experiments, but the time has evidently not yet come for drawing any practical conclusions from the resnlts of his researches.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

HENRY R. MADDEN.

Brighton, Oct. 31, 1851.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 120. Vol. III. | SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1851. | Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

Communications.

LETTER TO ROBERT CHRISTISON, M.D., V.P.R.S.E.,

AND PROFESSOR OF MATERIA MEDICA IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

No. VI.

Sir,—It is a principle held by many of the most humane men that, in order to preserve peace, it is necessary to be always prepared for war. This axiom is not likely to fall into oblivion with us homœopathists; indeed, for the future, we shall hold it steadily before us. I have chalked out for my guidance in any future communications addressed to you, or to any other member of your party, whose mode of entering the field of controversy is such as a gentleman can with propriety take notice of, four chief objects of attention, viz., first, to strike a balance, from time to time, of our ethical account, according as the items accumulate; indeed, we shall settle at short dates, as annual accounts are inconvenient in various ways.

Secondly. To keep a strict observation on the advancement in allopathic therapeutics in general, and as illustrated by the "Monthly Journal of Medical Science" in particular.

Thirdly. To analyse any allopathic *logic* on homœopathic doctrines (and we are not likely to have anything but logic) we may, from time to time, be favoured with.

Fourthly. To illustrate these subjects, deeds, and actors in such a manner as may subtract therefrom the usual monotony of medical subjects, so as not to frighten either allopathic or homœopathic readers.

Should any omission of importance occur to my memory at any time, I reserve to myself the right to fall back upon it. For instance, in Letter No. III., line 26 of first column, I stated that you had no diuretic that, in a strict sense, could permanently increase the elimination of solids from the system. It has since occurred to me that my mode of expressing this assertion is imperfect, for my homœopathic studies have not rendered me forgetful that certain *Salts of Potash* do (so long as they are taken) in some rare cases only increase the elimination of solids. The spirit of my assertion is not one whit invaded thereby. Stop the *Salts of Potash*, and see how long natural elimination will proceed; persevere with the *Salts of Potash* for a long continuance, with this view, and tell us the condition of muscular fibre, the firmness of nervous force resulting therefrom. Have you any proof besides, that the increase of solids, during the action of *Potash*, is identical with natural secondary assimilation—that it is the effected solution of animalization, and not simply the alkali itself? But if any allopath does say so, and were to act upon it, and to treat with *Salts of Potash* all cases where a deficiency of elimination is the characteristic symptom, he would fill the churchyard with more than wonted speed: it would be a therapeutic advancement with a vengeance. But in allopathic books there is no caution against it, so that any youthful graduate may go upon the principle for a season, until he finds out that it is only in a *few rare cases* that the danger is trifling.

Before entering upon our arrears of criticism, I have to ask you upon what grounds, at the late meeting of the Senatus Academicus of Edinburgh, a "motion of impropriety" was filed against Dr. Henderson for his publication of the famous "*Resolutions*" of your "Faculty?" You make "Resolutions" chiefly directed to one man as representing a body, with sternness truly Roman, if not with Roman wisdom (we use the adjective in the classical and not in the ecclesiastical sense); and you have the *common sense* to expect him, who is persecuted, to keep the Faculty's secret. Really, Sir, we fear you have not been dipping into Glassford lately. We wonder much whether law fraternized this time with physic, or whether theology decided on the infallibility of the pestle and mortar. I should rather say they did not, for the "motion" disappeared as suddenly as if it had been assisted on its way by "five grains of *Extract of Colocynth* and *two* drops of *Croton Oil*." But this sudden settling showed that I was right when (in a former letter) I stated that there was not so much difference between allopath and homœopath as is generally imagined. A cock upon his own dunghill looks imposing

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so long as the sun shines, but just look at him under a cart towards the afternoon of a rainy day, and a very marked difference indeed may be observed.

Taking up my analytical position from the date of your October issue, I find a paper by Mr. W. Kerr, on "The Utility of *Persesquinitrate of Iron* in Ague." You will remember how strongly this paper speaks for *specific action*. Again our systems approximate, when the unpalatable word "homœopathy" is left out, and allusions to infinitesimal doses are dispensed with. You will observe how *your* specific as well as *ours*, *Quinine*, failed in some cases; *Arsenic* in others; and that Mr. Kerr's *Salt* cured a fair proportion of them. I could tell you of other forms of ague, which neither *Quinine*, *Arsenic*, nor *Persesquinitrate of Iron* can do anything for, but which will readily enough yield to *Bryony*, to *Phosphorus*, and to *White Hellebore*. I only want your acknowledgment of the *specific action* of this *Salt of Iron*, to admit your advancement of a step in therapeutics.

It gladdened my homœopathic heart when I hit upon Dr. Welti's specific for puerperal metritis and peritonitis, at page 379. But it must have been a sad trial to you to make the following quotation from his paper: "Dr. Welti was, in the year 1836, led to the employment of this remedy (*Oxalate of Potash*), by finding in a periodical an extract from an English journal to this effect: 'that *Oxalate of Potash* is a substance which, in the *normal condition*, acts *disturbingly (storend)* upon the intestinal canal. What, therefore, acts in *this manner* in the *normal condition must*, under circumstances of morbidly exalted activity, act as a sedative (*herabstimmend*)!!'" The points expressive of wonder, I presume, are yours, and not Dr. Welti's. You accept his cure, however, and pitch his theory to Davy Jones. I cordially agree with Dr. Welti, whose good taste kept out *homœopathy*: a name is but a jackstraw; I won't quarrel with him on the point. No one can read Dr. Welti's history of forty-four cases of puerperal inflammation (with one fatal case only) without being struck with the marvellous effects of *Oxalate of Potash*; but having no grounds whatever for doubting the correctness of the statement, I shall keep it in mind for special experiment, both in the healthy and puerperal state. Willing, therefore, indeed grateful for a homœopathic hint from Dr. Welti, or Dr. Anybody, I would rather have had the *Oxalate* on its own merits, than damped by the occasional combination of *Hyoscyamus*, *Nitre*, or *Aqua Cerasorum*. But in this list of forty-four cases, is one of special interest to you, to me, and especially to the public, whose veneration for the medical faculty is not quite so deep as it was; and the result should be engraved on the gates of every medical licensing body in the United Kingdom, and stamped on the boards of every medical book entered at Stationers' Hall, viz., *that the only case treated by bleeding, leeching, and Calomel, in accordance with the dicta of the schools, died;* and so little confidence had Dr. Welti in such treatment, that he prophesied the fatal termination. Dr. Welti, I think I may shake hands with you: don't poke your homœopathic fun any longer at the "Monthly Journal," but admit the soft impeachment. I have no idea what position you occupy in the scientific range, but you are clearly not cut out for succeeding with the colleges. I rather think you will no more be seen in the pages of the "Journal;" but we acknowledge this to be a step in advancement, particularly the record of the fatal case.

I am most anxious to record the early signs of improvement in your therapeutic code, and I give the two cases above recorded to show that, when you do make a forward step, it is by the appropriation of the principle of Hahnemann. Never mind *infinitesimal doses*—the principle gives considerable latitude in that respect; but with any advance you make I must not forget your retrograde motion, and when I examine into the paper on *Sarcina ventriculi*, page 382, I find you slipping downhill with a vengeance. This was a chronic case of a worn-out man, one especially illustrating a deficient amount of vitality, all the functions languishing, and periodically vomiting up a miniature cabbage garden, technically called "*Sarcina ventriculi*." Whilst an *out-patient*, he tried (but whether in combination or singly is not stated) *Nitrate of Silver*, *Prussic Acid*, *Creosote*, *Morphia*, *Henbane*, and *large doses of Carbonate of Soda*; the *Morphia increasing the pain, although it produced drowsiness.*"

No one can deny that this was a tolerable beginning, a pretty fair round of pretty potent drugs; and as they did not turn out to be *remedies*, we wonder very much what they are doing in James Martin's organism at this present moment. It is quite possible they may have a precious kick-up there some of these days, and a talented physician be reduced to the official dignity of "bottle-holder." We are distinctly told that James Martin "did not improve" under this particular medication; therefore

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a change was necessary, and the change decided upon was "five grains of *Extract of Colocynth* and *two drops of Croton Oil*" *!!!—two* drops, mind you. As no mention is made of James Martin's digestion being very slow, we cannot imagine to what end, save a latter end, this battery of six-pounders was directed. But as, contrary to all expectation, and singularly true to allopathic uncertainty, *very trifling results* accrued, it is possible the five grains of *Extract of Colocynth* and two drops of *Croton Oil* fraternized with some congenial "sarcinæ and torulæ," and that vigorous plants of Croton tiglium and Cucumis colocynthis are in happy harmony vegetating in James Martin's "bread-basket," for no improvement in James Martin's condition followed *that*. Well! this was but a bad shot, but it is recorded manfully, for a therapeutic triumph is about to follow, after all. Three weeks of a different medication followed, during which we are informed that "the drugs given during the same three weeks were *Hydrocyanic Acid, Acetate of Morphia*, and *Sulphate of Zinc*," you won't forget that he had previously taken *Creosote, Nitrate of Silver, Extract of Colocynth*, and *two drops* of *Croton Oil*: still no cure—the "sweetness" of all these drugs had been wasted on the "desert air" of James Martin's internal organs. But a happy thought occurs, not to the physician, but to the physician's friend, which friend remembered that "Professor Graham" (we would forgive Dr. Malden if he would only come here and laugh with us) "had suggested the employment of *Sulphurous Acid* in cholera, when that disease was *supposed*" (oh dear!) "*to depend on the presence of a fungus* in the intestinal canal, as the agent *most* destructive to vegetable life, and at the same time one that might be involved in the *human stomach with impunity*." An eagle eye instantly acknowledged the identity of James Martin's toadstools with Professor Graham's exploded fungus in cholera, and *Sulphate of Potash* was ordered on the spot, with the intention of producing an unlimited supply of *Sulphurous Acid*, and blowing the toadstools to—we won't say where. The *Sulphate of Potash*, however, was not allowed to fight the toadstools singly, but was occasionally reinforced by *Carbonate of Soda* and *Sulphate of Zinc*. So long as the *Sulphate of Potash* was used the sarcinæ disappeared, but under *Carbonate of Soda* the torulæ vegetated rapidly. This part of the treatment extended from 1st of April to 1st of July, by which time great improvement in appearance, pain, and vomiting had taken place. There was some fear, however, lest this improvement should be laid to the account of diet; for we are told that James Martin relapsed into the toadstool diathesis whenever the *Sulphate of Potash* was discontinued. It is said to any one thus supposing, "Not at all, for Martin had had a pretty liberal supply of arrow-root, *beef-tea, mutton, milk*, bread, and potatoes, with two ounces of rum daily. Sometimes the meat has been replaced by fish; sometimes the diet has been chiefly animal, sometimes vegetable; but this has exerted, *apparently*, no influence on the formation of *sarcinæ*;" and it is concluded that, "were it necessary for this man to continue its use (*Sulphate of Potash*) *for life*, it would be *no great trouble*." James Martin, therefore, had *no care* as to diet, in limitation at least, but had much care *in abundance of good food*. As the *cure*, therefore, was only on the condition of the remedy being *continued for life*, it was most lucky for James Martin that it was not the two drops of *Croton Oil* that happened to be *the remedy*. It would have been still luckier had the physician hit upon his friend sooner, before the *Nitrate of Silver, Prussic Acid, Morphia, Henbane, Soda, Colocynth*, and *Croton Oil* were exhibited. Take care of yourself, James Martin! be most particular to keep clear of lighted candles, or you may "*blow up*," and

> "Like the baseless fabric of a vision,
> Leave not a rack behind."

The physician is quite decided, however, that a worn-out man, with a pulse at 60, reduced to the extremity of entering a charitable institution, is "not at all" indebted to the beef-tea, mutton, milk, bread, fish, vegetables, and rum, but is ready to make affidavit that *Sulphate of Potash* metamorphosed him into soundness of digestion. But methinks I hear some one exclaim, "You forget the direct evidence afforded by the fact that the sarcinæ return directly the *Sulphate of Soda* is omitted." To this we repeat, "Not at all;" but try *Sulphate of Soda*, and leave out the beef-tea, the mutton, milk, bread, fish, vegetables, and rum, and give us the results. Then had *Sulphate of Soda* (it was *Potash* originally, but somehow has been converted into *Soda*) no power? It had decidedly, and that a chemical power too; it dissolved the fungi in the stomach nearly as fast as they were produced, but it did nothing to prevent their reproduction; but the beef-tea, the mutton, the milk, fish, vegetables, and rum gave the patient a good push uphill; and so long as James Martin can keep that diet table going, he may grow his mushrooms for Covent Garden. We have a Hahnemannic respect for the name of

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the great discoverer of the specific effects of vaccination, and we wish it had not been despoiled of its common-sense character by rather *too much* science. The Scotchman's definition of "metaphysics" comes uppermost, *nolens volens*: "When folk dinna ken what the minister's sayin', and when the minister dinna ken what he's sayin' himsel', that's metaphysics." It sometimes does duty for them, at any rate.

We observe with some interest that your "Monthly Journal" declares the obstetric value of *Chloroform* as lately "looking down" in the medical share-market. M. Chailly Honoré has given it an awkward poke downhill, which, in addition to the frequent sneers served out to it on this side the Tweed, renders it somewhat uncertain whether you were justified in placing it in your noted "Inaugural Address" cheek-by-jowl with "the Modern Treatment of the Calculous Diathesis;" but it being the adaptation, if not the discovery of a colleague who has sadly put at defiance your "*criterion*," it is only what he deserves; but when this colleague's mesmeric drawing-room entertainments fade from the memories of those who attended them, and when the Baron Von Reichenbach's translation is out of print, you may then, but not till then, publish such a notice of "False Homœopathic Reports" as is in your November issue, and Drs. Knowles and Stewart (who, as graduates, listened to your Inaugural Address) may testify to the veracity of the allusions to homœopathic graduates.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your very obedient servant,
Nov. 6, 1851. SIGMA.

THE MEDICAL TIMES.

THE Editor has very fairly given insertion to Dr. Dudgeon's reply to Dr. Routh, but as our correspondent *Sigma* has dealt excellently with that gentleman, we need not dwell on that point, beyond saying that Dr. Dudgeon has, we think, answered Dr. Routh most satisfactorily.

In the review of Dr. Ransford, there are some imputations on that gentleman's motives and character which are very unseemly, and we believe to be altogether unfounded. He was undoubtedly held in very great respect and admiration, testified by a presentation of plate, by the Fellows of the Edinburgh College of Physicians. On his declaring his conviction of the truth of homœopathy, the respect has been turned into contumely, and the admiration into slanderous censure.

Our contemporary, however, is passably quiet in this number on the subject of homœopathy, and we trust he will find it consistent with his editorial duty to leave us alone, or to conduct the controversy without the introduction of coarse and offensive epithets. In that department of writing he can never equal the *Lancet*, but in all others he greatly excels that journalist.

THE LANCET.

THIS notable journalist assaults, *more suo*, the *British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review*—an eclectic journal—for "its support of quackery," because the discoveries of Reichenbach and others in magnetic science are impartially considered by the reviewer.

We find this patronising notice of a medical bookselling house:—

"MESSRS. HIGHLEY & SON *versus* QUACK PUBLICATIONS.—The profession will be much gratified on being made acquainted with the important fact, that Messrs. Highley and Son, the eminent medical publishers of Fleet Street, and booksellers to the Royal College of Surgeons of England, have declined the further publication of all homœopathic, hydropathic, and other works devoted to the advancement of quackery."

We give these important and august personages the full value of our notification of the fact, simply stating that we see on the cover of the last number of the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, October 1st, 1851, the name of Samuel Highley as the publisher.

On the whole, our fierce antagonist is gentle in this number—for him. We suspect he and our other assailants will soon discover, if they have not already done so, that they have been *writing us up*, while it was their autocratic purpose to *write us down*. We rather think that in ten years from the present time there will not be 25,000 allopathic practitioners in the kingdom; that is said by Dr. Crisp to be their present number. We give one leader from the *Lancet* for the delectation of our readers.

"According to intelligence we have received, our hints to the students of the University of Edinburgh respecting the removal of their globulistic professors will not be thrown away. We are, moreover, assured that those of the professors who have kept aloof from all tampering with globulism and its practisers, would be delighted to leave the matter in the hands of the students. It is rumoured that another effort is to be made by the professors to purify the chairs, and that pending this, students will be encouraged to absent themselves from the classes f the obnoxious teachers. As we have already

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said, the best way to empty the *chairs* would be first to empty the *benches*.

But we trust the Scotch students will, for the honour of their National University, take some steps beyond mere absence and silence, to show their disapproval of the state of things which has been permitted during the last seven years. The Town Council is, we are told, to be memorialized strongly by the Faculty of Medicine. Let the students send in *their* Memorial—nay, let them present it to the Town Council in a body, so as to show these anomalous patrons of learning that medical students are anxious that the sources from which they derive their knowledge shall be pure. The disputed professorships in Edinburgh is really A STUDENTS' MATTER. The continuance of globulistic professors will injure the character of the students, and the rising generation of medical men in Scotland, far more than it will damage those now established in practice. In London, globulism is felt to be a matter in which the honour and credit of our students are intimately mixed up. It is for this reason that the students' societies of our hospitals and schools have met to repudiate all connection with the globulistic quackery, or with those who follow it. The coming November will be a time of no mean import to the University of Edinburgh; and if the students do not behave manfully, great and long-continued mischief must be the result."

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH, 1851.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN MR. NEWMAN, AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

THE crowded state of our columns has prevented the appearance till now of the correspondence between Mr. NEWMAN and Dr. PARIS.

Mr. NEWMAN is well known as a homœopathist, and a successful practitioner, of long standing. Most of our readers are aware that he underwent a pretty sharp fire of persecution some years ago, on account of his therapeutical views. Dr. PARIS is known as a pharmacologist. We quote the opinion held of him by the Editor of the *Medical Times*, in preference to giving our own. That Editor thus addresses his correspondent M.D.: "The examination of the Royal College of Physicians is much less severe than might be supposed from the printed papers of questions. *Like many shopkeepers, they take less than they ask.* The Latin *vivâ voce* examination would be the broadest farce, if all humbug were not tragedy. What would CICERO say or do, if he heard the President of the College 'talking Latin?' He would not be able to hiss, for his breath would be exhausted by his laughter. We recommend the subject to *Punch*."

The person, so scantily supplied with learning, pronounces *ex cathedrâ* that his College was founded "for the purpose of guaranteeing to the public skilful and safe practitioners."

Does he know the history of medicine, generation after generation, from the foundation of the College till now? Let us take a single disease—small-pox. Time was when the "skilful and safe practitioners" of Dr. PARIS wrapped their small-pox patients in red blankets, gave them warm cordials, and excluded every breath of air.

Time was when the "skilful and safe practitioners" refused to adopt *inoculation*.

Time was when they refused to adopt *vaccination*, and Dr. MOSELEY, one of the fellows, *inter alios*, wrote a fierce diatribe against *vaccination*.

Look, again, at their prescriptions for patients suffering from this disease. What an awful jumble and farrago!

If Dr. PARIS is a "skilful and safe practitioner" for the treatment of small-pox, it is quite clear that *Caius*, *Harvey*, *Sydenham*, and *Heberden* (we take some of their very best names) were *not* "skilful and safe practitioners."

Yet this not very illustrious though pharmacological President of the College of Physicians takes it on himself to write:

"The College of Physicians regard the so-called homœopathists as neither skilful nor safe practitioners."

When we have time we will give some historical sketches of the progress of medicine in this country, from which it will be made to appear that the Fellows of the College, from its foundation to this day, are not entitled to be considered skilful and safe practitioners.

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Mr. NEWMAN was ignorant, but Dr. PARIS could scarcely have been so, that the College of Physicians cannot confer *diplomas* and degrees in medicine. They only grant licenses to practise. These licenses are scarcely so good as those which men obtain for the purpose of shooting game.

The President of the College of Physicians ought, however, to have been above the concealment of this fact in his answer to Mr. NEWMAN. He should have written to him thus:

"Sir,—The College of Physicians has no power to confer *diplomas* and degrees in medicine, we only give licenses.

"Permit me, however, to say that we hold you and all other homœopathists in abomination, and will give none of you the license," etc.

We do not think the President has dignified either himself or his College by his illogical and absurd note to Mr. NEWMAN.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Glastonbury, Oct. 14, 1851.

SIR,—Allusion having been made in the *Lancet* of last Saturday to the following correspondence between the President of the Royal College of Physicians and myself, respecting my examination for the degree of Doctor of Medicine, I have much pleasure in sending it to you for publication in your journal,

And remain, Sir,
Your humble servant,
G. NEWMAN, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., etc.

(COPY.)

Glastonbury, Aug. 30, 1851.

SIR,—I am anxious to know if you will admit me to examination for the degree of Doctor of Medicine, and as I wish to act honestly and fairly to you, I think it best to state that I differ from the views of the College in one branch of the examination, viz., the therapeutical; however, I will give my answer to any question you put according to the old mode of treating disease, and at the same time, if agreeable to you, state what homœopathists consider the best method of curing disease.

I trust the fact of my being a homœopathist, which I am from conviction and long experience, will not prevent you from granting me that diploma which I am desirous of obtaining.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
GEO. NEWMAN.

To the President of the Royal College
of Physicians, London.

(COPY.)

Dover Street, Sept. 8, 1851.

SIR,—The foundation of the Royal College of Physicians was for the purpose of guaranteeing to the public skilful and safe practitioners.

The College of Physicians regard the so-called homœopathists as neither skilful nor safe practitioners.

Therefore the College of Physicians cannot, without betraying a sacred trust, give their license to persons whom they regard as wholly unworthy their confidence, and with whom it is not possible they can hold any communion.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
J. A. PARIS, President.

G. Newman, Esq., Glastonbury.

THE MAGNETOSCOPE.

From the Torquay Directory.

A QUESTION was once proposed to the Royal Society by Charles II. whence it is that a vessel of water receives no addition of weight from a live fish being put into it, though it does, if the fish be dead. Various solutions, of great ingenuity, were proposed, discussed, objected to, and defended; nor was it till they had been long bewildered in the inquiry, that it occurred to them to *try the experiment;* by which they at once ascertained that the phenomenon which they were striving to account for,—which was the acknowledged basis and substratum, as it were, of their debates,—had no existence but in the invention of the witty monarch.—*Historic Doubts, by Archbishop Whately.*

Such, I believe, is the solution of the marvels of the magnetoscope recorded by "P." in the two last numbers of the *Directory*, and which have since attracted so much public attention, as forming the subject of the President's address before the Homœopathic Society in London.

Unfortunate as I have always been in my endeavours to witness the marvels of clairvoyance, electro-biology, and other kindred mysteries, there seemed something so plausible, and so capable of positive demonstration, in Mr. Rutter's experiments, that I obtained the loan of an instrument, which came direct from Brighton, in hopes, at least, of producing what is denominated its normal action. After a patient trial, strictly in accordance with the directions which accompanied it, I have been unable to produce the least result, the oracle refuses to give any answer, so that the question of its veracity in "the elucidation of the hidden secrets of nature," or whether science has indeed made "the gigantic stride" so confidently announced by the President, must be solved by those who are more highly favoured, or perhaps, as Reichenbach would explain it, possess more *od* than seems to be allotted to the philosophers of Torquay; for the like failure attended the efforts of the collective wisdom of the Natural History Society, to whom the instrument was submitted, at their annual meeting on Saturday last, the only insight into the hidden secrets of nature on that occasion being that one of the gentlemen present was pronounced to be of the feminine gender, or at least a Bloomer, "the normal or natural action of the electric current" being from right to left."

But how, it may be asked, are we to explain the statements so circumstantially put forth of

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Mr. Rutter's experiments, as there can be no question of the good faith in which they are conducted by him, or of the accuracy of P.'s report. I believe that they may be accounted for upon the same principle which solves a host of similar miracles,—the deception of our own senses. The motion communicated to the pendulum is, as P. suggests, identical with that in the familiar experiment of striking the hour with a ring—"the wish is parent to the thought"—expectation and desire actually amount to volition, and the nerves insensibly convey to the appropriate muscles the order, as from head-quarters, to effect the anticipated motion. A great portion of what in the first instance are voluntary and deliberate actions, become, by habit, spontaneous, and are effected by means insensible to ourselves. Thus, the effort to maintain the body in a perpendicular position is with the child a constant effort; it soon becomes a habit, and the muscles act as purely without specific volition or consciousness as the heart or viscera. It is indeed this very action which, I believe, causes the motion of the magnetoscope; the movement of the body, or even of the arm when resting upon a table, is generally circular, and the hand, when holding the instrument between the thumb and finger, as in the first stage of the experiment, communicates, mechanically, a similar motion to the pendulum; in the second experiment, when only the finger or thumb are separately applied, an oscillation in a right line is produced, the direction in each case being either matter of chance or the effect of the insensible volition to which I have referred.

A firm faith in the truth of the experiments being thus established, the subsequent steps, as in the case of electro-biology, etc., become easy; even when off the scent, as P. expresses it, we have only to hark back, and the doctrine of chances will set all right. I am the more convinced that this is the true solution, from the greater facility with which the pendulum is set in motion when the instrument is not steadily fixed, and the impossibility of communicating motion to it when the hand and the prime conductor are connected only by a chain; a result which would not be the case in any corresponding electrical experiment, and which should not occur in this, as, according to Dr. Quin's report, a thread of silk is enough to carry the electric current when the operator is placed upon an isolating stool, and the influence of a dead fly in the hand of a chain of men divided by a wire of copper 500 feet long, produced its effect upon the instrument as fully as if placed in immediate connection!

If the alleged phenomena were satisfactorily proved by direct experiment, it would be contrary to the principles of inductive philosophy to dispute their accuracy by any *a priori* argument; but as this is not the case, the difficulty of reconciling them with the established laws of science becomes insuperable. For instance, it is inconceivable how any influence acting in right lines can produce transverse motion; even the electric or magnetic currents, to which this is supposed to have the closest affinity, act only when intermittant, and at an angle with some other force. Again, there is no parallel instance in the whole range of science in which forces act irrespective of the *quantity* of the agent employed. If a battery of ten pairs of plates produces a given effect, an addition to their number produces a proportionate increase in power. In the reported experiments with the magnetoscope, the homœopathic globules produce as much motion as the metal or other substances in mass.

Much allowance must also be made in the case of the homœopathic experiments for the insensible influence of preconceived opinions. "Now, gentlemen," says Dr. Quin, "I feel certain that you have perceived that *it was not without an object* that I requested Mr. Rutter to have the kindness to experiment before me and the persons present, upon the above metals and other substances, the *whole* of them being materials from which we extract some of our most valuable medicines." For the sake of his patients, we may hope that this is not to be taken literally, for the enumeration concludes with the following delicacy:—"The ammonia was again put into the operator's hand, when the normal action in full vigour was again produced. A small piece of horse-dung put in the same hand with the ammonia, immediately counteracted its action and stopped the motion."

E. V.

[We request E. V. and other inquirers to suspend their opinions. If George III. were conscious of the new applications of science to *practic* and every-day life, the good old king would be marvellously astonished. Since his day things that were looked on as most visionary have been accomplished, and excite no surprise in prince or peasant. The lighting of our streets and houses with gas, travelling by the agency of steam over land and over sea, the electric telegraph, the daguerreotype, and many other marvels, are now matters of the commonest use. We fully expect the discovery of "magnetoid currents" will lead to divers inventions of great practical value.—ED.]

KINESOPATHY.

To the Editor of the Torquay Directory.

SIR,—Twelve months ago, if one had spoken of the power of a corn-reaping machine he would have seemed to most of us as one that dreamed,—six months ago, if one had told of the fleetness of the American pilot craft he would at least, have been pooh-poohed;—nevertheless, for a dozen years or so the implement has been steadily and beneficially at work in America, and the speed of the pilot boats has been for an equal time an acknowledged fact. It remained for some extraordinary circumstance, such as the gathering of the nations in 1851, to bring those every-day matters of fact of one country so palpably before our senses, as not only to carry our conviction, but to lead us to adopt plans of acknowledged

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and approved merit and value. The same may be said of fifty other matters: and really if no other lesson had been taught by the Great Exhibition, its value will be incalculable if it shall have led us to throw aside prejudice, to inquire into such matters as come to us not only fraught with interest and importance, but stamped with the impress and guarantee of experience, albeit from a foreign source.

Such a train of thought is naturally suggested when our attention is drawn to hygienic or remedial agents which to us are new, or at least not understood, albeit they may have been long known, long used, long tested, and long recognised as valuable in other parts of the world. Kinesopathy is such an agent. A hard word, perhaps, but not the less significant: derived as it is from the Greek words, signifying movements and diseases, which are systematically connected in a *science* founded by Professor Ling, of Stockholm, as long ago as 1805,—pursued through a long course of years, first under his own care and then under that of his successor, Professor Branting, to the full satisfaction and conviction, not only of the Swedish public and government, but to that of the medical profession, speaking decidedly on the subject, through a special commission appointed to inquire into its working and effects.

Here then is a subject which comes to us under circumstances which at least entitle it to our candid consideration. What is it? Why, a system which professes to maintain and promote health; to obviate, to alleviate, and to remove disease by the due exercise or movements of muscles. Oh, a system of gymnastics! Yes, a system of gymnastics, if you please, which bears the same relation to gymnastics, as heretofore known to us, that the highest productions of the most scientific artist do to sign-painting. Very valuable, no doubt, are gymnastics, under the direction of a judicious superior, but certainly not scientific nor therapeutic. Kinesopathy, on the contrary, possesses and undertakes to prescribe for each particular case, whether of health or disease, those particular movements which shall have a direct and specific tendency to produce the desired effects; arriving at such powers of selection and prescription through the medium of the most intimate study of anatomy, physiology, and pathology. Such an application of these sciences is certainly new to us. We have no good grounds for rejecting it, on the contrary, we have, I repeat, every reason for inquiring into the truth of that which comes to us with a large amount of respectable credentials. I say *we*, intending to include professional as well as lay brethren.

To the laity the subject is exceedingly interesting, as assisting them to throw physic to the dogs; to the profession it is not less interesting, as furnishing it with a new weapon with which to combat the approaches and ravages of the enemy, whose name is legion, and whose strategy is such as to render every means of countervailance valuable and acceptable. Nights as well as days of incessant study, arduous, often health-destroying, labours usher the medical student into the arena, where he has to combat with the host, which he undertakes to repel from those who trust themselves to his care. He spares no pains in arming himself *cap a pie* with scientific weapons, which it is his pride and pleasure, as it is his necessity, to keep burnished and polished to a degree which not only renders him a match for his enemy, but enables him to walk abroad an intellectual warrior, entitled to at least as much respect as the wearer of the casque and cuirass. Such being the well-educated medical man, shall he not gladly avail himself of any new weapon which may come to his knowledge? Very many of our gallant officers have lately prepared themselves for the dangers of actual campaigning, by arming their holsters with Colt's revolving pistols; new weapons, or as least new to us—hitherto used for the most part in rather irregular warfare, but proved to be efficacious. Shall not our regulars of the medical profession be at least equally prompt to inquire into the merits of a new weapon offered to their hands? Shall not the one profession be as ready to try a new method of preserving life, as the other to adopt a new instrument of destruction?

I have been tempted to make these remarks *en passant*, but I by no means intend to lecture the profession, much less to instruct it. I aspire to nothing beyond drawing the attention of those whom it may concern to the new, agreeable, and, as we are led to believe, efficacious method of preserving and restoring health. Not even to this should I have been tempted had I not believed that the system is absolutely unknown to the great mass of our world. Indeed, until the last few weeks we had little means of becoming acquainted with the system. It is true that Professor Georgii some time ago published in English his very interesting little work on Kinesopathy; but however elegant and satisfactory, that was not in itself sufficient to bring the matter home to our hearths, and to remove from the system of Ling the dead weight of the multifarious gymnasium. It is true that Professor Georgii has been for some time practically demonstrating, to the satisfaction of a considerable number of patients and their friends, that what is true in Sweden is no less so in England, and that if disease reigns equally in both countries, prophylactics and therapeutics are no less uniform in their action; but that was not enough to give the desired diffusion of knowledge to our public. Very lately, however, a goodly volume has been published by Dr. Roth, entitled "The Prevention and Cure of many Chronic Diseases by Movements" (Churchill). The subject is so thoroughly discussed in this volume, that I might well rest content with referring to it; but inasmuch as a given book is likely to find its way into comparatively few hands, I shall here extract from it one paragraph of the report of the Roya Medical Association, in Stockholm, dated May, 1849.

"Many members of the Association, from the knowledge that the medical treatment by movements, according to Ling's system, has proved very effective as a curative means, and has produced extraordinary and most satisfactory re-

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sults in many chronic diseases, are convinced that this method, developed with the scientific and practical clearness which is required for the adoption of any new medical system, and practised in harmony with other medical sciences, under the special direction of, or in conjunction with, the physician, will take a high standing in medicine."

"Ling's gymnastics were introduced many years ago," says Dr. Roth, "not only into all the military academies of Sweden, but into all town schools, colleges, and universities. In the rooms of the central establishment at Stockholm, persons of every condition and age, the healthy as well as the sick, executed or were subjected to the prescribed movements. The number of those who adopted the use of the therapeutic movements increased every year, and among them were even physicians, who, in the beginning, had been most opposed to Ling. In the Central Institution clever teachers are educated, and no one obtains a diploma, or any authorization to the pædagogal practice of these movements, without having finished the course and passed an examination in anatomy, physiology, and the bodily movements, which have become in Sweden a popular and necessary part of education."

Should these remarks and quotations prove acceptable, I shall probably be tempted on a future occasion to extend them.

* * *

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I perceive there still exists a strong feeling to explain the movements of the odoscope as being dependent *chiefly* upon the *will*. In my last communication to your journal, I hinted that there seemed to be *compound influences* and *conditions* essential to the manifestation of these singular phenomena, nor do I see reason to change that opinion, but will wait until Mr. Rutter publishes his own explanation.

It is a matter of regret, that gentlemen will continue to advance explanations and distract thought, which they would not do, had they followed my advice, and read Dr. H. Mayo's third edition on "Popular Superstitions," wherein many will find their own theories already recorded, which to the uninformed may appear as original, and which may no doubt *incidentally* be the case in many instances.

It looks better, however, to do do full justice to those who have preceded us in the same path. We cannot then be charged with ignorance, indolence, or negligence of other men's merits, and the honourable mention of a fellow-labourer's name seems to me a dutiful and graceful recognition. It is in this spirit, to render full justice to Herbert Mayo, that I quote his postscript (to the third edition), written July 24th, 1851.

"An accident has given me the opportunity of making further additions to this little volume, of which I proceed to avail myself; and, first, by communicating my latest experiments with the divining-ring, July 24.

"1. I have stated that, if a fresh egg be placed upon the table, with the small end directed *from* me—or a crystal, with one definite pole so turned from me—or a bar-magnet, with its northward pole so disposed—and I then suspend the divining-ring half an inch above either of the three so averted ends, and half an inch further off from me, the ring exhibits clock-rotation in each instance. Held in a parallel manner over the opposite ends—that is, half an inch from, and half an inch higher than, the same—the ring exhibits versed rotation. If the three od-subjects be moved round, so that their hitherto distal ends point to the right, or if they be further turned, so as to bring the previously distal ends now to point directly *towards* me, the ring continues to exhibit exactly the same motions as in the first instance.

"If, these objects being removed, I lay a horseshoe magnet on the table before me, with its poles turned directly *from* me, the northward limb being on my left hand, the southward limb-pole on my right, and experiments parallel to those just described are made, the results remain the same. If, near one side of the horseshoe magnet, I lay my left hand on the table, the palm downwards, the thumb held wide of the fingers, the ring, if suspended half an inch from and above either of the finger-points, displays clock-rotation; suspended similarly before and above the point of the thumb, versed-rotation. Or the fingers of the left hand, so disposed, may be compared, in reference to od, to the northward pole of a horseshoe maget, while the thumb corresponds with its southward pole.

"If, removing my left hand, I turn the horseshoe magnet, without altering the side on which it rests, half round, so that the poles point directly *towards* me, the northward pole being now, of course, on my right, the southward pole on my left, the ring held as before over either of the two poles, displays the same results. If I now move the magnet still nearer to me, so that its two poles are an inch beyond the edge of the table, I can obtain results which furnish a more precise explanation of the two rotatory movements already described, than I had before arrived at.

"If I now suspend the ring, with its lowest part on a level with the magnet, and half an inch from its northward pole—that is, half an inch nearer me—it begins to oscillate longitudinally, with a bias towards me, as if it were repelled from the pole of the magnet. If I then suspend the ring an inch vertically above the first point of suspension, it begins to oscillate transversely, with a bias towards the right, or as if impelled by a dextrad current. If I then lower the ring half an inch, the first effect observed is, that it oscillates obliquely, being evidently impelled at once to the right and towards me—that is, in the diagonal of the two forces, of each of which I had before obtained the separate influence. In this third variation of the experiments, I have brought the ring to the limit of the two currents, where both tell

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upon it. This oblique oscillation soon, however, undergoes a change; it changes into clock-rotation, showing that the transverse or dextrad current is stronger than the longitudinal or proximad current.

"If parallel experiments be made at levels below that of the pole of the magnet, corresponding but opposite results ensue. If the whole series be repeated upon the south pole of the magnet, opposite but perfectly corresponding results are again obtained: and similar results may be obtained with the two poles of an egg.

"II. The mode in which I have latterly educed the rotatory movements depending upon galvanism, has been this. I have laid two discs, one of zinc, the other of copper, one on the other, having previously moistened their surfaces with salt and water. Then, as I mentioned, the ring held over the middle of the zinc disc (that being uppermost) exhibits clock-rotation. Held over the middle of the copper disc, when that is laid uppermost, versed-rotation. I mentioned, too, that if held beyond, but near the circumference of the same discs, the direction of the motion of the ring is reversed.

"The discs which I employ are circular, an inch and a half in diameter, and about as thick as a sovereign. Upon these I do not fail to obtain, when dried and used singly, the first series of phenomena described in the preceding letter. But it occurred to me to try what would be the result of suspending the ring over the two together, and alternately laid uppermost, when they had been well cleaned and dried. This is evidently a still simpler voltaic arrangement than when the salt and water is additionally used. The result was in the highest degree interesting. When I suspend the ring half an inch above the centre of the copper disc (that being laid uppermost), the first motion observed it transverse; but after a few oscillations it becomes oblique—dextrad and proximad combined, in the diagonal between the primary influences of the zinc and of the copper. This change does not last long; the transverse force again carries it, in this instance, and clock-rotation is permanently established. When the zinc is uppermost, the corresponding opposite phenomena manifest themselves; and in either case a reversed movement occurs, if the ring is held extramarginally to the disc.

"III. I may say that I have now obtained positive evidence that these motions of the odometer do not depend upon my own will, or the sympathy of my will with existing conceptions in my mind; for they succeed nearly equally well when the discs are covered with half a sheet of writing-paper. In nine cases out of ten, when I thus manage to be in perfect ignorance which disc, or what combination of the two, is submitted to the odometer, the right results manifest themselves, and the cause of the occasional failures is generally obvious. Let me add upon this topic, that one day, the weather being cold and wet, and myself suffering severely with rheumatism, the odometer would not move at all in my hand. On another day, late in the evening it was, when I happened to be much fatigued and exhausted, the ring moved, indeed, but every motion was exactly reversed; thus my left hand I found now obtained exactly the results which, on other occasions, I got with the right.

"IV. But by what cause, then, through what mechanism, so to speak, are the movements of the odometer immediately produced? Early in the inquiry I made this experiment. Instead of winding the free end of the silk round my finger, I wound it round a cedar-pencil, and laid the latter upon the backs of two books, which were made to stand on their edges, four inches apart, with the od-subject on the table between them, the ring being suspended half an inch above it. The ring, of course, remained stationary. Then I took hold of the pencil with my finger and thumb, at the point where the silk was wound round it; my finger and thumb rested on the silk; but no motion of the odometer ensued. Hence it follows that the odometer is, after all, always set in motion *by the play of my own muscles*. I venture then to suppose that my sentient nerves, unknown to me, detect on these occasions certain relations of matter—let me call them currents of force—which determine in me *reflexly* certain sympathetic motions of the very lightest, and even of an unconscious character. This idea, which I am sure affords the just solution of the matter, is highly consistent with some observations which I have before recounted. It explains how the primary delicate impression should yield to the coarser influence of a strong conception in the mind, that this or that other motion of the ring is about to follow, or even to that of a vivid and, so to say, abstract conception of another motion. It explains what I have several times verified, that on certain days a person standing behind me with his hand on my ear, or on my shoulder, can, by an effort of his will (mine not resisting), make the odometer which I am holding move whichever way he happens strongly to imagine to himself, without communicating the same to me. It explains to me on what the difference consists between those who can set the divining-ring in motion, without a conscious effort, and those who cannot. The former, it will be found, are persons of so great nervous mobility, that any such motions, if their occurrence be forcibly anticipated by them, will certainly be realized by their sympathetic frames. Among this class should be sought, and would still remain to be detected by experiment, those whose *impressionability by Od should prove commensurate with their nervous mobility*. Finally, I cannot doubt that the view which I have thus arrived at respecting the mechanism of the motions of the odometer, is equally applicable to the explanation of those of the divining-rod. I see that, through its means, many before anomalous facts, with the narrative of which I have not bored the reader, which emerged in my former trials of the divining-rod, made by the hands of others, lose their obscurity and contradictoriness, and leave the whole subject in the condition of an intelligible and luminous conception.

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"N.B—It is a pity that of the inquirers who now amuse themselves with investigating these subjects, very few realize in their minds the idea of Von Reichenbach, that Od, though often exhibiting the same relations with electricity and magnetism, is yet an utterly different principle."

Dr. H. Mayo's observations, in my opinion, afford much matter for deep reflection, and an answer to himself, as well as some of your correspondents and colleagues, on the theories of *muscular motion* and *will* when *individually* enlisted to explain phenomena which evidently emanate from an *indissoluble chain* of causes.

Your's faithfully,

Brook Street. D. WILSON.

P.S.—Perhaps it may not be uninteresting to your readers to be informed that Od is of more ancient date than Herr Caspari imagined, and of which Dr. H. Mayo seems to have had some notion when he first witnessed Caspari's experiments.

The following quotation is from that useful and instructive publication, *Notes and Queries*, of August 30th last.

"*The Od Force.*—As considerable interest appertains to the earlier manifestations of what is now termed mesmerism, the following note may not be altogether unworthy of a place.

"The experiment upon which a subjective proof of the agency of the power of Od is founded, as described by Dr. Herbert Mayo in the supplementary chapter to the last edition of *Letters on the Truths contained in Popular Superstitions*, and alluded to by R. D. H. (vol. iii. p. 517), is another instance of there being 'nothing new under the sun.' In the *Bigarrures du Seigneur des Accords*, first published at Paris in 1582, in the chapter 'Des faux Sorciers et de leur Impostures' occurs the following passage, which I copy *verbatim et literatim*:—

"'Autres ont une ruse, qu'ils semblent d'attacher un anneau d'or ou d'argent à un petit filet, qu'on suspend dans un verre à demy plain d'eaue, et puis l'ayant trempé pair trois fois, disent bellement ce verset du Psalme, autant de fois. "Ecce enim veritatim dilexisti, incerta et occulta sapientiæ tuæ manifestasti mihi." L'anneau bat contre le verre, et sonne autant d'heures qu'il en peut estre.'

"Ham." "W. PINKERTON.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Many people, like myself, have taken a good deal of interest in the lectures of Drs. Quin and Madden, and it is very likely that many persons are of my way of thinking, that Dr. Madden has been premature on both occasions, of publishing his claims of having it in his power, which however seems to be no less in the power of others, to show by the magnetoscope that homœopathy is true, both in the law and its very small doses, and of lately protesting against himself and his own experiments.

I don't like his way of trying to get out of a mess. He had, he says, very serious misgivings before he gave his lecture that there might be some fallacy in his experiments. But why didn't he give some caution about it, and let some of his misgivings ooze out? Why didn't he tell the folk who attended his lecture, that he donbted if his experiments would bear a close testing? This seems to be the strangest thing in the world, and I can't at all make it out, and a good number of people can't make it out, how an experimental lecturer should get into such a mess. His manner of trying to get out of it only makes matters worse.

Dr. Quin has been much wiser, for he seems to be quietly waiting for Mr. Rutter's own account of this wonderful instrument, which has been so much talked about, and the president of the homœopathists, I suppose, still sticks to Mr. Rutter.

It seems plain too that you, Sir, still have some hope that something will come of Mr. Rutter's discoveries: I am sure I hope so.

Can you tell me what is the meaning of the word *Od?* I asked a gentleman, learned in words as well as a wise man, and he told me it was from a Greek word; and another thinks it is from a Hebrew word. I should like to know, if you can tell me; and I hope Dr. Madden will make up his mind about what he has found out, and will speak out plainly, so that a body may find out what he means. He seems at present to have to do with nothing but *odds and ends*, and his *od* has had a queer sort of *end*, *if it is the end.* Forgive me for taking up so much of your time, and if you will publish this, you will oblige me very much.

Your obedient servant,

A HUMBLE HOMŒOPATHIST.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—As my name appears in your columns as one of those who were engaged in examining Mr. Rutter's instrument, perhaps it may be proper that I should give you the results of my investigation.

Through Mr. Rutter's kindness I received, a few days ago, the instrument upon which he had been for some time experimenting, and I immediately commenced the following series of experiments in company with a non-professional friend.

1st. I repeated successfully all the experiments I had seen Mr. Rutter perform, and also many which Dr. Madden had shown me.

2nd. Having received a note from Dr. Madden, in which he tells me that the *will* can influence the result, I repeated all the former experiments, and obtained or altered them, as I willed them to be. In the first series, for instance, standing upon an isolating stool, stopped the movements, but in the second they were all obtained, and that without any *conscious* voluntary effort of my own.

3rd. I found that by touching the pillar or base of the instrument, or even the table on which it stood, either with my finger or with any solid substance, I could obtain all the results. Thus far I was willing to believe that

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there *might be* some truth in Mr. Rutter's explanations of the phenomena, namely, that there being an electrical arrangement between the plate of glass and the wax bob of the pendulum, when the earth's electricity could pass freely through the body of the operator, "magnetoid" currents were produced, which were the cause of the oscillations; though it seemed evident, from Dr. Madden's discovery of the influence of the will, that the vital force was also concerned in their production.

4th. I began to take the instrument to pieces, first removing the plate of glass away from the wax bob of the pendulum, which made no perceptible difference in the movements produced. Next I took away the wax itself, and substituted a wooden bob, which, making a little allowance for its less specific gravity, acted just as well as the wax; lastly, I connected various *flexible* substances, some metallic and others not, with the brass ball, but I could produce no motion in the pendulum, unless I stretched these connecting links so as to make them *rigid*. For these trials the glass and wax were restored as at the first.

These last experiments banished from my mind all remaining ideas of electrical or other currents, and obliged me to conclude that the phenomena are simply *mechanical*. Why, if otherwise, in order to produce them, must the connection between the hand and the instrument be *rigid*, seeing that the same material when in a *flexible* condition fails to accomplish anything?

If this conclusion should prove to be correct, of course the instrument can be of no value in reference to homœopathy.

I have been thus particular in describing my experiments, because, having written to Mr. Rutter respecting them, I find from his answer, which I have received to-day, that he still adheres to his original opinions.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Rugby, Nov. 11, 1851. WILLIAM SHARP.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—On perusing your number of the 8th inst., I there observed that some of your correspondents are disposed to draw a too hasty conclusion as to the incapability of the magnetoscope detecting the presence of different substances.

I would ask those who feel disposed to reject *all* Mr. Rutter's experiments, to explain how muscular motion of the arm brings the depending wax into a state of rest, which was observed to take place when certain materials were brought to act on the pendulum? Certainly, the same power which set the pendent body in motion, being applied in the same way, could not cause it to stop.

No one will come to the conclusion, that because he can move a suspended piece of iron by his hand, he cannot therefore set it in motion by the approach of the loadstone. Again, in Faraday's diamagnetic experiments, though we can arrange the different hanging substances in any position we please, no one will deny that they are not induced to take up a certain position by the magnetic forces applied. May we not infer and reason by analogy, that as various bodies do produce motion in each other when they approximate, that this capability resides in all, and that we only lack the necessary instruments to detect the distinctive movements of each?

No two substances can be brought near together without producing some effect on each, some change in their *emanating* qualities. Now as there is a tendency in all bodies to be in motion, and to influence those surrounding each, if we could so arrange solids that they might be free from a few of those influences that overcome this tendency to fly off or be in motion, no doubt we should find that very delicate impressions would cause them to set up their own proper and distinctive oscillations, which of course would be varied as they received an impulse from any substance acting on the immediate exciting agent, as in the instance before us, where the operator's hand was touched by different bodies.

When I presided at the Homœopathic Society, where Dr. Madden's apparatus was exhibited, I observed that on some bodies being presented to the instrument the pendulum was readily set in motion, and arrested by others. This I think cannot be explained to take place from the power of the will, for when it has been my object to act upon a substance by the mere effort, the desire always occupied some time to establish a motion, as shown in the German experiment, where a gold ring is suspended by a single fibre from the cocoon of the silkworm; and I always found that after creating a movement I could not stop the ring by the same process. The force that causes a body to be put in motion cannot be the *identical* power that brings it to a state of rest, especially emanating and passing in the same direction from the same object; this must only increase the motion. Further, if the oscillations of the pendulum belonged to the operator's arm handling the instrument, how was it that so many failed in producing any effects at all? I witnessed many unsuccessful attempts, and my own efforts were inadequate, though I desired it most strenuously, but fell short of my purpose. This goes against the muscular action and the will, since each individual exercised both. Like causes must produce like effects, and all things being equal, similar agents would give analogous motions. In all our experiences, we have found that it requires long study to elicit to a certainty the aptitude of giving a like impulse to a thing, as to produce similar positions in the arrangement of bodies.

Dr. Madden states, that "when he *resolutely determined* not to move his body in the slightest degree, no motion took place." This was because he was not operating on the magnetoscope; his attention was taken up in influencing himself, and of course the *magnetic battery* of his body was not acting on the instrument. Until the brain is set in motion, or assumes that condition so as to cause the animal *aura* to escape from the fingers, no result can ensue. I cannot mesmerise unless that is my distinct purpose; the magnetism will not flow from the

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digits, if my thoughts are absorbed in attending to anything else, which I discover by losing the tingling sensation in my fingers; this feeling always accompanies my mesmeric manipulations, especially when the brain is employed to a desired end. Unless we fulfil the conditions, the expected result must fail in every experiment.

I am led to suppose that the magnetoscope is intended to be employed as a test of the animal *aura* escaping from our bodies, and also to show how it becomes modified by being influenced by other substances acting on the person who is operating.

The question then is, has this fluid—if we may so call it—the power of moving the pendulum, and if so, what is the normal direction, and can it differ by being handled by distinct individuals, and altered by the contact or presence of dissimilar bodies? I for one think so.

No one for a moment doubts but that the pendulum can be made to oscillate by other means or appliances, and solicited to *imitate* the natural motions produced by the application of certain substances; but our object is to discover the spurious from the true, and also to measure how much may belong to each.

It has struck me, that if we employed Melloni's battery under another arrangement, that is, instead of the horizontal needle, to make use of an oscillating pendulum, we should be able to indicate some of the motor qualities belonging to different bodies, by which we might detect their identical approach to this instrument. The motion induced in the needle of the battery has always been put down to the heat of the presented body, as the fly's foot, the human hand, or the metal touched by it; when, probably, it may be other qualities, which, if we could measure them, might indicate the peculiar *aura* escaping from the substance employed in each experiment.

A chain of causes *must* always *precede* every effect; but in the present state of our knowledge, we are only able to recognise a few of the proximate producers of events.

I have the honour to subscribe myself,

Yours truly,

23, Duke Street, J. HANDS.
Grosvenor Square.

P.S.—I have observed that many in their early attempts to mesmerise often fail, but after some trials, their efforts are crowned with success. These results I account for by concluding that the animal *aura* does not escape with sufficient intensity, or that the brain of the operator at first is not brought into a proper state of excitement, which can readily be made to take place when a confidence is established by one or two successful cases. Would this not account for the failures of many who have attempted to put the pendulum in motion? Again, it often requires various sittings before we can produce any effect on some of our patients. Does this not agree with Mr. Rutter's observations, that the first efforts of some persons are insufficient to act on his instrument, but who, after some trials, are successful? Further, may not the magnetoscope be compared to a musical instrument, which always improves by being played upon by a good performer, who can elicit a variety of tones that an indifferent executor could not educe, and who, by the bye, instantly discovers if a bad musician has touched his flute, fiddle, etc., and formed false notes, and often exclaims, that he shall be some time before he restores it to the state in which he left it? Now, no doubt, the good performer has established certain channels for the perfect tones which he has created to undulate through, and which become altered by transmitting counterfeit sounds over his instrument. J. H.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I have watched with interest the recent excitement which has been caused by the magnetoscope, and have anticipated the opinion which is now gaining ground respecting its real nature, as a delicate respondent to the thoughts and volitions of the operator.

My object in writing this brief note is, to commend you and my homœopathic brethren generally to the works of Mr. Braid, of Manchester, which contain, to my mind, the most important criticism on mesmerism, odylic influence, etc., etc., that has yet been given to the world. Had these works been read by our brethren, they would have possessed a knowledge of the physiological subtlety of volition and thought, as influencing the body, which might have precluded them from any rapid conclusions respecting the magnetoscope.

I feel bound to say this much, in order to make known Mr. Braid's discoveries, which are second, in medical as well as physiological significance, to nothing since the great discovery of Hahnemann himself. It were only to be wished that Mr. Braid would reprint his work on Neuro-hypnology, and thus render it accessible to the public. Until this is the case, I would recommend your readers to peruse his little *brochure* on *the Influence of the Mind upon the Body*, which bears intimately upon the present affair of the magnetoscope.

Your obedient servant,

J. J. G. WILKINSON.

St. John's Wood, Nov. 8, 1851.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Permit me to state my opinion in your valuable paper relative to petitions to be presented to the patrons of the University of Edinburgh from the homœopathic practitioners.

The petitioners, referring to the rejection of Mr. Alfred Crosby Pope, observe, that they believe "that this has been done arbitrarily and without the authority or even the knowledge of the *Senatus* or of the patrons of the University." They farther say, "they have no wish to obtain from the patrons the expression of any explicit preference for or approval of the homœopathic system," etc. It is an old and a true saying, that "those who are not with us are against us." I am decidedly opposed to this petition. If it be our object to establish homœopathy, and to propagate its truth, we must ultimately have

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a school of our own. Our professors must be believers—practitioners of homœopathy. Much time is now thrown away in studying the *therapeutics* of the allopathic *Materia Medica*—attending *clinical lectures*—the *art of mixing drugs*, etc., as they are now taught. These are certainly "delusions," "fallacies," "nonsense." It must be a painful thing to the medical student, who has become convinced of allopathic errors and of homœopathic truths, to be examined by allopathic professors. The medical student must be painfully affected, when he is compelled to answer that he would prescribe bleeding, purging, emetics, *Calomel*, etc., when he knows that it would be against his conscience to commit such grievous errors. What step shall Mr. Pope take? Shall he receive his diploma from these men who are opposed to his principles of practice? We do not see the propriety of humbling ourselves by the presentation of a petition to the patrons of the Edinburgh College, or to any other allopathic university, for the protection of those who intend to practise homœopathy. We have no confidence in the promises of the allopathist. As long as he (the allopath) thinks that homœopathy is a fallacy, he will devise means to counteract and discourage the laudable intentions of the medical student, who has, like an honest and conscientious inquirer, made up his mind to investigate the merits of homœopathy.

Dr. Russell, in his work on Cholera, has not much lauded the proceedings of the Lord Provost, etc., and now we are about to present a petition,—to whom? to the very men who are our most inveterate and bigoted enemies; what shall we gain by such a step? nothing but contempt. Let us present a petition to our gracious Sovereign for an Examining Board of our own, which will be followed by the establishment of a homœopathic school in London.

Dr. Mure has succeeded in establishing a homœopathic school, on a vast scale, in Brazil.

Dr. Hering, and others, have succeeded in establishing a homœopathic school, on a vast scale, in the United States. I do not see the reason why we should not succeed as well in LIBERAL OLD ENGLAND.

Yours very faithfully,
J. G. ROSENSTEIN.

10, Valentine Terrace, Greenwich,
10th Nov., 1851.

[As we are aware that many homœopaths, for whose judgment we have considerable respect, entertain views similar to Dr. Rosenstein, we have the more readily given insertion to his letter. Our object is union, and a desire that no false step should be taken.

Without committing ourselves to any opinion for the present, we shall be happy to afford an opportunity to all who may wish to discuss the question raised by Dr. Rosenstein. The majority, if backed up by sound logical argument, ought to govern.—ED.]

THE MAGNETIC INDICATOR.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In connection with Mr. Rutter's late invention, the magnetoscope, there appears to be one remarkable phenomenon, which has not received sufficient consideration in the lectures, etc., published in your journal on the subject: that is the fact of the instrument, in the movements of its pendulum, being entirely under the influence of the operator's will, which, astonishing as it may appear, is most undeniably the case, as I have proved over and over again with an instrument, which in its form and materials is essentially the same as the one used by Mr. Rutter; so that, although different metals and other substances, however minute in quantity, do invariably produce the currents peculiar to themselves, when brought into contact with the disengaged hand of the operator, yet the mere concentration of the mind is alone sufficient to superinduce any other movement he might wish to set up, or to bring the pendulum to a dead stop, even whilst the substance still remains held in the hand. It is no proof, as Dr. Quin assumes, that because a person cannot, on the first attempt, produce any impression on the pendulum, that the will necessarily has nothing to do with it, since it is well known that it requires time and frequent use to impregnate the instrument with the odylic power of the operator; so that, until that result is obtained, the will, as a matter of course, can have no effect either one way or the other. Moreover, it is probable that the power of exercising such an influence is not possessed in the same degree by every one, and perhaps not at all by some.

That the magnetic currents of the body should be so completely under the control of the mind, cannot be regarded as a matter of great surprise, when we consider that they are probably in their nature similar to, if not identical with, the nervous influence (animal electricity) of vital organizations, which, *in obedience to the will*, performs every voluntary movement in the living body. As a seeming proof of such being the case, I may mention a curious illustration which occurred to myself: having put my hand to sleep, as it is called, by compression on the arm, I placed my finger and thumb whilst in that condition on the brass rod of the instrument, but it produced not the slightest effect until the pricking sensation, "pins and needles," having restored the conducting power of the nerves, the pendulum set up its usual rotary movement.

Therefore, should the instrument be found of less service than was anticipated as a certain test for minute medicinal substances, our disappointment will be more than compensated by the discovery of such wonderful evidence, as it appears to be, of the power of mind over matter, and by the boundless field it will open for physiological research.

I remain, Sir, yours truly,
Blackfriars, Nov. 4, 1851. RICHARD WELLS.

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THE

HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

PATHOGENETIC EFFECTS OF ASTERIAS RUBENS OF THE GENUS OF THE ZOOPHYTES ECHINODERMES.

By Dr. Petroz.

Communicated by Dr. Rosenstein.

Experimenters: M. M—, P—, P. J—, T—, M—, Madame B—, Madame T—, and Miss M—.

Moral.—Sadness, alternating with almost insupportable cerebral excitation, desiring to give one's self up to intellectual or corporeal labour, to walk, to take violent exercise; this state does not resemble the drunkenness produced by fermented liquor, it is rather a moral intoxication; second and third day.—Miss M.

General debility; the ideas somewhat confused; sixth day.—P. J.

Sensation of extreme anguish, from noon to three o'clock; fear of impending misfortune; expectation of bad news, succeeded by a disposition to shed tears; sixth day.—M. M.

Irritation, anger, wishing to quarrel with somebody, from noon until two o'clock in the afternoon.—*Idem.*

Depression, tediousness; a fear that some misfortune will happen, with the consciousness that, when known, it will cause weeping; angry feeling; sixth day.

The symptoms gradually disappear, with an inclination to shed tears from the least emotion; eleventh day.—P.

Extraordinary cheerfulness in the evening; first day.—Madame T.

Tears, with despair, soon succeeded by more tranquil feeling; third day.—Miss M.

Difficulty to perform labour in the evening; sixth day.—P.

Vertigo.—Ephemeral vertigo.—T.

Vertigo in walking; first day.—T.

Vertigo; tenth day.—Madame B.

Head.—Sensation of fulness, as if from congestion.

The blood flows to the head; sensation of fulness, heat; the head feels as if it would burst; second day.—Miss M.

Heat of the head; it seems that the air which surrounds it is warm; first day.—Miss M.

Sensation of confusion in the brain; first day.—P.

Heaviness of the head at the end of an hour; first day.—P.

Heaviness of the head, heat, throbbing in the head, redness of the face; first day.—P.

Fulness of the head, which seems to distend its lateral sides; first and second day.—Miss M.

The blood flows stronger to the head; fourth day.—*Idem.*

Flying pain in the right side of the head; third day.

Pain in the right side of the head, which is suddenly felt; third day.—Miss M.

Slight shooting in the brain.—Miss M.

Shooting pain in the right temple; second day.—B.

Violent shooting at the forehead, temples, particularly in the occiput; first day.—T.

Shooting in the brain on blowing the nose, during the first part of the night; fourth day.—T.

Pressive pain at the forehead, sensation of fulness; contraction of the muscles, and pressure above the eyes.—P.

Strong pressive pain in the sinciput in the morning, which ceases in the course of the day, after walking in the air.—Miss M.

The headache discontinues towards noon, at which time the thoughts are more clear.—Miss M.

Very strong pressive pain at the forehead, above the eyes; fourth day.

Pressive pain in the right side of the occiput, which renders walking difficult; fifth day.—Miss M.

Strong pressive pain at the forehead, which seems to weigh down the eyes as if by a great weight; fourth day.—Miss M.

Pressure at the temples; first day.—T.

Throbbing in the head; second day.—Miss M.

Throbbing in the head, on ascending, or walking; second day.—P.

Pain above the left eye, which comes on suddenly, and ceases in the same manner; it produces contraction of the

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eyebrows. During this pain the sight is obscured as if by a mist; second day.—Miss M.

Pains, during which it seems as if the head would burst; third day.—Miss M.

Pains at the top of the head, as if the cranium were split; third day.—Miss M.

Waking in the night, with great anxiety; it seems as if the brain were receiving electric shocks; the head feels empty; unconsciousness; fear of an attack of apoplexy in the night, from the sixth to the seventh day; this state continued several minutes; the pulse was hard and very quick; the right carotid throbbed with violence; this arterial excitement lasted until the end of the next day.—P. J.

At the end of the day the headache increased, and forced her to lie down; the pains are stronger at the back of the head than in the front, continuing the whole of the night; ninth day.

Agitation, spasms; sensation of uneasiness in the superior part of the brain, particularly on exerting the memory; this sensation is similar to that of the lassitude after great muscular efforts; tenth day.—B.

Difficulty to perform labour in the evening; sixth day.—P.

Eyes.—Heat in the eyes; first day.—Miss M.

Eyes injected; fourth day.—P.

Light fatigues the eyes; first day.

Difficulty to bear the light; fourth day.

The eyes are drawn backwards; third day.

Sight fatigued.

Winking of the eyelids, their edges red; seventh day.—Miss M.

Nose.—Bleeding of the nose; ninth day.

Bleeding of the nose, which returned three times in five days.—P. J.

Sneezing, coryza on waking in the morning; ninth day.

Pains in the eyes, from the inside outwards; seventh day.—Miss M.

Ears.—Shooting pains for a few seconds in the ears, in the occiput; these pains return in the course of the day, but are weaker; third day.—T.

Dullness of hearing, more marked on the right side; second day.—B.

Hearing dull; noise as of running water; seventh day.—P.

Face.—Coloration of the face; fourth day.—B.

Face coloured, swollen; third day.—*Idem.*

Expression of dullness in the features; inanimate appearance; seventh day.—B.

Mouth.—Swelling of the tongue; third day.—B.

Twitching pain in the tongue.—*Idem.*

Impediment of the tongue; unwillingness to speak; fifth day.—B.

Abundant saliva in the mouth; a tendency to bite; fifth day.—B.

Irritation of the throat; sensation of heat, which does not long continue; first day. This irritation returns several times during the day.—P. J.

Irritation in the throat, slight at the commencement, but becoming stronger the fifth day.—B.

Dryness of the throat; sixth day.—B.

Pain in the throat (constriction) on awaking in the morning; eighth day.

Loss of appetite and of taste; fourth day.—Miss M.

Dislike to meat; seventh day.—P.

Variable appetite; desire for spiced meats, strong cheese, spirits, coffee, tea; eighth, ninth, and tenth days.—Miss M.

Stomach.—Dull pain, which seems to occupy the whole passage of the œsophagus; first day.—T.

Strong and frequent eructations in the morning; first day.—P.

Nausea; second day.—P.

After strong eructations in the morning, weakness and great heat of the stomach; seventh day.—P.

Dull pain in the muscles of the præcordial region; second day.—T

Contraction in the præcordial region.—M. M.

Abdomen.—Obtuse pain by shocks in the right side of the abdomen, and near the navel; seventh day.—P.

Flatulency, especially after meals; third day.—Miss M.

Colic, alternating with shivering, with heat in the face; fifth day.—Miss M.

Alternation of swelling of the abdomen, with diminution of its size during the twenty-four hours; third day.—*Idem.*

Frequent desire to urinate; urine more abundant; seventh day.—P.

Urine thick, viscous; heat in the urethra when urinating; eighth day.—P.

Sensation of pressure upon the inferior part of the abdomen; walking is difficult; third day.—Miss M.

Sensation as if the catamenia would come on; second day.—Miss M.

The catamenia delayed eight days, attended with colics and other pains, which ceased on the catamenial appearance, which was more copious than usual.

Chest.—Shooting pain in the anterior inferior part of the chest, from the right to the left of the sternum; this pain, which was of short duration, decreased on keeping

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the body erect, and the shoulders backwards; fourth day.—B.

Pain towards the internal part of the chest, from the front to the back, under the left nipple; this pain extended from the whole internal part of the arm to the extremity of the little finger; fifth day.—P.

The left side of the chest is painful, increasing by movement; first day.—T.

Sensation as if the left breast were drawn inwards.—M.

Anxiety during the night, caused by throbbing in the chest; sixth day.

Sensation of fulness in the chest, which causes fear of syncope; seventh day.—P.

Strong and frequent throbbing of the heart.

Beating of the heart scarcely perceptible; seeming as if the heart had ceased to throb.—M.

When the palpitations are very strong, they extend to the epigastrium, with a sensation of oppression; third day.—P.

Anguish of the heart, night and morning; seventh day.—P.

Slight eruption between the breasts.—Madame T.

Slight redness, with efflorescence upon the chest; fourth day.—Miss M.

A large spot upon the chest, about the size of the palm of a child's hand, causing violent itching; this redness disappears at the end of five or six days.—Miss M.

Drawing pain in the breasts; second day.—Miss M.

Swelling distension of the breasts, similar to that which precedes the catamenia; third day.—Miss M.

Trunk.—Twitching pain at the sacrum; first and second day.

Pain in the back.

Superior Extremities.—Restlessness of the limbs, particularly in the arms and elbows; cannot bear any covering; fourth day.—Miss M.

Pain, which extends from the articulation of the thumb to the shoulder; seventh and eighth day.—P. J.

Numbness of the hand and the fingers; sixth, seventh, and eighth days.—P. J.

Numbness of the left hand, extending to the arm; second day.—Miss M.

Coldness in the left arm, as if exposed to a cold wind; third day.—Miss M.

Numbness of the eminence of the hypothenar and of the little finger; fifth day.—M.

Pain in the tendons of the flexors of the left wrist; second day.—T.

Pain in the right shoulder; second day.—T.

Pain in the articulation of the left elbow; seventh day.—T.

At the left elbow, upon the olecranon, a circular red spot, the size of a franc, causing neither itching nor smarting, with a furfuraceous covering, dry and friable, which falls off after two days, leaving no trace behind. A similar eruption, of a smaller size, on the anterior part of the same arm; eleventh day.—Miss M.

Inferior Extremities.—Weakness of the inferior extremities; fourth day.—P.

Weakness in the legs when standing, so as to require assistance to walk; third day.—B.

Pain in the right hip, and the whole left side, to the scapula, which lasted till the sixth day, accompanied with fever.—P. J.

Obtuse pain in the left coxo-femoral articulation in the morning; second day.—P.

Burning, shooting pain in the great trochanter and the left coxo-femoral articulation, rapidly extending itself to the external side of the knee; third day.—P.

The same symptom the ninth day.—B.

Shooting in the anterior part of the thigh; sixth day.—P.

Twitching at the external side of the left thigh; seventh and eighth days.—P. J.

Twitching in the soles of the feet, and in the toes; eighth day.

Pain in the left knee; second day.—T.

Sensation of twitching in the right hip, as if the leg were too long and drawn downwards; fifth day.—Miss M.

Pain in the articulation of the left foot; second day.—T.

Lancinating pain in the toes, particularly in the great toe of the left foot, with great heat and extreme sensibility, preventing the wearing of shoes; after sunset, and in a close apartment, the pain is greater; the skin is red; heat increases the pain; cold air and the application of cold water give ease immediately; but the heat of the bed renews the pain, although it had ceased during the first part of the night; third day. This pain was very troublesome during some evenings, but finally disappeared, like the other symptoms.—Miss M.

Pain in the left foot, concentrated in the articulation of the great toe, continuing there the whole day; sixth day. This pain, which movement increases, rendering walking impossible, has the character of gouty pains.—T.

Violent pain in the articulation of the left foot, increased by walking; seventh day.—T.

Insupportable pain in the left foot; eighth day.—T.

Cutting pain in the left great toe; sensibility of the sole of the left foot; toes very painful; third day.—Miss M.

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Pain in the articulation of the right foot.—Madame T.

Constant itching on the thighs and legs, increasing towards six o'clock in the evening, in the air; seventh day.—T.

A slight excoriation, produced on the leg from scratching, causes violent pain; eighth day.—T.

Pricking in the inferior extremities; eleventh day.—P.

Diminution of the sensibility of the limbs, particularly of the legs and thighs; fourth day.—T.

Burning heat in the legs; eleventh day.—P.

Great restlessness in the inferior extremities when in a close room; desire for fresh air; third day.—Miss M.

Three days after the discontinuance of the medicament, the pains returned in the articulations, particularly in the left great toe.—T.

Heat.—Removing everything which increases the heat of the body; desire to use cold lotions; third day.—Miss M.

Desire to be in the air; anxiety; impatient when in the room.—Miss M.

Fever; general uneasiness in the evening after a meal; the skin hot; frequency and fulness of the pulse; first day.—P.

Heat of the head, which is afterwards felt over the whole of the body; desire for cold water; third day.—B.

Shivering, with somnolency; heat of the skin; agitated nights; third day.—P.

Heat of the skin; fever at the close of the day; shivering; heat, followed by cold; second day.—B.

Sleep.—Sleep from two o'clock in the morning until noon; third day.—Miss M.

Sleep, with agitation; eleventh day.—P.

Dreams of various persons and events; the impressions are all of a lively character; imagining to hear, touch, and understand the individuals dreamt of, as when awake; second and third day,—Miss M.

Disinclination to rise again after sitting down; disposition to sleep; tenth day.—P.

General Effects.—General uneasiness; lassitude; agreeable feeling after eating.

The symptoms increase in intensity the latter part of the day, especially in the evening.

Great lassitude, produced by heat, particularly in bed.

THE ROSS DISPENSARY.

(*From a Correspondent.*)

THE picturesque and usually peaceful town of Ross was lately the scene of one of those struggles which seem ever to attend the advance of homœopathy into a *terra incognita*. It appears as though the allopaths would not quietly endure the presence of this unwelcome intruder, until they had tried the effect of an appeal to the public. This ordeal over, the dreamy doctrine, hitherto received with scorn and ridicule, is henceforth treated with at least decent respect.

The *Hereford Times* of Oct. 23 contains a full account of an extraordinary general meeting of the Governors of the Ross Dispensary, held on the 20th of October, to consider and decide whether or not the medical officers of the Institution be allowed to treat the applicants for relief under the homœopathic system of medicine, and also to take into consideration the letter of Dr. Strong, which appeared in a Hereford paper, upon the subject, in so far as it refers to the Ross Dispensary.

Whatever hostility against the interests of homœopathy may have been contemplated in this attack, it does not appear from the report, that the feeling of the governors in general was adverse to the system; for, after a discussion which lasted three full hours, an amendment was carried, which merely rendered more stringent an already existing rule. "Rule XIII. That a constant supply of drugs, procured expressly for this Institution, by order of the Secretary, acting on the written suggestion of the Physician and Surgeon of the week, be kept at the Dispensary, and that from thence alone medicines be dispensed and relief afforded to the objects of the charity."

The Amendment.—"That it is by the 13th rule of this Institution incompetent to this meeting to sanction among the Medical Officers of the Institution, the use of any medicines, in the treatment of patients, except those which are supplied by the Institution itself." The amendment was carried by a majority of 9 to 6 votes. But one of the most influential governors present, Mr. William Bridgman, chairman of the Ross Union, while voting in favour of the amendment, expressed his intention, at the approaching annual meeting, to move the alteration of Rule XIII., so as to enable Dr. Strong to keep a supply of homœopathic remedies at the Dispensary. We trust the good sense of the governors will lead them unanimously to adopt an enlarged and liberal view of the question.

The union of the two systems of medicine now proposed to be carried out at this Institution may, at the first blush, appear very objectionable. Yet if a reformed mode of practice is to be introduced at all, it must be by the old-established founda-

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tions of the country gradually relaxing their efforts of opposition. It not only *will* be so, but it is becoming so even as we write. Already in London there are some hundreds of medical practitioners who employ globules for the treatment of certain classes of disease, almost without knowing why. Many conceal the fact from their patients; others, with a frank grin, inquire "which mode of treatment the gentleman prefers;" or, at the first failure of the globules, suggest, in alarm, "falling back upon the good old method." Such an amalgamation has taken place at Glastonbury. The guardians of that Union, who some years ago dismissed their medical officer, Mr. Newman, for employing homœopathy among the paupers, have recently retraced their steps, and finding that the health of the Union was less, or at all events, that the expense was far greater under the old system, have now reinstated him in the office he formerly held. Several of the druggists, whose interests we may suppose to be most affected by the change, are yielding to the requirements of the public; and in order to keep their custom, resort to the simple expedient of vending both sorts of medicines. This at least we know to be the case at the large firm of Lea and Perrins, chemists, Cheltenham; and with two other chemists in Worcestershire, where homœopathic prescriptions are professedly made up. We have just seen, fresh from Paris, a friend of Dr. Petroz, the eminent homœopathic physician, who informs us that the same commingling obtains in that city. Some avowedly admitting the use of leeches and counter-irritation only, in addition to pure Hahnemannism.

In Dr. Tessier's hospital, a branch of the famous Hôtel-Dieu, the working of the rival schools under the same roof may be daily witnessed. He has 100 beds, which are generally all occupied. Dr. Tessier is a man of the greatest talent, a first-rate pathologist, and thoroughly skilled in all the learning of the old school. He has never experienced anything but uniform kindness and respect from the Central Bureau of Hospitals, although at various times there have been medical men among them, and such is the case at present; not the slightest opposition has been offered to him in the change that he has carried out in the homœopathic treatment of his patients.

[We published the report lately, with a leader upon it. Our correspondent's observations deserve attention, and therefore we have given the space they deserve. —E. H. T.]

THE MAGNETOSCOPE.

From the Torquay Directory.

SIR,—I have been much interested in the perusal of a letter signed "E. V.," commenting on the subject of the magnetoscope, which I had the honour of introducing to your pages. So courteous a comment demands an acknowledgment, although diverging lines can interfere so little with each other that one need not much apprehend their clashing. I cannot but think that the lines taken by "E. V." and myself are of this character. I simply state what I saw, in the belief that, without pretending to see far into a deal board, I was not deceived throughout a series of experiments lasting for five hours. He argues the *a priori* improbability of the results, and thence deduces their fallacy.

"Segnius irritant animos demissa per aures,
Quam quæ sunt oculis subjeita fidelibus."

I am not in the smallest degree surprised that the wonders of the magnetoscope should appear incredible to "E. V." and to the great majority of those who have only *heard* of them. They were so to myself, but I could only say, after witnessing Mr. Rutter's instrument, "*Veni vidi*," *et victus sum*. I regret exceedingly that the Torquay experimenters have not succeeded in obtaining through the instrument used any other than negative effects. Of the precise value of these I cannot judge, for I confess that a rusty memory will not conjure up so much of the smattering of logic, which I suppose I once had, as to determine how many negatives make up or counterbalance a positive. That their relative value should not be recognised by many I can very well imagine, though not in the case of "E. V." Seriously, it is a very extraordinary fact, and quite justifies caution and hesitation, though not disbelief, that none of the Torquay experimenters should have obtained *any* effect. But I am not surprised at it, because Mr. Rutter warned us that the magnetoscope would not respond to the influence of any new hand; but he assured us that it would do so in most cases where persevered with, just as the wires of an electric telegraph require the influence of a less powerful battery in the direction to which impressions are *usually* conveyed, than they do when it is attempted to convey impressions in the contrary direction. I may observe that I saw palpable, though comparatively faint, effects produced on the pendulum through the agency of one of us "outside people" at Mr. Rutter's, but our interest would not allow our time to be so occupied long.

But the reported experiments are contrary to all acknowledged phenomena and laws—are they the first set of reported results which have at first had this appearance, yet have ultimately been received as quite orthodox? May we not suppose that when the first electrical eel was discovered, those to whom the report came from afar would have pronounced its effects as contrary to all experience, since of the thousands of fish theretofore handled none had produced such an effect. How was the discovery of Harvey received? Was it the learned or the unlearned that were most opposed to its reception? Were

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not a host of observations and the invincible phalanx of known laws opposed to it by doctors learned in the laws? Suppose a hundred years before Newton read the laws of gravitation in the book of nature, and before Priestley and others had investigated the properties of air, some philosophic student had proclaimed and exhibited that an apple and a feather would, under certain circumstances, fall to the bottom oi a glass globe at the same time, would not those to whom the matter was reported have declared that it was contrary to all observed laws of nature? I confess then that with me the argument of antecedent improbability falls to the ground, from a disbelief in the infallibility and universality of our knowledge. Well, but Mr. Rutter has succeeded in all honesty in deceiving himself and others. All I can say is, that I believe that to be impossible. Take the normal motion — the reversed motion — the diagonal motion,—it is conceivable that they might be produced by the thought the father of the deed—"the wish the father of the thought:" but look over the list of effects produced, and their rapid changes, and I cannot for a moment believe in the possibility of any means producing these effects by the utmost stretch of his ingenuity, and, under long practice, for the purpose of deceiving others,—as to deceiving himself the thing is out of the question. But further, how did the wish produce the effect when the operator was in ignorance of the substance placed in his hand? and I think I have abundance of unimpeachable evidence that this was the case. Were the results in the category of chances? What, in a score or two of cases without fail? Again, supposing motion to be given to the pendulum by volition, could that stop it? Try it. Nay, let some intelligent observer go to Brighton and see the experiment, and if he comes back and pronounces them fallacies I shall be very much surprised,—let him acquire the skill to produce the effects already noted *by volition* and I will pay his rail expenses —just as a penalty for my own credulity.

One word with respect to homœopathy in conjunction with the magnetoscope. I am quite aware that this is likely to bring discredit upon all concerned with it with a certain section of the world,—but what can one do? If a philosophical instrument-maker could construct a balance so delicate that it could weigh the infinitesimal amount of medicinal matter contained in a globule, and if homœopathists were to use these scales by way of demonstration and proof of some of the first principles of their system, should we be justified in rejecting the scales as contrary to nature and at best a self-imposition? I very much regret the concluding paragraph of E. V.'s communication, not only as mixing up the merits of the questions, but as not in keeping, if I may say so, with the rest of the letter. I may observe that the agent which was supposed to counteract the ammonia was the dead animal matter. On the subject of homœopathy I should be sorry to open a discussion in your pages, considering the spirit which I have observed elsewhere to prevail in regard to it. Its advocates, I apprehend, right or wrong, are not ashamed of their cause, nor afraid of its biding its time.

P.

P.S. Who shall decide when doctors disagree? or experimenters either? *Quod ad* the weight of argument,—if I mistake not, one experimenter in Torquay fails to produce the results which his near relative in Brighton has entirely under his control.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND, 1851.

It has seldom fallen to the lot of the propounders of a new truth to have succeeded in establishing for themselves such a favourable position as those who have advocated homœopathy. Unfortunately, it too frequently happens that internal dissensions and petty jealousies have been allowed to creep in to mar and displace the harmony which must invariably exist to ensure success, whatever cause we may be called upon to espouse. Attempts, however, have been made, by enemies, secret or avowed, to sow the seeds of discord and annoyance, with the view, doubtlessly, of impeding the progress of their philosophy, but happily the intended mischief has been speedily averted, and its influence has proved of the most transient character.

The body of homœopathists in general now perceive the desirableness of steady and active co-operation, especially since the shafts of the allopathists have been so freely levelled at them. It is no longer a question how far the truths of our doctrine are right with our opponents; they have found them successful, and therefore, if possible, they must be crushed. Under these circumstances, they do not hesitate to adopt every means in their power to annoy and vilify us in our proceedings.

But the real question is, do they make any prejudicial impression upon us or upon the public? We think we can answer conscientiously in the negative. As far as true homœopathists are concerned, it is a potent fact that they in reality feel more grateful than annoyed, for the extensive notice allopaths have lately deigned to

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extend towards them; whilst as regards the public, it is certain a greater desire has been manifested to investigate the doctrines of Hahnemann since these attacks than previously. On both grounds, consequently, there is some reason for congratulation, seeing that, on the one hand, it has called forth increased vigilance and zeal on the part of homœopathists, and that, on the other, it has stimulated inquiry among those who were not before acquainted with our principles.

The good seed thus sown must bring its proportionate reward. Much as the writers of the allopathic press fancy they can decry homœopathy and its attendant benefits, they will in the end find themselves, miserably mistaken. They are providing, without doubt, the fuel for their own *auto-da-fé*, and will, in due season, be enabled to appreciate the worth of their servile lucubrations. When the period of total defeat shall arrive, then will they discover how inglorious has been their career. *In fugâ, fœda mors est: in victoriâ, gloriosa.*

THE PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

A Zoological Problem.—On the 3rd day of October, 1851, and towards the hour of evening, one of the boa constrictors in the Zoological Gardens of the Regent's Park received a present of two live rabbits for his supper. . . . As he has not had any food for some weeks, it is supposed that the rabbits will be a very acceptable present for his serene lengthiness. The cool air of autumn is tempered by a warming apparatus in his saloon, but, in case he should wish for a still greater degree of heat, a blanket is given him to creep under, or in the folds of which he may enroll himself at his pleasure. It is not a fine household blanket, but a thick, rough, railway blanket-wrapper of the largest size. All his comforts being thus attended to, the keeper of the serpent-house bows and takes his departure for the night. . . . In the course of the night of the 3rd of October last past the watchman, as usual, entered the serpent-house. Walking round, and holding up his lantern to the different cases, he perceived that the boa constrictor's "supper" was hopping about the cage in a very unconcerned manner, but, on turning from the rabbits to their proprietor, what was his dismay at perceiving that the serpent had seized upon one corner of the thick, rough blanket in preference, and was drawing it down his distended throat. Away ran the watchman to call up the head keeper. . . . The head keeper, knowing it would be in vain to endeavour to get the blanket back after "matters had gone so far," hoped that the serpent would disgorge it of his own accord, if left to himself quietly, as soon as he had found that he had made a mistake in the food he had chosen. Both head keeper and watchman, therefore, went away. It is the opinion of Mr. Mitchell, the secretary of the Zoological Society, who is constantly studying the habits of animals, that the serpent has no palate; and that in the night he had made a dart and a snap at one of the rabbits, but, missing it in the darkness, had caught a mouthful of the blanket; and, conceiving it to be a very good rabbit (but with rather a loose skin, we should suppose), had never troubled himself with any further considerations. In the morning, when the head keeper went to the serpent-house, in a very anxious state of mind as to the result, there he saw the two rabbits sitting up by the side of the serpent's water-pan washing their faces, to be nice and tidy for the day, and the last two inches of the thick railway blanket just going down the serpent's throat. Since this event the serpent has never shown any signs of having discovered his blunder or any disposition to disgorge his bedding. . . . He lies torpid, as usual after a good meal, drinks more water than he drinks in general, and perseveres, with full reliance on his wonderful powers and peculiar organization. The blanket can be seen to have moved several feet down his body. It is now about the middle (October 28th). Will he manage it somehow, or will he die? This is the problem.—*Dickens's Household Words.*

The President of the College of Physicians is here represented as the Boa Constrictor. Mr. Newman is the rabbit he expected to gorge, but instead of that he has swallowed his own blanket. The President is the type of his College. The College has devoured its rough, old, worn-out blanket; the creature is now in a state of torpor; it has swallowed its own *Parisius* and its own *Aureus Avis*, and divers others of its acolytes, thinking it was gulping down homœopathists. Mr. Dickens puts a very pertinent question. It is now getting to the fag-end of the year. The blanket, with its contents, has moved several feet down its body. Will the Collegiate Boa manage it somehow, or will it die?

Meanwhile, it only requires a calf-skin wrapper thrown over it, to present a complete image of Collegiate Dignity in repose—

"Go, spread a calf-skin o'er that torpid trunk."

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What a picture this would be for *Punch*—the College a great Boa, with the outlines of the physiognomies of the *Ultimus Wilsonorum, Parisius, Aureus Avis,* and its other notables—shown even through the blanket and the boa's skin,—while the *licentiates,* walking reverently backward, are in the act of dropping a huge calf-skin over the torpid creature!

THE LANCET.

We have in the *Lancet,* November 15th, a lusty assault, and, as the writer thinks, from a decided vantage-ground. During two weeks he was gathering up his loins and his forces, and in the third he has stricken his blow. But we are not conscious that our lines reel, or our flanks are turned, or our centre gives way.

His vantage-ground is the assumed failure of Mr. Rutter's instrument to demonstrate, physically, the fact that the small doses of the homœopathists act on the human organism. There is, however, one sign of grace in the *Lancet.* The Editor has obviously been studying the *Homœopathic Times,* though he styles this journal "a wretched publication in the service of the quacks:" we might retort on him, and call him "the wretched servitor of medical bigots." He devotes twelve and a half columns to his leader on Mr. Rutter, and Drs. Quin and Madden, and the *Homœopathic Times.*

He enters with great *gusto* on his study of the "Quinian narration," the stimulating force of which he compares to Homer's vivacious and rapid flow. He divides the drama into acts, and evidently takes great pleasure in his work. We must do him the credit to allow that, with his presumed views and convictions, he has written a very slashing, very clever, and very amusing article, in which he harps on the credulity or the knavery of the homœopathists.

But this very clever and very unscrupulous Hotspur of the allopathic body forgets that there is such a thing as "laughing on the wrong side of the mouth." We do not know, and do not prejudge the question, whether Mr. Rutter will be able to make out his case, as it has been presented by his earnest and zealous expositor, Dr. Quin; but we do believe that Reichenbach, Herbert Mayo, Rutter, and many others are right in their views of magnetism; we believe there are *Odic* polarities in the human body, and "magnetoid currents."

We also advise the Editor of the *Lancet* that, however glad we should be of demonstrations from physical science of our noble Cause, we rest the proof of homœopathy on experience and statistics. We do not doubt that, sooner or later, we shall have the proofs from physical science; and we hope that Mr. Rutter will be the man to show us the way. We have no doubt whatever of his science, his integrity, and his conscientiousness. With this conviction, we are glad to see that his promised treatise is already published; we will review it next week.* Time and experience will confirm what is true, correct what is imperfect or wrong, and reject what is untenable.

The Editor of the *Lancet* should have given us full credit for wishing to convey, through the columns of our journal, which he calls the "Quack Repository," the expression of every shade of opinion on this subject. We have published the lectures of Dr. Quin, and a report of Dr. Madden's, lecture, and we have also published Dr. Madden's *palinode,* and Mr. Sharp's testimony to that palinode, and a variety of opinions from various correspondents. We have shown that our anxiety is for Truth, and that we care nothing for sectarian prejudice.

We "wait and watch" still. We are nothing daunted by the forays of this hero of allopathy: we cheer him on. We know that our Cause is true; and we are most hopeful. We forbear for the present to show the gross inconsistency of the Editor of the *Lancet* in his own great article. He is a very truculent partisan, but he trembles in his shoes, or he would not have devoted twelve and a half columns *—to an exploded fallacy.*

* Magnetoid Currents; their Forces and Directions, with a description of the Magnetoscope. By J. O. N. Rutter, F.R.A.S. London: Parker and Son, West Strand.

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THE MEDICAL TIMES.

THE notices to correspondents are generally the "dirty corners" of the anti-homœopathic weekly journalists. We give the following of these notices:—

"*General Practitioner.*—A physician cannot *consult with* an homœopath any more than he can consult with a man who believes in the universally curative powers of Morison's pills or Holloway's ointment. An accurate diagnosis can avail the patient nothing, unless the treatment be such as shall remove or palliate the disease detected. What the better would the Duchess of —— be for a consultation between the homœopath Quin and Dr. B., if the conclusion of that consultation should be, that the Duchess was suffering from sthenic pleuro-pneumonia, and that she should be treated by decillionths of a grain of *Tartar Emetic?* Accurate diagnosis is of no use but as a guide to efficient treatment."

The logic of this oracle is exquisite. If a person is supposed to be clever at diagnosing a disease, but not clever at treating it, there is no apparent reason why he should not give an opinion on a subject he understands, *for the consideration.* In this very number the Editor takes the opinion of a clergyman as the best, on a particular subject connected with diagnosis. We advise the homœopaths to have nothing to do with the allopaths.

Our contemporary has three little hits at homœopathy, from three different correspondents. They rejoice in the names of *Argus*, *Amicus*, and *Rusticus*.

Argus, who seems to have only one eye instead of a hundred, his proper number, is anxious that the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society should be afforded an "opportunity of repudiating homœopathy." We had supposed, in our simplicity, that the said illustrious Society had already repudiated the doctrine and practice of Hahnemann.

Amicus is strong on medical ethics; it seems there is a Provident Society at Birmingham, which is blessed, or not blessed, as the case may be, with a staff of twenty-one medical officers. One of them is a homœopath, and *Amicus* thinks the other twenty should have pluck enough to turn him out. But if they are peaceable subjects, might they not themselves vacate, and leave the homœopath "alone in his glory." But on this letter the Editor of the *Medical Times* observes, "The principle of non-intercourse and non-co-operation with homœopaths must be carried on without reservation. It is as binding on the surgeons of a Provident Club, as it is on the members of a Royal College. The profession must act unanimously in this matter, or the demonstration will be useless. If the practitioners of Birmingham do not at once make a stand against this insidious quackery, the time will come when they will regret their inertness or their indifference, and will strive in vain to recover the vantage-ground they have unnecessarily surrendered."

Rusticus seems to think that some members of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society are glad enough to urge on others against the homœopathists, but, like the retired rat, wish to sit each in his Parmesan cheese; in other words, to have the advantages of a *sub-rosâ* unwhispered sort of dalliance, and occasional consultations with homœopathic practitioners.

How is it that the *Medical Times* is without notice of the magnetoscope? Why has the *Lancet* been allowed to get the start?

As the signatures of non-medical homœopathists, as well as of graduates of Edinburgh, are asked to the following petition, it is proper we should give it insertion. The object of the petitioners is to obtain justice and fair play for the homœopathists who may present themselves for examination by the Medical Faculty of Edinburgh.

We refer our readers to a very able letter by *Alumnus*, which they will find in our Correspondence of this week; but they will bear in mind that we have always advocated the necessity of agitating for a CHARTER. In the present state of the great body of the medical profession, there is not much probability of any marked improvement of feeling of the allopathic towards the homœopathic practitioners.

We can only hope to be tolerated by any of the licensing bodies; but toleration is

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better than hostility. It is known that the Medical Faculties of the four Scotch Universities have pronounced against homœopathy. The College of Physicians of London has done likewise; but there are other licensing bodies that have not pronounced against us as yet, and, till they do, "silence is consent." So let our students obtain their diplomas and licenses from them; those in Scotland can come south for that purpose, and those that are in the south can obtain their licenses here, if the Scotch universities permit their Medical Faculties to misuse their privileges for the purpose of excluding the homœopathists.

Whatever petitions are presented to whatever bodies, it is our conviction that the greatest weight is due to *numbers*. A poor man with common sense is quite as good a judge of what is for his advantage as a prince.

The Crown or the Government or the Parliament, and we presume Patrons of Universities, are more impressed by vast numbers, than by a few names only, however dignified by rank, or intellectual distinction, or political influence, or virtue, or piety, their possessors may be. Furthermore, whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well.

We are satisfied that all who are interested in homœopathy should agitate for a CHARTER for the homœopathists.

"*Unto the Right Honourable the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council, Patrons of the University of Edinburgh, the Petition of the undersigned Graduates of the said University, and others,*

"Humbly sheweth,

"THAT your Petitioners, deeply impressed with the importance of providing adequate instruction for those who are to become Practitioners of Medicine, and of securing that University Degrees in Medicine, which are public attestations of the studies and acquirements of those who receive them, shall be granted simply on the ground of such studies and acquirements; and feeling a deep interest in the progress of Medical Science, and in the prosperity of the University of Edinburgh, as one of the principal Medical Schools in Great Britain, desire earnestly and respectfully to direct your immediate attention, as Honourable Patrons, to a matter connected with the granting of Degrees in Medicine in the University of Edinburgh, which has been forced upon the notice of your Petitioners. The facts upon which your Petitioners found the present application appear in the following document, with reference to the examination of one of the Students of Medicine, issued by the authority of the Medical Faculty of the said University, and published in the "Monthly Journal of Medical Science" (No. 128):—

"'Mr. Alfred Crosby Pope, having appeared before the Second Division of Examiners of the Medical Faculty in the middle of June, underwent the usual written examination on the practical branches of Medicine and Surgery, and was afterwards subjected to an oral examination on the same subjects. He had satisfied several of the Examiners; but his surgical knowledge was evidently defective. While under examination in Midwifery, he was asked what doses of calomel, opium, tartar-emetic, and aloïn he would give in certain diseases. In reply, he stated correctly the doses usually given in medical practice; and when asked whether these were the doses which he would himself prescribe, he replied that they were. He then underwent an examination on Materia Medica, the Professors of that branch and of Clinical Surgery being present. His replies were satisfactory enough; the only objection of any moment indeed being, that his doses of medicines were somewhat large. The Faculty having been furnished with positive information that Mr. Pope had avowed his purpose to become a homœopathic practitioner, after graduating, it was determined that he should have an opportunity of answering to the charge. The question was put to him by Dr. Christison, and the following are the very words of the conversation that ensued:—"Well, Mr. Pope, I am satisfied so far with your answers; but there is another point on which I wish to be informed; and, as it is best not to beat about the bush, I shall put to you a plain question, in order that I may get a downright answer. I am told by a colleague that he has been informed, on good authority, that it is your intention to become a homœopathic practitioner after you graduate; *after the answers you have this day given me*, I feel bound to say I do not believe it. Am I right?" To which Mr. Pope replied, "I am not now a Homœopathist; but after graduation, I mean to inquire into the truth of it." Professor Syme then remarked, "Now, Mr. Pope, suppose that this inquiry which you meditate were to confirm your belief in the truth of Homœopathy, what would you do with the diploma received from us? would you burn or return it?" "No," replied he, "I would keep it." "For what purpose?" "To show that I had regularly studied." "Studied what? Delusions! Fallacies! Nonsense! It would only show that you had misspent four or five years of your life in studying what could not possibly be of any service, according to your own view; and I am sure that, on reflection, you must see how inconsistent it would be with common honesty or common sense to use a diploma, after ceasing to entertain the principles which were professed in order to obtain it. But recollect, Mr. Pope, I offer this remark to you as a friend, and not as a pro-

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fessor." Mr. Pope then withdrew, and in what remained of his examination he made a satisfactory appearance, except in Medical Jurisprudence, in which, as in Surgery, he was defective. The case being a new one, it was referred by the Examiners to the whole Medical Faculty for decision. Of the thirteen members, eleven were present. After considering the whole circumstances, the Faculty unanimously resolved—"That serious doubts are entertained as to the soundness of Mr. Pope's principles of practice; and that on this account, as well as his insufficiency on some subjects of examination, he shall be remitted till the end of July, by which time he will have had ample opportunity of making the inquiry into the truth of Homœopathy which he says he contemplates." This resolution, which admitted of his graduating this year, in the event of his satisfying the Medical Faculty, was communicated to him in conversation by the Dean. Mr. Pope, however, withdrew at once from the list of candidates.'

"From the above statements it appears that, in requiring from any candidate an explicit pledge, limiting his future course of study and practice, the Medical Faculty have made a fundamental change in the conditions under which Degrees in Medicine have been heretofore granted; and the Petitioners believe that this has been done arbitrarily, and without the authority, or even the knowledge, of the *Senatus* or of the Patrons of the University: That your Petitioners are deeply convinced that this innovation, if adhered to, will be highly injurious to the progress of science and to the morality of the students, as well as greatly detrimental to the usefulness and to the reputation of the University of Edinburgh; and that those who find themselves thus debarred from pursuing their studies in whatever direction Truth seems to call them, will be driven to other and possibly to foreign Universities, or to separate and independent Institutions: That this proceeding on the part of the Examiners seems the more objectionable when they are also Professors in the University, and have ample means, as teachers, of bringing under the notice of students any facts or reasons which they may think important in reference to medical doctrine or practice; and that the attempt to protect and perpetuate their own particular opinions, by the imposition of such a test, argues, either doubt of the stability of their own position, or a most unworthy distrust of the judgment or integrity of the Medical Students of the University.

"It may hardly be necessary for your Petitioners to repeat, what must be quite familiar, that the art of medicine, inasmuch as it is progressive, and dependent, to a great extent, upon the advancement of the related sciences, is continually liable to change; so that the wisdom of one generation is the folly of the next; and that the endeavour to prevent its free growth in any direction is unwise, and cannot but be injurious.

"That, with particular reference to the mode of practice which the Medical Faculty is now attempting thus to obstruct, viz., that founded on the law of specifics announced by Hahnemann, and generally known as the homœopathic law, for the selection and administration of medicines, your Petitioners would respectfully represent to the Patrons of the University that the belief in it has been, during more than half a century, steadily and rapidly extending over the Continent of Europe, and in the United States of America, as well as in Great Britain, where, among the Physicians now practising in accordance with it, are many of the Graduates and one of the Medical Professors of the University of Edinburgh: That, in several of the most distinguished foreign Schools of Medicine, it has been distinctly recognised and taught: That there are public Hospitals and Dispensaries, both foreign and domestic, for the exclusive practice of it: And that, in the opinion of your Petitioners, aad in that of a large and influential body of Her Majesty's subjects, this system is calculated to exercise a greatly beneficial influence on the art of healing.

"Your Petitioners, however, have no wish to obtain from the Patrons the expression of any explicit preference for, or approval of, the homœopathic system; on the contrary, the object of the present application is to secure the intervention of the Honourable Patrons of the University, should such appear to be necessary, in order that any undue attempts to interfere with the full liberty of the Students of Medicine may be prevented in future; and that the honour, independence, and distinguished reputation of the University may be preserved.

"In conclusion, your Petitioners have to request that the Honourable Patrons will cause the irregularity complained of to be brought under the immediate notice of the *Senatus* of the University, or will act otherwise in the matter as to their wisdom shall seem best.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

Correspondence.

THE PETITION TO THE PATRONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I have read in your last paper a letter, signed J. G. Rosenstein, with your own editorial note; and take the earliest opportunity to correct the errors of your correspondent, with reference to the objects and the expediency of the proposed petition to the Patrons of the Edinburgh University.

It is not, as he seems to suppose, intended that petitions on the subject shall be presented by homœopathic practitioners. On the contrary, *one* petition is to be presented in the name of all persons who are prepared thus to express their disapproval of the manner and grounds of Mr. Pope's rejection, and endeavour to secure in future entire liberty in the matter for all our students of medicine. Those who are of opinion that such rejection was right, and the beginning of a course which ought to be persevered in, will naturally not sign the petition; and, on the other hand, all whose desire it is to secure ab-

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solute liberty for all graduates, and to prevent the imposition of any such test as was applied in Mr. Pope's case, appear in a condition to sign the petition; and while, practically, it is quite immaterial whether or not your correspondent shall sign it, it seems to me very desirable that it should be signed by all the graduates of the Edinburgh University, who are in circumstances to do so, and by as many as possible of our influential laymen; as such a petition will have the effect not only of influencing the Patrons, but of greatly encouraging timid students.

Whether or no such a petition shall be presented, *is not now the question;* the petition has been prepared, is receiving signatures (among which are names of the highest eminence), and will certainly be presented. It is not in the power of any of your correspondents to prevent this being done: they can only, by refusing to co-operate, render it less influential. Their opposition, therefore, can only do harm, by no means good; it being quite apparent, that if such a petition is to be presented, for many reasons, it is of the utmost importance that it should bear as many and as influential names as possible.

The expediency of taking this step was well considered by those with whom the decision rested, and who had such knowledge of the circumstances as to entitle them to form a judgment. That your correspondent should be so entirely uninformed as to the nature of our municipal institutions as to argue that because a former Lord Provost showed some hostility (referred to by Dr. Russell), therefore the present one, who has just taken office after the interval of another reign, must also, with all his council, be hostile too, is not much to be wondered at; only it is to be regretted, that in such ignorance he should have deemed himself qualified to appear as an adviser in the matter.

You will observe, then, Sir, that this is by no means a matter of government which a majority must determine; it is a practical local measure, resolved upon by those best informed, and called on to act; local, but of most important general consequences, and in which, therefore, it is just to claim the cordial co-operation of all true adherents of the common cause.

My own opinion is that the step is wisely taken; but even if I thought otherwise, I should give all the help in my power to make it effectual. But in any view, it can do no harm. On the one hand, suppose it successful—then in future no student will be examined as Mr. Pope was; all will have fair play: a most material advantage at least, in the mean time, until other arrangements can be made. On the other hand, suppose it unsuccessful—then there will be another strong argument for the appointment of an Examining Board, or the granting of a charter. On these grounds, I trust there will be a cordial co-operation in this matter on the part of all who desire to secure full freedom in the medical schools; an object of extreme importance, even should there be also separate homœopathic institutions.

The expediency of these is a question much too large and important to be discussed in this hurried letter. The reasons against it seem to me greatly to preponderate, and to include nearly all the higher considerations.

To extend and perpetuate sectarianism is an evil so great that only *necessity* will justify it; and the superiority which the homœopathic practitioners can now justly claim, on the ground of their being learned in all systems, will be cut from under them, from the moment that they are nursed in a sort of medical Maynooth.

No one, I think, can read Hahnemann's writings, and come to the conclusion that the ordinary teaching of the schools gave him none of the materials from which arose his grand discovery, and from which, therefore, must come the means of progress to his disciples.

It is altogether undeniable that a sectarian position has always the effect of *dwarfing* its victims; a most disastrous result, but, I fear, an inevitable one. Again, the probability of gathering in the *élite* of the general students of medicine, which we are now doing, will be greatly less when the homœopathists, on their own confession, assume the position of a *sect*,—one into which it is the persistent policy of our opponents to drive us, but from which let us earnestly and successfully struggle for delivery.

On this vital subject I can say no more at present, but desiring that it may be most seriously pondered,

I remain, yours faithfully,

AN ALUMNUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

Edinburgh, Nov. 17, 1851.

THE MAGNETOSCOPE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—As I perceive from the tenor of two letters in your paper of this date, as well as from private communications, that different explanations of the results of Mr. Rutter's experiments are being propounded and freely discussed, I think it highly important that we should have a few fixed principles around which to accumulate our observations, and by which to test the value of any series of experiments which may be brought to bear on the elucidation of this most interesting but withal most intricate subject. I will therefore take the liberty of proffering the following hints for the consideration of my medical brethren, in order that they may accept of them if approved, and may, at all events, know the rules in conformity with which my own researches are being carried out. I may premise that many of these rules have been suggested to me, and many directly obtained from a most profound review of odyle, mesmerism, electro-biology, etc., which appeared in the October number of the *British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review*.

I. In a series of experiments designed to prove the existence of a new force, it is essential, wherever the case admits of it, that such experiments should assume the character of a positive demonstration, and not depend for their accuracy upon individual testimony.

Now it must be obvious to all who have read

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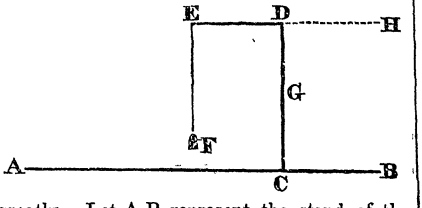
the history of Mr. Rutter's experiments, that this rule was strongly felt by him, and indeed formed the stimulus to all his endeavours after a fixed instrument; indeed, he repeatedly told me that his desire for a fixed instrument was simply because by the hand pendulum, though satisfied with the results himself, it was impossible to convince others of their accuracy. It is obvious, however, that no instrument can effect this desirable end which is capable of being set in motion by any slight voluntary effort, seeing that however rigid it may appear to be, if this fixedness exists in appearance only, the instrument is practically not one whit better then the hand pendulum. Now this has been proved by myself, "J. H.," and others, to be the case with the magnetoscope, and hence it follows that this first and most essential desideratum is yet awanting—a desideratum, without which all experiments must depend for their accuracy upon individual testimony.

II. In performing experiments of any kind, and especially when advancing upon new ground, it is essential that the experimenter should be accurately acquainted with his instrument, and fully alive to all the influence which may modify or in any way bear upon the results of his trials.

In the experiments with the magnetoscope, therefore, it must never be forgotten that two distinct series of laws co-operate in influencing the results obtained, viz., *the physical laws* appertaining to the machine, and the *physiological laws* appertaining to the man operating with the machine. We must accordingly analyse these, and determine what the probable results of each will be.

1. The *physical laws* appertaining to the machine. These may be divided into—(*a*) the *mechanical laws* belonging to the structure of the machine itself; and (*b*) *the magnetic laws* regulating the transmission of currents, should such exist.

(*a*) *The mechanical laws.* It is obvious that the first and most essential point to be attended to is *rigidity*, or incapability of being moved by moderate muscular efforts, as we cannot obtain demonstrative results in any other way. We have, however, already seen that this law has been disregarded. The next point to be determined is, whether there exist in the machine any arrangement for neutralizing the effects of slight muscular movements, or whether, on the contrary, such movements are allowed to take fullest effect; here a diagram will help us



greatly. Let A B represent the stand of the magnetoscope; C D the upright pillar; D E the brass arm; and E F the pendulum. (The dotted line from D to H will be referred to afterwards.) Now, in all the instruments I have seen, the fixing has been effected by cramps applied at the points A and B, thus steadying the stand, and through it the rest of the apparatus. Granting that the stand A B is rendered immovable, the remaining parts, C D, D E, and E F, represent three levers, and it is manifest that, in order to produce the greatest possible effect from the smallest amount of force, that force must be applied at the point D; because, first, it is the point of the column C D which is best fixed, and from whence the column could be most readily moved, or caused to vibrate. Second. It is manifest that any vibration given to the column C D will be communicated along the second lever D E, and that at the point E the effect will reach its maximum. Third. Any motion communicated to the pendulum at E will be transmitted to F, and will at that point attain its maximum of visible effect. Now it is at the point D that the brass ball is situated in the magnetoscope, and this is the point taken hold of by the operator. It must be obvious, therefore, that the first step in the proving of the fitness of any such instrument for the investigations in question, would be to ascertain what amount of force applied at D was necessary to affect the pendulum, and yet I have reason to know that this test was never properly applied; or, in other words, it was never attempted to imitate the motions of the pendulum voluntarily, which, however, should certainly have been tried, and every instrument discarded wherewith such imitated movements could be effected, without employing a considerable amount of force.

(*b.*) We come now to consider *the magnetic laws* regulating the transmission of currents through the apparatus. These are three in number.

1. Magnetic, electric, and similar currents, when transmitted to any apparatus, pass along the best conductor with which they come in contact.

2. The amount of magnetic force is always in an inverse ratio to the distance from the point of its origin at which it is tested.

A B C D E F

Thus let A B represent a magnet, and C F a bar of iron magnetised by contact with A B; if the magnetic force in the iron bar be tested at the points D, E, and F, it will be found to be stronger at D than at E, and stronger at E than at F. N.B. I need scarcely say, that this test is applied by breaking the bar at the points indicated, after it has been magnetised.

3. Mr. Rutter informs me (but not having yet found out the source from which he derives his opinion, I must give it on his authority) that any joint or diversity of material in a conductor influences considerably its conducting power, and that it is, therefore, important to have it constructed of a uniform material, and worked out of one single piece.

Applying these laws to the magnetoscope, we must conclude that, to obtain a perfect instrument, D E must be a much better conductor than C D; nay, to render the apparatus perfect, C D should

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be a non-conductor. Again, the arm D E should be short, seeing that the magnetic force will diminish in proportion to the distance between the points D and E; and, lastly, according to Mr. Rutter, D E must be of uniform material, and composed of one single piece.

Thus far we have dealt with the physical machine alone; but as in all these experiments the operator is necessarily in contact with the instrument, he must himself be viewed as constituting an essential part of the apparatus, and before it is possible for us to estimate correctly the value of any such experiments, we must investigate minutely such physiological laws appertaining to the operator as might influence the results obtained. This I shall endeavour to do next week.

Yours faithfully,

Brighton, Nov. 10. HENRY R. MADDEN.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—As you were so good as to publish my note last week, I trouble you with another. I am a very quiet sort of body, and I am seldom excited by anything that occurs in the world, but believing in homœopathy, and anxious that my sceptical friends should be convinced too, I hailed with great delight the magnificent promises held out by Drs. Quin and Madden, that the sort of proof we wanted of homœopathy had been provided for us by the fortunate genius of Black Rock, at Brighton. Now it seems that as nothing is new so nothing can be depended on under the sun, for these magnificent promises turn, out according to Dr. Madden, to be like the queer-looking spectres one sometimes sees rising from lakes and rivers in the grey morning, which change into various forms, and curl themselves up like misty snakes, and then unfurl their petticoats and vanish.

Dr. Quin, to judge from the lectures published in your paper, seems to be a very modest, humble-minded man, for he claims no sort of merit for himself, but gives all to Mr. Rutter; but Dr. Madden, judging him in the same way, seems to have a very good opinion of himself, and to claim the merit of making discoveries. He puts me very much in mind of idle people playing at *ninepins*, for he seems to set up his discoveries for the pleasure of knocking them down, and I suppose there is some pleasure in that kind of sport: but they might as well be knocked down, for they turn out to be no discoveries after all.

But plain people like me don't like this sort of sport, for though it may be very amusing to such philosophers as Dr. Madden, it is a very great disappointment to humble homœopathists like me; and after all, I don't know what to make out about this magnetoscope. Are all the experiments reported by Drs. Quin and Madden to a certain degree fallacious, and have all who have engaged in them been so careless or incautious as to mislead us?

A friend of mine tried Dr. Herbert Mayo's experiments some six or eight months since, and quite failed in producing the slightest effect; but he is a man of very strong power of will, and a remarkably fine character every way; and he steadily fixed his determination that no motion from his hand should act mechanically on the pendulum, and he told several friends, who had been more successful, that he feared they, without knowing it, communicated a motion (apart from any fluid), and thereby unwittingly deceived themselves, and he suggested that the person holding the string should be blindfolded, so as to prevent the possibility of the mind acting. This plan, however, was not, I believe, carried out; and when he heard that the motion could be produced when the string was attached to a rigid instrument, he concluded that his ideas were erroneous. What a pity Dr. Madden had not my friend at his elbow when he began those experiments, which occupied him threemonths! What a deal of trouble it would have saved him, and what a happy escape he would have had from making discoveries that turn out to be no discoveries at all, as he himself seems to think.

But even a plain ignorant body like me can see that even if Mr. Rutter's instrument don't exactly fit, another may be found out that will; and Dr. Madden's lapses and failures will make others more cautious, for no doubt great caution will be required in future.

There is a great deal of good sense, to my thinking, in the letters of Messrs. Wilson, Hands, Wilkinson, and Wells, so that though my heart is in my mouth about the magnetoscope, I have still a good deal of hope about it.

It is, at all events, pleasant to know that Mr. Rutter is as strong as ever in his belief that he is right, and that his experiments will be found every way true, and "no mistake."

No more at present from your servant,

A HUMBLE HOMŒOPATHIST.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

11, Clayton Place, Caledonian Road,
Islington, Oct. 29, 1851.

SIR,—Several of your readers in this neighbourhood, and, perhaps, some elsewhere, would be greatly obliged to Dr. Quin, if in a future number he would have the kindness to give a precise reference to the title of the work, the page or number, in which occurs the very beautiful and appropriate passage, which, in his "Inaugural Lecture," he quotes from Swedenborg, as illustrative of the Hahnemannic doctrine, and its confirmation by the beautiful instrument invented by Mr. Rutter.

I am, Sir, your very humble servant,

OVERTON GRIFFITHS.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 122. Vol. III. | SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1851. | Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

Communications.

LETTER TO ROBERT CHRISTISON, M.D., V.P.R.S.E.,

AND PROFESSOR OF MATERIA MEDICA IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

No. VII.

Sir,—We are twitted upon many points and we twit you again. You lay it as a healing unction to your wounded feelings that we have taken "alarm." Does "Sigma" betray any? and he can speak for the rest of his brethren. We are asked why our ranks are recruited from men unknown to allopathic fame. Are you or your obstetric colleague in a favourable position for conversion? Can you lay down the thousands at which you arrived tardily and he gained by a short cut, but which short cut you warn all students and graduates against? And in this warning is there no leaven? no approach to the "fox and grapes" principle? What thousands are to the few, hundreds are to the many. Patients can see, however, that there *are* certain conditions essentially necessary to conversion, but no greater pressure of the "res angusta domi" operate in its favour, than of the "auri sacra fames" against it. Nay more! On trying the experiment, you might have slipped into the "cave of Adullam."

Whenever it pleaseth a third-rate allopathist to bring his name before the public, he theoretically analyses our published cases, without a single experiment of his own, he constitutes himself an unerring judge, and fully as experienced in homœopathy as the most verdant greengrocer in "composition powder;" he tells us that our remedies have not been administered in conformity with our "*law*." In that case he is a better homœopathist than we are, and he has arrived at this stage of Hahnemannian perfection by a far shorter cut than we did: in obedience to your "criterion," therefore, we have a distrust of him and his "short cut," and the more so, as the cases recorded *were cures*.

The more you can do towards satisfying the public that there is no homœopathic law, the more destructive is the sarcasm you expend upon yourselves; for our cures of acute diseases exceed the allopath's; our cures of chronic diseases trebly exceed his; *ergo*, we, without a law, according to allopathic assertion, do more for humanity than he does, and if we sometimes fail to cure, we never kill—thank God for *that*.

You have blown a strong*ish* breeze, but the elastic stalk from the Hahnemannian root, heavy with ripening grain, bent its head thereto, and the blast swept over it; it is still erect, and drawing that nutriment from the soil which your allopathic oak so sadly stands in need of—for, with straining roots, and rended limbs, and bark all lightning scathed, her leaves scattered "whither the wind listeth," look out for the crash! it may fall on you at any time, it is falling even now.

Your November's issue of the *Monthly Journal of Medical Science* has proved a sad derelict in the therapeutic field. The pen so potently wielded by "six," has been left with ink upon it of a most corroding quality, but therein true indeed to its master's salt. Could we set Dr. Routh's slate-pencil a-spinning on our side, he would cast you up a term of 500,000,000,000 years, which, at your present rate, must elapse ere you can square the therapeutic circle, or arrive at a solution of the "*great pill problem*." The same pencil might easily compute you the innumerable stomach-aches that must in that space resolve themselves into diseased membranes. Sir, if *Artemisia vulgaris* is a cure for epilepsy and chorea, as your contributor says, why stuff the poor patient with the additional abominations, *Assafœtida*, *Dippel's Oil*, *Empyreumatised Olive Oil*, and *Castoreum?* Your correspondent asserts that *Artemisia* cured the two cases; and a few lines lower down, he says that *diaphoresis* cured the one, and *change of air the other*. A warm hip-bath might have saved the patient's gorge, and the diaphoresis been quite as effectual.

It is strange that, with one exception, you, of all the worthy names in allopathy, can risk so much in its defence. The "exception" entered a fair field, you preferred "inaugural" abuse. Why do the great names hang back? is it because one-half of them disbelieve their own system, and the other half practise homœopathy in

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secret? or lest annual thousands might dwindle into hundreds under the trial? How comes it that the "*exception*," Dr. Forbes, an avowed opponent, has sent more converts to our ranks than it would gratify you to acknowledge? Your "inaugural address" will do the same, and like that gifted physician, you will retire from a beaten field.

Sir, there are hundreds in your ranks who practise homœopathy partially: the sin, however, only takes its date from the acknowledgment of it. Those who have the heart to do so, bear the brunt: those who have none are being whitewashed in your penitentiary.

We are taunted with the loss of friendships, and we are asked how we can bear the contempt showered upon us. I will tell you that half of the allopathic friendship we have hitherto rejoiced in was so meagre that we do not, in the least, feel the loss of the other half, and your contempt for us is thoroughly counterbalanced by our return of it. Nay more: the more we are persecuted, the more we rise superior to personal considerations, for we know that, having worsted you hitherto, we shall worst you again. Every successful case in our hands is an effectual bulwark against your sternest hostility, and already have we accumulated a mass of evidence, which is working allopathic discomfiture, and is being, by the cured, spread abroad among the nations. Whilst men of science and of education are neglecting therapeutics on the acknowledged ground of "difficulty," and who cannot by any means settle the momentous question, whether a fossil represents a quondam fish or a reptile, we are curing the sick by a means they ignore. Whilst men, blest with the abundant gifts of nature and intellect, meet constantly in assemblies, and spend the most precious hours, until the hours are accumulated into months, in deciding upon the very analogous importance of an intimate knowledge of "spiders" and their "descendants," we are meeting with therapeutic triumphs, which render us proof against any allopathic storm.

It is in your official capacity, and as therapeutic high-priest of your *Lancet*-goaded Faculty, that I deem you a fitting person to whom to address my remonstrance; and because, in obedience to the dictates of the hideous Moloch of Medicine, and "*te duce*," a wrong has been inflicted on men whose sense of ultimate responsibility to the highest tribunal is as strong as your own, whose hearts are as true to the physical well-being of their fellow-men as that which beats within your own mortal coil. It is not for me to judge, but as justice has been administered in this case, so may it be meted you again. Neither you nor I may see that day, but it *must come*, and those who are then by to acknowledge the law we advocate may, like you, tell "how joyously it was received by the profession."

Looking forward to the future often leads to reflection on the past. Your "Modern Athens" and your fortress-capped rock seem a meet emblem of your system of medicine: for generations it enjoyed the reputation of strength; perched up far above the reach of men, so long as slings and arrows were the weapons of the age it was strong, in virtue of its situation—the foundation, the noble collateral sciences; but the therapeutic edifice built thereon by puny man was but stone and mortar. So long as men knew no better system, the artificially-cemented structure kept its place in public estimation. But homœopathy was enunciated, and, despite contempt and oppression, she has advanced her parallels on a vast and open plain, easily scanned over by an unjaundiced eye, and now bomb-proof within her modern works, she proves to you most feelingly that antiquated medicine is no better than antiquated anything else. She smiles at *balistæ* and *catapultæ*, at slings and arrows, and peppers you incessantly with small shot, which, small as they are, have been so penetrating that there are as many holes in your walls as in a cane-bottomed chair. The public eye peeps through these holes, and lo! "the incalculable mass of rubbish" you are so familiar with.

I am thus reminded of an epoch when your University professors had some very slow coaches among them. They are gathered to their fathers, so let them rest; but *their* slowness gave rise to a body of private lecturers, whose extreme energy, in all but therapeutics, placed them high in the scientific scale of that day. One, endowed above all others, the Hyperion of his race, drew around him the advanced students of your Edinburgh school. He was a maniac upon one point—bloodletting; he taught his doctrine with a fascination peculiar to himself, and he presented to the neophyte a draught that I have many a time seen drained to the *very dregs*. It seems to me now a dream, if it pleaseth you, "a homœopathic dream," when I look back upon all that,—the empty benches of the drowsy professor, the bumper-house of the private lecturer,—both have passed away. You doubtless remember them well; but professional jealousy was not unknown in that day, so I may not say with what feel-

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ing you do so. Could they look up and read "page 301" of your September issue, and "Article IV." of your November one, they would require no great improvement in medicine ethics. You might ask Mr. Syme's opinion upon that point, and ascertain if his contempt has been so lavishly expended on homœopathists that he has none to bestow upon the surgeons of Dublin, or gratitude to cast away upon the London men? Does he know that surgery is declining; that in 1851 a first-class artery has been fatally tied without any aneurism at all? Sir, we have not got one-half into the little niceties of the twin-profession of medicine and surgery. We shall do our best to make a glass in which to see them clearly.

But we have left "our subject," let us return to it. The teacher I alluded to, then esteemed a most gifted physician, and by patients much sought after, spread his sanguinary doctrine; the desire to draw blood became an exanthem in that class-room, a universal scarlet fever of the mind. He judged of the abilities of a pupil by the temerity with which he used the lancet; he illustrated the necessity for its use by a few favourite subjects, one of the most prominent being "puerperal inflammation;" twenty-four, thirty-six, even forty-eight ounces were deemed *indispensable*; it was so taught, and such a spoliation of human life medically canonized the young butcher who boasted of the theft, which was recommended to be "*repeated in twelve hours*," if no improvement, and *very often there was no improvement.*

Sir, you made no "*resolution*" against that practice, and yet in your October issue of the *Monthly Journal of Medical Science*, you show by Dr. Welti's paper, that he cured forty-three cases of that disease, with out the loss of a drop of blood; and that the only one case treated by "*bleeding, leeching*, and *Calomel*," according to the "*text-book, died.* It is said that acute disease has altered its type since then, and that such bleedings are not now required. In that case, *Nature has changed her course to suit homœopathists!!!*

I learnt the falsity of this teacher's doctrine not in a single night, but only by degrees—degrees long spun out. I have seen, in obedience to it, many a strong man sink at noon, and youth put on the "sere and yellow leaf" in May, who else had deferred it till October. But if this doctrine is no longer recognised by your school in its *then integrity*, the operation was ingenuous and *visible* to all men; and in this it possessed an advantage over its antiphlogistic substitute, the *Calomel* and *Opium* of to-day.

Sir, *Calomel* and *Opium* does wonders for homœopathy. We recognise it in a large majority of our chronic cases; we see it in the bones and their periosteal covering; we trace it in irritable nerves, in copper-colour skin, in spongy gums, in torpid livers; it beclouds the wrapping-sheet of the hydropath; it provides with temporal comforts a whole democracy of dentists. With you, in acute diseases, it is a "saving health;" with us, in chronic, it is a symbol of mortality.

Are men's pulses, then, to be brought within limited vibration by means which so frequently inflict chronic ailment? Is *Opium* to be prescribed to receive it more? Can you purge the system of peccant humours, and say to the drug, "*take nothing* but peccant humours," and will the drug obey you? Medical men have been sad strangers to humility; a pall of it is spreading over them.

Sir, if we mistook your forbearance in the earlier years of homœopathy, as is said you also mistook ours, the eagerness with which you strove to unmask others has resulted in the unmasking of yourselves. You have torn the veil from the countenance of Medical Ethics, in consideration for which mythical goddess we have hitherto been silent. We now know who are our friends, and we know who are our enemies. We hope to be protected from the former, from the latter we can protect ourselves; but it is a great comfort to be assured, so frequently *as we are*, that—

> "We've done you a deal of good;
> For far too confident in yourselves,
> You didn't know where you stood."

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
Nov. 10, 1851. SIGMA.

INNOVATIONS, HOMŒOPATHIC, OR ANY OTHER.

From the Hereford Times.

SIR,—At the first promulgation of a new discovery there seems in man, and in his institutions, a disinclination to adopt it; hence the opposition arising when innovations are broached; with the present he seems satisfied, and probably would remain, were it not that a power superior to his feelings is in action, which subdues him, and to whose imperious influence he must yield the obstinacy of his will. We are linked by habituation to old notions; that which we have tasted and handled we are reluctant to relinquish, and the attempt to set us free is oftentimes fraught with danger to the innovator,

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and loss to those who by their perverse resistance are deprived of the benefits of the change.

How does it happen that innovations are attended with peril, the inventor either falling a martyr in the blaze of the light he sheds on the world, or received with incredulity, or assailed with direct hostility? The reason is obvious: although the human intellect by its force can penetrate the deep recesses of knowledge, or by its achievements can anticipate and overcome obstacle, yet it encounters with doubt and slow acquiescence the facts which have no similarity to its previous information.

The innovator, probably, after penetrating the profundities of nature, approaches with the fruits of his research. We cannot follow him through the elaboration of his thoughts; the processes of his deductions are too refined for our indurated conceptions; his calculations too complex for the grasp of faculties confined within the limits of old actualities. And when we observe him assailing principles, the basis of long-continued action, we conclude that he is a designing speculator, who is either paltering with human belief or attempting to mpose the crudities of theory for the digested axioms of truth. And how much of repugnance is intelligible on the ground of conceit, believing that the acme of wisdom is reached, and further advances unnecessary, or elucidated by wounded vanity, which sees in the adoption a censure on its judgment.

Any innovations which threaten "existing institutions or systems," whether true or false, are pronounced dangerous, and the innovator is tabooed, not because men are over-zealous for right, or instinctively despise error, but because they menace "vested interests," and the clamour will be co-extensive with the dread of loss. Yet it is by innovation that the storehouses of the arts and sciences have been opened—it is by innovation that old things are dismissed as unfit for use, and new things created more adapted to the community—it is by innovation that we have obtained means to procure bouudless benefits, and further the manifold interests of society. It has established our claim to intellectual dominion, and by its operations of demolishing and remoulding, it evokes beauties that were hidden, uses that were dormant, and means that were unknown until revealed by its power.

It may be that all innovations are experiments, perhaps hazardous or imperfect at first; but, if in conformity with truth, the germ expands, thrives, and becomes susceptible of improvement and perfection. The most finished production of art was once a crude idea in the folds of the brain, and in its embodiment presented no characteristic of the matured power now manifested. Why, then, should we be arrayed against innovations in their incipient state, or because they break the chains which bind the mind to predilections, or abolish those material agencies which have survived their efficacy? This is not a time to cherish fancied forms: everything is estimated by its usefulness, and maintained accordingly.

We ought not to forget, in appreciating propositions submitted for general acceptation, that change is a law of life—improvement the consequence; and however much we may abhor it, it will be a peculiarity of our condition, for in the records of our race there is no evidence of a durable institution impervious to the march of time, or impregnable to that spirit of just inquiry which expatiates beyond the confines of old formulæ.

At the bar of public opinion (a tribunal seldom wrong in its decisions) homœopathy solicits, and ought to have a fair and impartial trial; for if it be what its opponents represent, a medical delusion, having no foundation in fact, it will perish in the ordeal. It does not admit of a solution by argument; a long series of reasoning, however convincing, cannot touch its merits, or ascertain its defects; and it would be as vain as to argue blindfolded on the presence or absence of light, which could be easily decided by removing the bandage. As, therefore, the question is one of feeling and sympathy, and lies between relief and suffering, the safest way to discover its efficacy is to apply to it the Baconian test of experiment, which no quackery can withstand, and from which truth returns with renewed lustre.

In it is involved a primary principle of humanity, the alleviation of human agony; and surely the assuaging of pain must claim paramount attention, for, in comparison with that great result, the rule which excludes its practice from the Ross Dispensary is a mere trifle, not to be considered for a moment.

The governors of that Institution or any other, devoted to such noble purposes, would be stultifying themselves, and fail in their mission of distinguished benevolence—the ministrations of which exemplify one of the holiest precepts of religion, "Heal the sick," if they refused to listen to the suggestion of any efficacious mode for alleviating the bodily anguish of the afflicted patients. If possibilities of restoring health exist, and are untried, will they have such reverence for the prevailing treatment as to say that none other is curative? Is it not rather their duty to relax their rules, and admit other systems in addition to those now practised? If not, they are morally responsible for a continuation of suffering which might have been removed, had it not been for their inflexibility.

Moreover, they ought to bear in mind that homœopathy has not been introduced at Ross by a mere stranger, in whom no confidence could be placed, but by a gentleman of considerable experience and high attainments, whose convictions deserve attention, and entitle him to be heard, and who could only be actuated by the purest motive—a wish to benefit his fellow-beings, and ameliorate "the ills which flesh is heir to."

J. WILLIAMS.

Ross, November, 1851.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH, 1851.

HOMŒOPATHY is in the ascendant. This our old opponent the *Lancet* well knows, and therefore its writers do not dispute the great fact. Curiously enough, however, while the admission is made, a show of resistance is attempted against our progress; but as the cloven hoof is exhibited to a fearful extent, the remarks contained in the columns of this (shall we say "obscure?") periodical fail to exert the influence it is vainly imagined it so universally possesses. Once again we would warn these self-constituted censors that they have overshot their mark, and are likely in the long run to rue their indiscretion.

It is no fresh circumstance in remembrance that the professional community, so far as allopathy is concerned, alone represent the movement against homœopathy. And why is this? Simply because the public discover, when they become enlightened on the topic, that there are two sides to the question of medical reform,—one involving the maintenance of old prejudices, the other the exposure of past follies, and a proposed revision of the existing forms of practice. The advantage, therefore, to be gained from a proper consideration and investigation of the subject is apparently so manifest, that society at large show a determination to set at naught the revilers of our philosophy, and to give us at least the benefit of a trial.

Thus it is that, from month to month, and from year to year, we have gone on gathering strength and securing sympathy; for not only has our system been assisted, through the beneficial influence of its curative powers, but it has also derived support from the recognised spirit of persecution with which it has been assailed—until at length we stand in a position to defy the most malignant of our antagonists and their elected organs.

The task for ourselves at this juncture is one of the most simple that can be imagined, and it will merely require all homœopathists to be true to each other in triumphantly weathering the storm provoked by our adversaries. Spread the doctrines of our illustrious predecessor through every conceivable channel. Professional and lay disciples should alike work with zeal in the Cause. Whenever sources fail for distributing printed evidence of our progress and prosperity, give oral evidence, by means of conversation and every-day-life illustration. No lack of testimony will be wanting in these respects, and the sooner the work is commenced in real earnest the sooner will our labours meet their reward. Allopathy, under such circumstances, must pass into its merited decadence, leaving homœopathy, as its successful rival, the pleasure of distributing its blessings throughout the civilized world.

THE LANCET AND THE MAGNETOSCOPE.

WE recur to the *Lancet's* twelve-and-a-half columns leader, for the purpose of showing that if some dozen homœopathists were credulous in believing the wonders of Mr. RUTTER's instrument, a vast number more of the allopaths were no less credulous. We derive the testimony from the *Lancet* of the 22nd.

Dr. ROUTH, however, in the last week's number of the *Medical Times*, declares the belief of some homœopathists in the magnetoscope to be "another proof of their tendency (that of homœopathists in general) to universalize from a few non-conclusive experiments." Dr. ROUTH thus calls the experience and the statistics of several thousand homœopathic practitioners, during half a century, a few non-conclusive experiments.

We have already stated that we still believe very much will come from the attention of very many persons that has been awakened to the study of "magnetoid currents," by Mr. RUTTER. His facts are not explained away by any of the given solu-

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tions; they still remain, and there will soon be the accumulation of many more.

We invite the attention of our readers to the note of Dr. CHARLES COWAN, extracted from the last week's *Lancet*.

"THE NEW MAGNETIC INDICATOR OF FOLLY.

"*To the Editor of the Lancet.*

"SIR,—I beg to thank you for your able and most crushing leading article of last week, on the 'New Magnetic Indicator of Folly.'

"It is highly calculated to advance the cause of true science and common sense, and to bring down well-merited castigation upon that extravagant absurdity and deep delusion which is so extensively pervading the educated minds of this much-vaunted age; and, alas! involving so many members of the medical profession.

"Mr. Rutter's experiments were most obligingly exhibited to the members of the Provincial Association, when meeting at Brighton, and I was astonished and pained to observe the great excitement, the easy and unquestioning faith of many whose education and presumed habits of accurate thinking would have justified the hope of a keener and more cautious induction.

"Of Mr. Rutter's honesty I am perfectly satisfied, and for his courtesy I feel obliged; but when witnessing his experiments, and listening to his philosophy, I was inwardly convinced of the fallacy of the one, and the unsoundness of the other.

"On returning home, I repeated the processes he employed, and several others which have been described by that ingenious, but erratic and self-deceived observer, Dr. Mayo, in his recent volume on Popular Superstitions.

"The result has been completely confirmatory of my *à priori* impressions, and I believe the whole series of facts to be nothing more than the combined effects of muscular unsteadiness, and a non-suspected volition. I could detect no trace of magnetic, electric, or any other more recondite influences, but was able distinctly to assigu the phenomena to the causes above mentioned.

"I wrote to this effect to Mr. Rutter, suggesting the performance of his experiments with *the eyes bandaged.* In reply, he stated *that he was aware that under such circumstances they would fail;* and I promised to withhold all further criticism, if, in his threatened book, he would preface every chapter by this admission.

"Really, Mr. Editor, philosophers are rapidly passing into their dotage, and it is high time for those who still retain a *mens sana in corpore sano*, to combine in the defence of the citadel of truth against their insane and desperate assaults.

"I beg to subscribe myself, in much haste, yours obliged, and obediently,

"CHARLES COWAN, M.D.

"Reading, Nov. 1851."

We remark in this note:—

1st. Dr. COWAN has merely *asserted*, and neither he nor the *Lancet* has *proved*, that the magnetoscope of Mr. RUTTER is the "New Magnetic Indicator of Folly," or is a foolish invention.

2nd. It appears, from the third paragraph, that the members of the Provincial Association, when meeting at Brighton, saw Mr. RUTTER's experiments, and Dr. COWAN was "astonished and pained to observe the great excitement, the easy and unquestioning faith of *many* whose education and presumed habits of accurate thinking would have justified the hope of a keener and more cautious induction." It appears then, that many allopathic practitioners saw Mr. RUTTER's experiments, and many believed. Yet the Editor of the *Lancet*, in his famous leader, attributes the belief of some homœopathists in those experiments to folly and credulity. We have been informed that Sir CHARLES HASTINGS, the President of the Association, was in the number of the believers. We have also the following testimony from Dr. KING, of Brighton, an allopathist, a Medical graduate of Cambridge, a Fellow of the College of Physicians, and a gentleman deservedly held in high respect and consideration. He thus writes to Mr. RUTTER on the 7th of November:—"When I first saw your machine prove the polarity of a decillionth of a grain of *Silex*, and when I first saw it respond to the billionth of a grain of *Quinine*, I was seized with the same kind of awe as when I first studied the resolution of the nebulæ, snd when I first saw the globules of blood and the filaments of the nerves through the microscope. Truly, as PALEY says, in His hands great and little are nothing.

"I have often asked myself what was to be the next new wonder after the electric wire across the Channel? Surely we have found it in the magnetic aura of the human body acting on the aura of other bodies, impregnated with the spirit of the mind within it, and upheld and actuated by the eternal mind in which it has its being."

3rd. Dr. COWAN believes that the whole

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series of facts (the experiments of Dr. HERBERT MAYO and Mr. RUTTER) "to be nothing more than the combined effects of muscular unsteadiness, and a non-suspected volition."

4th. In his brief letter, he jumps to the conclusion that philosophers are passing into their dotage, and declares the necessity for those who are still sane, to combine in the defence of the citadel of truth against the insane and desperate assaults of doting philosophers. Would he kindly tell us what truth he means, and specify the insane and desperate assaults against which he has evidently prepared himself to lead a chosen band of the "brothers of the coat?"

We request our readers to observe that if some of us homœopathists have been credulous in this matter, many allopathists have been equally so; and some of them distinguished men too. In conclusion, we again express our belief that much will yet come of the continued investigation of these "magnetoid currents."

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Dr. Madden has stated that he could elicit or imitate any of the movements that have been excited in the magnetoscope. Admitting this to be true, I conjecture that had Dr. Madden examined with a microscope, and mathematically measured the motions he educed, he would have found them something like, but not identical; but suppose they were, he was not the inventor, or rather composer of the motions set up, he was merely like a musician, who from memory plays on his instrument the airs that others have arranged, and that such was the case may be presumed by observing the many failures of beginners in these new experiments. We must learn to produce the *tones* of the master, not the *noises* of the pupil, before we can play with effect. It appears that the greatest difficulty is, first, to lead the pendulum to give the normal motion of the person presenting himself, and then it is observed that the contact of different substances easily modifies the animal current as it is flowing, and of course changes the motion or form of the ellipse described by the pendent wax, which ellipse, when perfect, is distinctive of and appertaining to the material employed. Now, as impressions made or daguerreotyped upon matter remain a long time, if not for ever, so the brain of Dr. Madden was impressed, whilst exerting its natural action on the magnetoscope, by the near approach of the new body, and thus set up a *compound* influence and operation, which was not effaced when he tried his second series of experiments. That the motions produced are the result of the magnetic *aura* as it escapes from the body is self-evident, from so many that I have seen bringing out the same effects, by the same appliances, who have never heard of the precise movements educed by Mr. Rutter; that these should be the event of accident is absurd to suppose, since there are hundreds of billions of chances against such a consequence.

Dr. Madden, in the opening of his letter of the 22nd instant, seems to expect that we should be able, previously to believing a thing, to demonstrate, as by a scale, the results of the operationss of the forces in Nature; but we must remember that the *modes* of natural effects refuse our attempts to weigh, measure, or calculate them. Even how the long-discussed manner of the *attraction* of *gravitation* takes place is but a mere conjecture; for when it ought to be most positive, that is, when bodies approximate—for they cannot touch each other—the apparent force is annihilated, as observed by their rebounding in opposite directions, which circumstance is attempted to be explained by another term, whose signification is as vague as the former in accounting for the fact, namely, *elasticity*, which property or consequence is destroyed, and does not ensue when an iron ball is projected against a magnet, powerful enough to hold in check this new developed quality. No one has ever as yet discovered *how* any one thing takes place, but we are often led to infer, that we comprehend the cause, on account of witnessing a *portion* of the results of a certain event; how or in what manner the effect took place from the consequent we cannot conceive. With our present endowment of senses, we must be contented to witness facts, as we glide along the path of life, and wait the hereafter to comprehend the mode, and *manner* of causes producing effects.

There is a saying related of Archimedes that, "if he had but a point whereon to stand, he could lift the world." Now this was a grand idea, and calculated to fascinate, yet when our astonishment has subsided, and the reflective faculties come into action, we find he forgot to mention—or if he did, it is lost in the pages of history—the other point whereon to rest the moveable bar that should form the *fulcrum*, before he could execute the feat. Now, something like is the circumstance in Dr. Madden's proposition relative to his series of supposed levers. If we think for a moment, it will be discovered that we cannot employ this mechanical force, unless the bar can *move about* a fulcrum, and in the diagram before us it is fixed; and further, the effort—if one be made use of—is applied at the wrong end for developing the effect that should result in using a lever, because the upright portion of the instrument cannot in any way be employed to act directly on the pendulum, for that, if made use of properly as a lever, would elevate the plank into which it is fixed; and that, according to Dr. Madden's statement, is impossible, it being held down by cramps. Now the only chance left for Dr. Madden's *desired* result is to overcome the elasticity of the upright pillar, which would employ a power equal to lifting many hundreds, which he, I presume, would not think of applying, if his aim

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was to move so insignificant a substance. Again, admitting that all the levers spoken of were free to act as such, it would not cause the pendent body to oscillate, or rather describe an ellipse, but merely depress and elevate it. If Dr. Madden will but *try* the experiment of shaking or moving the whole instrument, he will find that he cannot accomplish any one of the motions described by Mr. Rutter; and if it should be in action from one of the mentioned impressions, he would by this proceeding tend to bring it to a state of rest. Moreover, Dr. Madden applies his supposed force to either side of the ball that surmounts the perpendicular support, which is not the point to bring into play his mechanical force; and be it remembered, the pressure employed would scarcely disarrange the featherlets on a butterfly's wing, and yet he speaks of lever power. If my object be to move but a particle of dust, I should be conscious of using an effort. Further, by the mode after which we apply the digits to the instrument in question, the effect would be to steady the apparatus altogether, and not induce motion; and suppose a normal movement to be set up, the mechanical agent would only modify the oscillations, *not create them.*

Dr. Madden quotes the theorem, "that the amount of force is always in inverse ratio to the distance from the point of its origin." The *quantity* of the force will always be the same; it is the *intensity* alone that becomes altered. The sun attracts the earth equally at the aphelion as at its perihelion, only at the latter the intensity is increased; to counteract which that principle of matter, the centrifugal force, is awoke up and made evident by the earth's increased *reactive* motion. The sun and our globe are not lessened in mass by being situated very remote from each other; therefore their attractive forces must remain the same in *quantity*, making it evident that it is the *intensity* alone that is changed, as the distance (or approximation) increases. To give a more significative illustration of our meaning, we would state that the principle—if we may so call it—of *intensity*, which may be associated with *motion*, is equivalent to *power;* as for instance, the bullet of an ounce weight, travelling at fourteen miles a minute, will strike the target with a greater force than the cannon-ball of many pounds only progressing one mile in the same period; showing that motion, which adds nothing to the bullet in weight, or alters the earth's attraction for it, gives to the matter of which it is composed an *intensity* that far surpasses mass or *quantity.*

We may also bear in mind that this *intensity*, whether resulting from solids or their properties, always leaves its *impressions* on matter with greater force than *quantity*, as seen by the missile's operation on a target, in the one case, and the different pieces of magnetised iron, alluded to by Dr. Madden, in the other; for in applying a force to a chain of balls or atoms, it is the first of the series that will receive the greatest influence, and be stamped with the deepest impulsive power, whether the force made use of be from magnetism or any other appliance; and whilst *quantity* traverses the last link equally as the first, the *intensity* is expending itself as it permeates each ball.

Dr. Madden's proposition of using a different material for the perpendicular support has been anticipated, and to prevent the possibility of mechanical motion, a piece of wood, four inches in diameter, termed by carpenters quartering, was employed, and yet the instrument answered to the application of each substance; but to be more secure, Dr. Leegr has fixed his instrument down upon the wall of the house, and thus, by cutting off all interference by shaking, he finds the magnetoscope more equal to display the results of the approach of bodies, thus showing, that accidental vibrations retard and interrupt the normal influences of the substances presented;—with this instrument, also, very many are successful in educing magnetic results, who failed whilst using it under its early form and situation.

Dr. Leger likewise shows that the circulation of the blood through the arm, or its muscles in motion, does not produce the phenomena, for he transmits the animal *aura* through a small crystal, and applies only its fine point to the ball attached to Mr. Rutter's and his own instrument, and in this way, equally detects every material, and even the high dilutions of the *homœopathic medicines.* With the above experiments, we also witnessed the normal action of the crystal itself upon the animal magnetism, whilst transmitting the *aura*—we say transmiting, for the stone when applied alone, resting on a stand, produces no effect. On Dr. Leger applying the apex or positive pole of the crystal to the magnetoscope, which was situated to the south of the operator, the pendulum oscillated from east to west; on presenting the base or negative pole, the piece of wax vibrated from north to south; when the side of the mineral was brought to bear on the instrument, its apex pointing east, the pendent body traversed from north-east to south-west, and reversing the crystal, with its base directed also towards the east, and again applying its lateral surface, the direction of the pendulum was from north-west to south-east. Similar results likewise ensue on using an onion, only with less vigour, showing that *organized* bodies have poles as well as mineral substances. All these effects are brought forth, if the positions are changed as above stated, by an assistant, either with a crystal or onion, whilst resting in the left hand of the operator, his right being employed to influence the pendulum, by pressing the ball of the magnetoscope slightly with the finger and thumb. If a little of the poison snuff (*nicotine*) were placed in Dr. Leger's left hand, neither the onion nor crystal, when presented, would act on the instrument, which accounts for my own incapability of moving the pendulum; this fact has also been suggested to a gentleman who was unable to produce a movement, but after abstaining from the use of the snuff for a day, he could then produce the natural motion. I observe the different experimenters state that the pendulum sometimes describes a circle; if so, it is not natural, for when bodies are free to exert their inherent tendency

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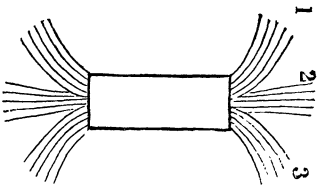
to be in motion, they always traverse an ellipse, which could be witnessed, if our vision might be made to extend so far as to follow the course of a stone projected beyond the influence of our planet, when its direction would be found to be like another asteroid or ærolite. When Newton spoke of the *inert* tendency or property of a body to be at rest, he did not recognise that by destroying or holding in check a principle of matter, we do not give it a new force, we merely withhold its natural propensity, which would instantly be developed, if free to exercise its inherent disposition; therefore, to be in a state of rest is not a contingency of ponderables or imponderables. As before stated, there is no such thing as a circle in nature, though there may be in mechanics. The planetary systems, with their foci, all move in ellipses, and each after its particular kind, subjected of course to slight eccentricities or perturbations, according as they are attracted to deviate from their orbits by approaching into the effective influence of any other sphere. Again, no substance can oscillate in a straight line, it will always describe an ellipsoid; which can be detected in the magnetoscope, if we draw a series of radii from the centre of the paper above which the hanging body is vibrating, we may observe that the piece of wax, like the pendulum of a clock, does not traverse a right line, but will vary to one side in going, and to the opposite on returning, making a comet-like and very lengthened ellipse.

A learned dignitary of one of our first colleges is mathematically at work at the ellipsoids traversed by the piece of wax, and already he finds that the character of the ellipse depends upon the substance which may be contiguous to the pendulum, and varying as this latter is influenced by different bodies; so that each distinct substance has the power of giving birth to its own particular elliptical movement, by which it can be detected; and he states that no mechanical power can educe the ellipsoid described by each; thus the most exact of sciences will afford us a proof of the truth of Mr. Rutter's discovery.

It is perfectly true that you can move the pendulum of the magnetoscope by the power of what has been designated *will*, either with or without contact, in the one case by *conduction*, in the other by *induction;* which latter was effected many years ago, in the experiment on the ring alluded to in my former letter. Now, in bringing this power to bear on Mr. Rutter's instrument, the magnetic current is prescribed in a certain direction, which striking the pendulum causes it to describe the ellipse you solicit. It might be asked how it is that, when acting on the suspended wax by the will, we can cause it to vibrate in any direction we please. No doubt it will be recollected that whilst some of the undulations when emanating from a magnet pass directly forwards, others pursue a curvilinear course outwards, as seen in the following diagram, where iron filings are allowed to fall and be struck by the emanating beams bursting out of the magnet, and are found to arrange themselves after the manner marked 1, 2, 3. Now if, whilst employing the *will*, we can give a greater force to one set in preference to another of the magnetic pulsations escaping from our brain, like those from the



bar marked 1, 2, 3, this will account for our being able by the mere *will* to direct the course of the oscillations in any order we desire, because the two exterior sets of beams will cause it to move diagonally either to the right or left, and the middle ones directly forwards.

I saw Dr. Leger mesmerise a crystal, leaving his intent *impressed* on the stone, and now when he presented it, without any effort of his brain, the pendulum read off the *mind-written* inscription. I have often seen somnambules do this, but never before inorganic matter.

Now, that the pendulum is caused to move by animal magnetism, and modified by the undulations from other bodies passing through the operator, may be inferred, from the current being arrested by the presentation of certain substances, which are chiefly poisons, that tend to take away life by destroying our vital *aura;* and as impressions are indelibly fixed on matter, our systems can recognise, and the instrument read off, the recognition where death has stamped with his dark seal the ivory, the leather, and the dead fly.

Now, no doubt the ellipses produced by the *will* would be found, if examined mathematically, to vary from those brought out by touching the operator with particular substances, and we find that on presenting certain bodies, so as to touch the operator, unknown to himself, whilst exercising the *will*, that their influence is brought out, instead of the operator's design; and again, when the pendulum was set in motion by the presence of a body, the operator could, after a time, alter it by his *will;* but this was merely a greater power overcoming the lessening natural impulse excited forth by the offered substance.

In conclusion, after reflecting on Nature and her belongings, we are led to exclaim that we know nothing of matter, and were it not for its *properties*, we should be unconscious of its existence, so that we may be tempted to conclude, that substances are merely the solidification of the different *principles* of Nature.

I have suggested to several gentlemen the possibility of causing the pendluum to oscillate, and to display magnetoid polarities without our body being in *contact* with the magnetoscope, which I have no doubt will be effected, as I have been informed that one of the gentlemen alluded to has already partially succeeded.

I have the honour to subscribe myself,

Yours truly,

J. HANDS.

23, Duke Street, Grosvenor Square.

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To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—The *will*, and *muscular motion*, and *arterial pulsation*, are some of the attempted solutions of Mr. Rutter's experiments with his magnetoscope; and every one of these solutions may be in part true, and yet leave Mr. Rutter's facts untouched. He seems to be uncommonly cool and clear-headed, and business-like, and practical, and not to have any will-o'-the-wisp *aura* in his brain; and though I do not think that his essay on the "magnetoid currents" has added materially to what we knew before of his views and experiments, yet he has expressed himself with such thorough plainness of language, and with so evident a frankness, that many people will try his experiments, and from the investigations of many we may get much new and valuable matter.

The friend whom I quoted in my last letter as having tried Dr. Herbert Mayo's experiments six or eight months ago, remarks:—"Mr. Wells states confidently, that the magnetoscope is much influenced by the *will* of the operator, and this at first sight would seem to do away with the possibility of rendering it useful as an indicator of the effects of medicines brought into contact with the operator; but on more closely analysing matters, I think that this will not be borne out, as without the operator exercising a powerful will, the medicine would give its proper indications, and if those indications are changed when the will of the operator is brought into action, it is only a proof that it is stronger than the medicine; and if this were not the case, what would become of mesmerism? A powerful mesmeriser with great concentration can frequently eradicate the ill effects produced by the most deadly poisons; but if this will cannot overcome the medicine, *that* will inevitably overcome the will, and therefore any attempt to benefit by mesmerism a patient who has been injured by deleterious drugs would be but a waste of time. I have, as you will observe, taken as proved that the instrument will perform certain motions, without those motions being specifically willed, although it may, to produce an action, be necessary that the currents passing through our system should be willed and be passed through the instrument, without reference to the specific effect they may produce."

These thoughts are exceedingly valuable, and I hope they may receive the serious consideration of the many experimenters now engaged with the magnetoscope; and nobody should be disheartened because many persons have altogether failed to produce any effect on the instrument, and of those who have succeeded in producing an effect, some have not obtained the same results as Mr. Rutter.

You know, Sir, there are very many things in this working-day world of ours which are perfectly true, though nobody can account for them; and you also know how trifling sometimes are the circumstances that influence the fate of opinions and of lecturers, as well as of kings and nations; and indeed, nobody goes through the world with his eyes open who does not find out that many things he did not believe at one time, he comes to believe at last. The watching of the drift of some sea-weed, the looking at a spider's efforts to get his thread over an awkward gap, and the fall of an apple, are the reputed causes of the discovery of America, of the victory of Bannockburn, and of the declaration of the law of gravitation. How many a man beside Columbus had seen drifting sea-weed, and many a man besides the Bruce had seen a spider at work, and no doubt many a body saw apples drop before Sir Isaac Newton did; but there was something in the molecular condition of their brains which led to trains of thought that had not occurred to other observers of these things. And if you will excuse a humble homœopathist for saying so, it is very wrong in anybody to be rash on the subject of the "magnetoid currents," and conclude there are no such things, or that Mr. Rutter is wrong in his description of these currents and forces, because he cannot make his experiments tally with those of Mr. Rutter.

I remember reading, that when Columbus went on his voyage of discovery, and had sailed on over the big herring-pond for many a weary month, that every soul of his crew rebelled against him, and were for turning back, but he was stedfast in his belief, and found land at last; and I also remember that Dr. Lardner, and other mathematicians, demonstrated to their own entire satisfaction, from mathematical science, that no greater speed could ever be got on railways than twelve or fourteen miles an hour, and yet the Queen goes at the pace of sixty or seventy miles, whenever she likes to do so.

So we see the conclusions of what is called science, made beforehand about a thing which is not yet reduced to the laws and domain of that supposed science, are very often wretchedly at fault.

Somebody proposed the electric telegraph twenty or thirty years ago, and he was laughed at for his pains; but we now have got the electric telegraph.

I have a notion that this will be the upshot of these magnetoid currents, which are now looked upon by the objectors to Mr. Rutter's instrument as drifting sea-weed; but I should not be at all surprised if they are found to set steadily in to a bay of discovery, with promontories above it, and goodly valleys beyond it, and governed by a dynasty of princes named Rutter, Herbert Mayo, Reichenbach, and I dare say a good many other worthy souls who sailed long ago on this same voyage of discovery, but have been forgotten for a long time.

Being a working man, I have not much time for reading now, but I think I could ferret out some very old and queer bits of information about these magnetic currents from the books I used to read. If this letter is not worth your publishing, put it in the fire, please.

Your obedient servant,

A HUMBLE HOMŒOPATHIST.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Having perceived with much pleasure that you take interest in the petition now circulating

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amongst us, may I beg to join my opinion to that of Dr. Rosenstein, and to state my reluctance to that petition, for the following reasons:

1st. Why summon all our strength, and gather signatures for a matter which to the public is one of partial and local interest?

2nd. For that very reason, many of the friends of homœopathy will decline coming forward, and the number of signatures will thus appear poor and insignificant.

3rd. If we gather signatures for no decided object, we shall fail to obtain them when a great result is wanted.

But *if* protection is absolutely necessary—*if* a charter is to give it, and *if* the time is come for it, let us combine all our efforts for that one object. Let committees be established and signatures gathered from every part of the empire for a petition to our "Gracious Sovereign," and for the grant of a charter, and nothing short of a charter. My private opinion however is, that, for the present at least, we must not think about one: and that, notwithstanding all the animosity shown, no university or college whatever can prevent us from preaching loud, and spreading right and left the doctrines of homœopathy. All this very violent opposition reminds one of the words of Gamaliel; and if we believe, as we do, that we have the truth on our side, we must do as holier men than ourselves did in a much higher and holier cause. If the colleges and universities choose "to beat us and let us go," knowing they can do no more, we must "depart from their presence rejoicing," and never cease in a good work which no power on earth can crush down. Their effort to annihilate it must, sooner or later, end in its complete triumph. Whatever they may now do or say, others tried it before them and failed, and they will fail likewise. Persecution never answered the end intended by the persecutors, and I feel convinced, that the present duty of those who are persecuted, is not to make petitions, but to persevere in the fulfilment of their daily work, continuing to do good with all their heart and power.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

H. V. MALAN.

Great Cumberland Street,
Nov. 17, 1851.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I observe that you wish to afford to those practitioners who may wish to discuss the question raised by Dr. Rosenstein, an opportunity of expressing their opinions, and I must say that I agree with him in thinking that the presentation of this petition to the Patrons of the Edinburgh College would be humiliating to us, and not calculated to serve our cause; but that the proper course would be to present a petition to the Queen for an Examining Board of our own, which no doubt would, in due time, be followed by the establishment of a Homœopathic School in London.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

ARTHUR GUINNESS, M.D.

Exeter, Nov. 18, 1851.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I regret that it should be necessary to make the present communication with reference to the magnetoscope experiments. No one could have felt more interest in the alleged discovery than myself, and no one could feel more bitter disappointment and regret that it should be necessary to expose its fallacy. But fearing damage to our cause from a very hasty but widespread publication of experiments and deductions, which I believe, after all, to be fallacious, I am induced to give your readers the result of a great number of very carefully-conducted experiments, which have been made by Dr. Walker, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Harrison, Dr. M'Dowal, and myself, from which we are (very unwillingly, I can assure you) forced to conclude that the movements described in the detailed experiments are due to mechanical and not magnetic causes. Let me be understood: I fully and heartily believe that not one of those who have had to do with the experiments, or with making them public, had any idea that they were themselves deceived, much less that they were misleading others: that be far from them—they are above suspicion; but I am compelled to think that they have been unconsciously pursuing an illusion. But to come to our experiments: a few days ago, Dr. Walker and myself constructed an instrument according to the description given in Dr. Quin's lecture; finding, however, that this gave fallacious results, from want of firmness in its parts, we had another made, in which the defects of the first were remedied. In the construction of this we had the advantage of suggestions from two gentlemen, one of whom had seen the original instrument of Mr. Rutter, and the other that used by Dr. Madden in his lecture. It will be unnecessary to describe the instrument minutely, as we tried it with a great number of modifications in its form; suffice it to say that a turned wood pillar was fixed firmly into a solid block of wood, and surmounted by a solid brass knob, an inch and a quarter in diameter, from which projected a rod six inches long; to the extremity of this was fixed a pair of brass forceps. The instrument is substantially made, and very firm and steady, so as not to admit of any movement being communicated to it by mechanical means, except such as would be plainly perceptible; the pendulum, however, is quite free to move in any and every direction. We have tried it with a great variety of modifications as to form and construction, such, for instance, as the position of the brass rod and knob, different lengths and thickness of silk, as well as different modes of attaching it to the rod, forceps, etc., differences in the form and quantity of sealing-wax, etc. We also tried it protected from and exposed to atmospheric currents; we also experimented in different rooms, at various temperatures, and in different states of the atmosphere, etc. etc. In short, we have tried it under every conceivable form, and with every modification we could think of. It has also been tested by persons of almost all ages from sixteen to sixty, and of almost all sorts of temperaments, as well as by the dif-

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ferent sexes, and *without ever once obtaining a satisfactory result.* We could never get a movement of the pendulum at all, except such as could be distinctly traced to mechanical agency.

Having, therefore, exhausted our capabilities of varying the experiments, and our patience together, and convinced ourselves (contrary to our wishes and expectations) that there is a fallacy somewhere, I feel it to be a duty, though a very unpleasant one, to caution the homœopathic public against a too enthusiastic expectation of evidence for homœopathy and its doses from this source, which expectations will, in all probability, be doomed to disappointment. It is a comfort to reflect that we do not need evidence of this kind; to the unprejudiced inquirer there is amply sufficient in its cures to convince all real truth-seekers, who dare to investigate; and what do we want more? Our cause is progressing, and that rapidly—I believe as rapidly as is healthy for it; we need not catch at every straw, as a drowning man would. Let us remember the memorable words of Sir William Temple, "Truth will be uppermost some time or other, though like cork kept down under water." Let the magnetoscope experiments be proved to be themselves on a good foundation before we build so precious a truth as homœopathy on it.

Before I conclude, I may mention that we also tested the experiment with the ring, which, although it seemed perfectly satisfactory at first sight, turned out to be a complete fallacy when the eyes of the operator were bandaged.

I am, Sir, yours very truly,

Manchester, H. TURNER.
Saturday, Nov. 1, 1851.

THE MAGNETOSCOPE, No. II.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Owing to the delay of one week in the appearance of my last communication, which, as you have already explained to me, was caused by the necessity for preparing a wood-cut diagram to illustrate my remarks, certain points which I had intended to advert to in this letter have been already propounded in your columns; I refer more especially to the letter of "E. V.," who elucidates very clearly the *physiological laws* connected with the operator, which are liable to influence any experiments with Mr. Rutter's instrument. I shall accordingly, but briefly, refer to these, and then pass on to some other points which demand our attention.

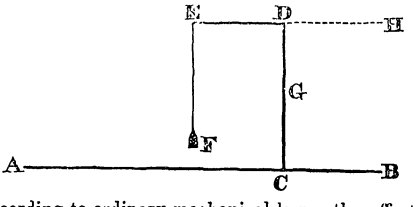
1. The muscular system being an organ and helpmate of the will, acts in accordance te its dictates with a precision and alacrity, which often cause the resulting motions to appear spontaneous or involuntary.

2. Mere attention and anticipation influence the whole nervous system to such a degree, that various subjective phenomena occur as a consequence, in a manner which exactly simulates the effects produced by various external or objective causes.

Thus the attentive and expectant ear will hear sounds during the deepest silence. The watchful and anticipating eye will see imaginary figures. Mere attention to a given part of the body will call forth unusual sensations; and, lastly, an anticipated movement is unconsciously helped forward by the muscles by whose action such motion can be voluntarily effected. Bearing all these points in mind, it is obviously essential that slight muscular movements should be incapable of influencing the pendulum, ere we can accept of any results obtained by the magnetoscope as proofs of the existence of magnetoid currents in and through our bodies.

Moreover, so long as such an imperfect instrument is made use of, it is essential that we should carefully compare the points wherein the magnetic and mechanical laws oppose each other, and ascertain with which of the twain the instrument accords, seeing that in the event of the results agreeing with the magnetic laws, and going counter to the ordinary laws of mechanics, we should thus obtain strong presumptive evidence in favour of the movements having a magnetic origin.

Mr. Rutter's instrument affords the following points for such a comparison:—1. According to the second magnetic law referred to, it appears that the amount of effect upon the pendulum should be in an *inverse* proportion to the length of the arm D E (see diagram); whereas, according to ordinary mechanical laws, the effect would be in a *direct* proportion to the length of the arm, seeing D E is a lever, and the moving force is applied at the point D, and hence the maximum effect will be evidenced at E, and be in direct proportion to the distance between these two points. Now, I have procured several arms of different lengths, which can be used with the magnetoscope, and having tested them, I find the result *invariably in direct proportion to their length.* In this case, therefore, the instrument follows the mechanical and not the magnetic laws.



2. According to the first magnetic law referred to, the nature of the material constituting the arm DE would influence the result, in consequence of the different powers of conduction possessed by different substances; whereas, mechanically considered as a lever, the nature of the material will not influence the result unless there is at the same time a difference in the physical character, of rigidity. According to the magnetic law therefore, one would anticipate very different effects from arms made of metal, wood, and bone, the more especially as Mr. Rutter states that bone at once puts a stop to all motion of the pendulum. I find, however, that bone, wood, and brass act equally well when employed as the arm D E, and that the only

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detectable difference between them is, that which is traceable to difference in length. Here again, therefore, the mechanical and not the magnetic laws are obeyed.

3. According to the third magnetic law, which I stated on Mr. Rutter's authority, a complex arm DE, that is to say, an arm formed of different pieces, especially if not firmly united together, should produce a much less sensitive machine than one manufactured of one solid piece. I accordingly had an arm constructed of three pieces joined together like the parts of a lazy tongs, and so arranged that, when attached to the upright in the usual way, the three portions mutually supported each other, and in this position I found the arm equally sensitive with one of the same length constructed out of a single piece of metal. To test the point still further however, I changed the position of this compound arm, and fixed it to the upright portion CD, in such a way that two or three pieces projected behind, in the position of the dotted line DH, and one long piece occupied the position DE. The separate portions between the points D and H were jointed, so that any slight muscular motion communicated to H would not be transmitted to D; whereas, the fact of the whole arm forming a sensitive instrument when fixed in the first position, proved that the magnetoid currents, if such exist, could readily traverse the whole arm. Now, in this position I found that when I touched the instrument at the point D, the pendulum at once was set in motion; whereas, when I touched the arm at H *no effect was produced*, nor could I in this position move the pendulum by any voluntary effort. I am aware that some will suggest, that this experiment failed on account of the magnetic fluid passing from my hand down the upright, DC, and thus escaping to the earth, seeing that wood is not a perfect non-conductor. Although, however, there is much improbability in this view, seeing that if the magnetoid current possessed any strong tendency to descend the upright stem, it would do so equally well in all the experiments, yet I modified the instrument by simply rendering the junctions between the points D and H rigid, which wus done by binding a small brass rod over the flexible portion, and I there found that the pendulum could be equally readily set in motion, either by voluntary or unconscious muscular movements, from the point H as from the point D, excepting only that the motion was proportionally less from the point H, in accordance with the ordinary laws of lever-power.

4. Once more I rendered the arm D E much more fixed, by substituting a short bracket, firmly fastened into a wall, for the upright stem D C; in this position all moderate voluntary efforts were insufficient to move the pendulum, and in like manner, none of the so-called magnetoid phenomena took place. Here again, however, I may be told, that the proximity of the wall presented an easy way of escape for the magnetic fluid. I therefore modified the bracket so that its condition as respected conduction remained unaltered, while it no longer remained so rigidly inflexible; and I then found that the so-called magnetoid currents reappeared, while at the same time I could of course voluntarily produce all the various movements of the pendulum.

It has, however, been suggested to me, by a friend who has adopted the will theory, that the fact of my experiments appearing to coincide exactly with the mechanical theory, might be explained by the fact that I had anticipated the results, and hence they occurred in accordance with my expectations. A little examination, however, into this hypothesis will, I believe, prove it to be groundless. If by the will theory the propounders simply mean that the will, or rather in this case the mental functions of attention and anticipation, influence my muscular system, and give rise to automatic movements I fully agree with them. But if, on the contrary, they wish it to be understood that the movements are truly magnetic, but that these magnetoid currents are entirely under the control of the will, that they only pass in certain directions, in obedience to its mandates, I would then direct them to the following particulars:—(1.) If the currents are magnetic they must, on passing the body to inert matter, obey the ordinary magnetic laws. (2.) That if this were the case, in the third series of experiments detailed above, when the compound arm was made to project behind the upright stem, C D, nothing should have interfered with the passage of the currents beyond the condition of my will, which is assumed to have anticipated a failure. Now it so happens that numerous experiments of an exactly similar character, were performed both by myself and Mr. Rutter, at a time when neither of us had the smallest doubt about the magnetic nature of the currents, and hence at times when the will operated altogether in our favour, and yet these experiments uniformly failed. At that time the failure was always explained by detecting some infringement of the laws of induction; but my experiments have proved that much more serious infringements of these laws do not in any way influence the results of the experiments, provided only the mechanical laws are adhered to.

It has been two or three times asked by your correspondents, how it is possible that the same muscular power which is supposed to set the pendulum in motion, can also bring it to a state of rest? a remark equally sage as if it had been observed, how is it possible that the same arm which can strike so heavy a blow, can also hold a weight steady? The remark, however, affords me an opportunity of mentioning a significant fact, whose full meaning I was at a loss to comprehend, until the mechanical theory suggested itself to my mind. It will be remembered by those who were present at my lecture, that I referred to a striking difference between Mr. Rutter and myself with regard to the stopping of the pendulum, viz., that while ivory, bone, dead animal matter, opium, arsenic, etc., at once stopped the pendulum, when placed in his hands, they did not produce the same effect on me; for while the movements of the pendulum certainly became less vigorous, yet the changes occurred

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so slowly, that I had never had the patience to wait until it actually came to a stop. Nevertheless, if I took any of these articles into my hand before touching the instrument, no movement of the pendulum occurred during the experiment. Now, when I began voluntarily to imitate these various movements, I found, to my surprise, that *I was just as incapable of stopping the pendulum voluntarily, as the ivory, opium, arsenic, etc., had been to do so magnetically;* or, in other words, that those movements alone were elicited by the so-called magnetoid currents, which I was capable of producing voluntarily with the greatest facility. Lest, however, it be suggested that the stopping of the pendulum with Mr. Rutter is a direct proof of magnetic action, seeing that I cannot imitate this effect, I may mention that I know at least one gentleman who can voluntarily bring the pendulum to a stand-still; thus showing that it is perfectly possible to imitate this effect also. I shall only add, in conclusion, that I have now read Mr. Rutter's pamphlet, but regret to find that no attempt is made to satisfy our doubts on this most important source of fallacy, and I may also mention that the Hahnemann Medical Society have appointed a sub-committee to meet with me and examine fully into my experiments, so that I trust, ere long, the above statements will not rest upon individual testimony.

I remain, yours faithfully,

Brighton, Nov. 24. HENRY R. MADDEN.

P.S.—I wish it to be distinctly understood, that in all my experiments, excepting those voluntarily imitated, I am still utterly unconscious of any movement of my arm or body which could influence the pendulum, so much so, indeed, that I seldom touch the instrument without reiterating to myself the question, is it possible that this can be muscular and mechanical? Nevertheless, I am so fully alive to the possibility of self-deception in these and similar experiments, and it it is so clear to my mind that *demonstrative* evidence must be attainable if the agency is truly magnetic, that I hold it as a positive duty to rest satisfied with no experiment which falls short of this; and until the pendulum can be made to move in its various characteristic ways, *when placed beyond the possibility of muscular influence, either direct or indirect,* I maintain that we are bound to return a verdict of "*not proven.*"

N.B.—In my last communication, at page 261, second column, line 12 from the top, for *best* read *least.*

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I regret I cannot altogether agree with Dr. Rosenstein, in opposing the petition from the friends of homœopathy (not "the homœopathic *practitioners*") to the Patrons of the University of Edinburgh. I believe I am correct in regarding the patrons of an university as the guardians of (among other things) its customs and usages, and a medical faculty as a body appointed to carry out those customs and usages in its medical department.

Now, it has long been one of the customs or usages of the University of Edinburgh to confer the degree of M.D., "without requiring from any candidate an explicit pledge limiting his future course of study and practice;" but the Medical Faculty have now determined, by a recent decision, that this full liberty of study and practice shall no longer be allowed, and in so doing have disregarded (which they probably have no power to do) a custom or usage of the University.

This appears to me to constitute our only ground for complaint.

At present we have no quarrel with the *University;* on the contrary, we believe the Medical Faculty have acted "arbitrarily, and without the authority or even the knowledge of the Senatus, or of the Patrons of the University," and we do what, as orderly men, we alone could do, petition the Lord Provost, magistrates, and council, as the guardians of the customs and usages of the University, to stop the innovation. I should not presume to anticipate the answer of the Patrons to the petition, but I would submit that, until that answer shall have been received, the friends of homœopathy cannot advantageously proceed in their movement for a charter,

To petition the Sovereign at this time would, in my humble opinion, be altogether premature, for I could hardly expect that her Majesty, in the face of the Universities, the Royal Colleges, and so very large a proportion of the medical profession, would grant a petition, for which no other very obvious reason could *now* be urged than to save a few medical students the trouble of studying allopathic Materia Medica, and the art of mixing drugs, etc., and to make them a little more comfortable while answering a few questions in therapeutics.

I am most desirous, with yourself, of union, and that no false step should be taken in promoting our common object; but regarding the petition to the Patrons of the University of Edinburgh as a proper and orderly proceeding, I have endeavoured to assist the Protective Association in obtaining influential signatures to it.

Dr. Rosenstein appears to be under some little misapprehension, not only as to *from whom* the petition is to be sent, but *to whom* it is to be presented; and also as to the duration of the office of the Lord Provost; for certainly, neither the present Lord Provost nor the other Patrons of the University have yet shown themselves "our most inveterate and bigoted enemies," and therefore we shall not humble ourselves by presenting this petition, nor bring upon ourselves "contempt" by so doing.

I remain, yours faithfully, SYDNEY HANSON.

Melton Mowbray, Nov. 21, 1851.

LONDON: Printed by THOMAS HARRILD, of Albany Cottage, Sydenham, in the County of Kent, at his Printing Office, 1, and 1½, Dudley Court, in the Parish of St. Olave, Silver Street, in the City of London; and Published by HENRY RENSHAW, at the Office, 356 Strand, in the County of Middlesex.—*Saturday, November 29, 1851.*

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 123. Vol. III. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1851. Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

Communications.

REVIEWERS REVIEWED.

By a Progressist.

The moment of popular clamour is not the time for serious and impartial inquiry; deliberate investigation should precede, and profound reflection succeed, all such commotion of sentiment which is more intimately allied with our passions than our reason. Weak and ambitious men, indeed, seize such moments as propitious to their views; but wise men fear and great men despise them. This is so universal, that the character of a writer may be almost estimated by the *time* he chooses to promulgate his opinions, as well as by the principles and manner in which he supports them. The man who writes for a party, works not for posterity but the day. He must be a hypocrite if he would maintain his post; he must dissemble his own opinions to gratify the caprice of those who, in fact, are his rulers. He must be ready at all times to be the executioner of the virtuous, while he holds his power but by a brittle tenure, fluctuating with the winds of popular indignation. Whatever scenes his fervid imagination may design, must not be slightly sketched but boldly finished. He must not be dismayed by compunctions of conscience, nor by any considerations of morality; and after having deluded others, he must proceed to delude himself, and do ill that good may arise from it. He must affect power and popularity under the garb of innocence; he must fawn, flatter, and change with the times. Deaf to the cries of innocence, and unmoved by the "compunctious visitings of nature," he must beguile away every tender sentiment for what is called the "mutability of principles." This is the character of the man who writes for a party. Who can avoid pitying the virtuous mind which is thus seduced from honourable pursuits, and made the slave of vanity and crime? The serious responsibility which attaches to a character of this sort, has no charms for any one who really loves independence. It is surely better to keep wholly in the shade, than to deceive for the poor gratification of a moment's applause, or to lie for the sake of power; for every man who by any means acquires the favourable prepossession of another, obtains power.

The editor of any scientific journal should unceasingly be regulated by the decision of the inward man; and, like Aristides, he should even suffer himself to be hated because he is just. In taking upon himself the review of any subject, he should sit down without any prejudice whatever—he should read the inquiry with an unbiassed mind—he should attentively consider and most seriously weigh all the arguments and facts adduced by any author on his own system, and not listen to the representation of persons who may be infected with prejudice, having an interest in the advancement of falsehood or in the concealment of truth. He should point out defects—he should expose any false views and errors into which the world may be led—he should direct the attention of the public to his subject, and promote that deep and temperate discussion of the question which can alone be productive of any efficient advantage. His arguments should be conducted with ability and conclusive in their effect—his principles and sentiments should be sound.

My plan of noticing or reviewing editors must, in the present state of criticism, be

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deemed by every impartial observer peculiarly useful, I trust, therefore, that you will deem no apology requisite, if I call your attention for a short space of time to the singular manner in which the Editors of the *Lancet* and *Medical Times* have thought proper to notice the subject of homœopathy.

Amid all the stern necessities of our daily life in this busy nineteenth century, the demonstrations of the English people in favour of Hahnemann's discovery are still continued, and promise to become both remarkable and important. Homœopathy is growing in favour. The above ill-judging journalists have ostentatiously declared their determination to write it down. In so doing, they are not expressing the public sentiment, but their own interested alarm: they see their mistake, and although they continue to carp and cavil, they will have to lower their tone. The determination of the English to judge for themselves, will carry consternation into the Colleges; arguments full of power, composed of calmness and reason, will be continued to be addressed to the Engish understanding as well as to the English heart, in words of eloquence and power. Truth must prevail. Oppression and abuse shall not succeed In riding rough-shod over the finest system of therapeutics ever yet introduced.

Unhappily for the Editors of the *Lancet* and *Medical Times*, the good sense of the great body of the English people renders their mischievous intentions harmless, and the perfect freedom with which the homœopathists permit them to exhaust their own folly, is the most biting satire that can be pronounced upon the insignificance of an interested party. "We will use our exertion to put down this humbug," says the *Lancet*. "I can write," said Tom Paine, "a better book than the Bible:" but there is one part of this book which surely could not be improved either by Thomas Paine or the Editor of the *Lancet*, I mean that in which it is said, "Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit, there is more hope of a fool than of him." "We will turn it into ridicule," says Dr. Malden, of Worcester.

> "All the human race would fain be wits,
> But millions miss for one that hits."

So said Swift. In spite, however, of the ridicule of Dr. Malden, and the sneers of the Editors of the medical journals, wise and inquisitive men will continue to esteem it. The journalists write under the impression of alarm and apprehension for the sake of their publications—medical men, from the present posture of medical affairs, and the critical state of their practice. Little do either class dream that all the fuss they have made, has made no impression on the country, though the addresses presented by these unworthy publications are full of falsehood and abuse, that none but themselves know how to administer. Which is the fool and which is the rogue? is the question that most obviously suggests itself to the mind at the sight of the weekly extravagances of these alarmed and disappointed Editors. It has been their constant boast that they are the friends and benefactors of all reforms, and to the assumption of this character they are indebted for a great portion of their success. The claptrap of exposing what they termed the "hole-and-corner" practice of hospitals, dispensaries, etc., procured for them, in the first instance, the support of the unthinking students whose judgment is alone under the control of their feelings, and who are always ready to assume that anything must be right and good, because it is asserted by a fearless editor.

When we hear that a question, no matter what, has been taken up by the *Lancet*, we may be sure that it is treated in a narrow-minded, sordid, selfish manner. Is it "medical reform?" it requires it to be such as shall make the whole kingdom subservient to its own interest. Is it any other reform? the Editor insists on such measures as shall make his publication thrive, no matter if the rest of the world should go to the dogs. Such is this Editor, a complete incarnation of egotism, looking upon all homœopathists as raw material, to be worked up for his own especial benefit. A century or two ago, this bluster might have availed to stifle discussion, but in the nineteenth century the world is not so easily satisfied, particularly when curiosity is aroused, or the powers of discrimination are brought into play. We suspect these journalists are beginning to see how matters really stand; in short, they can hardly fail to perceive that the craft and the trumpeters are both in danger.

Nothing can be more unfair, nor anything more prejudicial to the discovery of truth, than to charge an opponent with conclusions and intentions remote from his object. Now, I am not aware of any subject, political, social, or moral, at once so interesting and so important, or which de-

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serves such attentive consideration, as that of homœopathy. It is a temperate discussion, an attentive consideration, even a fastidiousness in the examination of facts, we ask. *We* say, that all our arguments and conclusions are founded on certainties; there is nothing in them which is conjectural, or merely matter of opinion. Our medicines have been proved, and may be tried a hundred times with the same effects. I am aware I may expose myself, by this frank declaration, to the charge of presumption, but I am fully satisfied, to those who have seriously and unbiassedly examined the subject, there cannot be two opinions; yet, strange to say, there are numbers who will not investigate—who are so obstinately blind, so stupidly infatuated, so criminally perverse, as to shut their eyes against this system, and to deprecate those who attempt to raise it in the estimation of the world; but all those who labour to dispel a delusion so extraordinary, and introduce a new system of therapeutics so truly advantageous in its consequences, are unquestionably entitled to the gratitude of the public. It is a peculiar source of satisfaction to find all the assertions respecting Hahnemann corroborated by every writer, who, from personal observation or experience in his writings, are enabled to speak of the ability, the untiring perseverance, the character, and conduct of that good and thoughtful man who introduced homœopathy; one who, from a conscientious conviction that he was carrying out the work of God, despised restrictions.

(*To be continued.*)

THE MAGNETOSCOPE.

My attention having been drawn to the subject of the magnetoscope by various notices in your journal and elsewhere, I have naturally felt anxious to ascertain whether the discovery claimed by Mr. Rutter be of a nature so entirely different from and opposed to all other observations and known laws in physics, as to render it *a priori* unworthy of credence, and deserving not only of disbelief, but of being scouted by all true philosophers, involving in its disgrace all those who may have been silly enough to think it worth even an investigation. I shall not pretend to have satisfied my own mind as to the absolute truth and value of all that is attributed to the magnetoscope, but I certainly have succeeded in fortifying myself in the belief that it is not well to refuse to entertain an idea or a claim, because it goes beyond our existing knowledge and experience, and because, judging by these, the matter appears not only novel, but opposed to existing knowledge; and here I may observe, that Mr. Rutter has been peculiarly unfortunate in having had his discovery ushered into the world as corroborative of homœopathic doctrines. A novelty in science would inevitably have been met by suspicion; but a novelty which was proclaimed before its legitimate appearance as conclusive proof of doctrines which are anathematized, excommunicated, and placed under a ban by the great body of that learned profession which may be supposed to be most conversant with such matters, was doomed and prejudged beforehand. Not a man in the medical profession (except in the phalanx of homœopathists) who was not bound, as he valued his position, his privileges, and his consistency, to disbelieve, to sneer at, and, if possible, to disprove so preposterous, because so dangerous, a discovery. Again, Mr. Rutter has been unfortunate, in my opinion, in the very excess of his caution. He has brought out, or rather his friends brought out for him, his discovery in too complete a form. Had it been stated that the magnetoscope gave a rotatory motion when acted on by an individual under ordinary conditions, but that isolation suspended such action, whilst re-connection with the earth or with an electrical machine in action reproduced the motion which had been suspended—had it even been stated that the motion of the pendulum was affected by the poles of the magnet and other such matters, I doubt not that philosophers would have bestowed some attention upon it. Whether this would have led to its confirmation or the reverse, I am not prepared to say. But when the world is told of the more subtle and delicate powers of the instrument, why it is at once frighted from its propriety, and every man feels himself called upon to take up arms on behalf of the perfection of science as it exists. In such matters a little goes a long way; if the whole concoction is to be taken, it must be administered p. r. n., or as the patient can bear it—else you shall have him exclaiming, with Macbeth—

"A third is like the former.
Why do you show me this? A fourth! Start, eyes!
What will the line stretch out to the crack of doom?
Another yet? A seventh! *I'll see no more!*"

It was under such impressions, with regard to human nature in general (and not of any particular section of it), that I have endeavoured to ascertain whether analogy would indicate that there was any-

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thing so absurd and incredible about the claims of the magnetoscope, as at once and *in limine* to put them out of court; or whether they might assume a *locus standi*, upon the ground that important results have sprung from quite as forbidding commencements. The first thing that presented itself to my notice in this investigation was an admirable essay on Electro-Magnetism, by Professor Barlow. The history of the subject there set forth, in a condensed form, not only interested me, but seemed to hold out encouragement to those who, like myself, are inclined to believe that there be more things in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in our existing philosophy. Thus "for many years it was *suspected* that there existed a strong analogy, if not a complete identity, between the electric and magnetic fluid, and various attempts were made to establish this, but they were not attended with success.

A dozen of years passed, it seems, between the time when Professor Oërsted caught the first dawnings of the light and that in which he arrived at some definite conclusions on it. "He now placed a magnetic needle within the influence of a wire connecting the extremities of a voltaic battery, and which was now observed to deviate in different directions, in different degrees, according to the relative situation of the wire and needle; subsequent experiments proved that the wire, of whatever metal it was composed, became during the time that the battery was in action magnetic, and that it affected a magnetic needle through glass, etc." Now, without at all prejudging the merits of the magnetoscope, I confess I cannot see that there is any greater antecedent improbability or absurdity attaching to its pretensions to indicating the influences produced on the motive currents of the animal body by the poles of a magnet, than there was attachable to the researches of Oërsted. I have used the term "motive currents of the animal frame," because to call them magnetic, odylic, etc., would be just begging the question, which I am anxious to avoid. Well, now observe, this discovery of Oërsted's excited great attention on the part of various well-known philosophers; and, "in the first place, it was conceived that the greater the power of the battery, or the machine by which the electricity was excited, the greater would be the effects produced on the magnetised needle. After some time, however, it was found that great tension of the electric fluid was not only unnecessary, but injurious to the effect produced; and that the most active power was found to proceed from single plates of considerable surface, and even single plates of very small dimensions were found more efficient than larger plates in high combination. In fact, the exhibition of the electro-magnetic effect on the needle was soon reduced to such a state, that Professor Cumming constructed on this principle a galvanometer, which exhibits the existence of electricity when in so low a state as to be inappreciable with the gold-leaf electrometer, and other delicate instruments; and thus a power, which had remained hidden for so many years, and which, after it had been discovered, was as difficult to exhibit, is all at once, as it were, become one of the most delicate tests of existence, and measurer of the quantity of electricity of other bodies under experiment." Surely there is nothing so very incredible or absurd in the idea of finding a still more delicate test and measure of electricity and magnetism. "A law," says Professor Whewell, in his Bridgewater Treatise, "may be the same, while the quantities to which it applies are different. The law of the gravity which acts to the earth and to Jupiter is the same; but the intensity of the force at the surfaces of the two planets are different." But the magnetoscope may be said to have no *locus standi*, because its indications are not all in accordance with all the hitherto observed laws of nature. That, again, is begging the question, for it supposes that our knowledge is *perfect*. "It is no longer doubted by men of science," says Chalmers, "that every remaining semblance of irregularity in the universe is due not to the fickleness of nature, but to the ignorance of man." Are we to deny the existence of spots on the sun's disk, because our grosser ideas attribute perfect brightness to that luminary? I confess I am quite unmoved by an objection such as that to which I have alluded. Let an alleged discovery stand or fall on its own intrinsic merit. If it stand, though it may seem opposed to other facts, it will inevitably be found to dovetail with them in the general design and course of nature, *when we know how to put them together*. Will our present investigation illustrate this point? I think so. Mr. Faraday, it seems, in the course of his investigations of the galvanometer, made a most interesting discovery, viz., that the nature of the force was such, that if a galvanic wire be freely suspended over the pole of a magnet, and the fluid passed through the wire, the latter will commence a rapid rotation about the magnet; and on the contrary, the wire

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being fixed, and the magnet free, the latter will revolve about the former. *This curious fact pointed out most distinctly that the force, whatever it might be, was totally different from any that had yet come under the contemplation of philosophers; for no known natural force was competent to the production of a motion of rotation.* Surely this might make us pause before we summarily dismiss another claimant of a natural rotatory motion. By the bye, there is at present, and has been these twelve years, in London, a purely rotatory steam-engine, working not only with immense speed, but considerable power and economy, and yet there are hundreds and thousands of intelligent and scientific engineers in the world who would not believe it, except upon the testimony of their own eyes, and then would have numerous objections, which have never been found out by the master whom the engine has served so long, with scarcely a hitch in its movements. But we have not yet quite done with the galvanometer. "In this state of the science," continues our author, "every fact seemed to have been exhausted. Some new facts, however, were now discovered by Professor Seebeck, of Berlin, etc. etc. And another discovery still remains to be noticed in this novel and prolific branch of natural philosophy. Hitherto it was understood that two different metals were *necessary* for exciting the electro-magnetic action in the conducting wire, but Professor Moll, of Utrecht, has shown, by some recent experiments, that this is not the case; for that one metal with acids will exhibit all the leading phenomena to which we have referred." Surely this teaches the imperfection of the knowledge of the very wisest amongst us. To-day the subject seems exhausted, we are in possession of all that can be known upon a given subject; to-morrow, an entirely new light is thrown upon the matter, and that which we had set down as an invariable law of nature, is found to be liable to material variations and modifications, aye, and to what a few days before would have seemed contradictions. I confess that it does appear to me utterly incomprehensible, when I hear people limiting discovery by what we already know, or confining it within prescribed paths. Let us proceed a step further in our inquiry, and see whether the galvanometer removes any other difficulties from the path of the magnetoscopist. I confess that it appeared to me as a very extraordinary thing, to say the least of it, that in Mr. Rutter's original instrument the principal part of the arm should be composed of glass, a non conducting substance. However, I find it stated, respecting the galvanometer, "the effect of the uniting wire passes to the needle through the glass, metals, wood, water, resin, stone-ware, stones, for the interposition of these substances do not destroy, and indeed scarcely diminish, the effect; and this, be it observed, is the *first* instance in which electricity was known to transmit its effects through non-conducting substances, and from which we may infer that it is not actually the electric fluid that is transmitted, but some power which is excited by its presence." Did time and space allow, it would be interesting to quote the experiments of M. Ampère, detailed before the Academy of Sciences in Paris, as proving that movements in a delicate wire were produced by electric agency scarcely less astonishing, when novel, than those attributed to the magnetoscope. I have said that I believe that the magnetoscope would not have been objected to if its pretensions had not been so extensive; thus it is considered absurd that it should be affected by such infinitely minute agents as to be not only inappreciable, but inconceivable; but Professor Cumming's observations tend to remove the antecedent absurdity of such a case. He says, "my first experiments were made with a battery of 220 double six-inch plates, possessing very powerful effects, both electrical and chemical, *yet its influence on the needle was scarcely perceptible.* ONE of these plates taken separately caused a deviation of nearly 80 degrees."

In another branch of the subject, this non-importance of bulk in the agent was rendered still more apparent by Professor Cumming, and it is well worth observation. It had been discovered that notable currents of electricity were produced simply by heating one or two contiguous metals. "It occurred to me then," says Professor Cumming, "that as the juxtaposition of two *particles* of the same metal, at different temperatures, was the sole condition for eliciting electro-magnetism, it might be exhibited by the minutest metallic particles. Portions of bismuth and antimony, each weighing one grain, were therefore placed on a silver disc connected with the galvanoscope. On touching the upper surface of each separately with one end of a heated silver wire, the other extremity of which was placed in the other cup, the needle deviated through 90 degrees, positive and negative respectively." Mr. Barlow adds, "by this method the author was enabled to examine the compound ore of iridium and osmium, of which the largest specimen did not exceed four-tenths of a grain, and to

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verify, in a few minutes, results for which the laborious process of casting bars of different metals had been previously requisite." Hence it may be inferred, that if it were possible to effect a division of particles in a bar of metal, so that alternate particles might be hot and cold, the bar would act as an assemblage of an indefinite number of small plates; as the common magnet may be conceived to be composed, if the expression may be allowed, of an infinite number of atomic magnets.

I have been tempted to multiply these quotations partly because of their intrinsic interest, but chiefly because they seem to clear the way materially for the unprejudiced considerations of the claims of the magnetoscope. I must again repeat that I am not attempting to inquire into the validity of these claims; I am only anxious that they should obtain a fair hearing. Be it also observed, that I have not the least idea of identifying in any way the galvanoscope of Cumming with the magnetoscope of Rutter. I only mean to say that the one is little more wonderful than the other, and that the one, which is now an established fact, must have appeared almost as incredible at first as the other now does. Indeed, Sir Humphry Davy tells us, of some of his own experiments on the subject, that they were so wonderful that they could scarcely be believed without being seen. This argument which I have had in view is thus expressed by Erskine: "We have an intuitive perception that the appearances of nature are connected by the relation of cause and effect; and we have also an intuitive desire to classify and arrange the seemingly confused mass of facts with which we are surrounded, according to this distinguishing relationship. From these principles have proceeded all the theories which were ever formed by man. But these principles alone can never make a true theory: they teach us to theorise; but experience is necessary, in order to theorise justly." Our acquaintance, then, with certain causes as necessarily connected with certain effects, and our intuitive conviction that this same connection will always subsist between these causes and effects, form the basis of all our just anticipations for the future, *and of all our notions of probability and internal evidence with regard to the systems or histories, both physical and moral, which may be presented to us.*" Thus, if we know that a centripetal force always acts in a definite manner, we shall not be incredulous when told that a centrifugal force has also its definite laws and line of action. Neither shall we rigidly claim to be made acquainted with the theory or *modus operandi* of a new system, when we find such men as Barlow concluding his dissertation on an old one, in which he has so much distinguished himself, in such words as these:—"What do we know of the nature of gravitation or universal attraction, or of simple, electric, or magnetic forces? In these and in various other physical subjects, we are content to find the mathematical laws, without making useless inquiries concerning first causes; and it is highly probable, after all that has been or may be written on the subject of electro-magnetism, we shall be obliged to stop at the same point and leave the first cause as too subtle for our comprehensions."

Trusting to your kindness for excusing the length of this communication,

I remain, INVESTIGATOR.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH, 1851.

THE true advocates of homœopathy would, at this time of attempted persecution of the homœopathists, do well to introduce into their general family circles the great fact of the steady progress of our system. The advantages the Cause is sure to derive from this mode of popularizing its existence cannot be too largely estimated, since the truth, wherever disseminated, cannot fail to produce its effect in some channel or the other, and in a shape and manner that is often least expected.

The importance of promulgating the doctrines of our illustrious predecessor is admitted on every hand, therefore we should be ready to enter upon the work with becoming zeal and perseverance. To resist the attacks of our adversaries, and in resisting them to explain the utter groundlessness of the charges of quackery alleged against us, constitutes a duty which we owe, not alone to ourselves, but also to the memory of one whose career was as unexceptionable as the principles he has bequeathed to his disciples. Who, then, shall prove foremost in the field, will find an ample and abundant reward.

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The great battle of Hahnemann and homœopathy is one which the whole civilized community must speedily recognise. It will not be confined to the Royal Colleges, the schools of students, or the columns of allopathic journals. The fiat has gone forth, and it is certain that truth will ultimately prevail. In our daily walks of life, in our homes, in our warehouses, in our counting-houses, it will be necessary to be mindful that we waste no fitting opportunity of giving the system publicity and of assisting its progressive career. The time is not far distant when we shall ascertain the fruitful results of this kind of communication with our friends, and when we shall see it carry confusion into the ranks of our enemies.

What can be more encouraging than to find that, even in the midst of the derision and scorn heaped upon us by the allopaths, conversions to our principles and practice are numerous and constant. Despite the jealousy evinced among the followers of the old school, the supporters of the new school find that they are upheld and listened to by the public. Let any allopathic practitioner who doubts this, investigate the subject for himself. Let him, if he desires, ascertain the ratio of increase which is to be discovered in homœopathic practice in the various sections of the metropolis, and he will soon learn that it is much greater in proportion than he anticipates. The public have, in most cases, investigated for themselves and are satisfied, and hence we have reason to be grateful. With the allopathic profession it is widely different; they condemn before they institute any inquiry. *Res apparet*, but they obstinately refuse to believe.

THE LANCET.

In his last week's number the Editor of the *Lancet* dilates on the doings anent the Ross Dispensary. Dr. Strong holds his ground, and will not resign his office of physician; if the majority of the Governors should be with him, as we think is very probable, he will keep his post, and the allopathic officers may resign if they please. If the majority should be against him, they must depose him, and in that case he will, no doubt, on the very instant open a dispensary for homœopathic practice.

Our contemporary next dilates on the iniquity of the homœopathists who use chloroform. But his whole account of the correspondence between the chloroformist, by profession, and our colleague is erroneous. The homœopathist did not ask the chloroformist to administer it for him; and he is quite as able to do it—even as Dr. Snow. All the homœopathists who use chloroform are perfectly competent to its cautious and proper administration. We, too, have seen the correspondence.

We are informed by a correspondent of the *Lancet*, that at the opening of the Edinburgh Medical Session, while the other professors were cheered, the professor of pathology was received with groans and hisses by the students. This, if true, only shows the ill breeding and feeble judgment of those who indulged in such gross misconduct: but neither groaners nor hissers—if there have been such,—nor the *Lancet*, will induce Professor Henderson to resign his chair. He is made of sterner stuff, and will not yield to the students, whose rudeness a policeman may soon check — supposing their conduct to have been such as is represented—nor to the ungentle solicitations of the *Lancet*.

THE MEDICAL TIMES.

We are favoured with an editorial article on "unlicensed homœopaths." The Editor singles out one individual, who, it would appear, is practising without a diploma or license of any kind, and without having received any medical education. But should this be the case with respect to this individual, nothing can be more unfair and unjust than to insinuate, as the Editor has done, that many or most of the homœopathists practise without having received any medical education, and without any diploma or license.

We challenge him to produce his list of

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"unlicensed homœopaths." We challenge him to cite one other example of persons calling themselves medical practitioners, who practise homœopathy without diploma or license.

We are very anxious that all those who practise according to the law of Hahnemann, should be above all suspicion of using false titles of any kind whatever.

"Honesty is the best policy" on all occasions, under all circumstances, and at all times.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—According to the saying, "give an exacting person an inch, and he will take an ell;" and I fear you will think this is the case with me, and won't be particularly pleased at my writing to you so often; but I mean well, and I suppose you will no longer print my letters than you think your readers will like to have them.

With regard to homœopathy in general, the progress of it has been wonderful in the last few years, and I have heard of homœopathic enthusiasts in the islands and highlands of Scotland, and amid the bogs as well as in the civilized parts of beautiful Ireland.

The public will not be content with the attempts made to put it down by the other schools; they will have the matter inquired into, whatever professional men may say or write; and if they should be satisfied that homœopathy is true, they won't rest till the advantages of it be secured for them. They know that it is not practised in corners and in secret places; that it is not puffed in newspapers and heralded by advertisements; that those who practise it claim to do so under a special law; and that their medicines are known and can be got at any of their chemists; and they are ready to believe that its practitioners are fully as respectable, and well-conducted, and trustworthy as those of the other school.

They won't therefore believe, on the mere assertion of its opponents, that it is quackery, and that its practitioners are quacks, when all the facts of the case go to prove the contrary.

Of course, there must be a *choice* among the homœopathists as well as among the allopaths; for all men are not equal in talents, and intellect, and observation, and experience; and, besides, some men are more fitted by the constitution of their minds to be doctors than others are, as some men can only paint signs, and some can produce beautiful pictures. People should recollect this when they talk of homœopathic failures to cure this or that thing, Mr. So-and-so, or Mrs. This-or-that, or Tom's babby, or Farmer Thimbleby's cows: and it is not fair to visit on the method of treatment, what is due to the imperfection of the doctor.

Besides, people and "live stock" must die; it is the law of Nature. The fair way of judging is, do more people die under homœopathy, or under allopathy?

The public will also, by and bye, look at this question in the economical point of view.

It is capable of proof, that if the grazing farms had the advantage of homœopathy for "live stock" of every kind, that the land would be worth at least a pound an acre more than it is now. And with regard to human families, the saving in drugs would be no trifle, I promise you.

As the homœopathists only demand what is the right of every free-born Briton, "a clear stage and no favour," I fully believe the public will stand by them, and see that they have fair play.

By the way, your contributor "Sigma" is a very awkward customer for the allopaths. How he does pitch into them! I guess Professor Christison don't like it at all. I only hope that the regular set-to between the two schools will be conducted on both sides in a generous spirit, as the gallant British and French fought their battles in the Peninsula, the outposts exchanging brandy bottles, and other like civilities shown by one party to the other, till their blood was up in the fray.

I see in your columns letters from different correspondents on the subject of petitioning the patrons of the Edinburgh University. I hope, as the petition is afloat, that it will be numerously signed, so as to secure the point: but I think, in the present state of things, every man Jack of you, who are medical homœopathists, should rouse all your energies for obtaining a charter. This being gained, will not make any difference with regard to the colleges. Your young men can still get their diplomas and licenses from them, so long as they will give them, and you can have an examining board, as the Company have for their medical officers of the Indian army. A clause might be introduced in the charter, empowering you to give a diploma or license, to be accounted legal, in the event of all the allopathic colleges and halls refusing theirs to the homœopathists.

What I want you all to understand is, that a charter for such a purpose cannot be got off-hand; and you will probably have to ask for it again and again before you get it. Suppose the petition is presented to her Gracious Majesty, she will ask the Home Secretary about it; and he will inquire of the different halls and colleges, and some will say they *won't* look at a homœopathist; and others will say we don't care what men call themselves, or in what way they may hereafter doctor her Majesty's subjects, provided they answer our questions, and pass a good examination. Then the Home Secretary will say to her Majesty, "there is no reason for giving this charter yet." But we shall know who are for us and against us; and the small edge will have been introduced into that hidden mystery, the Royal Purpose, and so that purpose will gradually be worked on. But if the charter should be soon gained, then the foolish abuse of the unwise partisans of the other school will be stopped.

The thing that you most seem to want is

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union among yourselves. Can't you get it? I can't see the difficulty, if you would have a small council, armed with full powers, to do the best for you: and let this council be appointed for three years, or for the life of a parliament: a new election to take place whenever there is one for the Commoners. But this council should comprise men of all the parties into which you seem split.

Be assured this is no time for divisions; the public will look closely into them, too, if you don't mind your p's and q's.

Your obedient servant,

A HUMBLE HOMŒOPATHIST.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—From the eight columns of Sigma's letter to Dr. Routh in your journal, it seems possible to extract one idea, that the writer rejects all means of testing the accuracy of the homœopathic hypothesis, save the appeal to experience alone.

At this no one will be surprised who has tried to place before his mind in an intelligible form, and subject to any kind of analysis, the various ideas (or dilutions of ideas) which are involved in that theory, and the arguments by which they are supported. It is not by such means that any result favourable to homœopathy can be obtained, and it must be that conviction alone which can have led its advocates to claim for the crude facts of an unrectified experience a blind and unreasoning acceptance.

A man with so much vigour of mind (although so curiously directed) as Sigma, would not have fallen into so gross and often-exposed a fallacy, unless it had been necessary for the support of a doctrine he had resolved at all hazards to maintain. He must know perfectly well, that there is no form of mal-praxis which has ever cast disgrace on medical science, no kind of quackery which has ever thriven on the credulity of mankind, that has not appealed to the same test, and supported itself by the same argument. He cannot be ignorant that in this day, all the most audacious and disreputable quacks make use not only of his arguments, but almost of his very words, and that, with a few verbal alterations, his entire letter would read just as well in the pages of the *Hygeist*, etc., as in your journal. But I need not dwell on this subject. From the days of Hippocrates, it has come down to us that "experience is fallacious," and the history of medicine since that time has afforded abundant confirmation of the fact. In the *British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review* for April 1851, there are some excellent observations on the subject of empiricism in general, a perusal of which might benefit not Sigma only, but many others.

Unscientific, however, as this cry for experience alone may be, it is by no means necessary that the advocates of the ordinary practice should refuse to gratify it. The unprofitable task of "comparing death-certificates" may be left to Sigma, and others as much in the confidence of the Registrar-General as he appears to be. In the mean time, there are some facts openly occurring around us from which we may derive more instruction. It appears, from the first Report of the Hahnemann Hospital, that up to that time the deaths among the out-patients there had been in the proportion of 1 in 93 cases. (Patients 1485; deaths 16.) From all inquiries I can make, the mortality is decidedly higher than that which is usual among the same class at other hospitals and dispensaries, and having been during a great part of the time an attentive observer of the practice there, I can testify that the patients did not appear to me to comprise any unusual number of necessarily fatal cases. That the diseases could not have been of any great severity is obvious, inasmuch as the patients were required to present themselves before nine o'clock in the morning.*

Sigma assumes that no experience is to be gained of the success of homœopathic practice, except by the personal use of the globules; but he forgets (or perhaps he does not know) how large an amount of such experience is now forced upon the most careless and unobservant practitioners. In the war of "taking away patients," it is a long time since homœopathy in this country ceased to act entirely on the aggressive. Will Sigma kindly tell us how we are to interpret those cases (so many of which come before us), in which persons labouring under diseases easily cured by appropriate remedies, have been long under homœopathic treatment and derived no benefit? Will he tell us what we are to say to those people who come to us stating that they have tried homœopathy a long time, and think it is a "humbug," or to those who, still believing in it, tell us that it is not suitable to their particular disease? What shall we say, when we find that these patients have been treated by men whose names stand highest in the homœopathic ranks? Is it not better to trace the effects of homœopathic remedies prescribed by physicians of experience and authority, than to make chance experiments "by book" ourselves? Above all, will Sigma tell us what we are to understand, when those who have been loudest in praise of homœopathy, and most earnest in their endeavours to induce us to try it, suddenly inform us of their having recourse, and successfully, to allopathic physicians? I am speaking of things that happen in my own experience, and in that of all my friends, so far as I can ascertain, and before I can embrace the new doctrines, I need an explanation of them. *Our* practice has no charms for those who love novelty and dislike bitter draughts; *our* doctrines present no simple theory, level to the capacity of all intellects, removing all doubts and difficulties, and yet invested with a romantic tinge of mystery; *we* have no array of marvellous cures industriously paraded before the public eye. The patients who come to us from homœopathy, leave the pleasant, the fascinating, the new, the apparently simple, for that which can have no recom-

* I have not selected this report to serve any special purpose, but because it relates to the only homœopathic institution of which I have personal knowledge. The number of in-patients is too small to furnish any valuable data.

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mendation, but that they cannot do without it. What are we to infer from this, and from the still more curious fact, that of all our patients hardly any are so confiding, so desirous to take medicine, and so sanguine in their belief in its efficacy, as those who have apostatized from homœopathy?

But I am occupying more of your space than I intended, and I hasten to conclude, simply asking Sigma this question more: Whether, considering the success which every new mode of treatment has had in its day, especially if well urged upon the public—considering the cures wrought by Dr. Coffin *et hoc genus omne*, and the acceptance which every unsound theory has met with in its turn from some at least of the medical body, there is any real difficulty in regarding homœopathy as one among the number? And whether any man who shall give the true reason of the constant succession and rejection of new medical doctrines and modes of treatment, will not have explained also the philosophy of this last and most improbable of all.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A SURGEON.

London, Nov. 10, 1851.

[We subjoin "Sigma's" answer to this letter; but we inform our opponents, to use the language of the Editor of the *Medical Times* to Dr. Dudgeon, *mutatis mutandis*, that "our great object in conducting the *Homœopathic Times* is the advancement of medical science in connection with homœopathic therapeutics. It is therefore clear that, entertaining the opinions of allopathy which we do, we cannot allow our pages to be occupied with letters in defence of that ancient, intolerant, ever-shifting, pretended inviolable, but often violated system, which rejoices in a pretentious, injurious, and *systematic* abuse of drugs, and of all kinds of hurtful influences—with no fixed law for its guidance, shifting its principles in every successive age, now mechanical, then chemical, now physiological, then pathological—the harlequin of arts—mocking science with a grave air, and assuming that it is the very concrete of all that is known or can be known." We doubt not the science of many, and the perfect good faith of many of our opponents. If there was a good medical Eclectic Journal, the battle of Allopathy *versus* Homœopathy might be waged in its columns; but our correspondent can hardly find fault with us for following the example of the *Medical Times*.—ED.]

LETTER TO A SURGEON.

SIR,—You have invited me to answer queries. I do so, but I do so to yourself. I am glad you have succeeded in extracting one idea from eight columns of my letter. I know a gentleman who has extracted two. But your idea is deficient, for I admitted "theory," if supported by cures duly recorded. I reject hypothesis alone, for as I treat my patients by experience, and a fair average of cures takes place, I object to them being treated by the theory of any man. The "dilutions of ideas" you refer to are *yours*. Dilutions of medicine are what I deal in, and so might you, if you would take them. We can cure diseases with the latter; with the former you can do nothing. Our "*crude facts of unrectified experience*" are gradually creeping on towards better things. Allopathic experience has not been rectified to the satisfaction of your best authorities in twenty centuries.

I can see nothing curious in any man directing his mind to the defence of a doctrine he believes to be a great truth, and to assert his own integrity of purpose, be that mind vigorous or be it dull as a brickbat. I know of no exposure of any fallacy into which I and my brethren have fallen. Dr. Forbes, in attempting it, laid bare the fallacies of allopathy. Your other authors *exposed themselves*. If quacks of every grade appeal to the same test, they show their judgment, it is a good test, and not invalidated thereby; the shoeblack may polish his shoes by it if he pleases, it is a good test even after that.

I support a doctrine which I believe to be true—a belief arrived at after no trifle of allopathic experience to guide me in a new selection; and I assert my rights to honesty of intention, to freedom of thought on an uncertain department of medical science, and to public estimation, which all men regard; subject to a *Tribunal* we must all one day arrive at, and in comparison with which colleges are naught; but which rights have been unjustifiably invaded by the tyranny of medical corporations.

Upon that ground of complaint I beg some indulgence from the public, should my "milk of human kindness" not very readily cast up its cream to suit the taste of every allopathic theorist. We are well aware of quackery existing in the profession of healing; the word is the "doxy" of every man, according to his interpretation of it. A system of therapeutics can appeal to nothing but experience under a natural law of guidance; therapeutics without a law, theory unbacked by experience, are jackstraws. If my letter might have read equally well in the pages of the *Hygeist*, it is so determined upon your dictum. I never read the *Hygeist*, having long since been satisfied that the system therein propounded, is a very clumsy bit of indiscriminate allopathy, as applied to the *old* humoral pathology; the *best* bit of allopathy is purloined from us—specifics.

If the cry for experience is unscientific, be it so; I can cure many patients with it; the *science* I reserve for diagnostic purposes alone. I have not the honour to be acquainted with the Registrar-General of deaths, your insinuation falls blunted from the convex of his shield. But when my account at his office is called for, it will bear comparison with those around me. Your report of the Hahnemann Hospital is probably correct, I cannot verify it; but you omitted to place your own in juxtaposition therewith.

If experience in "personal use of globules" is forced to a large extent upon even "the most careless and unobservant practitioners," we congratulate these patients on their shrewdness of selection. We recommend these careless and

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unobservant practitioners to keep the patients, if they can. All practitioners are not equally successful, be they allopaths or homœopaths; for the latter, *memory* is an especial requirement. Many circumstances combine to render it impossible to retain *all patients* by either party. It differs nothing, from one allopath getting the patient of another. Those cases *easily* cured by allopathic practice, after lengthened homœopathic treatment, are not likely to return to it—be thankful for them.

I am well aware that cases which are not cured by us occasionally return to allopathy. I am not aware that cases are cured by that return, to any considerable extent; rapid cures are not always the best in chronic cases, some of which we could sooner seemingly cure by salves and lotions than by globules. After such cures, apoplexies, congestions, and inflammations are not uncommon; they are tantamount to a repercussed exanthem. Rather than undergo surgical operation, patients will insist on homœopathy being tried with them; failing, they go back to the surgeon, to whom they ought to have gone at first. Among surgical cases we occasionally relieve patients from the necessity of operation, and the chance of *that* induces us to try them. Now and then acute cases fall into allopathic hands; but such apostacies are among new converts, when the *fear of an inflammation* first striking on the patient's mind, makes him waver in his confidence—*dear allopathic friends* are whispering in his ears. When patients come to you stating that they have been months under homœopathy, and that it is "humbug." tell them they *are lucky at last*, and cure them. So, God speed you, there is room for us both in this world.

It is well to trace the effects of homœopathic remedies prescribed by physicians of experience, but it is not right to sneer at want of success in single cases. Our general practice shows another thing, and it is not well to be satisfied with the experience of others, if you can form an experience for yourself. As to allopathy, a very fair proportion of our patients do entirely without it—never dream of apostatizing. If you think otherwise, accept it as an unction, and the apostates take good care of.

When you say, "*our* practice has no charms for those who love novelty and dislike bitter draughts—our doctrine presents no simple theory, level to the capacity of all intellects, removing all doubts and difficulties," you speak truly; it has none and is none of these things. Dr. Coffin's system is allopathy, whether a good or a bad kind of it, I cannot tell; but if there were three thousand Dr. Coffins in Europe and America, who all agreed that "composition powder" could cure disease, I would not call them "impostors," I would look into their means of cure and try it; and if it did not come up to my expectations, after a fair time, I would set to work and improve my own system, and beat them with that.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Dec. 2, 1851. SIGMA.

To the Editor of the Medical Times.

SIR,—I must again appeal to your generosity to grant me a portion of your valuable space in order to reply to Dr. Routh's answer to my former letter.

I am duly sensible of Dr. Routh's politeness in congratulating me on having spoken lucidly, but was not aware that that was such a rare accomplishment of mine, that Dr. Routh needed to qualify his congratulation by the exceptional "for once;" and I may, at the same time, state that I consider I have a sufficient supply of good arguments in defence of what I conceive to be the truth, to enable me to dispense altogether, both now and at all other times, with that very bad substitute for good argument, *abuse*, even if it were possible for you, Sir, to permit your respectable pages to be sullied by anything of the sort.

I cannot wonder at Dr. Routh being somewhat disconcerted and annoyed that the observations he was addressing to the practitioners of the "legitimate school" should have been profanely criticised by a heretic, and that the thing which he had described as homœopathy, and was proceeding to demolish *con amore*, should be repudiated and disowned by a homœopathist, in the name of the whole homœopathic school. Moreover, I have not called in question "*opinions*" of Dr. Routh's, but have endeavoured, to the best of my poor ability, to set him right as to *facts*, and as such facts formed the premises on which he intended to found his demolishing deductions against homœopathy, I conceived that the earlier he was set to rights the better, as all deductions from false premises must necessarily be false. It is amusing to hear Dr. Routh apply the term "attack" to my observations; it is as though an enemy should come up against my house to besiege it with all his heavy artillery, and on being received with a discharge of pistols, blunderbusses, and what disposable weapons I could lay hands on, should exclaim that I was attacking him, and that unfairly, as he had not completed his parallels, his redoubts, his ravelins, and his bastions, and had not yet received a promised reinforcement of howitzers and mortars.

Dr. Routh very incorrectly defines the law *similia similibus*, in his quotation from the Organon, viz., that the medicine must produce an affection similar to that to be cured; not one symptom similar to one of those of the disease under treatment, as in Dr. Routh's case of cinchona in meningitis, with intermittent febrile symptoms; for Hahnemann is explicit enough in stating that it is the similarity of the pathogenetic action of the drug with the collective symptoms of the disease, and particularly with the important and characteristic symptoms, we are to look to; and he is equally explicit in condemning a mere symptomatic treatment, such as that adduced by Dr. Routh would be. I may mention that *my* account of the origin of the discovery of the homœopathic law is taken from the writings of Hahnemann himself; and, for Dr. Routh's satisfaction, I may inform him that I translated and published, some years ago,

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the essay to which he refers, from Hufeland's Journal, for a volume issued by a popular Homœopathic Association, and that I reprinted the same essay in a collection of Hahnemann's Essays published this year, under the title of *Hahnemann's Lesser Writings*, where, at page 311, note, Dr. Routh will read that Hahnemann at first sought for a homœopathic remedy for chronic diseases principally, and there and throughout the essay, he admits the treatment of acute diseases by allopathic or palliative remedies. I may state once for all, that *isopathy* can only be applied to the treatment of disease by an agent that can produce the *same* disease, and as no medicine is capable of producing the *same* disease as that which arises naturally, there can be no isopathy in the treatment of natural diseases by medicines, and the more nearly the drug-disease resembles the natural disease, the more homœopathic is the medicine. *Identity* of effects can only be produced by identity of causes: therefore, to treat isopathically, we should have to give to the patient the agent that produced his disease, or one that could produce the same disease in another. I trust I have now convinced Dr. Routh that I know the difference betwixt *similar* and *identical*, and that the treatment of hæmaturia by *Turpentine* is not *isopathy*, nay, is not even homœopathy, unless the rest of the patient's morbid state correspond very closely with the pathogenetic effects of that drug.

The re-provings of the Vienna Society, and of other homœopathists, were not undertaken, as Dr. Routh states, because Hahnemann's views were not to be depended on, nor yet because his statements as to the action of the medicines were doubted—those re-provings have most beautifully corroborated Hahnemann's statements and views; the object of undertaking these re-provings was principally to obtain a clearer view of the exact pathological conditions produced by the medicines, and the connection of their symptoms, than could be learned from the Materia Medica of Hahnemann, where the natural groupings of the symptoms of the remedies have been unfortunately broken up to admit of an artificial arrangement of the symptoms, which, while it possesses certain undeniable advantages for the practitioner, renders it difficult for the student to obtain a just idea of the whole sphere of action of the drug.

Space, and the patience of your readers would fail me to enter on a defence of all the points touched on by Dr. Routh, I must, therefore, pass by his reflections on Hahnemann's mental powers, and his sneers at Hahnemann's dynamization and psora theories. I may, however, remind Dr. Routh, that a false calumny can never become truth by ever so frequent repetition; and I again distinctly deny, as I did on a former occasion in this journal, when the charge was brought forward by the late Dr. Inglis, that there is any truth in the assertion "that Hahnemann began life by inventing a nostrum as a cure for all diseases." I challenge Dr. Routh to substantiate his charge, and have not the slightest fear of the result.

Dr. Routh's statement that a drop of the mother tincture is frequently given by homœopathists, does not invalidate my assertion that no homœopathist, as far as I know, has altogether discarded infinitesimal doses, and I could point out published cases of Dr. George Schmid's, where such were successfully employed; but even his favourite drop of the mother tincture is an infinitesimal, when compared with the drachms, ounces, and pounds of the ordinary system.

I well remember the discussion at the Medical Society of London, alluded to by Dr. Routh, where the members, not having any Brighton protest as yet hanging over their heads, like the sword of Damocles, and being innocent of any unanimous anti-homœopathic resolutions, backed by illustrious precedents from beyond the Tweed, resolved, by a majority, to continue the discussion after the usual hour, in order to hear what a homœopath had to say to the elaborate statistics of Dr. Routh himself. I certainly instanced Dr. Fleischmann as a slovenly homœopathic practitioner; but it was not on account of his giving drops of mother tinctures; for, as Dr. Routh must know, that is not his usual practice, and I cannot recall to my recollection any case where he did such a thing. I gave him that character because his visit to fifty patients occupied usually less than half an hour, and because he seldom changed the remedy he first prescribed, however the case might alter.

As regards Dr. Routh's *assertion*, which he calls a *demonstration*, relative to the impurities in sugar, sugar of milk, starch and water, admitting it to be true that such impurities exist, it by no means follows that they are of such a nature or in such a condition either to act medicinally on the body, or to counteract the action of our remedies. All our experience shows the contrary to be the case.

Dr. Routh has not much cause for exultation in the history of the magnetoscope as it is called; for if it was brought forward by homœopathists, it was received with great suspicion by the general body of homœopathists, and the source of fallacy in its results was first demonstrated by the first homœopathist who brought it before the profession, and I may add, that its inductions are so deceptive, that several old-school practitioners who witnessed the experiments of Mr. Rutter for several hours, came away thoroughly satisfied of its correctness.

I know nothing about Dr. Glover's high professional character and his claim to veracity. I never, indeed, heard his name mentioned except in connection with his assertion that a homœopathic chemist cheated his customers. Dr. Routh says, "he is only acting as a man of honour should," in refusing to give the name of his authority. Perhaps Dr. Routh will kindly inform me if he only acted as a man of honour should, when he made a public statement of that character in such a vague manner, that every homœopathic chemist in the country must have felt aggrieved and injured by it, and many among them I know to be most honourable and respectable tradesmen; and yet his statement was so cautiously worded, that no court of law could have touched him for it. Of a truth, I

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think such conduct on a par, as regards honour, with that of his chemical friend, who confidentially confessed to him he was a rogue!

I have taken up so much of your space, that I shall not touch upon the question of the inoculation of diseases. The facts, as Dr. Routh states them, may be true or not, they do not affect homœopathy; therefore, as far as I am concerned, Dr. Routh may have them all his own way, and make the best of them he can. I shall only, in conclusion, say a few words upon the calculations which must have cost Dr. Routh so much trouble, and which he is so mortified at my disparagement of. If Dr. Routh's calculations are *not identical* with those I have elsewhere seen, they are at all events *similar;* and as Dr. Routh states I am apt to confound these two adjectives, it is scarcely to be wondered at that I felt disposed to exclaim, like Dr. Primrose, when he for the second time heard the magnificent oration beginning "the world is in its dotage,"—"Stop, my friend, I think I have heard all that before." Dr. Routh is greatly mistaken if he thinks we object to authentic figures, when they are relevant. On the contrary, it is principally by their aid that we think to make known the excellence of our system. But what I object to in Dr. Routh's and similar calculations, is their utter irrelevancy. State the proposition thus: a ray of light would take so many centuries to travel from end to end of a decillion of sugar-comfits (the vehicle in which we give our medicines), placed all in a row; therefore *Aconite* will not cure diseases for which it is homœopathically indicated; or, therefore, *Phosphorus* has no power over pneumonia; or, therefore, Hahnemann was a quack, or anything else you like. Why, there is to be got out of this proposition no legitimate conclusion whatever against homœopathy. It is just as though one should say, one million of pill-boxes, placed side by side, would reach from Pentonville prison to the buoy at the Nore; therefore, the Earl of Aldborough was never cured of a bad leg of thirty years' standing by Holloway's pills.

Dr. Routh is of course facetious, when he asks me to show him the decillionth of a grain, but as he has a friend of the name of Thomson, who has apparently got a collection of ultimate atoms, I shall take it as a great favour if he will send me one for my private collection of curiosities.

I am, etc.

82, Gloucester Place. R. E. DUDGEON.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Will you permit me to add a brief postscript to my former letter, by way of answer to Dr. Malan's, which appeared in your last paper.

The University of Edinburgh may be justly termed the most influential medical school in Great Britain, from all parts of which students come to it; and I am surprised that Dr. Malan, having there studied and graduated, should have overlooked the importance of any measures tending to keep that school open to all future comers, by the removal of recent obstructions; and Dr. Malan's private opinion being, "that we must not at present think about a charter," I confess myself at a loss to explain his intentions; for surely he cannot mean that he wishes his fellow-practitioners not to be graduates of any university.

His three reasons may, I think, be very shortly answered.

1st. Even were the object of the petition one of greatly more "local and partial interest" than I can regard it, it will still be our best tactics to concentrate our forces on the first point of attack: it is a great matter never to be defeated.

2nd. From the number of signatures already obtained, it is certain they will not "appear poor and insignificant;" although Dr. Malan, and others adopting his course, are doing what they can to produce the result which he fears.

3rd. The object of the petition is certainly a "decided" one, both as being definite and important; greatly more so, it seems to me, than any other step now proposed.

Cordially concurring in Dr. Malan's view, that the present duty is "to persevere in the fulfilment of daily work," I also feel that part of that work is to help those that are oppressed, a view in which I am sure he will agree; and I would trust that further consideration of the subject in its practical bearings, will lead him to assist in protecting the students of all the universities, and especially of the one with which he is connected, from all future undue interference.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

AN ALUMNUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

Edinburgh, Dec. 1, 1851.

THE WORD OD, *UNDE DERIVATUR?*

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Wickwar Rectory,
Nov. 24, 1851.

SIR,—As no one has answered your correspondent who, a short time ago, inquired the derivation of Reichenbach's term "Od," perhaps you will allow me to state that "Oddz" is the Icelandic, and "Od" the Danish for a point. "Yddi," in Icelandic, is *acuminare.*

I presume, therefore, that Reichenbach uses the term "Od" force, to designate that force which proceeds from points.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

THOMAS R. EVEREST.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—So much has been, I think, prematurely said, done, and written concerning the magnetoscope, that I hesitate to write anything about it, fearing this communication may be considered in the same category. A sense of justice, however; towards Mr. Rutter, the truly philosophical discoverer and enunciator of the laws regulating magnetoid currents, demands that I should add my humble testimony to the cloud of witnesses who have already seen the beau-

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tiful experiments at Black-Rock. A short time since, I had the good fortune to be one of the "jury of twelve" who patiently and carefully assisted in putting Mr. Rutter's experiments to the severest possible test; I again enjoyed, to-day, the privilege of seeing many of them repeated, and of witnessing, besides, experiments of a still more delicate and satisfactory nature, beyond measure satisfactory, because they proved incontestably that the *mechanical* hypothesis and the muscular contraction hypothesis have nothing whatsoever to do in eliciting the wonderful phenomena shown by the magnetoscope. I am not at liberty to *describe* the experiments to which I refer; suffice it to say, that Mr. Rutter will, at a fitting time, give to the world these beautiful experiments in detail. My only object in sending this communication being to endeavour to induce all those interested in the subject to wait and watch for further confirmation of that which, instead of being, as some think, "a delusion and a snare," will prove one of the grandest discoveries of the day, as connected with physiological science.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
ROBERT DOUGLAS HALE, M.D.

Hastings,
Nov. 25, 1851.

MEDICAL INHUMANITY.

From the Edinburgh News.

SIR,—The first example of the operation of the recent resolution of the College of Surgeons, that none of its fellows should co-operate with a certain class of physicians, has just come under my notice; and as I consider it of importance that the case should be tried at the bar of public opinion by the principles of common sense and common humanity, I beg of you to give it the benefit of publication in your widely-circulated paper.

A few nights ago, about ten o'clock, a respectable physician was sent for in great haste to see a gentleman just come from the country. He found his patient suffering from hernia, in great pain and danger. He administered some homœopathic medicine, and tried to reduce the tumour (as the return of the protruded intestines is technically called). He failed, and nothing seemed left but an operation. Not being himself an operating surgeon, he went for Professor Miller, who was out of town. He then went to another, comparatively unknown to the public, who said he could not go without first consulting Professor Goodsir; accordingly the physician and surgeon drove to the Professor of Anatomy. The surgeon went in and talked for about half an hour with Mr. Goodsir, and then the physician was told that they could only go on condition that he did not *remain even in the house* during the operation, and would give up the poor sick man entirely to them. To save his patient's life, the physician consented, and they drove to the house of the sufferer. On examining the tumour before proceeding to operate, it returned at once to its natural situation, showing that the medicine, more true to nature than the surgeons, had rendered their interference unnecessary.

Now, Sir, allow me to make a few remarks upon the principle of this surgical combination. The number of operating surgeons in any town is very small; there being not more than six in such a town as this, it is quite easy for them to combine to effect any purpose they have in view. If they have the right to extort, under penalty of death, such an ignominious condition from a patient as that he shall dismiss out of his house his medical attendant, and perhaps only friend in the place, they may extort anything else they please. If he must abandon his physician at the bidding of surgeons, may he not be compelled to abjure his faith, or to dedicate his fortune to some pious surgical charity? If once medical mortmain be admitted, it will prove infinitely more dangerous than clerical. The surgeon holds present sufferings in his hand, the priest only threats of future punishment. If the principle of such a trades-union be once admitted, the proud boast of medicine that it is broad as humanity itself, and ignores all differences of creeds, nations, languages, is at an end; and in some parts of Ireland we may have Orange surgeons who refuse to save the lives of the heretic Papists, while in others the Roman Catholic may recruit the ranks of his church by the victims won by the dexterous use of his scalpel. As regards homœopathy, it merely accelerates the period when, among the number of the many graduates of our University who are embracing the new faith, there shall be found some of more than average manual dexterity and anatomical knowledge, and less than average sensitiveness of feeling, who will devote themselves to pure surgery; and as regards Professor Goodsir, we acquit him of any personal animosity towards homœopathy, for some years ago he undertook to write pathological articles in the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, and only desisted for fear of "offending" his less liberal brethren; but we cannot justify this outrage on humanity, by the plea of his fearing the consequences of breaking the college law without admitting the same extenuation for almost all the cruel deeds under which this earth has groaned, for fear is the parent of cruelty.

I am, etc.,
J RUTHERFURD RUSSELL.

[We are much obliged to Dr. Rutherfurd Russell for his spirited exposure of the chirurgical *clique* of Edinburgh. We hope he will publish the case at length. The only way of dealing with *cliques* is to expose them. Why do not the homœopaths of Edinburgh have a good operating surgeon, who is also a homœopathist? We should be in such a position as to be always, and under all circumstances, independent of the allopathic body.—ED.]

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

LETTER TO JAMES Y. SIMPSON, M.D., F.R.S.E.,

AND PROFESSOR OF MIDWIFERY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

SIR,—I have a small bill against you. You have encroached upon Dr. Routh's prerogative of figures; become a humble imitator of that gifted physician, and have proved yourself to be one step lower in the scale of originality than he was. This is to be regretted, when we consider the lofty pedestal you have so long and so justly occupied in virtue of the merits of obstetric innovation. But you have not only condescended to plagiarise from Dr. Routh (not that they were original in his case), but you have outheroded Herod, and swept your own assumed "*standard of common sense*" from the face of modern medicine.

You have expended many pages of type to prove that there are *three* homœopathic drug-shops in Edinburgh, and that they *are all thriving*—beyond this you have proved nothing, save the "*consultations*." But if there is any truth in Dr. Henderson having inadvertently used globules, accidentally mixed by a child, seven years ago, Dr. Henderson has had abundance of time to correct that error; and had that gentleman insisted ever afterwards in mixing his own globules, the comparative results of his practice in respect to those around him would inflict of itself a blow upon allopathy, which she is courting most strenuously.

You have added nothing to the support of allopathy by your calculation from the time of Adam; by such staleness you only insist upon the public swallowing a camel of antediluvian dimensions, whilst you warn them that a gnat must produce an epiglottic spasm. If an operating surgeon feels his conscience at ease when refusing the use of his art to a homœopathic physician, and merely to support a party-spirit, the odium remains with him, and it will attach itself to him, do what he will, and notwithstanding he is scrubbed with soap and water by the Colleges every Saturday night. It will be well if that conscience, so comfortable in this world, be equally so when it passes beyond it.

You have yourself proved the truth of Dr. Henderson's assertion as to "*consultation*." The motives which led to these consultations are quite distinct from that assertion, and are susceptible of any variation without invading the spirit of that assertion by *one line*.

The substitution of a "*standard of common sense*" *in lieu of the medical creed which you acknowledge you have not*, is a standard raised in the utmost extremity. We shall knock it down for you; phantom-like it will fight for your cause under as visionary a banner—"legitimate medicine."

Your exploits before the Medical Society of Edinburgh in this disputation are the latest "*spirited*" achievements that have come before us. We shall sketch hastily a few of a parallel merit, by which you will perceive that you have eclipsed them all.

We feel as firm in our position as the rock on which your castle stands, and from the height we look down smiling, and see your whole Faculty appealing to, and your "fidus Aehates," the *Lancet*, hounding on to their aid, the rising generation of medical students. Beaten in open fight, they take to stratagem, and a *Faculty of medical philosophers invokes the aid of those they profess to teach.*

I was right when I said that a "pall of humility is spreading over them." Is the Medical Faculty of Edinburgh insensible to shame? Can no blush mantle on its collective cheek at the bare idea of such a degradation? Must they sink into the condition of well-whipped schoolboys, and must schoolboys be set up as judges on a *great medical question of experience*, which men of age cannot settle. We never thought they could arrive at this *acme* of insignificance, but your weekly organ declares it, and moreover declares it to be a question which these youthful *judges ought* to settle. Let Professor Henderson go and lecture to empty benches; better

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do that than lecture to empty heads. Professors in the Edinburgh University have lectured to empty benches before now, at least very nearly so; they might have done so completely, and it had not mattered a pistereen. Nor did the good old gentlemen grieve; we remember them right drowsily.

When party feeling can so far act upon human nature as to blind men to the injuries they thus inflict upon themselves, we are prepared for almost any folly; but we were not prepared for this quintessence of it. We saw cut out from the second edition of the "Text Book" the names of those homœopaths whose allopathic labours, before their conversion, had added to its value; we saw how Hahnemann's discoveries were appropriated; how the grossest plagiarism was admitted without snubbing the mighty discoverers of the antiphlogistic virtues of *Aconite*, the prophylactic properties of *Belladonna*, the healing qualities of *Arnica*—perfect, if you add thereto the Bath practitioner's discovery, that "*Extract of Nux vom.* is a cure for constipation," the thing is perfect; and we shall have many great discoveries in this line, and professorial chairs to bestow as rewards therefore.

Will no one hold out his arm and be bled to fifty ounces on the spot? Will no one take a *course* of *Calomel*, and risk salivation for the good of "Old Allopathy?" No end of spirited deeds are being done by the profession, but not a man of them will swallow one of his own pills; he knows better. We are told that Messrs. Highley have had a qualm of conscience, and can no longer publish homœopathic works. Very good; Messrs. Highley must be permitted to have a conscience.

The graduates of last quarter at St. Andrew's have followed this "spirited" example of the Messrs. Highley, and have made a "spirited" remonstrance against their parchments being *desecrated* by the signature of a homœopathically-inclined Professor of Civil History; and they fully expected that the professor would assault them, and stamp his cognomen on their frontal development; they didn't calculate on the signature being refused; they scarcely knew the man they had to deal with.

The insulted professor, insulted within his own domain, very naturally failed to take this conduct of the graduates more kindly than it was meant, and his reply thereto met with the decided disapprobation of two very prominent and extra punctilious graduates (whose august names have escaped my memory, and for which I beg to apologize) who instantaneously convicted the insulted gentleman of unbecoming "acerbity of temper;" and thereupon these Guy Fawkes throw an ignited lucifer into the powder magazine of the *Lancet*, and recommend that "fallen spirit" to continue his pyrotechny. It appears, therefore, that it is expected that we homœopathists shall be quite prepared to receive all insults blandly, and that we shall always have on hand a complete dairy of the "milk of human kindness," of the very richest quality, and no end of skimmers for our allopathic friends.

But these deeds fall quite into the shade, are totally eclipsed by the appeal to the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, by Dr. J. C. Hall, of Sheffield, in which he requests to know if that body intends to oblige him by removing an obnoxious homœopath (who is taking a trifle of the Sheffield practice) from the College list, which rejoices in having Dr. J. C. Hall's exalted name upon its pages; the undoubted right to do which, Dr. J. C. Hall feels quite certain, is vested in the College. This appeal concludes with the following threat, in case of refusal: "It will only remain for me to return into your hands the diploma of your College, and to do myself that justice which, up to this moment, you have thought proper to deny me."

There is a dire intent in these mysterious lines, which we cannot contemplate without trembling. We hope Dr. J. C. Hall has not become the proprietor of "Warner's long-range," nor has any gunpowder-plot in view in reference to the Royal College.

We have a great admiration for this *very spirited* thing of Dr. J. C. Hall, of Sheffield. If he is a man of means, and can enter into securities to defray all the expenses, and come down handsomely with all the damages in which the Royal College might be mulcted, for removing any member for Dr. J. C. Hall's special convenience, the College might indulge him; until then he may whistle on his thumb. But Dr. J. C. Hall's threat to *return his diploma* is a most serious affair. The Royal College may shut up shop. What a curious state of matters it would be, if all the members of the Royal College, and all the M.D.s addicted to pills, were to return their diplomas; there would be no deaths from ovarian tumours extracted; no arteries tied without aneurisms; no inquests resulting from "*composition powder*;" and all because of us homœopathists. We should do a pretty tidy piece of work for the next six months, and

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the "cave of Adullam" might have "*every seat taken.*"

But Dr. J. C. Hall leaves us in a most pleasant uncertainty as to what he intends to do if the College in future, and as heretofore, turns a deaf ear to his cry. Will he excuse us for suggesting to him to administer to the Council a dose of Indian hemp? for there is, indeed, a charming romance in that drug, producing a commotion like a thunder-storm, or melting away upon the tongue harmless as a flake of purest Alpine snow, or mellowed to the innocence of a rose-leaf. Or he might stuff their nostrils with gun-cotton, and seduce them into trying "a mild Havannah." We only throw out these suggestions as likely to suit any man in Dr. J. C. Hall's state of mind in this very critical juncture of medical affairs. If Sir Harry Smith had only a regiment of Dr. J. C. Halls, wouldn't he just walk into those rascally Kaffirs? Meantime, until Dr. J. C. Hall's "*revolver*" is discharged, we feel much in the condition deseribed by the poet, previous to the battle of the Baltic:—

"When the boldest held his breath for a time."

Some three years ago *there was* an office-bearer in your College; he found it poor, he left it rich; he had laboured for years in behalf of that body; which severally and collectively acknowledged their debt by presenting him with a *most solid mark of esteem.* He was the equal of any of that body in education, and he accepted that token *as a badge of services faithfully performed.* It turns out, however (now that his therapeutic views have changed), that they intended that gift as a *bribe for future serfdom to that College.* If there is a man of that College who breathes that same atmosphere of honour, they so ludicrously assert as theirs alone, let him stand up and repudiate the *Reviewer* of "Reasons for Embracing Homœopathy;" let him stand forth and disown the great reviewer, who, in order to render himself worthy of his hire, merged a public and professional question in an attempt upon private reputation, and whose intention has recoiled upon his own head. I say, let each member of that body hold up his head, and look like "a Fellow of a Royal College of Physicians;" let him do his best to wash out this stigma from that body, and be clean. If not, then silence will chronicle as a fact that, in presenting that physician with *any marks of esteem*, they wrote themselves down "a College of Physicians," Royal merely in virtue of prerogative.

Sir, for many a day your party scouted homœopathy as being beneath their notice; their present commotion proves how completely they have changed their opinion. The public has for a long time been interested in it, and is doing it that justice which "*the profession*" has denied it. It is strange to think, however, that with such lamentable confessions of the deficiencies of a system, as have been made by such justly-esteemed men as Drs. Forbes and Christison (I would not detract one whit from *many* services the latter has done to certain branches), it is strange, I say, that a new science, asserted by a large body to be more successful in their hands than the old, which has been cherished amid the chilling influences of autocratic Russia; which has taken deep root in the same soil that nourishes the upas-tree of Hapsburg; which flourishes in inquisitorial Spain; which breathes an atmosphere free as the air of her Italian skies in the bosom of the Roman hierarchy; which "goes a-head" merrily in the republic of the West; should, in this land of freedom, this merry England, be left to struggle as it may. A friend, whose opinion I hold in great esteem, when alluding to this, seemed to think that a "deeply-hidden" cause existed for such a discrepancy, and that it offered an inquiry worthy of one of an iron mind, an iron grasp. I looked over the "profession," and saw none whose iron grasp was not relaxed by prejudice and self-interest. Such a man was not to be found within her pale. Thinking, therefore, that we might wait a long while, and being rather disheartened than otherwise by the idea, it suddenly struck me that my friend had been entirely wrong, and that his "deeply-hidden cause" is so completely on the surface, that no one thought of looking for it there.

It is this. In autocratic and republican governments all matters of dispute are made matters of public investigation; the spirit of it is grasped by an iron hand, and the matter is settled beyond appeal; professors, colleges, and societies are very small beer indeed with them. Homœopathy has stood this severe test; had it not done so, the head of many a homœopathist had rolled from off his shoulders. In England there is no investigation by government; we are all left *perfectly free* to fight it out; so let us set-to "hammer and tongs."

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Dec. 10, 1851. SIGMA.

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REVIEWERS REVIEWED.

By a Progressist.

(*Continued from page* 279.)

Whatever opinions Hahnemann formed, he submitted to the best of all tests—*experience*, and freely communicated to the public the results of his labours. It is, indeed, melancholy to hear a man reproached as a humbug and a cheat, merely because his wisdom increased with his years. Where a man becomes more foolish as he advances in life, where he deserts sound and good principles for those of an opposite nature, he deserves neither pity nor forbearance, and he must not be surprised if motives are imputed to him creditable to neither his head nor his heart. The name of Hahnemann, the founder of homœopathy, as the author of the Organon, the Materia Medica Pura, etc., is now familiar in this country, but his name is not known and appreciated as it should be. The opinion of his virtues is general. We have learned to venerate the man upon the testimony of his friends, and from them we learn the qualities which compose his character "were so admirably compounded, that pre-eminence was swallowed up in general excellence." Even those who were least favourably disposed towards him, have allowed, with a sort of distorted confession, the extraordinary endowments with which nature had gifted him. In looking at the prints of Hahnemann, what an idea do they convey to the mind of the fascinating simplicity of his countenance and deportment. Such a countenance and such a deportment, added to such a mind, must have powerfully concurred to give him that ascendency over the thoughts and affections of all who approached him. Modesty, which is a rare attendant upon excellence of any sort, and peculiarly so upon intellectual excellence, was conspicuous in Hahnemann. It was not in him, as in some men, a vain affectation, springing from rank pride of heart; it was a principle engrafted on his mind, emanating from piety and supported by it. Perhaps there never existed an individual to whom may be applied with greater truth the words of Shakspeare—

> "His life was gentle; and the elements
> So mixed in him, that nature might stand up
> And say to all the world THIS WAS A MAN."

He shrunk from no enterprises to which he might beneficially exert his great talents for the welfare of the human race. He looked abroad upon man, and when he felt that he could benefit him, he needed no other motive to employ his whole power; and yet this man, whose lustre is obscured to those who have not contemplated his character, during life was maligned, treated with persecution and slander. The equanimity of his mind, the meek forbearance of his heart, never forsook him; he walked his course with the patient consciousness of rectitude, unmoved by the rancorous attacks of malice, envy, and fanaticism.

To Hahnemann the thoughts of a future being were always present; and these thoughts not only fitted him for the duties of this life, but gave him the power to fulfil the intention of the Almighty for the benefit of mankind. Piety in him was a vital principle: it cheered his path, matured his thoughts, purified the affections of his nature. "Shortly before his death, while suffering from difficulty in breathing, his wife said to him, 'Providence owes you a mitigation of your sufferings, since in your life you have alleviated the sufferings of so many and endured yourself so much.' 'Me,' replied the dying sage, 'why, then, me? Each man here below works as God gives him strength, and meets a greater or less reward at the judgment-seat of God. God owes me nothing, but I owe God much—yea, all.'" *

Such was the man that the Editors of two medical journals have attacked as a "humbug" and a "cheat," and this ill-judged and unlimited censure has not only been passed on Hahnemann, but upon all, without exception, who attempt to inquire into the truth of his discovery. These gentlemen have animadverted on the followers of Hahnemann, whom they have represented as guilty of self-confidence and presumption in daring to inquire more deeply than themselves, and their attacks have been furious and disdainful. No proof, however, is offered by those who prefer the accusations, filled as they are with a spirit of illiberal prejudice, misconstruction, and unwarranted statements; they have accused us of wild conjecture, extravagant delusions, and absurd conclusions. But, I say again, they have never produced any arguments to show that we are wrong and they are right. It is somewhat ludicrous to observe the mingled vexation and self-importance of these gentlemen who accuse us of presumption. They, in the first instance, it seems, intended to pass by homœopathy in contemptuous silence, assuming, that contempt from such a quarter might, of course, be expected to operate powerfully in blasting the fame of the system altogether, or, at least, in retarding its progress. How immeasurably great must be their surprise, when they find

* British Journal of Homœopathy, i. 415.

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that the public have declared they will judge for themselves; when they find that it is gaining confidence, and spreading in every direction—even though it is unlicensed by the *Lancet* and *Medical Times*. They are most unwillingly obliged to admit that homœopathy has taken a firm hold. It has become impossible to deny that it has commanded attention! This is a very *reluctant admission*. Why should Editors *wish* to deny it, if it be true? After appearing to treat the subject with contempt, finding their authority totally disregarded, we cannot wonder that these literati should at length step heroically forward to combat the presumption of the public; stung, as we must naturally suppose them to be, with all that high disdain from a sense of injured merit, which other slighted champions have so often felt before.

Having failed in their endeavour to blast homœopathy by cold and contemptuous indifference, our worthy Editors of the *Lancet* and *Medical Times* can now only resort to their thrice-repeated system of broad abuse, and having volleyed forth their invectives with no little fury against this ill-starred system of therapeutics, they attack those persons who follow in the wake with the most opprobrious epithets. One cannot cease to wonder, notwithstanding all this abuse, that there is no attempt to bring forward one proof for the purpose of justifying their animadversions.

They abuse the whole system, and endeavour to malign the character of those who practise it. I humbly beg leave to remind these gentlemen, that tricks of this sort can be deemed nothing less than fraudulent deceptions on the public, when used by persons who hold up their works to the world as "reviews." I have said before, no argument has been brought forward to justify their opposition. Their abuse reminds one of a military maxim, "that a rapid movement is sometimes more successful in war than a tedious and regular siege." Some maxim of this kind may influence certain reviewers in arranging their schemes of literary warfare, and hence, when they observe that the subject is somewhat formidable, they may deem it more politic to overrun and tread it down with all speed, than to waste their whole store of ammunition (perhaps to no purpose) in attempting to assail each particular argument.

These Editors seem but imperfectly aware that it is no longer possible in this, as in former ages, for any individual, however distinguished in the literary world, to rule the opinion of the public, or to blast the prospects of any discovery by the power of his own *ipse dixit*. The increased diffusion of knowledge has qualified numbers in the united empire to judge for themselves in physic, as well as on other matters, with a boldness and a freedom to which many of their forefathers were little accustomed. Were a *Pope* or a *Johnson* to return from the grave, it would not now be easy for the one with his satire, or the other with his learning, to browbeat a well-informed Englishman out of his notions. Whether an enlightened community will pay greater deference to the gentlemen who conduct the *Lancet* or the *Medical Times* than it would to a Johnson or a Pope, may perhaps be deemed too wide in its scope to be discussed with propriety by a humble individual like myself. If, indeed, I were disposed to retort on these Editors, by recurring to language like that which I condemn (the language of *general invective*, unsupported by proof), I now might aver that the Editors of the *Lancet* and *Medical Times* are, in truth, the very last of all to whom Englishmen will dream of surrendering their judgment. Far, however, shall I be from maintaining that any such expression of contempt would be just, nor shall I presume on any account to make use of it; for I humbly conceive that the language of *general invective* discovers the person who employs it to be anything rather than a gentleman. I am anxious to satisfy your readers how easy it would be to *retort* upon the above Editors, without the assistance either of wit or argument.

In offering the foregoing remarks, my object has rather been to excite the attention of others, than to publish my own ideas on the matter. I beg very respectfully to draw the attention of the public to a point of vital importance, namely, the pernicious effects of the scurrility, falsehoods, calumnies, etc., which are regularly disseminated in the weekly journals. Some of these publications are set up and supported by speculating adventurers, who, devoid of all moral principle, become the vile panderers of a party merely to gain a subsistence by the sale of their extravagant revilings and interested misrepresentations. There is no falsehood too great, no principle too absurd, no passion too base for this class of adventurers not to assert and defend, provided that it may enable them more effectually to deceive their deluded supporters, and to levy additional contributions on the public for their infamous effusions.

In this manner the "liberty of the press" is prostituted to the vilest purposes, and the basest calumnies are perpetrated on the pretext that the writer must live; and for

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that they must adapt their sentiments to the taste of their readers. They, therefore, consider it no longer necessary to study anything but what may contribute most to stimulate the curiosity or inflame the passions of their subscribers. Thus is the press, that palladium of our national liberty, distorted to the most hideous purposes. To enlarge upon the ill effects would be needless, and we do hope that some means may be interposed which may tend effectually to rescue a deluded class of people from being the prey of covetous and unprincipled scribblers, who have no other God, country, or friend but *gold*.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13TH, 1851.

HOMŒOPATHY continues to survive the most virulent attacks of the allopathic school—a circumstance that must sadly mortify the promoters of the persecution. In the midst of the disagreement occasioned by the unsuccessful attempts made to stultify our proceedings, the Cause prospers, and the allopaths have themselves alone to thank for the severity of the recoil. *Ab alio refectes alteri quod feceris*, says the proverb, and, in this respect, it has been perfectly verified.

It matters, however, little what is the shade or complexion of persecution, so that it is not permitted to exterminate truth. Standing on a secure foundation, we can smile at the taunts of our adversaries, and in returning good for evil, merit the reward that belongs to those who practise the noblest acts of Christian charity. It is certainly not worth while, when our system is making such rapid strides as it is at present, to descend and calumniate in the coarse terms employed by the writers of an opposition press.

Our great duty at this period, is to point out to the public the revolution homœopathy is making through all grades of the medical profession; the certainty that our career is flourishing, and that the benefits to be derived from the recognition of our principles will carry comfort into the hearts and homes of those who embrace the same faith. Idle would it be in us, then, having a task of this magnitude before our view, to step out of our way, and in recriminatory observations seek to throw dirt at those who have made it the study of their lives to throw dirt at us.

The year 1851 is rapidly passing away. It has been distinguished by the unparalleled success of the Great Exhibition and other co-operating events to produce peace and good-will among nations. Without the slightest egotism, we may claim for homœopathy, associated with its hospitals and its societies, the development of principles assisting to cement the bonds of universal brotherhood. Why, then, should we feel alarmed at the efforts of disappointed and prejudiced individuals, who, fearing the progress of our Cause, endeavour to damp and discourage a belief in that which they must be perfectly aware is based on the soundest philosophy. But these efforts must not be regarded; the same constancy, the same faith which has upheld us all along, must be maintained, and the result will abundantly testify in our behalf.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND AND HOMŒOPATHY.

To sundry insolent, or impertinent, or importunate communications the Secretary of this College has been instructed to write, that the Council will not interfere with homœopathy.

Let Auld Reekie be ashamed; let old St. Andrew's blush; let Aberdeen put a fan before her face; let Glasgow, whose chief honour is to have had LEIGHTON for her bishop, be disgusted with herself. Let the *Lancet* rave; let the *Medical Times* whimper over the queer fraternisation with the *Medical Gazette*;—it is plain that we have gained the day.

We hold PARISIUS as nobody: we know nothing of him: as an individual he has, in very inelegant and bad English, pronounced against homœopathy—but up to this time,

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none but the four Scotch Universities have so pronounced.

The Englishman has been more canny than the Scot. Not one English university, college, or hall has yet pronounced against homœopathy.

The Medical Faculties of Scotland are demented, if they think that by *brute* decrees they can stop the investigation of truth: but *their rulers and their masters* will teach them another lesson; and except they determine to be the laughing-stock of the world, even those Medical Faculties will acknowledge their folly, and admit homœopathists for examination.

The following extract is from the *Lancet* of last week:—

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS AND HOMŒOPATHY.

Conclusion of the correspondence between Dr. J. C. Hall, of Sheffield, and the Council. Most disgraceful Resolution of the Council.

To the Editor of the Lancet.

DR. J. C. HALL presents his compliments to the Editor, and requests the publication of the enclosed correspondence with the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England in the next number of his journal.

Surrey Street, Sheffield, Dec. 1, 1851.

Royal College of Surgeons of England, Nov. 28, 1851.

SIR,—I am desired to transmit to you, in reply to your letters on the subject of homœopathy, a copy of the following resolution of the Council of this College, on the 26th instant—viz.:

"That the Council have attentively and repeatedly considered the various communications which they have received on the subject of homœopathy; and after mature deliberation, have resolved, that it is not expedient for this College to interfere in the matter."

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

E. BALFOUR, *Sec.*

To Dr. John Charles Hall, etc. etc., Sheffield.

Our readers will see, in our correspondence, a letter from Dr. H. HASTINGS, to show that mineral waters cure on the principle of homœopathy, *i. e.*, when the waters are rightly chosen. We have here shown us the way in which candid and unprejudiced allopaths should approach the subject of homœopathy.

They will also see a very valuable letter from Mr. M'Taggart, who seems to have been most successful with our remedies in Veterinary Practice, written in a *catholic* and *eclectic* spirit. In Dr. Hastings and Mr. M'Taggart we have two good specimens of men who rise above class-prejudice, and seek only for truth.

The time has come for the full and unhesitating exposure of those of our opponents who, in proportion to their virulence, are uncandid and unfair, unscrupulous in their statements, unreasoning in their abuse, and bent to use all means for the hoped-for overthrow, *per fas vel nefas*, of homœopathy.

The charge of bad faith and deceit has again and again, been brought against the homœopathists; this charge has never been substantiated—those who advanced it have been challenged to bring proofs of their allegations, they have never been forthcoming. Professor HENDERSON has openly charged Professors SYME and SIMPSON with want of candour and good faith, and we reprint his letter in which that charge is substantiated by witnesses.

This letter of Professor HENDERSON should be circulated by thousands of copies, not in the way of retaliation on our misjudging and injurious opponents, but as a triumphant occasion of calling on all parties to judge between the champions of the old school and of the new school, as to the question of *veracity*.

We make a solemn appeal to the public to award us the palm of good faith; and we call on our professional brethren of the old school to prove against any of our body any of the alleged "homœopathic lies." Let them prove bad faith, and not assert it rashly, and without any show of reason.

We trust that each of our homœopathic colleagues will distribute at least a hundred copies of Professor HENDERSON'S letter. While our virulent adversaries are using all means against us, our own body should not be inert, but should show something like a generous appreciation of such a man as Professor HENDERSON, the maligned but triumphant advocate of homœopathy. This is not a time for sleep, nor for unwise indifferenee or disunion. We have been aroused to combat, and with a well-directed energy and union, the victory is won, and for the truth in this matter. Our war is not with the allopathic practitioners, but with the virulent and unfair advocates of that body,

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who use such shameful and unscrupulous language in reference to us, who asperse our characters, and charge us with deceit and falsehood, and never bring forward a single proof in support of their wicked charges.

We have ventured to reprint Professor HENDERSON'S letter at length, in the hope that he will excuse our doing so, and with the view of stimulating our colleagues, and all the friends of homœopathy, to secure its general circulation throughout the three kingdoms.

In order that our readers may fully understand Dr. Henderson's masterly letter, we have placed the *famous* resolution first, although Professor Henderson gives it only the place of an appendix, in his crushing letter.

"Resolution of the Medico-Chirurgical Society (of Edinburgh), of date 19th Nov., 1851.

"MOVED BY MR. SYME, 'That the public profession of Homœopathy shall be held to disqualify for being admitted or remaining a Member of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh.'

*To the President of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh.**

"61, Northumberland Street, Edinburgh,
"1st December, 1851.

"SIR,—I should not have troubled you, or the Society over which you preside, with any comments on the proceedings of your last meeting, did I not observe in the report of the speeches made by Mr. Syme and Dr. Simpson, published in the *Monthly Journal* for December, statements which I cannot allow to pass unnoticed without appearing by my silence to admit their substantial accuracy. In the resolution which called forth these speeches I feel no interest, for I had long ceased to expect from the Society a calm, candid, and unbiassed judgment on the important therapeutic law to which that resolution refers, and had for several years absented myself from its meetings, as being those of a sectarian body with whose limited views I could not sympathise. I need scarcely add, that the resolution in question amply justifies the estimate I had formed of the Society.

"In my letter to the Patrons of the University, I allege that Mr. Syme on two occasions acted in the face of the motion which he had himself proposed in the College of Surgeons; that he twice met in consultation with one who 'practises homœopathy,' while the motion referred to maintains that to meet with those who do so is to countenance the system. That such meetings on Mr. Syme's part (if they occurred) were a countenancing of homœopathy is an allegation of his own, as contained in his motion in the College of Surgeons. That they *did* occur I repeat, and Mr. Syme admits that they did, although he endeavours to explain away one of them, as if it was not entitled to be regarded as a consultation at all. I sincerely regret that I am under the necessity of saying that Mr. Syme's version of that meeting, in particular, in most inaccurate. His printed statement is as follows:—'The first of these (cases) he would mention was that of a young man from Dundee, whom he had been requested, by Dr. Nimmo of that place, to take under his charge. Finding that he was attended by Dr. Henderson, he had requested a meeting with him, for the purpose, not of consultation, but of arranging for the medical treatment of the patient by the respected secretary of the Society, Dr. John Taylor, with whom Mr. Syme might co-operate, as he could not do so with Dr. Henderson.' Now, Sir, if such was Mr. Syme's purpose, he never communicated it to me; and I feel, as others no doubt will do, that there was something very marvellous in the manner in which I, all unconsciously, carried Mr. Syme's purpose into effect. Mr. Syme called at my house, and after stating that he had been requested to see this patient of mine by one of his friends in the country, an hour for our meeting was agreed on, as I then knew nothing of Mr. Syme to prevent my meeting with him.

"We met accordingly, saw the patient together, retired to converse about the case, and then found that we differed both as to the seat of the disease and the suitable treatment. *I informed Mr. Syme that I could not superintend the execution of the plans he recommended! I suggested that Dr. John Taylor should take charge of the case instead of myself! I called on Dr. Taylor, told him of the circumstances which had occurred, and sent him to Mr. Syme for his instructions!* I never heard a whisper from Mr. Syme of his being unable to co-operate with me. Dr. Taylor, no doubt, remembers my visit to him on the occasion referred to; and those who know me cannot believe that I would go in search of him for Mr. Syme, had the latter given me the smallest reason to suspect that he entertained the purpose which he now says he did. Mr. Syme's account of the other case contains several inaccuracies, short though it be; but as he admits the fact of the meeting, and does not attempt to deny any allegation of mine in reference to it, I do not think it worth while to lengthen this letter by adverting to it farther. In concluding this part of the subject, I think I am amply entitled to aver that all my allegations respecting Mr. Syme, in my letter to the Patrons, are incontrovertibly true.

"Mr. Syme says, in reference to Dr. Black, that he 'had proposed to attend along with him a lady who had come from England to undergo an operation, but met with a decided refusal of any such co-operation; but he does not tell us that he met with Dr. Black on another occasion, to which the following note refers; nay, he virtually denies that any such meeting took place, for he omits it from his account of 'the

* Letter to the President of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh, on the recent Speeches of Professors Syme and Simpson. By William Henderson, M.D., Professor of General Pathology. Edinburgh: W. P. Kennedy; Glasgow: D. Bryce; London: Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

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whole amount of countenance which Mr. Syme had afforded to the homœopathists of Edinburgh.'

"*From* WILLIAM ERSKINE, Esq., *late of East India Company's Civil Service.*

"'28, Regent Terrace, Sept. 17, 1851.

"'MY DEAR DR. HENDERSON,—On looking back into my books, I find that Mr. Syme visited my late daughter, ——, on the 8th of November, 1843. He was accompanied by Dr. Francis Black, who at that time attended her.—I remain, dear Dr. Henderson, yours very truly,

WM. ERSKINE.'

"I come next to the speech of Dr. Simpson. The confusion, inaccuracy, misstatement, and irrelevant matter, that abound in this production, make it difficult to deal with it so concisely as with Mr. Syme's, yet I hope to pick my way to the simple truth in this, as in the other case. That his hearers condemned the oration with 'faint praise,' I cannot omit to notice, as it was so very much to their credit. Why a member of my family is introduced to the notice of the Society, I can only conjecture; and I must, in common, I should hope, with all who heard the speech, denounce the very bad taste of alluding to 'some long and anxious hours' of attendance upon her, made in a public place, and made most unnecessarily for any worthy purpose. If the allusion was made in order to prejudice him in the estimation of the Society, as having, in my various recent notices of Dr. Simpson, made him a bad return for obligations received at his hands, I take this opportunity of saying, that even had there been a balance of obligations against me, (which I utterly deny,) there are acts capable of cancelling any amount of obligation, and of such I hold Dr. Simpson to be guilty, by having aided in the composition of the scandalous Resolutions of the Royal College of Physicians,—if indeed he did not actually compose them. But, Sir, it is not my intention to lose temper even with Dr. Simpson, for I cordially agree with him who says, that 'so much as there is of passion, so much there is of nothing to the purpose,' in any discussion.

"Dr. Simpson makes one distinct affirmation, when he avers that the case from which he removed a polypus, was, with the exception of the member of my family to whom he adverts, 'the only patient at whose bedside he had met Dr. Henderson.' Were my own character not concerned in this miserable business, I should grieve to lay the following letters before the Society:—

"*From* J. HAWKINS, Esq., *late Judge H.E.I.C.S.*

"'2, Regent Terrace, June 17, 1851.

"'MY DEAR Mr. HENDERSON,—Dr. Simpson, at your request, attended a lady at my house on the 17th August last, and you and he met here together on the 20th of that month.—Believe me, yours very truly, J. HAWKINS.'

"This was little more than a year ago, and cannot have been difficult to remember, especially by one who attached so much consequence to such meetings, as, on the other and previous occasion to which he alludes, 'to have felt it was perhaps more than questionable whether he should have met him.' These are the two cases to which I made reference in my letter to the Editor of the *Witness*, and I told Dr. Simpson so, when he called at my house professedly to make inquiries on the subject. I have never mentioned the case on which Mr. Syme subsequently operated, as having been one of those which Dr. Simpson and I visited together; and, therefore, all that Dr. S. has said respecting it, has nothing to do with the matter at issue. That there may be no evasion of the evidence of the last letter, I have to state that the meeting it refers to was at 'the bedside.' And so was that to which the next letter bears testimony; and if it was not of a very recent date, it shows all the more clearly the probability of the statement contained in my letter to the *Witness*, that Dr. Simpson was in the habit of agreeing to such meetings whenever he was asked, a circumstance which can be attested likewise, I believe, by my friend Dr. Russell.

"*From* CHARLES CHALMERS, ESQ., *late Principat of Merchiston Academy.*

"'Katesmill, Colinton, June 17, 1851.

"'DEAR SIR,—It consists with my knowledge, that towards the close of 1846, you and Professor Simpson attended professionally together one of the members of my family, who was then residing in Merchiston Castle.—I remain, dear Sir, yours most truly, CHARLES CHALMERS.

"'Professor Henderson, M.D.'

"Dr. Simpson excuses his having operated on the case of polypus in the company of Dr. Henderson, on the ground that 'Dr. Henderson was the only medical man that the lady would, he believed, have allowed to be present.' How he ascertained this, it would be curious to know. *I* know that there is no human being less likely to have had any such exclusive and unreasonable prejudice than the person in question. The plain fact seems most unquestionably to be, that when Mr. Syme and Dr. Simpson were in the practice of doing just what they ought to have done, and what humane, candid, well-informed, and liberal-minded men will always do, it had not been generally believed that homœopathy had stolen a march upon its opponents, and had fastened itself firmly in the confidence of all classes of the community. Medical men have waked up lately as from a dream, and having found themselves surrounded on all sides by this ubiquitous intruder, their alarm and hatred cry out with a vehemence proportioned to their former indifference or contempt, and with as little reason, too, if they would only make themselves acquainted with the subject of their ridiculous excitement.

"I have no intention of taking to pieces Dr. Simpson's *réchauffé* of the stale jokes and vul-

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garisms on homœopathy which are current among a certain class of men. I shall not even stoop to rebut the foul insinuations in which he indulges; but I will say this to him:—If you are conscious of rectitude, of truth, honesty and fair dealing, and of these simply and alone, in all the particulars to which I have been alluding in this letter, you must feel more deeply now than you have ever done before, the liability of an innocent man to fall under the gravest suspicions, and you will be prepared, by contemplating the peculiarity of your own position in this controversy, to judge hereafter more charitably of those whom you have reviled.

"The story of the box, in which all the medicines are said by Dr. Simpson to have been mixed before they were given to me, meets me in the published speech in a somewhat different form from that in which I heard of it formerly from the author of the petty narrative. He told me on that former occasion, on the 10th of June last, that I had said to him some six or seven years ago, 'your box has converted me.' I remember well, Sir, and so must Dr. Simpson, that I replied to him emphatically on that occasion, that *I did not believe that I had ever said so,* and *that* because it would have been untrue. My first experiments on homœopathy were made by medicines from five different sources in addition to Dr. Simpson's box. The 'respected secretary of the Society' favoured me with a box, in connection with which there was, as became his character, no trick, but all that was fair and honest. Dr. Russell supplied me with many other medicines: Headland, of London, did so too; the chemist in this city, at a later period, did the same; and some I prepared with my own hands. The results were published, and drew from Dr. Forbes, of London, the admission, that had the cases been treated according to the rules of the ordinary school, he would have regarded the results as 'very satisfactory.' Among them were 'some wonderful effects and cures,' which I have always regarded as evidences of the power of homœopathic remedies; but that they were due to 'Dr. Simpson's own former homœopathic box,' in which the trick was, I do not believe that I could have ever averred, because I was not in the habit of noting in each case from what source the medicines I employed were taken, for I suspected no trick. Since Dr. Simpson made his trick public, I have suspected, reasonably enough, that some of the failures which I could not formerly account for but on the ground of my own want of skill, must have been due to the dishonest box. At any rate, if this paltry affair must be judged of on the word of either party, I ask you, Sir, to look back on what is recorded on the preceding pages, and to judge by that test, as to which of us is the most entitled to credit.

"To one only of all the remaining rash and idle statements of Dr. Simpson shall I advert at present. He avers, that there are men who, to use his characteristic language, 'doctored people according as people themselves wished, either with drachms of drugs, or billions of a grain of the same.' That Dr. Simpson knows of any such persons I do not believe. I know a great deal more of those whom he delights to calumniate than he does, and I solemnly aver, that I neither know nor ever have known a single instance of the conduct he has ventured to lay to their charge. I dare him to the proof, and if he fail to prove his allegation, he must be contented with the disgrace of having uttered a deliberate and groundless calumny. I rejoice to say, that I know many physicians who, while they adhere to the homœopathic law as the great regulator of their practice, consider themselves entitled, in the free exercise of their profession as independent men, to prescribe any quantity of medicine they think necessary for their patients, and where the homœopathic principle cannot be of service to them, whether from its own present or necessary limitations, or their insufficient acquaintance with it, consider themselves not only at liberty, but bound in duty, to employ any other expedients for the benefit of their employers that may be within their knowledge.

"This course has had my hearty concurrence and public advocacy, as the only course of professional and scientific catholicity; and I confidently anticipate the time as not far distant, when there shall be physicians worthy of the honourable name, in all parts of our country, whose model shall be that philosophic greatness,—beautifully sketched by one who formerly adorned our University, and whose spirit is not yet utterly extinct among us,—which 'knows how to distinguish what is just in itself, from what is merely accredited by illustrious names; adopting a truth which no one has sanctioned, and rejecting an error of which all approve, with the same calmness as if no judgment were opposed to its own.' If the Society shall sneer at all this as inconsistent and unfair, I would remind them that the sneer will come with a very bad grace from men who, while they profess themselves to be allopathists, often employ remedies which they admit to operate homœopathically, and that it is incumbent on them honestly to restrict themselves to their sectarian principle of '*contraria contrariis curantur*,' before they can consistently stigmatize others as dishonest for openly advocating a more comprehensive creed.

"As I perceive, from the newly-printed list of members, that I still belong to your Society, I conclude with the following motion; and, if it be not adopted, I request that my name may be erased from your records, for in that event it can be no longer reputable to remain a member of the Society. I move—

"'*That any one who cannot exonerate himself from the suspicion of deliberate misstatement, shall be held disqualified for being admitted, or for remaining a member of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh.*'

"I have the honour to be, Sir,
"Your obedient servant
"WM. HENDERSON."

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Correspondence.

MINERAL WATERS CURE ON THE PRINCIPLE OF HOMŒOPATHY.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In these days of marvellous discoveries and startling phenomena, both in the animal and physical worlds, whether as exemplified by mesmerism, electro-biology, or the magnetoscope in the animal or gigantic undertakings in the physical world, such as connecting nation with nation by means of that *unknown something*, which, for want of a better name, we call electricity, I think that it displays a prejudiced, ignorant, and unphilosophical mind, to sneer at or ridicule any new discovery, however *apparently* absurd, before investigating its claims as a science, or, at all events, considering the rationality of its results. Though, owing to our finite and limited capacities, we may not be able to positively know the mysterious principles by which God performs many of his most marvellous operations, such as the circulation of the blood, and a thousand other phenomena in earth, sea, and skies, still this does not nor ought not to prevent us using these hidden principles for the accomplishing of grand results. As I have observed, we do not know what electricity is—we are only acquainted with its mighty results; yet who who would think of not turning these to account because he cannot explain or understand the *nature* of their active property? Thus it has been with all new sciences, results were first seized upon, and then their principles investigated. The fall of an apple, the oscillations of a suspended lamp, the clattering of the lid of a boiling teakettle, the symptoms produced by cinchona, etc.—being *all* mere *results* of hidden principles—set the minds of Newton, of Galileo, of the Marquis of Worcester, and of Hahnemann to work respectively, to endeavour to discover their principles, and hence resulted the science of gravitation, oscillations of the pendulum, the steam-engine, and homœopathy.

Now being, I hope, an attentive observer of all that is stirring in the worlds of matter and mind by which I am surrounded, I thought it right to make the above remarks prefatory to the present communication, as they will show that I am not one of those who fancy that the world has arrived at either its present knowledge by stupid opposition to new facts, or at its *ne plus ultra* in science, but one who believes that there is a mighty and secret impulse propelling the mind of man into new fields of discoveries, and which will ultimately terminate in revealing many of those now hidden arcana of God to the ravished eyes of astonished mortals.

Entertaining these ideas, I think it but right to lay before your readers the following facts, as they will tend to add a testimony to the much reviled and persecuted, but brilliant discoveries of Hahnemann, and as I am at present an allopath, they may have greater weight with the public.

About twelve months ago I wrote an essay on the "Medicinal Springs" in this town, and when treating of their medicinal efficacy, I was obliged to bow, though rather reluctantly, I must confess, to the doctrine of homœopathy, as upon no other principle could I explain their *modus operandi*, owing to the minute quantity of salts, iron, etc., in their composition.

I am aware that the action of mineral waters, so far as their small doses of salts are concerned, has been cited ere now as a proof of the action of homœopathic medicine; but I am not aware that their action has been discovered to depend upon the principle of *similia similibus curantur*. Now, having investigated this subject, I am able to state, that a course of mineral waters, if taken by a person whose digestive organs are in perfect health, will, to a certainty, produce dyspepsia, that very disease for which they are a sovereign remedy—hence *similia similibus curantur*, and another feather in the cap of Hahnemann.

"Truth," Sir, "is powerful and will prevail." Let us then tear off that blindfold of petty prejudice which certain *periodicals* are endeavouring to blind our eyes with, and fling to the winds of heaven that gross and opposite system which has too long deceived us, and embrace the homœopathic, if, after due inquiry, investigation, and experience, it be found more in consonance with modern science.

This is a duty which we owe not only to science, but also to the public, as the people acknowledge us to be their *curators;* and, therefore, if homœopathy offers them more proper remedies than allopathy, and us more certain and valuable ones, we are *doubly* bound to practise the one and receive the other.

Cheltenham, Nov. 29, 1851. I am, Sir, yours truly, H. HASTINGS, M.D.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—With your permission, I mean from time to time to trouble you with my rambling notes—pencillings by the way—as Mr. N. P. Willis called his jottings of daily observation.

Now, Sir, in answer to the question of one of your correspondents, the excellent clergyman, loyal friend of Hahnemann, and true homœopathist, Mr. Everest, has deigned to inform us whence is derived, and what is the meaning of the word *Od*,—I thank him for his decision of the point. I hope you will answer another—what is the circulation of the *Homœopathic Times?*

I am led to believe there are some 300 medical homœopathists in England, who practise homœopathy *out and out*, and perhaps about 1000 more, who either practise it *half and half*, or *secretly* and so *dishonestly*.

Let us strike the balance at 500. If these 500 are *true men*, as your good service to the Cause is beyond all doubt, we must calculate that each of them contrives to take and dispose of at the very least ten copies; that secures at once the weekly issue of 5000 copies, and as it is calculated that ten persons read each number of any journal paid for, you must have 50,000 readers, at least, every week.

If this be not the case, if the medical homœo-

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pathists, who are glad enough of your columns and of your good word, when they want your help, do not aid you, to this very moderate extent, I can only say they do not understand their own interest, and they are at once stupid and ingrates.

Supposing you were to shut up shop, and you no longer exposed the *Lancet* and the *Medical Times*, etc., etc., would not the medical homœopathists be somewhat the worse, for your retirement from the field? If they don't think so, they are geese indeed.

I wish you would answer my question about your circulation. I don't suppose you will, but it can't be helped. At the festival of the Homœopathic Congress, at Soyer's (what a queer place, by the way, for the homœopathists to dine at—very bad taste in *that*, at all events), Mr. Sandoz made a capital speech, which was reported in your journal. He said the homœopathic literature should be supported, and that it was absurd for any person to say he did not like the *tone* of this article, and he was offended with the *sentiments* of another, but that *all* should support what was done in the defence of the common Cause; or words to that effect. That Mr. Sandoz is obviously a very fine fellow, a good man of business, and a *regular trump*—a conscientious man, who works for the good of suffering humanity. Why don't you get him to be dictator of both your hospitals, and settle your foolish differences? I like Mr. Sandoz very much; he is in earnest, and what he undertakes to do, he does.

You all want stirring up, that is *a fact*. Another thing, what is the reason that you don't get Dispensary reports from Edinburgh, Dublin, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Exeter, Torquay, etc., etc.? Where are the weekly reports of the two London hospitals and of the Manchester one?

If the persons who are connected with hospitals and dispensaries *won't* send you reports, they deserve the censure of all genuine homœopathists.

I like fair play, and as I have watched your course from the beginning, I can't help thinking you have been very badly used by most of your medical homœopathists. Are they jealous of you? Are they afraid of you? Are they split up into parties? Are they jack-straws?

There is something very bad in all this; and I want you to enlighten me about it.

And who is that mysterious personage—your Editor? pray, excuse my indiscretion. Is it Dr. Laurie, or Dr. Curie, or Von Viettinghoff, or Lord Brougham? In sober earnest, when your foes are many, I mean the foes of homœopathy, I do think you homœopathists should pull all together. It is good for brethren to dwell together in amity, but you seem to me not to love one another over-much. Be united, like good fellows, and then—but not till then—you will thresh the allopaths, and show true reverence to Hahnemann, whom you are always quoting, but never truly honouring either in word or in deed, while you have these divisions in your camp. Excuse the plain speaking of

Q IN THE CORNER.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

PLEASE, Sir, I want to ask you a question. Some fellows think one thing and some another, but I think it's very odd in a fellow that belongs to one of our houses, no matter which. You see, a little time ago, a fellow that does'nt belong to our school, came to play at marbles on the common, and, do you know, he'd got some uncommonly queer marbles, very handsome, and such ones to spin! None of us had ever seen any like them, and we all took a deal of notice of them, especially when he told us that he'd made them all himself. One of our fellows made up to him directly, and got quite thick with him, and went to his house ever so many times, and he showed him how he had made them and all that.

So a little time after, out comes my master with some marbles of the same sort. "Look," says he, "look here, and see what I've found out! That's the kind of marbles! I make 'em out of my own head." Well, we were all rather taken aback at this; but one big fellow cries out directly, "Holloa! why, these are just the very marbles that fellow that was here the other day makes. *He* found out the way, and I've seen him make them scores of times!" Well, our chap goes off home rather huffish-like, and the very next day up he comes again, and then he calls us all a set of blockheads for calling those things marbles at all! "Why, they are nothing but sham," says he, "just clay painted and varnished over to deceive the eye, and make them look like real marbles. Mine are just as good as the other fellow's, but they're both *gammon*, and you're a set of stupids!" Now, wasn't that cool? but if that's the case, I should just like to know why, as he knew the whole thing was a cheat, he wanted at first to put off his for real marbles, and whether he'd ever have told us anything about it if we had all given him the credit of having found out how to make them.

The other fellow that first brought them up to the playground says, he can't answer for any gammon that anybody else may have tried to put upon us; but he knows his are the right sort of thing, and that he's sure he can prove it. "But," says he, "I don't want you to buy any of them; I've none to sell. Nor I don't want you to pay for my showing you how to make them." Well now, I think that's like a jolly fine fellow! and I think it was very queer in the other fellow; don't you? I think we ought to say to him

KNUCKLEDOWN.

THE HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT OF ANIMALS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—It is now about two years since I last wrote to you, stating that I had tried the homœopathic system of the treatment of disease on my class of patients, viz., the horse, cow, dog, and pig; and that I was agreeably surprised with its curative effects. I am happy to inform you, after a more lengthened experience and in-

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timacy with Hahnemann's principles, that I can still testify to its great superiority over the old system of treatment. In affections of the lungs, inflammation, congestion, bronchitis, laryngitis, cough, etc., I find it decidedly better, and have always cured in a much shorter period, and without loss of condition, than by the allopathic treatment.

In enteritis, colic, cystitis, and nephritis, the homœopathic medicines act much quicker and surer than the allopathic remedies. In puerperal fever in cows, I find an immense improvement upon the old system; in about twenty-five cases, several of which were affected with puerperal paralysis, I have not lost one.

In rheumatism in cattle, I have been agreeably surprised with the curative effects of the properly selected homœopathic medicine. As an instance, I had under my care, two years ago, a bull belonging to a gentleman in this neighbourhood, which had been suffering from rheumatism in the joints for a considerable time; he could scarcely walk, and was very much reduced in condition. I treated him allopathically for several months, but without any good results. Having at this period been led to the consideration of the homœopathic system of treating disease, I considered this a good case for trial. Accordingly, I administered the appropriate medicines, *Acon.*, *Bell.*, *Lach.*, *Nux*, *Sulph.*; he gradually improved, and in four weeks was perfectly convalescent, and recovered rapidly in condition. He had no return of the disease.

Within the last twelve months I had a similar case, and with equally good success.

In the treatment of dogs there is great gain, besides the extra advantageous manner in which the homœopathic medicines act; they are much easier given than upon the present mode. In the treatment of swine, I have also been very fortunate with the new medicines. I may mention a case I had lately of a sow (belonging to a Mrs. Booth of this place), with a litter of pigs three weeks old. When called in, I found her in a woeful state; her tongue swollen, and hanging out of her mouth, with gangrenous patches under and on the sides of it. She had also angina maligna (putrid sore throat); her milk was gone, and she had not eaten anything for several days. I administered *Merc.*, *Bell.*, and *Ars.* She gradually improved, and in two days she was able to swallow some gruel, which we gave carefully with a small horn; in six days she was able to eat, and is now getting up her condition. The owner was strongly advised by her neighbours to kill her, as they were sure she could never be cured. However, Mrs. Booth remained firm, and is now rewarded for her faith and good conduct.

In cases of lameness in the horse, some yield readily to the appropriate medicines, but in others I find it necessary to resort to more severe treatment, such as actual cautery, setons, blistering, etc.; and when I consider a dose of physic is required, I give it. I do not think it necessary to throw aside all former experience. I consider it my duty, as a professional man, to get all the knowledge I possibly can in aid of my calling, whatever may be the source; and I would consider myself culpable and unjust towards my employers, had I remained ignorant of Hahnemann's system of the treatment of disease. I have never seen it properly made manifest why we should not become acquainted with Hahnemann's practice of physic. I suppose he gives us his experience, as other writers do on the same or similar subjects. He was a respectable member of the medical profession (at least the contrary has not been proved), and as such is entitled to credit. I can honestly state, from the experience which I have had of Hahnemann's system of treating disease, and of his chemistry (I prefer this mode of expression to that of homœopathy, as the majority of people are apt to be deceived by terms, being ignorant of the substance), that it is a great acquisition to our knowledge in the healing art, and in my humble opinion is the best and soundest, the least speculative and best proven of any system which hitherto has been propounded. It is probable that in time Hahnemann's system may be improved upon, and I hope to be always open to the reception of new truths. I do not class myself in the catalogue of those who style themselves "the perfect." I am a student through time, ever alive to the development of Nature's progressive laws, and to the investigating powers and progress of unbiassed intelligent man; and whatever may be the source, or by whatever name a new system may be called, if, in testing it practically, I find hints which enable me to relieve suffering quadrupeds or bipeds in a superior manner to that which I have been practising, I shall not consider it derogatory to my professional honour to adopt it. I consider it a duty to myself and to the public, my employers, to be up to the most recent improvements in the science of the healing art; and as homœopathy is the most recent, I should be ill fitted for my station were I ignorant of it. It is an increase to my acquirements, of which I am proud, and which enables me to relieve the sufferings of my poor dumb patients in a much more benevolent manner than heretofore. I should likewise consider myself shamefully behind the age, were I ignorant of that noble influence so rich in Nature's domain—that electrical agent, which gives life and activity to every living tissue in the animal kingdom, viz., animal magnetism or mesmerism, and of its influence in the cure of disease, physical and mental. I have a sorrowing pity for the members of the profession who know it not. It is a common phrase, that "every little makes a mickle." I should also consider myself a drone in the little world of medical science, were I unacquainted with the new science of the physiology of the brain and nervous system, or what is technically called phrenology. I have found this knowledge of the mental powers of much service in my intercourse with the lower animals.

I should also be guilty of a great omission in the necessary professional acquirements for the public interest, had I not investigated the efficacy of hydropathy. I have, in many in-

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stances, found this an excellent adjunct. It gives me much pleasure, Mr. Editor, to perceive that the conductor of our veterinary journal has hitherto acted with much gentlemanly reservation on the subject of homœopathy, and no doubt will test its merits or demerits in an honourable, practical manner, before he expresses himself fully upon the subject. I wish I coald say as much for some of your allopathic leading journals and knights of the *Lancet*.

I am, Sir, with much respect,
Yours obediently,
D. McTaggart.

Halifax.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Sir,—I have read Mr. Rutter's pamphlet, and I have read or heard the many letters and lectures on and against his discovery. I have not the pleasure of Mr. Rutter's acquaintance, nor have I ever seen him, but it requires no great amount of perspicuity to feel convinced, on reading his book, that it is the work of a "true" man, the fair, honest dealing of an honourable, scientific, and straightforward mind. His way of stating facts, of mentioning what he has seen or tested, and of avoiding all pompous words and vain praise of himself or his discovery; his diffidence and his honest statement of what he assures us to be true—all that is more than sufficient to carry the reader to his side, and while giving him a fair hearing, to make one rather regret the paper war which has been bespattering him all over with so much ink these last few weeks. Why all this "leaping hastily at conclusions?" Why this lecturing one day in his favour and then *unlecturing* it all over again? Why these accusations against him, and these conclusions against his work—bitter criticisms, hasty scribblings, and still more hasty words? In my humble judgment, it seems to me that it would have been far better to follow Mr. Rutter's sound and good advice, "to go on observing and recording," rather than trying to raise one's self at the expense of his statements, and at the risk of being compelled again, some day or other, to change one's views a third time.

Let Mr. Rutter's statements be "*pondered* over by those whose education, and experience, and *habits of thinking qualify* them for the task," and whether true or untrue, for goodness and pity's sake, no hasty conclusions and no hasty words!

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
H. V. Malan.

Great Cumberland Street,
December 3, 1851.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Dear Sir,—Allow me to congratulate you upon the soundness of your remarks in your last concerning the signatures to that petition for the protection of homœopathic students, and as whatever is worth doing, is worth doing well, it will not perhaps be impertinent to remark further, that the idea of our committee excluding females from taking part in the concern seems to be inconsistent with the laws of everlastingly-ruling and never-erring Nature, although it may have been sanctioned by a barbarous custom; that part of the community, men cannot help feeling, being in reality, in their capacity of wives and mothers, the most concerned with the progress of any science, the more so of the science of medicine. This unsound dealing has already created separative and reactive feelings, much to be regretted; it is seriously evidenced in carelessly administering to themselves, their husbands, children, etc., any advertised quack medicine or nostrum (about which, by the way, the "medical authorities" say nothing); and in the choice of a medical man, when this is unavoidable, selecting the practitioner, not for the soundness of his doctrine and skill, which they are forbidden to understand, but from other considerations, such as age, address, looks, garments, equipage, place of residence, or adroitly-acquired notoriety; and medical men, finding this to be the case, attend to these, to the neglect of scientific pursuits. That the agitation for the Charter is a wise and necessary one, there can be no doubt; but I do not think petitioning the Patrons of the Edinburgh University, to correct and prevent a designing mischief of its (it is painful to say) bigoted professors, would at all conduce to obtaining the Charter, or the ultimate success of our glorious science. However that may be, I did my best to collect signatures as directed, and applied to none but my own patients in town, who are all staunch supporters of homœopathy, and had the delicate, the acute, and the persevering females been allowed to express their convictions, by putting their signatures to the petition, instead of filling up a few sheets sent to me (I should thank them to send me a few more), I should have been able to fill twenty or more.

Dear Sir,
Most faithfully yours,
Viettinghoff.

Chadwell Street, London,
25th November, 1851.

Miscellaneous.

"There are such things as black swans — in Australia; and there are such persons as generous opponents to homœopathy among the allopaths of Britain: and the Council of the College of Surgeons has decreed wisely not to interfere with the homœopathists.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

LETTER TO JAMES Y. SIMPSON, M.D., F.R.S.E.,

AND PROFESSOR OF MIDWIFERY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

No. II.

Sir,—So the students' business was, after all, only a bit of the *Lancet's* gammon. Well! "did I ever, no, I never." Turn that fellow off! he does the cause of allopathy more harm than ever he did it good. He will turn upon you some day for an extra sixpence.

The Sheffield mine has exploded; and such an explosion!!! not a pane of glass left in the town of Sheffield! fired by the Council of the Royal College itself; a spark drawn from the *positive* pole of allopathy; which, charged with fids of plum-pudding, hasn't left its mark in the face of a pat of butter. "*Et tu Brute.*" Now! for the redeeming of a pledge, and the upholding of that high sense of honour which renders it unbecoming in an allopath to walk on the same side of the street with a globulist. The genius of allopathy calls for that pledge being kept. It is a hard case, we shall have no more of them probably. This is an interesting matter for any future post-prandial meeting of the Edinburgh Medico-Chirurgical Society.

It must be exceedingly satisfactory to the public, who possess at least two-thirds, if not three-fourths of the stake at issue in this discussion, to be informed that it was at once declared, at the late meeting of that body, to be "equally unnecessary and inexpedient to offer any exposition of what were called the principles of homœopathy, or enter into any inquiry as to the soundness of their foundation." This announcement is so strictly in accordance with all that has gone before it, that we are by no means surprised that the present occasion has not excelled any former on this point. Had any other resolution been come to but this, what a deal of logic on homœopathy we might have had at this meeting of the Edinburgh Medico-Chirurgical Society! As it is, the subject is almost entirely monopolised by yourself. What quotations and calculations, mystifications, filtrations, approbations, and even perhaps stultifications, we should have had, if each member had got his swing at globulism. As it is, we have *two* resignations!!

"Parturiunt montes, nascetur *ridiculus mus.*"

The Edinburgh Medico-Chirurgical Society is now purified, soaped, and watered, *secundum artem*, and is *almost* as good as new. Is any member sensible of any acquisition of dignity? No doubt this discussion has cast a considerable amount of it over more than one pair of shoulders, which become the garment exceedingly well, only that it is a little out at the elbows, which gives it rather a jaunty air; for I have before me a somewhat stringent pamphlet by a late graduate, wherein he mentions a not uninteresting episode in Dr. Arneth's visit to Edinburgh, in which a fair amount of belief in homœopathy is confessed to by a member.

You will perceive how difficult it is to get out of a morass when once fairly into it. 'Twas scarcely thought possible that we puny globulists were to prove so hard-headed, and that on our account so many great names could get up to the saddle-girths in a therapeutic quagmire.

The members of the Medico-Chirurgical Society having each in his own heart given judgment on homœopathy *before* the *meeting*, as stated by the propounders of the motion, leaves little to be done when the assembly does take place (always excepting the six pages for which mankind is indebted to yourself), unless it be that much to be desired acknowledgment by Mr. Syme that, "as a member of a licensing board, he did not conceive himself entitled to reject any candidate, except on the ground of having failed in complying with the prescribed course of study, or acquiring the expected amount of information."

With this declaration before us, we do not for a moment consider ourselves entitled to analyse the circumstances under which Alfred Crossby Pope is not at this moment a graduate of Edinburgh. But if homœo-

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pathy had no part in that decision, we should like this declaration to extend to other members of the Faculty; and in the hope that professional nature may not in future filter away its goodness of heart by rejecting a zealous candidate for a *physician's* degree, on a deficiency of one question in surgery, and another in forensic medicine.

Perhaps, to us, the feature of most interest at this meeting is the expression of a deep anxiety to preserve the *principles* of *allopathy* "*pure and unsullied.*" Let us enclose these principles in a bottle; hermetically seal them *just as they are*, and serve them out again ten years hence—you won't know them again, believe me! they may *possibly* be renewed *twice over* in that time.

Now for *your* six pages. *Consultations* are admitted; mixture of treatment also—and with a joyous surrender of opinion to undefined dicta, which nobody *has* defined, *will* define, or *can* define—you shout "Joe Smith!!!" and unfurl your newly-fledged banner—"a *standard of common sense.*" Let physicians adhere to *that* standard, *whatever* doctrine the term may include; if used with judgment, it will stand them in good stead—if made a medical myth of, see where it will hurry *pure allopathy* all the faster!

But you have discussed the *demerits* if not the *merits* of homœopathy; as usual, *we must* be great rogues, and you are therapeutically immaculate. But I see no reference to the case you are said to have reported as cured by you homœopathically, on Dr. Arneth's representation. I can easily believe *that cure;* I have effected *similar* cures twenty times within the last few years at the very least computation. You have now bound yourself never to try *that plan* again. And yet it appears to me that you will not be justified in omitting it, whenever a *similar case* occurs. With many words from you on the *easy credulity* of homœopaths, I can find no repudiation of your own whispered mesmeric exploits, not that I think a belief in the latter is unwarrantable, but simply that homœopathy is quite as much of an entity.

But it is in vain to call for experiments; here is one said to have been reported by yourself; and now that it would be of use to the world it is not given. We need expect none, the time has gone past, or if any are to be, they are dimly seen in a distant future. Fear of persecution will prove a log of wood round the professional neck, and there will be a blank in therapeutics worthy of mediæval times. At last, emerging from this chaos, we shall see the Cave of Adullam vomiting forth apothecaries, all brought to their senses, and gasping for a slice of homœopathic plum-cake.

Notwithstanding Dr. Arneth proved how available homœopathic experiments *might* be at least *in some* cases, you have virtually entered into a bond to abstain from them. It now becomes your duty to declare to the public what your system *can do*, in accordance with your lately raised "*standard of common sense.*"—Tell us in what cases *Opium* is certain to procure sleep; in what cases it is equally certain to prevent it.—Tell us what proportion of a blue pill enters the absorbent system, and how much of it is carried off by the necessary black-draught of next day.—Tell us the *precise* quantities of chemicals necessary to produce chemical compounds within the digestive organs, capable of improving their laboratorial functions, and with which (in accordance with the present Paracelsan theories) medical *savans* inflate themselves to bursting.—Tell us whether the lancet, the leech, and the cupping-glass take vitiated blood *alone*, and if they leave behind *the healthy ingredients.*—And say whether, according to the laws of physics, a local abstraction of blood is not sure to be followed by a rush of that fluid to fill up the vacuum caused by the abstraction.—State how many alvine actions, whether *one* or *fifty*, may be expected from five grains of *Extract of Colocynth* and two drops of *Croton Oil.*—Or rectify this uncertainty by the more simple illustration of a scruple of *Jalap*, or three grains of compound *Rhubarb* pill.

We have for long held up the ever-changing nature of your school, as being the fruitful mother of distrust. That changing nature is still a ruling passion, which is singularly exemplified at the present moment. Whilst a first-class physician broadly asserts his *failing confidence in vaccination*, a continental mind of equal calibre is as strenuously advocating its principle when extended to the analogous operation of syphilization.

I draw your attention and also that of the Colleges, to a consideration of the means adopted for the suppression of what they deem a medical heresy; and more particularly to the single efforts of allopathic authors on homœopathic doctrines. Has one, *only one*, entered on the subject who does not overflow with party bias? Is there one of them who has not shrunk from experiment, with the conviction of its being an ordeal they cannot stand? Self-unction of having *disproved* homœopathy by words and on paper, *may* pass current before a Medical Society *all upon one side;* but our Gallic neighbours over

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and over again proved in this wise, that we Englishmen were beaten at Waterloo—and yet we on this side the Channel have never been convinced of *that fact.* No more do homœopathists feel themselves defeated by sudden bursts of allopathic logic.

When I remind Faculties and Royal Colleges of the condition of their recognised therapeutics by confession, and when I state that within these realms, overflowing with societies devoted to all other branches of science, the only two devoted to this deficient snbject are the "Hahnemann" and the "British Homœopathic," I state a fact that carries some import with it; and with this acknowledged condition, when we find public bodies and private coalescences arrogating to themselves, and with an imperiousness all but intolerable, even had their cause been good, rights over individual opinion and action that makes the year 1851 stand agape, we may well put on our armour; but when this cause is a self-convicted one of error, the arrogance resolves itself into insolence "*ex-officio*," as claiming *any prerogative* on a doctrine so mythical that no one can tell where it is; that is like a field of grain fast rotting; aged, without having been matured by age; on which a genial sun hath never thrown an illuminating ray that has not been instantly obscured by the sordid intervention of some one's guinea; and which, let it linger as it may, can never be anything but the stone of Sysiphus.

We find the manner in which these bodies have afforded support to a reeling cause worthy of its gigantic littleness. Rushing to a wild rescue, at the summons of a hireling wonderfully beneath their notice, they make it an affair of "*your money or your life?*" They forget that, *failing to disprove our system,* their only chance lies in *the improvement of their own,* yet all shun it as a hopeless task. *Our efforts* were, on the contrary, entirely devoted to the deficient branch; and when our hospitals made allopaths stare, they sneered at them because they were small; and each sneerer looked over towards Bartholomew's and Guy's, turned up his lip, and thought himself a wise man. But time may wear on, and rich bequests may fall in, and the private mansion-looking establishment of *now may* come out a Guy's, and "what a Guy" that will be for some!

To these united and single efforts at resistance we have to add that of "lecturing against the quackeries of the day." We have an instance of this where a physician addressed a literary and philosophical society, with the object of disproving homœopathy by the "inductive method of inquiry." It was a dangerous mode of attack, well calculated to give his audience a great opinion of the infallibility of pills, and the invariably fatal effects of globules. Watt, Dalton, Davy, and Wollaston achieved their triumphs over again; "laborious and painful observation, large generalization, and cautious induction," make every listener who has ever taken a globule shake in his shoes at his own temerity. "Lax reasoning, careless observation, eager credulity," follow this up on the other side, and we "immediately look out for the birth of Hahnemann at Meissen, and sure enough, in twenty lines more, he is born *again* at that place." The allusion to Watt, Dalton, Davy, and Wollaston has gone far to convince the audience that these philosophers had something to do with pills, and that a dose taken according to *their* directions is as certain in its action as the systolic stroke of a piston-rod, and as satisfactory as if warranted on a platinum scale, or thrown off with the precision that hours and minutes are by the hands of yonder clock. *Eheu!!!* Were one-half of that audience to take a dose of *Opium,* and the other half a dose of *Indian Hemp,* we should soon see how much James Watt had to do with any responsibility for the action of these substances. But the lecturer was a calm man, cautious in inquiry, slow to believe, and, contrary to all allopathic custom, gratuitously gave homœopathy a place as "that of a *legitimate medical doctrine, claiming a calm and dispassionate consideration.*" This liberality is not entirely free from leaven, for he states in the same breath that it is more than it deserves. An object was gained, for the audience departed determined to adhere to pills *administered according to the laws of induction.*

The president having invited a discussion, instantly availed himself of his own hospitality, and walked incontinently into the mild lecturer for that gentleman's *deficiency of passion and absence of indignation,* with both of which combustibles he appeared to be gravid, and was probably only kept from going off by a deficiency of oxygen, or a failure in lucifer matches. He then mentioned a lamentable case of brain fever which had been treated homœopathically, and which he had been subsequently called in to attend, and where (as is usual in such cases) *he was "just in time to save life,* but that reason was lost for ever." By a very strange coincidence, we happen to have a similar case, the result of erysipelas, wherein we happened to be consulted at the

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very same point of difficulty. Reason was lost, life remains in *our* case; yet we do not feel disposed to express a determination of sending our allopathic predecessor "to the hulks," as this gentleman *would* have done, *if* he *could* have done. We know well how to appreciate such lamentable cases resulting in homœopathic patients; the few such scapegoats that *do* occur, are the straws by which allopathy holds on for *very life*.

Sir, the inductive philosophy is not a thing of yesterday. We have a high respect for it when applied to pills—a refinement in expression thereof carries us gratefully back to that youthful philosopher who charmed us with it even from the nurse's arms—

"who sat in a corner,
Eating his Christmas pie."

It is exceedingly comforting to think that this youthful scion, perhaps of a long line of philosophers, ate his pie in strict conformity with the laws of "induction," true to the philosophy of nature, and obedient to the cravings of a youthful stomach, backed up by the digestion of an ostrich—and we sincerely trust that he had an especial hatred to any one labouring under "*a deficiency of passion and absence of indignation.*"

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
Dec. 18, 1851. SIGMA.

ON MR. RUTTER'S MAGNETOSCOPE.

From the Torquay Directory.

IN a curious set of experiments witnessed by a correspondent of the *Torquay Directory*, and described in the number for the 22nd October,—it might seem difficult, from the explicitness of the statements and the superior intelligence of the writer, not to receive, as facts, the apparent phenomena. On considering the nature of the instrument, however, by which the phenomena are said to be exhibited, and which, in other hands, as described by Mr. Vivian, had failed, I was immediately struck with a source of error sufficient to invalidate, at least, some essential portions of the results originally obtained. This source of error, which, though not sufficient to explain *all* that was witnessed by the correspondent of the *Directory*, is, on scientific principles, I believe, fully adequate to account for the ordinary pendulum-like and circular motions of the suspended sealing-wax. And this source of, to my mind, obvious error, is found in the *pulsation* in the hand and arm of the experimenter—the real source, no doubt, of the delusion in the popular experiment of a ring, or piece of coin, when suspended within a glass, striking the sides until, as is supposed, it has struck the hour of the day! For in this case, the regular pulsations render oscillations from the most steadily held hand inevitable, and then, when these have gone to the extent of producing contact against the sides of the glass until the hours on the clock shall have been struck, the surprise of the *credulous* experimenter naturally produces some effect on the steadiness of the hand from which the ring is suspended, so as, by a new and unconscious motion, to interfere with the acquired pendulous motion, and thus to check or counteract the previously regular oscillations. The same cause, I doubt not, exerts an impressive action on the sealing-wax pendulum of the magnetoscope. No matter how tightly the sustaining pillar is screwed down to the table, the elasticity of the materials of the instrument necessarily renders it susceptible of an undiscernible influence, from the pulsations in the operator's arm put in contact with the suspension-arm of the instrument.

If this theory be correct, it should thence follow that the motion in the sealing-wax would be different in degree according to the isochronism, or harmonic relation, of the pulsations of the operator and the vibrations of the pendulum. Where the isochronism might be perfect (from the length of the pendulum being such as to make a complete oscillation in the time of a medium beat of the pulse), the pulsatory impressions would, of course, be most effective, and the motion in the instrument the greatest. Hence a change in the experimentalist should, from the probable difference of the rate of the pulse, produce a change in the quantity of the motion. It should likewise obviously follow, upon this theory, that a relation in the direction or nature of the motion should exist with respect to the position in which contact may be made betwixt the finger of the operator and the inner end of the arm employed for the suspension (by its other and more projecting extremity) of the sealing-wax. Thus, if the forefinger, for instance, were pressed on the top of the horizontally extended suspension-arm, the pulsations might be expected to urge a pendulum-like oscillation in the sealing-wax; whereas, if the heel of the support were taken (by the sides) betwixt the finger and thumb, a gyratory motion might probably ensue. If, again, when the pendulum had derived motion from one operator, another should at the same time make contact with the suspension-arm, the possible difference of the two pulsations should induce discordance in the impulses, resulting, probably, in a state of rest.

These ideas, inductively derived from the probable influence of the pulsatory action in the arm and hand of the operator, had, in their leading particulars, occurred to me before I saw the instrument. And it will be obvious to the readers of the *Directory*, that whilst they carry the explanation of the general phenomena of the magnetoscope to a special and somewhat regular propulsatory action, they are by no means irreconcilable with the observations in, and general tendency of, the instructive paper of Mr. Vivian, published Nov. 5th, on the same subject. The essential difference, indeed, betwixt Mr. Vivian's exposition and that of my present paper, is—in

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the addition of guidance and regularity to the impulses from the hand of the operator by virtue, as I have supposed, of the arterial pulsation of the human system.

On obtaining a loan of Mr. Rutter's instrument, I proceeded to try its action by experiment, with a view, too, of testing the principles above assumed. The result, taken generally, appeared, to my mind, quite satisfactory. I am not prepared, indeed, to say that all similar experiments yielded exactly corresponding results; but, in the first series I made, comprising six or eight trials by myself and another, everything was almost exactly as had been anticipated. In my own case, with the forefinger placed *on* the inner end of the suspension-rod or arm (the finger being in a horizontal position, and pressing firmly downward on its upper surface) an oscillatory motion of the sealing-wax soon became perceptible, which continued during the time of contact, but not to any great extent. In the first instance, I had taken the pendulum at the full length of the silk string by which it happened to be attached—the oscillations being about 102 per minute (or 51 double oscillations), whilst my pulse was at 76 or 77—a ratio, it will be observed, fortunately harmonic. On shortening the string till the oscillations were isochronous with the pulsations, the same results—and even more decided—were obtained. In like manner, a similar motion was produced by simple contact of the finger, from the friend who was present. And it was specially observable in four distinct experiments, that the *direction* of the oscillations in the pendulum was in a plane corresponding very nearly with the pointing of the finger of the operator! I next took the inner end of the suspension-arm betwixt the finger and thumb of my left hand—pressing it now on the sides—when, just as had been anticipated, a gyratory motion of the wax ensued, an effect, too, which was repeated when the trial was made by a lady. In *my* first trial the gyrations went from right to left; in the second, from left to right. On the whole, I could not determine any rule for the direction.

The experiments I made, whilst thus confirming the views anticipated by theory, were not sufficiently numerous, perhaps, to establish, incontrovertibly the several propositions involved therein; but the principles assumed were, in several other particulars, strikingly supported. Thus, when in one instance a very obvious degree of motion had been produced in an isochronous pendulum, the motion ceased on the suspension-silk being lengthened. As to an actual and inevitable motion in the finger, however carefully steadied, I obtained abundant proof in various ways. Fixing the instrument on a somewhat heavy table with a marble top, on which was a small steel cylinder, held down by a hair, and suspended against gravity by a powerful little magnet, I found the suspended steel in a state of perpetual vibration whenever a finger was placed upon the magnetoscope. Again, I tested the inevitable motion of the finger, however the arm might be supported, by the microscope,—the motion, both with my own finger and that of another, being incessant. And, finally, on holding a finger up near the eye and testing its motions by marks on the paper-hangings of the room, I thought I could perceive a relation to the pulsations in the arm. In one trial there was obviously an accordance; but it was not easy to separate the pulsatory action from the general unsteadiness of the point of the finger.

In conclusion, it may be proper to add, that whilst my own experience with Mr. Rutter's magnetoscope seems thus far to be conformable to an action previously imagined, I would not venture to say that no other influences than that referred to do really exist. As far as science has yet advanced, indeed, we can see no possible connection betwixt the results understood to be realized by Mr. Rutter and the hitherto known laws of electric or magnetic action; yet, where such wonders, from time to time, are actually seen to be developed in scientific researches, it might not be prudent to assume that the asserted phenomena are impossible, much less that any attempt at a particular solution can satisfy all the results elicited by the magnetoscope.

Grosmont, Torquay. WM. SCORESBY.

[The writer of this paper, the Rev. Dr. Scoresby, is one of the great authorities in magnetic science, and we have therefore seen fit to reprint his criticism on Mr. Rutter's magnetoscope. He concludes his letter in the spirit of a cautious truth-seeking philosopher.—ED.]

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20TH, 1851.

THE remarkable progress making by homœopathy is rendered more apparent through the information received of the success attending the practice, not alone in the metropolis, but also in the various provinces. A friend, the other day writing from North Lancashire, speaks in glowing terms of the hearty reception he had met among the inhabitants of the district in which he had settled, with the view of carrying on a professional career in connection with this system. He enthusiastically refers to the consideration with which his statements have been treated among the public, but he anticipates, of course, the oppposition of the allopaths immediately they can fasten upon him. That he may certainly reckon upon, since, whether influenced by the Colleges or private pique, these valiant gentlemen are ready to show

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fight whenever an opportunity presents itself.

It is under circumstances such as these, that the public themselves can afford to those who are endeavouring to carry out this medical reform the protection they require. The allopaths will presently find this to their cost; since it is not to be borne, that men of education and intelligence, because they refuse to prescribe according to the precepts of a particular school, are to be hunted down like wild beasts, and frightened out of all natural propriety. In the name of common sense and common justice, we exclaim against such a mode of settling scientific differences, and no matter whether they relate to the use of the magnetoscope or the doctrine of infinitesimal doses, it is monstrous in the extreme that they should be further permitted.

The time has arrived for the public to pronounce on the question at issue between the contending parties. It is not a difficult one for solution, if they will set to work in good earnest. The homœopathists have put before them their case; the allopathists have done the same. Both cannot be right in their conclusions; one of the two parties must certainly go to the wall. In the struggle which has occasioned so great a wordy warfare, the disciples of Hahnemann have always professed their readiness to submit to full investigation. Not so, however, the followers of the blister and lancet remedies. This speaks something in favour of faith in our own system. Why will they not adopt a similar proceeding? Because they know sufficiently well that by inquiry their fallacies would be exploded.

THE LANCET.

We reprint from this journal the memorial of Mr. Syme to the Town Council of Edinburgh. This memorial is divided into fourteen clauses.

Mr. Syme fairly starts with saying that he has a direct interest in the Medical School of the University, as its prosperity is a source of emolument and reputation for him. The question, then, between the Medical Faculty and Professor Henderson is a matter of £. *s.* *d.* on their part. This is no very disinterested nor scientific starting point.

In the 3rd and 4th clauses Mr. Syme speaks of the chair of general pathology, and states that great doubts have been entertained as to the usefulness of such a course of lectures. In other words, according to the Regius Professor of Clinical Surgery, abolish the chair, rather than retain the professor.

In the 5th clause he states truly enough, that the present Professor of General Pathology has, for some years past, publicly professed the practice of homœopathy, but he rashly and ignorantly assumes that homœopathy is entirely opposed to, and inconsistent with, the principles which he and his colleagues have been appointed to teach. Mr. Syme should have shown what are the principles in anatomy, in chemistry, in botany, in physiology, in midwifery, in clinical surgery, or in pathology, to which homœopathy is opposed, and with which it is inconsistent.

In the 6th clause Mr. Syme asserts that the medical profession of Great Britain regard homœopathy as a delusion so manifest and mischievous, that none who practise it should be met in consultation by those so regarding it. Mr. Syme so regards it; and yet Professor Henderson has shown that Mr. Syme has met homœopathists in consultation. In this clause he also delights to declare to the members of the Town Council, that the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh has expelled Professor Henderson; who might retort on that Society as Coriolanus did on the Roman faction, that expelled him—

——"I banish you!"

For his single name, being that of a man honest in his convictions, will outweigh the names of all those who have acted in a spirit of blind and bitter bigotry.

The *Lancet* has observed: "For seven years the globulist professor continued to occupy the chair of pathology, unmolested

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by his colleagues. It is true they deprived him of the chair of clinical medicine; but it would appear that they still met him in practice, and took no means whatever to protest against his teaching. As long as nothing was said about it, the other professors were on the most comfortable terms with their homœopathic colleague. Only two or three weeks ago a statement appeared in the *Edinburgh News*, signed by J. R. RUSSELL, a globulist M.D., in which he avers that some years ago Professor GOODSIR 'undertook to write pathological articles in the *British Journal of Homœopathy*.' It was certainly not from anything which occurred in Edinburgh, that the present determination to get rid of the Professor of Pathology arose."

We recommend this extract from the *Lancet* to Mr. SYME's notice, and wish him a good digestion after it.

Let our readers compare this extract with the 7th, 8th, and 9th clauses of Mr. SYME's memorial.

In the 10th clause he tells the Patrons what they already knew very well, that they only can interfere with the Professorship of General Pathology.

In the 11th he informs them of another fact that they were well acquainted with, that the professor was appointed to hold his office *ad vitam aut culpam*, for life, or till the commission of something heinous which should warrant his deposition.

In the 12th clause he assumes that nothing more heinous can be committed by a professor than deserting the established principles of his profession, (what established principles, Mr. SYME?) and therefore that the Patrons have a clear right to depose the Professor of General Pathology.

In the 13th he graciously informs the Town Council, that the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons (who have denounced homœopathy) will give them excellent advice, if they have any doubt about the case: which is very much like referring a case of supposed leaning to the cause of MONMOUTH to the tender mercies of Judge JEFFREYS.

And in his 14th and last clause, he modestly prays the Town Council to depose Professor HENDERSON.

We are informed that the members of the Town Council of Edinburgh have resolved to take no notice whatever of Mr. SYME's memorial, which we now submit to our readers without any further comment, leaving them to judge of the memorialist's fitness to make such an appeal.

"MEMORIAL OF MR. SYME TO THE TOWN COUNCIL OF EDINBURGH.

"The following memorial has been addressed by Professor Syme to the Town Council of the City of Edinburgh:—

"*The Memorial of James Syme, Regius Professor of Clinical Surgery, unto the Honourable Patrons of the University of Edinburgh.*

"Humbly showeth,—1. That your memorialist has a direct interest in the prosperity of the Medical School of the University of Edinburgh as a source of emolument and professional character.

"2. That the degree of M.D. is conferred by the Senatus Academicus of the University, in accordance with certain regulations enacted by them, which have received the sanction of the Patrons, and are binding upon all candidates for this honour.

"3. That these regulations enjoin attendance upon a six months' course of lectures on general pathology, which is not taught in any other school of the British dominions, and therefore must be taken in Edinburgh by every student who aspires to graduating here.

"4. That great doubts have been entertained as to the needfulness of such a course of lectures, which was instituted about twenty years ago by Government, without the approval or knowledge of the Patrons, who, at the suggestion of the Medical Faculty, on the first occasion of the chair being vacant, recommended the Government to abolish it.

"5. That the present Professor of General Pathology has, for some years past, publicly professed the practice of homœopathy, which is entirely opposed to, and inconsistent with, the principles which he and his colleagues of the Medical Faculty have been appointed to teach.

"6. That homœopathy being regarded by the medical profession of Great Britain as a delusion so manifest and mischievous, that it should render unfit for being met in consultation any one professing it, the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh, which comprehends, with few exceptions, all the physicians and surgeons of this city, have expelled the Professor of General Pathology from their body.

"7. That compulsory attendance upon a course of such questionable utility, and conducted by a professor so regarded by the profession, must constitute a serious obstacle to medical graduation in Edinburgh: in proof of

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which it may be mentioned, that while, during the last six years, the number of medical stu dents attending lectures in the University has greatly increased, the number of degrees annually conferred has sustained a no less remarkable diminution.

"8. That the existence of a homœopathic professor in the Medical Faculty has been eagerly seized upon by interested enemies of this school, to excite distrust in the public mind as to the general soundness of instruction in the University of Edinburgh, with the effect, as it can be proved, of preventing students from being sent here for their education, and of throwing discredit upon all the medical professors.

"9. That the Medical Faculty, immediately upon becoming aware of the homœopathic perversion of their colleague, took measures for removing him from the chair of clinical medicine, which he occupied jointly with some other members of their body, and over the appointment to which rhey possess a complete control, and that he accordingly ceased to exercise this portion of his academic duties.

"10. That neither the Medical Faculty nor any other body, except the Patrons of the University, who possess the power of dismissal as well as appointment, can interfere with the professorship of general pathology.

"11 That the professor was appointed by the Patrons to hold his office *ad vitam aut culpam*, that is, until death, resignation, or the commission of a fault sufficiently serious to warrant deposition.

"12. That as there can be no greater fault committed by a professor than deserting the established principles of his profession, and openly maintaining others directly opposed to those which he and his colleagues were appointed to teach, the Patrons have at present a clear right to depose the Professor of General Pathology.

"13. That if any doubt should be entertained as to this being the case, the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons could at once remove it by the expression of their opinion.

"14. That the memorialist therefore humbly prays that the Honourable Patrons will take the circumstances into their consideration, and declare the chair of general pathology vacant.

"And your memorialist will ever pray,
"Edinburgh, Dec. 8, 1851. "JAMES SYME."

IN these days a bold and courageous spirit, that frankly speaks out in defence of any truth, or of any principle, is valuable in proportion to its rarity. There is a seeming honesty that is out-spoken enough, but a generous enthusiasm is something very rare.

Much has been written, much spoken, and much done for the promotion of homœopathy in these realms: different degrees of merit must be assigned to different individuals. But we want examples of that generous spirit of devotedness which is so necessary for the satisfactory progress of any great Reform. This kind of spirit is needed to be opposed to the cold questioning of philosophical doubt, and to that halting intellectual faith which will believe nothing that does not admit of a mathematical demonstration.

To one endowed with such a spirit, the beautiful verse of Wordsworth might be well applied—

"Leave to the nightingale her shady wood,—
A privacy of glorious light is thine,
Whence thou may'st pour upon the world a flood
Of harmony, with instinct more divine—
Type of the wise, who soar but never roam,
True to the kindred points of heaven and home."

For, in very truth, such a worker may be felt in what he does, but he boasts not, and from the mind of such an one—even Hahnemann—came the flood of *healing harmony*—and true to his *Phœbean* mission, he acted out his principles, and brought the fruits of his intelligence to every hearth that would receive him; and the spirit of that beautiful intelligence is still able as well as ready to make its home in every family.

If we contrast with this healthy spirit the carking envy and malignant hatred that dogged the Reformer through his mortal life, and now haunt, cur-like, the traces of his followers, we might well sympathise with their painful progress.

At this time all, who are in earnest for homœopathy, require the lively sympathy and active co-operation of those who call themselves friendly to this Cause. In our last number we appealed to the public to judge between the homœopathists and their assailants: these assailants charge our body, calumniously, falsely, and contumeliously, with falsehood aud deceit, and knavery.

We challenge them to the proof; they give none, offer none, but day after day, and week after week, repeat their charges. We have never shown any disposltion to defend the wrong, or apologize for what is not honest. We have a right to our convictions of the truth of the homœopathic

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therapeutics. We claim liberty of conscience, and we will have it.

That we have not only stood our ground, but made great progress under the hurtling storm of abuse and calumny to which we have been exposed, is no uncertain sign of the vitality of our Cause. But the public must decide, not only whether our therapeutics are, in their judgment, reliable, but whether the balance of good faith and veracity is on our side or on that of our opponents.

Our very able contributor SIGMA has often pierced the camp of our antagonists, and brought off the spoils of victory. Professor HENDERSON has shown that two eminent allopathic professors of Edinburgh cannot invite the public to look into their conduct towards homœopathists, "*Veluti in speculum.*" We demand no favour, but simple justice.

We have this for which to thank our unjust persecutors: we have not only had defenders from our own ranks, but some generous spirits, and many more will soon be added to the number, who are not of our body, have come forward to protest against the unfair conduct of our assailants.

Among them is the writer of the subjoined letter, a retired physician, of a family conspicuous for their ardent love of civil and religious liberty, as well as for their intellectual endowments and eminent attainments. Dr. JAMES RUSSELL is withdrawn from the polemical influences that have excited the wrath and fury of the Medical Colleges and Faculties of Scotland; he is held in the highest esteem and respect by his fellow-citizens, and his opinion will be received with the deepest attention.

His letter to the President of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh will no doubt make a great sensation in Scotland, and should be as extensively circulated as possible in England.

*A Letter to the President of the Royal College of Surgeons.**

"SIR,—When the billet of the Medico-Chirurgical Society announced a motion 'That the public profession of homœopathy shall be held to disqualify for being admitted or remaining a member of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh,' I sent in my resignation, as I considered such discussion hostile to the object for which the Society was instituted,—the promotion of Medical Science. A perusal of the speeches made on the occasion (with closed doors, since published by authority) has confirmed that opinion.

"The Royal College of Surgeons had previously adopted the following resolutions:—

"'1. The College having considered a series of resolutions transmitted by the Royal College of Physicians, in regard to homœopathy, feel called upon to express their opinion that the system so designated being entirely inconsistent with the principles professed by candidates for the diploma of the College of Surgeons, any Fellow or Licentiate who practises it, or countenances others in doing so, by meeting them in consultation, will justly incur the disapprobation of the College.

"'2. That a copy of the above resolution be transmitted to the Royal College of Physicians.'

"Had I been aware beforehand that it was proposed to submit such resolutions to the College, I should have attended the meeting and entered my dissent. As I knew that the College had never investigated the subject, the resolutions seemed to me, at the time, to be a harmless ebullition of feeling on the part of some members, to which the rest had tacitly yielded, and I have not thought it necessary to take any notice of them since. But when the public interests are sacrificed, and the rights of humanity violated,* when a gentleman of Professor Goodsir's high professional character feels himself constrained to such a course, avowedly on the ground, 'that the College of Surgeons has in its corporate capacity interdicted its members from meeting homœopathic practitioners,' I feel called upon publicly to disclaim these resolutions. They run counter to all the sentiments I imbibed from those under whose auspices I studied Medicine. I have no personal interest in this dispute. I am not a practitioner of homœopathy, nor much versed in it as a system. But I have enjoyed better opportunities than most members of the College, of calmly watching the action of the remedies in a considerable number of acute diseases—I would especially refer to bronchitis, scarlatina, rheumatic fever, and croup—and have been frequently surprised by their rapid and unequivocal success. The public are entitled to the benefit of these means of rapidly cutting short disease, and greatly hastening convalescence, and to the services of those who understand the use of them. Seeing that homœopathic practitioners are men equal, —in respect of scientific education, powers of observing, and personal character,—to other members of the profession, is it not natural to ask why, in this country alone amongst the na-

* A Letter to the President of the Royal College of Surgeons, on the late Proceedings of that Body regarding Homœopathic Practitioners; by James Russell, M.D., F.R.S.E., F.R.C.S.E., etc. Edinburgh: John Greig and Son, Melbourne Place.

* See Dr. Rutherfurd Russell's letter, reprinted from the *Edinburgh News*, in the *Homœopathic Times* of Dec. 6th, to the facts stated in which letter Dr. James Russell here refers.

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tions, a course so unusual should be adopted towards them by their professional brethren? I cannot understand it. I set aside, as irrelevant, all personalities, and adopt the language applied by a great ornament* of the profession to another controversy:—'Yet have I not so shaken hands with those desperate Resolutioners,—who had rather venture at large their decayed bottom, than bring her in to be new trimmed in the dock, who had rather promiscuously retain all, than abridge any, and obstinately be what they are, than what they have been,—as to staud in diameter and swords-point with them; we have reformed from them, not against them; for—omitting those improperations and terms of scurrility betwixt us, which only difference our affections and not our cause, —there is between us one common name and appellation, one faith, and necessary body of principles common to us both.' All my feelings towards the College are kindly, and the College knows that they are so. With many of its members I have always been, and trust I shall continue to be, on the most friendly footing. In the meeting of the Medico-Chirurgical Society, some were spoken of as holding up 'all the best acknowledged principles of our medical philosophy and practice—principles that have stood the test of thousands of years—as delusions and errors.' I have not so spoken, nor has any one ever spoken so in my hearing. I would have proved but an impatient listener. But while I have been no denouncer of prevailing modes of treatment, I have, as occasion offered, solicited the attention of my brethren to other modes which I had seen to be more successful, deeming it, as I still do, the duty of every practitioner to use the means by which the sufferings of his patient may be most safely and speedily removed, looking to facts rather than to systems. To be told, as a reason for not putting them to the test, that these remedies are called homœopathic, and that homœopathy is absurd, has always seemed to me to be trifling with the best interests of humanity, when eminent physicians, at home and abroad, have given ample evidence of the superior efficiency of these remedies, and courted inquiry.

"Were the position *Similia similibus curantur* the exclusive possession of one party, and *Contraria contrariis curantur* the equally acknowledged exclusive possession of the other, as every remedy may be arranged under one or other of these general laws, a catalogue might be prepared of the articles belonging to each, and a scientific chart of their respective territories laid down; the wide province of Sympathy here, of Antipathy yonder. Our old Scottish Borderers were not good at keeping the marches, under the most vigilant wardens. Will the parties in the present feud reciprocally bind themselves not to trespass on another's domain? So confident are many homœopathists of the universality of the law of *similia*, that they would, I believe, consent to restrict themselves to remedies acting under it. But no allopathist would by any means abide a true subject to the law of *contraria*. It would involve heavy losses,

* Sir T. Browne, Religio Medici.

stripping him at once of vaccination and of all the specifics. By him the homœopathic law is 'reviled and loved, renounced and followed.' He is not wedded to it, but he has no wish to shake himself free of its bonds.

"'One foot on sea and one on land,
To one thing constant, never'

This may be quite right. In politics it is said to be so.* True medical science may require the reverting from one law to the other, as a good citizen may require to be alternately landsman and sailor; but it is not possible, at the same time, for science to hold a position antagonistic to those who are steadfast to one law. There may be the scope of two elements instead of one, but the man who is sometimes at sea is not *contrary* to him who is always on shore. It is a subject for practical investigation, to ascertain out of which of these classes of agents the most successful remedy, for any given disease, is to be taken; and in leading proof on the subject, those who favour the one or the other class of remedies might profitably co-operate, each making out the best case they can, till free discussion has sifted the evidence and matured experience given judgment. Homœopathists may be wrong in so restricting themselves. It may turn out that they are unwarrantably limiting the resources of the healing art; but this is the utmost that can possibly be established against them. While this is under probation, can science lay anything to their charge, to excuse the treatment now bestowed upon them?

"But is there no other distinctive principle of homœopathy? None. Are not the doses always ludicrously minute? The opposite extreme has been no laughing matter to many. British endurance has been sorely taxed by the bulk and nauseousness of the drugs inflicted on the sick. If the homœopathic doses be over small and insipid, the matter might surely be adjusted amicably, for the question of quantity is, on both sides, avowedly regarded as an open one; and perhaps an ill taste might be imparted in any case in which it was urgently wished by the patient. Are the germs of mortal diseases certainly larger than these doses?

"Is it not absurd to expect results from such inert substances as some homœopathic remedies are? Sir E. Home once complained to Sir Joseph Banks, that the natural philosophers would not give a hearing to some speculations and experiments of his about the circulation of the blood, saying the thing was physically impossible. He was encouraged, in a manner worthy of the President of the Royal Society of London, 'Never mind whether it be possible or not, if it be true.' Speculative impossibilities

* "Nunquam enim præstantibus in republicâ gubernandâ viris laudata est in unâ sententiâ perpetua permansio, sed ut in navigando tempestati obsequi artis est, etiamsi portum tenere non queas; cùm verò id possis, mutatâ velificatione assequi, stultum est eum tenere cum periculo cursum quem ceperis, potiùs quàm, eo commutato, quò velis tamen pervenire: sic, cùm omnibus nobis in administrandâ republicâ propositum esse debeat, id quod à me sæpissimè dictum est, cum dignitate otium, non idem semper dicere, sed idem semper spectare debemus." —CICERO.

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are daily disposed of. Steam-boats cross the Atlantic in defiance of predictions from shallow philosophy; and one navigator sails over what seemed Red Mountains* to his predecessor, having enjoyed a better light and a nearer view. A submarine electric telegraph, reaching to France, would have been counted absurd enough some years ago. Competent observers say they have found these substances not inert. Let them be searchingly tested, and their proper scientific place assigned them.

"I regret that, on this occasion, our College, instead of taking her usual place at the head of every generous movement, has followed in the train of other less dignified bodies, who have in various places been gesticulating of late

> "'With all the prettiness of feigned alarm,
> And anger insignificantly fierce.'

"To stand alone, Sir, in our College, as perhaps I now do, is not an enviable position; but I have occupied it before. The measures adopted by the profession, when cholera first attacked our city, seemed to me so objectionable, that at a meeting of the College of Surgeons I moved a series of resolutions, condemning the steps taken to search out and shut up every one suspected of having been near an infected place, as an unwarrantable interference with personal liberty, and fitted to lead to dangerous concealments. I did not then find a public seconder, though some members privately expressed to me a general concurrence in my motion. During the lapse of years, ere we were again visited with this fearful scourge, sounder views had made progress; and no repetition of the former steps was proposed. I take encouragement from this in the present instance. Allured for a moment from her proper post of shielding from ignorant prejudices (in which the noble-hearted Dr. Chalmers† formerly lent his aid), those who are seeking, by strictly scientific investigation, to promote the health of the community and increase the resources of the healing art, the College has joined in seeking to excite the community with the panic cry,

> .... "'O miseri, quæ tanta insania, cives? ....
> Quicquid id est, timeo Danaos, et dona ferentes.'

But this this will not last. Very shortly I expect to see the profession no longer shunning the persons or slighting the gifts of homœopathists, having signally failed in persuading others to do so. Meanwhile, I trust at least that the public will not be denied the unquestionable benefit of some remedies on which homœopathists have succeeded in fixing attention; for example—*Aconite*, in lessening febrile action; *Arnica*, as an external application; *Belladonna*, in scarlet fever, and, as publicly attested by Mr. Liston, a most competent judge, also in erysipelas.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,
"Your obedient servant,
"JAMES RUSSELL."

"The following resolutions were agreed to by the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh:—

"'1. That the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh did, several years ago, publicly express its opinion of homœopathy and homœopathic practitioners, by peremptorily declining to admit into its body a candidate for its Fellowship who belonged to that denomination; and, consequently, that no Fellow of the College can possibly be ignorant of the light in which all those who practise homœopathy are regarded by the College.

"'2. The College regrets that, notwithstanding this decided expression of its opinion, more than one of its Fellows, after being admitted in a different character, have endangered the reputation of the College by becoming homœopathic practitioners; and the College expresses an earnest hope that these Fellows, seeing that they have thus virtually separated themselves from the College, will spontaneously sever their further connection with an institution which repudiates them, and from which they can derive, as merely nominal Fellows, nothing else than a false position and a spurious credit.

"'3. The College feels the more bound thus to express its opinion, seeing that those Fellows who have become homœopathists, and any other medical practitioners who follow homœopathy, must necessarily be aliens to the other Fellows, and to the profession at large; inasmuch as no Fellow of this College, or any other physician, can, by any possibility, without derogating from his own honour, and from the honour of the profession, meet practitioners of homœopathy in consultation, or co-operate with them in the other common duties of professional life.

"'4. That although the College has not thought it expedient hitherto to take any active steps for disclaiming those Fellows who have become homœopathic practitioners subsequently to their admission to the College, nevertheless, since it has the power of dealing summarily with those who act in a manner so unbecoming the character of a physician, it reserves its right to exercise that power when it shall be so advised.'"

* Arctic Regions. † Life, vol. iii. p. 31.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF HOMŒOPATHIC STUDENTS AND PRACTITIONERS.

THE necessity for such a movement as the present is obvious from the following facts:—

The University and the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons of Edinburgh, as well as the Universities of St. Andrew's and Aberdeen, have resolved to withhold their diplomas from those students who refuse to pledge themselves never to practise homœopathy. It appears also that the Faculty of Medicine of Glasgow is about to follow their example. The College of Physicians of London has also joined this foray against homœopathy.

The necessary consequence of these proceedings on the part of the universities, etc., will be —That those who cannot conscientiously pledge themselves against homœopathy, will be deprived of that recognised certificate of their qualification which a degree affords; and the public will have no guarantee of their fitness for the exercise of their profession. This is a matter, therefore, which affects the public in general, being an indirect but manifest violation of the right of individuals to the free selection of the kind of medical treatment they prefer.

The aim of this Association is to unite all who are not prepared to submit to this medical despotism. Any one, whether professional or non-professional—whether believing or not believing in the truth of homœopathy, who acknowledges the justice of our cause, is eligible for the Association. So soon as a sufficient organization is formed, and the public are roused to the danger

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of this arrogant and tyrannical stretch of authority by the universities, measures will be taken for obtaining a board of examiners, who shall be entitled to certify as to the competent knowledge of the candidates; and certificates granted by this board shall be held equivalent to a degree or diploma. The best means of obtaining this board, whether by petition to the Crown, or to both Houses of Parliament, must be matter of future consideration. One thing is certain, that without a previous organization, we never could succeed in having a sufficient number of signatures to such a petition. Our first and obvious duty then, is to unite for the protection of our students; and that each in his own locality shall spare no effort to enlist as many influential persons as possible in favour of the movement. The end is simple, the means are ample. All that is required is a combined effort, and the triumph of freedom for student and practitioner, and security for the public, will be speedily and certainly achieved without injury to any one—not even those universities whose folly has rendered this movement imperative. For the purpose of carrying out the objects of the General Association, a public meeting was held in the board-room of the Manchester Homœopathic Hospital, on Thursday, the 18th of September, when the following resolutions were unanimously carried:—

1st. That this meeting views with regret the course adopted by the colleges and other bodies to put down homœopathy, and denies and protests against the right of any corporate body or association, constituting but a minority of the medical profession, to dictate to others what course of treatment should be adopted in their practice.

2nd. That the course pursued by the universities, etc., towards homœopathic practitioners and students of medicine, leaves them no other means of redress than the seeking to obtain a charter of incorporation of a college which shall be empowered to confer degrees and grant licences to practise medicine.

3rd. That a branch of the Association for the protection of homœopathic students and practitioners be herewith organized, and that the following gentlemen be requested to act as a committee, with power to add to their number:—

Mr. W. R. Johnson, Treasurer; Mr. Phillips, Chairman of Committee; Rev. Canon Slade; Rev. R. Durnford; Rev. C. F. Smith; Rev. A. A. Bagshawe; Rev. R. Fletcher; Rev. J. Gwyther; Dr. Walker; Dr. McDowall; Mr. Harrison, M.R.C.S.L.; Mr. W. Scholefield, M.R.C.S.E.; Dr. Tuckey; Dr. Knowles; Mr. A. C. Pope, Alum. Med. Edin.; Alderman J. J. Parker; Mr. G. Wildes; Mr. R. Needham; Mr. W. McCall; Mr. H. Turner, Honorary Secretary.

The duties of the local committee will be to obtain as many members for the Association as possible, the names of which, together with the enrolment fee of half-a-crown, should be transmitted to the secretary; and it is of the utmost consequence to the success of the movement that it should be rapid and simultaneous. These funds, together with any donations which may be received, will be transmitted to the central committee, after deducting therefrom the expenses incurred by the local committee in issuing circulars, forwarding parcels, etc.

Pamphlets and publications, issued by the Association, will be from time to time distributed to the members.

It is particularly requested that every one who approves of the design of the Association, will lose no time in sending his name, along with the registration fee of half-a-crown, and any donation he may choose to give, to the secretary, the treasurer, or to any member of the committee.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In Dr. Dudgeon's letter to Dr. Routh, in your number of December 6th, there is a slight inaccuracy which I beg permission to correct. He states that the source of fallacy in the magnetoscope was first demonstrated by a homœopathist. I venture to remind him that such demonstration was made by "J. H.," at the very time when Dr. Madden first brought his experiments forward at the Hahnemann Hospital, and that although Dr. Madden has since most thoroughly and conclusively investigated the subject, he has not advanced the matter a step beyond the position then maintained by J. H., and subsequently stated in his letter in your journal. But it appears that Dr. Cowan, of Reading, had "demonstrated" the same source of fallacy long before, at the time when the instrument was submitted to the Provincial Medical Association, at Brighton. See his letter to the *Lancet*, of November 22nd. Dr. Dudgeon is well aware that neither of these persons are homœopathists, and I presume he wrote the statement I have noticed, in a moment of temporary forgetfulness.

I take this opportunity of thanking you for the courtesy with which you have inserted my letter to Sigma, and of expressing my perfect satisfaction, *in every respect*, with his reply. If you will allow me, I will supply one deficiency which he notices. In juxtaposition with the statistics of the Hahnemann Hospital I will place my own. I attend habitually some of the patients at a large dispensary, in connection with which many severe cases are visited at their own homes. The mortality among the patients last year was one in about 125. The average mortality for several preceding years was a little greater, but still decidedly less than that which I quoted in my letter.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A SURGEON.

PETITION TO THE PATRONS OF THE EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—The letter from Dr. Rosenstein in one of your late numbers took me quite by surprise, and even occasioned me at first some misgivings, hav-

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ing already obtained some influential signatures to the said "Petition to the Patrons and Senatus of the University of Edinburgh." I now pause to reconsider our actual *status*, and prospects, and wants. Some estimate of our precise position in the eyes of the thoughtful and leading public may be gathered from the subjoined note just received from a clear-headed and independent magistrate of the neighbouring country side, with whom I had left the petition.

"MY DEAR * * *—I concur in the general object of this petition and think homœopathy ought to be allowed to stand upon its own merits and find its own level. It seems to me quite enough for a medical candidate to answer satisfactorily the questions put to him. At the same time, I do not sign the petition. *Ne sutor ultra crepidam* is a good maxim, and I much feel I should be travelling from my vocation if I interfered on the subject. Believe me, etc."

Then, looking within at the small but gathering band of Hahnemann's followers, certain it is that the Materia Medica is acquired; that homœopathy is deeply studied and excellently practised too, without the aid of those colleges, professorships, and lectures, that are deemed so essential to our further progress. Diligent, energetic, and intelligent men master the subject sufficiently without these helps. Clever practitioners of the old school are continually seceding to our ranks. Upon the whole, there appears little in the present aspect of affairs to warrant an apprehension that homœopathy will decay, die out, or even degenerate, if suffered to pursue its present prosperous course.

But, granted that it is obviously desirable, nay, an imperative necessity at once to make a step in advance in the matter of our colleges, how much more congenial is it to the habits and sentiments of every Englishman, how far more in harmony with the expansive character of our glorious political constitution, to bend and adapt to new-born requirements the already existing machinery of the national institutions, than to found a bran-new Homœopathic College of our own. In this case it will take years, and the talents and labours and triumphs which years alone can bestow, to clothe it in half the *prestige* which the meanest of the old foundations already possess. An application to Sir George Grey for a charter to examine and license homœopathic medical men would be immediately met by the remark,—"What a number of licensing bodies there are already."

Talk to members of the House of Commons, some are favourable to homœopathy, most are utterly indifferent to the question; in short, you will soon be convinced that through this channel, it were vain to attempt to press the subject of a charter upon the consideration of the Cabinet.

America and the Brazils, as instanced by Dr. Rosenstein, are in one respect upon a widely different footing. The oldest of these transatlantic institutions was founded within the living memory of man. Still, had we the charter and the professors and a sufficiency of pupils, all ready to our hands, I would no longer object; but in the meantime what is to be done? Why, make the old schools serve our purpose—as is still done in Prussia, at Vienna and at Paris. But, after all, these colleges are amenable to public opinion as any other branches of the legislature; they move slowly, if you will, yet still following their own interest; and they will soon perceive that it is *not for their interest* that young men like Messrs. Laurie and Pope, educated mainly in their lecture-rooms, should be driven across the Atlantic to obtain a degree at the flourishing schools of Philadelphia or Cincinnati. How was it in Edinburgh some years since, when *anatomy* could not be learned in the University—when that chair, I mean, was filled by a superannuated professor? Why, an independent-spirited lecturer, Knox, started up and opened dissecting-rooms just outside the orthodox walls. In my day, "Surgery," "the Practice of Physic," as it is termed, and "Chemistry" were all excellently taught in a similar extra-mural manner; and so already, to a certain extent, has homœopathy been studied up to the present time. But once obtain its toleration in the examining-room, once introduce the attenuated end of the wedge, and my word for it, the students, backed by the support of the public, will soon drive it quite home, and form large classes for the *Materia Medica* and the Principles and Practice of Homœopathy; all protests of Christison and Simpson notwithstanding.

Magna est veritas et prævalebit, is a maxim not alone of consolation, but a prudent hortative to await the coming turn of opinion's tide, nor rashly endeavour to force matters to a premature issue, for "when the fruit is ripe it will fall."

Your obedient servant,
M.D. EDINENSIS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In No. 108 of your valuable journal there appeared an article of mine on the subject of allopathic and homœopathic quackery.

Permit me to say a few more words on this subject.

It seems to me that we have to restrict excesses of all kinds, more particularly excess of freedom, otherwise it degenerates into licentiousness. As England has succeeded in suppressing slavery, gambling-houses, etc., I do not see any reason why the nuisance of advertising and selling quack medicines could or should not be suppressed also. People of all classes would not patronise patent medicines, if it were properly understood that they were prohibited on account of their injurious tendency.

I need not refer to Vienna, or to any other place, in order to be informed that homœopathy did more good and saved more lives in cases of cholera; I know this from my own experience.

I do not see why the whole world should not be supplied with qualified medical men of homœopathic principlesin our generation. The educated allopath need but to study the Materia Medica Pura, and read clinical observations, as all physicians of our school have done,

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and we shall have more than a sufficient number of qualified homœopathic practitioners. I deny also that, in many instances, the patient has as much chance of recovery without the assistance of the practitioner of the old school as with him. I have saved, when an allopath, many a child by an emetic, in the last stage of *angina membranacea;* and have done much good by the local application of leeches in affections of the head, and inflammation of the bowels. Homœopathy, no doubt, possesses superior means, but this does not imply the entire inefficacy of allopathic remedies.

I think I fully understand the character of the English people; and am convinced if they knew the nature and the mischievous tendency of most patent medicines, they would not use them. I have often heard Englishmen and also Americans say, "He does not know anything of our country." Some men always find a hole at which to creep out. It will be found upon inquiry, that foreigners more frequently study the language, customs, and manners of the country of their adoption than the natives themselves.

The Government is surely able to contribute much to the advancement of those appropriate means which should be adopted to restore health.

The physician who has received a regular classical and medical education does not, in my opinion, stand in the same position as the quack; the latter, who uses but one compound in all cases, and under all circumstances, does comparatively more mischief than the discriminating allopath.

The homœopathic chemist should not establish himself as such, unless he has been examined, and shown his competency. The chemist should not prescribe, and undertake the functions of the medical practitioner, *ne sutor ultra crepidam.*

The unscientific man may, it is true, now and then luckily find a well-defined case, one in which the symptoms are so plainly covered by the records of a drug as not to admit of mistake, and that performs a cure which will fill the patient with surprise and gratitude. But he is not a whit the more competent or more fit to succeed as a physician, than is the maker of gunpowder competent and fit to succeed as a chemist. The *amateur* cannot discriminate where discrimination is at all necessary. Take, for example, a case in which twenty-five symptoms are present. If a drug be found, the effects of which cover all these symptoms, in all respects perfectly, it will necessarily be chosen by the *amateur* as certainly as by the physician; but if, as frequently happens in cases of great peril, several drugs be found to cover a majority only of the symptoms, and no one covers the whole case, the former is utterly at a loss, and is just as likely to administer those drugs in the list which have no real relation to the case, as he would be to apply those which the physician would know to be remedies, and promptly select, and apply them as such, for reasons which the other could by no means appreciate.

The attenuations, high or low, are not so much an open question as has been asserted. The high dilutions are preferable in chronic cases, according to the experience of Drs. Hering, Bönninghausen, Perry, and others, whilst the lower dilutions may be used in acute diseases. Every experienced practitioner will agree with me, that one dilution may suit better than another; and he may be called a "*tyro*," if he does not know this before the application.

The protection afforded by the governments of Germany, in a civil point of view, certainly stands very high in my estimation. I did not touch upon their political arrangement. No objection can be urged against a person being compelled to serve an apprenticeship, and to give other proofs of his capabilities, before he is permitted to exercise his profession. He is not forced to travel, unless he chooses to do so for his own improvement.

Men of learning enjoy great protection in Germany; the history of our Hahnemann is a sufficient proof of it. Examinations are there more strict than here.

I can have no objection to the chemists putting up prescriptions — first, if the chemist proves himself competent; and, secondly, if chemists are to be found where a homœopathist resides: at present, this is impracticable, because the number of competent homœopathic chemists is small.

Yours truly, J. G. ROSENSTEIN.
10, Valentine Terrace, Blackheath Road, Greenwich.

BIRMINGHAM HOMŒOPATHIC ASSOCIATION.—The following resolutions agreed to at a meeting of the friends of the system, held at the Dispensary, 13, Old Square, will fully explain the nature and objects of this Association.

1st. That a Society, to be called the *Birmingham Homœopathic Association,* be now formed for the purpose of promoting the establishment of a Homœopathic Hospital in Birmingham for the better enabling medical men, and others, to become acquainted with the value of the system in acute diseases, and for affording such increased facilities for the treatment of the sick as are not attainable in a dispensary.

2nd. That in order to meet any expenses that may be attendant upon the Society, each member be required to pay two shillings and sixpence annually.

3rd. That the Society shall not be considered as composed exclusively of converts to the homœopathic system, but that others who are desirous of seeing it tested on an efficient scale be invited to become members.

5th. That a committee be formed to carry out the objects of this Society, with power to add to their number, and to convene a general meeting of the Society whenever requisite.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Rebiew of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 126. Vol. III. | SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1851. | Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

Communications.

LETTER TO JAMES Y. SIMPSON, M.D., P.R.S.E.,

AND PROFESSOR OF MIDWIFERY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

No. III.

SIR,—On more mature consideration, I think you will be inclined to admit, that your statement as to homœopathists being ashamed of their creed was a most erroneous one; if you think so, read "Sigma" over again. It was no such sentiment which led homœopathic members to visit the Medico-Chirurgical Society so seldom. It was simply the result of a want of hospitality in that body, coupled with the knowledge that there was not much doing there in the homœopathic line. But the gratification that must arise in the breast of any member of that body at having induced another to resign, or in having expunged the name of a non-resident from the list, is very equivalent to the noble idea of sending a challenge to a clergyman, and threatening to brand him for not fighting. But in that great act of signal retribution and Medico-Chirurgical "common-sense," according to the new standard, we derive some comfort from the knowledge that at one and the same moment the faubourgs and boulevards of Paris trembled responsively with the purlieus of the South Bridge and Drummond Street. Had globulists been in sufficient numbers in Edinburgh, I have no doubt we should have had a barricade at the top of Infirmary Street, and you cannot doubt for a moment that some hard blows might have fallen.

The youth of our therapeutics seems especially to stick in allopathic gills—there is no *filtering through them.* The aristocracy of twenty centuries gilds therapeutic art over as beautifully as if done by a shopman from behind the counter of Savory and Moore's, or as if manipulated by the Editor of the *Pharmaceutical Journal,* in a moment of leisure from his duties in the Lower House. But we are ready enough to admit this youth, which, for that matter, will improve every day. Retentive memory, diligent study, keen appreciation of temperament, diagnostic acumen, are equally incumbent on us as on allopaths; and whilst these young therapeutics, with which we have already *done something,* are maturing, we think ourselves entitled to be heard, and to be borne with until disproved, or until the deficiencies of our system are so evident to the public, that that public desert us. If it is false, as *you say,* it will fall of itself; if it is true, even only in a degree, it is *worthy of preservation,* and may defy your united arms.

That homœopathy may be available to any man, it is of special importance that the inquirer should be blessed with a retentive memory; and really, when we see how lightly you look upon this natural gift, as exemplified by the difficulty you have had in recalling the cases in which "*consultations*" were held with Drs. Henderson, Russell, etc., I am fain to believe that the study of homœopathy would have proved irksome to you. The natural gifts of men differ. One may be wonderfully sharp in detecting at a glance the condition of a patient, and who, nevertheless, cannot by any means recall the appropriate homœopathic remedy without many references. We remember the day when we all whether engaged in allopathic or homœopathic practice, acknowledged Professor Henderson to be *unsurpassed in diagnosis by any man of his day*—the gift *has not left him;* and as regards memory, I have no doubt he has an excellent proportion of it. We homœopathic men rather pride ourselves on our memories, and we have refreshed those of our opponents on sundry occasions. But the gift is not equally acute in all, nor even in the same individual at all times; and this, taken along with the youth of homœopathy, ought to justify any practitioner in modifying his practice, if it seemeth fit. Let him do this according to his conscience; let him use his new light to the extent he can, and doing this, he acknowledges the selfsame flag you have rallied under—"*a standard of common sense.*" No man, or body of men, has any right to say to another, "You have chosen *one* system, or *one* remedy, or *one*

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dose, and now we shall compel you to abide thereby, and never depart from it." Nor has any man a right to judge of another's success, or the merits of his system, by individual cases of failure, *lamentable*, as they are generally termed, when occurring in our hands, and all "*secundum artem*," when occurring in yours. A general average is the nearest approach by which allopath and homœopath are weighed in the same scale.

With the intention of affording you a simultaneous glance at all the "spirited" achievements in the allopathic ranks, which crowd so thickly upon us that we have some difficulty in chronicling them (and an omission of any of which would be a matter of regret, in so far as historical evidence is ultimately concerned), it seems that there is a blank, which once filled up, we shall be able to keep way with the thrilling medical incidents now of daily occurrence. I beg, therefore, to be excused for disregarding dates when, with a fair amount of anxiety that such a brilliant passage at arms should not be lost to posterity, I think it necessary to allude to that interesting and highly effective series of operations for which we are indebted to the illustrious "Association at Brighton."

It is exceedingly gratifying to find that their financial department was in a condition to enable them to publish those "*resolutions*," the result of their *terrible* period of incubation and labour; and we trust that these "*resolutions*" are weighing with the public in the exact ratio they may be morally and intrinsically deserving of.

When it is remembered that the great object of this meeting was to suppress "irregular practice," it might appear to most people as of some consequence, that the preliminary step to such a proceeding would have been a distinct statement of what "irregular practice consists, by showing the existence of and defining the limits by which "regular practice" is bounded.

But upon reading over the speeches of the members as published, we find that none of them were at all impressed, for even a moment, with the importance of this omission. And we have reasons of our own for not being astonished thereat. But had they only had a copy of Glassford on their table, he would have soon set their minds at rest upon that point. He defines "regular practice" as characterised by being *regular in irregularity*. By the next annual meeting we recommend that authority to their notice.

When the admiration for the materiality of medicine which this Association displayed is called to mind, the mediæval spirit of this our day is not inaptly limned; but a still more winning sketch of it peeps out, by the interesting discovery that they were accompanied by their jester.

Upon this latter fact, so illustrative of a desire to advance a deficient branch, we consider the work of this great meeting, and the results thereof, to have gained a *mighty* fulcrum on which to act on the offensive; and the tinge which this functionary cast over the merits of these great labours will render them the more suitable to be engrossed in medical history.

'Twas but the other day that, passing by St. Paul's, and thinking of patronising the Dean, we took twopence worth; and having reached the top, the bird's-eye view presented brought to our mind the noble scope we have to fight in. That sentiment was not unmingled with regret, for I had that morning read over, for the *third time*, the speech of one of the members, who broadly denounced me as "dishonest," as "a knave." That speech was milk-and-watery enough, no doubt, dull as dough, and flat as a flatfish, and withal only *suitable* for the *mouth it came from*; nath'less I was "dishonest," and "a knave," determined so upon this man's *ipse dixit*, and merely because I had studied that which he had neglected. He bluntly told me that I intentionally squandered away the lives of my fellows; that I "trafficked in the issues of life and death," and "tampered with the elements of mortality;" nay, more, that I "jeopardised *not only the bodies* but *the souls* of my patients," for I gave them no time for repentance. He regretted, he grieved, that such horrors should be, and he did so partly on account of the rich, who were thus despoiled of their money, but *more especially* for the sake of the *poor*, whom it was *easy to see he loved most intensely*. I wonder he had not wept—if he did so, it has not been recorded; *we* might have wept too, along with him, for such a speech might well draw tears from *any one* who heard it. We are not aware, however, that lachrymation prevailed to any alarming extent; if it had, there was a firebrand or two present, hot enough to dry the tears up; if *they* blaze out again, we shall cool them.

The imputation was a bolus strictly in accordance with the schools, nauseating withal; but when I remembered how many cases had terminated unfavourably in my own hands, when treated in accordance with books that had been held up to me as oracles, I said to myself, "when this man and I have arrived at 'that bourne whence

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no traveller returns,' in whatever talents else he may be found to surpass me, his therapeutic conscience will not be clearer than mine." The cloud passed over, and the sun broke through. 'Twas a bright thought that. I felt that *that member's words had been spoken to the winds.*

The thought carried me to others. There was one man who came, and with a surly mien; he scowled at me, and said, "You are an impostor, for you do not believe in what your father believed; you are a mystic! a madman! *for if your doctrine is true, mine must be false,* and you are sadly interfering with me. Out upon you! I have written you down." And he would have struck me, but he *dared not.* I wonder that he did not *blaspheme,* for there was no one to prevent him from doing that. I turned my back on the recollection; but when I remembered certain severe, and dangerous, and seemingly hopeless cases, that had done well in my hands, when treated homœopathically, the cloud passed over, and the sun broke through. It was a bright thought that. I felt that even moonlight was preferable to darkness.

One of many gifts assailed me, and he told me I was a "knave," for how could it be otherwise when I, *an obscure man,* was such a drag upon *him.* He said I had entered cottages, and crept into castled halls. He said I was too easy of belief, or that I pandered to those whose purses were full. I felt this reproach, for it came from one I respected, and to whom *science* owed something. I was much cast down thereby. But when this gifted individual confessed the deficiencies of his own medical creed, the cloud passed over, and the sun broke through. 'Twas a bright thought that. I felt myself to be as pure as he of many gifts.

But I had also to bear the frequent onslaught of men hired to malign me. They accused me of crimes done with intention, and of deeper dye, because done in cool blood. I must have been a horrid wretch if these men's sayings had been true. Some of these accusations came from silvering hairs; alas! stormy passions boiled beneath them. I was accused then of being *sold* for *gold.* When I read it I laughed, for I knew who accused me. The laugh was but for a moment; there was nothing to laugh at, on deeper consideration. But when I remembered the smiles I had that day been greeted with, on visiting an only child that owed much to Samuel Hahnemann, and even a little to me, the cloud passed over, and the sun broke through. 'Twas a bright thought that. I felt that *accusations from these men were very trifling matters indeed.*

But all would not do: they united with others, and formed themselves into large bodies; they said unto themselves, "*united we shall put you down,*" and they filled the air with denunciations; and a struggle came, and people asked eagerly what it all meant. And when it was explained that the subject of anger was a "broken gallipot," they called upon us to mend it, and be friends; but the gallipot was past repairing, there was only revenge upon those who had broken it, and yet *all agreed* that it was worth very little indeed. Matters looked serious. I bethought me of going to the registrar of deaths, and I asked him *how* my account stood, and if it was *much* behind my neighbours, and he said *it was not.* The cloud passed over, and the sun broke through. 'Twas a bright thought that. Yet I felt sad to think that *all this commotion was on account of a "broken gallipot."*

These sentiments, you will perceive, were rather of a gloomy cast than otherwise, and decidedly opposed to the spirits of the homœopathic faction, which are uncommonly cheerful. It was all owing to that peep from old St. Paul's. They were succeeded by a due appreciation of fine speeches before Associations and Medico-Chirurgical Societies. We shall all be done justice to by some future Rollin, or, at any rate, by some future Joe Miller; there is much comfort in that. The Brighton Thermopylæ and the Punic wars of Edinburgh, will come out very strong.

I felt grieved once more, when I thought that perhaps these generous contests might be lost to future "Rollins" and "Joe Millers," unless some record of them were kept, and as I scorned any downcome from an Homeric age, I resolved to try and spin the subject in heroics, *pro et contra.*

"There was a sound of revelry" by day,
And Brighton's city (looking rather gay),
Contrasted with the groans of the "Contraries,"
Of good three hundred learn'd apothecaries.
Within a palace, on the great Parade,
Each doughty warrior drew his trusty blade,
Ready at once to rush upon his death,
And in defence of pills resign his breath.
Rises a self-styled hero of the hour,
Not quite a Hampden, neither a Glendower,
Who said, "It gives my heart unbounded grief
To say, I think a homœopath's a thief.
For every druggist's axiom of the day,
Is, '*for no bulk in drugs, no bulk in pay*'—
A globulist is *worst* of human clay.
Nay, more! I think it very hard, indeed,
That any patient should forsake his creed,
And take to globules which have nothing in them,
As they all do, when once they do begin them.

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For I have analysed them o'er and o'er,
Until I think analysis a bore.
I've swallowed them in handsful—folly mine!
I might *as well* have choked upon moonshine.
I've studied Jahr, their guide, with breaking heart;
I've written pamphlets with a shaking heart;
I've treated cases with a quaking heart;
I've pressed my pillow with an aching heart;
And morn has dawned upon my waking heart.
I've given these little globules to my niece,
I've given them frequently to English geese;
From high to low, from cottages to titles,
Without one single twinge upon their vitals;
I've given them now to generals, then to subs.,
Nor did they ever cause the '*mullagrubs*.'
At one *poor* patient, who I thought would die,
I ventured with *Veratrum* a cockshy;
And when I saw *Veratrum* would not do,
And that the patient looked exceeding blue,
I tried *Arsenicum*, their greatest gun,—
Indeed it was most melancholy fun.
I've no opinion of their *Chamomilla;*
I've quite a nausea for their *Pulsatilla;*
I don't believe their boasted *Aconite*
Can bring the pulse one peg from off its height;
I'm sure *Silicea* is a phantasy,
Lyco. a myth, and *Carbo* 'all my eye;'
It quite resolves itself in sordid mammon,
And all their *great specifics* are but gammon."
Up gets a great physician from the crowd,
Who then premised, "Indeed, it does me proud,
To see so many doctors of one nation
Met here to form this great Association.
But I regret that I do disagree
With 'tweedledum'—I side with 'tweedledee.'
I do not think these globules are so tame,
I've seen them play the d—l with the frame;
I've seen them cause phlegmasiæ and cachexies,
Calculous diatheses, and apoplexies;
I've seen them put old ladies in a rage,
And upset young ones from decorum's stage;
I've seen them, when prescribed for married ladies,
Give rise to twins, instead of single babies;
I've seen them cause rheumatics and the gout,
Make thin men thinner, stout men still more stout;
I've seen them cause all kinds of dire disease,
(Alas! I've seen them take away our fees!)
I've seen them vanquish our appropriate doses;
I've seen them quite upset our worst prognosis;
And my advice is strictly for to shun them,
For I am sure Old Nick himself has done them."

I think you will have no difficulty in recognising that these lines embody the *essential spirit of allopathic authorship and speech-making* on our doctrines.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Dec. 20, 1851. SIGMA.

NOTES OF IMPRESSIONS AND OBSERVATIONS OF HOMŒOPATHIC PRACTICE AND PRACTITIONERS IN FRANCE AND GERMANY.

BY CARROLL DUNHAM, M.D., of Brooklyn, New York.

IN France, besides Tessier's Hospital and the Clinique of M. Perry, I know not that I saw anything of interest exclusively belonging to our science. The sessions of the Gallican Society, which I regularly attended, proved quite interesting. Discussions were rather more spirited, however, than practical; and the honour which the French nation is conferring on homœopathy and on the memory of Hahnemann, by adopting the one and cherishing the other, were more largely dwelt upon than the converse ideas. A practical communication, of exceeding interest to me, was made one evening by Dr. Petroz, respecting the efficacy of a new medicine, *Asterias*, in scirrhous and carcinomatous tumours of *the left side*. This communication has been published, or should be, in the French journal, together with the proving of *Asterias*. If it have been, I have seen no such notice of it by other journals as I should think its importance might elicit. The interest of the subject one could scarcely exaggerate. Homœopathy ought to be able to deal with cancer, but as yet we have made no very great show. I asked Bönninghausen's opinion and experience. He said he had succeeded in dissipating many tumours which had been pronounced scirrhous, and many which he had not doubted *were* such; but so very possible, in such cases, is error in diagnosis, that he does not deem this sufficient evidence of power over the cancerous diathesis. One case of ulcerating cancer he has had; the ulcer had, when he was consulted, a diameter of two and a half inches; under his treatment, the ulcer was reduced to a diameter of a quarter of an inch, the discharge lost its fœtid character, and the patient all the characteristic discomforts that had previously tormented her. Things were advancing towards a cure, when unable to refrain, as the treatment rendered necessary, from coffee and spices, the patient dismissed him. He saw her two months afterwards, the ulcer had increased again. She had allopathic advice, and in a few months died. Bönninghausen does not give this as a cure or probable cure of cancer, but merely as a temporary amelioration, which it certainly was, and as giving us perhaps reason to hope that perseverance might in a like case lead to a successful issue. And here I cannot

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help remarking, inasmuch as some among those who do not agree with Bönninghausen in his posological views throw discredit on his records of cases, ascribing to him, if not ignorance of the science of medicine, at least carelessness in observation, and haste in deducing laws from (ill-observed?) individual phenomena, that I have never met with a physician who has seemed to me so severe in his scrutiny of phenomena, and so very cautious in the conclusions based upon them. Every day spent in his society increased my confidence in the justice of whatever opinion he might publish as the result of his own *observation*. Opinion based on observation he himself always carefully distinguishes from conjectures or hypotheses; of the latter, he has doubtless many false and old fashioned, perhaps some foolish. Besides what I have mentioned, I saw or heard in Paris nothing of a practical nature that greatly interested me. Several visits to Madame Hahnemann were as many great pleasures. Had herself no attractions, very great interest must attach to her as the nearest representative of the Master. And, by the way, she seems to be a representative who, as *we* say, has "*taken the responsibility*," for the Master would not have kept from his disciples' knowledge the experience of his latter years, as his widow assuredly did; for no doubt she suppressed a last edition of the Organon, which Hahnemann, in a letter to Bönninghausen, six weeks before his death, said (I saw the letter) was just being put to press. From Paris I went direct to Münster, seeking whatever instruction or counsel Bönninghausen might vouchsafe me. I found him at his retired residence, in the midst of his large garden, just within the city gate—a large, well-formed man of sixty, a fine head, benevolent face, and what we, on this side, call "old courtly manners," and always a pipe in his mouth. A single sentence told him my name and object. He welcomed me to stay my pleasure, said his study and stores of knowledge are always open to all homœopaths who will come, (a pity that many more do not go!) and proceeded at once to discourse to me of his views and methods of practice. After this I sat with him daily six or seven hours, and saw his whole practice for more than a month. Bönninghausen's is almost altogether *office-practice*. The little town of Münster, with its 10,000 people, could scarcely occupy him. The surrounding country, however, is very populous, and it is from among the hardy, simple-lived, and well-to-do Westphalian peasants that a large portion of his patients come. Hence the character of his practice is somewhat peculiar, and so consequently are his reports of cases and his views of therapeutics. His cases are almost all cases of chronic disease, for only such disease permits the patient to visit the physician. Acute cases are with him rather exceptional. As a rule, his cases are chronic, and, therefore, his experience and the views deduced from it might be called chronic. And these facts are made ground of objection to his reports and opinions, with little enough justice. Is the report of a chronic case less reliable, because the reporter does not treat a majority of *acute* cases? (What practitioner does?) Bönninghausen's assertions respecting medication, etc. rest on the foundation of cases observed by himself. His notions apply to chronic diseases, just those with which he himself is most conversant; a fact which he carefully points out in the *Archives*. The fact that his cases are chiefly chronic does not invalidate the credit of his reports; but, on the other hand, the fact that his practice, so long continued and extensive, has been so exclusively devoted to the treatment of chronic disease, gives to his assertions and opinions a weight that attaches to no other man's living, and no man ventures assertions and opinions, I believe, with stricter regard to truth.

It is sneeringly said that Bönninghausen was not educated a physician. Then, so far as knowledge goes, *he has educated himself*, and I have seen very few graduates of Edinburgh or the Josephine whom he need be ashamed to meet. That he has no regular diploma may be a good reason why some should deny him credence and fellowship. What a gloriously good reason it proved in the case of Dr. Good of famous memory! Don't think I don't value my sheepskin as much as any Edinburgh man of them all. But I have a higher reverence for the inward grace, the knowledge, than for the outward visible sign, the diploma, which may, after all, signify nought, and knowledge and veracity I found in Bönninghausen.

It has been also said, that in *office-practice* the physician has no control over his patients, who may either neglect to take his remedies, or may, unknown to him, employ another practitioner, and recover under *his* care, or may never visit the physician again, thus leaving him to *suppose the patient cured, and to report accordingly*, while in reality he has not been benefited, and has despaired of aid, etc. These remarks M. Ægidi made to me, and they are fudge! at least as regards Bön-

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ninghausen. For, as for a *visit*, it is an interview between physician and patient. What matter whether it be held in the chamber of the latter or the studio of the former? If the patient choose to lie, he can do so as well there as here. Then, that he may, when *visited* by the physician, consult without that physician's knowledge another practitioner, we homœopaths well know, since every day people make their first trembling essays of homœopathy, carefully concealing the while their doings from the old family physician in attendance. Finally, whether a man shall report cases as *cured*, of whose termination he is merely left in ignorance by the cessation of the patient's visits to him (in the one case, or in the other, *by the physician being dismissed*)—that depends on the man's capability of appreciating evidence, and upon his honesty. I have this to say of Bönninghausen. He gave me free access to his journal. I compared with it all his published reports of cases, and found the latter to be *verbatim* copies. I noticed that in the journal no cases are noted as cured, unless the patient has been seen after treatment in a state of health. A case left *doubtful* by the cessation of the patient's visits is *marked doubtful* (*non vidi*), and is so reported (see *Archiv.*, pass.)

So much for the objection against his reports founded on his mode of practice. I took some pains to ascertain whether Bönninghausen's observation is trustworthy, and his reports strictly correct. To this end I did not scruple to visit persons who had been previously patients of his, whose cases were recorded in his journal, and get as accurate an account as possible from them, or their previous state and their cure. You may remember some cases recorded by him in the *New Archiv.*, vol. ii. pp. 89 et seq.) of cures by high potencies. They are alluded to in the *British Journal*, (vol. v. pp, 129, et seq.) rather incredulously too. The first is a case of phthisis so called; rational signs clear enough, the physical not sought; for Bönninghausen is no stethoscopist. The *British Journal* implies that this was not tubercular phthisis. I don't know that it was; *literal* phthisis it was, and the man was almost wasted to death. I saw the former patient, now in good health; he has slight dullness under the left clavicle; no other symptom of malady. I saw his family, the most absolutely and unmixedly strumous family I ever saw; saw his younger brother, just submitted to treatment, who, when I saw him, was expectorating softened tubercle, which occupied considerably the left lung. Whether these facts about the family render tuberculosis probable in the cured elder brother—judge. Several other persons, whose cases had been published, I saw and inquired of, and all others who were accessible, and finding Bönninghausen's statements in all cases *confirmed to the letter*, I gave his records of the rest my confidence.

Homœopathy spreads in the United States with almost incredible speed, and her roots are strong and take deep hold. The Ohio College of Homœopathic Medicine has more than a hundred students.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27TH, 1851.

PROFESSOR HENDERSON *versus* PROFESSOR SYME.

WHY does the "Association for the Protection of Homœopathic Practitioners and Students" not circulate, as soon as they appear, as many copies as possible of the admirable letters of Professor HENDERSON, Dr. JAMES RUSSELL, and whatever else, in this time of excitement on the subject of homœopathy, may be of use in showing the public the real facts of the case? Why is not a fund raised for this specific purpose? We take a great liberty in reprinting these admirable letters in our columns, but we do so from love of the Cause, that we may obtain as many readers for them as we can. Why do not all those, who sell the homœopathic literature, combine and put these striking and excellent productions into as wide a circulation as possible?

Professor HENDERSON should have the hearty sympathy and energetic co-operation of all, medical and non-medical, who profess faith in homœopathy. As the foremost man of our body in these realms, from his eminent faculties as well as from his position as one of the Professors in the University of Edinburgh, he is assailed more than any man—vindictively, meanly, and most undeservedly. We think that in the nobleness of his nature he will forgive the

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freedom with which we reproduce his letters. In our last number, we gave at length Mr. SYME'S memorial, which has been referred by the Town Council to the College committee; the subjoined letter is Professor HENDERSON'S reply to Mr. SYME. We will not mar the effect of this admirable letter by making any remark on it.

*Professor Henderson to the Patrons of the University of Edinburgh.**

"MY LORD PROVOST AND GENTLEMEN,

"It has been my lot, more perhaps than that of any contemporary member of the profession to which I belong, to illustrate practically the saying of an eminent divine, 'that truth is a guest that often brings those who entertain her into trouble.' If I feel a little natural chagrin at so unaccountable a consequence, attached, doubtless for wise ends, to the highest of human privileges and duties, still I am neither tired of her good company, nor in the least disinclined to engage anew in her defence, the more especially perhaps, that on this, as on some other occasions, my own cause is identified with hers.

"These reflections are probably too sober as an introduction to the short criticism I am about to lay before you, of what I cannot but regard as the post-prandial Memorial of 'James Syme, Regius Professor of Clinical Surgery, unto the Honourable Patrons of the University of Edinburgh;' but as they are just and true, the incongruity may be pardoned, and all the more readily that the 'Memorial' alone is to blame for the different style of thought which follows.

"It 'humbly sheweth'—*first*, 'That your memorialist has a direct interest in the prosperity of the Medical School in the University of Edinburgh, as a source of emolument and professional character.' At a glance I recognised this passage as something of an old acquaintance. When I first knew Mr. Syme as an author, some twelve years since, he was in the very same key, groaning first over his endangered 'emoluments'—the 'idol seldom of the great and brave'—and next over the damaged honour of his office and his character.† In the present instance, they are put at the head of his memorial as an affecting exhibition of his case, calculated to excite the compassionate concurrence of his readers, in his thirteen following conclusions on the whole subject. It may be cruel, but I am bound in duty to deprive him of the advantage of such an appeal *ad misericordiam*. At least, I can aver that his 'emoluments' have been increasing for five or six years past; and as to his *character*, he knows as well as I do whether it has suffered of late or not—while of this I am certain, that it cannot have suffered, justly, from the cause he assigns in the Memorial—'the existence of a homœopathic professor in the Medical Faculty;' for it is not the conduct of another, however blamable, that can bring merited disgrace upon any man,—*that* can be effected only by his own act, as by a disregard of truth, of justice, of honesty, and similar old-fashioned virtues.

"The *second* and *third* heads of the Memorial call for no particular notice; the *fourth*, referring to the course of lectures on general pathology, runs thus:—'That great doubts have been entertained as to the needfulness of such a course of lectures, which was instituted about twenty years ago by government, without the approval or knowledge of the Patrons, who, at the suggestion of the Medical Faculty, on the first occasion of the chair being vacant, recommended the government to abolish it."

"Although all that concerns the institution and permanence of the chair of general pathology has been settled long since by wiser heads than ours, I may be permitted to remind Mr. Syme that, if opposition to the insertion of a new course of lectures into the medical curriculum be a sufficient evidence of its inutility, his own course is open to the very same condemnation which he insinuates against mine; for his immediate predecessor had to contend with a similar opposition to that which the late occupant of my chair had to deal with. He must admit, therefore, the absurdity of his fourth 'humble' observation, or take the alternative—like the savage who is satisfied with destruction if only his foe perish with him—of accompanying me in that descent from professorial honours and emoluments which he is so anxious I should undergo. It is no less curious than true, that those who need information the most are commonly the very persons who value it the least; and it is just because Mr. Syme knows so little of general pathology and homœopathy that he is so much opposed to both. The estimate which he and the few who agree with him entertain of general pathology, is founded very much on the grounds adverted to in the following passage from my last Introductory Lecture, which was written, however, without any special reference to Mr. Syme: 'It is not many years since professional men, not altogether destitute of information and common sense, objected to such a course as dangerous to the student, by seducing his mind from subjects that were solid and practical to regions of visionary principles and fictitious knowledge. But those who made the objection had looked rather far into the past for their conceptions of the science, and had failed to observe that even since their own education had been finished, a kind of knowledge had sprung up and accumulated which admitted of being sorted and sifted, arranged and laid out on an intelligible plan, altogether different from that which was followed by the lecturer on the details of individual diseases. It is quite true that, half a century ago, a course of general pathology was impossible in which the teacher was not obliged to expatiate at large in the realms of speculation and conjecture, for want of room to exercise his vocation on less debatable or more substantial ground. It is quite

* Letter to the Honourable the Patrons of the University, on the Memorial of Mr. Syme; by William Henderson, M.D., Professor of General Pathology. Edinburgh: W. P. Kennedy, St. Andrew Street. Glasgow: D. Bryce. London; Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

† See his "Letter to the Lord Provost," 1840.

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otherwise now, and the easiest, the safest, and the shortest way to a knowledge of the ascertained truths of pathology, is just that *general* method which, if it formerly groped its way through a region of cloud-land, where it was liable to be mocked by deceptive shapes and shadows, has now fairly emerged from the mists, to breathe a purer atmosphere, and to cultivate a more productive soil.'

"After adverting to the expulsion of the Professor of General Pathology from the Medico-Chirurgical Society, on account of his public profession of homœopathy, Mr. Syme humbly shows, in the *seventh* place,—'That compulsory attendance upon a course of such questionable utility, and conducted by a professor so regarded by the profession, must constitute a serious obstacle to medical graduation in Edinburgh; in proof of which it may be mentioned, that while, during the last six years, the number of medical students attending lectures in the University has greatly increased, the number of degrees annually conferred has sustained a no less remarkable diminution.'

"That the decline in the number of graduates does *not* prove what is pretended in the above paragraph, appears very plainly from the following particulars. During the last five years there have been 283 graduates, while the number of students that attended the class of general pathology during the corresponding period was 356. There were, therefore, 73 students who chose to attend that class, and did not choose to graduate here; so that the class of general pathology, with all its disadvantages, is in more esteem than the degree! The numbers of graduates, and of students in the pathological class, were as follows, during the last five years, exclusive of the students for the present session:—

"In 1847 there were	58	graduates	from a class of	70
1848	..	..	63	..	..	..	63
1849	..	..	50	..	..	..	73
1850	..	..	67	..	..	..	89
1851	..	..	45	..	..	.	61

"I may add, in further proof of the recklessness of the singular memorialist, that in Glasgow, while the number of medical students was the same in 1850 as in 1844, the number of graduates had declined from 45 to 29.

"In a former letter to the Patrons I pointed out the true causes of the decline in the number of graduates, and quoted from this very Mr. Syme a passage which traced the truant youths to a University 'which possesses no medical school,' and yet, 'by a shameful prostitution of her privileges, confers the degree of M.D. on candidates who have never studied a day within her walls.' This *very shameful* and lucrative behaviour has made, in the six years from 1845 to 1850 inclusive, 304 graduates, and on easier terms than we can afford to make them here.

"I have been, indeed, 'expelled' from the Medico-Chirurgical Society, and bear the intended insult with that

'Patience that softens every sad extreme,
* * * * *
And smiling sees the ingratitude of friends,'

satisfied, when I waste a thought on reputation, that *time*, which 'deals impartial infamy and fame,' will change our relative positions, in the estimate of such, if there be any so ignorant, as now regard the persecuting act of an unmanly and domineering sect as capable of disgracing any one; and that the men of other days, who shall reap the fruits of the hardships and contendings of those who now bear 'the burden and heat of the day' in the cause of truth and humanity, will remember us with gratitude, while those who at present load us with contumely shall be forgotten or despised.

"But this, again, is far too solemn a style for the post-prandial Memorial, and I proceed, for variety, to the only two humorous counts in the whole category. They are Nos. 12 and 13. The former runs thus—No. 11 having correctly stated that the obnoxious professor was appointed '*ad vitam aut culpam*,'—

"'That as there can be no greater fault committed by a professor than deserting the established principles of his profession, and openly maintaining others directly opposed to those which he and his colleagues were appointed to teach, the Patrons have at present a clear right to depose the Professor of General Pathology.' And No. 13 says, 'That if any doubt should be entertained as to this being the case, the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons could at once remove it by the expression of their opinion.'

"The humour of the latter passage consists in this, that Mr. Syme, who is as well known in the Court of Session as ever 'poor Peter Peebles' was in his best or worst days, and is as constantly on the *qui vive* for an action of damages, (I mean no disparagement to either gentleman,) comically ignores another college—the College of Justice, which most people would be apt to think a very likely party to have something to say in a matter of this sort! But I shall take the proposition as if it were seriously put, and say this in reply, That if Mr. Syme, or the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, will tell me plainly what 'the established principles' of pathology are, or were, which the Professor of General Pathology was 'appointed to teach,' and in what particulars he has 'deserted' them, I shall engage for that Professor that he shall *resign his chair*, or give all its 'emoluments' to Mr. Syme, which the latter would doubtless prefer. Appointed to teach 'the established principles!'—as if the Honourable the Patrons, and the staff of Medical Professors, were resuscitated mummies, of that period of Egyptian history when it was enacted that no practitioners of the healing art should depart from the faith of their fathers and grandmothers! The jest is not bad, but as it is uttered with some gravity, it may, though a grave face is an accomplishment in a man of humour, be mistaken by dull people for earnest, so that I must stand to my offer; and if it be not accepted, the same sort of people will be apt to think that Mr. Syme makes his parade of accusations in the full knowledge that they are untrue, and that the Memorial is a mere ebullition of temper, excited by the very awkward disclosures contained in my 'Letter to the President of the Medico-Chirurgical Society.'

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"Mr. Syme's *eighth* conclusion is, 'That the existence of a homœopathic professor in the Medical Faculty' has, besides other evils, had the effect, 'as it can be proved, of preventing students from being sent here for their education;' and I believe it to be quite possible that there are medical men so bitter on the subject of my opinions, though these have no connection with the proper duties of my chair, as to keep away their relatives and dependents in the hope of starving me into submission to their views, or of maddening my colleagues into memorialists. I have not the advantage of a private fortune like Mr. Syme's, and I can less easily dispense with the emoluments of a chair; but I am thankful that I am able to say, in all plainness and sincerity, that I would far rather see the school without a pupil, than the Medical Faculty of this Scottish capital degraded, and that, too, with the sacred name of Science on their lips, into a catchpenny gang competing for pupils at the sacrifice of independence. Away with the sordid argument of emoluments and number of students, of the opinions of 'interested enemies,' and such idle tales, when the high question is the truth of a grand principle in science, on which depends, in a great measure, the well-being of the human family, and which appeals, in justification of its pretensions, not to ancestral authority, or to the uninformed decisions of colleges, or to the spleeny acts of obscure societies, or to *a priori* absurdities, but to experiment, and to the sane human understanding, as the interpreter and judge of experiment.

"Mr. Syme's only argument against homœopathy is, that it 'is regarded by the medical profession of Great Britain as a delusion;' but he omits to say, that this is a misfortune which is lessening so fast, that almost every month we have to announce the accession of fresh adherents to the new doctrine,—of men, too, who do not pretend to settle for Nature what she can or cannot do, but 'humbly show' their good sense and filial respect by sitting teachably at her feet. New truths, that were far in advance of the intelligence and anticipations of the multitude, have always been at first welcomed only by the few; but as time has ever made amends for such incivility, we confidently expect that our principles will, at no very distant date, be also the principles of the medical profession of Great Britain, and meanwhile we may be pardoned for appropriating a little of this consolation,—Satis triumphat veritas si apud paucos bonosque accepta; nec enim indoles ejus est placere multis.

"In connection with this point, I cannot conclude more triumphantly than by quoting a passage from the writings of an illustrious colleague, whose sympathies I have no doubt are entirely with the minority in this disgraceful persecution, and whose authority, as a philosopher and man of genius, dwarfs into utter insignificance the puny logic of the Memorial:

"'And why,' says Sir William Hamilton, 'should a multitude afford any presumption in favour of the opinions which it espouses? On the contrary, '*argumentum pessimi turba est.*' The height of a crowd is no higher than the highest man in it. This is true, both physically and intellectually. But in a crowd intellectually there is even a tendency to bring down the higher minds to a lower level; for all experience shows that men under the sympathy—the mutual mesmerism—of numbers do enthusiastically in a body what, had they been left to their individual judgments and responsibilities, many of them would have ridiculed or condemned..... Thus it is that of itself the public belief of bodies is far more lightly taken up than the private belief of individuals.'

"I have the honour to be,
"My Lord and Gentlemen,
"Your very obedient servant,
"WILLIAM HENDERSON."

THE MEDICAL TIMES AND MR. SPENCER T. HALL.

IN our journal of December 6, we briefly commented upon an attack made upon our body by the *Medical Times* of November 29, under the title of "Unlicensed Homœopaths," which comments we should have no objection to repeat were it necessary, as we see no reason to change our views as then expressed. Mr. SPENCER T. HALL, the individual alluded to by the *Medical Times*, has excited their ire by publishing a pamphlet, oddly enough inscribed to the Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania, the sole aim of which, he informs the reader, "is to serve humanity, by placing in a fair light such motives for taking up the Cause as must have actuated many besides the writer, but which are often grievously misrepresented or overlooked by those who will not or cannot examine them in a right spirit." We had not read Mr. T. HALL's pamphlet, nor seen his communication of December 2, which appears in our present number, when we penned our observations of December 6, in answer to the wholesale charge of the *Medical Times*, which we now reprint entire from that journal, in order that our readers may understand more clearly the question at issue between the parties. We must say that our moral nature revolts at such unpardonable misrepresentations and wholesale delivery of untruths as our allopathic contemporaries delight in.

"UNLICENSED HOMŒOPATHS."

"In the unanimous protest which the profession is now making against the absurdities and the dangers of homœopathy, one point appears to us to have been somewhat overlooked.

"The question between us and the homœopaths is often looked at by the public, and is always argued by the globulists, as if it were a discussion between two great sections of the body medical. It is, on the contrary, a ques-

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tion between the medical body and a sect, the members of which have, for the most part, received no medical education whatever. There are, we all know, some few homœopathic practitioners who have been duly instructed in the sciences which form the substratum of therapeutics, and who now cling, with immovable tenacity, to the diplomas of that body whose authority they attempt to undermine. But these men are in the minority. The great mass of homœopathists are individuals who are tampering with the lives of their fellow-beings, without the least knowledge of the structure of the frame they meddle with, or the least insight into the physiological actions they are called on to control. Medically speaking, they are totally uneducated, and have for the most part abandoned trades and callings, often very humble ones, to pursue a more profitable employment in the land of Gulls. It is, indeed, most extraordinary that an educated man, who would take good care that his carpenter or his tailor should be well trained in his calling, and who would not trust the repair of his carriage or his coat except to some one who had been brought up and properly taught to do the work, should not use equal discretion when the thing to be repaired is his own health, or that of those nearest and dearest to him.*

"We would strongly advise our readers to make themselves acquainted, if possible, with the antecedents of the homœopaths who may practise near them, and to make known, temperately but firmly, to their patients, the kind and degree of medical training which these impostors have had.

"Our brethren at Doncaster have at present an opportunity of doing this. A certain Mr. Spencer Hall has been long known as an itinerant lecturer on mesmerism, on phrenology,—on everything, in fact, which could draw half-crowns in his direction. Lately, however, the trade has become slow; the lovers of novelty and excitement have had enough of Spencer Hall, and a change of scene became necessary. Mr. Spencer Hall has turned, of course, homœopathist, and, after a brief sojourn at Sunderland, has decided on honouring Doncaster with the light of his countenance. He announces his presence in that favoured locality by a modest pamphlet, in which he relates a marvellous story of his conversion to homœopathy, which is no doubt about as true as the mesmeric feats of his pristine career.

"Mr. Spencer Hall has no diploma, and has received no medical education. Feeling, no doubt,—for he is a man who knows the world,—that it is well to make people think that he is skilled in all the learning of the Egyptians, he has published his pamphlet to explain how it is he has no degree. He wishes to make it appear that he received his medical education at Edinburgh, but having become an homœopath, that he was deterred, at the last hour, by scruples of conscience, from presenting himself for examination! But, unfortunately for him, he has convicted himself. At the commencement of his pamphlet he states that he went to Edinburgh in the autumn of 1844, while at page 10 he informs us that he left that place in 1845. Now, after some months' residence only, he *could not* have been eligible for examination according to the rules of the University, and therefore, the story of his struggle with himself on the eve of the day of examination, as to whether he should take his degree, must be classed among those other fables which compose the literature of the singular sect which at present numbers Mr. Spencer Hall among its followers. According, therefore, to his own showing, Mr. Spencer Hall could not at the very utmost have attended more than a few months in the classes of the University; and moreover, we are enabled confidently to affirm that the name of 'Spencer Hall' *does not appear in the matriculation book of the University of Edinburgh between the years* 1840 *and* 1850. The attempt, then, to make it appear that he completed a regular medical education altogether breaks down. We trust that the intelligent inhabitants of Doncaster will treat this man as he deserves, and that they will not allow themselves to be duped by representations which are at once seen through by all who are acquainted with the subject. A more disingenuous pamphlet than that published by this man we have never read; and luckily Mr. Spencer Hall, in spite of his experience in the art, must in this instance fail to throw dust in the eyes of the public."—*Medical Times,* November 29, 1851.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Will you do homœopathy and me the justice to notice the following facts? The Editor of the *Medical Times*, annoyed by my publication of the enclosed tract, but finding nothing in my statements that he can *honestly* object to, has, in his last number, resorted to a gross falsehood, in charging me with having therein professed to have studied at Edinburgh up to the point of *examination;* whilst, on the contrary, what I have said is—that I laid aside my intention of doing so *on the eve of the last day allowed for matriculation.* (See pages 8, 9. 10.) I wish you would, for the sake of truth and justice, glance at that article in the *Medical Times,* and deal with it as it deserves.

First, the custom of such publications is, to denounce all men who, for the liberty to exercise their talents on the homœopathic principle, obtain in the regular way only such diplomas as this country will at present grant; and, next, they attempt to vilify any man who may choose, as a humble medical assistant, to make himself as useful as he can without one. The latter—so far as homœopathy is concerned—happens at present to be my own position; and I never made a profession of being connected with practice in any way that the facts of that position would not fully justify.

* Perhaps the *Medical Times* will be sufficiently honest to inform its readers who are most culpable for their ignorance, the allopaths, who, according to its Editors, are, *as a body*, "deficient in general education," and possessed of "slender abilities," or the homœopaths, who have proved to that Journal their acquaintance with allopathic as well as homœopathic practice.—ED.

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As to the charge which the *Medical Times* makes of my having taken up homœopathy, because other pursuits were found less profitable, I will only say that Dr. Dunn (with whom I am engaged), Dr. Thomas Hayle, and other gentlemen connected with the profession, well know, and I feel sure would testify, that, partly by their wish, and partly from my own desire to do that which may be most useful to my fellow-creatures, I have resisted inducements to enter other walks far more inviting, had personal ease or pecuniary profit been my object. And though it was not my nature to hoard the money I was wont at any time to gain by my scientific lectures, but to spend it in furthering the cause for which I was labouring, so that often my means were temporarily reduced below par; so far from my having given up that course of action because it had "ceased to bring half-crowns," I can prove my having relinquished highly profitable engagements already made, to deliver lectures in London, at Windsor, and in Russia, to which country my passage was taken for me under most flattering auspices; and even yet proposals of a similar kind are frequently made to me, did I think well to accept them.

The *Medical Times*, and all such publications, may go on with their scurrility, if that be *their* highest mission. I feel persuaded that mere abuse will never permanently harm an honest cause. But when a falsehood, so direct as that now complained of, is palmed upon the public by the recognised organ of any class of the profession, it ought to be duly noted and reprobated.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
SPENCER T. HALL.

Doncaster, Dec. 2, 1851.

To assist Mr. S. HALL in vindicating his character, we most willingly reprint the following passages from his pamphlet:

"Is it not universally known that one particle of vaccine may suffice for the infection of a hundred persons *seriatim*, and generate the cow-pock in every one of them? That a particle of musk will scent a large room for years,—affect the olfactory organs, it may be, of a thousand persons,—and this without any perceptible diminution of its original quantity? Or, to use the apt words of my friend, Dr. Thomas Hayle, 'are not the causes of the most virulent plagues which occasionally decimate, and may one day depopulate our globe, equally imponderable, intangible, and invisible; and is there any great absurdity in attempting to meet agents of so subtle a nature by agencies themselves as subtle?' At all events, I, who had so often seen the effects of a single pass of the hand, or even of a silent thought, in zoomagnetism, was hardly in a position to deem any agency impotent, merely on the ground that it could not be cut or weighed; and my mind remained open.

"But here there occurred for me a difficulty*

altogether of another kind. *The latest day on which I could* MATRICULATE, *so as to secure the full privileges of the session, was at hand.* I had already the burden of one heterodox *ism*, and an almost equally heterodox *ology*, to carry through the purposed curriculum; and it was morally certain that if, in addition to these, the bulk of my belief were swelled with a *pathy* more heterodox than both of them together, it would be almost as easy for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle, as for me (*whatever time I might spend*) to make a frank avowal of my real sentiments, and go through a final examination at the University unscathed. Indeed, more than one of my friends suggested the propriety of smothering these new opinions until that ordeal were passed, and told me plainly of the probable consequences, should I disregard their warning.

"The temptation to comply with this suggestion was, in one sense, great. Edinburgh, with its intelligent society, its romantic scenery, and its scientific, historical, and poetical associations, was fast becoming as it were the home of my intellect and ambition. Some of its most enlightened philosophers and literati encouraged me to stay and persevere, and families of considerable influence pledged themselves to support me in the profession if I did. These matters of fact are mentioned by me now, not in the way of boast, but as an honest though inadequate testimony to that truth, to profess which is to incur, from many, the imputation of quackery and mercenary motives. For, on the other side of the question, there spoke a voice from within, around, and above me—in whispers at first—more loudly as the hour drew near—and told me how unfitted I was by my convictions for sustaining so artificial a part; and that, even if successful, all the honours of my position would wither in the reflection, that they were purchased at the expense of a principle which had hitherto been my truest friend in every emergency of life.

"*It is impossible for me ever to forget the wrestling with my* SELF *on the eve of the day upon which I was to take the decisive step;*" and it may be worth noting, as an illustration of the power of the mind over the body, that in this hand-to-hand conflict between two principles, a pulse, ordinarily steady at about 60, had arisen by midnight to 112, the mouth becoming clammy, and the brain compressed, when no alternative remained but to yield to the higher sense of duty or perish; for the liberty of choosing appeared at length to be denied me. The repose of submission—*the feeling of 'Thy will be done,'* which followed—seemed at length to pervade every organ in my frame; my pulse rapidly calmed down to its usual flow; instead of feeling as though the brain were compressed in a leaden universe, my whole being seemed at once enlightened and emancipated; in gratitude I resolved that no inducement on earth should ever make me profess that it was right the image of God should be drugged, and flayed, and drained of its life

* What goes before and after clearly implies to any considerate mind, that the *difficulty* alluded to here means something very different from the construction put upon it by the *Medical Times*.

* Of matriculation—clearly—as indicated by the antecedent.

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by the lancet, where milder, safer, and more certain means could manifestly be used; and, TO THE REGRET OF MY FRIENDS, I GAVE UP, FOR THE TIME, ALL INTENTION OF BECOMING A 'REGULAR' PHYSICIAN."

After this, we again challenge the *Medical Times* "to produce his list of unlicensed homœopaths." We *now* challenge him to cite *any* example of persons calling themselves *medical practitioners*, who practise homœopathy without diploma or license. At the same time we would remind that journalist how he conducted himself towards Mr. BRADY in refusing insertion to his second letter. We confess our surprise that this recollection did uot arouse within us suspicions. Mr. BRADY'S rejected letter was published in the *Homœopathic Times*, vol. ii. p. 718, and it may afford Mr. SPENCER HALL, while yet *without* a diploma, some consolation to read that letter. Mr. BRADY told the *Medical Times* of 1851, that the *Medical Times* of November 6, 1847, quoted the Ex-President of the College of Surgeons, as having said, in evidence before a Parliamentary Committee, that "the great body of the College members were deficient in general education, and with a very limited stock of general knowledge; that they were, in fact, only fitted to occupy certain country stations, and to exercise their slender abilities on pauper patients!"

The Editor of the *Medical Times* further writes: "We must not disguise the truth from ourselves, that the doctor-making of this empire is a money-making speculation in the hands of a few individuals. Is it wonderful then, that without legal check or surveillance, men become surgeons and physicians who are unacquainted with the very elements of their own language?" After this, Mr. HALL, while simply acting as an assistant, may rest perfectly satisfied with his present credentials. Knowledge is precious, and above all price, come from where it will, as testified by the London Royal College of Physicians, before which august body papers are sometimes read by *non*-professionals. Nevertheless, before Mr. HALL assumes the title of *medical* practitioner, we trust he will obtain a legal document of higher value than that alluded to by the *Medical Times*, and that he will not, like too many of the allopathic M.D.s., pride himself on a bought plumage, but will proceed before an Examining Board, whether in our own country, or in Pennsylvania, should we not have our own Examining Board by the time he is prepared. While we deprecate any one calling himself *medical*, who has not gone through the usual curriculum which confers the right of such title, we cannot conclude, while upon the subject of *privilege*, better than by alluding to the observations of our very able and learned colleague, Dr. G. M. SCOTT, of Glasgow, whose views amalgamate so closely with our own, that we may add, that it was a belief similar to his own that first led us to establish this popular periodical, and the persecution we have had to endure, shows we were not mistaken in our conviction of the necessity for such a paper.

Dr. SCOTT writes thus in his paper, in the *Homœopathic Times*, vol. ii. p. 449:—

"An apology may be deemed requisite for having in any way introduced into popular discussion a subject strictly appropriate to the halls of medical science. To me, this appears the only way of imparting anything like truth and reason to those conversational discussions which are carried on in unprofessional circles. The time has passed, fortunately or unfortunately, when the professional man could stand upon enclosed ground, on which the foot of the uninitiated dare not tread; the professor's cloak is no longer a cloud of holy mystery, which the vulgar eye cannot penetrate—every science is thrown open to the world,—the high walks of theology are trodden with as firm a step by layman as by priest—botany and chemistry, anatomy and physiology, are all open to men of every class—nay, the arduous science of politics and legislation, which was formerly thought more than sufficient to occupy minds of the widest grasp, is now found to involve no question beyond the reach of any casual journalist, whose nightly efforts can render it a fit recreation to amuse the leisure hours of the hardest-wrought mechanic; so rapid (in advance or in retreat) has been our '*march of intellect.*' I do not say that all this is *well;* but that such is undoubtedly the fact. The overwhelming tide of eager inquiry and fearless research has broken down the various distinctions of society, professional and otherwise, and no floodgate now can check its course—it must be *directed*—not *resisted*, but *regulated.* Nor, indeed, to speak truly, do I

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understand why, of all branches of science connected with medicine, the practical department—that which most nearly concerns all men—should be the only one to which all men are not admitted."

Correspondence.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN PROFESSOR SIMPSON AND DR. RUTHERFORD RUSSELL.

To the Editor of the Edinburgh News.

75, Queen Street, Dec. 18, 1851.

SIR,—Dr. Simpson has thought proper to appeal to the public in a letter addressed to me. Permit me, through the medium of your columns, to contribute the complement of the correspondence of which he has afforded a part. When I saw the advertisement of his intention, I wrote to him, requesting the return of my letters, or copies of them. This obvious justice he has not rendered. Had he done so, I would have shown that the trivial error I made in my first was corrected in my second, of which I did not preserve copies, and on this corrected error he has insinuated a charge of dishonesty against me. As he admits that he was in the habit of meeting me whenever he was asked, it is manifestly impertinent, in every sense of the word, to enter into a detail of the individual cases in which I never should have consulted him had I known him capable of this breach of professional confidence, and I consider that this violation of decorum and delicacy is far more culpable in the occupant of his peculiar chair than could be "the fault" for which Mr. Syme modestly petitions the Town Council to cashier Dr. Henderson.—I am, etc.,

J. RUTHERFURD RUSSELL.

(COPY.)

Dr. Russell to Dr. Simpson.

75, Queen Street, Dec. 6, 1851.

DEAR SIR,—I observe thst in the speech you delivered at the recent meeting of the Medico-Chirurgieal Society, you speak of having met homœopathic practitioners only twice, and on both of the occasions it was Professor Henderson. You must have forgotten that you have met me several times, and that you signed a formal letter along with me, beginning "We met this day in consultation." I take it for granted that you will use the first opportunity of correcting this inadvertence, as of course its correction will come with a much better grace from you than from me. May I request a reply to this.—Yours truly,

J. RUTHERFURD RUSSELL.

Having got no answer, I wrote again on the 9th, directing Dr. Simpson's attention to my former letter, and stating that, having looked at his speech again, I found I was wrong in attributing these very words to him; but that the meaning I had imputed to him was implied by them.

Dr. Simpson to Dr. Russell.

52, Queen Street, Tuesday, Dec. 9, 1851.

DEAR SIR,—Since receiving your letter on Friday, I have really not had ten minutes of spare time to answer it. And, let me add (notwithstanding your second note of yesterday), I do not, after all, see how you could very well expect me to take the trouble of writing a reply. For you state,—"I observe that, in a speech you delivered at the recent meeting of the Medico-Chirurgical Society, you speak of having met homœopathic practitioners only twice, and on both occasions referred to it was Professor Henderson."

Now you must excuse me saying, and I say it with pain, that you never did "observe" any such statement in my speech; for no such statement exists in it.

You add,—"You must have forgotten that you have met me upon several occasions." Not at all; but the subject of meeting or not meeting with you was not in any way, I assure you, before the Medico-Chirurgical Society; and even the remarks about meeting Dr. Henderson were only incidentally, perhaps improperly, introduced, when the real matter of consideration before the Society was, in truth, a matter of principle, and not of persons; and when the question was, not what we had done with homœopathists in times past, but what relations we should have with them for the future.

As you seem in your note to think it desirable that I should state that I had met you at cases, let me add, what of course I have no hesitation in doing, that in former times I have seen, with you, four or five of your nearest female relatives; and a young lady (the case you particularise in your letter) suffering under occasional hysterical mania, to prevent whom from being forced into circumstances of apparent danger to her state of mind and health, I signed a certificate or statement of her condition.

It is possible I may have seen one or two other cases with you; but if so, I have no recollection of them. I have other and far more important matters to burthen my memory with.

And do not suppose, as your letter would seem to imply, that I am in the least degree ashamed to acknowledge having met you at these cases in times past. In this respect, others and I have formerly (and perhaps reprehensibly) erred through mere excess of good-nature and kindness towards you. But that is entirely a different question from the question of meeting you or other homœopathists for the future, now that the Colleges have declared, in their corporate capacity, the impropriety of even *seeming* to admit in any degree the legitimacy of so-called homœopathic medicine, by the members of our profession meeting at cases with practitioners of homœopathy, for diagnostic or other purposes. In that opinion, and in that step, I most heartily concur. You believe that a millionth, or a billionth, or a decillionth of a grain of this or that medicine may cure this or that disease; and I

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give *you* full credit for your honesty of belief. But at the same time you must accord *me* also full credit for my honesty of belief, that, in all this, homœopathists practise upon their own minds, and upon the minds of the public, the grossest deception. And if others and I have now attained (as the profession at large have) to this conviction, you can neither, I think, feel astonished nor irritated at our coming at last to the conclusion of refusing, both as a body and as individuals, to abet in any way what we conscientiously look upon as a system of consummate charlatanry.

Yours, etc., J. Y. Simpson.

P.S.—As I have stated in the body of the letter, it is possible I may have seen with you one or two cases more than those I have alluded to, without being able to recall any remembrance of them whatever at present. Your friend Dr. Henderson has, in his letter, brought back to my recollection, what I had entirely forgotten,—viz., seeing with him, years ago, a previous patient of his, a member of Mr. Chalmers's family, who was afterwards placed for some time under my professional charge. He states also, that in the case of a patient of his, where I applied potassa fusa for induration of the cervix uteri, he was with me at one of my vi-its: or at least he has brought forward a letter from a relative saying as much. Most assuredly, if such were the fact, I have not the very slightest remembrance of it, and I have quite in vain attempted to recall any recollection of my ever meeting him at the bedside of that patient. Had it been otherwise, I would have freely acknowledged the circumstance, when referring to the case in the speech you allude to: just as in it I freely acknowledged Dr. H. being present with me in a case in which I removed a polypus from the uterus. —J. Y. S.

Dr. Russell to Dr. Simpson.

75, Queen Street, Dec. 10, 1851.

Dear Sir,—I have to acknowledge your letter of yesterday's date. It confirms the statement I made that you were in the habit of meeting with me in consultation. Notwithstanding your petulant remonstrance, I consider myself entitled to obtain from yon a contradiction of the impression your speech made, and which was fully justified by its construction—viz., that you were detailing the few exceptional cases in which you met homœopathic practitioners. If this was not the meaning of the speech, its only design must have been to make a personal attack on Dr, Henderson, and introduce Mr. ——'s name in a way certain to give offence.

I shall be glad to have your opinion on homœopathy after you have studied it, and when you shall have acquired the courtesy of style which is essential to conducting a correspondence in the manner to which I am used, and from which I cannot consent, even for your sake, to deviate.—I am, etc.,

J. Rutherfurd Russell.

[We have given this correspondence that our readers may judge for themselves of the war among the doctors in Edinburgh, and of the different *animus* of Professor Simpson and our colleague, Dr. Russell.]

Chester Homœopathic Dispensary.—*Case. Sick Headache.*—Mrs. —, aged 46, has been afflicted with attacks of sick headache for ten years. She has a miserable expression, is pale, and has a dirty, dark-coloured ring around the eyes. Complains of a numb tingling in the fingers, as if they were asleep, which prevents her holding her needle. As she ought to earn her livelihood by her needle, she feels this affliction severely. The tingling is so much worse at night, that it usually awakens her about two o'clock and prevents her taking any more sleep. Her attacks of headache come on two or three times a week, attended by sickness, drowsiness, and increased flow of urine; her bowels are costive, and the evacuations like marbles. Prescribed *Cocculus* 3, one pilule thrice a day. July 10th. Has had no headache since she was here, ten days ago; fingers the same; bowels less confined. 17th. The painful tingling and numb aching in the fingers continue the same; no return of headache. *Nux* 30, one pilule night and morning. August 3rd. The tingling and numbness the same, or rather worse. Ordered *Sulphur* 30, one pilule night and morning, and to use the galvanic battery for half an hour every day. 15th. Reports that while she holds the wires of the battery, the numbness and tingling entirely disappear, and although there is afterwards some return of the sensation, it is upon the whole much better. She feels more cheerful, and stronger and better generally after the galvanism. Her health is altogether better, and she has had no return of sick headache as yet. Continue *Sulphur* and the galvanism. 27th. Has only been able to take galvanism three times since she was here. The tingling in the fingers she feels slightly at times, and the touch is not yet so fine as to enable her to sew; but considering the numbness has troubled her for three years, she expresses herself much pleased. Continue. Sept. 13th. Has continued the medicine and the galvanism up to the present time. Considers herself quite well; is able to sew as well as ever, and has remained free from her attacks of sick headache. *Observation.*—The writer records this case, in which galvanism cured a nervous tingling of the fingers, and *Cocculus* periodical attacks of sick headache of great severity, because the good effects of galvanism have hitherto been, in his experience, of extremely rare occurrence. A tingling and numbness in the fingers is not an unfrequent complaint, but the degree of severity, as stated above, is unusual.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Rebiew of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

A VISION OF HOMŒOPATHY AS IT IS AND SHALL BE.

BY E. V. N.

As I sat now musing on the past, and then reviewing the circumstances and difficulties of the present, a spirit of the future descended upon me, and led me twenty years along the pathway of life, thus discoursing as it went,—

You are discouraged and perplexed because of the uncertainties of your profession; tried men and true seem to be falling, and the shades of hesitancy and doubt fast gathering over the minds of many. The character of the times impresses you with the conviction, that the commotions that are now shaking the world of medicine are either the pioneers of a more perfect and fully developed science or the last faint glimmerings of a departing light; that the rancour and bitterness that tinge the words and actions of a thousand of the allopathic medical profession betoken either a thorough contempt for or dread of the hundred and a half of homœopathic practitioners, that globulize and monopolize a vast and vastly increasing portion of the British sick.

You ask what we are against so many? What else can we expect save a life of perpetual drag and dolour? What chance of establishment has homœopathy, surrounded as it is on all sides by men who consider no species of rascality base enough, no measure of vituperation mean enough to hurl against a system they know not; who regard no amount of infamy and baseness bad enough to impute to a class of men infinitely more worthy and truthful than even their vain-glorious and interested detractors are.

But that you may be comforted as to the future, come, see homœopathy as it is and as it shall be.

Standing as you are at the far end of 1851, lift up your eyes, open your ears, exercise your judgment, and tell me if homœopathy is hopeless. See it with hospitals, with dispensaries, with practitioners, with chemists, with patients, with associations, with "journals," with "Times," with lectures, with letters, with tracts, with volumes innumerable. Behold it with statistics; follow it in practice; imagine it in cures; inquire for it at the cottage; ask for it at the palace; hear its loud praises from the poor; listen to the low but audible murmur of applause that falls from the rich. Take it in its height and depth, length and breadth, review its years, ponder its worth, and say may you not go on your way rejoicing.

To see homœopathy as it is, you must get behind the scenes, and above the prejudices of the people. Thousands are reading, thousands are thinking, thousands are convinced, and thousands are hesitating—hesitating *not as* to its truth, undecided not as to its merits, but hesitating whether old associations and friendships are to be broken up. Whether the ill-will of him who for years has drugged the family is to be endured or the child die, or whether globules and the globulist are to be called in and the patient live. Whether Dr. C., whose hatred for quacks is so great and well known, won't withdraw his support from the shop. Whether aunt K. won't disown us for discarding her favourite medicine, *Blue pill* and *Calomel*; or whether the Browns won't despise us as ignorant and mean, for calling in a man whom the whole profession regard as a schemer.

Homœopathy as it is, stands a fixed and settled principle; its days of warfare are over; its struggles are at an end; fifty years' life has given it fifty years' strength, and fifty years' strength has given it a hold in the world which dreads no longer death and destruction; it fears no more the keen inquiring eye; all it wants, all it needs, is light to show itself, and room to move itself. The cry no longer is "homœopathy is false," but "homœopathy is true and we are undone;" the cry rises not from the multitude, but from the few; not from the nation, but from the nation's doctors. The struggle now *is not* homœopathy for existence, but allopathy for *beef and bread*—allopathy for life. Already the stamp of decay has been impressed; already the cold shivers of death are drawing over a system of therapeutics as old and rotten as it

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is false, and as false and rotten as it is old.

Let us leave "*Contraria contrariis curantur*" to the mercy of its friends and advocates; and look up the stream of time ten years, and see how it fares with "*Similia similibus curantur.*"

1861, what can you tell us, hast thou aught in thy cycle that can interest a traveller from 1851? Little, save men are wiser, doctors fewer, drugs disappearing, and death enjoying a holiday. Between the years '52 and '59, great were the efforts put forth by allopathy to lengthen its days. It pleaded its antiquity; its followers showed its hoary head and demanded reverence; they extolled its wisdom and experience, and entreated support; they predicted universal and everlasting epidemics, and broadly asserted the general adoption of homœopathy to be an evidence that time was drawing to an end; that it was a device of the "Old Serpent's" to hasten the last trumpet's sound; that it was a plot hatched in the councils of hell to draw the world down to the torments of perdition long before its time. Yet all availed not to save the sinking cause—die it would, in spite of all that was done for it; and when homœopathy received the patent of the legislature, and became the recognised doctrine of half a dozen British colleges, allopaths, *en masse*, were heard to exclaim, "Allopathy is gone—fled—vanished,

> "'And, like the baseless fabric of a vision,
> Left not a rack behind.'

As our system is gone, let us save ourselves; as our glory has departed, let us redeem our fortunes; as the evidences of our contempt and bitterness are so fresh and plentiful, let us show, by a complete and unreserved surrender of all hostilities, and a hearty and universal adoption of all the doctrines of homœopathy, that we were but ignorant creatures, with more blindness and selfishness in our thoughts than honesty in our hearts, with less love for truth and progression than hatred for innovation and change. That the world may believe us sincere, let us congregate in thousands and hurl poor old dead allopathy out of sight. Let our 'Lancets,' our 'protests,' our college resolutions, our scandalous works, and contemptuous publications be gathered together and burned as a sin-offering before the shrine of truth. Let those of our number who still cling to '*Contraria contrariis curantur*' be stigmatized as 'quacks;' branded as cheats and impostors; 'despised in consultations;' 'hated in society.' Let our universities, professors, and teachers solemnly declare and publish to the world the utility and splendour of Hahnemann's discovery. Let our students be encouraged to question and inquire. Let all who will, without the fear of 'laughter,' the dread of 'scorn,' or the horror of 'sneers,' be induced to go down into the depths of homœopathy and draw out of its recesses, bit by bit, and atom by atom, the still undiscovered horde of beauties and blessings its theory encircles."

And while the profession at large was thus doing and saying, I beheld the brethren in a certain northern capital no longer fulminating thunder and hurling blasts against the dead man of Meissen,—Hahnemann's name no longer reproached,—Hahnemann's followers no longer outlawed; but each and all striving to render homage to the name the people delight to honour, and rearing, in the centre of the quadrangle of their ancient and popular school, a monument to the glory of the man who first propounded "*Similia similibus curantur.*" And by the side of that same monument I heard a venerable professor, with tremulous voice, utter these words: "Men and brethren, from these halls have gone forth, again and again, the denouncement of apostacy against the man, and the sentence of reprobation against the system of the man, whose praises we are met this day to celebrate. From these halls has gone forth a mighty band, taught by us to revere and cherish the dead system of medicine, and to scout and flee the infinitesimal quackery. We laboured with all our might (with shame be it spoken) to overturn a system we knew not, to consider which we regarded as degradation, the ultimate triumph of which we believed morally impossible. We were among the first publicly to condemn; we have become the first publicly to confess that what we did we did ignorantly through unbelief. And on this spot, which we once thought no such thing would have occupied, we have raised a monument to perpetuate the name of Hahnemann—a monument which this University and its Patrons shall ever preserve and honour, not only as a memorial of departed greatness, not only as an acknowledgment of illustrious talent, nor yet alone as a small recompense for past offences, but also as a standing evidence to generations yet to come that truth will prevail, truth will ultimately triumph—triumph though colleges oppose and professors condemn."

So much for the strictly professional conquest of homœopathy; for a view of its more general effects, let us run ten years further up the course of time.

1871—how changed are the aspects

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of affairs. What wonders time accomplishes. Twenty years ago, and that wonderful truth-revealing instrument which we now so largely employ, called the magnetoscope, had hardly opened its eyes on the light of the world. Twenty years ago, and mesmerism, that mighty all-pervading power of nature, was a despised and neglected pilgrim on earth, driven to and fro, sometimes sheltered and protected by men of science and learning, and sometimes driven out of house and hall as an unworthy reputation-destroying viper. Twenty years ago, and Britain could only muster 175 true disciples of Hahnemann. Twenty years ago, 10,000 allopathic doctors daily deluged the nation with rivers of "draughts," and buried the people under mountains of "pills and powders." Twenty years ago, our most popular curatives were blisters and bleedings, now lancets are unknown, and mustard only used when eating pork or beef. Twenty years ago, the mortality of our land annually exceeded 100,000; now, though diseases are not extirpated, sicknesses annihilated, or death vanquished, though epidemics still scourge our borders, and fevers lurk in our cellars, though phthisis still devours its victims, and dysentery overpowers its strong ones, still our yearly deaths are reduced by one-half; our limits of life more nearly approach the definite threescore and ten; our strong men are giants, and our weak men are mighty; the eternal druggery of 1851 is altogether unknown here. The only memorial of allopathic doses that exists, is the following copy taken from a framed prescription, hanging up as a curiosity in the hall of a London hospital:

John Thompson.

℞ Liq. Ammon. Acet., ʒj.
Tr. Hyoscyam., ℥x.
Vin. Ipecac., ℥v.
Syr. Papav., ʒss.
Aquæ, ʒx.
Fiat haust. 3tia vel 4ta qq. hor. s.:

and the only memorial of allopathic physic is a box of antibilious pills, which an old doctor's widow has preserved as a remembrancer of the palpable manner in which her poor dear husband was wont to *release* his patients.

"And now," said my seer, "go down to your place, and labour in your calling; be not deterred by vile imputations and hard names; let the frown nerve you to greater diligence, and more elaborate and careful examination of Hahnemann's laws; let the stigma of silliness and obscurity fall carelessly at your feet; let the abuse of the '*Medical Times*,' '*Lancet*,' etc., rejoice your heart as being the precursors of your fame and triumph; and when men revile and persecute you, thank them, and curse them not; and when men sneer at you and would falsely accuse you, answer them in meekness, knowing that the day of their shame is at hand."

PROFESSOR CHRISTISON AND DR. GEORGE E. STEWART.*

WE have great pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to these letters, in which Dr. Stewart has acquitted himself right well. This correspondence should be put into large circulation. We are glad that so intelligent and accomplished a man as Dr. Stewart has been added to our number.

Dr. Stewart to Dr. Christison.

"5, St. James's Square, 21st Nov., 1851.

"SIR,—I have been favoured with notes of a recent lecture by you (taken during its delivery), on the subject of homœopathy, in which I find the following passage:—'Edinburgh has been charged with sending forth eight homœopathic graduaets out of the forty-eight who graduated here last year: but I hardly believe this. If it is the case, they must have concealed from their examinators their true sentiments, and, for base ends, have declared themselves adherents of a system they believed to be false.'

"As I am one of those who believed in the superiority of the homœopathic system, at the time of graduation, I deem myself entitled to inquire whether the passage referred to contains a substantially correct report of what you said.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"GEORGE E. STEWART.

"To Dr. Christison."

Dr. Christison to Dr. Stewart.

"Moray Place, 22nd Nov., 1851.

"SIR,—I am sorry indeed that any graduate of the University of Edinburgh should have felt the necessity of making such a confession as that which I have received from you this morning.

"The cautions which I considered it my duty to give my students on the subject of homœopathy were only in part written, and that portion in many places not delivered as it was written: consequently, I cannot be certain of the terms actually used by me. I am quite certain, however, that the passage adverted to in your letter was not delivered in the terms in which you say it has been reported to you. As to the purport of the passage, my object was to express disapprobation of the conduct of any candidate for the medical degree of this university—if, indeed, there was any such—who in his examinations should give his examiners to understand that he believed in rational medicine and would practise it, while in his secret

* Correspondence between Professor Christison and Dr. George E. Stewart, on Homœopathy. Edinburgh: James Hogg, 4, Nicolson Street; James Brown, 34, South Castle Street.

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heart he believed in homœopathy, or, at least, intended to practise according to its principles.

"I shall be sorry if, in expressing this disapprobation, I used language which could be justly interpreted as imputing base motives to one so circumstanced, because, when reluctantly compelled by my position to discuss this miserable subject, my wish has always been to state facts, but to leave it to my hearers to judge of motives for themselves; and if your informant was as anxious to report what might soothe, as to convey what would irritate, those whom I could not but censure, he must have told you that, at the close of my remarks, I begged to recall any statement I might have made which might seem to impute base motives to any individual professing homœopathic principles, and to avow my willingness to believe that many homœopathists are honest men, afflicted with lamentable delusions.

"I beg to add, that our correspondence on this subject must here terminate.

"I am, your obedient servant,

"R. CHRISTISON.

"Dr. Stewart."

We can only find space for some extracts from Dr. Stewart's second and long letter to the Professor; but we hope our readers will obtain and read this correspondence in full.

Dr. Stewart to Dr. Christison.

"In order to correct any false impressions which may have been left either on your own mind or on the minds of your students, I have now to state emphatically, that on no occasion during my examinations with a view to graduation did I ever make the slightest profession of any belief which I did not entertain. I had previously become fully satisfied of the truth and importance of the homœopathic law, and of the efficacy of infinitesimal doses, *given in accordance with it;* but on neither of these subjects was I, directly or indirectly, asked any questions; and it was certainly not my part to propose subjects for examination.

"Indeed, so entirely satisfied am I that, in such examinations, any questions tending to elicit a confession of belief, or of intentions in reference to practice, are entirely out of place and irregular, that I was quite prepared, had any such been put to me, to decline answering them upon that ground, and to abide the consequences, taking my appeal, in case of necessity, to the Senatus and Patrons of the University.

"A candidate for a degree is not, in my estimation, to be regarded as pledging himself to practise at all, much less to follow any particular method. He rests his claim for a diploma on the fact of his having, in the acquisition of medical knowledge, spent both time and money, for which the diploma is the receipt. If the examiners find, by his answers to their questions, that he has prosecuted his studies successfully, they recommend him for graduation, and here their responsibility ends. For his future conduct as a practitioner, he is answerable only to his own conscience and the laws of his country; and to neither of these tribunals need he fear to appeal, when the charge brought against him is that he has investigated a plan of treatment which he had heard stated to be superior to that he had been taught at college, and that, finding this declaration true, he dares to act upon it.

"In regard to the number of graduates, I am quite *certain* that five were believers in homœopathy at the time of graduation, and are now prosecuting its study, with a view to practice. I also know of as many more who had *then* a leaning to it, and who, I have no doubt, are now daily becoming more convinced of its superior efficacy."……

"It appears that in your view homœopathy and rational medicine are opposed; in mine, they are identified. Having pursued, with a fair measure of assiduity and success, my studies at the university—having had the advantage of the lessons of its teachers both as to the theory and the practice of therapeutics, I was fortunate enough to become acquainted with a mode of treatment not taught in the university, and, as it appears, unknown or misunderstood by most of the professors there; among whom, from the terms of your inaugural address, and from the notes I have seen of your lectures, I must believe you to be as *yet* included. I have thus had an opportunity of comparing for myself the homœopathic with the more generally received modes of treatment—which you appear not to have enjoyed—and the result has been a firm conviction of the vastly superior efficacy of homœopathy. But, in thus learning homœopathy, I have unlearned nothing valuable; and I am anxious to express my sense of obligation to those teachers from whom I have derived so much useful knowledge, without which I could not have occupied my present position. Surely a rational medicine, or, as I understand the term, one derived from reasoning on *facts*, is more likely to be found when the individual in search of it tries the merits of all the systems of medicine brought under his notice before he adopts any, than when, without such inquiry, he clings blindly to that which his fathers believed, and which he happens to have been first taught.

"I do not see, however, why, because I believe the homœopathic method of treatment so superior to all others as to consider it my privilege and my duty to practise it, I am at all bound to maintain that every other must of necessity be useless. Because I hold that with small doses, administered on the principle *similia similibus curantur*, cures are effected most speedily, and with greatest certainty and safety, I am by no means to be considered as denying that large doses, administered on some other principle or variety of principles, are capable of, to any extent, promoting recovery, far less as refusing to acknowledge that an amount of benefit may flow in some instances from the use of blisters, etc.; in fact, I am rather inclined to look upon blistering, and other means of counter-irritation, as a coarse kind of homœopathy. There is as much ground for the conclusion that, because I believe the affluent now cross the Atlantic in steamers, I must deny that sailing vessels also carry their human freight."……

"In your 'Dispensatory,' in speaking of belladonna as a prophylactic against scarlatina,

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you say—'The alleged property [of preventing the invasion of scarlatina] has, however, been generally disbelieved in this country, mainly, perhaps, in consideration of the individual who first announced it, and who made use of the facts in his own way to support his wild theories respecting homœopathy. But, as the treatment is simple and safe, it seems irrational not to give it a fair trial, so long as there are hundreds of public institutions for children in Britain that every now and then are overrun and decimated by scarlatina.'

"In regard to your statement in the above extract, it is gratifying to observe that you award to Hahnemann his due; for we have found several journalists denying his claim to the discovery, and thus, by the by, fulfilling one of the conditions of a true discovery which you gave us in your inaugural address, that it must be denied before being generally accepted."....

"Have you taken the system of therapeutics given you by your teachers, and kept it sacred in the state in which it was when committed to you? Does any allopathist profess to do so? Have no alterations, no improvements, been made on it? Why, then, all your investigations, all your writings in favour of changes in formerly received notions? If all who were at one time your fellow-students, and who received the same instructions from the same teachers, had acted on this plan, how could there have arisen among them so many opposite views in regard to the treatment of the same cases"....

"I may also mention to you, that even your colleague, Dr. Simpson, has publicly in his class-room confessed to the efficacy of a medicine administered by him in accordance with the homœopathic law, at the suggestion of a homœopathist, and in not *very* small doses either.

"Towards the close of last winter session, when Dr. Arneth, of Vienna, was in Edinburgh, he was in the habit of attending Dr. Simpson's lectures. On one occasion, in Dr. Arneth's presence, I recollect that Dr. Simpson told his class of a case of vomiting during pregnancy then under his care. He had launched forth in succession all his allopathic appliances—opium, naphtha, prussic acid, etc. (I forget if chloroform was also used)—but without relieving the patient. He had either taken Dr. Arneth to see it, or had told him about it, and the latter recommended him to try either a quarter or half a grain of ipecacuanha, I do not recollect which. He acted upon this suggestion, and with decided good results. Dr. Simpson made a remark to the effect, that this, no doubt, looked very like homœopathy, but yet that he was bound to acknowledge the fact".....

"I must say, it is not obvious to me how reason either must, or can, reject the theory of infinitesimal doses. Reason has nothing to do with it; it is to be tested by observation and experiment. If you witness undoubted curative effects produced by these quantities, you are forced to believe that they are not powerless. There is no room for, no need of, reasoning; it essentially belongs to the category of axiomatic truths. No doubt, if you appeal to common sense—by which, in this case, I mean the sense common to allopathists, that large doses of medicines are necessary for the cure of disease—the response must be, that infinitesimal doses are no doses at all, in so far as the capability of making any impression is concerned; but still in this there is no reasoning. Here there is a mere *petitio principii*—a begging of the question. If large doses are *alone* capable of influencing a disease, small doses *must* be ineffectual. No doubt of it; but first show that the notions of allopathists on this point are right, then the whole matter will be set at rest—the dispute settled.

"The question is *not* whether the human mind is capable of conceiving a clear idea, or *any* idea, of a trillionth; but is it capable of *seeing the effects* of a trillionth of a grain of medicine administered homœopathically? To establish that lightning is a powerful agent, and capable of producing great destruction, it is not necessary to conceive an idea of the weight of a flash, or of the ingredient in it (if it be compound) which has the strength. It is enough to see the effects, or even to hear them related by credible witnesses. If you differ from me on this point, pray favour me with a statement of the exact weight, so that I may have a more perfect realization of the devastating power so often displayed during a thunderstorm."....

"The testimony of Professor Jörg, of Leipsic—an *allopathist*—may also be adduced in favour of *small doses* administered *homœopathically*:—

"'On the other hand, medicines operate most powerfully upon the sick when the symptoms correspond with those of the disease. A very small quantity of medicinal arnica will produce a violent effect upon persons who have an irritable state of the œsophagus and stomach. Mercurial preparations have in very small doses given rise to pains and loose stools when administered in an inflammatory state of the intestines. * * * Yet why,' he exclaims, 'should I occupy time by adducing more examples of a similar operation of medicines, since it is in the very nature of the thing that a medicine must produce a much greater effect when it is applied to a body already suffering under an affection similar to that which the medicine itself is capable of producing'"*

"From a still more recent work, I extract the following remarks, which appear to me to be particularly appropriate:—

"'For, on the whole, the idea of medicine itself is homœopathic; it does not give health-producing agents to engender health, but poisons which would issue in disease: it is, therefore, the general application of the law, by which like is to be cured by like. It is in the particulars that medicine does not recognise the application of the Hahnemannian formula; and thence, whenever it comes into details, it is in contradiction with its own idea. It is homœopathic in theory, and allopathic in application—a house divided against itself. And in the matter of doses it is subject to the like remarks; for no one gives physic in the same quantities as food, but a few grains of calomel, or a few fractions of

* British Journal of Homœopathy, 1845, p. 48.

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a grain of arsenic, are considered sufficient even by "heroic practitioners" of the old school. Why is this, but that there is a working in these poisons which takes them out of the category of the ordinary materials which we put into our mouths? And if a grain will produce results upon a man of fourteen stone weight, where is the absurdity to end, without experiment, which may choose to show that the millionth or decillionth of a grain will have even better results? I marvel how men who lift fourteen stone by the equipoise of a skilful grain, can sneer at other men who do the same nice balance by incalculably lesser weights. For it is evident that all medicine is on this railway of smallness, and is more perfect and harmless for every fresh terminus that it reaches. If the allopathists were accustomed to give calomel porridges, their wrath against small doses would be consistent; but when they are themselves reduced to grains, why should they cavil at other healers who, by experiment, have found out the value of grains?'"*.....

"In conclusion, I have a few remarks to make on your statement, in the notes, that 'there are no existing facts which go to support the truth of homœopathy.' Have you ever tried to obtain any? From what I have already said, you will now allow, perhaps, that there are *at least* a few; but I can even give you some from your own 'Dispensatory.'

"To begin with tartar emetic, of which you say, in the notes, that 'it has been adduced as an example of the homœopathic method of cure; but it is very difficult to prove that it acts by producing inflammation.' In your 'Dispensatory' (p. 149) I find the following: 'Internally, tartar emetic is, in large doses, an irritant poison, which produces *inflammation* of the alimentary mucous membrane, and also, it appears, *of the texture of the lungs*,' etc. Farther on, in the same page, you write—'The same doses which, in the healthy state produce in general symptoms of irritant poisoning, unless speedily discharged by vomiting, appear frequently to exert a sedative or *controstimulant* [!] action during the presence of general reaction or active inflammation. * * * This singular action, and the cure of *pneumonia*, pleurisy, and other acute internal inflammations, through its means, are facts in therapeutics, to the truth of which, however much they were at one time doubted in this country, it is now almost unnecessary for any author to bear personal testimony. The diseases in which the *controstimulant* plan has seemed most beneficial are *pneumonia*, pleurisy, and erysipelas.' Instead of adopting the large dose system, you consider that small, nauseating, and diaphoretic doses are equally effectual. But although nausea and diaphoresis precede the cure, I think it would be 'very difficult to prove' that they cause it. Indeed, if you would select a case of pneumonia, the symptoms of which are completely covered by those of tartar emetic, and give this substance in smaller doses, even infinitesimal ones—you would find that recovery may take place without either nausea or increased perspiration. Every case of pneumonia is not, however, suitable for tartar emetic. Homœopathists have several other remedies, which are much more frequently found applicable.

"Again, in speaking of the actions and uses of arsenic (p. 184), you write—'A great multiplicity of secondary affections has farther been observed, among which the most frequent and most remarkable are partial palsy, *epileptic convulsions*, and *dyspepsia with emaciation*.' In page 136, however, you admit that 'it is one of the *standard remedies* in *epilepsy*, and is perhaps fully as often successful as any other method of cure;' and (in p. 134) that it 'is in *small doses* a *tonic*.'

"In speaking of the 'troublesome effects apt to accrue from its physiological operation,' you say—'Among other phenomena in such circumstances, *desquamation of the cuticle*, dropping of the nails, and falling out of the hair, have been observed,' and yet 'it is now a *staple remedy* in some of the more obstinate species of *scaly cutaneous disorders*, such as lepra and psoriasis.'

"Camphor (p. 257).—'When taken largely in coarse powder, it commonly occasions *pain in the stomach*, *sickness*, and *vomiting;* and animals die chiefly with symptoms of irritant poisoning. But when in a state of fine division, or when dissolved, large doses excite little else than narcotic symptoms, such as giddiness, staggering, obscurity of vision, confusion of ideas, and *delirium*—a state, in short, which considerably resembles intoxication, is attended with *increased frequency of the pulse*, and ends in *stupor*, *interrupted by occasional convulsions*.' Again (in p. 258):—'While these phenomena would appear to indicate a *stimulant action on the circulation*, *and still more on the nervous system*, with a secondary depressing effect, the current doctrine refers the *therapeutic influence* of *small doses* to a *primary sedative operation upon the nervous system*. It is held to *allay nervous excitement*, *subdue pain*, *arrest spasm*, and sometimes to induce sleep. At the same time it acts as a gentle diaphoretic, and induces a sense of coolness and refreshment; so that *where the pulse is excited*, *especially in connection with an excited state of the nervous system*, *depression of the circulation*, and even also of the animal temperature, may ensue. On account of these virtues, *camphor is used in continued fevers of the typhoid type*, *especially when nervous symptoms*, such as *delirium*, *watchfulness*, tremors, and starting of the tendons, prevail *in the advanced stage;* and by some authors, such as Dr. Cullen, its utility in such circumstances has been considered undeniable. It *does not accelerate*, but, on the contrary, *rather reduces the frequency of the circulation in fever*,' etc. [that is, when it is already increased].

"Chlorine (p. 310).—'If chlorine gas be somewhat diluted, it may be inspired, and then causes a painful sense of rawness in the throat and down the windpipe into the lungs, with coughing and expectoration, which may be followed by *bronchial inflammation*.' Again,

* The Human Body and its Connection with Man, Illustrated by the Principal Organs. By James John Garth Wilkinson, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. London: Chapman and Hall, 193, Piccadilly. 1851.

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speaking of its therapeutic applications (p. 311), you observe—'It has been held to be an astringent, in consequence chiefly of the property ascribed to it of diminishing chronic *bronchitis* when inhaled;' and in the same page, 'Chlorine inhalations have been found serviceable in chronic *catarrh*.'

"Creasotum (p. 376).—'In the human subject, its poisonous action has been sometimes manifested by *nausea*, *vomiting*, headache, etc.' And again, on next page—'Its most striking effects, however, as an internal sedative, are shown in the arrestment of *vomiting*. * * * It allays *vomiting*, from functional disorder of the stomach, or nervous irritability of that organ; and even in that which depends on organic disease in the stomach itself, it is not unfrequently of *great temporary benefit*. It has been found by accoucheurs a valuable remedy for the *chronic vomiting* of pregnancy. Others have observed it to be useful in *the most obstinate of all kinds of vomiting*—sea-sickness.'"

WAR AMONG THE DOCTORS.

(From the Edinburgh News.)

THE war among the doctors continues to rage with unabated violence. A correspondent in the *News* is supplemented with a correspondence between Professor Christison and Dr. Stewart. A doctor (Kein Thaler, *alias* Lackpenny) has come to the rescue of his craft in the pages of *Tait*, and this week a petition from James Syme, professor of clinical surgery, has been delivered to every councillor, in which he calls upon the Town Council to extrude Professor Henderson from the pathological chair. The magazine article demands our first attention, as the latest specimen of argument on behalf of present medical perfection. We are not homœopathists, but we have an intense love of freedom of discussion, mingled with fair play, and should we even seem to verge towards the new medical heresy so-called, it is not because we support it as true in medicine, but because we feel deeply interested in the cause of all men, be their station or profession what it may, who are heroically braving and suffering persecution either for the sake of truth, conscience, or their country.

When Luther fancied he saw the devil, he battled him with ink-bottles, and Dr. Lackpenny has attempted to meet the new heresy after the same heroic fashion. But, like Palmerston in last week's *Punch*, this penniless doctor shows his greatest strength when getting away from his opponents. He finds his homœopathic rivals being stoned to death with guineas by an incensed community, and he offers his paper shield to turn their blows towards his own empty coffers. The very cognomen assumed indicates the sore point of the case, and inferentially implores a discerning public not to continue sending antiquated practitioners empty-handed away, while new men are by means of their heresy obtaining such "lucrative incomes."

This paper in *Tait* presents a fair specimen of the treatment which heretics receive from the orthodox. We, of course, being unprofessional, know little of the right or wrong of the medicinal dispute, but we are not therefore to accept sophism as argument, or misstatement as well-accredited reality. When two "professionals" put their opinions in print, even unprofessioual men may judge whether each fairly meets the statements of his opponent. That is our position. Nor will the two smartly written pages, parading as these do a profuse knowledge of Greek and Adam Smith, of Rabelais and Earl Aldborough, of Sterne and a Greenwich showman, be allowed to "captivate us quite." It is true "that every old error has its modern parallel," as this writer asserts, but why he did not—as the public involuntarily will—take the strongest example of the fact which our day has furnished, the putting down all medical investigation by "order of authority," as his latest illustration, it seems difficult to comprehend. This writer and his friends have voted homœopathy a delusion, just as the Council of Trent voted abstinence from flesh on Friday a religious duty, and both have equally declared the violation of their decision not only a mortal but an unpardonable sin. This, truly, is an "old error," one which, in this country, has been exploded everywhere but among the Medical Faculty for fifty or a hundred years, and which neither the unintelligible philosophy of *Tait*, the petitions of "deeply interested" parties, nor the decisions of royal colleges, will ever again render respectable to our countrymen at large.

So far as we can judge, this writer in *Tait* obtains an easy triumph over his opponents by the cheap expedient of first setting up his straw man and then demolishing him. We are told, and that as if quoted, that these medical heretics propose to cure disease "by the artificial production of a similar one." Now, this appears to us a mere ingenious, although no doubt unintentional, misstatement. Homœopathists pretend, we take it, to produce no disease either similar or dissimilar in patients, but give what in *health* would produce symptoms akin to those exhibited by the disease they are called upon to cure. To say that this is producing a "similar disease," when the disease is already there, is very like laying a trap for catching the momentary consent or applause of the unthinking. On this misstatement hang the whole of Dr. "Lackpenny's" ill-digested illustrations. Thus we have a frozen nose and a burnt finger put forward only to show what every schoolboy knows, that the one by being rubbed with snow is not again frozen, and that the other by the application of heat is not a second time burnt. Marvellous discovery! To discover him who said they were would have been a still more astounding feat. This writer, "doubtless," makes a homœopathist say so, but writers who draw so largely upon the gullibility of their readers concerning what these may be supposed to know, are no very sure guides upon subjects more recondite. After a reference to common sense in the treatment of apoplexy, an admission and a solemn assurance that the writer takes his stand upon a fact, the following is the first evidence of his dead halt, at least in thinking:—"Many of

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the more visible phenomena of disease are with justice regarded as forming parts of its essence." What may be the precise meaning of these words we cannot pretend to determine. The writer must have either become a homœopathist in dispensing his intelligibility, or a victim of that "prostration," not "functional" but mental, to which this paragraph seems to have a reference. The discovery that visible phenomena is any part of an essence is at least equal in novelty to that of the new medical heretics; and should any chance bur len it with an equal success, it would no doubt secure for its author persecution equally relentless, certainly more justifiable than what he now dispenses to his professional rivals.

There are twenty other statements equally important, and equally true in this effort to support the present medical Diana, and the mass of small Demetriuses must be delighted with the defender of the craft from whence comes their wealth. But whatever the profession may determine, the public will never be satisfied by writers who only charge their rivals with dishonesty, cupidity, and ignorance. Men who so act cannot now content themselves by pointing to "a faith which has been the architecture of ages," or a suppression of the facts that professors equally eminent, we dare believe, with the writer in *Tait*, are to be found both in Paris, Vienna, and Edinburgh, and that some 200 practitioners, holding University degrees, are at this moment practising this despised delusion.

But there are stronger facts and greater difficulties with a non-professional public than even these. If you find a man who, by the power of thought, has raised himself to eminence in Great Britain, almost ten to one you find him patronising these heretical doctors. The people of this country will not believe that such men as Archbishop Whately, Richard Cobden, the Chevalier Bunsen, and Edward Miall are fools, because some known and many unknown men in Edinburgh have voted the medical advisers of these powerful thinkers knaves; neither will the Town Council stamp present medical practice as the appointed boundary of healing knowledge, because Professor Syme and his colleagues have a deep interest in upholding things as they are. That the patrons will return such an answer to this presumptuous and truth-stifling memorial as will put the brand of public detestation upon the persecuting spirit lately and still evinced by this now, as heretofore, intolerant profession we cannot for a moment doubt. If necessary, the public must themselves move in this matter. With us, they may be unbelievers in the new system, but they have the deepest interest in seeing that no mere authority should stay the progress of investigation, and that no one class of the community, whether practitioners or patients, should in a matter so serious be put down by the mere votes and bigotry of professional rivals.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3RD, 1852.

THE year 1851 is now numbered with the years that are past. At the conclusion of every successive year a thoughtful person, who has a care for his *inner* life, but is constrained to pass most of his waking time in the toils, and amid the turmoils of the world, *fumum strepitumque Romæ*, is disposed to ask himself how he has lived during that year. Public bodies may be aptly interrogated in like manner.

In our capacity, as an energetic and devoted organ of the medical reformers known as homœopathists, we may be allowed so to question our own body, medical and non-medical.

The year 1850 was memorable in our annals, on account of the establishment of three homœopathic hospitals in England; the year 1851 has been no less memorable, on account of the bitter, relentless, and insensate persecution of our doctrine and practice by our opponents; and the year 1852 has opened with this hostility unabated, and not less insensate and implacable.

Our journals and a few distinguished men have manfully done battle in our behalf; but there is still wanting that thorough union and cohesion of our body, medical and non-medical, which are necessary in our present position, and for the future advancement of our Cause.

We ask each individual to put the question to himself what he has done, and what he has left undone, that it was in his power to do, to defend homœopathy during the persecution that is still raging. What self-denial has he practised? What self-sacrifice has he achieved? What has he done in support of our defenders, and in the beating down of our assailants? What combination has he originated or taken part in? What prejudice has he vanquished? Has he shown any generous sympathy? Has he, in any one instance,

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or in any one particular, shown himself on the side of our defenders, or contributed to our defence?

Let each answer it to his conscience, and if *that* reproaches him, let him resolve to do better during the current year.

The dignity and the importance of our Cause require, on our part, discipline and cohesion. We have so often pointed out the necessity of union, and co-ordinate action, of sympathy with the *workers*, and of the large distribution of pamphlets, essays, and tracts, illustrative of the homœopathic doctrine, and setting forth the facts of the case which concern the persecution of the homœopathists,—that we need not now enlarge on the subject.

As our best efforts have been directed, feeble and unequal as they may have been, to the defence of homœopathy, we confidently calculate on a continuance and increase of the public favour which has heretofore animated and sustained us.

We once again claim, from our medical homœopathists, contributions, hospital and dispensary reports, and active assistance. Brief but complete reports of well-marked cases, whether the treatment has had a successful issue or not, will be thankfully received.

We hope the writer of the leader of the *Homœopathic Times* for the new year, 1853, will be able to congratulate our readers on the continued progress of our good Cause—as we now congratulate them.

PROFESSOR SIMPSON ON MODERN HAHNEMANNIC THEOLOGY.

THE renowned accoucheur of Edinburgh, and the no less renowned surgeon of that city, which, no doubt, contains other men-wives and surgeons as good as they are, though not so celebrated—have personally entered the field against us. When Celebrities like these advance into the thick of the fight, we may conclude that their faction is alarmed for the fate of the day.

Professor SIMPSON has quoted an insane passage from a foreign enthusiast, and takes it as the text of a sermon of his own, on what he is pleased to call "Modern Hahnemannic Theology;" but that merry philosopher and obstetric sage knows very well that his medical brethren of Edinburgh, who profess and practise homœopathy, if not so deeply read in metaphysics as himself, are at least as reverent receivers of the doctrines of Divine Truth. The cause must be bad indeed that is so advocated by one who wields such weapons. 'Twere better to be a modest baker and make and sell small loaves than to be a presumptuous obstetrician and indulge in such *tacticks*. We cannot suppose that the writer or his cause can gain any advantage from that sort of writing.

But in proportion as our opponents are fierce and truculent, should our opposing force be firm and united.

We must teach Professor SIMPSON and others the necessity of modesty and caution in their attacks on us. The famous Professor of Midwifery has thought proper to indulge not only in the *odium medicum*, a sufficiently bitter thing, but also in the *odium theologicum*, which is something worse. What theology has to do with him or the question between him and us, with chloroform or homœopathy, with *specula* and *uterine sounds*, or with triturations and globules, he has not enunciated. The time has not long gone by when it was popularly believed that most medical men were infidels—we believe most falsely; for we doubt not that our profession has contributed its full proportion of humble and reverent believers, when compared with other educated classes. We protest, however, against the introduction of theology into our controversy; and we trust that the Professor will spare us any more such notes. Let him write a systematic work and collect proofs, if he can, against homœopathy; but let him abstain from such missiles as that on Modern Hahnemannic Theology. *Ne sutor ultra crepidam;* he is a first-rate accoucheur, but is no theologian; a man of genius in his special art, but no prophet; an inventor after his kind

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and degree, but not an admirable Crichton —possessed of every kind of knowledge.

THE LANCET AND THE MEDICAL TIMES.

THE *Medical Gazette* has ceased, and is henceforth to be merged in the *Medical Times*. The *Lancet* is very irreverent on this subject: and we do not think the able and accomplished Editor, and the liberal proprietor and publisher of the *Medical Times*, will feel particularly pleased with the passage we quote from the notices to correspondents in that journal.

"JUSTUS.—It is precisely as we predicted. The two papers, called the *Medical Gazette* and the *Medical Times*, are both dead, and their fœtid remains are to be entombed at the literary cemetery, known by the sign of the *Black Flag*, in Princes Street, Soho. Of course, poor *John Churchill* is to be the undertaker on the occasion, as every sinking, dying, or dead medical work appears to fall into his hands. John, we are told, is doing so much business in the 'literary funeral line,' that he is in want of an active little person who will perform the double duty of sexton and *clerk*. John *offers* liberally; but some caution on the part of *candidates* is necessary, as it has been known to be possible for a 'sexton' to dig his own grave."

In the prospectus he has issued of what the Editor of the *Medical Times* says may virtually be considered a new journal, we have this passage.

"We have had occasion to devote many articles to a subject of the importance of which to the profession we are deeply convinced. We have not dreamt that we could by any arguments, however cogent, or by any facts, however incontestable, destroy the extraordinary faith of some portion of the public in that singular and incomprehensible fanaticism, which sees truth in an absurd hypothesis, and miraculous power in an inappreciable atom. He who believes, without evidence or thought, that the dogma of Hahnemann is true, is not likely to be convinced of his error by any amount of either evidence or thought. But we are happy in the knowledge that our articles have been found useful in strengthening the hands of those numerous practitioners, who have now to contend, in their several localities, with the mercenary and unlicensed advocates of a quackery which is disgracefnl to the intelligence and sagacity of the age."

This is prettily written, the sentences are well balanced, and the choice and allocation of the words are not infelicitous: but the admission is valuable from this Editor, who, some two years ago, notified the extinction of homœopathy in the metropolis, and its flaring up, just before extinction, in the provinces, that his powerful aid has been necessary to enable numerous practitioners to make head against it. We should be obliged to him for a brief summary of the arguments he has adduced, and the facts he has collected against homœopathy; and we should be thankful for his modest estimate of the amount of evidence he has brought forward, and of thought he has expended on this subject. But we challenge him to produce his instances of mercenary and unlicensed advocates of homœopathy.

Contrast the pretty passage we have quoted with the following one from the same prospectus, by the same Editor, of his "virtually new journal."

"Dissatisfaction has been felt by some at the meagre benefits which have resulted to the most important part of medicine—the art of curing—from the labour of the microscopist and the chemist; but such reproaches are unfounded. It is premature, at present, to condemn chemists as powerless, or physiology as useless in the improvement of therapeutics. Even if we already could not cite instances to the con trary, it would be sufficient to say that these sciences are still in their infancy, and display as yet scarcely any of those forces which will incontestably be the attributes of their maturer development. It is the function of the present generation to cultivate these sciences; and it will probably be the office of the next age to apply them. But the application will be made, and already we see traces of its coming. *The first results may be destructive, deep-rooted maxims may be shaken, and time-honoured beliefs dishonoured; but the revolutions of science are*

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not like those of the political world, and old creeds are seldom swept away until their place has been supplied with better attested truths."

We accept the omen. We have in this eloquent passage an acknowledgment that the art of curing is yet, according to this champion of allopathy, to be sought and found; and that the first effects of his microscopical and chemical pioneers may be destructive—of what? clearly of the present system of allopathic practice. We are also taught that deep-rooted maxims may be shaken, and time-honoured beliefs dishonoured; in other words, that the doctrine of the allopathic art of curing will soon not be worth a rush—

"——Sic transit gloria mundi,
Omnia sic pereunt, forma venusta, decus."

Why not at once, Mr. Editor, encourage your "numerous practitioners" to try homœopathy? the truths thereof, so far as the art of curing is concerned, we homœopathists fully believe are better attested than any facts or evidence you can produce in favour of allopathy, or of any other method of treatment that has ever been devised and practised. We cannot do otherwise than wish well to the virtually new journal, which promises us such excellent help for the defence of our Cause, and so much material for the columns of the *Homœopathic Times.*

Correspondence.

MR. RUTTER AND THE MAGNETOSCOPE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR.—I am induced to keep the current connected with the magnetoscope in motion, not only because it seems fraught with interest to others as well as myself, but because I have just received and read Mr. Rutter's *brochure* on the subject,* and I think it is but justice to him, that an outline of his discoveries, in his own words, should be brought under the notice of the many who have hitherto received them only at second hand through your pages, and the majority of whom may not think it worth while to order and read Mr. Rutter's pamphlet.

But first I must refer to a very able and interesting letter which you lately borrowed from the pages of the *Torquay Directory.* The signature would be a sufficient guarantee that the subject had been treated in a philosophic manner, and such we find to be the case. I would particularly draw attention to the concluding paragraph, as proving that the more extended the mind, and the deeper the research, the more liberal and the less dogmatic the individual.

"Read," says Bacon, "not to contradict and confute, nor yet to believe and take for granted, but to weigh and consider." Credulity is no doubt a weakness, but I am by no means sure that the converse is equally true. "Nothing," says Bacon, in another place, "makes a man suspect much more than to know little." I remember when the stethoscope was first coming into vogue in England, it was abundantly laughed at and pooh-poohed. I happened to know that the first of modern physicians looked upon it with a very suspicious eye, but he was not above applying himself to its investigation, and he convinced himself of the truth and the value of the indications to be derived through a simple tube of wood, and that long before lesser minds would even entertain the possibility of any truth in such a thing. But to return. Dr. Scoresby says, "it might not be prudent to assume that the asserted phenomena are impossible, much less that any attempt at a particular solution can satisfy all the results elicited by the magnetoscope." I quite concur in this; and whilst I think I fully appreciate the light which Dr. Scoresby has thrown on the subject, yet I confess that it appears to me to go but a very small way towards elucidating *all* the mysteries to which our attention is invited by Mr. Rutter. I see no reason whatever for doubting the correctness of Dr. Scoresby's observations or arguments; but I am sure that no one will see more clearly than himself how far they fall short of the requirements of the case. Nay, granting as I do the truth of the Doctor's observations, they appear to me absolutely to limit themselves, and to render it still more incomprehensible how the immense varieties of results could have been produced by such means. Granted that the natural pulsation in the finger and thumb, or either, should produce a given motion—granted even that that motion should be influenced by certain agents which notably influence the circulation,—how can we account for an almost unlimited variety of motion occurring under circumstances which, so far as we know, cannot possibly influence the circulation, a difference, for instance, arising from one metal or another being held in the non-operating hand? No; as far as I can see, such explanations only force upon us more closely the question, are these things as Mr. Rutter represents them, or has he deceived himself, and is he deceiving us? There can be no doubt as to the exhibition of the phenomena in Mr. Rutter's hands. Has he then deceived himself, and is he deceiving us? If so, he not only wishes to prove facts contrary to, or at least beyond, the ordinarily observed course of nature, but he sets about it in a manner no less contrary to the usual course of things. Men do not usually bestow every moment of

* Magnetoid Currents and the Magnetoscope, by J. O. N. Rutter, F.R.A.S. Parker and Son.

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their available time upon making up a case which shall not only have no practical bearing upon self, but which shall not even have for its object the bolstering up of any given theory or opinion,—which, indeed, can scarcely lead to any as yet. "Oh, but the love of notoriety!" Well, if Mr. Rutter's general and well-known character as a quiet matter-of-fact man, with a simple and sincere love of science, did not put him above such a suspicion, what a very odd method he has adopted for immortalizing himself. Was it wise in him to propound a subject which could not but startle if not rouse the opposition of men of science,—confessedly, too, starting with a borrowed idea? Taking this bold step, and bent upon notoriety, was it in keeping with this object to continue patiently plodding on, and communicating his ideas *only* to the most scientific people he could find; and even seeing these ideas promulgated, more or *less*, as his ideas by others? And now, finally, what sort of a book does he write and send forth on the subject? Why one which lays claim to nothing, save the honour of teaching others how to read in a volume of nature, to which he thinks he has found a key. He does not give us his own interpretation of his own readings, but he invites others to *verify* his readings, and to use the results as they best may, probably in various ways. In other words, out of the hundreds, perhaps thousands, of experiments which he has tried, and of which most have been verified over and over again, he has selected such as are most significant, placed them clearly before his readers, and invited them to repeat them, so as to investigate fully the subject he has opened up. "Next to the pleasure," he observes, "of discovering, or of doing something new one's self, is that of imparting a knowledge of it to others. The instrument hereafter described will be of assistance, and I hope the instructions, as respects manipulations and the required conditions, will be found sufficiently plain to ensure success. The following pages contain only a register of facts. I am more anxious to supply materials for thought and action than I am to express opinions. There is plenty of work for heads as well as hands. If it be set about in a right spirit, although aims may be different, the end will be the same. The prevalence of the truth must do good; and the establishment of what is to us a new truth is almost always accompanied by the displacement of error. We believe many things we do not understand and cannot explain. In this case we had better keep clear of theory until we are more familiarised with practice." This tallies, I think, with a caution given by Paley when speaking of the mechanical contrivances in the animal bodies. "Whether the distinction I have alleged be thought of importance or not, it is certainly of importance to remember that there is neither truth nor justice in endeavouring to bring a cloud over our understandings, or distrust into our reasonings, by suggesting that we know nothing of certain properties of living organizations, for our ignorance of these concerns not at all our knowledge of the properties of which I am treating."

"A little practice gives great command of the hand. A careful operator, with a steady hand, can always perform the experiments to his or her own satisfaction. There is a consciousness that the motions are involuntary, *i. e.* perfectly independent of the hand as regards their directions. It is not so easy to satisfy an observer that the motions are not produced solely by the hand. This is more especially the case when it happens that, by the same means, the person looking on is not able to produce similar motions, and thus realize the same results.

"All persons do not possess the power of producing the movement in the same degree, and there are some who appear to be entirely without it. Beginning by testing the capabilities of the members of my own family, I found some of each sex who could perform the experiments successfully at the first trial, whilst others have never been able to produce the slightest movement .... In using the magnetoscope, the principal conditions are, that the operator should stand at the side of it, placing the thumb and finger of the right hand, one on each side, in contact with the brass cap, where the arm joins the upright pillar of the instrument, his attention being fixed on the pendulum. Let it be observed that the instrument must be held loosely; if it be grasped too tightly, the circulation in the finger and thumb will be impeded, and no current will pass. (This accords with Dr. Scoresby's theory.) The hand should be kept open, *i. e.*, the unoccupied fingers should not be closed upon the palm of the hand .... I have mentioned the fact of some persons being unable to influence the instrument, by way of warning, to prevent disappointment; but I wish to adhere strictly to my purpose of not encumbering a sufficiently difficult subject with any theoretical explanations. The moleeular arrangements produced by the transmission of electric and magnetic currents is not to be denied. When working with constant batteries of low intensities, and with the means of measuring with extreme accuracy the amount of duty performed, I have invariably found that the current, when passed only in one direction, through a definite quantity of wire, say 2,000 feet, would do a vast deal more work, with a given battery power, than when the current was occasionally reversed. Magnetoid currents are subject to a similar law. At first, they pass feebly through the body and hand of the operator. Let no one be dissatisfied, or consider his own an exceptive instance until he has given the process a fair trial. Let him have patience, and try for a few minutes at a time, three or four times a day, and for several weeks in succession. This is what I mean by a fair trial. Let it be remembered, that every person, without exception as to sex or age, has the power of changing the direction of the currents by contact with the operator.

"Abnormalities, *i. e.*, slight variation in the directions of the currents, and the different effects produced by similar substances on different individuals, presented themselves at the commencement of these investigations. I have never attempted to explain them, because I be-

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lieve, by the exercise of a little patience, they will eventually explain themselves. It is better to go on observing and recording than to waste time in leaping hastily at conclusions. These matters are not in my way. Let them be pondered over by those whose education, and experience, and habits of thinking qualify them for the task. . . . . If all persons, on first touching the magnetoscope, could influence it alike, I should have less confidence in its indications. When I find that those most anxious to set the pendulum in motion have no power over it, whilst others impart to it the proper motions, though feebly, in a few minutes, I feel convinced that wishing is one thing, and realizing, another. The conditions are exceedingly simple. There has been no haste in preparing these pages. This has had its advantages. The experiments have been witnessed by hundreds of persons; and it is probable that I have received more hints and have listened to a greater number of objections than are likely to fall to the lot of any other operator. Practicable objections have been thankfully received, and objections have naturally caused greater caution and watchfulness. The subject is confessedly surrounded with difficulties. There are plenty of theories, diverging in all directions; the mechanical, the muscular, the mental, and the combination of all; *but still leaving the most remarkable, and by far the most interesting, incidents in the phenomena wholly untouched and unexplained.* A fact is no less a fact because it is not understood, or satisfactorily explained, or even believed. I have referred to these phenomena as dependent on what is analogous to magnetic and electric currents, or influences, because on that principle there appear to be fewer difficulties and discordances than on any other with which I am at present acquainted."

I am exceedingly sorry that this paper should have extended to such a length, but it really seems but fair that Mr. Rutter should be heard in this matter. I have little wish, and less ability, to add anything of my own. I cannot, however, but observe, that Dr. Prout, in the outset of his admirable Bridgewater Treatise, claims, as it were, a *locus standi* by reminding his readers that human knowledge is of two kinds—one founded on reason, "the other, a simple knowledge of what *is*, but how or why we know not, and for the existence of which we can assign no reason but our experience."

Mr. Rutter, I understand, is fully sensible of the necessity of extending his observations and experiments, so as to test the validity of the objections which have been raised to the value of the magnetoscope; and should these objections tend to throw light on his path, eventually, I doubt not, he will be obliged to those who have made them in a spirit of candid but rigid philosophy. In the meantime he may say with Silvio Pellico, "Egli è dovere, di confessare un importante verità in ogni tempo, perocchè se non è sperabile che venga subito riconosciuta, può pure dare tal preparamento all' anima altrui, il quale produce un giorno maggiore impartialità di giudici ed il consequente trionfo della luce." And again, he may feel with Gioberto: "Gli ostacoli che si attraversano che spaventano il volgo, perche ne vengono stimati insuperabili, non che arrestare il savio ideale, gli aggiungono stimolo e sprone, perchè trova in essi il modo di vincerli, tramutandoli in aiuti ed in propugnacoli."

Your obedient servant,
INVESTIGATOR.

DR. MADDEN AND THE MAGNETOSCOPE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Dr. Madden is one of the most ill-used and unfortunate of experimenters. He was first unjustly accused of taking all the credit of Mr. Rutter's so-called discovery to himself; then his manly and straightforward recantation is, with equal injustice, imputed by your correspondents in No. 124, "Knuckledown" and "H. V. Malan," to unworthy motives; and finally, in No. 125, "A Surgeon" denies my statement that Dr. Madden was the first who demonstrated the source of fallacy in the Rutterian instrument, and claims this honour for "J. H." and Dr. Cowan.

As regards Dr. Cowan's claim to such honour, I may only remark that his letter in the *Lancet* appeared nearly a month after Dr. Madden's recantation, and that all he says is, that he attributed the movements to "muscular unsteadiness and non-suspected volition"—a most indefinite assertion, which, not being supported by any proofs, cannot be regarded as anything like a "demonstration." Further, "J. H.'s" remarks, as they appear in your 119th number, are merely a pyrrhonic view of the whole matter, but are certainly as far from being a "demonstration" as are Dr. Cowan's.

It may be interesting to "A Surgeon" to know that as early as May last, consequently long before Dr. Cowan or "J. H." had seen or attempted to explain the cause of the movements of the Rutterian pendulum, a writer in the *North British Review* had "demonstrated" experimentally the source of fallacy in Mayo's odylic indicator, which is essentially the same as Mr. Rutter's magnetoscope; and it is a curious circumstance that this North British reviewer is, as I know, a zealous homœopathist.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
82, Gloucester Place, R. E. DUDGEON.
Dec. 20, 1851.

THE ENGLISH HOMŒOPATHIC ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Permit me, through the medium of your journal, to call the attention of your readers to a circular issued by the English Homœopathic Association, with the object of procuring statistics to illustrate the extension and the results, positive and comparative, of homœopathic and other treatments.

I am not a member of this Association, but the circular being addressed to all, calls not the less for a rejoinder, especially as I believe the

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publishing of any such crude statistical tables to be extremely injurious to our Cause. Statistics bearing on therapeutics are liable to numerous sources of fallacy; they may be drawn up with all candour, but from such deceptive sources as to create very erroneous impressions. The schedule issued by this Association teems with numerous sources of error. One object appears to be to give an idea of the extension of homœopathy from the number of patients prescribed for. Is such a demand likely to be generally answered? If answered, of what value is it? The comparative results are to be drawn from the tables of patients treated homœopathically, that is, from the rich and poor classes, with a large proportion of chronic cases, as compared with the results of neighbouring allopathic dispensaries, where the patients are all poor, and too many placed in the worst possible circumstances for recovery.

I need not dwell further on the very evident inutility of such statistics. The English Homœopathic Association, in its lay capacity, should remember that statistics so drawn up may be turned as readily against as in favour of homœopathy. They should remember that an eagerness to prove too much is injurious to any cause, however good. Such baseless statistics, as these promise to be, tend to provoke and confirm unbelief among our allopathic brethren. Homœopathy is now in that condition that it has less cause to dread its enemies than its over-zealous friends. There is such a thing as zeal without knowledge.

I hope, therefore, that the Association will, on further consideration of the matter, be induced to recall their statistical schedule.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

Dec. 22, 1851. FRANCIS BLACK.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Of late I have noticed with regret that your excellent journal has lost what I considered one of its most valuable features, frequent contributions by homœopathic practitioners, detailing the successful treatment of cases. You have repeatedly called upon them to furnish such papers, and it is unfortunate for the progress of the Cause which we all have at heart, that this call has not been cordially responded to. We have two or three hundred professional men on our side, whose daily avocation it is to deal with the very materials that are needed for your pages, and surely it would be demanding no great sacrifice to ask that fifty of them transmit to you, once a year, an account of one or more interesting cases that occur in their practice.

This would enable you to insure that every number of your journal should contain those great *facts* by which alone a favourable impression can be made on the public mind. Argument in behalf of homœopathy is ever acceptable; but while we justly condemn our opponents for assailing the new system by argument, where facts are available, consistency requires that we shun their example, and that we practically show them how the truth is to be established. Your readers have been much interested by the alleged disclosures of the magnetoscope, and should it turn out that infinitesimal quantities of matter do thus affect the human organism, this will at most dispose people to give a fair hearing to homœopathy; but present an authenticated case of recovery by being treated with infinitesimal doses, then we have direct proof that this influence may be so applied as to be *curative*. We cannot expect to make daily converts to our views unless we are continually furnishing sufficient reason for such a change; and certainly no amount of argument, however ingenious, would justify such a change if not substantiated by facts. Of course we look to the professional homœopaths for the contribution of these facts, and, if forthcoming, they will give a double value to the other interesting and important, yet at best accessory, matter of your journal.

A BORDERER.

[We have again in this number invited our medical brethren to furnish cases. The fault is not ours but theirs. Indeed, our correspondent has done us justice by acknowledging our frequent invitations. Like any other artisan, we can only make the best use in our power of the materials we have. We have asked for hospital and dispensary reports, and reports of cases till we are weary. We shall be glad if the eloquence of our correspondent be more effectual than our own.—ED]

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—By inserting these few lines in your columns, you would direct attention to a subject which I believe to be of considerable importance.

In decayed teeth there are some cavities so large and exposed to wear, as to render leaf gold useless: for these, M. Lemaile's hard and very beautiful amalgam would be invaluable, but for effects which have been experienced by others as well as myself, namely, pains in the face, and irritation of the fang of the tooth when under the influence of medicine; besides which, the formation of what I suppose to be an oxide of cadmium on the surface, which doubtless must have some medicinal property. If any of your readers could give information of a stopping combining the necessary qualities of softness *before*, with great hardness *after* use, expansion rather than contraction during the change, and purity in the mouth, they would do me, and I believe many more, an important kindness. I am, Sir, yours obediently,

J. J. C.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

LETTER TO JAMES Y. SIMPSON, M.D., P.R.S.E.,

AND PROFESSOR OF MIDWIFERY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

No. IV.

SIR,—If the verses which concluded my last letter were not spoken at the Brighton Meeting, we might extend the doggerel to a good deal that was spoken, without any departure from the "*laborious and painful observation, large generalization, and cautious induction*" which so thoroughly pervaded it, thus—

But listen now! a rumbling from afar
Heralds a crisis in this globule war;
Choice spirits (rectified?) in hundreds three,
Bent on a Brummagem Thermopylæ;
And history, no doubt, will say there was
Full many a Brummagem Leonidas;
But on the principle, though rather stale,
On which "*a cloud looks very like a whale.*"
Before them *what* a load of tricks and tracks!
Palmed on mankind by "homœopathic quacks."
With every druggist now, in every town,
Asking them *why they cannot put us down?*
Or if afraid, with numbers on their side,
To brave the rushing of our globule tide;
When old Hippocrates, and Galen, too,
Fight side by side on this *our* Waterloo.
And many an M.D. fiercely used his brand,
And many a speech was *spoken second-hand;*
And many an allopath turned up his nose,
And thought he thus had vanquished all his foes,
And clutched each wight within his vengeful coil,
Who gave *Nux vomica* for *Castor oil,*
Or henceforth poached upon the public pelf;
But here is one will speak out for himself.
"Believe me, that, among the anti-quacks,
I've done *my best* towards 'licking them like sacks.'
I've done my utmost to expose the twiddlers,
(Uriah Heaps and Jeremiah Diddlers);
And I rejoice to see the healthy tone
Pervading allopathic flesh and bone.
I view this homœopathy with awe;
Indeed it has a most insatiate maw—
Quite a phenomenon of dire intent,
Which gives me now a sad presentiment.
'Tis not the pill-box that is now at stake,
Merged in a psychological earthquake;
It is the doctrine I would firmly ground
Of '*soundly thinking*' (*not* digesting sound).
If we supplant experience of ages
By theories proposed by mushroom sages,
Resign to phantasies the human mind,
Give them as facts to man and woman kind,—
We then surrender quietly our status,
And make for homœopaths a *nice hiatus.*
A question 'tis of *morals, not* of *doses,*
Which makes us allopaths turn up our noses.
"That man, believing in this mystic creed—
Between a rogue and fool a kind of breed—
Has lost the balance of his upper room,
And for his chimney sadly needs *our* broom.
If there is any man within this realm,
At sea, '*hard jammed upon a weather helm,*'
His ballast shifted, a tremendous sea,
A rock-bound coast just looming on his lee,—
I beg to tell him I distrust *his* creed—
He'll find his '*law*' is but a broken reed.
"Preferring zeal anomalous and blind,
Amorphous products of an inflated mind,
The founder of this globulistic band
Upset the best and wisest of the land;
If he be true, then *we believe a fable,*
And need the broom for *our Augœan stable.*
"We have amongst us now the church of Rome,—
A precious sight indeed, too close to home;
But more than that, a greater paradox,
Young M.D.s living now like fighting cocks,
Garnished with titles; looking out for pigeons,
Casting their nets and netting golden gudgeons;
Were *one of them* upright he would retire,
And *dis*claim him he would *pro*claim a liar.
"I say it is no tyranny to thrust
Such human clay with *kindred* human dust;
If not for self-respect, for self-defence
I'll try our allopathic '*trick of fence.*'
Without discussion on this knotty point,
(Which puts our noses sadly out of joint,)
I banish it at once beyond our ken,
Lest it contaminate a virtuous pen;
If any man says 'two and two make five,'
'Tis plain a greater goose is not alive;
Indeed, *I never speak to that man twice,*
The man is gone, sirs, gone within a trice;
If from a myth like this he doth not sever,
I am apart from him, 'apart for ever.'!!!
'Tis true we read, in many a middle age,
That '*mental epidemics*' were the rage,
Where sober judgment had no easy task
To keep *out*side the *right* side of her mask;
The dancing mania is come again,
And many a polka overheats the brain.
Wildly we rush o'er scientific tracts,
Mistake our fancies, thinking we've got facts;
Our hopes, for principles, are kept on brooding,
And soon we swell deluded and deluding.
"But few words more; yet I must say again,
Our duty now appears exceeding plain;

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Cast forth this rubbish—add it to the past!
Stand by our flag, and nail it to the mast!
And sink or swim!"
* * * * You're speaking far too fast;
But, stay! you little know, until you try,
Such flashes in the pan are "*all my eye.*"
Are those who thrashed the *Lancet* and *his* law,
Proved Glassford merely to be man of straw,
Taught old Hippocrates, and Galen too,
They were not *quite* the men they seemed to you,—
Do they, I say, seem much inclined to run?
No! they will stand or fall beside *their* gun.

I beg to apologize for freely versifying the spirit of the Provinclal Medical and Surgical Association, but the lofty sentiments displayed on that occasion could not be well rendered in the tameness of prose. Heroic composition has been a stranger to my pen and ink, nor would the idea of such have now come uppermost, had one single case of disease treated homœopathically been placed before that body as a basis for an argument. But this was a very excellent average specimen of the speech-making at Brighton, and as it was entirely spoken in reference to opinions which are mine, and not over and above complimentary to my upper storey, I consider it the more deserving of remark in this letter; but still more so, as one of the most original expressions has been quoted by yourself, and forms a very nice peg indeed to hang a speech upon. When he tells us that he is no "raw recruit in the anti-quackery ranks," he leads us to suppose that he has done some very puissant deeds, hitherto unrecorded. We hope in future he *will* record them. But he is sadly afraid that "*sound-thinking*" is about to disappear from the mundane physiognomy, whereas if he directed his attention to sound digestion, the sound-thinking would be pretty sure to be preserved in spite of homœopathy.

It is plain enough that the man who could hit upon the words "*amorphous products of an inflated self-esteem,*" and just off-hand before three hundred, must have no common genius for spinning—for six words embodied chemistry, pneumatics, and psychology, jammed as close as pigeons in a pie; he was "*just the character*" to note the fallacy of the magnetoscope at a glance. He illustrates homœopathic miscalculation by insinuating that some gentleman of globules insisted that "two and two make five," indeed, that it was a very common assertion, and that whenever he heard it, he never spoke to that man again, for "*the man is gone.*" Now, Sir, this is an obscure passage, and I would much like to have your explanation of it—"*the man is gone!*" Where is he gone to, may I ask? It seems pretty clear that this philosopher has no homœopathist living within his hail, or he would be unpleasantly sensible that he is *not gone*, and that he might conjure them off in this wise every day of his life, without having any effect whatever in removing the obnoxious globulist. Upon this word "gone," and "two and two" making "five," are based an argument worthy three hundred men to listen to, and you to make a second-hand use of; and when we read it, we are the less astonished at the rapid advancement of homœopathy; half a dozen *such speeches every year* would make fortunes for a few of us, and we will make the speakers welcom to the "*Applause,*" the "*loud applause,*" the "*long-continued applause,*" and the "*great applause,*" and *add* thereto in so far as we are able. Had we but Dr. Malden's power of cachinnation we might do justice to it; without that genius we cannot, but that is not our fault, and by next year's Association we may have arrived at it. But the

"Amorphous products of inflated mind"

remind us of a line equally comprehensive and annihilating,—

"Quadrupedante *putrem* son itu qualit ungula campum,"

and after *such a brace*, we might reasonably expect a small earthquake; had we been at the meeting and taken the anti-homœopathic side, we could not have hit upon anything at all like it; most probably we should have squashed Hahnemann by reminding the meeting that—

"There was a little man, and he had a little gun,
And his bullets were made of lead,
And he shot Johnny Sprigg, but *only* through the wig," etc. etc.

And if after that a homœopathist dared to show his name upon a door-plate, it would be more than any one might expect.

But the labours of the Association towards preserving the principles of "regular practice," remind us of the parturient throes of a still greater Association, that has for twenty years worked hard in *as good* a field. A few years have passed over since, on occasion of the annual meeting of the greatest Association of philosophers known, a fair proportion of whom might have been supposed to have an interest in the advancement of therapeutics, a very clever, but then comparatively obscure, man volunteered to read a paper, and illustrate it by cases, and produce the cases,

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with witnesses thereto, to substantiate the therapeutic value of mesmerism.

But the Association was quite well satisfied with the condition of therapeutics, and too deeply engaged in science to pay any attention to a man who has done much for suffering humanity; he could not be listened to; there was no time. The disappointed practitioner attended, anxious to know the importance of the subjects which superseded the neglected field of therapeutics, and, lo! three mortal hours, which never could be recalled by the united science of a thousand philosophers, were consumed in a hopeless endeavour to determine the age of a spider; and so nearly had they joined issue upon this point, that those spiders which were considered by some members to be babies, were by others asserted to be octogenarians.

Another philosopher, on a similar occasion, detained these *savans* with an elaborate and highly-finished paper on an insect imported from Asia, and endowed with a generic term which must have astonished him hugely had he known of his advancement in the insect peerage. We by no means profess to remember this term in its *scientific dress*, but its domestic representation we can stretch a point for—it was a "*bug;*" and had it not been that the most fitting nomenclature for this particular specimen was reserved by accident for the accommodation of those who now take delight in applying it to the homœopathist, it might been called the "*Humbug! par excellence.*"

Man has for ages plumed himself on intellectual powers, which, directed to specific objects, resolve themselves into what is termed a matured judgment, and in this he rises superior to all other animals; but it is highly artificial and not without leaven, for it blunts the faculty of instinct, in which the lower animal is his superior, and for which deficiency a highly matured judgment does not make up. Instinct tells a man, but only to a trifling extent, what will benefit his inner man, and what will injure his mucous membranes; but that instinct tells him nothing in respect to what will benefit others, for whose benefit his mature judgment is *alone* called into play. When a physician is sick, he wavers and hesitates, and often refuses treatment; his *instinct* is in action. A non-medical patient has no business to *have an instinct*, and the physician's matured judgment does duty for it, supported by Paracelsus and a laboratory.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

January 2, 1852. SIGMA.

PROFESSOR MACDONALD AND HOMŒOPATHY.

(From the Fifeshire Journal.)

SIR,—In a late number of your excellent journal there is an article on the subject of the University of St. Andrew's and homœopathy, ostensibly for giving an expression of opinion on the part which was taken in the name of the University, after it had granted the degree of M.D. to Dr. Hale of Norwich, last May term. As a very considerable mystification, clothed in the coarsest and most virulent abuse, has for some time raged in some of the medical journals, and more especially in the *Lancet*, it might be necessary to explain some of the grounds on which it truly rests; and although the *Fifeshire Journal* may not be the fittest arena to discuss medical topics in a professional point of view, yet, as you have already taken up the subject, it may not be out of place to correct the misapprehension that exists in the published attacks on all and every one acting on his deliberate conviction of the truth of homœopathy as a great and fundamental principle, and which has often been pointed out as known, and to a certain extent acted on, since the days of Hippocrates—not, indeed, to the extent which Hahnemann and his followers have more recently adopted, who, in addition to the fundamental principle, have, after a long and patient course of experiment, proved that many of the medicines long used in large quantities, may, by a more careful and elaborate preparation, become more efficient in relieving the pains and diseases with which suffering humanity is so often afflicted. As in most new theories, when first promulgated, homœopathy was assailed as *not true*, but when it was shown that the principle had been acted on since the days of Hippocrates, the attack assumed the second phase of antagonism, that it was *not new*. Under this strong prejudice it has been denounced as absurd, "because we cannot conceive how it is possible for such infinitesimal globules having any effect when larger quantities have so often failed." This objection is not advanced on any proof, but the grounds are merely the want of the power of mental conception in the adversaries. Starting with this assertion, not only is the principle itself denounced as "*contrary to truth and absurd*," but all "*who have publicly professed homœopathy*" are also denounced as unprincipled quacks, unworthy of credit, and fitted only for being abused and turned out of all and every society or corporate body, of which they may be legally constituted as members. Loud and long have been the complaints which have been made against all homœopaths, and anxious has been the attempt to stir the colleges of medicine and surgery to the unjust and illegal act of depriving their members, who may differ on this subject, of their rights and privileges; and such has been the urgency of their demands, that the Scotch Universities have been at last induced not only to express themselves strongly against homœopathy, but by the excited urgency of the Medical Faculty, the Edinburgh University have during the last summer refused to give

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their diploma to one of their students, who, after examination on all the subjects which have been included in their curriculum of medical study, and who passed such an examination on most of the subjects as would have entitled him to receive their diploma, but from his not avowing his decided opinion on the practice of homœopathy, was remanded for a week or two to make up his mind, and give in his adhesion to the dogmatic and overbearing demand of the leading members of the medical examiners, requiring a disavowal on the part of all candidates of any intention under any circumstances of practising homœopathically during their whole life. While all physicians who have adopted homœopathy as their rule of practice are denounced as dishonourable, because they do not resign their medical professional rights, from the now pretended assumption that these can only be enjoyed by those who have given their continued adherence to the creed of the present scholastic teachers, every means of annoyance and vituperation have been most industriously seized by the hostile antagonists to free discussion and the improvement of medical treatment by the progress of discovery; and in the unfair crusade to check the progress of the healing art, it is now attempted to prevent any one from receiving the University degree or the College license, till on examination they deny and abjure the principle of homœopathy, and as there are no instructions delivered on this subject, there seems no more legal right or propriety than if the Autocrat of Toxicology should demand a full knowledge of Arabic, because the knowledge of medicine was early extended from Arabia.

I would not have troubled you to insert this rather long article on the subject, perhaps not altogether in accordance with the pursuits of your general readers, but for the prominent notoriety which your correspondent has given to my name in a previous number. Supposing, for the sake of argument, homœopathy to be as false and absurd as it is unceremoniously declared, whether really believed or not by our antagonists, what possible disadvantage can arise to the public from a professor, who lectures on natural history, adopting homœopathy as a sound principle of medical treatment? Nothing but a personal animosity can account for so unfair and uncalled-for an attack on my name, so forcibly intruded, and with a malevolent and pertinacious perseverance to injure me, and interfere with my usefulness in my present sphere of action, and attach discredit to the University now anxiously exerting itself to extend the boundaries of useful physical knowledge, as the best means of uprooting prejudice and ignorance, and benefiting mankind.

Although I consider the personal notoriety conferred by your correspondent through your columns as unfair and uncalled-for, I would by no means evade stating my convictions and responsibility for adopting the homœopathic treatment of disease, as at once affording in many, if not in all cases, a safe and gently acting mode of efficiently relieving the distress of symptoms which have been nosologically classed together as constituting particular diseases, and with special names have been systematically arranged by Cullen and others. The daily extending practice now interfering with the money-making practice of medical practitioners of all classes, in all parts of the country, from the success so frequently following homœopathic treatment, is one cause of the present rage—*hinc illæ lachrymæ*. The facility which is so often exhibited by the non-professsional practice of those who have themselves both received and seen the benefit in extensive districts, both here and on the Continent, is with some show of reason objected to by the body of medical men, who have devoted a life of labour and study to acquiring a sound knowledge of the animal economy in health and disease, without which sound practice can never be firmly depended upon nor improved; but at the same time, although it may in some degree interfere with the lucrative practice of the doctor, it has tended much to restrict the boundaries and check the ravages of disease in many families at the period of infancy, to the lasting benefit of mankind. Their mistakes should make them cautious, till they have acquired both knowledge and experience, and if not at once successful, professional advice should at once be taken. Another very common objection is put forth, that homœopathy cannot and never does cure disease, and that all their reports are drawn from cases of pretended maladies. Is it to be believed that men of established character and education would be guilty of such false practice? and nothing but the ungenerous and unfounded assertions and accusations of the allopaths could countenance the least suspicion of such a possibility that all homœopathic cures were fabulous. Is it the doctor that brings the patient? Is it he that makes the disease? Does the entrance of the house of Dr. Henderson or Dr. Russell relieve the applicant of disease, or extinguish its claim to that character, which would be converted into disease by going to the house of the profound Toxicologist and Pharmacian, or entering the precincts of the successful Obstetrician, whose dexterous use of the speculum and the various instruments is so strongly denounced in the *Lancet*, under the signature of Isaac Irons (which, if not a false signature, turns out to be a Lee)—instruments designed by great ingenuity, and used with dexterity by that eminent accoucheur, but which, in the hands of less dexterous or cautious men, have often been attended with many bad consequences, but which, under the medical treatment of the distinguished professors above alluded to, have first converted the complaints of the applicants into disease, and then cured them—at least when they really do succeed? Such an idea is preposterous; but if this really is the fact, it must be consoling to all patients who would at all times and seasons receive the benefit of Siloam, and the porch of Solomon, by at once going to the house of the homœopath to be relieved of all their complaints. Once more, and then done. It is often objected to homœopathic treatment that it depends on diet and regimen, and is assisted by nature, without which such infinitesimal doses could have no effect. We are

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astonished at such frivolous objections. As there is no prescriptive or exclusive right inherent in homœopathy to judicious dietetic treatment, and the *vis medicatrix naturæ* often referred to, but more frequently antagonised (from its own homœopathic tendencies I suppose) by the allopaths, is it not astonishing that they should neglect the means lying open before them—do this, and *live and let live?* Let them consider the advice of Gamaliel—if it be true their attacks are vain; if it be false, it will fall to the ground of itself.

I trust this will not be too long for your journal, as I consider it necessary that some account should be given to your readers on a subject of such importance to their well-being and health, although introduced to their notice with the worst intentions towards the writer, who has been so unnecessarily dragged forth from his study of physical science, to enter unwillingly into the field of newspaper controversy. I have the honour to be, yours obliged,

W. MACDONALD, M.D., P.

St. Andrew's.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION OF THE HOT-AIR BATH AS A CHOLERA REMEDY.

From the Cornwall Chronicle (Jamaica Paper).

IN our paper of the 21st instant we published a foot-note in explanation of the "Hot-Air Bath" recommended in the "Second Notification of the Central Board of Health;" and we feel pleasure in announcing that Mr. Wilson, manager at the Sunderland Estate, in his treatment of Mrs. Wilson, who was seriously attacked with cholera a few days ago, applied the remedy most successfully. Mrs. Wilson was seized at three o'clock in the morning, and suffered excruciating pains, with other malignant symptoms, notwithstanding the many efforts made to alleviate suffering, until eight or nine o'clock, when the cold stage of the disease came on with clammy perspirations. Mr. Wilson then placed saucers of strong rum (18 proof), with pounded ginger and other fumigating aromatics of the country, under the bed on which the patient was lying, and having ignited the spirit, he enclosed the lower part of the bedstead so completely with blankets, that no portion of the hot air could escape. In a short time, the mattress became warmed, and a change for the better was apparent. The more completely to ensure the desired effect, the patient was then raised up in blankets, and the part of the mattress that had been in the greatest contact with the heated air was turned upwards, and the patient was laid on it. In a few seconds after, animal heat was restored over the whole body, the pulses resumed their functions, and a warm perspiration suffused the entire surface of the skin. We are happy to say that Mrs. Wilson is now in progress of recovery, and we trust that the treatment observed in her case will be but one of the many successes for the preservation of life, by means of the remedy we published. We would recommend, however, that time be allowed for the heated air to penetrate the mattress, rather than risk the movement of the patient, which, in all stages of the disease, is considered to be very dangerous. Whenever there is a canvas stretcher at hand, it is best that the sick be laid on it with a blanket, which, for convenience in every respect, is preferable to mattresses in cholera cases, more especially at that stage of the disease when the hot-air bath should be used. With the labouring people, no difficulty can arise in the application of the remedy, because those who do not lie on the ground usually have sleeping platforms easily rendered vulnerable to the heated air.

In the edition of "Buchan's Domestic Medicine" of 1850, a "Valuable Recipe is recommended," in corroboration of what we have been describing, as follows:—

"To prevent the cold stage coming on, order the patient to bed, and place there Sir H. Davy's safety lamp, properly mounted for the purpose, whereby a temperature of 120 degrees and upwards, if required, can be commanded; and the danger incurred by moving the patient too much in this sinking state is avoided, which is always risked by putting him into the hot bath. The lamp is also preferable to overloading the patient with blankets, to attain the same object."

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10TH, 1852.

WHAT DOES '52 PROMISE FOR HOMŒOPATHY?

A GOOD general has always a starting-point, a fixed base for his operations. We homœopathists, at least the medical, are too much like the "*disjecta membra poetæ*"—not united into one vigorous entity.

But notwithstanding this great disadvantage, and notwithstanding the hostility of the *triumvirs* of Edinburgh, Professors CHRISTISON, SYME, and SIMPSON, and taking into fair account the rancour of the bulk of allopathic practitioners, and the envemoned fury of their subservient press, homœopathy is looking up.

There must be great vitality in the plant of Hahnemann, if it not only has endured this sharp winter of discontents, but is absolutely full of foliage and fruitage.

There is a talk of a hospital in Edinburgh, and of another at Birmingham.

Dublin, Liverpool, Glasgow, and Bristol

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are still lingering in the race. They also should have their hospitals. The number of adhesions of medical men is on the increase; the fear of ridicule and of abuse notwithstanding. Of the prosperity of the now-existing hospitals we can pronounce no opinion, for we have been furnished with no facts, no statistics, no reports. Of the dispensaries we can also say nothing, and for the same reason. The agitation of the subject of homœopathy, meanwhile, proceeds vigorously; and as there is an indestructible power in truth, and as free discussion cannot be denied us, our auguries of the future are of the brightest colour.

We think that in 1852 the first attempt will be made to obtain a charter for the homœopathists; and that the medical men, from the instinct of self-preservation, will be compelled to unite more closely than they have yet done.

We believe that our good Cause will make satisfactory progress through the current year. We have no apprehension that homœopathy will find itself in the cave of Adullam; and we suspect that more respect will be paid to its upholders by those of the opponent faction. We cannot conclude that its bigoted adversaries will learn wisdom, even though they should have been "*brayed in a mortar*," but we may and do conclude that the people of England will be prepared to receive our evidence.

We have every reason to believe that the *borderers* will be compelled to come into our camp; and that the Editors of the *Lancet* and the *Medical Times*, and the Triumvirs of Edinburgh, will be compelled to capitulate.

We earnestly trust that those who have a well-founded faith in homœopathy, and who have for themselves or their families, derived benefit from it, will give largely of their substance for its propagation. Heretofore scarcely anything has been done in a large and comprehensive spirit. But the times do not admit of the reputation of martyrs unless there be martyrdom—of benefactors unless there be benefactions—of self-denying philanthropists unless there be self-denial and genuine philanthropy.

We are very hopeful that the year 1852 will see animosities subdued—a generous spirit of honourable rivalry between opposing schools, and a hearty manifestation of zeal for the common good shown by the contending parties.

THE MEDICAL TIMES AND GAZETTE.

A SERVANT'S RIGHTS.—I was told in Boston of a gentleman in the neighbourhood, who, having engaged a farm-servant, found him very satisfactory in all respects, except that he invariably came into the house, and into his master's room, with his hat on. "John," he said to him, one day, "you always keep your hat on when you come into the house." "Well, sir, haven't I a right to?" "Yes, I suppose you have." "Well, if I have a right to, why shouldn't I?" This was a poser from one man to another where all have equal rights. So, after a moment's reflection, he shrewdly asked, "Now, John, what'll you take—how much more wages will you ask, to take off your hat when you come in?" "Well, that requires consideration, I guess." "Take the thing into consideration, then, and tell me to-morrow morning." The morrow comes. "Well, John, have you considered what additional wages you are to have for taking your hat off?" "Well, sir, I guess it's worth a dollar a month." "It's settled, then, John, you shall have another dollar a month;" and the gentleman retained a good servant, while John's hat was always in his hand when he entered the house in future. So works democracy. The Kentucky people cast in the teeth of the Bostonians that they worship the almighty dollar. At all events, even in a democracy, the stiffest has his price, and wealth cannot be deprived of a certain amount of influence.—*Johnston's Notes on North America.*

This "amalgam" of two anti-homœopathic journals, and the *Lancet*, have made a sort of *Bostonian* contract with their subscribers and supporters. They are to be allowed to *wear the hat*, that is, to be considered as the organs of the great bulk of medical practitioners, on condition of their faithful service in browbeating and attempting to down-tread homœopathy. We wish them joy of their bargain. Instead of having an extra dollar a month, they will probably have an extra pound a day for their service; and while they vaunt their independence, they will be

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allowed to do so, provided they attack homœopathy tooth and nail.

It would be impossible to show more emphatically the rising importance of homœopathy than by this systematic warfare of these opponent journals.

The vulgar but vigorous coarseness of the *Lancet*, and the refined though somewhat *lack-a-daisical* scholarship of the *Medical Times*, are both *enlisted* against homœopathy. Each journal has taken *bounty-money*, in the shape of support from their subscribers, if they attack homœopathy. Both journals bid for the superiority in this notable adventure.

The *Lancet* boasts of its readers among the aristocracy, which has been vilified in their pages, on account of the aristocratic support of homœopathy; of the bar, many of the most distinguished members of which are homœopathists; of the church, with which the members for Finsbury are not supposed to have any remarkable sympathy.

What good do they by their weekly attacks on homœopathy? Is either Editor superior to those who conduct our journals? And, after all, what occasion is there for this *inter-necine* war?

After all, we will each of us wear, and each of us doff our hat, as we think proper.

The public is not so easily hoodwinked as these worthies imagine. It has been calculated that homœopathy withdraws something like a million a year from the *till* of allopathy. *Hinc illæ lachrymæ.* More allopaths are in the Cave of Adullam than homœopaths, erudite Editor of the "Amalgam." We are sorry that it should come to this—that it should be a question of *coin;* but you make it so, not we.

Is not the world wide enough for allopath and homœopath — for great physicians like Quin and Latham—for the Queen's household brigade and for the *extra-palatial* medical advisers of many of the Queen's household?

The world *is* wide enough. But do not let us have a Caffre war; let us fight it out like gentlemen and scholars, if there be scholars in the medical profession — a matter somewhat doubtful.

The allopaths appeal to Antiquity—poor old Antiquity! the Antiquity of allopathy is like that of dear old Tithonus—age without vigour—protracted physical existence without any of the functions of vitality. Did not sweet Aurora regret that she had asked for such age for her Tithonus; and was she not willing that he should be turned into a—grasshopper?

The poets have some pretty lines on this subject; and the Editor of the *Medical Times* is a scholar. We cannot bring such an impeachment against the hero of the *Lancet.* He is more of a Pollux than an Æsculapius.

The world is starting anew on a fresh course. It would be monstrously odd if old prescriptive Physic, dressed up like an old woman, with an academical cap on her head, and in a scarlet nightgown, should be allowed to go on in her usual jog-trot.

Can't these old bodies—these medical corporations—read the signs of the times? Can't they see that a new order of things has commenced? Alack! they want *innervation*—vital force—resuscitation. But what can galvanism do for them? They are effete, worn out; they have the thick lip and cretinism of the Austrian House; they have the fatuity of the worn-out Capetian.

The *Medical Times* has denounced them. The microscopist and the chemist are to extinguish them; and our cock is to crow over their remains.

Correspondence.

ORIGIN OF THE HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—It is possible that the Hahnemann Hospital may survive its present system of management—it is possible that it may flourish—it is possible that it may rival, in fame and extent, St. Thomas's, Guy's, St. George's—it is possible that five hundred or a thousand years hence, everything connected with its early history may be a subject of intensest interest, and that its origin may be as much a matter of dispute

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as is the birthplace of Homer. There is, in fact, scarcely anything that is not *possible*, and hence it is *possible* that the accompanying letter (which is given away gratuitously at chemists' shops) may one day become a matter of importance, and be regarded as throwing some light on the formation of the Hahnemann Hospital.

I may be wrong, but it appears to me that the antiquarian of five hundred or a thousand years hence might be led by this circular to suppose that the London Homœopathic Medical Institution founded in 1838, had some connection—possibly very remote, but still some connection—with the Hahnemann Hospital.

Of course, this was not the writer's intention—nothing could have been further from it; because no one knows better than himself, that between the two Institutions there is not a single thing in common, except the accidental fact, that the physician of the defunct London Homœopathic Medical Institution is also one of the physicians of the Hahnemann Hospital.

So loosely, however, is this document worded, that it admits (as I think) of this conclusion being drawn by an ingenious antiquarian; as for instance—to connect two parts of the sentence widely separated,—"The principal object for which the London Homœopathic Institution .... was originally founded .... *having been at length happily accomplished by the organization of the Hahnemann Hospital*," etc. etc.

To guard against misleading so praiseworthy a philosopher, allow me to give you as well as I can from memory—for my papers of the period are not at hand—the history of the rise and progress of the Hahnemann Hospital; and permit me to request its insertion in your journal, for I feel a sort of conviction, that should the presumed research be made, the investigator would consult your periodical for authentic information.

It was in the month of September, 1849,—on that terrible day—a Monday, I think—when the *Times* had shaken the nerves of every soul in London by an awe-bearing leader, commenting on the alarming fact, that the deaths the day before amounted to some 500 or 600, and adding, that whether the cholera had attained its maximum of virulence, and would gradually subside, or whether it would go on devastating the metropolis, no human being could tell—it was on that day, that an individual I know—it was no one connected with the London Homœopathic Medical Institution—resolved on two things,—first, to save, if it were possible, the lives of some of his fellow-creatures; secondly, to afford a public demonstration of the power of homœopathy to deal with acute disease in its most virulent form.

With this view he called on Dr. Curie, and suggested to him the possibility of extemporising a cholera hospital, and intimating his opinion that the crisis was one which should call forth the noblest and most generous sentiments, in the presence of which all party and personal feelings must sink into nothingness.

With a zeal and good feeling which did infinite credit to Dr. Curie, he immediately replied, "As to extemporising an hospital, I think it may be done; as to co-operating with my brethren for the sake of homœopathy, *that* I have always been ready and willing to do."

The individual in question then called on Dr. Quin, who, with his usual force and perspicuity, expatiated on the immense advantages conferred on homœopathy by the British Homœopathic Society; pointed out the importance of upholding that Institution, and contended that any homœopathic hospital, to be successful, must select its medical staff from the members of that Society.

Agreeing most cordially in the first of his propositions, my friend differed *toto cœlo* from the second and third; maintaining that homœopathy had outgrown the necessity of the times in which the British Homœopathic Society was founded; that there were eminent homœopathic practitioners not members of that Society; and that it would be to exclude the public from the benefit of the services of such distinguished homœopathists, were an hospital founded on so narrow a basis.

Dr. Quin, however, was not to be moved by such reasoning. Admitting to the full the necessity for an hospital, and the impossibility of establishing one at that moment, by the means then at his disposal, he, nevertheless, seemed resolved to abide by a principle he had laid down for his own guidance, rather than to succumb, as he appeared to regard my friend's view of the case, to expediency.

Whether he was right or wrong in acting as he did at that time, it becomes not me now to inquire; but I may perhaps be permitted to say, that if he would avail himself of the new light that has since been poured upon the case, and enlarge that restrictive rule of his, I verily believe that the London Homœopathic Hospital would very speedily occupy one whole side of the square in which it is situated.

And why, let me ask, should he not alter that restrictive rule? Was not the late Sir Robert Peel an advocate at one time for a restrictive commercial system, and did he not live to alter his opinions, to change his policy, and to acknowledge his error? And why are we now erecting statues to his memory in every part of this great empire? not so much that he carried certain great measures, as that he had the nobility of soul to avow that he had been in the wrong, and to alter his course!

Pardon this digression—to continue. On leaving the presence of Dr. Quin, in the anteroom, adorned with sculpture and paintings, my friend had the pleasure to meet with Mr. Wilson, of Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, to whom he related the object and result of his mission. With his characteristic frankness Mr. Wilson told him he feared his efforts for the establishing an hospital at that time would be fruitless; adding, however, with great emphasis, "I hope, and think, that ere long, a state of things will be brought about, that will lead to the establishment of a large hospital on broad principles."

Nothing daunted by the discouragement he had just encountered, my friend proceeded again to Dr. Curie's, where he accidentally met with

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Mr. Leaf, who was then introduced to him for the first time. My friend mentioned his plans. Mr. Leaf said money would be required. My friend said, he had already the promise of some £60 or £70, and that if Mr. Leaf and his friends would subscribe in like proportion, the object would be effected.

Subsequently to this my friend had several interviews with Mr. Leaf and Mr. Warne—advertisements were inserted in the daily papers—circulars were printed—a Mr. James, a friend of Mr. Leaf, was employed at a weekly stipend to wait with these circulars on influential homœopaths; my friend addressed letters to various noble patrons of the science, and amongst others, to Lord Robert Grosvenor, who thought the time for an hospital had not yet arrived—in which view, as it turned out, he was perfectly right. In a word, every means was taken to accomplish the end, viz. "A Cholera and General Hospital," but without effect. A few only responded to the advertisements and circulars, and amongst the number was, I believe, the Honourable Augustus Moreton, who forwarded, I think, the largest subscription received, £3 3s., for *preliminary expenses*, begging it might not be considered as his subscription to the *hospital*. The result, then, was failure; the day on which my friend commenced operations turned out happily to be the climax of the cholera; from that day it gradually subsided: the idea of "A Cholera and General Hospital" was abandoned, and the expenses of this abortive effort fell on my friend, and the two or three benevolent individuals who had responded to the advertisements.

This effort, however, although abortive so far as the immediate object was concerned, was very far from being fruitless of good. It led to numerous interviews between Mr. Wilson and my friend, the former of whom—aided by three distinguished homœopathic physicians, viz. Drs. Chapman, Dudgeon, and Chepmell—did not cease in his endeavours to bring about that state of feeling amongst his professional brethren,—who, at this time, were pretty equally divided between the broad and the narrow gauge—which enabled him, in the month of February or March, 1850, to say to my friend, "The time has now arrived for an hospital on a broad basis—we must have a grand dinner on Hahnemann's birthday, the proceeds to go towards founding the hospital—and you must be the secretary."

Although deeply immersed at this time in professional pursuits, my friend obeyed the summons, Mr. Sandoz, to whom he had on this occasion the gratification of being introduced, promising him his aid. And well and nobly did he fulfil his engagement (as did also Mr. Phelps), without whose united aid not one tithe of the secretary's duty could my friend have performed. Nor must I omit to mention—in speaking of the causes that contributed to make the 10th April, 1850, what it became—the immense service performed by your own journal, in advocating our noble cause, entreating all classes to lay aside all party and personal feelings, and to join hand and heart in this stupendous undertaking:

Of the vast and brilliant assembly that congregated in the great room of the London Tavern on that occasion, there is no need that I should speak; the proceedings of that evening are graven imperishably on the memory of those who were present, and the record of such things as admitted of being recorded is still to be found in the pages of the *Homœopathic Times*. All that it is necessary for me here to state is, that at the close of that grand festival, it was arranged that a certain number of the laymen composing the dinner-committee should meet at the mansion of Lord Robert Grosvenor the following week, to determine on the best course to adopt for the immediate founding of an hospital. The honour of the secretaryship was offered to my friend, who agreed to accept it, provided Mr. Sandoz would join him; but, on applying to that gentleman, he found it was incompatible with his other engagements. My friend then addressed himself to Mr. Warne, but he declined a joint-secretaryship. My friend was consequently obliged to refuse the office altogether, fearing to undertake so serious a responsibility with his already over-taxed energies. At the first meeting of the provisional committee, Mr. Warne kindly volunteered to perform the duties of secretary, *pro tem.*, from which the secretaryship *in perpetuum* was a very natural transition.

Such, Sir, is, I believe, the authentic history of the founding of the Hahnemann Hospital, which I now take the liberty of very respectfully dedicating to the Antiquarian Society of 2850. And by this brief and imperfect sketch it will be seen, that the London Homœopathic Medical Institution had nothing whatever to do with the formation of the Hahnemann Hospital. The members of the former, indeed, joined us after repeated interviews between our board and theirs, which resulted in their handing over to us the funds (some £200 or £300, I think) of their Association. But no greater mistake could be committed, as will be seen by the foregoing narrative, than to suppose that the Hahnemann Hospital owes it origin in any respect whatsoever to the London Homœopathic Medical Institution, from which it is totally distinct, as to both its birth and its education—its origin and its aim.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

F. J. SMITH.

74, Old Broad Street,
London, Jan. 3, 1852.

P.S. I am not to be understood as writing a history of the Hahnemann Hospital. Were this my object, it would be necessary for me to expatiate on the zeal and devotion of our Noble President; to explain the absence from our initiatory meetings of one of the brightest ornaments of our Board—the Honourable Augustus Moreton; to dwell at length on the noble sacrifices of many homœopathic practitioners and laymen (not mentioned above), to the great detriment of their pecuniary interests. Nor would any history be complete that did not assign to the ladies (and amongst them, pre-eminently to Mrs. Dudgeon and Mrs. Laurie) a

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more important share in the success of our operations. My object, however, is not to write a history, but to give such details of the rise and progress of the Hahnemann Hospital as may serve to guard the uninitiated against drawing an erroneous conclusion from the accompanying circular. I now subjoin the letter or circular, which has caused me, a member of the Hahnemann Hospital Board of Management, to give you this outline.

(Circular.) "39, Old Change,
"January 1, 1851.

"The principal object for which the London Homœopathic Medical Institution, under the direction of Dr. Curie, No. 17, Hanover Square, was originally founded by me in the year 1838, viz., the *advancement of Homœopathy, by the gratuitous treatment of the poor, and the formation of a Medical School in which the homœopathic student might be instructed*, having been at length happily accomplished by the organization of the Hahnemann Hospital, No. 39, Bloomsbury Square, I have much pleasure in informing you, that the London Homœopathic Medical Institution for the Poor has been discontinued in favour of the Hahnemann Hospital, for which I respectfully solicit the continuance of the patronage and support which you have hitherto conferred on the London Homœopathic Medical Institution.

"I have the honour to be,
"Your very obedient servant,
"WILLIAM LEAF."

UNION—HOW IT MAY BE EFFECTED.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In your editorial summary of Saturday last you rather mournfully allude to the disunion and want of co-operation which are doing so much harm to the Cause of homœopathy at a time when the hostility and acerbity of allopathic opponents daily increase. The theme has been a favourite one for the last two years. The cry for union has been re-echoed from London to the provinces, and from the provinces back upon London. It has been heard grumbling in the plodding Aldermanbury; it was domiciled in and coquetted with in the sentimental Islington; and at last it wended its way northward, like a giant refreshed, from its metropolitan and suburban dalliances, to receive a home in hospitable but a little pantheistically inclined Brummagen. A whole host of lay, classical, and alphabetical anonymes have made it their temporary property, and now it is jobbed by a somewhat modest questioner, rejoicing in the playful cognomen of "Q in a Corner." During the whole of its two years' pretty extensive peregrinations, I suspect that laymen or non-medical men have had more than a fair share in keeping it moving, and, poor souls! I don't wonder at them, for they are so dreadfully and terribly in earnest, that they were just the sort of people to drop into the trap of anybody that chose to cram them.

That laymen should espouse the cause of their own doctor, or of their own parson, or of their own lawyer, is of every-day occurrence, and not to be wondered at with such an oddity as John Bull. There is just that sort of chivalrous sentiment in feeling which begets respect, and it is, moreover, so generally deserved, that it is a pity even to see it put upon or abused.

But I suspect that in this matter of disunion the real offenders have been the doctors themselves, and that the honest non-professionals who have been moving heaven and earth in the affair, would have saved themselves much unnecessary labour, if, at the outset, they had had the sagacity to say, "Physicians, heal yourselves, but if ye won't, don't bother *us* with this narrative of wrongs, which are of your own creation, and must be of your own mending." Previously to 1850, that ever memorable year in the annals of English Homœopathy, the body of homœopathic practitioners were, with one exception, disorganized, lying here and there throughout the kingdom; the *disjecta membra* of what should have been a compact, firmly-knitted-together association, to which inquirers might have turned for advice and aid, and which, by that power of self-government, the inborn quality of the Saxon, would have made itself heard and respected by every one attempting to be a practitioner of the new system. In the increasing disorganization the attempt was made to cure the evil,—an act of public amnesty was patched together, bygones were to be bygones, and peace and Hahnemannian good fellowship and no cliquishness were made the order of the day, in opposition to the alleged cliquishness and jealousies of the British Homœopathic Society. But "quid vanæ leges, sine moribus" seems the purport of your and others weekly musings, even after the fusion which was to save homœopathy, but which, to all appearance, has saved it much in the same way that the fusion was to save France the other day.

Let us, however, not give in. Much has been done in gathering up the shreds and scraps of homœopathy, and although the British Homœopathic Society *still* lives and remains unannexed to the "young giant," it is compact, and thus there are now two associated bodies, which is a great advantage over the one association floating about in a huge weltering chaos of anarchy and confusion. Moreover, the old grievance, that the laws of the elder society were childish and impracticable, is cured; for on a reference to and comparison of the laws of both associations, I find that there is a correspondence and agreement the most agreeable and refreshing. Then why not unite the two?

Had I, like M. Dictator Bonaparte, been blessed with an uncle who had done something worth talking about, and who had left me a name, a pair of jack-boots, and a tame eagle with which to start, I would soon manage to complete what remains to be done in this "battle of the doctors;" but as I have to deal with men of honour and strict probity, I fear that a midnight arrest of the generals would not advance the fusion a bit more than the past attempt at pooh-poohing their quiet resistance has succeeded in putting them down.

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I have been much struck with the manly, the almost dogged but still gentlemanly, standing aloof on the part of the president and members of the British Homœopathic Society, and I was sure that there was more than a cliquish holding together implied in the resistance they maintained. I have made it my business to inquire into the whole matter, and what I have learned completes my admiration and respect for men who risk so much quiet and good fellowship for what they believe is of vital importance. To a man, they feel that union would be most desirable; but if it is to be a mere carting together and shooting out what should never in their opinion be mixed up in the same mass, they feel that weakness not strength must be the result. These are not only scruples but convictions, which I fear have not been dealt with as they should be, and as one would hope to have one's own scruples or difficulties met. They have been, and may be still shared by others, who have, however, out of deference to the general desire, suppressed what their former associates still feel bound to avow and act upon. This is no time for recrimination or for *coups d'état* to enforce submission or agreement. Truth must be allowed its utterance, and its requiremeuts must be sternly obeyed at all costs. If there are blots to be erased from the fair scutcheon of homœopathy, be assured they must be fairly looked at and removed, not slurred over with heroic daubings, which won't stand much wear and tear. No one, whatever his prepossessions may be, can have an interest in protecting professional delinquencies such as have been over and over again made public, particularly when, as I solemnly believe, the omission to judge is the hindrance to that healthy action which all desiderate.

Union we must have, for without it much of the ground on which to found our appeal for a charter of medical incorporation is wanting; but union there will never be, unless by an immediate effort those complaints to which I allude are honestly and truthfully met. In demanding inquiry and mutual confidence, I would be understood as prejudging nothing. My prepossessions are strong, but if undeserved, I am ready to resign them, even in spite of that most significant event which transpired at the great Paris Congress, and which you alone of British homœopathic journalists had the manliness to record for our edification, and perchance for our sorrowful acknowledgment, that if there is a prophet with us, whom others cheerfully own, even England at this time of day offers no exception to the proverb divinely spoken for man's instruction to the end of time.

But who may decide when doctors differ? Here is one remedy for want of a better. Empanel a lay jury, with power to inquire and to sift evidence. Let the two societies select their representatives to act as medical referees in the investigation; and further, in case of a difference of judgment, provide arbitrators, men unconnected with homœopathy, but acquainted with the laws which govern other professional bodies in matters affecting the reputation of members or fellows, and to whom a decision absolute and final should be accorded.

Were this done in a true spirit, the evidence would be forthcoming, and, God helping the right, I should then anticipate that real professional union which, if now existing, would give to homœopathy all that it wants to make it a great and efficient fountain of public blessing.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

PHILALETHES.

January 5th, 1852.

[The gentleman to whom our respected correspondent sent this note is not the Editor, but he has transmitted it for publication. We agree with our correspondent in the necessity of union, and of the desirableness of the incorporation of the Medical Homœopathic Society, and also of the two metropolitan hospitals. We take his prophet to be a justly distinguished personage, but not to be a prophet. We approve of our correspondent's plan, and we wish he would set it afoot, and at once. We do not love *dirt* and *disagreeables* any more than our correspondent; and we shrink from a knave as instinctively as a certain historical personage is said to do from holy water. But "Philalethes" must remember that a spirit of *exclusivism* is as hard to deal with as the other spirit of *democratic liberalism*. Let him get his prophet to descend from his oracular seat, and to be *par inter parés*, and to work with a will for the good Cause, and with all effective instruments, and much good will at once be done. He would have his place, and he would have hearty supporters round him, a few even of whom would be of more real worth to him than "a wilderness of monkeys"—or of sycophants. A great experiment has been tried, for the fusion of parties; if it has failed, or should fail, the noble spirits that made the attempt have their reward in their own self-respect. We believe that the union of the two London hospitals and of the two medical societies is practicable *at this moment*; and that the arrangements may be completed before the next 10th of April. Let our correspondent see to it.—ED.]

CASE IN WHICH THE WILL PRODUCES NO EFFECT ON THE ODOMETER.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—The experiments with the odometer are matters of such extreme delicacy, and there are so many disturbing conditions, that I am not surprised at many and repeated failures. The great disturbing cause is the will or expectation, another is the position of the operator. I think the following experiments, which I have made very carefully, will be found instructive in these respects, while they are of the utmost importance in *establishing that there is an action independent of the will* of an operator, who is generally able to produce motions at will.

The odometer I employ is a piece of sealing-wax, about one inch and a quarter long, flat at

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the lower end and tapering upwards, where it is stuck to a lady's hair. I have not found the sex of the hair make any difference in the result, but I mention it on account of Dr. H. Mayo's statement, that a man's hair changes the motions. This I suspend from the first joint of the forefinger of the right hand, so as to leave about ten inches of hair between the finger and the wax. I sit by a table, with my legs apart, and holding my right hand so that the right forefinger points to my left arm, across and in front of the body, the fingers and thumb being all separated. The left hand I repose on the table, palm upwards, with the fingers extended directly before me, and separated. Rings must be put off, and the finger on which they were well washed with water. It is always safer to wash the hands or rinse them in water before making any experiment, and after having had substances in the left hand. The position above described I call the normal position, and it must be understood for all experiments where the contrary is not mentioned.

An oscillation directly towards or from me I call *normal;* one transverse to my body, *cross;* one like the up-stroke of an A, *left diagonal;* one like the down-stroke of an A, *right diagonal.* Motion from left, from me, round to the right, I call *clock rotation,* and the contrary motion, *reverse clock rotation.*

The following experiments were made over three saucers containing distilled water, spirits of wine, and mercury, the diameter of the liquid surface being three to five inches. Strict attention was paid to the *cæteris paribus* condition.

I. *Experiments over Distilled Water.*—1. When the pendulum was held close over the water the motion was normal, and very free; but (2) as I removed the pendulum higher and higher from the surface of the water the motion became diminished. 3. In any place where I was able to make the pendulum oscillate at all, it was obedient to the will. 4. The clock circle that I could thus make was three to five inches in diameter; I could not consciously produce such a motion without very perceptible motions in my finger or forearm. 5. On joining the first finger and thumb of the left hand, the motion became cross. 6. On joining the middle finger and thumb, the motion returned to the normal. 7. On joining the fourth finger and thumb, the motion was in the left diagonal. 8. On joining the little finger and thumb, the motion was in the right diagonal. As, however, I could produce or change all these motions at will, those who do not understand or feel that the will can, so to speak, be willed to remain inoperative, will attach but little value to these experiments. The oscillations were three to five inches in length, according to the diameter of the water-surface.

The following experiments show the influence of a change of position in the operator. The right hand being held in the normal position (9), the left hand is pointed directly to the ceiling or floor of the room; result, *rest,* but obedience to the will, as in all experiments with water. 10. The left hand pointed direct to the right or left (hands parallel); result, *cross* oscillation. 11. The left hand pointed in the right or left diagonals; result, right or left diagonal motion. 12. The left hand pointed directly backwards; result, normal motion. In the next experiments the left hand is in the normal position, but the saucer is placed somewhat to the right hand for convenience, instead of immediately in front of the body. 13. Right hand in normal position, but considerably to the right side of the body; normal motion. 14. Right hand in the right or left diagonal; motion in the right or left diagonal. 15. Right hand pointing directly from the body; *rest.* This result is important. The hands are now both parallel, and pointing outwards. In addition, I may add, that (16) the normal position of the hands being assumed, and a sovereign placed in the left palm, clock rotation ensued.

I omit many modifications of these experiments for want of space. The delicacy is evident. The results were unexpected, and, when the will was well controlled, uniform.

II. *Experiments over Spirits of Wine.*—The experimenter should be careful not to get any of the spirit on his fingers, as a single drop, if not well washed off with water, vitiates all the experiments. This simple fact is sufficient to show that the results are not all due to expectation, as the expected result fails to ensue. 17 The pendulum held close over the spirit; result, *rest,* although the hands are in the normal position. When the surface of the spirit extended to five inches, I found *rest* at a height of twelve inches; when the surface was three inches I got motion, which I attributed to the action of the surface of the saucer, etc., extending beyond the spirit; the motion, however, could be produced at will, but not so freely as over water. 18. The right hand pointing directly from the body; *normal motion.* This was the position of *rest* over water, in 15. 19. Right hand pointing in the right or left diagonal, right or left diagonal motion, the same as for water, 14. 20. Right hand in the normal position, left hand pointing out to left or right, indistinct cross motion. Obedience to the will in all cases.

III. *Experiments over Mercury.*—21. Normal position, the pendulum close to the centre of a surface of *Mercury* three inches in diameter; result, *rest,* WHICH I COULD NOT DISTURB BY THE STRONGEST EXERTION OF MY WILL, continued for some minutes. It seemed impossible to make the pendulum move, when held quite close to the surface, without contact, and the surface of the *Mercury* was large. When the diameter of the *Mercury* was only one inch, and the pendulum was not held close, very obscure motions could be produced at will, and these became freer as the distance between the pendulum and the *Mercury* was increased, owing perhaps to the influence of the large portion of saucer which then formed the margin to the *Mercury;* but when the bob of the pendulum almost touched the *Mercury* the result was rest, immovable by the will. Now in this case the position of the body was the same as in 17, where there was rest, but obedience to the will, over spirits, and as in 1, over water,

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where there was original motion and obedience to the will; hence the position of the muscles is insufficient to account for involuntary rest. In fact, there is only one point in which experiment 21 differs from 17 and 1, namely, the presence of the *Mercury*, and that therefore must be assigned as the cause, according to all the canons of inductive reasoning. In a long review, headed *Odyle, Mesmerism*, etc., in the *British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review*, for October last (p. 411), the reviewer states that he has "repeated these (Dr. Mayo's) experiments, and finds that all the phenomena are suggested." Here is a case where suggestion is vain. *The fact of odometry, therefore, is now established as an objective phenomenon.* 21. Now place a sovereign in the left palm, the pendulum immediately *moves normally, and is obedient to the will.* Hence in the former experiment I was not labouring under a temporary impossibility to produce motion at will. It has happened to me more than once that I could produce no motion whatever either by glass or will, but that was clearly attributable to my state of health. Here, however, inability is immediately changed into ability to produce motion at will. Obedience to will was produced by gold, lead, zinc, or brass in the left palm; but *silver, iron, copper* placed there *produced no effect*, that is, I was not able to influence the pendulum by the will in these cases; and as they were quite unexpected, there could have been no influence of suggestion. It is obvious that this part of the experiment may be indefinitely extended, but great care is necessary in trying all experiments with substances in the left hand, as they are very delicate. Care must be taken to wash the hand constantly, and to place the substance precisely in the same place. For instance, a gold ring encircling a finger produces a different action from a sovereign placed on the same part of the finger, but of course only touching one side.

22. Now resume the normal position, and after the pendulum is at rest, point the right hand outwards as in 15, over water, and 18, over spirits; result, *cross* motion (it was *rest* over water, and *normal* over spirits), and *obedience to the will*, as in all cases in which I have yet produced motion at all. 23. On pointing the right hand in the right and left diagonals, right and left diagonal motion was produced. 24. The right hand being in the normal position, the left hand being pointed up or down, gives normal motion; right or left, gives cross motion; in the right or left diagonal, gives right or left diagonal motion. These results show the extreme importance of observing the normal position.

The real objective action of the odometer may now be considered established, and I hope those gentlemen who possess magnetoscopes will try similar experiments, as at present the facts of the case are not sufficient for the theories broached. I am sorry to find no allusion to the disturbing action of the will in Mr. Rutter's pamphlet on the magnetoscope. It is possible for the operator to feel conscious that he is not willing, but if he allows himself to will and refrain very often, he will find his difficulties much increased.

The following experiment is worth trying. Take 100 persons at different times, try each with the same odometer over water, without suggesting anything, and mark the changes of the experiment 5 to 8. A tabular view of the results would be very important in eliminating chance. Many may know result 1, few, if any, know 5 to 8. It is most probable that differences will occur in different individuals, and hence the necessity of an average.

Apologizing for the unexpected length of my communication, I am, etc. etc.

ALEXANDER J. ELLIS.

7, Apsley Place, Redland, Bristol,
Nov. 28, 1851.

HOMŒOPATHIC EXPERIENCE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Eliz. T—, aged twenty-five years, every autumn and winter, had severe acute rheumatism or tic. The pain began in the back of the head, reached to the forehead, down the right side of the face and glands under the ear; it affected the eye, and teeth in drinking; the face was swollen and extremely painful; the attack generally lasted four or five months. The winter before I undertook her, she had had the advice and been under the care of three of the first doctors in the island without relief, or the term of suffering being up. She had been suffering about a month when I was induced to try and relieve her, as she was a valuable servant of an intimate friend of mine. The winter of 1836, on a Monday, at twelve o'clock, I gave her two globules of *Belladonna* 30. Tuesday following, early in the morning, one globule more; the sufferings were great, so I repeated the dose at one o'clock in the afternoon. Wednesday, felt much relief; on Thursday morning I gave one globule more, which entirely cured her, though the weather was extremely against her, and the season was that of her severest suffering in former years.

N. M—, aged about thirty years, had been under the doctor's hands nearly three years, without receiving benefit. Most of his family are subject to the same disease, which generally terminates in decline, causing death. He was, at the time my husband recommended him to try homœopathy, attending his brother's funeral, who died under the same symptoms as he was himself suffering from.

1. Violent, stupefying headache.
2. Violent toothache, which was increased by heat or cold.
3. Bitter taste in the mouth as if from bile, which remained fixed in the chest.
4. Swelling and weight in the stomach.
5. Flatulence, and noise in the bowels, as if they were full of wind and water; after which violent diarrhœa, with pain and nausea.
6. Want of appetite.
7. Want of sleep.
8. Great weakness, with pain all over.

He came to me on the 7th of October, 1836.

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I gave him two globules of the 30th dilution of *Helleborus niger;* on the 11th, one globule more. On the 13th he was cured of the symptoms Nos. 1, 2, 4, and 5. On the 14th I gave one globule more; and on the 21st another globule. On the 28th he came, looking so well that I did not think he required more medicine, and gave him a bottle of water instead, to take in doses. On the 1st of December, he returned the empty bottle, and said he had continued quite well since the 28th of October. He is now alive, and has had no return of his complaint; 1851.

Atrophy.—E. F—, aged eighteen years. Her illness was brought on by a fright; she was witness to a frightful accident, which caused the death of several persons, whose bodies were carried across the street in which she lived, and passed the door at which she was standing. The effect on her was such that she lost her appetite and sleep, and was reduced to skin and bone; she was so weak that she could not walk without support. She had been for many months under the doctor's hands; the doctor was much interested in her case, and did all his medicine could do, which was nothing! At length he declared that she was beyond the power of medicine. On this, her mistress, who was a friend of mine, brought her to me. I gave her two globules of *Aconite* of the 24th dilution; one globule of *Pulsatilla* of the 18th dilution, the next day, which last dose was repeated weekly, for six weeks; after which she was perfectly restored to health and her employment. This was in the year 1837 or 1836. I saw the young woman in service in the year 1848; she had enjoyed good health all the intervening time.

Mrs. Le Pridwin, aged forty years, from sitting in the cold market in winter, had become subject to rheumatism, in her arms particularly; she complained of giddiness, weakness, and sleepiness in the daytime; the most violent pain was from the right shoulder to the fingers. October, 1837, I gave two globules of *Antimonium crud.* of the 9th dilution, which was repeated in weekly doses for three weeks, and entirely cured her.

Mrs. W. Tucker, aged thirty years, 1837, had violent pains in her head, accompanied with pains in the arms and legs; the pains in the head sometimes kept her in bed for two days; there were no other symptoms of disease. One globule of *Pulsatilla* of the 18th dilution, repeated every three days, cured her in a week (three doses).

Nancy O—, aged eight years, 1837. Her body was covered with small pimples, itching violently, which caused her to scratch them till the blood came. I gave her two globules of *Mercur. sol.* of the 12th dilution, which cured her without more medicine.

P. P. La Cache had been for many years afflicted with a nervous complaint; he had in vain been under the care of the first Guernsey doctors, and by their advice had tried if those in England, France, and Jersey, to whom they recommended him, would prove more successful. It was all useless, and for years he had dragged on a painful existence. He kept away from his family and neighbours, stayed by himself, could not bear to move or speak to any one; he was very much depressed, anxious, and fearful, and could not bear to be noticed by any one; they had the greatest trouble to persuade him to accompany them when they came to me, and I had as much trouble to get him to answer my questions when he did come. He looked pale and haggard; complained of constant giddiness; his head appeared doubled; dreadful shooting across the skull as if it would break; violent gnawing pain in the bones of the head, of the face, and teeth, sometimes with violent heat; sometimes a sensation of extremely cold water falling from the top of the head down the face; noises in the ears, with dullness of hearing; sensation of bruising in the eye, with smarting pain; pain and great weakness in the sides; a great pain as if something were driven between the shoulders, from which loads of pain were drawn over the sides to the stomach, which they entered, and tightened the heart, which produced a violent feeling of sickness, without being able to vomit; no appetite, with dislike to food; weight in the arms; great heat along the arm; great weight and *sensation* of swelling in the legs and feet; great fatigue; very sleepy in the daytime; trouble to sleep at night; on closing the eyes he sees frightful figures, with starting and shiverings; throbbings of the nerves. He was a married man, about fifty years of age. He came in the autumn of 1837. I gave him two globules of the 30th dilution of *Belladonna;* two days after one globule more, which was repeated twice (every seven days), making five globules in all. In a month he joined his workmen and neighbours in their ploughing.

St. Sampson's Rectory, H. C.
Sept. 2, 1851.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I beg to remind all who have not sent in their petitions for the Edinburgh Town Council, that they must be lodged by the middle of next week at the latest.

I remain, your obedient servant,
75, Queen Street, J. RUTHERFURD RUSSELL.
Dec. 31.

Miscellaneous.

EDUCATIONAL MEANS AND SUPPORT IN GREAT BRITAIN.—According to the returns of the Committee of Council on Education for the past year, we observe that there are now in Great Britain 1,717 schools receiving annual grants; 4,660 pupil teachers; 950 certified masters; £96,190 10*s.* 10*d.* expended annually in payment of the salaries of them and their apprentices; and about £23,000 in aid of building, improving, and furnishing books and apparatus to schools.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

LETTER TO JAMES Y. SIMPSON M.D., P.R.S.E.,

AND PROFESSOR OF MIDWIFERY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

No. V.

Sir,—"The Memorial" was the last effort of the Universities in the cause of collegiate despotism; and Faculties, and Royal Colleges, and Professors have found out, but too late to avail them, that Samuel Hahnemann has founded as hard a stone wall as any in Mid Lothian; and that even the greatest names cannot charge it point blank without leaving their knee-caps on the top. But once more a battle is over, and a tough one it has been; and we see many helms in the dust, and many saddles empty, and confusion and ruin instead of building up; many rueful faces are turned up, and many hearts laid bare that had been better unexposed. When we look on all this, that which led us to resistance resolves itself in another thought, regret that resistance should ever have been needed; let us cover the vanquished with a fitting pall, the colours they have served under,—"a standard of common sense."

We claim the victory; and in order to prove it to the public, we show them that standard we have wrested from your grasp, and we have now a trophy furnished by yourself, which will, with others, hang in our festive halls; for, up to the last six months, we were wont to illustrate the inutility of the allopathic system, as a method of cure, by the evidence of Dr. Forbes; he was a single pillar, but a good one. But the last campaign has enabled us to convert that pillar into a tripod, to which Dr. Christison has, by his address, added one leg, and you, by your speech, have added another, and if we place this tripod on the top of Mr. Syme's vanquished "Memorial," we have got as pretty a view of the present condition of allopathy as if viewed in a "Mirror of Medicine"—"veluti in speculum;" a mode of examining a subject singularly in vogue in the present day, be the topic blooming as a spring flower, or merely the stale episode of sixty seasons' withered leaves.

We draw towards a conclusion (and no doubt you will not be very sorry thereat), but previous thereto we have a few words to say on that moral condition of allopathy which has been the boast of her small and great men, and to preserve which she has exposed herself too much, and proved herself to have too little.

Medical ethics, under the mythological dignity of which the ignorance of the practitioner was screened when necessary, and the public blinded to the condition of medicine, having yielded the ground she held to a more lively genius of modern growth, who heeded not his parents' menaces in bye-corners; he shot forth suddenly, a phœnix, a white stalk grown in the dark, dubbed "a high sense of honour," and launched, a genius of the very first water, upon open-mouthed society; the promising *protégé* of chartered and unchartered bodies, which latter have, without exception, made him the pivot upon which they have so successfully spun round for the edification of an astonished public.

Having proved "legitimate medicine" and "regular practice" not to be had at any price, I went a-searching for this "high sense of honour," which allopathy insisted was hers alone, and of which she seemed exceedingly jealous, and I expected to find it easily, for every pettifogging gentleman who charged three and sixpence for a compound worth three halfpence, stoutly proclaimed that he had a large proportion of it; but when he produced the ware it did not answer to the invoice, and I had to go to another shop. I had many a search in this wise, and expended thereon some "*laborious and painful observation, large generalization, and cautious induction,*" and I am now of opinion that this attribute, when possessed to a very unlimited extent, may be highly inconvenient, and may possibly place a man in a position of extreme difficulty, and the more so the more refined, as it may be easily seen through, and then it makes but a flimsy garment, and certainly would not suit for pantaloons.

But we were told that it was to preserve this puppet from indignity, that the medical profession made an aggression on *our social position,* which has clad her fully in that

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cobweb garment, and which may ultimately prove itself a cloak of Dejanira, which she cannot cast off.

When small allopathic authors made literary ventures on us and our doctrines, they declared they were led to do so by a "high sense of honour," and such a desire to possess it (without reference to *meum* and *tuum*) burnt within them, that they invariably filched it from those they wrote against, and whose hearts they could not read. These little guns in type and ink carried away an unusual amount of "*spolia opima*," in "laurels;" they enjoyed them even unto diaphoresis under the burthen—meet compeers for weekly editors, but wretched supporters in this *our mêlée*, which they could *only* edge better men on to; where are they now?

—Echo answers, where?

We are told that it was this sentiment which induced a physician to screen, and entirely at his own expense too, a ghost of a tradesman who was *such* a ninnyhammer as to confess himself a *rogue*. Herein was great magnanimity; but when I reflected that this continence was preserved at the expense of the feelings of a whole body of tradesmen, whose reputation was implicated thereby, I felt less charmed than I might have been at a man voluntarily becoming the victim of misplaced confidence, and shutting himself up in a cage, from which, like "Sterne's starling," he "*wants to get out*," and cannot. But with a light thus kept under a bushel by him who struck it so clumsily, it has nathless lighted some of our later opponents, and among them no less a personage than yourself, to base thereon their rejection of infinitesimal doses—*a glare of illumination being thereby cast over the problem.*

Still somewhat disappointed in our search, we did not give it up—for we homœopathists don't give up things so easily, as you no doubt perceive; and we listened to a member of the Brighton meeting, who held the "high sense of honour" in such respect that, to screen it from contamination, he set you the example of mixing up a medical question with theology, and a very pretty plagiarism you have made of it. He unhesitatingly accused a clergyman of prostituting his sacred calling, who, by advocating homœopathy, could have no object save the highest, and who did so according to his conscience, and after much observation and experience; and in sympathy with this member, all the listeners fell into an ague fit of horrors equally laudable, and intended to be expressive of Christian feeling on the subject. We have already prescribed for some of these invalids; we shall *note* their condition at the next provincial meeting.

I thought a genuine spark might have been accidentally struck, when a physician petitioned a council to remove a homœopath from the body to which he belonged, for however absurd was the request, and how little soever it spoke for that petitioner's appreciation of the true condition of medicine, it was accompanied by a promise of sacrificing his own qualification to the *manes* of a request unattended to; and the promise brought him great admiration from his brethren, and complimentary epistles on his spirited achievement swelled the pages of the *Lancet*, and one correspondent, in the height of his enthusiasm, proposed a testimonial to this physician, and wrote himself down for £5 on the spot. But when we remember that upwards of four weeks have elapsed since that petition was refused, and that the despised diploma, which it was a disgrace to hold in common with a homœopath, is still in the study-drawer of that petitioner, we think that the admiration was premature, and that the *testimonial will be altogether unnecessary.*

Had Mr. Syme promised to resign his surgical chair in the event of his "Memorial" meeting the fate it has so well merited, we think he would have kept his promise, but he made none, and it is not incumbent on him to resign; but the "*honour*," in the one case, and the "*emolument*," in the other, were expressive of the very same heart's beat to a shaving.

That this professional "high sense of honour" is a most peculiar variety of the sentiment, is curiously proved by a peep I took, during my search, into the proceedings of the London Medical Society. I found a spark of it quite genuine, and it burnt healthily in the breast of an opponent who signed the "*Resolutions*" against me; but he urged his view of the rapid advancement of homœopathy as depending upon the lamentable amount of drugging prevalent; and he brought forward a case, wherein a bill for £48 for drugs to an infant had been sent in, and "*three or four visits only having been paid.*" A sense of honour led him to bring it before the Society, and a *still higher sense* instantly led the Society to squash the matter as irrelevant, which term meant an awkward subject for investigation at the present moment. But the public have been taught to appreciate such a case, in reference to domestic economy as regards coin; to physical economy as regards bulk; and to the economy and specially to the *importance*

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of diagnosis, when the number of visits is compared with the number of draughts.

Where, may I ask, was weazel-eyed law upon that occasion? Was the coroner's wig upon a barber's block, and his official robes out at the washerwoman? Had he who drugged that infant been placed on that day at the bar, and side by side with the "greengrocer of Islington," they had met on equal terms, as far as science was between them; and the tradesman would have had much the advantage on the point of humanity.

These, Sir, are illustrations of the laws of honour, as it exists in medicine, which must form a little code for allopathic guidance alone, for by no standard can they be estimated, so as to be made serviceable to mankind generally—not even by that "standard of common sense" so lately raised by you, and waved by your own arm o'er the memory of *Joe Smith*" !!! Nor do they call up to our minds any very elevated thoughts, but on the contrary try back to old times, when we laughingly deemed *him* the most puissant who had courage to run the gauntlet of the closes of the High Street after the hour of ten p.m.

At all events, this order of it fails to rouse *us*—it does not reach our *ears*; nor could the cross of its legion, if it had one, stimulate us to the zeal of defunct soda-water. But there is many a small voice from many a nursery that can call it forth in us, by lisping the name of Samuel Hahnemann; and many a mother's lingering bedside hours, chimed over and over by the sombre night clock, light up a spark of it within us; and many a father's prayers for our success mail us for a contest *we will not give up*; for these hours were spent and these prayers were uttered where the great law enunciated by the maligned Hahnemann was, in our hands, meeting stern disease successfully. Allopaths may sneer—let them; we can afford it. But there is a memory that can recall all that—it belongs to many a mother—that can tell how the feverish lip was cooled by the billionth of a grain; it belongs to many a child—that can recall heart-rending medication; it belongs to many a husband, and many a wife, and many a sister. If, then, Samuel Hahnemann has done aught to mitigate suffering, to shed *even one ray of light* upon a subject far too dark in virtue of men's prejudices, let his followers repay him by asserting *his* "*standard of common sense*," and by defending *his* integrity as well as *their* own. "Truth was never yet hurt by free discussion. Like the precious metals, the more it is rubbed the more brightly it shines." In conclusion,

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
SIGMA.

January 10, 1852.

A LAYMAN'S REASONS FOR EMBRACING HOMŒOPATHY.*

I HAVE had a little experience of doctors—being a family man; and I have made use of my opportunities of observation to test the principles of their practice, and its results. My faith in medical science grew less and less with every opportunity of putting it to the test, until I was brought to the conclusion, that a true *science* of medicine there was none. (This conclusion your own impolitic admission proves to have been correct.) I found the practice of medicine to consist in a series of *experiments*, based on no accurate knowledge of the effects of drugs, or of the symptoms of disease. A pain in one region, and a stiffness in another, an eruption here, a chill there, and a heat elsewhere, were prescribed for as if each were a primary cause of disease; and the conflicting antidotes were jumbled together into a powerful potion, that, if it did no good, was sure to produce mischief. The absurdity of this mode of prescribing was manifest to my common sense; and I have watched the sage prescriber to see if he himself had any definite faith in the virtues of his multipotent doses. I found that, from day to day, the same game of symptom-chasing went on; every day brought out something new in the patient, and every prescription something new to battle with it in the potion. I never could ascertain that the doctor had a definite expectation with reference to the effect the medicine should produce. A convenient mystery shrouded his true opinions and concealed his ignorance. "He had given so and so—he hoped his patient would be relieved from such and such a symptom by his next visit—he would call in the evening to see the effects of the morning's medicine," etc. etc. Thus a round of visits was kept up, each rendering more necessary the continuance of the same doctor, who, knowing best what he had given his patient, should have been

* Common Sense, in its Relations to Homœopathy and Allopathy: with a Layman's Reasons for Embracing Homœopathy: a Letter to James Y. Simpson, Esq., M.D., President of the Royal College of Physicians, and Professor of Midwifery in the University of Edinburgh, on the subject of his "Speech at the Medico-Chirurgical Society." By L. D. H., a Lay Disciple of Homœopathy. Edinburgh: James Hogg, 4, Nicolson Street. London: R. Groombridge & Sons.

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best acquainted with the nature of the mischief he had to correct; for, by this time, the original disease had merged into some other—a DRUG DISEASE, which abstinence from medicine, probably from baffled skill, was ultimately the chief means of curing, unless a worse result followed in the shape of chronic disorder or premature death. This hazardous experimenting I have witnessed and watched again and again, with the result I have stated—a total want of faith in the existence of a true science of medicine.

This was not a very comfortable state of mind, considering the uncertainty of health, and the daily liability of the strongest constitution to be assailed by disease. In the event of illness, it would be rash to reject all assistance, and to what quarter could I turn in confidence for such aid as would give me a chance of benefit without the possibility, if not certainty, of the "cure" proving as bad as, or worse than, the disease? Nostrum specifics for single ailments or for definite categories of disease, and patent medicines for the cure of "every ill that flesh is heir to," were vaunted as infallible, and their efficacy testified to by hundreds of *names* at least; and, however unwilling I might feel to trust myself in the hands of those whom diplomaed practitioners denounced as ignorant quacks, I could not look on them with less distrust than experience had compelled me to entertain with regard to the regular "faculty." The difference I shrewdly suspected to be one more of "cloth" and privilege than of principle; one, chiefly, between quackery unlicensed and quackery licensed and respectable.

Of systems of medicine professing to have a true *rationale*, there were not wanting many, founded too, or practised by M.D.s and F.R.C.P.s; and grand Latin, Greek, or Greco-Latin names distinguished the rival systems. These friends of humanity denounced each other in good, set, bookish terms, and the Regulars denounced them all—on such occasions, at least, employing plain language, and eschewing mystery; so that I, a poor patient, could not venture to decide where doctors so widely differed. The various exotic "opathies," etc., labelling so many opposite systems, might be no more than classic translations of the plain English word "nonsense;" and the safest course really seemed to be, the perhaps not quite secure expedient of "throwing physic to the dogs," and vowing, in general faithlessness, "*I'll* NONE of it!"

Among my friends were *hydropathic* converts, who had been revivified by the revolutionizing water-cure, and *homœopathic* converts, who were equally loud in proclaiming the magical virtues of their milder system; and each vied with the other in hearty condemnation of the "old-school" doctors, and in urgent proselytising zeal for the new "opathy." The Regulars spoke of hydropathy as highly dangerous, and of homœopathy as simply ridiculous. There really seemed to be sense in what they said, if they represented the do-too-much water-cure and the infinitesimal do-nothing sugar-pill system correctly. Of good effects resulting from both modes of treatment, I had undeniable evidence; but then the patients of the Regulars did not all die. Nature might, in the one case as in the other, have cured in spite of the doctor, rather than the doctor in spite of nature. All was uncertainty.

Among other publications, I read a striking pamphlet in exposition of certain "Fallacies of the Faculty," which so far strengthened my distrust in the ordinary practice, that I resolutely set my face against the reckless phlebotomy in which the Regulars indulged in almost every case of serious illness. I clearly saw that bleeding—however useful to the doctors, by retarding convalescence, and protracting the period of medical attendance—was, to the patient, a most dangerous expedient; and Dr. Dickson satisfied me that it was also an unnecessary one.* The doctor had a medical theory, too, of his own. His "Chrono-thermal" method of treatment was based upon striking facts of general periodicity in disease; and, on the whole, seemed vastly preferable to the old-school mixed-symptom-drugging and blood-letting. But Dr. Dickson was not ubiquitous, and, unless other doctors heartily adopted his system, I could not satisfy myself that it might not be only another form of "fallacy," or obtain any advantage from it in case of necessity, residing, as I did, at a distance from the doctor.

The nature of a layman's education, which altogether, but very foolishly, neglects the study of physiology and pathology, rendering one so dependent on professional medical men in every case of illness, I was fain to look round me for some rational ground of trust for the next emergency that might arise, either in my own person or that of any member of my family. I was led to peruse a work on the "Principles of Homœopathic Treatment," which included articles by various authors, by Hahnemann himself, and by several well-known medical men. I was surprised

* Fallacies of the Faculty, by Samuel Dickson. London.

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to find that the only objection which I had ever heard urged to homœopathy formed no essential part of it at all. The Regulars and others whose denunciations of it I had heard or read, had generally left the *principle* of the system altogether unnoticed, and attacked what I now found to be merely one of the practical peculiarities which experience had shown to be expedient in following out the homœopathic law. I was more than struck with the beautiful simplicity of this law—an argument *per se* of its truth—attested, too, as it was by so many illustrations, some of them as old as observation itself. I was convinced, by the facts adduced, that Shakspere's principle for curing love was the natural one for curing more ills than those of the heart:

"Tut, man, one fire burns out another's burning!
Take thou some new infection to thine eye,
And the rank poison of the old will die."
Romeo and Juliet.

Whatever the operative cause of the efficacy of the law—*similia similibus curantur*—that it was naturally efficacious, could not rationally admit of question. I found that the most potent medicines used by the Regulars were homœopathic in their mode of action; and that their exhibition to persons in health produced the very form of disease for which they were known to be the most powerful curatives. Doubt on this point was over. Homœopathy was a law of nature, gainsay it who would. In examining the details of its application to therapeutic practice, I was delighted to find that it utterly rejected as fundamentally erroneous those mixtures of medicines which I had before so much disliked in the licensed quackery of the Regulars; and also that its practitioners repudiated the common abuse of the leech and the lancet, trusting to the specific action of proved medicines for the removal or abatement of every form of disease. I had now discovered a system of medicine founded on a natural law, and simple, intelligible, and perfectly rational in its application.

Knowing that a feeling of distrust with reference to ordinary medical practice is even more prevalent than openly expressed, and that very many doubters are kept, by misrepresentations and false prejudices, from examining the subject of homœopathy; knowing also that many who do embrace it are driven to it, not from conviction, but in despair, when blistering, bleeding, and violent drugging have all but extinguished the flickering life, I have thought it a duty which I owe to the cause of truth, to do my best to remove obstructing prejudices, and to set the subject of homœopathic principle in a true light, for the benefit of those who are so far prepared for conviction as to have been led to entertain doubts of the rationality or efficacy of the ordinary medical practice.

All medical treatment proceeds on the assumption of a specific potency, inherent in certain substances to act on certain tissues or organs of the living frame; one acting on the nerves, another on the kidneys, a third on the stomach, and so forth. *How* they produce their effects is not known; but that they do possess a specific action is a fundamental fact in medicine. Now, in the "old school," the exact effects of drugs on the body in health and disease have not been studied with any accuracy; least of all, their effects on each other, which, chemically, especially at the high temperature of the stomach must be considerable. They have been prescribed in a set routine, according to a set theory, for symptoms and nomenclatures of disease, and with too careless a diagnosis of the antecedents of the malady; and they have been administered, not singly, to produce their specific effects with observable precision, but in various mixtures of from two to half a dozen, or more, at a time, in such a way that the nature of their combined action could not be anticipated, or the proportion of effect due to each ingredient in the heterogeneous mixture ascertained with even approximate correctness.

Now, homœopathy has less to do with *names* of diseases, and more with the simple specific action of medicines. Every article in its Materia Medica has been tested again and again upon the healthful body, and the symptoms which it produced have been noted with carefully minute exactness by observers in various parts of the world; and, in practice, it is administered in such disorders as, on a minute diagnosis, present the nearest approximation to the *totality* of the symptoms produced by the medicine on the healthy subject. This simply is the homœopathic principle and its application. THE QUANTITY OF THE MEDICINE ADMINISTERED HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE PRINCIPLE. Experience has shown, that greatly smaller doses than are usually given suffice to produce the required effect on the diseased organs; and, of course, it would be folly to administer more than is found to be enough to create the curative reaction. But the opponents of homœopathy have fixed on this peculiarity of minute doses to ridicule the whole system, and declare, that (facts to the contrary notwithstanding) it is IMPOS-

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SIBLE for the "infinitesimal" exhibition of a drug to produce any effect whatever. The principle they say little about; nay, they quietly act upon it in many cases, and, while they denounce the homœopathic system as an absurd imposition upon credulity, they at the same time adopt its essential principle in their own practice. And the small-dose system, too, against which they so awkwardly stumble theoretically, has to a certain extent been practically adopted; for it is a fact well known to every druggist, and happily to many a suffering patient, that medicines are now administered more simply, and in greatly reduced quantity, than they were before the homœopathic "heresy" was introduced, Important reforms are gradual in their establishment, and this reduction of medicine and simplicity in drugging are but the beginnings of a reform which will in time become universally extensive. There can be no doubt of this, for, when homœopathy is in favour with the public, doctors will not fail to court public favour by its means.

[We extract this paper from a candid and spirited letter, which we recommend to the attention of our readers.—ED.]

A GLANCE AT THE CONDITION OF HOMŒOPATHY.

(From the North Western Journal of Homœopathy.—Chicago, Illinois, U. S.)

WE are told by our adversaries that homœopathy is "going down" in Europe, Great Britain, and the United States. Such is not the fact, as is well known by the most superficial observer of passing events. From every quarter of the world where it has been introduced *cheering tidings* are received of its warm reception, and of its rapid growth in public favour. This fact is corroborated by testimony drawn from allopathic sources. Why are their journals filled with bitter denunciations and tyrannical resolutions against the *new system?* These efforts must have some significance, some definite object in view, or why bestow so much labour for no purpose? If it be a shadow, the system will soon pass away, without leaving a trace on the surface of society. No exertion will be required to hasten its downfall; it will die of itself. There is much meaning in all this opposition not to be misunderstood, and full of instruction to us. Let the matter be disguised as it may, there is a settled plan to overthrow it, if possible,—with what prospect of success, is best shown by the present condition of homœopathy. Instead of losing confidence, it is rapidly gaining favour among the most influential and intelligent. If the system be inefficient and unmeritorious, why has it shared so largely the attention of allopathists? From the amount of fear manifested by them, the fact is disclosed of the deep concern felt for the safety of their craft. There is no compromise in this contest,—such a term is unknown to *truth;* it is the overthrow of an old dynasty, as despotic as any that has ever existed, and the establishment, in its place, of a new one, founded upon a law of nature. We do not labour so much to convince physicians: if they are really anxious to find out the merits of homœopathy, the means are within their reach; if prevented by interest or prejudice, it is unworthy of man, and discreditable to his noble nature. It is to the people the appeal is made; nor has it been made in vain, as is attested by the approval of thousands who are enlisted under its banner. The army of reform is daily gaining new recruits, much to the dismay of our opponents. We are not discouraged by abuse and persecution, but stimulated by them to greater diligence in the attainment of our noble aim.

Judging from the signs of the times, the science of homœopathy bids fair to be extensively established in all countries. Implicit confidence is no longer placed in the aged system of allopathy. Mere antiquity alone is not sufficient to secure public favour. The time was when this circumstance was a potent sanction,—it is now past. The old system has not the first attribute of science; its claim to this dignity is mere assumption, without any evidence to support it. Science is a collection of facts in harmony with each other. The relation of these facts to each other is definite and uniform. Any one at all conversant with allopathic writers upon the subject of the practice of medicine, cannot fail to discover the discordance of their views. So much has this condition of their school been felt and deplored by the ablest of them, that they have repeatedly exclaimed, in despair of improving it, "The world would be better off without physicians." We concur with them in this verdict, and believe there cannot be found a dissenting juryman. No two authors agree upon any one subject, except it be the overthrow of existing systems, and the establishment of their own upon the ruins. This want of agreement among them results from an absence of any law by which to be governed in the administration of remedies. Unless

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there is a fixed rule to refer to and observe, susceptible of uniform application in every part of the world, of course there cannot be *unity* among physicians.

Although homœopathy is in its infancy, yet it is the oldest *theory* extant, because the therapeutic relation existing between drugs and diseases is fixed and unchangeable; and as this relation is the guiding-point in the practice of the system, it must continue in *identity* through all time what it now is under the present order of nature. Of course, reference is here made to the *great law* upon which the system rests; leaving to time the perfection of its details. If the law is misapplied at the bedside, the fault is not in the system but in the administrator, who does not understand its application. We have often noticed with regret the injustice done it by pseudo-homœopathists combining the two systems in practice, alleging that the new mode is not sufficient for every case of disease,—attempting, by such artifice, to justify their conduct, when, to tell the truth, they are either ignorant of its literature, or base enough to sacrifice it for the sordid purposes of lucre.

What is the state of the case with allopathy? Not less than two hundred theories have been promulgated since its existence as an *art*; their fate is too well known to require any recital at our hands. It does not require the eye of a prophet to describe its future condition; the dullest intellect can tell it by perusing the history of the past. If two thousand years have failed, with the best minds in its employ, to give it a rational and consistent mode of practice, what prospect is there now of better success? None. That it is doomed to decay, is as plain as the "handwriting on the wall." The sooner it falls, the better it will be for mankind. The sickle of death has cut down thousands, yea millions, brought to premature graves by this insatiate monster, under the guise of science. Away with *such* science! instead of mitigating the pains of disease, they are augmented by it tenfold. The physician would have an easy task, if required to combat natural diseases alone, but add to them the legion of artificial or drug diseases, and his labours are more than quadrupled, with much less prospect of removing them. We verily believe that all the plagues, however malignant, ever visited upon men, have not destroyed half as many lives as this great destroyer, popularly termed allopathy.

May not the physical ills of life be greatly multiplied by our misdoings? Most assuredly they may. It behoves the guardians of health to point out the causes of diseases, so that they may be timely avoided, whether they arise from natural or artificial sources. It is as rash to expose one's self to the influences of the latter as to the former; indeed, more so, as it is well known that morbid conditions produced by drugs make up the greatest amount of human suffering, while they are more difficult of removal than the effects of the ordinary causes of sickness. An explanation of this fact is to be found in a deficient knowledge, on the part of allopathists, of pure drug effects. Drugs upon the healthy man must first be studied, or it will be impossible for any one, however skilful, to distinguish or separate their effects or symptoms from the symptoms of disease. Without this knowledge of the primary effect of drugs, the practice of homœopathy would not only be impracticable, but could not exist as an art. It is the duty of every physician to use those means only of which he has perfect knowledge, or he will become an engine of death instead of a messenger of mercy. Drugs cannot be used as they are by the old school without injury; a moment's reflection ought to convince any one of this truth. It is owing to the ignorance or the blindness of its physicians of this fact, that so many chronic maladies are produced, and so many lives lost to society. They are slow to learn wisdom. The mere knowledge that *Calomel* will purge as well as *salivate*, *Opium* lull pain, *Ipecac.* vomit, etc., is not sufficient to constitute the safe physician; his mind must be deeply stored with all the minutiæ of therapeutics, or he will fail to grapple successfully with every form of disease to which "human flesh is heir." So long as physicians make use of implements of which they have no knowledge, the community must suffer for it. As well might it be expected of a child to handle sharp-edged tools without inflicting serious wounds, as to suppose the habitual practice of swallowing large quantities of *Calomel*, *Quinine*, and *Opium* (to say nothing of Cayenne pepper) can be continued without the most deleterious results.

If the old school were not so bigoted and self-righteous, their condition would not be hopeless. But they have become so wise in their own conceit as to presume to put limits to medical literature, and any one who dares to dissent from their teachings is branded with heresy. What right has any Faculty of men, with the imperfections of nature common to all of us, to say that the acme of medical science has been reached? that no other theory than the one

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they worship is true? Such dicta are more in unison with the ravings of madmen than the language of sane minds. No man, by authority of any sect, whether in religion, politics, or science, has any right or power to bind the conscience or fetter the mind with any conditions incompatible with rational liberty; and he who has the hardihood to undertake it, as exemplified by the transactions of the old-school colleges, "reckons without his host,"—his arrogance cannot pass long unrebuked, or his name escape the blight of infamy. We believe with the sage of Monticello, that "error may be safely tolerated when reason is left free to combat it." Such is the language of wisdom, and is as applicable to this subject as to the circumstances which suggested it. We only claim the privilege of setting forth our doctrines to the world, believing an impartial public will do them full justice. We desire to impose no unjust restrictions, or seek the aid of the law to prop up our system, being fully convinced that such a course would not only be wrong, but indicate the weakness of our cause.

THOS. HAUGHTON, M.D.

St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 1, 1851.

REPLY TO PROFESSOR SIMPSON'S SPEECH ON HOMŒOPATHY.

(From the Dundee Advertiser.)

SIR,—Your speech at a recent meeting of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh having gone the round of the local papers, I now take the liberty of making a reply to it; and, in order to save time and space, shall merely take up the various topics of the said speech *seriatim*, without repeating your own words.

If there are any follies which attach to Hahnemann's character or his writings, you would be fully justified in exposing them. No one has yet done so. As homœopathists, we profess our belief in the law of cure which he discovered and promulgated; but in doing so we do not pin ourselves to his coat-sleeves and feel compelled to believe everything that he may advance on any subject. None of us believe in his infallibility any more than we do in yours, and we are as willing to give you all due credit for any valuable discovery you may make, as we now do Hahnemann; without at the same time having anything to do with any of your follies. We select for imitation and personal improvement whatever we see to be really good and valuable in any one's character or system, even though he may have had his follies. Who is without them?

You, then, as a society, compare the right you have to deal with your members, to that which a Christian congregation has to do with theirs. But, Sir, allow me to tell you that you have no *such* right. A Christian congregation, of whatever denomination, is in possession of a Bible containing the law and testimony, to which it can appeal, and by which standard it can judge of those who differ from them. You, on the contrary, have no Bible—no infallible law nor testimony, to which you can appeal, and by which you can judge any one. How, then, can you have such right? As a school having any relation to a Christian congregation, you are more to be compared with infidels than anything else. You profess to be without law—you say there *can* be no fixed principle or law by which to regulate the practice of medicine—and yet you assume the position of being our judges!

That the homœopathic and Mormonite heresies have many points in common may be seeming to one with filmy eyes, but they are not real. The following detestable Popish ideas, although cautiously expressed, ought to have been kept to yourself,—"That physicians should choose the *kind* of medical treatment *for* the public, and that clergymen should choose their religion!" Never! The red flag of persecution in the hand of a foreign despot may be again unfurled on our shores, and the terror and gloom of the dark ages again threaten to overwhelm our country, but never shall the people of Great Britain surrender that liberty of conscience which their forefathers bled to purchase, and which they have long struggled to maintain. They have made up their minds for ever that, in matters of conscience, they shall act for themselves. They will not allow any set of clergymen to judge or choose a religion for them; neither will they passively hand over their right of private judgment in medical matters to you nor any of yours. Divest your system of all its Latin jargon, theoretical dogmas, and vain speculations—give it out to the world in a language which can be generally understood, and let it stand the test of a discriminating public—common sense if you will. The non-professional public have heads as well as professors; and, rest assured, they can see as far into a bag of sawdust as you can, with all your appliances to boot.

That some have believed Hahnemann to be actually inspired, requires more than your own *ipse dixit* to prove. That he was a man possessed of the highest mental endowments, I know from the testimony of those who knew him intimately; but that he laid any claim to being inspired is not true. You confess that the heresy is extending: yes, it is, and you can't stop it. The war has been kept up with unrelenting bitterness on the part of the old school for half a century; and yet year after year bears testimony to our triumphant and victorious career. Hahnemann, single-handed and alone, braved the whole army of the Philistines, and came off a victor, crowned with laurels. In our own country homœopathy arose like a small cloud on the horizon, which the old school thought the first breeze would dissipate; and now, look at it. It has spread over the whole length and breadth of the land. A few months ago a leading medical journal of the old school gave out that homœopathy was on the decline in the metropolis, and almost extinct in the provinces. What will some men not say?

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Now a professor of the same school says the heresy is extending.

In the course of your speech you are next led to refer to the basis or foundation of practical medicine, to the law by which all sound practice ought to be regulated. On this head your words are necessarily few, though I suspect your thoughts have been numerous, and strangely perplexing. Like the Mormon prophet, I think I see you betaking yourself to that mysterious box, or repertorium of medical science, containing the past, present, and future history of medicine; and after raising the lid, you search eagerly among its rusty records for the revelation of some law to help you in your present emergency, but in vain. All the time you maintain that this box actually does contain the *summum bonum* of practical medicine. At length, by means of the prophet's wonderful *urim* and *thumim* spectacles, you bring forth a plate on which is inscribed a law of great antiquity, which had been lost for many generations. As proof of its originality, it is written in some strange characters which the followers of the prophet call the *glyph* of *stolum*, and which no one can understand without the aid of the strange spectacles. The literal translation of this law, as given in your own words, is *the standard of common sense.* As it is evident you purpose being the sole proprietors of this rare commodity, perhaps you will be after taking out a patent for it; so that all who are desirous of possessing this article shall be compelled to purchase it from you, and receive your stamp upon it, without which all others must be spurious. It is evident, Sir, that you assume yourselves to be the sole proprietors of common sense; and by virtue of this prerogative you become our judges. Is not this a piece of barefaced presumption? I consider myself to be in possession of as much sound common sense as you; and, so far as that is concerned, have as much right to judge in regard to the truth of homœopathy as you have. In this matter, I fear that any common sense you may be in possession of is sadly perverted. If you are in any measure to be led by this standard yourself, you ought certainly to give homœopathy a fair and honest trial. And if you do not find that it answers better than the old system, then just give it up. That would be a thorough common-sense way of deciding the matter for yourself. You did try it once, according to your own confession, and in that case you were successful too; why not give it a further trial? Every one of you are conscious that the old system is wofully deficient, and you are constantly trying experiments with new, doubtful, and dangerous remedies. You have even tried mesmerism; why not try homœopathy? Not a few of the most eminent men in the old school have tried the expectant or do-nothing system—many others have tried bread pills—and all these have declared that they were fully as successful by these methods as they were by bleeding, blistering, etc. Why, then, not try homœopathy? But, Sir, before doing this, you would require to be at some trouble. You are not born with an intuitive knowledge of this system any more than other people are; and your eminence as an obstetrician is no reason why you must necessarily know everything else. You would require to study it patiently and perseveringly before putting it to a rash trial.

You next come to the subject of the so-called infinitesimal doses. What you say on this head is a thrice-told tale, without even a shade of originality on your part. In making such quotations you resemble a certain class of heroes, who take special delight in setting up men of straw to make a show before the public in knocking them down again. You are quite well aware that the truth of homœopathy is not at all connected with these doses. It was practised successfully long before these doses were known, and is still practised successfully without them. The truth or error, in regard to infinitesimal doses, does not in the slightest degree affect homœopathy. This I beg you, and any who may have read your speech, to bear in mind as an established fact. With every homœopathist the dose is distinctly an undecided and open question. What we maintain on this matter is this:—That doses of medicine much smaller than those which you are generally in the habit of using are effectual in curing disease, when given in accordance with the law of cure, *similia similibus curantur*, though such doses may have no perceptible effect upon the healthy body. In proof of this we appeal to thousands of facts. Against this law of cure you have not attempted to advance a single argument; for a very good reason, you could not.

You next refer to the number of our medicines, the cost of a chemist's stock, and the preparation of our remedies,—on each of which heads your statements are incorrect. In the first volume of our Pathogenetic Cyclopædia there is a list of 323 medicines; and there are several new remedies added since then. As to the cost of a chemist's stock, you may be able to form some more correct idea when I inform you that I saw one single invoice for undiluted medicines from a wholesale drug-house which amounted to £48. As to the different dilutions, many of us prepare these ourselves from the crude drug, so that we know to a certainty what and how much they contain.

Your speech, as a whole, does you anything but honour. Drowning men catch at straws, and certainly you have got hold of nothing better. Truths, the most precious and important ever revealed to man, have often been made the subject of ridicule by those who could not overturn them by an appeal to reason and facts. You are an eminent man in your own department, highly talented, no doubt, and, like the Greeks of old, perhaps seeking "after wisdom," but unfortunately too like them in despising and overlooking facts. You are not, however, altogether unreasonable, and I would take the liberty of pressing upon you the claim which homœopathy has to a patient and impartial investigation. The testimony in its favour is of the highest and strongest character. You have reports of hospitals, dispensaries, and other public charities, all of which combine in show-

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ing that a far greater amount of success is attainable under the new method of treatment than under the old. And several thousand physicians, practising in every civilized country in the world, unite in testifying to the great superiority of the homœopathic mode of treatment, in private practice, over that of the allopathic. It will not do to judge of the subject *a priori*, by any preconceived notions, and say that it is ridiculous. You, in particular, can't do this with any show of good grace. You know that there are many learned people who still ridicule and reject all those palpable and astounding effects produced by mesmerism. A few passes with the hand—a mere look at the patient to produce such effects! Nonsense. And yet you are a believer in mesmerism; a thing far more improbable-like, and ten times more ridiculous than homœopathy. What more improbable and ridiculous-like than to say that the ticking of a clock in London could be distinctly heard, and the vibrations of the pendulum correctly registered in Edinburgh? The efficacy of small doses is not nearly so ridiculous as this. And how do we establish the truth of these; by an appeal to common sense? By no means; but by referring to incontestable facts. How would you prove that the earth revolves on its axis, or that there is such a planet as Neptune, or that the asteroids Flora, Iris, Metis, Hygeia have any existence? By an appeal to common sense? No, but by observation and facts. In the same way, Sir, ought you to deal with homœopathy and small doses. Investigate, judge for yourself, and dare to be wise.

S. C.

Dundee, December 23, 1851.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17TH, 1852.

WE published in our last number a letter signed PHILALETHES, in which the writer adverts to the scheme of uniting the two medical homœopathic societies and the two metropolitan hospitals. We have so often recommended one large and effective one in preference to two small and comparatively ineffective hospitals, that we have only to repeat that such an union is a consummation devoutly to be wished. We think the governors and subscribers to both Institutions should take the matter in hand.

Some rumours have reached us, and some facts are known to us, which induce us to think that the scheme is practicable, and that even now some steps may be taken towards it.

The banns may be at once published, and let the opponents to the union, if there be any, declare if there be any just cause or impediment why these hospitals should not come together. We can discover no just cause, and no impediment that may not be got over.

We think the medical men of the hospitals should stand apart, and leave the discussion to a committee formed as PHILALETHES has proposed. We believe, however, that no negotiation can come to a successful issue, if the fundamental rule of the London Homœopathic Hospital be maintained. Let that rule be altered, and the plenipotentiaries will have a comparatively easy task.

THE ROSS DISPENSARY.

IN the *Homœopathic Times* for Nov. 1 was reprinted a report from the *Hereford Times*, of a special meeting of the governors of the above charity held at Ross, to consider and decide the question whether Dr. Strong, a homœopathic physician, should be sanctioned in introducing that system of treatment into the Dispensary; he having for a long time previously, with the tacit consent of the governors, supplied his patients there with homœopathic medicines from his own private stores.

The question, then left in doubt, was to be finally decided on the 7th of January last, and as the time drew near, the violence of the opposition increased. The two surgeons of the Institution notified to the committee their intention of resigning their appointments, in case "the heresy" was admitted, whilst the more serious withdrawal of a large section of the supporters of the charity was openly threatened.

It also appeared, in collecting the views of the most influential governors, that of those who were willing to enlarge the scope of this medical institution, by a liberal reconstruction of the rules, a considerable number were not prepared to support a public sanctioning of homœopathy *eo nomine*,

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since they possessed but little knowledge of its intrinsic merits. In this state of things, and with a numerical certainty of suffering a defeat upon any point relating to the introduction of homœopathy, the following letter was sent by Dr. Strong to the chairman of the annual meeting.

"MR. CHAIRMAN,—May I beg the favour of you to read to the meeting to-day the following statement from me, upon a subject of considerable importance.

"Since the meeting held on the 20th of October last, calling my attention to Rule XIII., I have found myself virtually precluded from admitting any more patients under my care, without a violation of the strict letter of that rule. Such a position must needs be very unsatisfactory to the governors, and injurious to the charity, while it is not only derogatory to myself, but disables me from fulfilling, according to my own conceptions, the proper duties of a medical officer, viz., to apply those remedies, and adopt that mode of treatment which experience and conviction lead him to believe the most effectual for the well-being of his patient. From what then passed, I have been induced to wait patiently until the time came round for holding the annual meeting, in the expectation that some of the governors would propose an alteration or modification of the rules, so as to enable homœopathic medicines to be ordered at the dispensary, for the use of such patients as may prefer that mode of treatment. Upon this point I fear, and indeed know, that there exists a wide diversity of opinion among the governors. But whatever determination you may in your counsels this day come to, I trust it will be of such a nature as will either leave my judgment wholly unfettered, or lead me to the only other alternative, that of resigning a situation in which my professional services can no longer be made available in promoting the welfare of a most excellent Institution.

"I am, Sir,
"Your obedient servant,
(Signed) "GEO. STRONG, M.D.
"Jan. 7th, 1852."

Upon this being read to the assembled governors, it was formally proposed and unanimously resolved—

"That the thanks of the governors be returned to Dr. Strong, for his zeal and ability in the cause of the Institution during many years; but that his resignation, conditionally tendered on this day, be accepted, on the ground, that the governors of the Ross Dispensary do not feel justified in giving to his recently announced medical views and practice such sanction as he desires.
(Signed) "C. A. OGILVIE, D.D., Chairman."

YORKSHIRE AND LANCASHIRE HOMŒOPATHIC ASSOCIATION.

THE first meeting of this Association will be held in the Board-room of the Homœopathic Hospital, Bloom Street, Piccadilly, Manchester, next Thursday, the 22nd inst.

We hope that these Associations may be multiplied, and much benefit arise from the zeal and energy of their members. Perhaps the secretary will kindly send us a report of the proceedings, a list of the officers, and the members of the Association, and a list also of the homœopathic practitioners in the northern counties, with their addresses.

Would not the Northern Counties Homœopathic Association be a more comprehensive title, so that Cheshire, Durham, Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Northumberland may be included?

Correspondence.

THE HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I have read in your paper of the 10th instant the letter of one of my coadjutors, Mr. F. J. Smith, detailing the history of the rise and progress of the Hahnemann Hospital, but as a history, to be valuable, should be correct, I will, in all friendliness, point out some errors into which Mr. Smith has fallen.

This history has, it seems, been excited by an utterly inoffensive and well-intentioned letter of Mr. Leaf, *suggested by the Board of Management of the Hahnemann Hospital*, addressed to the subscribers of the London Homœopathic Medical Institution, informing them that the Institution established by Mr. Leaf, in 1838, had been discontinued in favour of the Hahnemann Hospital, and soliciting the continuance of the patronage and support to that Hospital, which had been hitherto conferred by them on the London Homœopathic Medical Institution. This circular, independently of being sent by post to all subscribers whose addresses were known, was also left at Mr. Headland's, that it might fall into the hands of those whose addresses were not known; and how or why it should, after twelve month's distribution (for it is dated 1st January, 1851), give rise in January, 1852, to feelings of dissatisfaction, or how it can be assumed to claim the merit of originating the Hahnemann Hospital, or of being connected with it, or for what purpose the assumption of Mr. Smith, but in no way warranted by the letter, should be disclaimed by him, I for one am at a loss to conceive. It

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should be added, that on the fly-leaf of the circular was printed the prospectus of the Hahnemann Hospital, the names of its patrons, president, vice-presidents, trustees, board of management, and *medical officers, with their days of attendance;* the objects of the Hospital were briefly detailed, and, as usual, the necessary information as to the receipt of subscriptions by the bankers and others, etc., was given. I doubt not Mr. Leaf will be content to leave this circular to the judgment of the homœopathic public, without fear of any *sinister motive* being attributed to him.

Every homœopathist is, I fancy, aware of the large expenditure incurred by Mr. Leaf, in the introduction and advancement of homœopathy in this country, on this it is unnecessary for me to enlarge; I will merely briefly mention some other facts in connection with his efforts. In 1836, Mr. Leaf established, at his own expense, the first homœopathic dispensary in London, under the direction of Dr. Curie, where the poor might be gratuitously treated. In 1839, at his own cost and charge, Mr. Leaf took the mansion, No. 17, Hanover Square, when the dispensary was not only enlarged, but subsequently a hospital, with twenty-one beds, was established, in which, as many now eminent homœopathic practitioners can testify, a medical school was formed, of the advantages of which they were themselves, as students, partakers. Mr. Leaf was aided in his good work by some few hundred subscribers, amongst whom might be reckoned the first names in this country; the Duke of Wellington, the Earl and Countess Wilton, Lord and Lady Robert Grosvenor, etc. etc. etc. The hospital, not the dispensary, was, however, discontinued in the year 1846, from the want of that necessary management which the ill health of Mrs. Leaf, and the multifarious occupations of Mr. Leaf, in the failure of other assistance, prevented being given to it. The Dispensary, or Institution, was continued until after the Hahnemann Hospital was organized, when its subscribers were, as I have mentioned, at the instance of the board of management, solicited by Mr. Leaf to transfer their support to the Hahnemann Hospital.

Mr. Smith has confounded the London Homœopathic Medical Institution with the English Homœopathic Association.

Mr. Smith says that the London Homœopathic Medical Institution is totally distinct from the Hahnemann Hospital "in its birth and its education, its origin and its aim." No one has asserted or insinuated, nor does the circular insinuate, to the contrary, with respect to "its birth, education, and origin;" but as to its aim, the "aim" of the London Homœopathic Medical Institution could only be identical with that of the Hahnemann Hospital, for the poor were gratuitously treated *there*, a medical school *was* formed *there*, where students *were* instructed, and finally, no one can deny that the progress of homœopathy was materially forwarded by the Institution.

Mr. Smith says that the members of the Institution joined us, after repeated interviews, and that their funds, £200 or £300, were handed over. In this he is certainly in error,—there was no board, there were no funds; on the contrary, Mr. Leaf was largely, very largely, in advance. But the party which did hand over their funds to the amount stated was the English Homœopathic Association, an association of laymen and professional men, originally promoted by Mr. Sampson, in conjunction with many of his then friends, which had for two years previously been collecting funds for the establishment of a hospital on broad principles, and which, when the Hahnemann Hospital was established, lent their best aid to promote its success; yet not after repeated interviews, as I, a member of both committees, am not aware of even a single interview.

As to the "*individual*" whose praiseworthy efforts Mr. Smith describes as having been so energetically directed to so good an object as the foundation of a homœopathic hospital, it is only fair, as so many names have been mentioned, that the veil should be raised with respect to him, and when the history of the Hahnemann Hospital is written, "an individual I know," "my friend," and "F. J. Smith," as one and the same, must, according to his account, prominently occupy a niche in that history.

I have only to add, that, cordially agreeing in the encomiums bestowed on two ladies, there is at least one other lady whose noble efforts in our good Cause deserves a notice, and whose untiring zeal in behalf of our Hospital and the bazaar not even a delicate state of health could quench.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
9, Gresham Street West, W. WARNE.
Jan. 12, 1852.

THE ETYMOLOGY OF OD AND ODYLE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—On further reflection, I fear that I have not by any means seized Reichenbach's idea in supposing that by the "Od" force, he means to designate a force which proceeds from points. I suspect that he had something much more comprehensive in his mind when he applied that expression to his new imponderable. I do not wish to turn your medical journal into an arena for philological discussion, but as I lately sent you an explanation of Reichenbach's word, which I now believe to be only partially correct, I hope you will permit me to enter on the matter a little more at length.

The name of the Deity, among the ancient inhabitants of the North, was Od-in or Oth-in, or Vod-in. The Anglo-Saxons and their neighbours called him Vod-an, Ved-a, Vod-en, Vod-a, Vod-ha, etc.; the Carelians, Vod-en; the Tunguses, Od-in; the Arabians, Vodd and Vudd; the Persians, Bud-asp; the Indians, Buddhah, Bod-a; the Thibetians, Vod or Wod; and many other nations adopted the same or nearly the same word to express the Supreme Deity. Our own name for the Deity contains the same expression.

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The original meaning of the word "Od," as applied to the Deity, is explained by learned men (and could, I think, be easily proved, if I did not feel too much reluctance to encroach on your space with such discussions) to be "Spirit." The whole of this is apparently derived from the passage in Genesis, in which it is said that God breathed into man's nostrils the breath of life. The great Spirit gave of His spirit—imparted to the frame of dust a force of "Life," differing entirely from the electricity, magnetism, etc., of the earth, and then, having thus received from Deity what none but the Deity could communicate, man became a living soul. The name of "Spirit," "Od," "Bud," "Ved," G "od," was therefore given to the Supreme Divinity—"the Breath," in fact.

This I presume, then, to be in reality Reichenbach's meaning. He calls his new imponderable the "Od" force, that which was breathed into man when he became a living soul—the force of "Life" in fact.

I may add, that when once the name Od was applied to the Supreme Governor, it was soon used to signify any eminence, and after that a "point," as it is found in Icelandic, Swedish, Danish, etc., and in the obsolete Greek word, *οδειν*, pungere; and in this sense it harmonises well with the crystalline force of which Reichenbach speaks. Is one to presume that in earlier times people were acquainted with this peculiar quality of crystals?

And it is not a little singular that the same theme "Od" is found in some other words: Odour, *e. g.*, where it signifies, as Count de Gebelin informs us, *Les Odeurs qui s'exhalent du corps.*

I beg to apologize to you, Sir, and your readers for this long notice.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Wickwar, Your obedient servant,

Dec. 18, 1851. THOMAS R. EVEREST.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Sir I. Newton once said, that "a man had as good be engaged in lawsuits as have to do with philosophy." Such is the litigious character which those who engage in its pursuit have acquired. I have no wish to form one of this number, but as the claims of the magnetoscope continue to be advocated in your journal, I am tempted to address you once more upon that subject. May I be allowed to call attention to a paragraph in my letter, published in your number for November 15th, page 245, for the purpose of making an inquiry respecting it.

Among the experiments there described is the following. "I connected various *flexible* substances, some metallic, and others not, with the brass ball, but I could produce no motion in the pendulum, *unless I stretched these connecting links so as to make them rigid.*" May I take the liberty of asking, if any of your correspondents have been able to obtain any results with a *flexible* connection (a gold watch-chain, for example) with the instrument? This would seem to be an *experimentum crucis* as regards the explanation of the movements produced. All the known phenomena of electricity and magnetism can be produced by flexible as well as by rigid conductors, whereas it is well known that every mechanical effect is dependent for its production upon the rigidity of the instruments, and is immediately destroyed by rendering that instrument flexible.

The above experiment added to another independent circumstance, namely, that all definite movement is prevented, either by blinding the eyes of the operator, or by placing substances in his hand, the nature of which he is ignorant of, can hardly fail to convince persons accustomed to the investigation of natural phenomena, that, *as yet*, the magnetoscope is no indicator of magnetoid currents.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM SHARP.

Rugby, December, 1851.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—As there appears at present to be some agitation respecting the necessity of a Charter, or some means of licensing those who practise homœopathy, and seeing that the Association for the Protection of Homœopathic Students and Practitioners have this week arisen from their slumbers, I venture to address that body through the medium of your columns, with the view to stimulate them to some immediate and permanent action.

There are two schemes at present afloat. One to petition a college to admit the study of homœopathy within its walls—the other, to obtain an independent Charter. The first appears to me a waste of time, for how can we expect those in power to allow a fair, impartial trial to a system they deride and condemn without a test? it is useless to waste words where the proof of action is not admitted, even the discussion of the subject seems to make friends enemies, and cause respectable men to charge each other with falsehood; every engine of abuse has been brought into play, absurd calculations attempting to show how many doses make a grain, and a long string of figures to argue the impossibility of any one individual of the human family being able to get rid of a grain of medicine during his whole life—Mormonite comparisons. The writings of Hahnemann are declared to be a tissue of the strangest contradictions and the wildest absurdities; to believe in them is sufficient evidence to fit one for a lunatic asylum. Now, all this raillery may have its advantages or disadvantages, but no good can come of an appeal to such bodies corporate at the present time; the day may and, no doubt, will arrive, when they will be sorry to see such statements registered in type against them, and they will be most happy to be allowed to take the sponge and wipe out these evidences, with the humble acknowledgment that they too are but fallible men. We must bide our time.

As to the second—that of obtaining a special Charter—this may be fraught with much difficulty, inasmuch as it is only for one branch of study, that of therapeutics, for which it would really

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be required, and I am disposed to fear the legislature would not advise a grant; indeed, I cannot think it would be wise for them at present to interfere in the matter—homœopathy is the adopted child of the public, to the public it must look for protection, and in the hour of difficulty it will not be forsaken; all that we now want is some guarantee that those who practise it are qualified for the task, so that the public may safely rely on obtaining the advantages of this system exercised by skilful and experienced physicians. To obtain this in a speedy and easy manner, I beg to propose that the Association do call a meeting to consider this subject, that every exertion be made to increase its numbers, and that, at the earliest possible period, the members of the Association be invited to vote, to constitute a Board of Examiners for the purpose of granting certificates, on the payment of a certain fee, to all who pass such examination, and are pronounced duly learned and practised in the several branches of medical science. I conceive such a body, elected by that part of the public who are homœopathic from conviction, would be of great advantage at the present moment, and would have some weight in advancing the progress of this much-abused science. Trusting that these observations will induce the Association to exert every influence to establish homœopathy on a firm basis,

I am, Sir, yours, etc.,
H. B.

Miscellaneous.

THE TELEGRAPHIC SYSTEM OF THE UNIVERSE.—From the principle, long since settled in mechanics, that action and reaction are equal, it will follow that every impression which man makes by his words, or his movements, upon the air, the waters, or the solid earth, will produce a series of changes in each of those elements which will never end. The word which is now going out of my mouth causes pulsations or waves in the air, and these, though invisible to human eyes, expand in every direction until they have passed around the whole globe, and produced a change in the whole atmosphere; nor will a single circumgyration complete the effect; but the sentence which I am now uttering shall alter the whole atmosphere through all future time. So that, as Professor Babbage remarks, to whom we are indebted for the first moral application of this mechanical principle, "the air is one vast library, on whose pages are for ever written all that man has ever said, or woman whispered." Not a word has ever escaped from mortal lips, whether for the defence of virtue or the perversion of the truth; not a cry of agony has ever been uttered by the oppressed; not a mandate of cruelty by the oppressor; not a false and flattering word by the deceiver; but it is registered indelibly upon the atmosphere we breathe. And could man command the mathematics of superior minds, every particle of air thus set in motion could be traced through all its changes, with as much precision as the astronomer can point out the path of the heavenly bodies. No matter how many storms have raised the atmosphere into wild commotion, and whirled it into countless forms; no matter how many conflicting waves have mixed and crossed one another; the path of each pulsation is definite, and subject to the laws of mathematics. To follow it requires, indeed, a power of analysis superior to human; but we can conceive it to be far inferior to the divine. The same thing is true of the waters. No wave has ever been raised on their bosom, no keel has ever ploughed their surface, which has not sent an influence and a change into every ocean, and modified every wave, that has rolled in upon the farthest shores. As the vessel crosses the deep, the parted waves close in, and every trace of disturbance soon disappears from human vision. Nevertheless, it is certain that every track thus furrowed in the waters has sent an influence through their entire mass, such as is calculable by distinct formulæ; and it may be that glorified minds, by the principles of celestial mathematics, can as easily trace out the paths of the unnumbered vessels that have crossed the waters, as the astronomer can the paths of the planets or the comets. The solid earth, too, is alike tenacious of every impression we make upon it; not a footprint of man or beast is marked upon its surface, that does not permanently change the whole globe. Every one of its countless atoms will retain and exhibit an infinitesimal, but real, effect, through all coming time. It is too minute, indeed, for the cognizance of the human senses. But in a higher sphere there may be inlets of perception acute enough to trace it through all its bearings, and thus render every atom of the globe a living witness to the actions of every living being. In view of these facts, we cannot regard the glowing language of Babbage an exaggeration, when he says, "The soul of the negro, whose fettered body, surviving the living charnel-house of his infected prison, was thrown into the sea to lighten the ship, that his Christian master might escape the limited justice at length assigned by civilized man to crimes whose profit had long gilded their atrocity, will need, at the last great day of human accounts, no living witness of his earthly agony: when man and all his race shall have disappeared from the face of our planet, ask every particle of air still floating over the unpeopled earth, and it will record the cruel mandate of the tyrant. Interrogate every wave which breaks unimpeded on ten thousand desolate shores, and it will give evidence of the last gurgle of the waters which closed over the head of his dying victim. Confront the murderer with every corporeal atom of his immolated slave, and in its still quivering movements he will read the prophet's denunciation of the prophet king."—*Britannia*, *Oct.* 18.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—ST. BERNARD.

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Communications.

ON TOOTHACHE.

BY DR. VON BŒNNINGHAUSEN.

An Essay read by him, in 1835, *before the Allopathic Medical Society of Münster.**

I BELIEVE that this learned Society, of which I have the honour to be a member, expects that the subject of my paper will bear some relation to homœopathy. In answer to this supposed expectation, I will endeavour, briefly, to prove how a medicine, producing a disease in a healthy subject, will relieve a like natural disease. To fix your attention on a suitable instance, I choose a complaint which, indeed, is not dangerous, but often, from the intensity of pain, reduces the patient almost to despair. This complaint, under ordinary treatment, can only be cured completely by the removal of the offending part; but for its relief the Materia Medica contains a great number of remedies, and it will never permanently disappear without the application of the specific remedy;—I mean the *toothache.*

There are certainly not many in the civilized world who are not more or less affected by this complaint, and it is well known how little relief can be brought by the so-called rational medicine. In addition to the extraction of the bad tooth there are very few other remedies, and these are applicable only in some cases, and even in these the results are very uncertain. Therefore all the known house-remedies are at first applied, often to the great detriment of the health, and when they have been taken without relief, the patient goes to a dentist, to get relief by the extraction, though he knows that it is a tooth lost for his whole life, and experience has shown us that after such sort of relief the next tooth often becomes affected.

Homœopathy does not pretend to cure all the different kinds of toothache, either quickly or for ever, but it can give relief in the greatest number of cases, and acts in the same manner as in the cure of all other diseases. According to the principles of homœopathy, the toothache is merely a symptom of an internal uneasiness of the vital power, which never exists alone, but is followed by many other symptoms, though the latter are so few and obscure, that they are not remarked but by accurate observation.

The totality of the symptoms of a disease gives a perfect picture of the disease itself, and indicates the most useful remedy in accordance with the great principle "*similia similibus curantur.*" As a painter cannot draw a perfect picture by the delineation of one feature, as the eyes, or nose, or mouth, so neither can the homœopathist cure a disease by looking only at one symptom. The great characteristic of a good homœopathic practitioner is to take together all the present symptoms, and then to analyse the most prominent of them. The difference, therefore, between allopathy and homœopathy is that, in the former, numbers of remedies are mixed together for a cure of disease, and in the latter only one remedy is employed, which meets the demands of the case, that is, of the symptoms present. It is therefore necessary that the homœopathist should know all the pathogenetic effects of the remedy he selects.

Homœopathy has many remedies which in the healthy state will produce toothache. As it is impossible to enumerate now all the different kinds of toothache, and their homœopathic treatment, I will only give a few examples how homœopathy acts in such cases. I choose for this purpose a peculiar kind of toothache, but still of common occurrence, viz., *the throbbing pains in the teeth, the pulsative pains,* which are produced by thirty-five remedies, but for the relief of which kind of toothache I have used only sixteen, and with the best result.

I. After a cold, produced by exposure to an easterly wind, a fever with great congestion towards the head frequently takes place, together with a burning heat in the face, frequent and hard pulse, and great agitation of body and mind. To these symptoms may be added, violent

* [Translated from the fifteenth volume of Archives, by Dr. Süss, to whom we tender our best thanks. It would redound much to our credit if we, in 1852, could show such available and comprehensive acquaintance with the Materia Medica as the veteran Bœnninghausen showed himself master of in 1835.—ED.]

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throbbing toothache, chiefly on one side, and occupying the whole jaw, with redness of the cheek. In snch cases *Aconite* is the only specific.

II. Another kind of throbbing pain in the teeth, produced also very often by cold, but without fever, will be cured by *Causticum*. It is almost always accompanied by painful sensibility, swelling and ready bleeding of the gums, with dragging pains in the muscles of the face, in the eyes and ears.

I was myself affected last winter for *several days* with this complaint, because I did not understand, from the absence of the other principal symptoms, which was the right remedy to select. After having employed, without relief, many remedies, I was cured in two hours by taking one dose of *Causticum*, and from that time I have not suffered from a similar toothache. The toothache to which *Causticum* is appropriated is always of a chronic nature, *Causticum* having a long medicinal action; but remedies whose action is limited to a short period will never affect this kind of toothache.

III. *Chamomilla* is very useful in throbbing toothache, affecting especially women and children. The kind of toothache which is relieved by this remedy is almost always insupportable at night, and increased by the warmth of the bed, and causing despair to the patient, who runs about, and keeps moaning; there is generally redness and swelling of one cheek; the hair is moist; there is great thirst, and swelling of the submaxillary glands.

Some years ago, I remember my wife was seized with violent toothache of the kind I have just described. As I was absent from home Dr. B., who attended at that time my suffering wife, gave her at first *Aconite*, in consequence of the feverish symptoms; as they were not diminished, on the next day he gave her *Pulsatilla*, which did not produce the slightest effect; the third day *Bryonia* was administered; but this remedy also gave no relief. Dr. B., who now thought that homœopathy was insufficient, applied, on the fourth day, eighteen leeches, and gave a mixture, which produced for the first time a short relief; but after a quarter of an hour the same violent toothache returned, and became insupportable. The fifth day I returned, at four p.m., from my journey, and found my wife suffering from the intensest pain. After having inquired into what had been done for her, and having well examined her state, I gave her at once a dose of *Chamomilla*. At five o'clock the pain ceased and the swelling of the cheek disappeared.

IV. The kind of throbbing toothache cured by *China* is not of frequent occurrence.

I remember chiefly one case, which happened to me whilst travelling through the country. A young girl, well featured and pleasant to look at, had become, when I saw her again, pale and thin. She suffered from violent throbbings in the teeth, increased chiefly after meals and at night, and were slightly relieved by strong pressure and biting on the teeth, while a slight touch rendered the pains insupportable. In the meantime she had continual diarrhœa and profuse night-sweats; she was very weak and could scarcely walk about.

As she begged me to relieve her suffering, I gave her a small dose of *China*, and the next morning, when I set off, she told me, highly delighted, that she had had a very good night, had no toothache, and had been free from night-sweat; and when I called on her some months afterwards, I found her again nice-looking and handsome. A quite similar toothache can be produced by the abuse of *China*, as I have observed already twice, in young men who were in the habit of taking every morning *China-brandy*. It is clear, in such a case *China* would not be applicable.

All the symptoms were cured, in one case, by *Arnica*, in another by *Pulsatilla*, two remedies which answered more the general symptoms than the throbbings.

V. Persons who are accustomed to suffer very often from a throbbing pain in the teeth are, after the nature of the accompanying symptoms, almost always cured by *Aconite*, *Chamomilla*, *Ignatia*, *Nux*, or *Pulsatilla*. But there are also throbbings in persons who never take coffee, and for which toothache the *Tincture of Coffea cruda* is the specific.

Last Christmas I called upon a friend's family, who lived strictly according to the rules of the homœopathic diet, and never took coffee. I found the housewife suffering from violent toothache; the pain was throbbing, and the patient ran crying from one room to another, complaining of insupportable pain; though she confessed that sometimes the pains were not so intense, yet they affected her very much. The account of her sufferings was inrupted by crying, and she behaved herself with a certain hastiness, like a person distracted, which last symptom struck me the more, as I knew her consistent and firm character when she was in health.

I gave her at once a small dose of *Coffea cruda* 6, and after two minutes the throbbings disappeared, and the remaining sensi-

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bility of the part affected was taken off in five minutes afterwards by *Ignatia*. The whole evening now passed in the usual way, and during the week I stopped there nothing similar happened. Some days ago I saw her again, when she told me that she had not had any attack of toothache since.

VI. A remarkably quick-acting remedy for a kind of throbbing pain in the teeth is the north pole of the magnet.

This throbbing is almost always accompanied by burning, and has its seat in the lower jaw, followed by a hot and red cheek; it becomes worse from warmth, and after meals. Generally there is a chilliness over the whole body; great irritability; trembling and quivering of the limbs. In spring and autumn this kind of toothache is very frequent. Its cure is soon accomplished, the patient touching with the forefinger the north pole of the magnet as long as the pain seems to be increased.

I cannot forbear mentioning an application of the magnet, which, however, was not followed by success, yet shows its strong effect.

A servant of mine came into my study one evening, and begged me to give him some relief for his toothache, which had pained him since four p.m., and was always increasing. The pain was throbbing, and was in the upper jaw. As all the symptoms, except the last one, indicated the north pole of the magnet, I applied it at once (power of magnet capable of lifting two oz.); but he had scarcely touched it with his finger, when he grasped his cheek with his other hand, and cried out, "Oh! it springs downwards!" The pain was merely removed from the upper jaw to the lower one, but continued with the same intensity. It is certain that this metastasis was produced by the north pole, and cure could not be expected from it. I then allowed him to touch the south pole, which, by experience, we know takes away the effect of the north pole. What I expected happened; he had only just touched the south pole, when he cried out, "Oh! it springs again upwards!" So my purpose was answered; and shortly afterwards I gave him *Pulsatilla*, which cured him completely: that was no imagination.

VII. I do not know whether there is a syphilitic toothache of a throbbing character for which *Mercurius* would be the specific, because it has the power to produce in a healthy person all the chief symptoms of syphilis; but there is a throbbing in the teeth which comes on from abuse of *Mercury*, and is worse towards the evening, in bed, until midnight, and even through the whole night, and prevents the patient from sleeping. *Acidum nitricum* is generally the specific for this kind.

I attended, two months ago, a young man, who had some time before contracted gonorrhœa, and had applied for relief to a young physician, who had probably very little experience in such cases. This patient came into my room in the greatest despair; talked at first only of his unfortunate position, without mentioning his complaint, and spoke of committing suicide. After having consoled and encouraged him, he told me his sufferings, and showed me his palate, which was corroded by chancres, his gums lacerated by ulcers, and covered with thick, swollen, yellow-coloured crusts, and his tongue with ulcerous margins, with a sensation of the tongue falling off; the dread of the loss of this organ, which he thought could not be avoided, gave him the greatest anxiety, and impelled him to think of suicide. The gonorrhœa had disappeared, but in its stead the above-mentioned symptoms occurred. I perceived at once that this was a case of mercurialism.

I therefore gave him at first a small dose of *Hepar sulph.*, after which remedy the palate and gums looked quite different the next day, and the patient began again to enjoy his life. Two days afterwards the above-mentioned kind of toothache came on, for which I ordered him *Acidum nitricum*, in a high dilution, and the *fourth* day the hitherto suffering patient called on me, comparatively cured. I saw him again several times, when he felt himself as well as ever, after I had cured in eight days, with one dose of *Petroleum*, the gonorrhœa which had again made its appearance.

VIII. In only one case of throbbing in the teeth was *Platina* the specific remedy. The pain was like a pulsative digging through the whole right jaw, increased especially towards the evening, and by rest, whilst the patient several times began involuntarily to cry out. At first *Pulsatilla* seemed to me indicated, but it did not answer.

The next day, when a friend of hers brought me the report of the case, I asked her more particularly for the accompanying symptoms, and I soon perceived why *Pulsatilla* had no effect. The throbbing was followed by a clammy numbness, which affected the whole suffering part. In the mean time the monthly period was too early and abundant, and in her mind had been lately observed a pride, with conceit, and contempt of all about her, which had

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never before been seen. Here every homœopathist would have administered, as I did, *Platina*, which cured in a few hours, not only the whole toothache, but ameliorated her spirits, and restored the catamenia to their former regularity.

IX. With a cure of throbbings in the teeth by *Pulsatilla*, which frequently occurs, is connected a very pleasing recollection, which I will now relate.

About three years ago, when travelling, I arrived towards evening at an hotel, where I found some friends from the neighbourhood assembled, and among them the landlord's doctor. Some minutes after my arrival, the eldest daughter of the family begged me to relieve her toothache, telling me that for more than a fortnight she had experienced an attack, which came on after sunset, and lasted till midnight; that nothing had been found to give permanent relief, only that by walking in the open air, or standing at an open window, the pain was somewhat mitigated. This statement was confirmed by the doctor. As it was not the proper place to question her minutely about her other complaints, I gave her from my own box one dose of *Pulsatilla* 30, the result exceeded my expectation; for before I could return the box to my pocket, she cried out, to the astonishment of the whole company, "The pain is all gone." The young physician, who had but lately taken his degree, surprised by this fact, said that this cure, if it should last, would be most remarkable.

I then reasoned backwards: where *Pulsatilla* acted so quickly, there must be also its characteristic symptoms; and replied to him, if the patient followed only a week the rules for the homœopathic diet, she would not only lose the toothache for good, but be cured of any other complaints she might have. The young Æsculapius was quite puzzled at this, and asked what complaints.

I told him now some characteristic symptoms of this remedy, viz. the prevalent shivering, great thirst, low spirits, insupportable heat, want of sleep before midnight, want of appetite, and dislike to fat food, etc. He then pretended I had ascertained all these particulars before, and when it was proved that I had just arrived, and had not previously examined the patient, he exclaimed, in some displeasure, that her relatives agreed with me out of courtesy.

I replied that I would tell him something more in private, and he should afterwards ask if it was true. On his assenting, I told him that the patient was also suffering from mucous diarrhœa; that her monthly period appeared too late, at intervals of five weeks, and were only of a few days' duration, with pain in the back and cramps in the abdomen. He then went to her, and pretended I had told him that she suffered from constipation, and that the catamenia were too early and abundant; to which she replied that in these respects I was mistaken, for she complained just of the contrary, and all that she answered to his inquiries agreed exactly with what I had before told him. Some months afterwards, when I saw this young lady again, she joyfully thanked me for having cured her of all her complaints. Whether this young physician afterwards studied homœopathy I do not know, but I doubt it, as I have never heard of him since.

X. To the more rarely-employed remedies against the throbbing in the teeth belongs *Sabina*. Several cases occurred to me in which it was the only specific. This kind of toothache appeared also towards the evening and in the night, especially when the patient was warm in bed, and after meals, and with a sensation as if the tooth would burst, followed by a throbbing in all the vessels, frequent empty retching, and especially in females; abundant discharge of light-coloured blood, even not at the time of the catamenia. In one case, a pain like that of gout in the right toe was taken off by an external remedy, and afterwards this kind of toothache appeared, which by one dose of *Sabina* was quickly cured, and neither the toothache nor the pain in the toe ever returned, precisely as I had foretold, the pain in the toe as well as the toothache being covered by *Sabina*.

XI. A malady of more frequent occurrence is a chronic throbbing in the teeth, with shooting pain, for which *Sepia* (not *ossa* but *succus sepiæ*) is the only specific. This kind of toothache occurs generally in persons of a yellowish complexion, and extends to the ears, down the arms to the fingers, with a tingling in the latter, and is very often accompanied by difficulty in breathing, swelling of the cheeks, cough, and swelling of the submaxillary glands. This remedy is particularly indicated in throbbings affecting pregnant women. The patient will soon get relief from even the smallest dose.

XII. Nearly connected with this *Sepia* toothache, both by sensation and the other symptoms, is the throbbing cured by *Silicea*, but the latter is known by the swelling of the lower jaw and its periosteum, instead of the glands. The pains are more in the bone of the jaw than in the tooth itself, and the patient cannot sleep, on account of general heat. Connected with

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this is usually an unhealthy skin, which festers on the slightest injury. I myself was complaining some months ago of such a toothache, accompanied by a swelling of the lower jawbone to the size of a walnut. As soon as I perceived it, I took one small dose of *Silicea*, on which the pain immediately ceased, and the swelling of the bone the next morning had disappeared.

XIII. One of the most efficacious remedies against throbbing in the teeth is *Spigelia*. Where this remedy is the specific, a kind of prosopalgia is always found, with a stirring, griping, and burning pain in the zygomatic bone, accompanied by paleness and swelling of the face, with a yellowish areola round the lower eyelid. Besides this, the patient suffers generally from an aching pain in the eyes; violent beating of the heart, often with a sensation in the chest like the purring of a cat; frequent desire to urinate, with abundant secretion of urine; shivering, with inquietude. Last year, I cured, by a single and very small dose of this remedy, a robust woman, who was affected with the above-mentioned symptoms, among which the toothache and the prosopalgia were the most prominent; both of which symptoms, and especially the latter, had for some years returned twice every week, and were almost insupportable. Neither of them has recurred since I gave her the dose of *Spigelia*.

XIV. A more frequent kind of throbbing is that for which *Hyoscyamus* is the specific. It appears generally in the morning, and is almost always caused by a cold. There is throbbing in the tooth itself, whilst in the gums a tearing sensation prevails, and in masticating, the tooth seems loose, as if it would fall out. There is always a congestion of blood towards the head, with great heat all over the body. In violent attacks there is a sense of strangulation, with difficulty of deglutition, and cramps, with a sense of mental fatigue. One small dose of *Hyoscyamus* will cure this complaint in a very short time. Two years ago, when travelling, I cured, with this remedy, a young lady, who had become very ill on account of jealousy and rage about her former lover, by whom she had been forsaken. She complained of throbbing in the teeth, especially after midnight; she had fever, with great redness of face, and long fits of delirium, in which she tried to run away, so that it was necessary to watch her. The first dose of *Hyoscyamus* took away the toothache and delirium; the second dose, which I left for her, to be taken a week after the first, cured her of all the other complaints.

XV. *Sulphur* is also a very good remedy for throbbing in the teeth, especially when eruptions of the skin have been suppressed by any kind of ointment. The gums are almost always swollen, and throb like the tooth itself. There is connected with this a great irritability of the crown of the tooth, congestion of blood to the head, and pulsative headache; towards the evening red inflamed eyes and nose; shooting in the ears, frequent but insufficient desire to go to stool, constipation, and shivering. But it happens often that all these symptoms are caused by abuse of *Sulphur*, and in such a case *Sulphur* would aggravate all the symptoms.

XVI. Lastly I will mention *Veratrum*, a remedy very seldom indicated in throbbing in the teeth. It is useful in cases accompanied by swelling of the face, cold perspiration on the forehead, sickness, and vomiting of bile; a bruised sensation in the limbs, great prostration of strength almost to fainting, and coldness of the whole body, with internal heat, and great desire for cold drinks. All these symptoms were completely cured by *Veratrum*.

As this brief exposition of the different kinds of throbbing in the teeth has already given a great variety, it is easy to be understood how much this variety, together with the difficulty of determining the proper medicine, must increase, when other kinds of toothache, pressing, burning, shooting, cutting, boring, etc., are added, which embrace a far larger circle of remedies. Hence may be drawn two conclusions:—

First. That there is no reason for pretending that homœopathy requires no study, and that to spell through a mass of symptoms, in order to select the appointed remedy, is a mere pastime, unworthy a man of intelligence.

Second. That it is never the fault of the principle of homœopathy, when the remedy, erroneously selected, does not answer. "That many remarkable facts have been collected," says Professor Eshmeyer, of Tübingen, in his pamphlet, 'The Principles of Allopathy and Homœopathy Compared,' "is beyond all doubt; but notwithstanding that the science is in its infancy, and the reasonable and intelligent man cannot and will not expect from it what he is entitled to demand from a doctrine that has borne the examination of centuries, homœopathy not only *stands the test of a strict scientific examination*, but presents us with several new principles, which introduce us to a higher physiology and pathology. *Let us therefore acknowledge what it is able to do.*"

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With these words, "*Let us therefore acknowledge what it is able to do,*" I finish my short and too imperfect paper, with the cheerful acknowledgment of the noble and worthy conduct of all those members who, though not yet favourable to the new doctrine, in harmony with the words of that philosopher, *acknowledge what homœopathy can do,* until the truth or error of the doctrine is more clearly shown.

HOMŒOPATHY AND THE TOWN COUNCIL OF EDINBURGH.

THE petition anent Mr. Pope's case, and for liberty of conscience in the medical therapeutics, has been remitted by the Town Council to the College Committee. It seems then to have had a hearing, and nothing more: but a hearing, at present, is a significant fact.

We subjoin the report, and add thereto the letter of Dr. Rutherfurd Russell to the Lord Provost of Edinburgh.

"A petition was read from certain graduates of the University of Edinburgh and others, relative to the granting of medical degrees to intending homœopathists. It stated that a student, named Alfred Crosby Pope, having in the middle of June undergone the usual written examination on the practical branches of medicine and surgery, was subjected to an oral examination on the same subjects. His surgical knowledge, it was stated, was evidently defective; but his answers on his examination on Materia Medica and clinical surgery were satisfactory. Mr. Pope was then interrogated as to the truth of a rumour of his intention to become a homœopathic practitioner after graduating, when he replied, 'I am not now a homœopathist; but, after graduation, I mean to inquire into the truth of it.' He further avowed his intention, in the event of his becoming a homœopathist, to keep his diploma, to show that he had regularly studied. In medical jurisprudence, as in surgery, Mr. Pope was found to be defective; and the case having been referred by the examiners to the whole Medical Faculty, they unanimously resolved, as grave doubts were entertained as to the soundness of Mr. Pope's principles of practice, and from his insufficiency on some subjects of examination, that he should be remitted till the end of July, by which time he would have ample opportunity of making the inquiry into the truth of homœopathy which he said he contemplated. The result was, that Mr. Pope withdrew from the list of candidates; and the petitioners alleged that, in requiring from any candidate an explicit pledge limiting his future course of study and practice, the Medical Faculty have made a fundamental change in the conditions under which degrees in medicine have hitherto been granted. The petition, therefore, prays the Council, as patrons of the University, to cause the irregularity complained of to be brought under the notice of the Senatus, that such attempts to interfere with the free liberty of students of medicine may be prevented in future. A circular, signed by Dr. J. Rutherfurd Russell, accompanied the petition, stating that it (the petition) has been signed by 3337 men, most of them heads of families; among whom are nine Peers, viz., the Earl of Airlie, the Earl of Wilton, the Earl of Roden, Lord Gray, Lord Kinnaird, Lord Lindsay, Lord Colville of Culross, the Earl of Erne, and the Bishop of Down and Connor; five Members of Parliament, viz., Lord Robert Grosvenor, Lord Newport, Mr. Elliott Lockhart, Mr. John Ellis, and the Hon. C. P. Leslie; one hundred and one Physicians and Surgeons, twenty-six of the former graduates of the University of Edinburgh; one hundred and ninety Clergymen (one of them being the Rev. Alfred Pope, Leamington, the father of the aggrieved student); forty-seven Magistrates, and sixty-seven Military and Naval Officers.

"Bailie Fyfe said, the only thing which could be done with the petition was to send it to the College Committee for consideration. He thought it would save trouble if they were also empowered to communicate with the Senatus on the subject, if they should see fit. Without a careful examination of the petition, it would be premature to say anything on the subject.

"Professor Dick said, with regard to the principle involved in the petition, he could not speak decidedly. He was not a homœopathist, but he had been trying its effects for some time past, and as far as he had adopted the principle, he thought it was a mere humbug, but he would not decide definitely upon it till he had tried it farther. He might mention, that one of the principal medicines which was used by homœopathists in the millionth part of a grain, viz., *Belladonna,* he was in the habit of giving in quantities of two or three drachms to horses.

"Mr. Sclanders.—But, Mr. Dick, remember that it is to horses, and there is a difference between a man and a horse.

"Professor Dick.—There is not such a great difference between some men and a horse (laughter).

"Mr. Ridpath thought it was full time that the patrons were taking up this matter. It was absurd to say that, when a man came to be licensed as a medical practitioner, he was to be bound to say in what way he was to practise. If he was qualified to pass the necessary examinations, the Medical Faculty had no right to ask him whether he was to be a physician, a confectioner, or a grocer. He agreed in the propriety of sending the matter to the College Committee but he disapproved of their having any communication with the Senatus on the question.

"Mr. Gray concurred in the latter part of Mr. Ridpath's speech. The Town Council had been told they knew nothing about these matters, but he (Mr. Gray) would show the Senatus that the patrons could manage the matter without going to them at all.

"After some remarks from Mr. Wilson, the matter was remitted to the College Committee."

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(Copy.)

" Edinburgh, 75, Queen Street,

" January 12, 1852.

" My Lord,—The petition which I have the honour of delivering into your Lordship's hands, for presentation to the Town Council, is probably, both in number and weight of names attached to it, without parallel in the records of the City.

" It has been signed by *three thousand three hundred and thirty-seven* men, most of them heads of families. Among the most elevated classes have been noted, nine Peers, viz., the Earl of Airlie, the Earl of Wilton, the Earl of Roden, Lord Gray, Lord Kinnaird, Lord Lindsay, Lord Colville of Culross, the Earl of Erne, and the Bishop of Down and Connor; five Members of Parliament, viz., Lord Robert Grosvenor, Lord Newport, Mr. Elliott Lockhart, Mr. John Ellis, and the Hon. C. P. Leslie; one hundred and one Physicians and Surgeons, twenty-six of the former graduates of the University of Edinburgh; one hundred and ninety Clergymen (one of them being the Rev. Alfred Pope, Leamington, the father of the aggrieved student); forty-seven Magistrates; sixty-seven Military and Naval Officers.

" Great as the numbers and important as many of the persons are, they form a mere fraction of those interested in the object. The agency employed to procure signatures to this petition was only occasional and gratuitous, and in many productive quarters no efforts whatever were made. Many friendly to the object refrained from signing; some because they thought the Town Council could do no good in the matter; others, and these the most influential, on the ground that, the University having issued its manifesto against all students intending to devote themselves to homœopathic practice, our strength ought to be directed towards the establishment of a separate institution for their education, or at least of a Board of Examiners, with power to grant degrees in medicine.

" Your petitioners assent to neither of these views. On the contrary, it seems to us that the Town Council, as representing the community and invested with large powers within the University, is the legitimate and appointed authority for the redress of any public wrong which may occur there, even should it be of such a nature that they can give redress only indirectly; and we are of opinion that any separate institutions will be premature, until all efforts to secure free use of those now existing have failed. At present the general impression on the minds of the medical profession, the students, and the public, is that our University has declared all who intend to practise according to the principles of homœopathy inadmissible to graduation. This impression may be erroneous, I believe it is so; but it is yet inevitable, so long as there is no public disavowal of the obvious and just inference from the public statement of the Faculty of Medicine in regard to Mr. Pope's examination *embodied in the petition*. And equally inevitable will be the consequences; the honest and bold students will abandon a school from which they are warned, by hearing from the lips of the Examiners that there is a trap between them and their diploma, although not more than one in ten may fall into it; while the timid and less scrupulous will avoid the pitfall by disguising their real sentiments. In either case, the University and the interests of medicine and the public will suffer serious damage.

" Representing as we do so considerable and influential a portion of the community, we think ourselves entitled to obtain, in some form, through your honourable body, an explicit assurance as to the intentions of the University in this matter, and to know whether or not this unprecedented Test Act is to be enforced against any students disposed to study or to practise homœopathy; and we cannot for a moment entertain the thought that the rulers of the highest educational Institution in the kingdom will hide their purposes in ambiguous phraseology.

" To you, then, my Lord, and the Town Council, we look for a definite reply. We are prepared for either alternative; and according to the response shall be our future line of conduct.

" I have the honour to be, my Lord,

" Your most obedient servant,

J. Rutherfurd Russell.

" To the Right Hon. the Lord Provost."

" List of the Graduates of the University of Edinburgh whose names have been noticed among the signatures to the petition:—C. B. Ker, M.D., Richard Frith, M.D., Henry R. Madden, M.D., George Rogers, M.D., William Wright, M.D., John Stewart Sutherland, M.D., C. Acworth, M.D., David Crawford Lawrie, M.D., Neville Wood, M.D., George Cochran, M.D., Charles Ransford, M.D., William Gully, M.D., J. S. Marsden, M.D., Samuel Brown, M.D., D. Wielobycki, M.D., James Russell, M.D., George E. Stewart, M.D., William Traill, M.D., Francis Black, M.D., Robert Ellis Dudgeon, M.D., James Davenport, M.D., J. J. Drysdale, M.D., John Blyth, M.D., A. Lyschinski, M.D., J. Rutherfurd Russell, M.D., Wilson Cryer, M.D."

ONE WORD MORE ABOUT JENICHEN AND THE HIGH POTENCIES.

(*From the British Journal of Homœopathy.*)

In our last number we gave a brief account of the peculiarities of Jenichen's mode of preparing his renowned potencies, as far as we could understand that from the rambling account furnished by his successor and heir, Dr. Rentsch. In the 42nd vol. of the *Allgemeine homöopathische Zeitung* we have a more connected account from Dr. Rentsch, which we think it right to lay before our readers, wherefrom they may themselves judge of the rationality of the stall-meister's method and in general of the claims of their originator to the confidence of the profession.

Caspar Julius Jenichen was born in 1787, and destined by his father for the legal profession, but his inclination led him to devote himself to the study of the veterinary art, and

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he soon acquired a tolerable reputation as a horse-doctor, and got the charge of the Duke of Gotha's *manége*, with the title of Stall-meister or Ecuyer. He afterwards gave up this appointment, and after becoming a convert to the homœopathic method he finally settled in Wismar, where he did not confine his practice to beasts but operated likewise on human beings. It was in Wismar he invented the high potencies which have become so notorious. It is said that the labour and fatigue caused by their preparation made him fall ill of a very painful disease of the foot and leg, to free himself from which, finding that his high potencies did not suffice, he took an allopathic dose of *Plumbum* by sending a bullet into his brain.

He soon became convinced (we are not told how) that the decillionth dilution, as prescribed by Hahnemann, was not the best potency in which to administer the medicine, and he forthwith began to dilute still higher and higher in the ordinary manner with but indifferent success, until accident one day revealed to him the mode in which he could make the most effectual preparation. He wished to dynamize the 29th dilution of *Plumbum aceticum* still higher, when he found that the cork of the bottle in which that preparation was had got loosened, and the whole of its contents had evaporated. He resolved to ascertain if in this dry bottle there still existed medicinal power, and accordingly, adding the requisite quantity of alcohol, he dynamized it up to the 200th. He soon had an opportunity of testing its virtue, for a patient appeared suffering from fetid sweat of the feet, whom he allowed to sniff once at some globules moistened with this wonderful preparation, and behold! in a few days he was quite cured! From this case he most logically inferred that the best mode of preparing all the earths and metals must be to allow the 29th dilution to evaporate to dryness, and from this dry bottle to go on preparing the higher dilutions. Dr. Rentsch cannot say for certain if he applied the same rule to his preparations of the other medicines besides the earths and metals. The vehicle employed for the dilution was, up to the 800th, alcohol of from 70 to 80 degrees, beyond that, water from the Lake of Schwerin. The proportions used were: for the dilutions up to 200, 6 drops of the previous dilution to 294 of the vehicle; from the 300th to the 800th, 1 drop to 300; for the higher dilutions, 2 drops to 12,000. The lowest dilution of the Jenichen scale was 200, the highest we cannot tell. In the preparation of his potencies he used eight bottles. These were $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches high and $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch wide. When he diluted beyond 800, he used much larger bottles. The succussion he performed in the standing or sitting position, with the upper part of his body naked. He held the bottle in his fist in a slanting direction, from left to right, and gave the strokes perpendicularly with all his force, so that the fluid in the bottle made a noise like the jingling of silver coins. At first the violent muscular action caused, after three days' work, so much pain in the arm, that he was forced to discontinue it and rest for a week or a fortnight. Afterwards, when he got regularly into training and his muscles were in condition, he ceased to feel any bad effects from his violent exercise. By a minute calculation made by Dr. Rentsch, from the quantity of alcohol stated by Jenichen to have been employed by him to make the 200th potency, and from various other assertions of Jenichen's, it appears that he reckoned his potencies quite differently from Hahnemann, and that the following was the way in which he made them. He had, as before observed, eight bottles. In the first of these he put the vehicle and medicine in the proportions above indicated; gave to this 250 succussions without stopping, and considered that he had potentized it 25 degrees, ten succussions counting as a degree of potency. He then rested a little and proceeded to the next bottle, into which he poured 6 drops of the preparation he had just made and 294 drops of alcohol, gave to this 250 strokes and considered he had increased its potency by other 25 degrees, and so he went on through his eight bottles, $8 \times 25 = 200$; so that if this be true, and we have no reason to doubt its accuracy, Jenichen's 200th potency corresponds to the 38th potency of Hahnemann, only made with the proportions of 1 to 50 instead of 1 to 100. and the last 8 potencies having received 2000 succussions in place of 16. The higher potencies seem to have been made in a precisely similar manner, except as regards the proportions of the vehicle indicated above and the amount of succussions given to each so-called potency, which were increased as he ascended the scale. Thus it is altogether a misnomer to speak of Jenichen's preparations as the 200th, 400th, etc. dilutions, at most they are only the 38th, 46th, etc.

It even appears, from what Rentsch says, that he latterly contented himself with increasing the potency in one bottle only, by merely succussing and not diluting further; so that his later preparations all represent only the 30th or 31st dilution of the Hahnemannic scale, to which a more or less enormous amount of succussions had been given. Nay, more, Dr. Rentsch surmises that he latterly abandoned the 29th dilution as his starting-point, and commenced with the 6th or 3rd dilution, or perhaps even still lower, designating the potency not by the amount of dilution he gave it, but by the number of succussions he communicated to it. In this case the highest Jenichen preparations may represent the very lowest dilutions, to which his enormous number of succussions has been given. If this be the case, and we have no reason to mistrust the accuracy of Dr. Rentsch's inferences, it is absurd to talk of the Jenichen preparations as the 200th, 800th, etc. *dilution; potency* is the name he gave them, and he always denied that they were *dilutions*. These preparations are somewhat similar to those introduced by Wahle, of Rome, who prepared high potencies simply by shaking the 6th dilution some thousands of times. That we have as yet any proof that either his or Jenichen's potencies act better than the or-

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dinary preparations we must utterly deny. If the account we have given of Jenichen's preparations from Dr. Rentsch's rambling surmises be correct, and more especially if it should be true that most of the preparations were made from low potencies without further dilution, the most obvious inference we can draw from the whole Jenichen controversy is this, that those who delighted to call themselves pure Hahnemannists, among whom the high-potency heresy chiefly spread, had found that sticking to decillionths was not the very best mode of curing their patients, and that they eagerly caught at Jenichen's preparations, which they conceived to owe their efficacy to their greater dilution and dynamization, whereas the better results they obtained were referrible to their employment of stronger doses of the medicine under a deceptive name.

We have said that Dr. Rentsch's statements as to the Jenichen potencies are only inferences or surmises from the documents and letters which he inherited. Dr. Hering, of Philadelphia, however, stated so long ago as the year 1847 (vide *British Journal of Homœopathy*, vol. v.) that he knew the secret of their preparation. We think it might have saved a world of controversy and acrimony among the disciples of Hahnemann, and have saved homœopathy the scandal of dealing in nostrums and arcana, had he long ago published the secret which he alone has hitherto professed to know for certain. It is evident that as long as the mode of their preparation remained secret they were treated with disdain by the great majority of homœopathic practitioners, and we have expectation that the revelation that we have given, or that Dr. Hering could give, relative to them will have the effect of making them more esteemed; but it is important that all suspicion of secret processes or secret remedies should be banished as speedily as may be from our system, which professes to be in the vanguard of medical science.

STOPPING FOR TEETH.

We have received the two following communications on this subject:—

"In answer to J. J. C., asking for information of a stopping, combining the necessary qualities of softness before, with hardness after use, I have seen the gutta percha answer very well; it can be readily softened in boiling water, and moulded into the hollow tooth with much facility."

"In answer to the inquiry of J. J. C. in your last, I may state, from pretty considerable experience, that the best stopping for decayed teeth, when the carious cavity is too large to be filled up with gold-leaf, is gutta percha. A small piece of the leaf gutta percha, sufficient to fill the cavity of the affected tooth, is to be softened, either by putting it in hot water or by holding it for a few seconds before the fire, and the hollow of the tooth being first carefully dried with a piece of cotton, the soft gutta percha is to be moulded into the cavity with the fingers; in a few minutes it becomes quite hard, and may be chewed with for years without being displaced. As gutta percha possesses no medicinal qualities, it does not hasten the decay nor cause the discoloration of the neighbouring teeth, like most amalgams, nor does it interfere with the action of homœopathic medicines, and as it resists the action of moisture it remains unchanged in the cavity for an indefinite period. Not being a dentist, I have recommended this simple stopping with the most satisfactory results, in hundreds of instances.

Your obedient servant,
DENS SAPIENTIÆ.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24TH, 1852.

EVERYTHING that we see or hear of the progress of homœopathy is most favourable. The hospitals in being, and those projected; the number of the dispensaries, and the rapidly increasing number of medical converts; the very agitation of the medical heresy, as the more courteous of our opponents term it, and the pestilent quackery, as the less gentlemanly denominate it—are all favourable circumstances.

As in a war with invaders all true patriots combine, so all true advocates of such a reform as ours should be united—medical and non-medical.

It is confessed that the war between the old school and ours is on one subject, that of therapeutics,—whether there should be a fixt principle, or that drugs should be given with the uncertainty that has always characterised allopathic practice.

We have read with great interest some of the writings of Hippocrates; and we say it honestly, we do not observe that the allopathic practitioners of to-day are more successful in their treatment than the illustrious Coän was 2,000 years ago.

The history of the plague of Athens, however painful, as given in immortal prose by Thucydides, and in no less immortal verse by Lucretius, is paralleled by the description of cholera in modern times, as it has been treated by allopathic

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measures, and according to the best resources of the allopaths.

The surge of public opinion is being felt on the time-honoured shores of medieal antiquity. Homœopathy, formerly ignored, is now acknowledged to be a power by the Medical Faculties of Scotland, and by the pharmaceutical President of the College of Physicians of London.

We want in London a large and effective hospital. Let those who profess to care for homœopathy look to it.

Review.

British Journal of Homœopathy, No. XXXIX., January 1st, 1852. London: Aylott and Jones, Paternoster Row.

Dr. Scott gives us his third lecture, characterised by his usual ability, learning, and elegance of style, on the history of medicine, which he brings down to the conclusion of the era of Galen.

This is followed by a paper on mesmerism, by Dr. Rutherfurd Russell, who takes a philosophic review, as well as a practical view of this interesting agent.

We have next a practical paper, with cases, by Mr. Leadam on uterine diseases; next an essay on scurvy, hæmorrhage, and the homœopathic law, by Dr. Hayle, of Newcastle.

The question of a homœopathic college is next discussed with great propriety and impartiality. For our part, we do not see the practicability of such a college at present, and so far are agreed with the Editors; but the college question is one apart from that of a charter. We give the concluding remarks of this paper.

"Our aim should be by all possible means to extend the basis of medicine, and to establish its foundations. We are in constant peril of allowing ourselves to be confined within too narrow limits; of learning to regard the homœopathic law as the sum of medical knowledge. Beyond the administration of drugs, there is much, much to be regulated. The inspired air, food and drink, the use of water (hydropathy), of movements (kinesipathy), of electricity, the whole mode of life,—in short, all the influences that may conduce to the continuance or restoration of health. As we have already said, it is the policy of our opponents to drive us into an isolated sectarian position; let it be ours by all means to maintain a wide catholicity; to welcome new truths from every quarter, and embrace them, even should our old doctrines be thereby modified or even abolished; for thus shall we not only be adding continually to our resources, but we shall also have the best security for the genuineness and efficacy of our remedial means."

There is an amusing account of his conversion to homœopathy by Dr. Acworth, written in the *Shandean* vein, no small merit. This gentleman is one of the converts, of excellent standing and experience as allopaths, who have not been able to resist the testimony in favour of homœopathy. We are glad to see that he continues as a homœopathist in the same town where he practised as an allopath—Cheltenham. This is as it should be.

The odometer and the magnetoscope are then summarily disposed of, and Mr. Rutter is advised to "unlearn all that old coinage of animal-magnetic, odylic, and magnetoid fluids, of odometers and magnetoscopes, for it is the vocabulary of mere hypothesis, unworthy of currency among men of observation." With us this is an open question. We do not think anything conclusive will be obtained by the magnetoscope; but we think great light will be thrown on the whole class of imponderables by the prosecution of such experiments as Mr. Rutter's. New instruments will be invented; new views opened up. The vocabulary will then do very well; as we find that of the old Greek physicians still answers very well, though an artery does convey blood, and not air.

Dr. Ozanne contributes a paper of cases, which he treats with his usual skill, and records with his usual precision.

There is a valuable case by Dr. Sharp, of Rugby; an interesting case of phlebitis by Dr. Walker, of Manchester; and of erysipelas by Dr. Wielobycki, of Edinburgh; and a case showing the prophylactic efficacy of *Belladonna* in scarlet fever, by Dr. Rutherfurd Russell.

The allopathic triumvirate of Edinburgh, Professors Syme, Christison, and Simpson, are capitally passed in review, and their "trial and confessions" should be reissued for general perusal.

This Journal is now the oldest medical quarterly of Great Britain; and in the scientific and literary reports even our opponents must acknowledge, if they are candid, it bears comparison with the best of theirs; of course we cannot expect them to believe in the practice.

Correspondence.

THE HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Sir,—I can scarcely regret the necessity I am under of again addressing you, because it affords me an opportunity of supplying an

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omission in my former letter. I stated that Mr. Wilson, in conjunction with three distinguished homœopathic physicians, viz, Drs. Chapman, Dudgeon, and Chepmell, mainly contributed to bring about that state of feeling in the medical profession which resulted in the formation of the Hahnemann Hospital. To these names should most certainly have been added that of Mr. Hering, for his private exertions.

On rising from the perusal of Mr. Warne's letter, which appears in your impression of this day, the first general reflection that will suggest itself to every one's mind will probably be this—what had Mr. Warne to do with the matter? It is Mr. Leaf—Mr. Leaf—Mr. Leaf—from the beginning to the end of his letter. What Mr. Leaf did;—what Mr. Leaf gave;—what mansion Mr. Leaf bought. Nay, Mr. Warne goes further, and undertakes to reveal the very motives of Mr. Leaf. Well, this is extraordinary, no doubt; and I regret to say I can in no way aid in a solution of the matter, unless it be after the following fashion. There is a strange similarity between the style of Mr. Leaf's letter on which I commented last week, and the ordinary style of Mr. Warne. To take one example only: if we compare that letter of Mr. Leaf's with Mr. Warne's letter of the 12th inst., we have the same distance between the nominative case and the verb, the same parentheses, the same involution—slightly Brougham-ick, in fact, only that it is not quite so clear, terse, forcible, or original. This almost identity, however, proves nothing, for there is a great similarity of style between Stephen and Macaulay, and yet they are disinct personages. And nothing is more natural than that Mr. Warne should have acquired the style of a man for whom he appears to have conceived so extraordinary an admiration. Never having had the pleasure of seeing any of Mr. Leaf's composition, I am not prepared to give any decided opinion on the point—whether there is internal evidence to prove the celebrated letter of the 1st January 1851 (signed by Mr. Leaf) could not have been written by him, and that it must be the production of Mr. Warne. Should this turn out to be the case, the surprise will cease that Mr. Warne, rather than Mr. Leaf, should have written to you, as in that case he was only vindicating his own production.

I have been informed, however—nay, if I recollect rightly, have seen the fact announced in Mr. Warne's handwriting—that Mr. Leaf is the author of a pamphlet, published in 1840, entitled "Homœopathy Explained, and Objections Answered." Surely this cannot be the same pamphlet which we find alluded to by Dr. Luther in the preface to his second edition of the "Concise View of Homœopathy," in the following manner:—

"Having been requested by the Committee of the Irish Homœopathic Society to prepare a second edition of 'A Concise View,' etc., the author thinks it may be well to preface it by meeting the frequently-repeated assertion—that the plan of the work, instead of being original, was taken from a small pamphlet published in London, in 1840, entitled 'Homœopathy Explained, and Objections Answered,'—with the explanatory observation, that the publication alluded to, *having also proceeded from his*" (not Mr. Leaf's) "*pen*, he was at full liberty to make such use of it as he pleases in the present work." It follows from this, that there must be two pamphlets, both having the same title—"Homœopathy Explained, and Objections Answered"—one by Dr. Luther, the other by Mr. Leaf; *or*, that Mr. Warne has ascribed to Mr. Leaf the authorship of a pamphlet which was the production of Dr. Luther.

But to turn from general reflections to the actual details of Mr. Warne's letter. The disclaimer contained in the first paragraph can have deceived but few of your readers; and such as were acquainted with the laws of criticism, it must have prepared for the tone and tenor of the whole letter. "A disclaimer," says Lord Brougham, "is not unfrequently the best clue to the designs of the party employing it."

In the second paragraph we have it asserted (and the assertion is in italics), that Mr. Leaf's letter was "*suggested by the Board of Management of the Hahnemann Hospital.*" As some palliation for my ignorance of this point, I have to state that the only three members of that Board to whom I have spoken on the subject, viz., the Honourable Augustus Moreton, Mr. Gill, and Mr. Phelps, were as ignorant as myself of any such suggestion having been made. Mr. Warne will, therefore, I am sure, excuse my asking him the date when the Board so "suggested," or confirmed the adoption of, such circular. Mr. Warne then proceeds to give the particulars of Mr. Leaf's letter, and the mode of its distribution, and continues thus—"How or why it should, after twelve months' distribution (for it is dated 1st January, 1851), give rise in January, 1852, to feelings of dissatisfaction, or how it can be assumed to claim the merit of originating the Hahnemann Hospital, or of being connected with it, *or for what purpose the assumption of Mr. Smith, but in no way warranted by the letter, should be disclaimed by him, I for one am at a loss to conceive.*"

That part of the sentence I have *italicised* has defied my best efforts to construe; I, therefore, leave it unnoticed. The other part contains—First, the assertion that Mr. Leaf's letter has been distributed twelve months; and secondly, expresses surprise at the construction put upon it. As to the first, I can only say for myself, and two of the members of the Board already cited, that we did not see the letter till this year, and considered the date, 1851, a typographical error, and the other gentleman saw it for the first time in December. As to the second point, I must beg leave to refer the reader to my former letter, with this remark—that all my friends who read Mr. Leaf's letter, regarded it in the same light as myself. Having said this, I am content, with Mr. Warne, to leave "to the judgment of the homœopathic public" to decide whether I was justified in my interpretation; or, to quote his own words, whether any "*sinister motives*" (the italics are not mine) should be attributed to Mr. Leaf.

We come now to the third and by far the most important paragraph in Mr. Warne's let-

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ter. It is here asserted that to Mr. Leaf is to be ascribed "the introduction and advancement of homœopathy in this country." Its introduction I have always understood to be due to other distinguished individuals.

As to "the large expenditure incurred by Mr. Leaf in its advancement," I have to observe—1st, that large and small are relative terms. Besides, unless it shall turn out that so extraordinary an occurrence has taken place, as two writers fixing on precisely the same title for a pamphlet—and that title consisting of no less than five words, "Homœopathy Explained, and Objections Answered"—unless this extraordinary occurrence has taken place, Mr. Warne has ascribed to Mr. Leaf literary fame which did not belong to him, as I have already shown; and, therefore, the words "large expenditure" must be taken *cum grano salis*. 2ndly, Whether the steps taken by Mr. Leaf to advance the cause were calculated to effect that object is a question which has at least two sides, as I shall show hereafter.

The following part of the paragraph on which I am now commenting is extremely interesting, furnishing, it is alleged, a history of the first dispensary founded in London, tracing its career to its aristocratic quarters in Hanover Square—its enlargement—its change of form into a far more important institution, an hospital—its patronage by the great and noble—and then, alas! its decline and utter extinction.

Now, this, as I have said, is very interesting; but, in order "*to be valuable, it should be*" *complete*—you will observe I avoid the offensive expression ("correct") employed by Mr. Warne.

The rise, progress, decline, and fall of empires are the peculiar study of statesmen. By the lessons thus furnished, they learn how to advance their country's glory, and how to guard it from decay and ruin. A Board of Management should be composed (if I may use the expression) of hospital statesmen. But we must remain mere tyros at our work, unless some Livy or Gibbon arise to furnish us with the requisite information.

It would appear, from the brief sketch he has given, that Mr. Warne is in the position to furnish a history of the rise, progress, decline, and fall of at least one Homœopathic Medical Institution. This cannot fail to be of immense service to us. May I ask the favour, then, of his writing a complete history of *that* Institution, and pointing out the lessons which it furnishes. And if he will condescend to dedicate the work to our Board, I am sure we shall consider ourselves highly honoured.

To be *complete*, this history must inform us, *inter alia*, the *amount* subscribed, as well as the names of the subscribers—the cost of the establishment—the number of in-door patients (stating particularly the maximum, minimum, and average number)—how the medical school was formed—how many lectures delivered—where the record of these lectures is to be found—how many pupils were taught in that school—the names of the "*eminent homœopathic practitioners*" who received their first lesson there, etc., etc.

When he comes to the decline and fall of that noble Institution, he may possibly find the following letter useful, which I beg, therefore, to place at his disposal for insertion in his history. Its perusal may suggest to common-sense, reflective minds whether the decline of the Hanover Square Medical Institution, and its failure as a *Hospital*, did not depend upon a more vital point than the painful fact of the "ill-health of Mrs. Leaf," and the momentous consideration of "the multifarious occupations of Mr. Leaf."

"Dec. 16th, 1846.

"SIR,—We, the undersigned physicians to the London Homœopathic Hospital, having come to the determination to resign the offices which we hold in our medical capacity at the above Hospital, will thank you to hand in our resignations to the Board of Management.

"We do so, in consequence of the principle involved in the passing of certain resolutions with regard to the medical management of the Hospital by a large majority of the governing body at the last meeting, for the following reasons—

"First. Because the original conditions upon which we accepted office, viz., that of perfect equality amongst the medical officers, has been entirely set aside on the part of the governing body, by conferring a title on one of our body, which, in the mind of the public (lay and professional), conveys an idea of medical superiority.

"Second. The title of '*Consulting Physician*' which has been so conferred being one of high honorary distinction, is only given to physicians upon their retiring from the active duties which they have fulfilled in a hospital for a long series of years, and therefore such a title cannot be conferred upon any physician of this Hospital, who (no matter of how high an order of merit) has declared his resolution to retain a post of activity, without an unwarrantable departure from medical custom and precedent; a step the more unjustifiable, seeing that it was taken in direct opposition to the earnest remonstrance of a vast majority of the medical portion of its governing body.

"Third. Because we believe that the interests of homœopathy will not be advanced in the proper quarter (we allude to the medical profession), unless medical custom and precedent be rigidly adhered to by the governing bodies of the hospitals, where homœopathic treatment is adopted exclusively; and, moreover, because we also believe that no physician can retain an active part in any hospital, homœopathic or otherwise, whose governing body persists in the legislation of medical matters, irrespective of medical opinion and custom, without a compromise of professional dignity, both in the opinion of his fellows and of the public at large.

"We beg you will convey to the governing body of the Hospital our courteous sentiments, believing, as we do, that all the individual members (irrespective of private opinion) are actuated by the same good feeling, the same disinterestedness, and the same desire to forward the cause of homœopathy, which we trust we *possess*, (?) whilst we cannot help being at issue with the

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majority of its members as to the principle involved by the late resolutions.

"We have the honour to be,

"Your obedient servants,

(Signed) "E. C. CHEPMELL,
"ED. HAMILTON,
"J. LAURIE."

"To the Secretary of the London Homœopathic Hospital, Hanover Square."

A complete history, such as that I have just indicated, could not fail to be of great service to our Board at the present moment. I trust, therefore, Mr. Warne will lose no time in preparing it.

The fourth and sixth paragraphs of Mr. Warne's letter have reference to a mistake of mine, in using the title London Homœopathic Medical Institution, instead of the English Homœopathic Association, in one instance. As this error does not at all affect the argument of my former letter, it is only necessary for me to express my regret at the mistake, and to thank Mr. Warne for correcting it. Mr. Warne denies that "repeated interviews" took place between members of our Board and those of the English Homœopathic Association, before their funds were transferred to our Hospital. I am still, however, of opinion that such was the fact *in substance*; at the same time this is not material, nor worthy of any further remark.

In his fifth paragraph Mr. Warne admits the accuracy of my statement as to the London Homœopathic Medical Institution being totally distinct from the Hahnemann Hospital, as to "its birth and its education, its origin and its aim," so far as respects the first three particulars, but denies the fourth. Of the first three he says, "no one has asserted, or insinuated, nor does the circular insinuate to the contrary." This is, of course, a manifest *petitio principii*. Of the fourth particular, viz., the aims of the two Institutions, he says, "they could only be identical." Now, this I altogether repudiate, on the authority of the letter just cited from Drs. Chepmell, Hamilton, and Laurie. The aim there charged on the managers of the London Homœopathic Medical Institution is, that they sought to elevate one physician to the disparagement of the rest. While it survives I will not cease to guard our Hospital, and to warn our Board against an *aim* such as this. And having a great regard for Dr. Curie, who did for me in six weeks, what Ware, Guthrie, Travers, Tyrell, Alexander, Southwood Smith, Lawrence, and Macmurdo—eight allopathic practitioners—had failed to do in fifteen years! and as I am fain to believe that Dr. Curie will repudiate being a party to such a proceeding, I will not cease to warn him also of the fatal consequences that must ensue to the Hahnemann Hospital and to himself, from any such attempt or *aim* as this on the part of his supporters.

On the eighth and last paragraph I have only to say, that it is my misfortune not to have the slightest idea who the lady is to whom Mr. Warne refers.

I have thus, Sir, devoted that attention to Mr. Warne's letter which the subject merits. And I now leave to the homœopathic public to determine—calling on you, as the exponent of their sentiments, to pronounce the verdict—whether the statements contained in my letter which appeared in your journal of the 10th instant, have been in any, even the slightest, *material* point shaken, or disposed of by Mr. Warne; and whether, therefore, he was justified in using these words in the outset of his reply—thus prejudicing the public against my statements and in favour of his own—that "history to be valuable should be correct."

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

F. J. SMITH.

Member of the Board of Management of the Hahnemann Hospital.

74, Old Broad Street, Jan. 17, 1852.

[We regret this controversy and the occasion of it, as well as the circumstances attending it. We shall be glad to give Mr. Warne the opportunity of answering, in our columns, Mr. Smith's two questions, at what meeting the Board of Management suggested the publication of Mr. Leaf's circular, and what is Mr. Warne's history of the London Homœopathic Institution: and we should like to have an explanation of the "*unwarrantable departure from medical custom and precedent*," referred to in the letter of Drs. Chepmell, Hamilton, and Laurie.—ED.]

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I am not a practitioner, but I am infinitely more interested in the contest between allopaths and homœopaths than if I were one of the belligerents; *I am one of those practised upon*, "think of that, Master Brooke." When I am ill I send for a physician and I am desirous of seeing a *fair stand-up fight* in argument, in which no such foul blows as "rogue," "liar," "impostor," "knave," "conscience seared with guilt," "infamous," and several others, are to be allowed, for they are worthy only of a "*rough and tumble*." The allopath has thrown his castor (I do not mean oil) into the ring, and with a good deal of bounce, seems confident of flooring his juvenile antagonist; his temper, however, seems to be none of the best, and the loss of that is apt to lose a man the battle, and I cannot help thinking that the odds are at present greatly in favour of the homœopath.

I will, however, drop the figurative, and ask seriously whether I am to be subjected to a tyranny, worthy only of the Pope and his priesthood? Am I to be forced into submission to that practice which has been described as "*full of errors, and abounding in mischief*," by some of its most scientific members? Am I to be denied the right of private judgment, founded upon experience of facts and results, upon my own sufferings; it is as bad as the shoemaker, who never will allow that the shoe he has made for you pinches, as if he, knowledgeable as he is about shoes, can know so well as he that is pained. I care nothing about all the theories brought forward by either side, I look to facts; and pooh-poohing homœopathy, and saying it cannot do this and cannot do that,

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is like the man who, being in the stocks, was asked by one of his associates, what he was there for, and having told him, "Pooh pooh," said he, "they *can't* put you there for that." "I don't know," said the prisoner, "whether they can or not, but I know that I am here." So it is with me; I have sought relief from homœopathy, and found it, notwithstanding its power is denied, and its theories ridiculed by its opponents, who had a fair trial, and could not produce the same beneficial results. Have those medical gentlemen who are so loud in their condemnation of homœopathy studied it? if not, what can their opinions be worth? Prejudices are of strong growth in vulgar minds; and a knowledge of the opposition experienced by inoculation, and how many refused to adopt vaccination, should make men of enlightened minds examine thoroughly before they condemn. Homœopathy is spoken of as an "*innovation*," so are railroads, and thankful we are for them. I am not the less grateful to those who gave me the benefit of their scientific attainments as far as they went, because time and science have combined to produce a system much more beneficial (as I have found it) than the old one. But to speak of a "*legitimate practice*," is to claim one of the most intolerable monopolies that can possibly be conceived, as it is seeking to put down every other. I have no wish to suffer for the cause of "legitimacy" or "orthodoxy;" and those opinions which in one age are at the top of the tree of knowledge, may in the succeeding one be displaced by others still more enlightened, for science cannot stand still; and those who think to annihilate homœopathy by foul language and abuse, might as well try to destroy the diamond by putting it under a dunghill. Your obedient servant,

F. S.

DR. GOODSHAW.

(*From the British Journal of Homœopathy.*)

HOMŒOPATHY has to lament the loss of one of its most earnest and successful practitioners in the death of Dr. Goodshaw, at the comparatively early age of fifty-four. This melancholy event occurred rather suddenly, on the 27th September ult., at Fairbrook, near Dublin, where he had been living during the summer months for the benefit of his health, which during the last two years had been in a very critical state, from the existence of unequivocal valvular disease of the heart.

The post-mortem examination revealed an amount of cardiac disease incompatible with any prolongation of life; the heart was enormously hypertrophied, but especially the left ventricle, the muscular tissue of which was softened, and almost friable; the free edges of the mitral valve were studded with cartilaginous excrescences, which necessarily interfered with its proper function; there was also considerable serous effusion into both pleuræ and the pericardium.

We cannot dismiss this brief notice of our departed fellow-labourer without adverting to the fact, that Dr. Goodshaw must have been considerably beyond forty years of age before he commenced the study of homœopathy, and thus, when the opinions of most other men are *stereotyped*, he appears not merely to have mastered the new system of therapeutics, but to have had the moral courage to avow his convictions, and carry his principles into practice. His success in his district soon brought him crowds of patients—and in order to extend the benefits of his newly-acquired powers of healing as widely as possible, he established the Homœopathic Dispensary in Abbey Street, Dublin, in the year 1844, at his own expense. This was the first institution of the kind in Ireland; it has continued open ever since, and is still in vigorous operation. He visited this Dispensary on three days of every week for some time, but finding that it thus occupied much of his time, and necessarily interfered with his other practice in the country, he finally resolved to resign his public appointments as Physician to the Clergy Sons' School at Lucan, and also the Dunboyne Dispensary, and confined himself entirely to his practice in Dublin. Here he rose rapidly into fame and public favour; he possessed all the attributes which were likely to conduce to a successful career; his knowledge of disease, and its varied manifestations, had been acquired during many previous years of constant intercourse with the sick. He was naturally endowed with the finest perceptive powers, and the rapidity and precision with which he could grasp the *specialities* of a case appeared like an intuitive process, but was in reality the result of a high intellectual appreciation, combined with rare practical sagacity. His energy was unbounded—he threw himself into the performance of his professional duties with all the ardour and buoyancy of youth; his natural warmth of character and a certain refined but racy humour made him a great favourite with all classes; and his remarkable success as a physician established their confidence in the new system, of which he was such an eloquent and enthusiastic advocate.

Of course this success made him an object of dislike and almost persecution amongst his allopathic brethren, who could not believe in the purity of his motives, or the sincerity of his convictions. Their aspersions often wounded Dr. Goodshaw's feelings, which were of the most sensitive character; and the death of a well-known individual under homœopathic treatment gave the public and the profession an opportunity of denouncing both him and the system with the most unmeasured violence. We have no doubt the effect of this was most baneful to our departed friend. Soon afterwards he suffered from an attack of fever, from the effects of which he seemed never to have perfectly recovered, and in all probability the seeds of that disease were then sown which have since germinated, and been finally developed in the event which it has been our melancholy duty to record.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 131. Vol. III.] SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1852. [Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

Communications.

A FEW NUTS FOR THE EDINBURGH PHYSICIANS TO CRACK.

Collected by a Non-Medical Observer from Dr. Gregory's Translation of Baron von Reichenbach's Researches on Magnetism, etc., Parts I. and II., published in 1850.

The excellent man and Christian gentleman who has favoured us with the following extracts is right in thinking that it is hardly necessary to apply these extracts to the subject of the reception of Hahnemann's discoveries and disciples by the medical profession, especially by the wise men of Scotland. The application seems to us as well as to him to be almost self-evident, and we heartily thank Dr. Gregory for the translation of Reichenbach's pungent attacks on his unfair opponents, and for his own able and sound advocacy of an honourable and conscientious examination of all new discoveries.

While Dr. Gregory shoots his arrows so well into the midst of the rash and self-conceited opponents of the great doctrine "*similia similibus curantur*," we agree with a Non-medical Observer in thinking that it is not worth while for any homœopath to loose a shaft at them. But we live in times when all who favour our reform must act; we wish we had many on our side like the Non-medical Observer,—men of action as well as of speech; men prepared to make any sacrifice in their power for what they believe to be true and right. One of our most admired and admirable advocates has lately shown this excellent spirit. Under the pressure of severe domestic affliction, he has not hesitated to do his *devoir* as a champion of homœopathy.

As Professor Gregory has confessed his adhesion to homœopathy, there can be no doubt that had the *triumviral* cabal of Edinburgh succeeded in getting Professor Henderson out of his chair, whether by resignation or deposition, they would next have attempted to void, in like manner, the chair of chemistry.

With respect to the magnetoscope, it is with us an open question. We believe the investigation of the magnetoid currents will issue in great good to our race; by what instruments or in what direction the investigation may be brought to a practical issue we pretend not to determine. Reichenbach, or Gregory, or our correspondent, may succeed; or some labourer, to come after them, may be the successful experimenter. That there is a subtle force in all animated organized beings, which is paramount to brute matter, we fully believe; that man should have this in an infinitely higher degree than the lower animals may be at once inferred, as he is the lord of this creation.

Dr. Gregory had published an abstract of Part I. of Baron von Reichenbach's work, in 1846, which he states was favourably noticed in various scientific and literary journals, as well as in the daily press. Contrasting this favourable reception with the unfavourable manner in which it had been received by various men of science in Germany, he adds (page x), "It is pleasing to reflect that a work so truly scientific in its character has, in spite of the startling nature of the facts recorded in it, received from the British public that respectful and becoming attention to which, from the known scientific reputation of its author, it was justly entitled."

Page xiii. "I have not felt justified in omitting any part of the author's preface, or of his notes, both of which are controversial, and may appear to some rather energetic in their tone. But as they contain the author's replies to attacks of a very violent and unjustifiable kind, which have been widely circulated in Germany, and may possibly have influenced such as have read them in this country, I thought it but just to let him be heard. It is at all times deeply to be regretted when scientific discussions assume an angry or acrimonious tone; but in this case there was nothing in Part I. to justify the style in which it was treated, and, consequently, the introduction of unscientific language into the discussion must be ascribed to those who so unsparingly employed it in their criticisms, if indeed we can truly give that name to such productions, written as they are, without due knowledge either of the subject or of the work. I might here conclude, but although in this country no

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such irrational and unwarrantable attacks have appeared, yet I have occasioually met in private with persons disposed, like the German critics, to reject the whole investigation without even giving it a careful study, or, indeed, any study at all."

Page xiv. "It may be safely laid down, that no well-ascertained fact or series of facts can possibly exist in nature, which are not worthy of our earnest study. It is no answer to say that there are many facts of no practical value, for the fallacy of such an assertion has been too often proved by the unexpected application of apparently trifling facts to important purposes, theoretical as well as practical. When Liebig and Soubeiran first described a peculiar volatile fragrant liquid, produced by the action of bleaching powder on alcohol, this fact was recorded, and stood for many years in our manuals as a mere curiosity of science. Yet when the time came, this insignificant compound, under the hands of my accomplished colleague, Dr. Simpson, started up into the highest practical value as *Chloroform*. Had *all* the properties of this body been at first *carefully studied*, we should not have had to wait till 1846 or 1847 for this boon to suffering humanity. It would be easy to fill a volume with parallel cases, from the steam-engine to gun-cotton, all proving the great truth that no natural fact is insignificant or unimportant."

Page xxi. "I maintain that, under such circumstances as those of the present case, to assert the existence of fraud on the part of persons of blameless character, without evidence of the fact, and simply because their statements, in an obscure and difficult matter of physical science, appear at first sight absurd and incredible, is to sin against common justice and good feeling in a manner for which no justification can be found. And to do this, as it will be seen by the author's preface certain authorities have done, without any investigation of the subject, or even of the work criticised, is a mode of proceeding in questions of natural science, against which every one who values truth, and has the progress of human knowledge sincerely at heart, is bound in the name of science most energetically to protest. Dr. Dubois Reymond has thought fit to express, *without quoting one word to justify it*, an opinion of the work and of the author, the only effect of which, if it had any effect, would be to disparage them, unexamined and unheard, in the public opinion. But it will, sooner or later, have a very different effect, namely, that of proving to the world the incapacity (from want of acquaintance with the subject) of the critic for the task he undertook, or rather, with most insulting expressions, declined to undertake."

Page xxv. "The objections so commonly urged against mesmeric observations are the very same as those which we have discussed above, in reference to the researches of the author; namely, the impossibility or incredibility of the facts, and the supposed existence of fraud and imposture. I need not repeat what I have before said, but I may here add, that nothing can possibly be more contrary to all scientific rules than to reject a fact simply because it appears to us incredible or impossible, or because we cannot account for it."

Page xxvi. "As to the cry of fraud and imposture, it is in a scientific investigation utterly inadmissible, for the reasons formerly stated, and many others. Let us for a moment try to imagine the possibility of all the hundreds and thousands who have been and daily are mesmerised being all impostors, while all the operators, if not equally deceitful, are themselves deceived. Let us bear in mind that this accusation is commonly and recklessly brought by those who have never investigated the subject, not only against those who have done so, but against persons of great ability and of unblemished character and honour, and generally without a shadow of evidence; let us do this, and we must come, I think, to the conclusion that such a line of argument is as irrational, unjust, and dishonest in itself, as it is void of all cogency in opposition to observed and established facts."

Page xxvii. "Without the most stringent proof, the charge of fraud is not for a moment to be tolerated."

Page xxix. "Until scientific men take the trouble to investigate mesmerism, they are not entitled to pronounce an off-hand judgment, still less an injurious judgment on the labours of those who, perhaps, with fewer qualifications, but certainly with equal love of truth, have undertaken the investigation which they have themselves neglected."

In a note (page 356), referring to the unwarrantable attacks made by a Committee of Physicians in Vienna upon the integrity of some of Baron von Reichenbach's witnesses, Dr. Gregory observes, "It is painful to think that parallel cases have not been wanting in England." Speaking of the reception of some cases of spontaneous somnambulism, he goes on to state, "There was the same predetermination to find the patient an impostor, the same utter absence of all cogency in the

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judge is not ashamed to send forth without evidence adduced, and the same rash and unjustifiable, as well as unmanly accusation of imposture brought against persons of whom no evil was known, apparently because the authorities chose to assume the facts to be impossible. It is the duty of every lover of truth and science to protest energetically against the system of reckless accusations of imposture preferred against persons of blameless character, because their statements appear to us incredible."

Extracts from Baron von Reichenbach's preface to second edition of Part I.

Page xxxiii. "It was easy to foresee that a matter of so strange and peculiar a kind as the subject embraced in these researches would meet with objections. The new field of investigation here opened up, advances its limits so near to the bulwarks of existing and established doctrines, that it was not to be expected that it should be allowed to take its place in the crowded domain of science without much resistance. Yet I was only prepared for rational judgment and criticism; I was not, I confess, prepared for an attack (which every friend to science, possessed of good feeling and good manners, must agree with me in considering ill-bred in the extreme) made on my work and on myself personally, by a Dr. Dubois Reymond, in Karsten's *Progress of Physiology in the year* 1845. This philosopher does not think it necessary in the smallest degree to enter into my experiments and deductions, but from his lofty eminence entitles my labours, curtly enough, 'an absurd romance;' to enter into the details of which would be fruitless, and to him impossible."

Page xxxiv. "Ever since science has existed, ignorance has assumed the right of judging and condemning that which it could not understand. The polite and well-bred Berlin physiologist is then pleased to cast in my face a few common-places, such as—my work is 'one of the most deplorable aberrations that has for a long time affected a human brain;' my statements are 'fables which should be thrown into the fire;' and many similar learned vulgarities.

"He who assumes the right publicly to sit in judgment and to pronounce sentence on a scientific work, is, before all things, bound in duty to inform himself thoroughly of its contents; and he is further bound to support his sentence, as all public judges do, by the reasons on which he thinks himself justified in pronouncing it. But a judgment affecting the truth and honour of the author of such a work, and which the fulfilling any one of these conditions, is, in one word, nothing but impudent; and that too in a degree perhaps unexampled in modern or in ancient literature. For surely, it never before happened in any country that a reviewer had the audacity, or rather the folly, to treat a scientific work without giving any reasons, without quoting a syllable of its contents, merely with gross and ill-bred abuse."

Page 259. Dr. Nied, Practising Physician in Vienna, aged thirty-two, was to me an invaluable case, because he is a physician, and must necessarily testify to the existence of the odylo-luminous phenomena in a caste, namely, that of medical men, in which my researches, contrary to all expectation, have often met with the most unfriendly reception."

[Here follows a note by Dr. Gregory.]

"I am not at all sure, in this country at least, such a result would have been contrary to the expectation of any one who has experience of the medical profession, as a body, in the reception given by them to new and startling truths. There are, of course, many exceptions, but I speak generally.—W. G."

Page 274. "Every *rational* doubt or hesitation must give way before the variety and trustworthiness of the observations made on so many persons, differing so widely in age, sex, rank, position, and occupation; and of the facts confirmed, as they are, by persons of the highest possible character; facts, moreover, which I have furnished the means of everywhere and easily testing, controlling, and confirming by repetition in other places. I well know that, notwithstanding all this, people enough will be left, to whom all that I have done will not appear enough; for there are such things as *irrational* doubts; there is an *absurd* incredulity; and, lastly, there is also an *evil-minded* scepticism. These I am unable, and do not wish to refute. I only concern myself with thoughtful, reflecting, and rationally-judging people, with those who are friends to the quiet progress of science."

Page 327, note. "Nothing is easier and more convenient, as a cloak for ignorance, than to get rid of, by declaring it to be imposture, a phenomenon, which, for want of knowledge, we cannot underatand."

Page 356, note. "No one has a right to set up himself as a judge in a matter, in which, at the same time, he so thoroughly exposes his own ignorance."

Our readers will at once perceive that these extracts apply, with the exactest fitness, to the uninquiring and bigoted opponents of homœopathy.

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HOMŒOPATHY.

Resolutions of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association.

Report on Irregular Practice.

"The following Report was brought up and unanimously agreed to.

"Your Committee have, after consultation with numerous members of the Association, maturely considered the subject referred to them, and beg respectfully to suggest the adoption of the following resolutions:—

"That it is the opinion of this Association, that homœopathy, as propounded by Hahnemann, and practised by his followers, is so utterly opposed to science and common sense, as well as so completely at variance with the experience of the Medical Profession, that it ought to be in no way or degree practised or countenanced by any regularly educated medical practitioner.

"That homœopathic practitioners, through the press, the platform, and the pulpit, have endeavoured to heap contempt upon the practice of medicine and surgery as followed by members of this Association and by the profession at large.

"That for these reasons it is derogatory to the honour of members of this Association to hold any kind of professional intercourse with homœopathic practitioners.

"That there are three classes of practitioners who ought not to be members of this Association; viz.—1st, real homœopathic practitioners; 2nd, those who practise homœopathy in combination with other systems of treatment; and 3rd, those who, under various pretences, meet in consultation or hold professional intercourse with those who practise homœopathy.

"That a committee of seven be appointed to frame laws in accordance with these resolutions, to be submitted to the next annual meeting of the Association.

"That the thanks of the Association are eminently due, and are hereby given, to the Presidents and Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Edinburgh for their determined stand against homœopathic delusions and impostures

"That the thanks of the Association are also due, and are hereby given, to the Universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrew's for their resolution to refuse their diplomas to practitioners of homœopathy; but the Association feels imperatively called on to express its disapproval of any School of Medicine which retains among its teachers any one who holds homœopathic opinions.

"That these resolutions be printed and transmitted to all the Medical Licensing Bodies and Medical Schools in the United Kingdom, and that they likewise be inserted in the *Times* newspaper, the *Morning Post*, the *North British Advertiser*, *Saunders's News Letter*, all the British and Irish medical periodicals, and in such other journals as the council may sanction upon the recommendation of the branch Associations.

Counter-Resolutions of the British Homœopathic Medical Society.

Dr. Quin, President, in the Chair.

A series of Resolutions on homœopathy passed by the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, at Brighton, on the 14th of August, having been read, it was resolved—

"That this Society deeply regrets that a body of gentlemen belonging to a liberal profession should resort to invective in place of argument.

"That the merits of homœopathy being a subject of dispute between two parties in the medical world of equal professional standing, it is impossible that a resolution of one of these parties, that the views of the other 'ought to be in no degree countenanced,' can have any influence in facilitating the settlement of the question in dispute.

"That, in stigmatizing homœopathy as an 'irregular practice,' as a 'delusion,' and an 'imposture,' the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association resort to terms of abuse which are at the command of every one; and which, while they are in every case inexcusable, unless accompanied by proofs, are especially valueless when employed to silence a new doctrine in opposition to the preconceived views of the persons by whom such terms are used.

"That the differences between homœopathic practitioners and their brethren of the old school being simply differences of opinion, a resolution not to hold professional intercourse with them is nothing more than the announcement of an inability on the part of the members of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association to tolerate in others the same independence of judgment they claim for themselves.

"That, while the legislatures of two of the most important States of the American Union (Pennsylvania and Ohio) have granted Charters of Incorporation to Homœopathic Universities—while the Chambers of the Kingdom of Bavaria, of the Grand Duchy of Baden, and other German States, have authorized professorships of homœopathy in the public Universities—while the Imperial Government of Austria has sanctioned the establishment of Homœopathic Hospitals in different parts of its dominions—while, in Berlin and Moscow, similar hospitals exist—and, while one hundred beds in the Hospital of St. Marguerite (a branch of the Hôtel Dieu, in Paris) are devoted to patients who are openly treated in accordance with the homœopathic system by Dr. Tessier and his hospital assistants, it is to be deplored that so large a portion of the medical body in England and Scotland should not only commit themselves to personal animosities against all who may entertain the system, but should record their thanks to the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh for having endeavoured to expel from their body those of its members who practise homœopathy, and to the Universities of Edin-

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"In proposing these resolutions for the adoption of the Association, your Committee are anxious to state that they are actuated by a strong sense of the importance of the subject in its relation both to humanity and morals. They most conscientiously believe that the countenance afforded to the form of charlatanry herein alluded to is detrimental to the true interests of the public, as it is subversive of that strict integrity which ought to characterise practitioners of medicine, and which has ever distinguished the profession in these kingdoms.

"JOHN ROSE CORMACK, M.D. Edin., Fellow Royal College Phys. Edin., of Putney.
"JAMES TUNSTALL, M.D. Edin., of Bath.
"H. H. RANKING, M.D. Cantab., of Norwich."

burgh, Aberdeen, and St. Andrew's, for having indicated an intention to deny their diploma to every student who shall refuse to give a pledge that he will not publicly profess himself a convert to its truth.

"Finally, that the British Homœopathic Society have never, as a body, either 'through the press, the pulpit, or the platform,' endeavoured to heap contempt upon their allopathic brethren, their conviction being that nothing could tend more to retard their Cause than the use of taunts and imputations, in lieu of the calm statement of such evidence as from time to time it may be in their power to furnish.

"For, and in the name of the British Homœopathic Society,
"FREDERICK F. QUIN, M.D., President, Physician to the London Homœopathic Hospital, etc., etc."

HOMŒOPATHY.

To the Editor of the Ruyby Advertiser.

SIR,—When I sent you an advertisement of the "Inquiry into the Truth of Homœopathy" I did not anticipate that you would also insert a critical review of the pamphlet; but as you have done so, perhaps you will allow me to point out a mistake of considerable importance into which, in common with the majority of persons at their first acquaintance with homœopathy, you have inadvertently fallen. You speak of the difference between the old and the new practice of medicine, as if it consisted in merely a difference of dose,—and of homœopathy, as if it were merely such a reduction of the dose as to come to "the silence of pure innocence." Permit me briefly to point out the following advantages of the new system:—

First. It possesses a principle. It is admitted by all well-informed medical men that hitherto we have had no *principle* to guide us in our treatment of disease; that our best practice has been simply a matter of *experience;* that, to use the words of a popular medical writer, "Medicine is an *art,* not a *science.*" The doubts and difficulties, the disappointments and unsatisfactoriness of such a state of things may be imagined better than described. Now the great advantage proposed by homœopathy is, that it offers a *principle* for our guidance—a rule never to be departed from, alike applicable to all cases, and not more difficult of application to a new disease than to those we are most familiar with. It is this *principle* which changes the art of medicine into a *science;* which introduces an approach to certainty and satisfaction such as could not have been anticipated before, and could never have been attained under the old method.

Secondly. Homœopathy "lets well alone;" whatever part of the frame remains healthy is allowed to continue so. This is notoriously not the case on the old plan; our blisters, and issues, and purges, etc., etc., were all directed to *sound* parts. Homœopathy attacks only the organs which are diseased.

Thirdly. Homœopathy takes away no strength. The injury frequently done to the constitution by bleeding, mercury, and other severe remedies in large doses hitherto made use of, is a melancholy truth experienced too often not to be well known.

On the contrary, no sooner is an acute malady overcome by the new treatment, than the patient is well; there is no tedious convalescence, requiring wine, bark, and other tonics. This fact I have already often observed.

Fourthly. The plan of giving only one remedy at a time leads to a much more certain acquaintance with the properties of the drugs we use, and the smallness of the dose doing away with what is disagreeable in it, is, at least in the treatment of children, no inconsiderable advantage.

Fifthly. Homœopathy aims, wherever it is possible, to effect a *radical* cure, not a mere palliative relief. This will be allowed to be a matter of importance. It is not meant to insinuate that radical cures are never met with under the old treatment, many are; and frequently, if not always, this is accomplished on the homœopathic principle, though in ignorance of it; but it is asserted that such radical cures may now be much more frequently obtained, and that, consequently, a more prolonged state of health may be looked for, after relief has been afforded by the new method than by the old.

Other advantages might easily be enumerated, but I feel unwilling to trespass further upon your pages, and it does not require to be pointed out how much every one is seriously interested in a reformation of medicine laying claim to such great improvements as these.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,
WILLIAM SHARP.

HOMŒOPATHY AND PROFESSOR SIMPSON.

To the Editor of the Edinburgh News.

SIR,—The independent and rational course

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you have pursued regarding the medical controversy that is at present commanding the attention of all classes of the community is deserving of the highest approbation of every lover of free discussion and truth. Will you allow a working man to enter the list of combatants? I have just seen Professor Simpson's speech against homœopathy, and I should like to make some observations upon it.

Observe, in the first place, this gentleman's "confession of faith," and "standard" by which to try homœopathy, viz., "common sense." This is *his* standard, and now let us see how he applies it. Some eight or ten years ago, this professor says, an old schoolmate of his having begun business as a homœopathic druggist in Liverpool, kindly sent him a present of a small box of homœopathic medicines. During the time it was in his possession he put it *only to one use*, viz., he gave it as an occasional plaything to his eldest son, who was then a *child*. I ask any rational man if this was not an insult to "common sense?" His duty as a philosopher was to know, in the first place, the medicinal effects of the drugs contained in the globules, and this he could have done by referring to the "Homœopathic Materia Medica," and then, in the second place, to have administered them in such diseases as manifested similar symptoms. By these means he would have arrived at knowledge to have enabled him to judge whether the homœopathic law was sound in theory and the globules had a curative action.

But does this gentleman understand as a philosopher the meaning of his own standard, "common sense?" His long rigmarole about infinitesimal doses proves to demonstration that he does not. It is wholly hypothetical, and assumes that because the doses could not affect men in health, that therefore it is absurd to suppose them to have a curative effect in disease. What, then, is the philosophical meaning of "common sense?" It means that facts should precede inferences—that the perceptive faculties should take in all the known phenomena of a given subject before the reflective faculties pronounce judgment. Well, has this medical Pope tried homœopathy by this standard? Was giving his child the box of globules to play with at all conformable to it? Or what has his long trumpery of calculations to do with it? But how could this gentleman try homœopathy by a standard which it has been proved he did not understand? His ignorance and presumption in attempting to settle this grave question reminds one of the manner in which the Emperor of China pronounced judgment on phrenology. This august monarch was once asked his opinion, regarding the truth of the system, and he gravely replied that there was no truth in it, founding it on the assumption that the Chinese had *no brains!* He was asked further to give some proof of his opinion, and he replied—"I judge infallible judgment *without evidence.*" Now, this kind of reasoning may do well enough for the Chinese, but it will not do for thinking men in Great Britain. What we require are well-established facts and a system of therapeutics founded on them. If the professor imagines that his speech will have any effect in preventing the laity from examining homœopathy in a practical way, he will find himself miserably mistaken; and so far as my own knowledge goes, I can say that it has had the opposite effect. I have heard working men discussing his statements, and laughing at their absurdity; and, moreover, taking a good laugh at him also, as either being a great gull or a great impostor, for attempting to pawn such *un*common sense upon the public.

It is quite obvious from his speech that he has never, like a man of science, investigated homœopathy, but has just taken an outside view of it, and comparing it with his acquired knowledge, has without any more ado concluded it to be a baseless fancy. And while this has been his unwarrantable procedure, are non-medical men to fall down and worship him, and believe all that he is disposed to assert? He would seem to like such obeisance, for he tells us that the clergy should determine what is truth in religion, and medical men in physic. Poor man; he mistakes the country and the age in which he lives. It is a doctrine of the Popish Church that the laity receive the law from the priest's mouth, but Protestants require every man to think and judge for himself regarding religion. And although this is not the "common sense" of Professor Simpson, yet it is the established "common sense" of this country.

But homœopathy is extending, this oracle informs us; he is right for once. I have seen much of it and am grateful; for I have heard restored suffering humanity rejoicing over its healing virtues, and therefore I defend the right.—I am, etc.,

RUSTICUS.

January 12, 1852.

PROFESSOR HENDERSON'S REPLY TO PROFESSOR SIMPSON'S PAMPHLET ON HOMŒOPATHY.*

PROFESSOR HENDERSON has again vanquished Professor Simpson. We hope all our readers will obtain this admirable reply, carefully read it, and happily digest it. We quote some passages.

"Once upon a time, says Æsop, a man and a lion were journeying together, and came at length to high words which was the braver and stronger creature of the two. As the dispute waxed warmer they happened to pass by, on the roadside, a statue of a man strangling a lion. 'See there,' said the man, 'what more undeniable proof can you have of our superiority than that?' 'That,' said the lion, 'is your version of the story; let us be the sculptors, and

* Reply to Dr. Simpson's Pamphlet on Homœopathy, and Second Edition of the Letter to the President of the Medico-Chirurgical Society, with a Postscript: by William Henderson, M.D., Professor of General Pathology, Edinburgh: W. P. Kennedy, St. Andrew Street. Glasgow: D. Bryce. London: Hamilton, Adams, & Co.

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for one lion under the feet of a man, you shall have twenty men under the paw of a lion.' This little fable is not only an appropriate introduction to a critical essay on the fables lately submitted to the public by Dr. Simpson, but may serve, as fables are an approved manner of giving important warning and instruction to persons of slender abilities and scanty information—the only persons liable to be imposed upon by the medical fabulist—to convey in a form best suited to their tastes and capacities the familiar truth, that the mere allegations of an avowed enemy ought always to be regarded with distrust. The educated and intellectual portion of his readers will have discovered for themselves the fallacy of his arguments, and will have suspected, when the subjects introduced have lain out of the course of their studies, that a purpose which presses into its service details that are usually either impertinent or monstrous can be neither good in itself, nor the offspring of a mind that has any claim upon their confidence.

"I scarcely know how to express myself, in adverting to what is termed 'Modern Hahnemannic Theology.' If the author meant to insinuate that the 'wild statements' he notices under that designation, have the smallest appearance or shadow of encouragement from the writings, the system, or the life of Hahnemann, I am constrained to say, that anything more slanderously untrue was never uttered by man. I have no hesitation in affirming that in Hahnemann's works—nay, in but three of even his lesser writings—there is more evidence of piety towards God, and of love to man, as well as of sound and beautiful philosophy, than in all the other medical works this age can boast of. And to me it is not matter of surprise that one so venerable for the purity of his life and the dignity of his sentiments, so admirable for the vast reach of his learning and his wisdom, and so pre-eminent in his claims on the gratitude of mankind for his researches in the most important of practical sciences, should have some disciples whose reverence should rise to adulation. The tendencies of men under powerful excitement have been in all ages the same, and those of this age whose temperament inclines them to ecstasy, and whose judgment affords too scanty a ballast for the force which carries them away, are apt to repeat almost any of the follies of early superstition in respect to the objects of their wonder; and why should that special folly be excepted from repetition, which made Pythagoras a messenger from heaven, and led his followers to regard themselves as equal to the gods; which paid divine honours to Empedocles, and thought Epimenides inspired! This was the folly of the progenitors of the common sect of physicians; and when it is considered that the Mormonites, and thousands of crazy people besides, are disciples of allopathy, we can account for the absence of a similar folly in our own days, in reference to physicians of their school, only by the circumstance that there is no allopathic physician great enough for even insanity to revere."

"Far be it from me to palliate irreligion, or even the appearance of irreverence to the Most High; but it is no palliation of either to say that, were Hahnemann, instead of the reverential worshipper he was of that God whom he delighted everywhere to recognise, not merely a wrong-headed zealot, but even a cold and thankless infidel, the most shameful ignorance alone could regard that as an objection to his scientific labours, when the author of the 'Mécanique Céleste' is understood to have been a sceptic, and D'Alembert had notoriously no faith but in mathematics. If the author of the pamphlet knew these facts, and were at one with all men of sense and education on the subject, how shameful of him to pander to the bigotry of the weak and the ignorant by attempting to introduce religious prejudices into a field peculiar to science! And if he knew, as he must have done, the monstrous injustice of stigmatizing Hahnemann and his system with the smallest tendency to any form of impiety or irreligion, what are we to think of the man who, in contempt of all that is manly and upright, seeks to gratify his passionate animosity against opponents in a scientific controversy by insinuating imputations which he knew to be as groundless as he meanly wished them to be hurtful?"

"Dr. Fleischmann, of the Homœopathic Hospital of Vienna, at various periods has published the results of his treatment of inflammation of the lungs between the year 1834 and 1848—the latter being the last period for which his statistics have reached me. Dr. Reiss, of the Homœopathic Hospital at Lintz, Dr. Schweitzer, of the Homœopathic Hospital at Kremsier, and Dr. Tessier, of the Hospital of Sainte-Marguerite of Paris, also have published the statistics of their homœopathic treatment of the same disease, and the collective results are as follows:—728 cases of inflammation of the lungs, 35 deaths, or one death in 21 cases; less than five per cent. In my letter to Dr. Forbes, I have given an account of the comparative success, in the same disease, of the best hospital physicians, who use allopathic remedies, in Paris; they furnish 531 cases, of which 81 died, or one in six and two-thirds, or about fifteen per cent. In the 'Introduction to the Study of Homœopathy' (to which and to the letter to Dr. Forbes the reader is referred for a more detailed discussion of this most important subject) various allopathic authorities are referred to as furnishing 909 cases of this disease, with 212 deaths, or 23.32 per cent.; nearly one death in every four cases. In the same work is contrasted the mortality under each system of treatment, in pleurisy and peritonitis, and the same vast superiority of the homœopathic practice is exhibited—the mortality of the former disease having been in Fleischmann's practice, among 224 cases, only one in 72, and of the latter, among 105 cases, one in 21; while under the ordinary system the mortality was from 8 to 16 times greater. The absence of sufficiently large statistics on the allopathic side renders these last comparisons less satisfactory than in the instance of inflammation of the lungs; and in regard to other acute inflammations, we have no data whatever from allopathy to enable us to

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form an estimate of its inferiority. I may add, however, that besides the diseases mentioned above, Dr. Fleischmann's table for the eight years prior to 1844 shows 181 cases of erysipelas of the face, and only two deaths; 31 cases of inflammation of the membranes of the heart, without a single death; 44 cases of dysentery, and two deaths;—results which are far beyond the reach of any other known method of treatment."*

"Dr. Forbes, apparently surprised at the results published in one of Dr. Fleischmann's tables, yet combating the notion that the cases must have been slight which recovered under what are commonly believed inadequate means, observes, 'It would be very unreasonable to believe that, out of 300 cases of pneumonia (inflammation of the lungs), 224 cases of pleurisy, and 105 of peritonitis (in all 629 cases), spread over a period of eight years, *all* the cases, except the fatal cases (27 in number), were slight, and such as would have seemed to us hardly requiring treatment of any kind. In fact, according to all experience, such could not be the case. But independently of this *a priori* argument, we have sufficient evidence to prove that many of the cases of pneumonia, at least, were severe cases. A few of these cases are reported in detail by Dr. Fleischmann himself, and we have ourselves had the statement corroborated by the private testimony of a physician (not a homœopath) who attended Dr. Fleischmann's ward for three months.'† And he says of Dr. Fleischmann, that he 'is a regular, well-educated physician, as capable of forming a true diagnosis as other practitioners, and he is considered by those who know him as a man of honour and respectability, and incapable of attesting a falsehood.' Of the whole 728 cases to which I have alluded above, 616 occurred in the hospital of this trustworthy observer. From my own experience in the treatment of inflammation of the lungs, and other acute diseases,‡ I have not a doubt of the thorough accuracy of the accounts given us by the physicians to whom I have referred. But how do allopathic physicians get rid of these remarkable statements? Some by denying their truth (for there are men who will deny anything), and some, Dr. Forbes among them, by ascribing all to the bountiful hand of unassisted Nature! If this latter view of the subject be the correct one, then it is obvious that the medical men who believe it to be so should cease from all medical treatment in acute diseases. That it is not, however, the correct view of the matter appears very clearly from the cases published by M. Grisolle. He left eleven *mild* cases of inflammation of the lungs to follow their natural course;* and we find that the consequences of the disease were not gone in any till the end of the third, and in some not till the end of the fourth week, whereas under the homœopathic treatment every trace of the disease is usually gone, in severe cases too, in a third of that time,† proving that homœopathy is not a merely passive system."

* "Since 1844 the German hospital statistics give us 164 cases of erysipelas, without a death; 84 of peritonitis, with 4 deaths; 75 of pleurisy, with 1 death."

† "Brit. and For. Med. Rev., p. 243, No. 41."

‡ "I have treated homœopathically throughout 16 cases of pneumonia, with one death; 10 cases of croup, without a death; besides a few cases of pericarditis, pleurisy, peritonitis, and many of dysentery, bronchitis, and erysipelas, with only two deaths, one from dysentery in an old man long in bad health, the other from general bronchitis in an infant. In one case only was blood-letting adopted. Of other acute diseases, I have treated homœopathically 39 of measles, without a death; 45 of hooping-cough, with one death; and 36 of scarlet fever, with 2 deaths. Among the last 2 deaths, one is included of a gentleman who, having recovered from the fever, was seized with inflammation of the chest, and was treated during the greater part of that, his last, illness by Dr. Alison."

* "See Letter to Dr. Forbes."

† "See for ample details, 'Recherches Cliniques,' par J. P. Tessier. Paris, 1850."

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31ST, 1852.

THE HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL.

WE who are engaged in the anxious toils, which must be the portion of all who are employed in the work of establishing in this country a thorough, root-of-the-matter Medical Reform, like homœopathy, know that not only the *first*, but *every step counts*.

Some of the correspondence that has lately appeared in our columns is suggestive of the "worm in the gourd" in one instance, where we hoped for the display of union and cordial co-operation.

We have always maintained that there should be, at present, one large effective hospital for the treatment of patients on the homœopathic principle, rather than two or more small and ineffective ones. We hope that the homœopathic public who pay the piper, will take the matter into their own hands.

We do not enter into the subject to which we have alluded, but which must soon come before our public, when we shall probably pass the whole matter under review.

We heartily regret that while the external foe is silenced, or at all events silent, for the present, there is evidence of the

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same spirit of disunion within our camp, which we have so often lamented.

We suppose this condition of things is inseparable from mortality, and from every human work. We know that Hahnemann was often grieved by the occurrence of similar circumstances among his immediate pupils and followers. But after all, and notwithstanding the numerous disputes and differences among some of our advocates and supporters, the cause of homœopathy is making progress.

We hope that by the 10th of April we shall be able to announce a calm in the quarters now visited by storms, and to be able to congratulate our readers on happy and goodly meetings of the admirers of Hahnemann and the friends of homœopathy.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Your readers will, I doubt not, pardon me if I decline the invitation of Mr. Smith to enter at large into a history, for which I have not professed myself qualified, and if I as briefly as possible reply to some few of the points in his letter of the 17th inst. Mr. Smith must excuse my passing over many as utterly unworthy of any notice.

I stated in my letter of the 10th inst. only what was strictly true. The circular which Mr. Smith has made the subject of such *unnecessary* comment *was* suggested by the Board of Management of the Hospital, and though the members named by Mr. Smith may be as ignorant in the matter as Mr. Smith himself, *the fact* remains as I have stated. I now give you an extract from the minutes of a meeting of the House Committee of the Hospital on the 20th February, 1851, in which the following resolution is entered:—

"Present, Messrs. Sugden, Sandoz, Hanson, Glover, Warne.

"Resolved, that a poundage be allowed to the collector of the late London Homœopathic Association (the word Association was an error of the gentleman who proposed the resolution, and was overlooked), now merged in the Hospital, and that a paper should be drawn up, signed by Mr. Leaf and Mr. Warne, as his authority for collecting."

And at the meeting of the Board of Management on the 6th of March following, *at which Messrs. Smith, Phelps, and Gill were present*, the above minutes *were read and approved.*

The circular so warranted was consequently drawn up by me, and was seen by Mr. Leaf *only* when so drawn up, and, if I recollect aright, was also seen and approved by more than one member of the House Committee previously to its distribution, at the end of March.

The circular was predated to the period at which the subscriptions to the London Homœopathic Institution were considered due.

Mr. Smith, as it would seem, for the purpose of two gratuitous insults in the course of his letter, states, "I have been informed, however, nay, if I recollect rightly, have seen the fact announced in Mr. Warne's handwriting, that Mr. Leaf is the author of a pamphlet, published in 1840, entitled "Homœopathy Explained and Objections Answered," etc. *Where* Mr. Smith may have seen what he says he has seen I know not, for, though it is possible, I am not aware that I have ever so announced *the fact;* but I have merely to remark, that the only two editions of the pamphlet which I have seen, have each an introduction bearing the signature of "A Non-Medical Homœopath" *as the author.*

The virulence of the unprovoked and insolent attack on Mr. Leaf I *now* leave to the merited reprobation of every friend of homœopathy.

I know not what authority Mr. Smith has to pledge the Board of Management to the acceptance of any dedication; it will be time enough when I know that he has that authority, to consider whether I shall attend to his entreaties. In the interim, if Mr. Smith really requires any information about the Institution, of which he professes himself so anxious to have the history, the "individual," who has already given him so many hints for his letter, will doubtless obligingly supply it, as well as the names of the now eminent homœopathic practitioners, who were to my knowledge (for I have seen the cases taken in their handwriting) partakers of the benefit of clinical instruction there. Mr. Smith misquotes me, I *did not* state "*first lesson*"

My object in my previous letter was not to criticise the abundant defects in taste, style, and composition in Mr. Smith's first letter, which certainly afforded ample latitude to any one critically inclined, but to correct him in points on which he was in error. Whatever then the demerits of my letter of the 12th inst., the composition, the style, is at all events my own; but it would be "interesting" to ascertain where and by how many individuals Mr. Smith's letter of the 17th inst. was concocted; whose critical, logical, philosophical, and professional acquirements were put in requisition; by whom the *venom* was supplied, for, as "*nemo repentè fuit,*" etc., I so far do Mr. Smith the justice to believe that, though the letter bears his signature, like his Honorary Secretaryship previously to April 1850, the work is not wholly his own—Mr. Smith has no objection to work by deputy.

As to the verdict he seeks, Mr. Smith's own admissions are sufficient to warrant my remark that his history needed correcting.

I have now to observe, in reply to your note at the foot of Mr. Smith's letter, that I have complied with the request to furnish you with the "date"

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when the Board "suggested" or "confirmed" the adoption of the circular, but I do not recognise your right to require of *me* a History of the London Homœopathic Institution; and for "an explanation of the unwarrantable departure from medical custom and precedent" referred to in the letter of the three medical gentlemen dated December 16th, 1846, I can do no better than refer you to Mr. Sampson, the originator and proposer of the "objectionable resolutions," and to Mr. Heurtley, the then secretary of the Institution or Association.

I have only to add, that as *my* time *can be* better occupied, and your columns *ought to be* more agreeably filled than with a correspondence so profitless, no representations or misrepresentations to which the *cacoethes scribendi* of Mr. Smith may impel him will hereafter induce me to reply to them in your journal.

I remain, Sir, your very obedient servant,

W. WARNE.

9, Gresham Street West, Jan. 26, 1852.

[Our observations were merely suggestive with a view to terminate a dispute. Mr. Warne, who was the Honorary Secretary of the late London Homœopathic Institution, we presume, is fully acquainted with all the circumstances that led to the premature decline and fall of that Institution as a hospital. We referred to another for our wished-for explanation of "the unwarrantable departure from medical custom and precedent," avouched in the letter of Drs. Chepmell, Hamilton, and Laurie; and whose duty, we maintain, it is to furnish the desired explanation.—ED.]

THE HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—The Board of Management of the Hahnemann Hospital, if we may judge from the sharp correspondence between some of its members which has lately appeared in your columns, seems to be divided in opinion on many material questions. There is, however, one point of difference which appears to me so vital to the well-being of the Institution, that it ought to be well understood, calmly considered, and deliberately voted upon by every subscriber who has the interests of the Hospital at heart. Should this letter, by your courtesy, be published, and become the means of conveying such information to the subscribers as will enable them to arrive at correct conclusions upon the subject, I shall have accomplished all I propose to myself in thus addressing you.

The founders of the Hahnemann Hospital had *avowedly* three objects in view, in the establishment of that Institution. (I say *avowedly*, for it may appear hereafter that the zeal of some was actuated by motives of personal interest). Those *avowed* objects were—

First. "To relieve the poor who suffer from acute diseases, by receiving them into the Hospital."

Secondly. "To give relief to out-door patients."

Thirdly. "To afford facilities to the medical student or inquirer, for obtaining a knowledge of the homœopathic theory and practice at the bedside of the patient; by clinical lectures; and by lectures in the Hahnemann school (to be attached to the Hospital) on the homœopathic therapeutics and Materia Medica."

Now the question at issue is, whether one of these objects, viz. to afford opportunities of clinical instruction at the bedside of patients, will be best promoted by the appointment of *clinical lecturers*, so entitled, from among the members of the medical staff, or by the delivery of clinical lectures by all the medical officers on duty, *in virtue of their office*, as at other hospitals, and without any other *title* than that of Hospital Physician—Surgeon—or Medical Officer. "What does it matter?" you will probably exclaim; "a mere question of title cannot involve much that is of consequence." You may argue as Romeo did, that the fragrance of a rosebud is still the essence of roses, call the flower by what name you will; but I am prepared to prove, Mr. Editor, that the odour in which the Hahnemann Hospital is to stand with the public,—nay, its very existence as an effective Institution,—essentially depends upon the adoption or negation of this question of "mere title."

Let me place the proposition before your readers in three points of view: first, in its relation to that numerous and talented body of men, members of the medical profession, who practise according to the homœopathic law; secondly, its relation to its ultimate object, the formation of a medical school for the dissemination of the homœopathic theory, and the universal introduction of its practice; thirdly, its probable action upon the welfare of homœopathy and upon that of the Hahnemann Hospital in particular.

A bye-law of that Institution enacts that "the Medical Council, in conjunction with the Medical Staff, are to advise the Board of Management or Committee on all matters connected with the medical arrangements of the Hospital." When, therefore, the question of establishing a medical homœopathic school was first discussed at the Board, the opinions of the Medical Council were very properly sought for, and on the 18th of July last, a circular was addressed to each of the twenty gentlemen composing that body, requesting their advice on, amongst others, the two following points:—As to the then system of medical service with reference to the delivery of clinical lectures, and as to the best mode of ensuring a continuous course of lectures during the session. To this circular *fifteen* replies were received, out of which number the tenour of *thirteen* was to the effect that oral instruction was most desirable, and that for the present, until a charter for a college could be obtained from Government, the hospital physicians and surgeons should give clinical lectures during the term of their appointment, *but without any title*. One member was for establishing a paid professorship, but this opinion he has since retracted as premature, and now coincides with the

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views of the majority; and one was for the election of a physician and surgeon, to be specially appointed as clinical lecturers. You would imagine, Sir, that with so strong an expression of opinion, the Board of Management could be at no loss to decide upon what course to pursue. What, then, will the subscribers think, when they are informed that the Board quietly ignored the united opinion of fourteen members of the Medical Council, and—on the pretence that at a subsequent meeting (at which *only five* of that body were present) no definite decision was arrived at, and the matter left to the Board of Management to decide—adopted the views expressed by that solitary one who advocated the election to a titled lectureship? The fact is so! but to comprehend the principle (or want of it?) upon which they acted would require a deeper initiation into the hidden mysteries of the Board of Management than I am at present at liberty to afford.

The objections of the majority of the Medical Council to this course are very obvious, and must be allowed to be most sound. It is notorious that the office and title of clinical lecturer to a large hospital is virtually that of "Physician in Chief," and carries with it the *prestige* of a decided superiority, and upon a question so important, and involving so much as that of medical superiority inevitably does, no body of laymen could be considered competent to decide. The Medical Staff of the Hahnemann Hospital, as a body therefore, were compelled to decline becoming candidates for an office whereto the election depended upon non-medical suffrages, but the title of which conveyed to the public the notion of great medical superiority in those holding it. They contended, and I think most fairly, that inasmuch as each and every member of the Staff, in his turn of duty, cheerfully dedicated his time, his energies, and his talents to the real work and actual service of the Hospital, it would be but an invidious distinction to confer a title upon any one or two of their number—a just cause of dissatisfaction in the minds of those who were not so distinguished. "If," said they, "all are willing to give clinical lectures, why select any one more than another upon whom to confer the title of clinical lecturer?" And it will be incredible, if one member of the profession can be found of delicacy sufficiently obtuse to put himself forward as candidate for an office which is to proclaim him, if elected, the chief of all his fellows—one who can so far prostitute his independence and the dignity of his profession to his interests, as to solicit suffrages from electors incompetent to judge of his fitness or unfitness for the office to which they pretend to elect him.

The object which the delivery of clinical lectures was intended to promote—the ultimate formation of a homœopathic medical school—next claims our attention. I presume that the chair of clinical lecturer to a hospital is, or invariably ought to be, filled by some man of pre-eminent talent, of mature experience, and unsullied reputation, who is both able and willing to devote his time and talents to the task of studying cases *in the hospital*, and giving instruction, by lectures upon them at the bedside of the patient; moreover, he should be a man enjoying the confidence and esteem of the profession generally, and in this particular instance it would be necessary that he should teach *pure* homœopathy: previous active service in the hospital for a long period would form another ground of selection.

If this be the case, it must be obvious to all your readers, that the character of any future school to be founded in connection with the Hahnemann Hospital would be seriously emperilled by the hasty election, at this present moment, of any member of the medical profession to a clinical lecturer's chair in that Institution who did not possess in himself all these requisites. Nor do I think it possible, from the short time that the Hospital has been established, that any fair conclusions whereon to ground an election can be arrived at. Let a charter, based on broad and comprehensive principles, be first obtained: let it rigidly exact a full and sufficient acquaintance with medicine in its most advanced state; it will then be for the medical profession to elect from among themselves the most worthy to fill such professors' chairs as homœopathy demands. For it must never be forgotten that the existing medical schools abundantly supply the most perfect instruction on *all* subjects *except* the principles and practice of homœopathy and its Materia Medica Pura. Clinical instruction will result as a matter of course from properly conducted hospital practice and teaching. In the mean time, let an ample number of medical officers be appointed, *upon the recommendation of the Medical Council*, as acting officers to the Hospital for a period of not less than three years, with the understanding, that they shall arrange among themselves to give, at least, twelve clinical lectures per annum, or as many more as they can find subjects and audiences for. Thus may many an old-school practitioner, distracted by doubts as to the efficacy of his practice, which the success of homœopathy cannot fail to engender, and many an inquiring student determined to know the truth, gain a beneficial insight into the glorious truths of the homœopathic law, by attending the bedside (or classroom) lectures of the physicians and surgeons of the Hahnemann Hospital.

Not to occupy more of your space, Sir, I will conclude by shortly remarking the effect which the influence and acts of the present Board of Management are likely to produce upon the interests of homœopathy and the Hahnemann Hospital. The first direful result of their proceedings was made manifest by the immediate resignation of four of the medical staff, which is now diminished just one-half: four have recently resigned; one resigned some time ago; and a sixth is abroad. There has been also a decided intimation from the medical body generally, that they did not approve of or co-operate with the Board. Five years ago, a similar proceeding at the London Homœopathic Hospital, in Hanover Square, lost that Institution the services of some of its best officers, and it will be well to observe

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that in the letter of resignation of those gentlemen, the very same reasons are urged which I have been endeavouring to place before your readers. I subjoin it for their perusal.

"Dec. 16th, 1846.

"SIR,—We, the undersigned physicians to the London Homœopathic Hospital, having come to the determination to resign the offices which we hold in our medical capacity at the above Hospital, will thank you to hand in our resignations to the Board of Management.

"We do so, in consequence of the principle involved in the passing of certain resolutions with regard to the medical management of the Hospital by a large majority of the governing body at the last meeting, for the following reasons—

"First. Because the original conditions upon which we accepted office, viz., that of perfect equality amongst the medical officers, has been entirely set aside on the part of the governing body, by conferring a title on one of our body, which, in the mind of the public (lay and professional), conveys an idea of medical superiority.

"Second. The title of '*Consulting Physician*' which has been so conferred being one of high honorary distinction, is only given to physicians upon their retiring from the active duties which they have fulfilled in a hospital for a long series of years, and therefore such a title cannot be conferred upon any physician of this Hospital, who (no matter of how high an order of merit) has declared his resolution to retain a post of activity, without an unwarrantable departure from medical custom and precedent; a step the more unjustifiable, seeing that it was taken in direct opposition to the earnest remonstrance of a vast majority of the medical portion of its governing body.

"Third. Because we believe that the interests of homœopathy will not be advanced in the proper quarter (we allude to the medical profession), unless medical custom and precedent be rigidly adhered to by the governing bodies of the hospitals, where homœopathic treatment is adopted exclusively; and, moreover, because we also believe that no physician can retain an active part in any hospital, homœopathic or otherwise, whose governing body persists in the legislation of medical matters, irrespective of medical opinion and custom, without a compromise of professional dignity, both in the opinion of his fellows and of the public at large.

"We beg you will convey to the governing body of the Hospital our courteous sentiments, believing, as we do, that all the individual members (irrespective of private opinion) are actuated by the same good feeling, the same disinterestedness, and the same desire to forward the cause of homœopathy, which we trust we *possess*, (?) whilst we cannot help being at issue with the majority of its members as to the principle involved by the late resolutions.

"We have the honour to be,

"Your obedient servants,

(Signed) "E. C. CHEPMELL,
"ED. HAMILTON,
"J. LAURIE."

"To the Secretary of the London Homœopathic Hospital, Hanover Square."

Yet in the face of such a warning, in spite of repeated remonstrances from individual members of the Medical Council, and of a strong, because *independent and disinterested* opposition at their own Board, the Management have carried out their obnoxious resolution and appointed two clinical lecturers. Is it any wonder, Sir, that the medical gentlemen are disgusted? and if they do not (as a body) resent the insult offered to the dignity of the profession, but swallow their disgust in silence, and content themselves with looking with distrust and suspicion upon the Board of Management, with whom it is essential that they should most intimately co-operate, instead of at once sending in their resignations, it is only because a dread of compromising the very existence of an Institution destined for the most charitable of all purposes humanely deters them. What must they feel when they learn that even this sentiment has been calculated on by the Board? Outrage their honour as you will, insult them at pleasure, they will not leave us for the sake of the good Cause.

The question was big with meaning which was put by a member of the Medical Council at one of their meetings, "If the conferring of titles be not *solely* for the benefit of the Hospital, why confer them?" It is not for me to answer it, still less to accuse any member of the Board of being influenced by personal motives. But I will not hide from the subscribers my convictions, that the sooner their Executive Council is purged from the gross taint of personal influence which now seems to pervade it, the better it will be for the prosperity of the noble Institution which they patronise and support.

The government is vested in the General Meeting of the subscribers, with whom rests the sole *legislative* authority; the duties of the Board of Management being merely *executive*. I contend then that the latter body have overstepped their power and usurped the prerogative of the former; that they are incompetent either to appoint or dismiss any *medical* officer whatever (it being merely "in the power of the Board of Management to *suspend* any officer until the next general meeting of the subscribers"), and I am sure a reference to the sixteenth and seventeenth laws of the constitution will support the position. Yet the Board of Management have not only accepted resignations, but have filled appointments of medical officers, and that too, *without any recommendation from the Medical Council,* in direct defiance of a most important bye-law to the contrary.

It will therefore devolve upon the next meeting of subscribers to decide whether, by an invidious pre-eminence given to one or two members of the profession, *without the sanction of the Medical Council,* the whole medical body is to be estranged, the duties of the Hospital neglected, or at best, but hurriedly performed, and the Hahnemann Hospital, with its much-talked-of clinical lectureship, held up to the scoff of allopaths and the ridicule of the world, as an abortive Institution; or, whether, by a well-balanced

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and reciprocal interaction of the *whole* Medical Council and the Board of Management, an efficient staff of *willing* medical officers be kept on foot, and a course of clinical instruction established which shall form the nucleus of a future school of homœopathic medical practice, and become the means of developing homœopathic truth and transmitting its blessings to another age.

Apologizing for having occupied so much of your time, I remain, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
WILLIAM GILL,
Member of the Board of Management of the Hahnemann Hospital.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Though I have had the pleasure of taking in and reading the *Homœopathic Times* since its commencement, I am not aware that I have ever seen the subject of homœopathy treated of in connection with dental surgery. Possibly, by mentioning my non-medical observations, I may persuade some homœopathic dentist to step forth and tell your readers of the benefits to be obtained in his line of practice by the use of our medicines. I know that in Exeter there is at least one eminent dentist who is a homœopath, and no doubt there are many more in other places. Without going into the question of toothache, I will confine my observations to tooth-drawing. About four years ago, as near as I can remember, I was obliged to have a tooth out, and knowing the soothing and healing properties of *Arnica*, I mixed some of the mother tincture in warm water, before the operation, and afterwards found great relief from rinsing the mouth with it. The dentist observed my movements, and saw, no doubt, that relief was obtained; though no homœopath himself, he has since constantly used it in his practice, and on his coming to draw another of my teeth last week, he assured me that his patients find very great relief from its use, and are always anxious to know what it is, where it comes from, and where it is to be procured.

I found, by my own experience on the occasion of losing my last tooth, that *Arnica* checks hemorrhage, lulls pain, and promotes the healing of the gum. I have now advised my friend the dentist to try *Calendula* as well, as I thought it likely, in cases where the gums are unhealthy, that it would answer better than *Arnica*. No doubt, *Arnica* taken internally at the same time, would also be of service, but my experience of its benefits has been principally, and that of my friend the dentist entirely, as a topical application. If no one else will advise non-medical homœopaths to reap this benefit in dental surgery, let me, at least, do so; let me invite such dentists as think with us, to give us the benefit of their advice and experience on this point; let me further advise *all* dentists to try *Arnica* and *Calendula*, and I make no doubt those who do so will find their patients increase, owing to the palpable diminution of the subsequent pains of their operations. I regard also the use of our medicines by dentists as a means of making our system known; for when sufferers have once tasted the benefits of the great doctrine of "*similia similibus curantur*," they will naturally be inclined to go a little further, and examine into the merits of a medical system which renders them aid on so trying an occasion—an aid which they have never before had offered to them.

Trusting that these few lines may be suggestive of comfort under pain to some, and that they may be productive of some more authoritative remarks on the subject from one or more surgeon dentists, I remain, Sir, obediently yours,

A NON-MEDICAL OBSERVER.

HOMŒOPATHIC EXPERIENCE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—William Carré, aged two years. When brought to me, in 1837, he could neither walk nor speak, was very backward for his age; extremely thin abdomen, swollen; always craving for food; cross, and crying; violent diarrhœa; very restless sleep. I gave him three globules, 30th dilution, of *Calc. carb., one dose* every seven days, for three weeks.

Mrs. F. T — had a lump or tumour near the corner of her right eye. It seemed under the skin, was extremely painful (the nose seemed slightly inflamed), gnawing pain, was very sensitive to the touch; from the eye it moved to the forehead, thence to the nose, where it was when she came to me; it was the size of a small bean, and raised. She complained of a great pain in her legs, sometimes one of her knees swelled, and sometimes her feet. She was a hard-working woman, and of a slight make, with dark eyes and hair, about twenty-five years of age. I gave two globules, 30th dilution, of *Silicea;* the following day, one more globule; in a few days the acute symptoms disappeared, and a dose of one globule every week for three weeks entirely cured her, and she has had no return. This was in the year 1837. Her son John, the same make and complexion as his mother, aged fourteen months, was brought to me in a very feverish state; his face was sometimes red, at other times of a greenish-white; his breath was most offensive, like bad eggs; his food turned acrid on his stomach; was sick after his food; no appetite; much flatulence, alternate constipation and diarrhœa; disturbed sleep. The inside of his thighs was in a state of violent inflammation and running sore, with small but very painful boils round the lower part of his abdomen. The child had been in this state for several weeks before he was brought to me. I gave him one globule, 30th dilution, of *Sulphur;* three days afterwards, one more globule; the fifth day the wounds began to turn blue and heal; the boils discharged and healed likewise; the seventh day from the second dose I gave one globule more. The improvement was so rapid after this third dose, that I thought no more medicine was required; the result proved me right, as the child recovered his spirits, and laughed and jumped about as before he was ill.

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Mrs. Nouri, aged fifty years, had violent acute pains, which came on and ceased suddenly, in the left side; she was much oppressed at night, and when walking; cough night and morning; no appetite, or taste of food. I gave her one globule, 18th dilution, of *Pulsatilla;* at the end of seven days, one more. This quite cured her.

Caroline T — suffered from cramps at night in her thighs, which prevented sleep, and caused much suffering. Two globules, 30th dilution, of *Rhus tox.*, and the same dose repeated at the end of a week quite cured this painful affection.

James L —, a child who had every appearance of approaching scarlet fever. His face was red and looked swollen, his throat was very sore, and there was great burning all over his skin. I gave him two globules of *Aconite* in the morning, and one globule of *Bell.* at night. The next day all bad symptoms had disappeared.

T. W. C —, six weeks old, was brought to me May, 1837, in convulsions. His body was bent back so as to rest on his head and feet, and perfectly stiff; it was impossible to change his position; his eyes distended and turned upwards; he was greatly agitated, and screamed violently. I gave him two globules of *Chamomilla* without effect; on examining the child more closely, I found that though the body continued rigid, the arms were flexible, and he constantly threw them about, which does not agree with the symptoms of the convulsions produced by *Chamomilla.* I then gave him one globule, 30th dilution, of *Belladonna* the next morning. He was so much better the following evening, that his mother (according to my directions) did not give him the second globule till the morning she brought him to me. When I saw him, I found his convulsions gone and his body flexible; he was sleeping quietly, but with his eyes half open; he looked languid, and as if he had suffered much. One globule more quite restored him, and he had no return of convulsions. He grew up a fine strong boy.

John M —, four months old, 1837, was brought to me, looking extremely ill, crying violently; his face was pale and thin, his forehead burning; he evidently suffered much in his bowels. He had diarrhœa, with green stools, and much mucus mixed with them. I gave him two globules, 13th dilution, of *Cham.;* the following day he ceased crying, and seemed relieved from pain; the diarrhœa was much less, and less green. I gave one globule more at night; the next day he continued improving so rapidly, that no more medicine was required.

Little M. M—, a child of three years old, had a similar attack about the same time, and was cured by three doses of *Chamomilla* 12.

Little Corbet, six months old, very red face, hot and burning skin and head; looked extremely ill, but had no other symptoms of illness. One globule, 12th dilution, of *Belladonna,* during the night, removed all trace of illness.

H. C.

IRIS FLORENTINA.

(From the North-Western Journal of Homœopathy—Chicago, Illinois, U. S.)

THIS remedy, spoken of by Dr. Teste, is but little known in practice. The only notice of it which we have seen is contained in the Real-Lexicon, from which we should judge it worthy of attention. If any of our friends have any information regarding this remedy, they would oblige us by communicating it.

"Iris Florentina" (Iris officinalis; Florentinische Veilwurz; French, Iris de Florence; English, Flag-lily, Flower de Luce) is indigenous in Provence and in Italy, especially in Florence, whence its name; its beauty has secured it a frequent place in our gardens. The root is a few inches long; somewhat rounded and flattened; tuberous, knotty, heavy; about as thick as one's thumb; white without, and within of a whitish-yellow; has a pleasant, violet-like odour, and a slimy, mealy, sharp, and bitter taste.

When fresh, the root has an acrid quality, which is mostly lost by drying, yet even in the dry root there is a resin of a burning taste, which may be extracted by alcohol, and also some traces of a volatile oil. Jahn thought he detected the presence of inuline. Vogel obtained from it a volatile oil; a brownish-yellow or yellowish-green, fatty resin, giving a yellow solution with alcohol, of an extremely bitter, sharp, almost burning taste; astringent extractive gum; starch, and ligneous matter. According to Raspail, in the tuberosities he detected crystals of oxalate of lime. Thouerry thought he also discovered emetine, which, however, he afterwards denied.

It is most powerful when fresh, when it possesses the greatest acridity, by virtue of which it induces redness and even inflammation of the skin. As regards its medicinal qualities, its proper place is between *Calamus* and *Senega.* Large doses induce burning in the stomach, loathing, nausea, vomiting, cutting pains in the bowels, diarrhœa, anxiety and headache. Aumont relates (Nouv. Bibl. Méd., viii. 525) that the dry powder, used as a hair-powder, occasioned, in the case of two young girls, uneasy sleep, headache, constriction of the throat, redness of the neck, disposition to vomit, a kind of sleeplessness, difficult urination, and an incomplete hemiplegia. This root has the most powerful effect upon the mucous membrane of the intestinal and respiratory organs, and seems, at the same time, to act as an alterative. Hoffmann ascribes to it hypnotic and antispasmodic virtues. It is used with the greatest benefit in chronic mucous disorders, chronic catarrh, asthma, dropsy of the chest, etc.

Pereira says, "During teething, infants are sometimes permitted to rub their gums with and bite the rhizome; but the practice is objectionable, since it is not unfrequently attended with irritation of the mouth and disorder *of the stomach and bowels.*"

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

MY CONVERSION TO HOMŒOPATHY.

By Dr. E. Acworth, of Cheltenham.

(*From the British Journal of Homœopathy.*)

I have been asked for my confession—not of homœopathic faith, but that which operated my conversion to it. At first, I was unwilling to accede to this request, and if I now venture to write of myself, I do so in the hope it will be only in so far as that self is connected with a cause that I would serve, for it strikes me that if I can simply show how the truth of homœopathy was forced upon me, I shall haply furnish a better answer to its assailants than if I were to answer their invectives more directly.

It is now a good many years ago since homœopathy first crossed my path. It was then a much smaller thing to me than now, and did not long arrest my attention.

I let it go its way. Years passed on, and it had grown to something larger; but what will not imagination make things grow to? Had I not seen what Nature can do—especially when the physician himself does nothing but—give her *leave* to do?

Had I not myself received credit for cures in which I had no concern? Had I not had occasion ere now to see the error of my allopathic ways--and now, instead of thwarting Nature, did I not virtuously follow her suggestions, and find how homœopathic cures might be owing to what was left undone? The diet and regimen of the patient did it all. It was all nonsense!

But still the years succeeded one another, and homœopathy had grown with each till it grew at last into something like a bugbear that frightened my moral sense from its propriety. What if there should be something in it, after all? What if its results were not purely *negative?* What if it turned out *positively* superior to the system of treatment I had hitherto employed? How if it should really prove the art of healing *cito, tuto, et jucunde?* I began to think I would investigate the matter. There was enough to challenge examination, if there was not enough to enforce belief. In the first place, there was the *steady* progress it had made—not in a single country, but in many—throughout all Europe—throughout the world. This in itself was a presumption of its truth. Then there was the constant accession to its ranks, not only of patients, but physicians too. Some of these I had a slight acquaintance with. And here lay the point. *Character* is much more transparent than *opinion*—or rather than matters of opinion. It may be hard to find if a thing be true or false, but not if a man believe in it or not. The *man* is seen through much sooner than the *thing*. I knew of homœopathic physicians about whose earnestness I could have no doubt.

That *they* were convinced I felt assured. I had every reason to believe them to be—as honest—as enlightened—as observant as myself—and as little disposed to take things on trust. They had examined the matter. I had not. Were they not likely to know better than myself? Was not *their* belief a presumption of its truth?

There was still another. And that was the abuse which the *Lancet* lavished on it. I began to have most strange misgivings. Surely there *must* be something good in it—something not opposed to truth. Had I not seen the *British Medical Review* attacked with similar coarseness and vulgarity, only because of its elevated tone—because it would raise the character of medicine—and of medical men too—above the *Lancet* level? I would certainly investigate the matter for myself. If I were to think or feel by proxy, orthodox as I then was, there were those of the pestilent heresy itself I would rather have had for my proxy, even then than that "defender of the faith," the *Lancet*. If my thinking, like my washing, must be *done out* for me (as a friend of mine affirms to be the case with the majority even of educated men), yet still it was not at the office of the *Lancet* I should have wished to get mine done. Whatever the *mangling or getting up* might be, I should doubt if either the thinking or the washing would have much to do with the purifying element in which Truth is said to dwell. Doubtless, those who conduct that journal were in possession of faculties far superior to mine, or how could they so intuitively see not only into what was true or false, but into the dishonesty of those who saw not with them? But still the use of my own poor brains was better for me than the usufruct of theirs. I would certainly look into homœopathy myself. There was nothing in its *principle* I knew of to object to—nothing to stagger one in the homœopathic law—but—the infinitesimals! Yet even then I could not help saying—surely everything is wonderful, or there is nothing so! Is there anything more marvellous in one fact than another, except in its less frequent presentation to the mind? That a millionth part of a grain of anything should cure, was not in itself a jot more extraordinary than that one grain, or five grains, or ten grains, should! It was simply hitherto opposed to my experience. No! not *opposed*—I should rather say—it came not within the *range* of my experience. It certainly was not a jot more

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extraordinary than that men whom I believe to be honest and observant—men without any motive to deceive—men who had put the matter to the proof, and challenged the proof or disproof of what they stated—should unite to maintain it would, if it would not. It was a question only to be decided by experiment. Was it not an experiment I ought to make?

But perhaps I might not have reasoned quite in this way, if it had not been I was already a believer in that which had made me resolve, henceforth, to be careful of ridiculing even the ridiculous. I mean—in the truth of mesmerism. Of this I had no doubt. I had passed through different phases of opinion before arriving at a conviction of its truth, but now it had firm possession of my mind. And, doubtless, this had made me all the readier to admit the possibility of homœopathy being true. What, if it were so? What, if the same process had to be gone through with regard to *it* as in regard to mesmerism—laughed at—explained away—inquired into—believed in?

At last I could not put the subject from my mind so that it should not infect my quiet. Like another, in a matter of greater moment, I deferred it to "a more convenient season," but, like that other, in the meanwhile trembled. I began to *fear* it might be true. And if it were true there was cause for fear. Did not I know what its belief would cost me? Had I not publicly defended mesmerism, and had I not had to pay for that defence? If there was the same to do for homœopathy! And if with the same results! And then the thought flashed across me—You are a coward!—you dare not face the light! And then I whispered to myself—How base! You are caring nothing for the interests of Truth—you are caring only for your own! And then, too, I recollected the obligation I was under to do the best I could for suffering humanity, and I knew that the *best* involved *comparison*, and I felt that if I said I had done my best, there was something that might tell me it was false! I would not have hone this from anybody else. I would not bear it from myself. Whatever it might cost, I would set my mind at rest. Moreover, at this time came before me such well-authenticated cures by homœopathy as made it a duty there was no escape from, to test its therapeutic power.

I put myself into the hands of a physician near me, who had been an apostle of homœopathy for years, and whose apostleship was placed above suspicion: for the benefits it conferred were on others, not himself. It was "the blessing of him that was ready to perish," but not the fees of the rich, "that came upon him." Homœopathy, like virtue, was to him its own reward. This gentleman kindly procured me books and medicines. I read, resolving what I read to *prove*.

At this time, amongst other patients of mine was a lady of about sixty years of age, of very infirm health, and subject to laryngeal and bronchial attacks of so severe a kind as to demand most active treatment. In the intervals between these, she suffered besides from various symptoms of indigestion, and still more fearfully from violent neuralgia, flying from one part of the body to another, but settling most frequently in the index-finger of one hand, and showing, as it would seem, its gouty origin by a considerable node it left behind it there This neuralgia returned with all the more violence after any depletory measures that might be used to subdue the bronchitic attacks. In other words, the treatment of one complaint was incompatible with the treatment of the other. I had therefore in the last bronchitic attacks, for which at the time I speak of I was attending her, avoided, as far as possible, depletion, and trusted mainly to the use of *Tartar emetic*. But *Tartar emetic* after a while (after the acuter symptoms were relieved) became, in senses more than one, *intolerable*. The patient was still suffering from incessant cough—from difficult and hurried breathing—and from constant wheezing in the chest, which was attended, but unrelieved, by expectoration. Though of a mild disposition and phlegmatic temperament, she was agitated and restless in the extreme, and declared that, if I did not soon relieve her, she must die It struck me here was a case for homœopathy, and, as she would not have other advice, that I would try it. I went home and got some *Pulsatilla*, in the selection of which remedy there was haply more of chance than of my own discrimination. The first dose of it I administered myself, sitting by the patient's side the while. In twenty minutes' time she felt so much relieved that she wished to know what medicine I had given her—for, to use her own words, *she felt herself in heaven!* She seemed disposed to sleep, and so I left her, promising to return in the course of two or three hours. On my return I found she had had some sleep, which she had hardly had for several nights—the pulse was much less quick—the cough less frequent—the wheezing not so marked—the breathing easier. Altogether, the patient was much better, and in forty-eight hours I might say that she was well.

The case struck me. It was the first I had ever treated, or *seen* treated, homœopathically. But might it not, after all, be a *coincidence*—what looked so very like the *cause* of amendment? Ought one to generalize from a single fact? But my wonder did not stop here. Day after day, I looked for the neuralgia that followed convalescence from these attacks, but the neuralgia *did not* return. But more than this, the dyspepsia too had left her. I could not make it out any better than the patient. But what was my surprise to find, on referring to the action of *Pulsatilla*, that whilst merely treatment of one complaint was thought of, I had actually treated the others without knowing it. The medicine was applicable not only to a single set of symptoms, but to many. And here it was that the great superiority of homœopathic treatment forced itself upon my attention. I could not stop here. I could not, *and feel myself an honest man*.

The next case I saw was one of pneumonia—one of the very gravest kind—that was treated with *Phosphorus* and *Belladonna*, and that, to me, with the most remarkable results. The

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Belladonna was given on account of the delirium, and it was marvellous how quickly it controlled symptoms that *Phosphorus* alone could not control. I recollect well when the first dose was given, at five o'clock in the afternoon, that the pulse was more than 130—at twelve o'clock the following day it had fallen to 78. All the other symptoms showed, equally, improvement.

This case, too, made a deep impression on me. Moreover, at this time, in my dyspeptic person, I was feeling the benefit of homœopathic treatment. But all this did not satisfy me, I resolved to see what hospitals could show me, and so repaired to town; and although they had no acute cases there, yet what I saw was sufficient to convince me, with what I had already seen, that the new therapeutics were better than the old. My mind was made up. I was advised to go abroad and study homœopathy at Paris and Vienna. Before many days had passed away, the resignation of my medical appointment was in the hands of our Hospital Board—my comfortable establishment was broken up—leave was taken of friends and patients—and I had fairly started for the Continent. Of what I saw in France and Germany during my some months' residence abroad, I must speak, if at all, in another place. Enough that the object I had in view was gained, and felt to be worth any sacrifice that had been made. Yet this was more than a pecuniary one. I had counted the costs of my change of faith, and knew them to consist in something else than money. I returned to England to share in the abuse so lavishly poured on the homœopathic body—to be classed amongst a set of impostors, because I could not impose upon myself—to be banned and outlawed by "honourable men," amongst whom *I* might have been received as one, if only I had paid the price—dishonesty! Yes! if I had only been dishonest, if I had only stifled my convictions, if I had made myself a living lie, I might have qualified myself for the society of *gentlemen*, who could meet me *then* in consultation, "without derogating from their own high honour, or the honour of the profession" to which they belonged. Thank God, I was ineligible. This honour was declined. It was better to lie under the charge of imposition, for "why should honour outlive honesty? Let it go all." Let me be a charlatan—quack—anything except a candidate for such a fellowship as this. Let them bring any charge against me but that of being worthy of admission to their meetings. It was something not to deserve *this*. Imposture was a charge much easier to bear. The grounds on which it rested were so new and strange. Instead of riding with Falsehood in a carriage, to be trying to walk hand in hand with Truth—to keep one's conscience, though no nicer than it should be, not exactly in the same pocket with one's fees! to pay and willingly, with loss of income, for gain of greater therapeutic skill! Were not these strange grounds for it to rest on? But when were ever grounds too strange to build an accusation on, when the object was not to judge, but to condemn? How has it ever been in this respect? How in the days of Him whose whole life was doing good? For, not to seem guilty of profane comparison, was not *He*—the great healer of disease—who prescribed not after the manner of the scribes—denounced as nothing better than an Arch-Impostor? Were not the cures which he effected—not being wrought *secundem artem*, or according to the formulas of Pharisaic medicine—ascribed to the Author of Evil, not of Good? When this is remembered, it is perhaps a little difficult not to feel almost unduly elevated by the obloquy one meets with for "proving all things, and holding fast to that which is good"—for acting up to what one believes is morally as well as medically right. And it is well to feel this elevation, within bounds. Those who are standing on the vantage-ground of truth, can afford to be magnanimously forbearing to their opponents. It is not by bandying taunts and accusations—it is not by exchanging terms of scurrility—it is not by crimination and recrimination—that the cause of homœopathy is to be fought and won. Let its disciples recognise their dignified position. We have all the advantage of truth upon our side. Let our assailants have that which vituperation gives. Who would put himself on a level with the *Lancet*? It may call those who practise homœopathy impostors, but who feels libelled by its coarse and clumsy calumny, or who would lower himself by calling *it* names? Let our language be such as may show our opponents we know what is due to ourselves as well as them. If we must reply to the resolutions of Societies that refuse to meet us in consultation, let it be in the calm and self-respectful tone of the counter-resolutions of the Homœopathic Association. A quiet, dignified, gentlemanlike bearing will only show our consciousness of strength: for where there is consciousness of strength, there is repose. For me, I confess that as far as I can see, there is much less to fear from others than ourselves. I laugh at the idea of halls and colleges coercing opinion in the present day—coercing opinion on matters, too, of medicine—of medicine, that never yet has had a fixed belief—that is, *or ought to be*, a thing of progress—and that only in the present year of grace has framed its Athanasian creed, to place beyond the pale of mercy those who might think of saving life in ways its conventional orthodoxy lays not down! I laugh at the idea of halls and colleges prescribing to their alumni *how* they are to prescribe—at the idea of their making a clinical Procrustes of the practice that will not adjust itself to theirs! All this is only too ridiculous. They may say to medical inquiry, Stop! to the onward course of science, Thou shalt go no farther! but the tide of truth still is rolling on and sweeping past the chairs of our Esculapian Canutes,* rising and rising even now above their feet, although it may haply never reach their heads. The earth turns round,—*e pur si muove*—although the anti-Galileos of the day—the

* If it be not libelling Canute so to call them, for centuries ago he *unsaid in solemn jest* what in the present day *they say in solemn earnest.*

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Inquisition of à Senatus Medicus—will have it, it is standing still. The smallest part of a grain of *Hellebore will* cure, although not learned Professors of their folly. They may refuse examination to homœopathic students, as they have hitherto refused it to homœopathic practice, but *their own* examination is going on the while. They may make their diplomas a license for untruth, as well as for any other breach of the Commandments, but they will not make the world believe (the world that will very soon come to understand that taking such degrees is not "*taking honours*") that these will qualify for *practice* of Physic, whatever they may do for the *profession*. Let them make what arbitrary laws they please—there is one they cannot overrule, and that is public and intelligent opinion. This it is that legislates even to our legislators, and that now-a-days rules and regulates their councils. And this will teach teachers, too, their duty to the taught—that it is not to stunt and dwarf their mental growth by forbidding them any other kind of aliment than beliefs prepared and potted for their use—to arrest the development of their intellectual manhood by crushing it, as the Chinese lady does her foot, in the vice made for it by traditional opinion—to make them figure like stuffed birds in a museum—or, instead of living, breathing men, mere fossil specimens of this or that formation. All this it will correct in the course of time. It will make them impose, not Confessions of Faith, but conditions necessary to a faith worth having; and pronouncing in favour of homœopathy itself, it will make that a matter soon of *interest* to Professors, that is not yet a matter of inquiry. To that public and intelligent opinion we may leave them. They have so discovered their lamentable weakness by the injury they would do us, but have done themselves, that though they have justified, they have hardly rendered necessary more than a passive attitude on our part. "Our strength is to sit still;" aye! and study Hahnemann. Let us only be true to ourselves and our high calling, and we may leave halls and colleges to do their worst. "In quiet and confidence shall be your strength." For me, I have such faith in the omnipotence of Truth, and in the self-correction of the evils we most fear, that I can only say to my Alma Mater what poor Lear says to his unnatural daughter:—

"Mend when thou canst; be better at thy leisure:
I can be patient."

"PROFESSOR SIMPSON AND HOMŒOPATHY.

"To the Editor of the Dundee Courier.

"SIR,—A short time ago there appeared in your columns a report of a speech delivered by Professor Simpson at a meeting of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh, condemnatory of the practice of homœopathy, upon which, with your permission, I would take this opportunity of making a few remarks. Although the medical press is certainly the most fitting place to discuss this subject, yet, when the newspaper press generally opens its pages to one view of a subject, it seems but reasonable that the other side should be heard likewise. The public never can be really benefited by imposition or error, and it is only by free and full discussion that the one can be detected, and the other exposed.

"I distinctly affirm, and shall in the sequel prove, that the Professor's speech is, in the whole scope of its reasoning, unphilosophical, abounding in erroneous statements, and, therefore, damaging to the sacred cause of truth and humanity.

"After making a comparison between Mormonism and Homœopathy, which on this occasion I shall pass over, the Professor raises his 'standard of common sense,' by which to judge of Hahnemann and his followers. He says, 'if we judge the *opinions* of Hahnemann and his followers by this standard, we shall find them sadly, very sadly awanting.' As one of Hahnemann's followers, I fear no amount of investigation or criticism in regard to my opinions, *much less* in regard to the *system of medicine* which I practise, or the *law of cure* which I advocate. But strange to say, the Professor has not, in the whole course of his speech, been able to bring forward one single opinion peculiar to Hahnemann or his followers. This I state emphatically. His vaunted judgment of our opinions then turns out, on examination, to be a piece of mere braggadocio.

"Being determined, however, to damage in some way a cause which he could not controvert, he has been compelled to have recourse to the most shallow and mean manœuvring, in the highest degree discreditable to any one having the slightest pretensions to science or public teaching. The shift fallen upon consists in a borrowed quotation of an old threadbare calculation about billionths and decillionths, which has not the slighest bearing on the point at issue. *Homœopathy is a system of medicine which teaches that, to cure a disease, we must administer a medicine which is known to be capable of producing on the healthy body symptoms which have a strong resemblance to those of the disease.* This, and this alone, is the subject he ought to have taken up and discussed. I appeal to the 'common sense' of the public, if he has attempted to do so. But further, while among these billionths, the Professor says, 'medical jurists and lawyers know of no poison, however strong and powerful, the billionth or decillionth of which would in the least degree affect a man or kill a fly.' Now allow me to put the question,—did Hahnemann, or do any of his followers, hold any opinion opposed to this? If so, where is the evidence? There is none; for we all admit the fact that such minute doses of drugs have no perceptible effect on the healthy body. And yet the Professor's sentence is stated in such a way as to insinuate that we actually deny it. In regard to small doses, what we maintain is this—that doses of medicine, much smaller than those which are generally given by the old-school practitioners, are effectual in curing disease, when given in accordance with the homœopathic law. At what degree of attenuation a medicinal substance ceases to exert

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any curative power over disease, when properly administered, I don't pretend to say; neither can the Professor. But this I declare, that I have hundreds of times effected cures by the use of medicine, in doses infinitely smaller than those recommended by the old school. Amongst those patients cured, were not a few who had been for years under ordinary treatment, swallowing large and disgusting doses of potent drugs, besides submitting to some of the other appliances of the heroic system, such as issues, blisterings, burnings, bleedings, etc., without deriving any lasting benefit. From these stubborn facts in my own experience, together with a vast number of similar authenticated facts in the experience of others, I am compelled, in spite of all preconceived notions and theoretical reasonings, to believe in the truth of homœopathy, and the efficacy of small doses.

"To every one commencing the study of homœopathy, the efficacy of small doses is an improbable, if not a doubtful-like fact. This was the case with myself. And it is not to be wondered at, when we look back on the notions which, as students, we imbibed from the teachers of the old school. I can therefore fully sympathise with those medical men who at first sight doubt or even feel inclined to laugh at the efficacy of these doses. But as men of science, and holding positions of the highest responsibility, I cannot sympathise with them, when they allow any preconceived notions, or self-interest, to prevent their studying homœopathy, with the evidences in its favour, with zeal and earnestness, and from putting it to the test of experience with all fairness and impartiality. Who of our opponents has done this? Has the Professor so studied, and thus tested homœopathy? Let him speak for himself. He says—'Some eight or ten years ago, an old schoolmate of his, having begun business as a homœopathic druggist in Liverpool, kindly sent him a present of a small box of homœopathic medicines; and a very beautiful painted box it was. During the time it was in his possession, he put it *only to one use*, viz., he gave it as an *occasional plaything* to his eldest son, who was then a child.' Such is the confession of this standard-bearer of 'common sense,' occupying the position of a man of science, and holding office as a Professor in our University! This comprises *his* study of homœopathy, and putting it to the test of experience. This is his ground of authority in passing judgment against us. Conduct like this, in my opinion, deserves the most severe castigation; but I refrain. The experience of the little child may, on some future day, put to shame that of the father.

"As Professor Henderson was the individual referred to as having used the mixed globules contained in the box, it will not be out of place here to allow the Professor to say a word for himself:—

"'*My* first experiments on homœopathy were made by medicines from different sources, in addition to Dr. Simpson's box.

"'The respected secretary of the Society favoured me with a box, in connection with which there was, as became his character, no trick, but all that was fair and honest. Dr. Russell supplied me with many other medicines. Headland of London did so too. The chemist in this city, at a later period, did the same. And some I prepared with my own hands. The results were published, and drew from Dr. Forbes of London the admission, that had the cases been treated according to the rules of the ordinary school, he would have regarded the results as "very satisfactory." Among them were "some wonderful effects and cures," which I have always regarded as evidences of the power of *homœopathic* remedies; but that they were due to "Dr. Simpson's own former homœopathic box," in which the trick was, I do not believe that I could have ever averred, because I was not in the habit of noting, in each case, from what source the medicines I employed were taken, for I suspected no trick. Since Dr. Simpson made his trick public, I have suspected, reasonably enough, that some of the failures which I could not formerly account for but on the ground of my own want of skill, must have been due to the dishonest box.'

"Professor Simpson next says in his speech that 'they (homœopathists) tell us that the mere division of their drugs invests them with tremendous powers.' Now this is another example of his erroneous statements, for neither Hahnemann nor his followers ever believed or ever asserted such to be the case. What we affirm and prove in regard to the preparation of our medicines is this—that the latent medicinal properties of drugs become greatly developed when subjected to a careful and systematic process of trituration; and further, that some drugs, which in their crude state have no medicinal effect at all, become powerful curative agents after undergoing this process. Every one possessing any knowledge of the subject at all knows this. The Professor himself surely cannot have altogether forgotten a number of familiar proofs of the same fact in allopathic pharmacy. Is it not an established fact, that a man may take upwards of two thousand grains of pure mercury without experiencing any medicinal effect from it, while a single grain of the same metal, after being thoroughly triturated with any inert substance, is capable of producing a very marked medicinal effect? It matters not what kind of explanation he may give of this. The fact remains, that a substance, which in its crude, natural condition can exercise no medicinal action on the system, becomes, by a carefully-conducted process of trituration, a most powerful curative agent. This cannot be controverted.

"The Professor's speech contains a fair specimen of the best kind of argument brought against homœopathy by its opponents. The intelligent public have already, to some extent, been able to appreciate its true value, and have no doubt set it down at its real worth. That it is at the bar of 'common sense' valued at a very high rate by the non-professional public, I do not believe. That many of his own party think this a prodigy of talent—a very masterpiece of argument—of which the Professor has dexterously delivered himself, I do not doubt. That not a few of the higher stamp in the same

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party despise it *in toto* I know. Had it contained one single argument against homœopathy, that might have redeemed its character; but it does not. Such a signal failure to make out a single point against us, is a strong evidence of the hopeless position of our opponents, and bears strong testimony to the fact that ours is impregnable. Had I nothing better to offer in behalf of the cause which I have espoused, I should feel ashamed, and be compelled to give it up.

"Should the Professor ever again think of appearing before the public as an opponent of homœopathy, surely it is not too much to require of him, first to condescend to learn something about the subject, so as to be able to treat it in a reasonable and philosophic manner. In the present speech he has (humbling enough to himself) succeeded in raising a laugh against us; but it has been short-lived: and the time is not far distant when his own weapons will be turned against himself. Homœopathy is on the increase and must eventually triumph. The diseases of man have found in it a true method of relief; and man's benevolent Benefactor will watch over it, and preserve it for the good of his suffering creatures.

"I am, your obedient servant,
"S. C."

TOWN COUNCIL OF EDINBURGH AND HOMŒOPATHY.

(*From the Scottish Press.*)

THE petition of graduates of the University and others, complaining of an irregularity introduced by the Medical Faculty in granting degrees of medicine, which, at a previous meeting of Council, had been remitted to the College Committee, was brought up by the reading of that committee's report. They (committee), without offering any opinion on the subject involved in the memorial, directed the same to be transmitted to the Principal of the University for the information of the Senatus Academicus.

Councillor Ridpath did not think it would be proper to pass over this subject in the way which he observed it was now proposed to do. The Council, as patrons of the University, ought to take up the subject in earnest.

Bailie Fyfe could not agree with Mr. Ridpath, and expressed a hope that the matter would never again come before them. The committee thought the course which they had taken was the most judicious one in the whole circumstances; and it was, be believed, substantially in accordance with the wishes of the parties who got up the memorial. They fully hoped that no more complaints of this nature would come before the Council, and, therefore, they considered the best plan was simply to send the petition to the Senatus for their information.

Mr. Ridpath was satisfied with this explanation.

The Lord Provost said he had talked to some of the professors on the subject, and he believed it would not have been possible to have got even a small number to reject any student on account of his homœopathic tendencies. He believed that that which caused the complaint had been done somewhat inadvertently, and he was satisfied that every student, whatever his notions regarding homœopathy might be, would henceforth find no barrier to his obtaining degrees.

[Our readers will perceive that the Town Council of Edinburgh has effectually given a slap in the face, and a pretty sharp one too, to the anti-homœopathic triumvirate of Edinburgh. Messrs. Syme, Simpson, and Christison have something new to ruminate on, and we wish them good digestion.—ED.]

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH, 1852.

"ART is long, and life short"—is the first axiom of Hippocrates. All who have read human life truly, its beginning, middle, and end, its aims and desires so great, its accomplishments so few and comparatively valueless, know this life is too short to be long about its forms and ceremonies, much too short to waste it in fruitless aims and vain quarrels.

If all who are right-minded acknowledge the truth of this statement, those, above all, are bound to recognise and adopt it who are engaged in the working out a practical Reform, which is for the real benefit of mankind.

La Fleur, the servant of Yorick, was riding on a post-horse, which shied at an ass, and would not pass. La Fleur was thrown, and left in the road, jack-boots and all.

"What's the matter, La Fleur," said his master to him from his chaise, "with this post-horse of thine?" "Monsieur," said the poor man, "c'est un cheval le plus opiniâtre du monde." "Nay, if he is a conceited beast, he must go his own way," said the philosophic Yorick.

Some men are as conceited as post-horses, and the best plan is to let them have their own way.

But we grow wise by experience, and having tried them and found out of what stuff they are, we trust them no more.

This is a sort of parable:—those who

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know what we mean will require no explanation; those who know it not, will read our riddle in full time.

We wish to see an uniform action of all the good men and true, medical and non-medical, who profess to have received our doctrine, for the promotion of our beneficent Reform. Had it not been for its wonderful vitality, the wretched dissensions and paltry self-seekings which have so lamentably distinguished some would have choked it. But homœopathy will out-live them; and it is to be hoped that our next generation will be wiser than the present.

It is our earnest aim to be the exponents of the homœopathic public—to express their wishes and requirements, their hopes and expectations. We profess to belong to no party, and to be under no partisan influence.

"Art is long," and those who have had the most experience of the medical art are ready to acknowledge how little they know in comparison of the boundless field of investigation before them: "life is short"—when men seem to be at the beginning of something like knowledge, they are removed to another sphere, and their place, *here*, knows them no longer.

It may be—who can tell?—that HIPPOCRATES and HAHNEMANN have compared notes, and that with more enlightened vision and powers, far greater than they knew in their mortal state, the Coän and the Saxon have talked of their several works for humanity.

We are oppressed, at times, with the responsibility of the task that is laid on us. We cannot say with the poet—

"The labour that delights us, physicks pain"—

for we delight not in this work. It is a labour of love in one sense, for we get nothing by it, and have no comfort in it excepting the reflection that we have tried to do our duty.

We sigh for sympathy, and we receive it not; we ask for co-operation, and it is not vouchsafed to us; we demand what is our due, and it is not conceded to us: and we subscribe to the saying of the WISE MAN, "All is vanity and vexation of spirit"—and yet not so altogether; for the seed we scatter will grow, and the harvest will at some time or other be reaped.

Review.

The Medical Circular, and General Medical Advertiser.

SUCH a journal as this was a *desideratum*. It will be an epitome of the other medical journals, and will give in brief space an abstract of their contents—the cream without the buttermilk—the matter without the verbiage—the kernel without the husks. This is the professed aim of the new journalist; we wish him success, and we augur from the passage we shall quote that we homœopaths are to have fairer play at his hands than we have heretofore received.

It is to be published once a fortnight, and the price is threepence. This *multum in parvo*,—the best kind of Medical Directory—will be as useful to us medical heretics, as the unbelievers call us, as to the most orthodox as they call themselves.

That a new medical journal, of such abundant promise, should devote such space to the homœopaths, is significant of the fact that homœopathy is not faint, nor sick, nor weary, nor dead, notwithstanding its doom has been so often pronounced.

"THE 'MEDICAL DIRECTORY' AND THE HOMŒOPATHS.

"Desirous of acting in strict accordance with the wishes of the profession with respect to the propriety of inserting the names of homœopathic practitioners in the 'Medical Directory,' the Editors of that work issued a circular to every member of the profession, with a request that each gentleman would return his opinion upon the subject. The replies have been collated, and we now subjoin a portion of them, in order that our readers may see the variety of opinions that have been expressed.

"It will be observed that the counsels and suggestions are of the most dissimilar character; that some gentlemen have protested against the insertion of the names of homœopaths upon any conditions, and have even threatened to withdraw their support if their views should not be adopted. Others have recommended their admission, but for different reasons. Some of the latter have required that homœopaths should be included in a separate list; others that they should be comprised in the ordinary list, but marked by some distinctive title; while again there are some who have strenuously contended against the possible unfairness of their exclusion, and, like

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those gentlemen entertaining extreme opinions on the other side, have menaced the Editors with a cessation of their subscription in the event of such injustice being perpetrated. Whilst in the discharge of a difficult and responsible duty it was incumbent on the Editors to reject from their consideration all threats of this nature, it behoved them at the same time to elicit, if it were possible, from amid the mass of discrepancy, some principle upon which the arrangement of the Directory might be altered with advantage. On a close examination of the returns the disagreement was so great and so various, that it presented an insurmountable difficulty to the realization of the Editors' wishes. They resolved, therefore, to abide by their established rule of inserting in the Directory the name of EVERY *duly-qualified medical practitioner* irrespective of his peculiar opinions, or of the line of practice he may pursue. Had they acted differently on this occasion, they would most undoubtedly have injured the character of the work as the only authentic record of ALL the legally qualified medical practitioners in the kingdom.

"This, it is expected, will be the decision of every man who calmly reflects upon the nature of the work, which is merely a register framed upon the authority of official and legal documents, and free from all subjects of a controversial character. An opposite course to that adopted would injure the Directory as a book of reference, and pervert it to become the organ of partisan or dominant opinions. The end of such an imprudent proceeding it would not be very difficult to foresee.

"Had the Editors of the Directory, moreover, declined to insert the name of any duly qualified homœopath among the list of legal practitioners, the excluded individual might have been able to prove that, by such omission, his professional character had been exposed to contempt, and his reputation injured; and in such case the publisher of the Directory would have been liable to a prosecution for damages by an action at law—a proceeding by no means pleasant to contemplate.

"For these reasons, then, the Editors of the 'Medical Directory' deemed it most judicious to insert in that work the names of homœopathic practitioners in their due course.

"OPINIONS OF THE PROFESSION WITH RESPECT TO THE PUBLICATION OF THE NAMES OF HOMŒOPATHS IN THE 'MEDICAL DIRECTORY.'

"D., J. L. W.—Brighton. Yes; that they may be known and shunned as renegades by their medical brethren: to shame them is impossible.

"C. J.—Putney. No; I decidedly think that there ought not to be a list of homœopathic, hydropathic, or other kind of quacks in a Medical Directory.

"O., E. L.—Brighton. No; however useful such a list might be, there cannot be a doubt of the impropriety of putting it here. I think that the names should be left out altogether; that opinion on the subject would be quite unanimous.

"L., G.—Brighton. No; I think homœopathic practitioners ought not to be classed among respectable medical men.

"G., S. J.—Russell-square. No; decidedly not, as the retention of such a list will tend to lower the respectability of the Directory in the estimation of all honourable practitioners.

"B., G.—Cavendish-square. No; I think they should be passed over in the silent contempt they deserve.

"M., J.—Lloyd-square. Yes; with a long letter in its favour.

"F., H. W.—Manchester-square. Yes; if duly qualified.

"T., J.—Kent-road. Yes; let them be known.

"A., H.—Hackney. Yes; if their titles are verified and given correctly.

"G., S. H.—Yes; if specified as such.

"T., W.—Harrow road. No list of homœopathic '*quacks and humbugs*.' I will not have my copy if you do, mind that!!!

"L., H.—Keppel-street. No.

"F., A.—May Fair. Yes; to distinguish.

"C., W. J.—Kensal Town. Yes; those that are *medically* qualified, in order that we may know the black sheep of our flock.

"D., J.—Pershore. No; unless in a supplemental list.

W. J.—Liverpool. Omit my name at your peril. I beg to say that I am a qualified practitioner.

"C., C.—Dorchester. No; from its necessary incompleteness.

"B., H.—Liverpool. No; if published at all, their names should be in a separate list; but I would prefer their being omitted.

"M., S.—Brenchley. No; simply omit them. Silent contempt and rope enough are the remedies.

"D., E.—South Cave. No; unless published to warn us of all such empirics.

"R., H. H.—Brixton. No; erase them, whenever discovered, from the lists of the medical practitioners.

"G., F.—Huddersfield. Yes; but think they ought to be published apart from the others.

"F., E. E.—Teignmouth. Yes; these men should be known to the whole professional world; in a separate list, if possible.

"C., S. S.—Bridport. Yes; and state them to be such, that they may be avoided."

Correspondence.

HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I see with increasing regret the continued correspondence arising from Mr. Smith's letter, published on the 10th of January. A house divided against itself cannot stand. It is especially to be lamented that these feelings of dissension should be prematurely brought before

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the homœopathic public, and that, too, in a tone not calculated to preserve that brotherly feeling which ought to exist among members united to promote the common Cause which each professes to be dear to him.

Still more, therefore, do I deplore the fact that, in your number of this day, a third member of the Board of Management has entered the lists, not, as I am grieved to confess, in a spirit* likely to heal the wounds already opened; and if I, a fourth member of the Board, attempt to break a lance with him, it shall not be in a combat *à l'outrance*, but with the endeavour to keep the bond of peace. Indeed, as I wrote last week simply to state my impression that Mr. Leaf's circular was a correct transcript of the views of the House Committee, with whom it had originated, so now my object is simply to entreat the subscribers to whom Mr. Gill addresses his remarks to suspend their judgment.

Mr. Gill expresses his intention "to convey such information to the subscribers, as will enable them to arrive at *correct conclusions*" upon the proceedings of the Board of Management, relative to a part of the third object of the Hahnemann Hospital, viz., clinical instruction. He then proceeds to give an account which, in my judgment, is so far otherwise than correct, that I thus entreat the subscribers to suspend their judgment, because they cannot, from such premises, arrive at correct conclusions. I deprecate partial statements of a Board's proceedings and their being publicly criticised by any one of its members. I think it irregular, contrary to etiquette, and at all events likely to create bad feeling.

My intention is to move, at the next Board meeting on Thursday, for the appointment of a sub-committee to prepare a digest of the minutes of committees, to be submitted for the approval of a subsequent Board, for publication and distribution among the subscribers.

It is dangerous, with regard to brevity, to begin any statement, and yet when I ask for an arrest of judgment, I am bound to give the grounds of that desire.

First. Mr. Gill, in his statement, loses sight (I am sure inadvertently) of the fact that much and varied deliberation on this subject had taken place long before the 18th of July,† indeed since February. The 18th of July was only an epoch, marking indeed most strongly the anxiety of the Board of Management to conform to that very bye-law which is quoted by Mr. Gill. The fifteen letters from members of the Medical Council were printed for private circulation among the twenty members of the Board, etc., purposely that their opinions might be well considered, and I, for one, entirely dissent from the conclusion at which Mr. Gill arrives in regard to those opinions, knowing, as I do, the feelings of the committee up to the time when I discontinued my attendance. I firmly believe that they, and every individual member among them, had the most straightforward intention to act upon a broad basis for the good of the Hospital, without the slightest "personal interest" or "hidden mystery."

Secondly. As to discussions consequent upon the printing of the medical opinions until the ultimate decision of the Board, on the 3rd of January, I have carefully perused all the documents and minutes, and had I been present, I should have adopted the same view at which the Board arrived.

Thirdly. The subscribers ought to know, when they are called upon to form correct conclusions, that at a Board meeting to reconsider the whole proceedings, specially summoned by Mr. Gill, and three others who dissented at the Board of the 3rd of January, a very large majority of the members were in attendance, viz, seventeen out of twenty of the Board, besides the President and Treasurer; and that, after a free discussion of the subject, the obnoxious resolutions were confirmed by a majority of thirteen to four (one member having retired early). Surely the subscribers appealed to ought not, even for a week, to suppose that so many of us would have been dishonest enough or foolish enough to "ignore the united opinion of fourteen" medical men, whose advice we had sought, and to act on the opinion of the *one* only.

Lastly. I will say that all this confusion has arisen from the difficulty of obtaining full meetings, whether of the Medical Council or the Board. But I must think that it is not expedient or just that a minority, if they cannot by regular attendance or argument influence the judgment of their friends, should call upon the public body to condemn that judgment, which courtesy should presume to be honestly adopted, if not wisely. I write this paragraph, because at the various Medical Councils, when ten to twelve of the sixteen London members have been present, the opinion then expressed has appeared to the Board to be that advice which they were bound to follow; while the contrary advice has emanated from those councils which were thinly attended by from four to seven members; but I am treading upon ground which I intended to avoid—I wished to mention only such facts as would justify my request for judgment to be deferred, and not to anticipate the course which I have suggested, or to introduce any topic likely to cause fresh discussion.

tending. I can therefore view the proceedings without any personal feeling, as though *my* acts were called in question.

* I mean that such expressions as the following, have an inevitable tendency to wound and to offend: "I say *avowedly*, for it may appear hereafter that the zeal of some was actuated by motives of personal interest" (page 398). "The fact is so; but to comprehend the principle (or want of it?) upon which they acted, would require a deeper initiation into the hidden mysteries of the Board of Management than I am at present at liberty to afford" (p. 399). "I will not hide from the subscribers my convictions that the sooner their Executive Council is purged from the gross taint of personal influence, which now seems to pervade it, the better will it be for the prosperity of the noble Institution which they patronise and support..... An invidious pre-eminence given to one or two members of the profession.... A strong, because *independent and disinterested* opposition at their own Board" (p. 400).

† Until this period I was among the most regular attendants at committees and Board meetings. Subsequently, during the time that the obnoxious proceedings took place (October to January), I had, from pressing engagements, entirely given up attending.

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I do not think there is much "division in opinion on many material questions."

I still think the question of "mere title" might be and ought to be arranged. Nor would there be difficulty in this course, if a moderate deference to the opinion of others shall actuate all the parties concerned. I am quite certain that there is no such desire among any of the Board as to "select any one more than another upon whom to confer the title of clinical lecturer," or to elevate any one as a head. On the contrary, I *know* that the Board of Management have taken especial care to avoid even the appearance of it on one remarkable occasion, when, notwithstanding their efforts, an accidental prominence was given.

I conclude a much longer letter than I intended to write, by expressing my sincere hope, that even yet our Hospital will not so stultify its separation from the original, as to show itself incapable of being held together by the following out of that liberal profession, and free and independent thought which gave birth to it.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

Epsom, Jan. 31, 1852. SAMUEL HANSON.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In your editorial remark on Mr. Smith's letter in this day's journal, you wish to know "at what meeting the Board of Management suggested the publication of Mr. Leaf's circular." I would simply bear testimony to the fact that the subject was discussed at one of our meetings (I believe, in the House Committee), and the expediency of such a letter determined. I do not remember that a minute was made or that the actual letter was drawn up; but when I saw it introduced at the end of Mr. Smith's letter on the 10th of January, I made the remark, "This is in exact conformity with the suggestions of our Committee to Mr. Warne, and perfectly conveys my impression of their feeling on the occasion."

I would briefly add, as a subscriber to your journal, that I very much deplore what seems to me a very unprofitable correspondence, already occupying some dozen columns, to the exclusion of subjects much more interesting to your general readers. I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Epsom, Jan. 24, 1852. SAMUEL HANSON.

[We fully appreciate the motives of this excellent gentleman, but he has mistaken the point. The inquiry was not whether the Board of Management had authorized the two gentlemen named to issue *a* circular, but whether the *especial* circular of one of them was so authorized. With all submission to his better judgment, we think the homœopathic public is entitled to know whatever has any important reference to a homœopathic hospital, for whose maintenance they pay, and it would be discourteous in us to refuse insertion to letters from members of the Board of Management. Our correspondent will do us the justice to acknowledge that we have opened our columns for free discussion on whatever concerns the homœopathic public.—ED.]

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Few of your readers can have perused with attention the correspondence between Mr. Warne and myself, without being reminded (especially by his letter published in this day's *Homœopathic Times*) of the well-known Westminster Hall story, which runs thus: On opening his brief, a barrister found these words—"*no case—abuse the plaintiff;*" and tradition declares that he followed his instructions. In these days of general psychological knowledge, exasperation venting itself in abuse is so perfectly understood to be the offspring of mortification resulting from exposure or defeat, that I may be well content to leave unnoticed the remarks of this character, which abound in Mr. Warne's letter, to which, in other particulars, I am about to reply.

In his first paragraph he declines my invitation (backed by yourself) to afford a *complete* history of the London Homœopathic Medical Institution. Mr. Warne having gratuitously introduced this subject, and given but an *incomplete* sketch of this Institution, I thought I had a right to ask him to fill up the outline, and a reason less calculated to give offence can scarcely be imagined than that I assigned, viz., that "a complete history," embodying certain particulars I mentioned, "could not fail to be of great service to our Board at the present moment."

The five following paragraphs are occupied with a detailed account of the circumstances that led to Mr. Leaf's circular, which gave rise to the correspondence between Mr. Warne and myself. *Post tenebras lux*—such as it is. It would appear that on 20th February last, the House Committee passed a resolution to the following effect: "That a poundage be allowed to the collector of the late London Homœopathic Hospital, and that *a paper* should be drawn up, *signed by Mr. Leaf and Mr. Warne, as* HIS AUTHORITY FOR COLLECTING." It further appears, that this resolution was approved by the Board, on 6th March following.

Now, in the first place, instead of "*a paper*," signed by Mr. Warne, as Honorary Secretary, and by Mr. Leaf, as Treasurer, merely stating for the information of the parties on whom the collector might wait, that he (the collector) was duly authorized to receive their subscriptions—we have *a letter*, admitting (as I have shown in my first letter) of a very different interpretation, signed by Mr. Leaf *only*. Was this carrying out the instructions of the Board? Could such a letter as *that* have been contemplated by us, when we sanctioned the resolution of the House Committee? Does it, or does it not, warrant the assertion in my last letter,—that the Honourable Augustus Moreton, Mr. Gill, and Mr. Phelps were as ignorant as myself of any such suggestion having been made? Does it, or does it not, throw light on the fact, also recorded in my last letter—"that as for myself and two of the members of the Board already cited, we did not see the letter until this year, and the other gentleman saw it for the first time in December."

But, Sir, this is not all, the circular is dated 1st January, 1851—the House Committee did not

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suggest even "*that a paper should be drawn up*" till the 20th February following (according to Mr. Warne's own showing), and the Board of Management did not sanction that suggestion till the 6th of March. And yet Mr. Warne, in his first letter (*Homœopathic Times*, January 17th, 1852), upbraids me thus: "*How or why it should, after twelve months'* DISTRIBUTION (*for it is dated 1st January*, 1851), give rise *in January*, 1852, *to feelings of dissatisfaction*," etc. We have Mr. Warne then stating, in the *Homœopathic Times* of 17th instant, *that Mr. Leaf's letter was suggested by the Board of Management;* in this day's *Homœopathic Times*, that this suggestion (if such it may be called) was made on 6th March, 1852; and in the *Homœopathic Times* of 17th instant that the letter of Mr. Leaf's was printed and distributed in January, 1851!!

In your journal of this day we have, however, another version, viz.: "That the circular was predated to the period at which the subscriptions to the London Homœopathic Institution were considered due, viz., January, 1851." Be it so. Then is Mr. Warne's assertion (contained in the *Homœopathic Times* of 17th instant) incorrect, viz. that "it was *distributed* in January, 1851;" since it was not even *printed* till the March following. Well may Mr. Warne declare, at the end of his letter, that "no representations of Mr. Smith shall hereafter induce him to reply to them in your journal!"

To continue. In his seventh paragraph, Mr. Warne proceeds to explain, *more suo*, the extraordinary circumstance referred to in the third, fourth, and ninth paragraphs of my last letter. I there state that it follows, from the preceding propositions, that there must be two pamphlets, both having the same title—"Homœopathy Explained, and Objections Answered"—one by Dr. Luther, the other by Mr. Leaf; *or*, that Mr. Warne has ascribed to Mr. Leaf the authorship of a pamphlet which was the production of Dr. Luther.

Now, it is worthy of remark, that Mr. Warne does not either deny Dr. Luther's assertion that *he* is the author of that pamphlet, or attempt to deal with my reasoning on this topic. What, then, does he say? "I have merely to remark that the only two editions of the pamphlet which I have seen have each an introduction bearing the signature of 'A Non-medical Homœopath' as the author." Hence he concluded—so we are left to infer—that Mr. Leaf *must be* the author.

This, it will be admitted, is strange logic. Are there no other lay-homœopaths in the world besides Mr. Leaf? None more likely to be the author of a literary production than Mr. Leaf? It has been said—and the saying cannot be unknown to Mr. Warne—"one fact is worth a thousand arguments;" why, then, did not Mr. Warne make himself master of the *fact—aye or no, is Mr. Leaf the author of that pamphlet?* Had the answer been in the negative, of course the conclusion is obvious. Had it been in the affirmative, it would have been for Dr. Luther to explain how he came to declare himself to be the author.

Mr. Warne, with no small amount of adroitness, manages to introduce into this paragraph, on which I am commenting, two insinuations calculated to enlist the sympathy of his readers—the one, that I introduced this topic of the authorship as a "gratuitous insult:" the other, that there is some doubt as to my "having seen the fact announced in Mr. Warne's handwriting."

As to the first insinuation,—since I am compelled to speak of myself,—I beg to declare my one great object to be *truth*. I believe in my conscience that the progress of homœopathy has been greatly retarded by the course that has been at various times adopted since its introduction into this country; and I am determined, so far as it shall be in my power, to endeavour to check such proceedings for the future, by exhibiting to public view whatever shall be calculated to injure the great Cause.

As to the second insinuation—I have only to assure your readers, that I have in my possession a document written by Mr. Warne in which, in a paragraph referring to various works which should be read by homœopathic inquirers, he adds—"Attention may also be specially directed to the 'Concise View of Homœopathy;' and also to a pamphlet well adapted to popular comprehensions, by our zealous, humane, and liberal treasurer, Mr. Leaf, entitled *Homœopathy Explained, and Objections Answered.*" —Not even a doubt, you will observe, insinuated as to the authorship; but that authorship confidently, and I might add—considering the relative positions of the two—authoritatively ascribed to Mr. Leaf.

Mr. Warne's eighth paragraph contains a very bold assertion, unsupported by a single fact or argument. If I have advanced one statement which is not correct—if I have put forward one argument which is fallacious in reference to Mr. Leaf, it was open to Mr. Warne to disprove the one and refute the other. His silence on this point is eloquent, and if truth be —as Mr. Warne would seem to imply—a libel, not on me, but on his *protégé*, be the blame!

In the ninth paragraph I am told that I may obtain the history of the London Homœopathic Medical Institution from the "individual who has already given me so many hints for my last letter." I presume he refers to the gentleman who so kindly favoured me with the letter I inserted, signed by Drs. Chepmell, Hamilton, and Laurie. The information I solicited at Mr. Warne's hands, it is not in the power of my friend to supply, who rejoices in never having had any connection with that Institution. I am therefore compelled to renew my appeal to Mr. Warne. I will only further remark on this paragraph, that Mr. Warne is wrong in saying "Mr. Smith misquotes me. I did not state '*first lesson.*'" The words "*first lesson*" are not put by me as a quotation at all; this any one who will turn to your journal, page 386, will at once perceive.

In the tenth paragraph, Mr. Warne, in return for a very civil remark, that I could not construe a few words of his last letter (which, by-the-bye, he does not even attempt to interpret), complains of the style of my first letter. As he does not, however, point out the defects, I am

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unable to profit by his criticism. He then proceeds to insinuate that the composition of my second letter is not my own; and that "the critical, philosophical, and professional acquirements" of others "were put in requisition." No clearer proof could be furnished than this remark affords of Mr. Warne's utter inability to discriminate the peculiarities of style; and this consideration reconciles me, in some measure, to the absence of that criticism of my first letter that he *could have* supplied. He then goes on to say "that it would be interesting to ascertain *where*, and by how many individuals, Mr. Smith's letter of the 17th instant was concocted." Now I have not the slightest objection to gratify Mr. Warne's curiosity on this subject. The letter was written at my own chambers, no human soul being present. Commencing at half-past ten o'clock on Friday, the 16th instant, my labours terminated the following morning at one o'clock, a. m.—the letter was in type the same day. At the suggestion of a very amiable friend, I submitted to the following alteration being made. After the letter of Drs. Chepmell, Hamilton, and Laurie, I had this paragraph:—"In history we must not look for the certainty of mathematical reasoning. The causes to be investigated are moral causes—the task is therefore complex and difficult. The historian must possess a tenacious and ready memory, great powers of induction and generalization, and an unbiassed mind; and in the proportion in which these exist will the probability be that his conclusions are accurate. Without for a moment denying that all these qualifications are possessed by Mr. Warne, I may be permitted to suggest that the letter just quoted can scarcely have been present to his recollection, or he would scarcely have assigned as the cause of the dissolution of so great an institution as that of Hanover Square—'the want of that necessary management which the ill-health of Mrs. Leaf, and the multifarious occupations of Mr. Leaf, on the failure of other assistance, prevented being given to it.' For whether was it more probable that the dissolution of that Institution was due to the secession of three distinguished physicians, or to the indisposition of a lady, however much the circumstance was to be regretted, and to the increased occupations of a man of business, however necessary to the accumulation of money? Besides, Mr. Warne will see that his hypothesis involves a contradiction, inasmuch as it would prove that Mr. Leaf, in the pursuit of wealth, allowed homœopathy to perish, whereas the grand aim of Mr. Warne's letter is to prove that the principal object of Mr. Leaf's life has been the establishment of homœopathy."

At the suggestion of my amiable friend just referred to, I made the following alteration. "Its perusal may suggest to common-sense, reflective minds, whether the decline of the Hanover Square Medical Institution, and its failure as a Hospital, did not depend upon a more vital point than the painful fact of the ill-health of Mrs. Leaf, and the momentous consideration of the multifarious occupations of Mr. Leaf." These words, you will find, immediately precede the letter in question.

I cannot, however, conclude my notice of this part of his letter without remarking that it is somewhat ludicrous that Mr. Warne should turn round and accuse me of shining in borrowed plumes, when one of my charges against him is that he ascribed to Mr. Leaf *a letter* written by himself, and a pamphlet written by Dr. Luther. I must also observe, that in my letter which will be found in the *Homœopathic Times*, January 10, 1852, I state—speaking of Mr. Sandoz and Mr. Phelps—that without their "united aid, not one tithe of the secretary's duty could my friend have done." So that Mr. Warne's shaft as to my "working by deputy" misses its aim, exhibiting only the malignity of the archer: for even *he* will not venture, I am sure, to deny that *at least a tithe of the work was done by my friend.*" And I must say, that I think it somewhat reckless on the part of Mr. Warne, to sneer at "working by deputy," when our Hospital pays £100 per annum to *his deputy*; when Mr. Warne is open to the observations just made by me on the Leaf letter and the Luther pamphlet, when—but I forbear.

Of Mr. Warne's unfinished Latin grammar quotation, I have only to say, that I presume it is given as the result of his own experience; and as such exhibits, it must be admitted, a most unfortunate insight into his personal career.

Thus far I have had occasion to comment on and expose an immense mass of inconsistency and contradiction. There is one remark of Mr. Warne's, however, which stands forth in such strong contrast to the rest, that I shall not be doing justice to that gentleman if I do not reproduce it here. It is a remark, the truth of which no one, who has the pleasure of his acquaintance, can doubt; and one which, I may venture to predict, no Luther will ever arise to contradict—the remark is this: "that the composition and style of his letter are his own."

A more unwarranted assertion cannot well be conceived than that contained in the eleventh paragraph (and it is unsupported by even a tittle of evidence)—viz., "that my own *admissions* are sufficient to warrant his remark that my history needed correcting." Why, in the concluding sentence of my letter to which he refers, I call on you, "as the exponent of public opinion, to pronounce the verdict—whether my statements had been in any, *even the slightest material point* shaken or disposed of by Mr. Warne."

With the twelfth paragraph, which is addressed to yourself, Mr. Editor, I, of course, have nothing to do. And this, I am happy to say, brings me to Mr. Warne's peroration. He here tells us that "his time can be better occupied than with a correspondence so fruitless." *Fruitless* it has not been, most certainly; the other part of the quotation I have no right to dispute. But when he proceeds to warn you emphatically not to allow the correspondence to proceed—"your columns *ought to be*" (the italics are his own) "more agreeably filled," I may be permitted, I trust, to tender you also my advice—it is this:

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The effect of this correspondence has been to elicit much truth—its effect has been to prevent certain claims passing current, which, if not detected at the present moment, it might have been difficult to distinguish, after a lapse of years, from the true; and I trust it will also prevent any more coin of this character being struck and uttered. The effect of this correspondence has been to show how "*a paper*," sanctioned by the Board to be signed by two officials, to authorize a collector to receive money, may be converted into *a letter*, containing very different matter, signed by *one* of the *two* individuals in a non-official capacity, thus giving altogether a different character to the document—the effect of this correspondence has been—but I must not take up your space by recapitulation.

My advice then to you, Sir, is—to continue the course you have heretofore followed—of throwing open your columns to free discussion. It is by this course that the truth will be educed, that error will be detected, and underhand proceedings be exposed. And when homœopathy shall no longer be encumbered with the aid of its pseudo-allies; *or*, when those adherents to the Cause shall have been taught to regard homœopathy, and not self-interest, as the object to be pursued (and it is not material which course they elect), then will that glorious system of which Hahnemann was the founder——— the introducer into this country, and the *Homœopathic Times* the active promoter and defender—then will that glorious system, untrammelled by those circumstances that now retard its progress, "ride on conquering and to conquer," till every allopath shall bow to its sway; for "magna est veritas et prævalebit."

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

F. J. SMITH,

Member of the Board of Management of the Hahnemann Hospital.

74, Old Broad Street, Jan. 31, 1852.

P.S. You will observe that the name of the introducer of homœopathy into this country is left blank. Mr. Warne in his letter, published in your journal on January 17th, assigns this honour to Mr. Leaf. Referring to this point the following week, I said—I had always understood this honour to be due to others. Although Mr. Warne addresses himself to other topics contained in my letter, he studiously avoids any allusion to this. Will you be so good as to draw his attention to this point, as it is one of great importance. I shall wait a week or two before I proceed to give, from authentic documents, a narrative of this deeply-interesting subject, in the hope that Mr. Warne will inform your readers *when* Mr. Leaf embraced the doctrines of the illustrious Hahnemann—*where* his conversion took place, and what steps he adopted to forward homœopathy in England!

And allow me to suggest to Mr. Warne the vital importance of chronological accuracy. In your journal of 17th Jan. (p. 372), he states—"In 1836, Mr. Leaf established the first homœopathic dispensary in London;" whereas, by two circulars before me issued by the London Homœopathic Institution, under the sanction of Mr. Leaf, I find the following paragraph: "In the year 1838, the first dispensary founded in London, under the homœopathic system, was opened in Finsbury Circus, as the London Homœopathic Dispensary."

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I trust in fairness you will insert in your next publication the following remarks. I regret exceedingly that your columns should be the channel for sowing discord amongst the friends of homœopathy and for calumniating the Board of Management, at least, the majority of that Board, by Mr. Gill, because that gentleman, who, with all his eloquence and ingenuity, was left in a minority, thinks proper (in my opinion, with very bad taste) to appeal to the subscribers who have the interest of the Hospital at heart. I only wish he had a tithe of the interest for the Hospital the majority have, whose actions the honourable gentleman so strongly condemns, then, with his ability, he would do the Cause good service. I can only say through the same channel to the subscribers, that the majority have no interest but to serve the Hospital and propagate homœopathy honestly, honourably, and independently, to the best of their ability; and I trust the aspersions of any one member will not lessen the confidence of the subscribers in their Board of Management. I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

SAMUEL SUGDEN,

Member of the Board of Management of the Hahnemann Hospital.

Oak Lodge, Southgate, Feb. 2, 1852.

[We think it the duty of a public journalist to open his columns for the discussion of any subject of interest to his readers. The prosperity of any homœopathic hospital is of the greatest interest to the homœopathic public. The whole of this subject of the divisions among the Board of Management and the Medical Staff will, no doubt, be prominently brought forward at the approaching Annual Meeting of the subscribers to the Hahnemann Hospital, when it will be the duty of all interested to be at their post.—ED.]

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In a passage of Mr. Gill's letter anent the Hahnemann Hospital, he says, the Medical Staff is now reduced *one-half*.

It has been said that two others of the remaining six actually signed their resignations, but did not send them in. The signature of one of these to the act of resignation would have been probably followed by another; and a fourth of the Medical Staff is about to leave London, *on dit;*—so that the Executive would have met their constituents with their two clinical lecturers, as the whole of the Medical Staff.

Your readers will opine that the Executive of the Hospital has too much leaned on an individual, and will, at all events, think there must be some meaning in the withdrawal of so many of the medical officers. The wonder, according as I

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have been able to judge, is not that they have withdrawn, but that any man, who has any self-respect, remains.

Your obedient servant,
A SUBSCRIBER TO THE HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Thirteen years ago, I was given up by the allopathic doctors for consumption. A goodly number of them had pronounced me incurable. At this period, a benevolent lady sent from Paris an invitation for me to visit her in that city, in order that I might get the advice of the *immortal Hahnemann.* At first, the doctor then attending me sent word that I was too weakly to undertake such a journey; but the lady persisted in asking me to visit Paris, if it were at all practicable. I believe that the doctor was led to oppose my journey more on account of want of faith in homœopathy, than in my state of health, but he yielded, however, to the urgent and reiterated requests of the benignant lady. In a month after, I was sounded and examined by Hahnemann, who smiled as he stroked my head, and said, "I am glad you have come to me in time; I shall cure you." Now mark, Mr. Editor, I had been examined by more than twenty eminent allopathists (Sir James Clark being one of them), all of whom thought me beyond human skill; but the old, bald-headed, *persecuted* Hahnemann, the great medical benefactor of mankind, after an hour's examination of my lungs, said, "*I shall cure you.*" After being under his treatment for eight months, I returned to Scotland, *completely cured.* I may mention that the good old man (for whose good-doing to me and to mankind I have often felt grateful to God) refused to take a single farthing for his advice and medicine, although he knew that the lady who took so much interest in me was in opulent circumstances.

Having a deep interest in homœopathy, and having read the correspondence which has appeared in your valuable journal both for and against the "Odometer," I was led to test a number of the medicines with a very susceptible female (my servant), the results of which were truly astounding. If you consider them worthy of insertion, I shall furnish you with a few of the many experiments made, to show that I have not arrived at conclusions in a hasty manner. I have tested the globules, less or more, for the last two months, and that in the presence of others. I will give you them as I took them down, leaving you to make use of them, should you deem it proper.

Three globules of *Aconitum,* placed in the palm of the hand, produced immediately feverish heat of skin, thirst, disposition to cough, oppression of the forehead, sore throat, pains in the chest, etc. etc.

Sulphur, weakness in the legs, and especially of the knees; pain in the back, feeling of itching all over the body, skin heated, dizziness in the head, etc.

Nux vomica, fluttering at the heart, heaviness of the head, soreness of the scalp, buzzing in the ears, inclination to vomit, stoppage in nose, sneezing, etc.

Tartarus emeticus, cutting pain in right side of the chest, sweats breaking out in rapid succession, etc.

Arnica, ringing in the ears, sore pain in the temples, a dread in raising the brow, a sensation of load on the head, the eyes felt sore and watery.

Arsenicum, disposition to sneeze, sickness, frequent belchings, shooting pains in the breast and breast-bone, ears felt sore, etc.

Calcarea carbon., tightness and cutting pains in the abdomen, burning in forehead, pain in the loins, etc.

Mercurius, chilliness all over the body, swelling of nose, palpitation of the heart, attended with a burning sensation, great tenderness in stomach, pain in liver, etc.

I shall be glad to answer any questions that may be put to me privately or through your journal. One thing, you and your readers may rely with the utmost confidence on the statement I have now made. The female is quite healthy, but when anything ails her, homœopathic medicines relieve her immediately. I may state that about three months ago she was several times biologised, and has been several times *clairvoyante.*

Hoping that I have not worn out your stock of patience, I am, Sir,

A LOVER OF HAHNEMANN.

[The writer of this interesting letter has authenticated its contents, by sending us his name and address.

We recommend him to go on with his experiments with the Materia Medica, as he has the advantage of so sensitive a subject by whose agency to test the medicines. We shall be glad to know the manner of his conducting his experiments.

The medicines should be so arranged in distinct packages, and those packages be so mixed together, that neither the experimenter nor his sensitive subject should know the name of the medicine, till all the effects be ascertained. The packages containing the medicines should be numbered, and the names of the medicines corresponding to these numbers should be written and enclosed within sealed envelopes, on the outside of which the corresponding numbers should be written. Neither the operator nor the sensitive subject to know what the medicines are. He can, in this manner, see if the same effects are again and again produced by the same medicines.

The brief notice our correspondent has given us of Hahnemann cannot fail to interest all who read it. His singleness of mind, his benevolence, his powers of diagnosis, and his practical skill, are all brought out by a few touches.—ED.]

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

HOMŒOPATHY AT SUNDERLAND.

Some time in the last month of the last year, the Medical Society of Sunderland, there being fifteen members present, met for the purpose of denouncing homœopathy, and after an animated discussion they agreed to memorialise the College of Surgeons, and the Apothecaries' Company with a prayer to withhold their diploma or license from all candidates who were known to have any tendency to homœopathy.

These proceedings of the fifteen members of the Medical Society of Sunderland, called forth some champions of homœopathy, who have enlightened the good folk of that *ilk* with their views, in the *Sunderland News*. We transfer their remarks to our columns, as it is important that the public should have the facts of the case put before them in every variety of shape; and our readers will not soon weary of these satisfactory *iterations*.

"FACTS FOR THE SUNDERLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY.

"To the Editor of the Sunderland News.

"Sir,—Your *News* of last week contains a report of a meeting held by a few gentlemen calling themselves the Sunderland Medical Society. Now, being an admirer of homœopathy, which they seek to repudiate, and knowing you to be a friend of truth, you will perhaps allow me to lay before your readers a few facts in contradiction of an unfounded statement uttered on that occasion. I find the report interspersed with several common-place vulgar terms, altogether unbecoming gentlemen possessing the education, and holding the position in society which the speakers hold. These I shall pass over in silence, and merely allude to an observation made by Dr. Brown at that meeting. He observed that 'homœopathy was on the decline.' Now, believing this statement to have been sincerely made, I come to the conclusion that the Doctor is ignorant of the following facts connected with what materially concerns his own profession, and which I hope will be of some use to him in guiding his future statements. In the first place, let him remember that the principle of homœopathy has not been discovered above sixty years, and yet, in spite of every organized opposition, the multitude of its converts still increase; and begin to be troublesome even to the members of the Sunderland Medical Society. Twenty-two of the crowned heads of Europe employ homœopathists as their body physicians. There are sixty distinguished professors in the universities of Europe who advocate homœopathy. There are eight homœopathic physicians possessing the title of councillors of state or councillors of medicine, conferred by reason of their acquirements in general science and medicine. There are forty possessing the title of court physicians. There are twenty-five professorships of homœopathy in the universities and medical schools of Europe. No one is admitted to the practice of medicine in Austria until he has been examined by the constituted authorities, and found qualified to practise homœopathy. Candidates for medicine must go through the same ordeal in Darmstadt at the examinations authorized by the State. The Austrian Government have appointed twelve physicians to compile a homœopathic Pharmacopœia for the use of the Austrian States. In fact, in Russia, Austria, Prussia, France, Spain, Italy, Brunswick, Saxony, Denmark, and even in India and Africa, homœopathy is sapping the foundations of the unscientific and barbarous structure of allopathy.

"But if the success of homœopathy has been great in the Old World, it has been greater still in the New, for in North and South America converts to the system can be numbered by thousands. For example, in 1842, there were about 300 homœopathic practitioners in the United States; now there are between two and three thousand. These added to above that number in Europe will exceed five thousand, most of whom are converts from the absurdities of allopathy. There are about fifty homœopathic publications issued in Europe and America. The *British Homœopathic Journal*, published in London, and the *Quarterly Homœopathic Journal*, published in Boston, United States, are fully equal, in point of ability, to any medical journal in existence. In Europe and America there are nearly fifty associations, composed principally of persons unconnected with the medical profession, who have been led by benevolent motives, seeing the uncertainty, inhumanity, and folly of the old practice, to connect themselves together in order to disseminate the truths of homœopathy. There are about thirty hospitals in Europe in which homœopathy is practised. Two of them are in London—the Hahnemann Hospital, Bloomsbury-square, and London Homœopathic Hospital, Golden-square; they are both in a prosperous condition, and what is known of their statistics far exceeds any institution of the kind where the old system is in practice. Private and public dispensaries are numerous even in this country,

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and their success is beyond all doubt extraordinary. There are two dispensaries in Sunderland, one in Fawcett-street and another in Lambton-street; and could the parties connected with them be prevailed upon to publish their success, living testimony could be produced before our very eyes in favour of homœopathy from individuals who had been cured in a few weeks of diseases subjected to allopathic treatment for years.

"In conclusion, Mr. Editor, let Dr. Brown and his colleagues reflect upon the above facts; and let them consider that *nearly five thousand practitioners from their own ranks* have gone over to the practice of homœopathy, in spite of the odium and persecution heaped upon them by their brethren left behind. These five thousand practitioners must have several millions who patronise them, or they could never exist as such a single month; and however some members of the Sunderland Medical Society may rant about homœopathists being 'renegades and quacks,' 'deluded or designing advocates of an absurd system of charlatanism,' 'a great delusion,' etc., yet the public, knowing the above facts, will not believe that so many thousand men of scientific acquirements and acknowledged ability, holding such high station in society, are knaves, or that so many millions of inhabitants, of the most intelligent countries of the world, could be imposed upon in a matter where their own health and experience would immediately undeceive them.

"I am, Sir, yours,

"COMMON SENSE."

"QUACKS, HOMŒOPATHISTS, AND ALLOPATHISTS.

"To the Editor of the Sunderland News.

"SIR,—In the report of the special general meeting of the Sunderland Medical Society, inserted in the *News* of last week, there was not a single allusion made by any one of the speakers to the set of ignorant quacks whose really mischievous proceedings were exposed in my letter to you, inserted in the *News* of the 20th inst., although the special purpose for which they met was to memorialise the Royal College of Surgeons 'to sever the existing association of the quack with the regular practitioner.' It is very easy to utter denunciations and to call hard names, but the merely stigmatizing a body of men whose system of practice differs from the system of that portion whose ire is excited by the success of the innovators, does not prove that the opprobrious epithets of quack and charlatan are deserved, although it may have the effect of exciting suspicion as to the boasted infallibility of the system whose votaries are so earnest in calling for protection from the progressive inroads of the new. This suspicion is most fully corroborated by the speeches of the members of the Medical Society who composed the meeting. Homœopathy, the system repudiated and attempted to be put down, was said to differ from other quackeries, inasmuch as it was propounded by men who had studied at the colleges and had obtained their diplomas; and as the diploma is held in esteem by the self-styled 'legitimate and high-minded practitioner' 'as some indication at least of scientific attainments, a similar diploma, obtained under similar circumstances, must indicate similar attainments on the part of the 'designing advocates of an absurd system of charlatanism.' It is admitted, then, that homœopathy is propounded and practised by gentlemen of equal scientific requirements, and, so long as they practised by the strict formula of respectable antiquity, equally 'high-minded' as their opponents. Now, as Morison's Pills, and brandy and salt quackeries, and 'whatever has not truth on its side, soon die a natural death,' it is perfectly evident that the motive for seeking protection from it is the fear that its increasing vitality, in place of its long-expected and constantly-prophesied dissolution, may, after all, be an indication of its being founded on truth. I do not say that they seek protection from it, knowing it to be true, but that they fear it is so; for as none of the speakers say a word about having studied or tested it, I conclude they are all quite ignorant of its principles, and not that they make 'false statements,'—a practice ascribed by them to the homœopathists.

"It may be considered presumption in me, who am not a 'qualified practitioner,' defending homœopathy from the unjust allegations of professional opponents; but, after all, it is the public that will have to decide as to its merits. The attempt to taboo it by 'branding its name' is meant to bring it into contempt and ridicule with the public; and the extraordinary nature of its principles are well calculated to have this effect, as truth always has when first seen and opposed to our preconceived notion of things founded—not on experiments and induction—but on the fallacious impressions of our senses. For instance, the doctrine of small doses, which the homœopathist views as an instance of wise and benevolent design, and uses as a blessing of eminent importance, with joyful thankfulness that it has been made known to humanity, his opponents, on the contrary, as if bent only on putting down the system that gives them so much annoyance, strive, by industrious attempts at wit, to turn into derision, instead of, as sensible men, 'proud of their scientific knowledge,' looking at the fact now made known, and the step by step process that led the truth gradually to dawn on the mind of Hahnemann, and reasoning with that true humility which increases in the same ratio as knowledge increases; that as it is probable they do not know all the properties belonging to matter; and the axioms applicable to physical may not be true of vital forces, and that as the effects of trituration on the intensity of a medicine cannot be predicated till it be tried, the only way to prove the truth or falsehood of the doctrine is to submit it to a fair experiment.

"I do not make any attempt to explain the seeming absurdities of homœopathy—it is sufficient for me to witness the manifestations of gratitude of those to whom it has been a blessing to see the victim of a lingering disease willing

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to undergo anything for the health he has been so long a stranger to,—yet afraid, from painful experience, of the torturing and expensive ordeals he has already gone through—at last resort to homœopathy, and find to his joy and astonishment that the patient and careful examination he has undergone results in a treatment unattended with pain and suffering,—is so inexpensive as to be unfelt, even with his diminished resources, and finally brings back to him surely and gradually his long-wished for, but almost despaired of, health and strength.

"It is hardly surprising to hear the 'high-minded practitioners,' whilst magnanimously refraining from personalities, characterise the doctrines and statements of homœopathic practitioners (now in this country—more so in America and on the Continent—a numerous, also by the showing of their opponents a scientific and, until they were degraded by homœopathy, a 'high-minded' class) as false, when the statistics, the results of their practice speak so strongly in its favour. Still less strange is it when, in addition, it is considered, that many of the patients who resort to homœopathy have already undergone the murderous practice to which the allopaths subject them—that conviction of the truth and beneficence of the system forces itself on the mind, and that homœopathy progresses.

W.

"HOMŒOPATHY NO FALLACY.

"To the Editor of the Sunderland News.

"SIR,—The Sunderland Medical Society have seen fit to meet and condemn homœopathy as 'fallacious in doctrine, and mischievous in its operations upon the public.' That it is neither the one nor the other will be our easy task to show to every mind open to conviction; and as homœopathy challenges no other tribunal than that of actual experiment in curing the sick, it is neither fair nor safe summarily to dispose of its claims upon the assumption of its unworthiness, when we can take the advocate for homœopathy at his word, and bring the searching test of investigation to bear upon him and his cause.

"Homœopathy has now attained the growth of half a century. In these fifty years how many bubbles and shams have been blown to the winds; yet it lives on, and shows no sign of decay. The little company that gathered round its illustrious founder has grown into a formidable band. Not fewer than five thousand practitioners rally round the laws of Hahnemann as their guide in practice, and thousands of grateful patients sing pæans to the name of him who propounded what the Sunderland memorial calls 'an absurd and fallacious charlatanism.'

"The system of homœopathy, then, has been long enough in practical operation to exemplify the truth or falsehood of the principle on which it rests. Statistical reports *duly verified*, are now to be had from many of the chief cities of Europe and America, embracing a sufficient number of cases to enable any one who examines them to arrive at a definite judgment upon the comparative results in allopathic and homœopathic practice—and this is the tribunal, of all others, to which the matter must be brought—for of what value to suffering humanity are medical theories and hypotheses? Is not the vital question to physician and patient this—the cure?

"Of these statistical reports the most important, perhaps, are those that refer to the treatment of cholera. The high mortality everywhere attending epidemic cholera is well known and painfully remembered by us all. Yet even in cholera, the number of those who died under homœopathic treatment was not one-fifth the number who died under the old system.

"Not less successful has homœopathy been in the treatment of acute inflammation. The following tables will show the rates of mortality under the two systems—the allopathic returns being chiefly those of the Edinburgh Infirmary, a small portion from French authorities, while the homœopathic are those of Dr. Fleischmann, of the hospital of the Sisters of Charity, Vienna:—

	In every 100 *cases.*
Mortality of cholera treated allopathically..	63
Mortality of cholera treated homœopathically	11

	No. of Cases.		*Deaths.*
Mortality in cases of pneumonia treated allopathically ..... or 1 in every 4½.	909	..	212
Mortality in cases of pneumonia treated homœopathically.. . or 1 in every 15.	229	..	19
Mortality in cases of pleurisy treated allopathically ..... or 1 in every 8.	111	..	14
Mortality in cases of pleurisy treated homœopathically.... or little more than 1 in every 100.	224	..	3
Mortality in cases of peritonitis treated allopathically ..... or rather more than 1 in every 4.	21	..	6
Mortality of cases of peritonitis treated homœopathically.... or rather less than 1 in every 25.	105	..	3

"In addition to these statements, a narrative of deep and recent interest, in which homœopathy was tested almost side by side with the old practice, remains to be cited:—

"During the early part of 1847, the accounts from Ireland of the daily extending ravages of pestilence first took that frightful form which causes that year to become memorable in the records of human calamity. In the *Times* of 26th of March, it was stated that in three localities widely distant from each other—Armagh, Mayo, and Cork—the progress of the disease was such that hundreds of the sufferers were totally without any medical assistance; that the workhouses were crowded; and that the attendants and medical men were dying daily. In the workhouse at Ballinrobe the building was one charnel-house, the unfortunate paupers being nearly all victims of fever—the dying and the dead huddled together. The master, the clerk, the matron, and the physician

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had all fallen victims in their constant attendance on the sick and diseased inmates. In many places the doctors seemed to be more particularly marked out as the victims of the malady, and consequently the great want among the mass of sufferers was that of medical attendance.

"'Immediately on the appearance of these accounts, the English Homœopathic Association despatched one of their number to the aid of these wretched people. They selected Mr. Joseph Kidd, an Irishman, and a member of the London College of Surgeons, and fixed on the town of Bantry, as being one of the most severely visited, as the scene of his labours. The disadvantage of his position will at once be seen, from the deplorable condition of those who were to be the objects of his care. They were destitute of food, nurses, and attendance, while, on the other hand, the patients of the infirmary, fever-hospital, and workhouse in Bantry, who were treated allopathically, were, of course, provided with these necessaries. Notwithstanding, the results were as follows:—

"'*Comparative results of the allopathic and homœopathic treatment of fever and dysentery, at Bantry, in April, May, and June*, 1847.—Under allopathic treatment: fever, 254 cases, 35 deaths, or 14 per cent; dysentery, 250 cases, 90 deaths, or 36 per cent. Under homœopathic treatment: fever, 111 cases, 2 deaths, or 2 per cent.; dysentery, 81 cases, 11 deaths, or 14 per cent.'

"These returns show that in the instances recorded homœopathy has been able to save four times the number of persons that allopathy has, in diseases of the most acute and malignant kind.

"With regard to the success of homœopathy in chronic cases, we have the testimony of Dr. Forbes, editor of the *British and Foreign Medical Review*, that, in the treatment of chronic cases which have come under his notice, 'there has been a proportion of success with which the best-informed physicians would have been fully satisfied if it had occurred in their own practice;' and so completely has this been observed by other practitioners, that it is perfectly common to hear the results of homœopathy attributed, since they cannot be denied, to 'diet,' 'time,' 'imagination,' abstinence from medicine,' or to a 'salutary effort of nature.'

"With these facts and figures before us, we believe that homœopathy is neither 'a useless nor mischievous system of practice,' and although those who differ from us deny our success, we shall, as the best means of refuting their objections, go on and endeavour to multiply our cures.

"We do not expect soon to convert the profession to our faith. There are many hindrances in the way. Thus has it ever been with new truths. Galileo, in his day, complained that the philosophers would not look through his telescope, and, therefore, doubted the existence of his moons and stars; and so long as our medical men refuse to look through our telescope, they will assuredly not see the wonders of our firmament. As the world went round, despite of the men who thrust Galileo into the dungeon of the Inquisition, so, if it be true, will homœopathy advance, colleges and medical societies gainsaying. 'It must soon be utter night with a lie, or glorious sunshine with a truth.'

"I am, Sir,

"Yours truly,

"R. S. Tate."

"THE SUNDERLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY'S ANTI-HOMŒOPATHIC CRUSADE.

"*To the Editor of the Sunderland News.*

"Sir,—In your paper of December 27th is a long report of the proceedings of the Sunderland Medical Society.

"It is quite clear that the Sunderland Medical Society feel that homœopathy has taken so strong a hold on the public mind as to have caused a considerable hesitancy in their proceedings.

"Thus, although they pass a resolution, that 'the *public* profession of homœopathy shall be held to disqualify from being admitted or remaining a member of the Sunderland Medical Society,' they have not courage to add the resolution (by-the-bye, its grammar is shocking) to the regulations of the Society.

"Mr. Johnson proposed a resolution, and expressed that he wanted some protection for himself and for his medical brethren.

"How can a man of Mr. Johnson's talent and genius want protection? Surely the best protection a medical man can want is that arising from curing his patients quickly, surely, and kindlily *(cito, certe, et jucunde)*.

"Mr. Orton seemed very indignant with the College of Surgeons, because they would not brand the names of the members of the college that practised homœopathy as 'renegades and as quacks.' Why does not Mr. Orton himself do this? It would be an act of courage and of virtue, because then any such branded members could bring an action for libel (as did Dr. Ozanne in Guernsey, and that successfully), and, in so doing, would give Mr. Orton an opportunity of proving before a legally-constituted tribunal that such a brand is just.

"Mr. Parker was very vehement. He talked of the College of Surgeons 'robbing them of the titles they had wrought hard for.' He, like Mr. Orton, wants protection, 'by some means or other, against what was a great delusion.' Surely the best protection against delusion is common sense, acting upon well-ascertained facts; and it cannot be doubted that a gentleman of such reputation as is Mr. Parker has that common sense which, as Juvenal severely remarks, is—

"'Rara avis in terris, nigro simillima cygno.'
"A rare bird on the earth, very like to a black swan.

"Sincerely yours,

"A Sunderland Man."

"*To the Sunderland Medical Society.*

"Gentlemen,—The meeting of your Society,

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ostensibly convened to memorialise the College of Surgeons against homœopathy, has evidently (from the publicity given to the proceedings) been intended as a manifesto to the public, and which I feel I cannot pass by unnoticed, from the sense of gratitude I entertain for the benefits I have experienced under this new and enlightened system.

"In conning over the remarks of the various speakers, I was struck with the claims laid to scientific and other attainments of the 'Protesters,' whilst in vain I looked for any manifestation of it in the sayings and doings of your body; whilst one thing unfortunately, abuse, prevailed instead of argument, and there was instead of the 'feast of reason and the flow of soul' nothing but 'torrents of abuse.'

"Not one single argument to disprove homœopathy was even suggested, nor did it appear that any one member of your Society had ever tested the practice of it, and found it wanting; consequently, I am compelled to take it for granted that not one of these gentlemen know anything of the subject but what they learn from the rivald stuff and nonsense of those writers in the *Lancet* and *Medical Times*, who, like themselves, in a case like this, where really much trouble and scientific application is required (and consequently there would be an unwilling task to fulfil) prove the truth of the old adage 'where ignorance is bliss, 'twere folly to be wise.' For the benefit of the public, however, I will inform them that at the present time there are upwards of two thousand regularly educated medical practitioners (quacks as you in your charity would call them) practising homœopathy, and amongst them many men of high standing, and of acknowledged ability and integrity; and that there is only one instance on record where a medical man, after having adopted the homœopathic system of medicine, has returned to the allopathic practice of bleeding, blistering, salivating, purging, etc. etc. I will go further, and assert that there is hardly an instance of an allopathic practitioner, who has fairly tried by practice the homœopathic system, even though in nearly all such cases he has entered on his experiments with the hope and intention of exposing and disproving the system, that has not himself become a convert.

"But there is a large class in every community, which resolutely sets itself against innovations, and denounces every change as a curse, and every novelty as an imposture. For instance, the most determined opponents of church reform are the bench of bishops and the clergy. The strongest resistance to every measure of law reform comes from the members of the legal profession; and it is proverbial that every important discovery in medical science has been received with distrust, if not positive hostility, by the professed conservators of the public health.

"Amidst such powerful obstacles has the truth in all ages had to work its way; so that society now finds itself dependent for its comforts, and almost for its existence, upon inventions and discoveries which at first excited almost universal ridicule. Truths newly discovered and carried into practical operation constitute the very essence of our present civilization. But whilst we condemn the hasty and inconsiderate rejection of every novelty, we must equally avoid the opposite extreme of presuming that every novelty is a truth. Our duty is to investigate freely and fairly every new idea which presents itself to our minds, never doubting that whatever is true either in science or morals cannot be in the end injurious to mankind.

"Homœopathy has this decided recommendation, that the quantum of physic which it dispenses is almost imperceptible; and if it can be proved by practical results that its infinitesimal doses can effect cures with as much rapidity and certainty as the large pill and dose system, without the prejudicial effects of the latter, then I do not hesitate to predict its popularity. But the medical profession denounce it as 'quackery and humbug' (presuming, of course, that the public give them credit for being themselves wholly free from such an imputation), and charitably offer its practitioners the alternative of being regarded as knaves or fools; for if homœopathy is quackery and humbug, as you assert, then those medical men who have been all their lives practising the healing art, and from year to year continue administering doses of nothing (as you allege), and yet are so blind (and unfortunately their patients too!) as to fancy that they have the same curative effects as the large doses which they formerly administered, must be fools indeed; and if they don't themselves believe that the medicines administered by them in minute doses have any effect either for good or for bad, then they must be worse than fools —they must be knaves.

"But, gentlemen of the Sunderland Medical Society, you will excuse me for reminding you that homœopathy claims the favour of the public as a practical science, and therefore its efficiency can be tested only by experience; and medical men have so often been compelled to adopt ideas which they formerly laughed at, that I cannot accept their dictum as conclusive against any theory, however novel and startling it may be.

"It was obviously your design to put down the new heresy without taking the trouble to convince the public, or even yourselves, of its falsity by scientific inquiry or actual experiment, but with what effect the daily adhesion of both medical and non-medical men to the 'heresy' sufficiently shows. There are now two regularly qualified medical practitioners pursuing the homœopathic system in this town, and another about to establish himself among us, besides two dispensaries; and their patients are counted by thousands.

"I am, Gentlemen,
"Your obedient servant,
"SCRUTATOR."

HOMŒOPATHY IN CALCUTTA.

(*From the Calcutta Citizen, Nov.* 21 & 24, 1851.)

As Dr. Tonnerre's project renders the subject of homœopathy one of interest at the present time to the Calcutta public, we, though without

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the slightest pretension to be considered as scientific journalists, revert to it, and proceed to lay before our readers the information which we have drawn from one of the theses kindly sent us, the production of Dr. Geddes McKenzie Scott, a brother of one of our fellow-townsmen.

Samuel Hahnemann, a physician born in Saxony in 1755, was, as most of our readers are already aware, the founder of the homœopathic school. Without apparently any very defined object he subjected himself when in sound health to an experimental course of *Peruvian Bark*, wishing to observe the *modus operandi* of the drug. He was shortly attacked with the symptoms of intermittent fever. "The similarity of the effect to the disease which this substance cures was," says Dr Scott, "to Hahnemann what the falling apple was to Newton: *it suggested a law*, which an accumulation of facts only could establish, but which with the ardour of a true philosopher he proceeded to investigate." The result was the establishment of what may be announced as, *par excellence*, THE PRINCIPLE of homœopathy—*similia similibus curantur*—which may be paraphrased *like cures like*. This maxim, the great, we may say the only *essential* tenet of the followers of Hahnemann, is empirical, and independent of any theory. But the homœopathists, like all other sects, *have* their theory, which we proceed to explain.

The vital power is held to be a distinct principle pervading the frame of living creatures. This energy, the homœopathists maintain, has a dynamical action peculiar to itself; and they are distinctly opposed to those physiologists who would reduce all the functions and operations of the animal economy to chemical or mechanical processes. We need not stop to discuss whether this declared "opposition" be not unphilosophical. Our own opinion is that the researches of science will in the end discover that all the classes of phenomena, which we now are accustomed to regard as regulated by separate and independent laws, which we term those of gravitation, of light, of heat, of electricity, and of vital energy, are but modifications of one universal law. All, therefore, that we take the declaration of the homœopathists really to amount to is, that they consider it more practically useful to prosecute their investigations into the dynamics of vital energy, than to endeavour to reconcile them with the laws which regulate chemical and mechanical processes. The vitality then which pervades each animal, the homœopathists regard as being *one* and indivisible. All disease is a contest between the morbific power and the great ruling power of life. Malady thus cannot, according to their ideas, be local. The effects of the disease may be more distinctly perceptible in one organ of the frame than another, but the kingdom of life is attacked although the invading force may have advanced no further than the outposts. In support of this view, it is remarked that a general undefinable uneasiness ushers in almost every complaint; that a fever, a cold, an inflammation of any class have all their premonitory symptoms—symptoms premonitory of disease generally, but not always pointing to the particular organs which prove ultimately the seat of the severest suffering. So far their doctrine is not peculiar to the homœopathists. Many distinguished physicians of other schools have maintained the theory of the constitutional origin of local disease. The separation between the homœopathist and allopathist is observable only when they come to treat of the phenomena which accompany an attack of the morbific power upon the vital energy. Those symptoms which are ordinarily ascribed to the *disease*, are held by the homœopathists to be due to the *reaction* of the vital power called into play to resist it. As this principle is the keystone of the homœopathic philosophy, it is better to use Dr. Scott's own words in describing it.

"When," says he, "a morbific power is presented to the constitution, the vital energies are called into play to resist it; hence arise the symptoms of the disease; which are not the effect simply of the morbific power, but of the strife subsisting between it and the vital energy —the reaction to which the hostile invasion has given rise. Any substance applied to dead matter produces a different effect from that which it does when applied to living, it is fair to suppose that the *difference* is owing to the *vitality;* and the tendency of vitality being to preserve itself, it is reasonable to suppose that the *peculiar effect* is owing to the *reaction* of the vital energy. Now when two substances produce a similar effect, it is because each excites the reacting power of the vital energy *in the same direction*. Hence the principle of homœopathy. A certain morbific power stimulates the vital energy, and the contest produces a certain effect. Now all that is wanting to cure this effect (which we here consider the whole disease) is, that the vital energy should react sufficiently to overcome the morbific power, when one of the conflicting powers being subdued, the strife, and therefore the disease, would be at an end. The medicinal agent, whose effect corresponds to that of the disease, stirs up the resistance in the same direction, that is, still against the morbific power, without increasing the opposing force (because the power of the medicine, though *similar*, is not *the same* as that of the morbid power), and therefore it is that the vital energy becomes victorious."

Dr. Scott very wisely disclaims for the homœopathic system, as brought into vogue by Hahnemann, the character of originality. Though first insisted upon by that physician as fundamental, the principle on which it is based has, he observes, been in many instances recognised by those who, in their zeal for legitimate practice, would denounce the Hahnemannites as quacks. He gives a long list of cases in which the cure of disease is recorded, from the use of drugs which, administered to a healthy patient, would produce symptoms similar to those of the disease: and this list, lengthy as it is, is but, he informs us, a selection from the array set forth in the Organon of Hahnemann, the Bible of the homœopathists, published in 1810.

In practice the homœopathists stand forth avowedly as empirics. Of the number of patho-

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logists, they remark, each individual has his own hypothesis, and all their theories are not only different but contradictory. The homœopathists complain that the rules of practice which physiology suggests are meagre and uncertain: while, therefore, they "fully accord to the students of morbid anatomy the merit which is their due, particularly improvement in diagnosis, they consider that, as a practical guide, it is of no great service. They regard the curing of disease as the great end of medicine, and therefore direct every effort to the discovery of means to effect it."

The experimental part of the new system is therefore confined to the observation of the influence of medicinal substances on the human frame: the peculiarity of the method pursued by them being, that the experiments are not tried upon the sick, *but upon persons in sound health.* When the operation of a drug is to be ascertained, a healthy subject is chosen, who undergoes a course of discipline intended to avert every source of error. "He avoids stimulating food, depressing or exciting passions, debilitating pleasures, undue exertion, and exercises a constant and very minute watch over his own sensations, noticing the most trivial change. The same process is repeated by several, and when the results agree, they are naturally ascribed to the medicine. The medicine is administered perfectly pure, *i. e.*, in combination with no other."

When by such an experiment artificial symptoms have been produced in the voluntary patient similar to those presented by some natural disorder, the drug which has induced the feigned disease is deemed the specific for the real disease to which it bears a resemblance.

As a *sub*-principle the homœopathists have adopted that of infinitesimal doses; but Dr. Scott is careful to guard against the supposition that the system of minute doses forms an integral part of the homœopathic system. He insists only upon the *superiority* of the mode of exhibiting medicine in very small quantities, not its *absolute necessity.* In fact, he acknowledges that "he thinks it very possible that cases may occur in which larger doses than infinitesimal, though still small in comparison with those ordinarily administered, may be preferable." To give the infinitesimal a fair chance, its professors require that all disturbing causes should be avoided; the patient must be submitted to a strict regimen, even his passions must be held in control, and in the very atmosphere which he breathes counter-agents must be dreaded and guarded against. Now as those in poor circumstances and engaged in business cannot yield themselves up wholly into the hands of the doctor, in numerous instances the nice operation of the infinitesimal dose must be disturbed. In such cases Dr. Scott does not object to treatment in some degree more vigorous than that which he would recommend under circumstances more favourable to the operation of the influence of just the faint "suspicion of medicine" which the homœopathist delights to insinuate.

It may amuse our readers if we conclude our notice by quoting Dr. Scott's description of the method by which the homœopathist fills his fairy medicine chest. It runs as follows:

"If soluble, one grain of the medicine is placed in the third part of 100 grains of *Sugar of Milk* in a porcelain capsule, not varnished. These are mixed with a spatula of bone or horn: the mixture is then pounded during six minutes: the mass is then scraped from the bottom of the capsule, and from the pestle, to render it more homogeneous, and the pounding continued for six minutes; it is again scraped during four minutes, after which is added another third part of 100 grains of *Sugar of Milk;* this is agitated with the spatula and bruised with the same pestle six minutes: it is again bruised during six and scraped during four minutes, when the remaining third part of the *Sugar of Milk* is added, mixing with the spatula, pounding for six minutes, scraping for four, pounding again for six, and then carefully detaching. The powder thus obtained is preserved in a corked phial, and marked $\overline{100}$.

"To obtain the second attenuation, one grain of this is made to undergo a similar process, and the result is marked $\overline{10,000}$."

"The same operation is repeated for each attenuation, so that six times six minutes are occupied in pounding, and six times four in scraping, making one hour for each attenuation."

This minute formality might at first sight appear absurd—but no magical effect is attributed to the repetition and alternation of pounding and scraping, and the performance of each attenuation in exactly one hour. The object of establishing an uniform mode of manipulation is only to ensure certainty and accuracy in the quantity of medicine which each drop or globule of the homœopathist's apotheca contains: an object which those who believe in the efficacy of doses almost inconceivably small must consider of vast importance.

[Our readers will be much interested in seeing that homœopathy is thus discussed in the periodical literature of India. We are always thankful to those who send us any information bearing on this subject. Dr. Tonnerre, of Calcutta, has opened a Homœopathic Hospital in that city. We subjoin the prospectus.—Ed.]

PROSPECTUS OF A HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

Native Homœopathic Hospital and Free Dispensary, under the patronage of the Honourable Sir John Hunter Littler, G.C.B., Deputy-Governor of Bengal and President of the Council of India.

The rapid progress of homœopathy in Calcutta, and its great success amongst the natives, have induced me to make the present appeal to the public in favour of a Native Homœopathic Hospital and Dispensary.

This Institution will be established for the purpose of enabling the poorer classes to avail themselves of the homœopathic method of treatment in those extensively-distributed and fatal diseases, cholera, fever, dysentery, and diar-

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rhœa, which form by far the largest items in the causes of mortality in the climate.

In undertaking the responsibility of conducting the medical department of the Institution, I feel called upon to observe that I do not come before the public as one who is merely about to subject the comparative merits of the homœopathic and the old system to his own judgment, but as a man who, seeing every year hundreds of natives die for want of medical aid, now comes forward to offer them the benefit of a simple system, more in harmony with their habits than the old system of medicine.

My convictions are already fully formed, being based on many years of searching inquiry into the most successful method of treating disease; and after having practised simultaneously the allopathic and homœopathic systems for eleven years, my experience and conscience have constrained me to admit and adopt the homœopathic practice, as being the most successful system of medical treatment, the only system possessing a fixed and unerring law for its practice.

C. Fabre Tonnerre, M.D.

Regulations.

The Hospital will be under the patronage of His Honour Sir John Hunter Littler, G.C.B., President of the Council of India and Deputy-Governor of Bengal.

2. The Committee of Management will consist of four members, elected for this purpose, and the medical attendant.

3. A responsible treasurer will be appointed to take charge of the funds.

4. The Oriental Bank has been selected for that purpose.

5. A Quarterly Report will be published, showing the treatment of the patients, and the management of the funds.

6. The Institution will be divided into two departments; an Hospital for the treatment of acute diseases, and a Dispensary for chronic cases.

7. Poor patients with acute diseases will be admitted free at any hour, but to prevent abuse of the charity, the medical officer will reserve to himself the privilege, if he should think it necessary, of requiring from the patient a certificate from some native gentleman, or from some person of known character and respectability, to show that the applicant is a proper object for gratuitous relief.

8. Cases of cholera are exceptions to the rule and will be admitted without delay, and under every circumstance.

9. Out-door patients affected with chronic diseases will be attended to every morning.

10. The distinctions of castes will be strictly attended to.

11. The Institution will be supported by voluntary subscriptions, or donations paid in advance.

12. The services of the medical officer will be gratuitous.

We publish the prospectus, drawn up by Dr. Tonnerre, of a "*Native Homœopathic Hospital and Free Dispensary* (to be established, we presume) *under the patronage of the Honourable Sir John Hunter Littler, G.C.B., Deputy-Governor of Bengal and President of the Council of India.*"

We suppose that the object of Dr. Tonnerre, though he nowhere in his prospectus directly states so, is to invite subscriptions to carry out his project, and such we shall be happy to receive and forward to him.

On the comparative merits of the allopathic and homœopathic systems we are unable to offer an opinion; but we know that the latter, the more recent of the two, has votaries among scientific and well-educated medical men, and this is sufficient to make us desire that an opportunity should be given of testing its excellence by a fair experiment. We have been very cautious of pooh-poohing anything, merely because it is novel, and presents startling combinations of cause and effect which would appear at first sight at variance with those presented by the phenomena which ordinarily have fallen under our observation, since mesmerism, which we once laughed at in the self-sufficiency of ignorance, has become established as a fact. Those who pronounce off-hand—"Oh, you will never make me believe that which is quite *unnatural*"—should reflect that this absurd expression involves upon the part of the speaker an impudent assumption that he has navigated every sea and explored every bay, creek, and strait of that ocean, upon the shores of which Sir Isaac Newton expressed himself to be but a gatherer of shells. "Unnatural," as used by men of sense and reflection, conveys no further idea than not *apparently* to be accounted for as a result of those causes which we see ordinarily brought into operation. We say not *apparently;* for on farther investigation, that which seems at first sight startling is often found, on more close examination, to be merely the operation under new combinations of circumstances of causes with whose effects we are daily conversant. The rising of the balloon from the earth seems at the first glance to be a violation of the laws of gravitation; when further examined the phenomenon is found to be an illustration of the immutability of those laws. That only can be properly styled unnatural which is *contradictory* to experience, and before we can venture to assert with a *rational* confidence that an occurrence reported to us as having taken place under certain circumstances is *in this sense* unnatural, we should be careful to ascertain that those circumstances are *precisely* similar to those in which we have observed the same means described to have been used produce a different end. Will any sensible man then venture to predicate of a particular course of medical treatment, described by a man of fair reputation for honesty and intelligence to have been successful, that it is unnatural and therefore absurd? Assuredly not; when our greatest physiologists confess how little they are acquainted with the principle which binds together in strength and beauty tissues which, when it has fled, melt in a few hours into a rotting mass of foul corruption.

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There are, however, in the medical as in every other profession enthusiasts who are carried away by the fancied infallibility of some nostrum, or rule of treatment; and while we deprecate a summary judgment without trial being passed against any system which proffers respectable witnesses to speak in its favour, we are not inclined to pin our faith to any man's sleeve.

All we ask for Dr. Tonnerre and homœopathy is a fair trial, and we are selfish enough to adopt the maxim "*fiat experimentum in corpore vili.*" The Doctor is anxious to practise upon the natives, and the natives are willing to take this pills. Physic away, good Bolus, say we. If your system be one of kill, it is not *we* you will send to the Stygian shades: if on the other hand it show itself one of cure, you may have the honour of dosing the *Citizen.*

PROFESSOR MACDONALD AND HOMŒOPATHY.

To the Editor of the Medical Times and Gazette.

SIR,—In your autocratic position in the editorial chair of the now incorporated *Medical Times and Gazette*, you have issued your first bulletin, disclosing your future relation to the periodic medical press, in which capacity I wish you that success which the long list of contributions, including many names eminent both in science and practice, fully guarantees.

You also state your proposed relations with the homœopaths, on which I beg you will afford me a small space in your widely-extended journal, in order to examine the dogmas you have laid down, against which I demur for the following reasons:—

I. Because you restrict the term "Regular Practitioner" in a sense not hitherto received by the profession or the public, to the exclusion of those who treat disease homœopathically. Hitherto all who have acquired legal title to practise medicine after a prescribed course of study, by several years' attendance at the medical classes, with sufficient practical instruction in the laboratory, dissecting-room, hospital, and dispensaries, and after the age of twenty-one shall have passed an examination by the authorized boards, showing a competent acquaintance with the prescribed subjects of study, received the diploma, and were admitted as regular practitioners, in contradistinction to those persons who may engage in the treatment of disease without such qualification and previous study. This is still the conventional meaning of the term in society, and any such restriction as you propose is not only ungenerous but unfair, and an uncalled-for innovation.

II. Because, like all who possess the previous knowledge of their profession and the legal qualification, those who prefer adopting the homœopathic principle in the treatment of disease—the homœopaths, as you term them—claim the same free enjoyment of their professional privileges as those who deprecate the principle and denounce the practice of homœopathy; and they therefore resist the attempt at present so actively pursued by many of their professional brethren, and fomented by the Medical Press, by the Medical Societies, and even some of the corporate bodies, who have not hesitated to apply epithets, not only inapplicable but unfair, and to attempt to exclude without legal power to do so. We ask no new fellowship,—we only claim the continued possession of our rights and privileges.

III. Because you blame the homœopaths as having originated the system of abuse and invective which you admit the others were not slow to follow. This is a point to be settled by a reference to dates; but whoever initiated the practice, I entirely concur with those who discard it as neither argument nor evidence, though often substituted for both; and I trust that the future career of your journal will not be bloated with the virulent personality which is glaringly exhibited in some of your contemporaries.

IV. Because, in all questions of mere professional principle and theory, the fair and free discussion should be conducted with courtesy and decorum; and, therefore, the subject which at present is the topic of such general interest should be treated with that calmness which its importance demands. I propose the following modification of your grounds against any congeniality in the professional discussion or practice:—

1. Professing the same object, "the cure of disease," both seek the success of their system according to their conscientious convictions, although they may not use the same drugs in the same quantities, or prepared in the same manner.

2 and 3. Each follows his own course, without necessarily condemning the practice of others as erroneous, or rousing their indignation or contempt.

4. Let any medical man who can only view homœopathy as a fallacy and deception, avoid it, and the homœopath also, if he pleases; but he is certainly neither entitled to stigmatize him, when duly qualified, "as a foolish dupe, nor a cunning and dishonest pretender."

The 5th ground is so utterly beneath consideration, that it is surprising you should have penned it.

On the subject of consultation, it is scarcely worth while noticing it, were it not for the injudicious prominence which has been given to it in certain quarters. As the first step in treatment is to ascertain the seat and nature of the disease, more especially in obscure and difficult cases, there does not seem any good reason why difference of theory should prevent the consultation as to the facts of the case. All medical men use the same modes of examination, and the phenomena of health or disease are exhibited alike to all, whatever the theory of treating it may be. And, as every one has an inherent right to refuse meeting in consultation, there surely was no necessity for the formal decree which some of the colleges have issued, but which the council of the Royal College of Surgeons have declined as not being expedient, without in the least giving any approval of either party.

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Diagnosis must be the same, whatever course of medicine is adopted; and surely it was a careless oversight, when you concluded your article with the following sentence:—Between such methods of diagnosis there is no real correspondence; and to pretend that any enlightenment could follow a conference between the practitioners of two such opposite systems, is merely to attempt to impose on the public.

Before concluding allow me to refer to the attempt to prevent students, after passing their examination, from obtaining their diploma on the pretext of their future intentions. Such a course is not only unjust to the students, but also to the public at large, whose only safeguard is the guarantee that a sufficient course of study of all the branches of knowledge required for the successful treatment of disease has been gone through, and that they have obtained their diploma as the documents of having passed their required test. To refuse this, is to lay open to any unqualified pretender, who may appear in the field of medicine or surgery, many of their many departments to the manifest danger and disadvantage of the public at large. Trusting to your impartiality, I beg you will allow this letter to appear as soon as the crowded state of your columns will permit.

I am, etc.,

W. MACDONALD, M.D. and P. St Andrew's.

[The Editor of the *Medical Times and Gazette* publishes this letter with his remarks. We substitute for his a few of our own. This excellent Editor, a scholar, a well-read man, one, like Ulysses, versed in many tongues, and with the ways of many people, knows very well that he is a partisan. He is an Editor, and so he attacks homœopathy.

In a leader he taunts Professor Henderson, as if by *his* taunts that illustrious man would resign his professorial chair!

Let the bigoted upholders of the Hippocratic or Galenic systems do their worst. Professor Henderson will stand his ground. The mimic thunders of the *Lancet*, and the classical elegancies of the *Medical Times* have no weight with him.

This Editor of the *Medical Times and Gazette* is fond of harping on the broken fortunes of the medical men who take up homœopathy as a resource. We remind him of the proverb—"Those who dwell in glass houses should not cast stones"—and of the Scotch proverb, we forget the *Doric*—"Fools should not use sharp sticks."

Let him meditate on these two proverbs, and be wise. We like him very much; but we know quite as much of him as he can know of Professor Macdonald.

We are favoured with a little comparative rest from the assaults of the weekly medical press: but our progress is not the less. The establishment of a homœopathic hospital in Calcutta is likely to call the attention of many medical men in India to our mode of practice.—ED.]

THE

HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH, 1852.

THRONES topple; dynasties are changed; men are born, live, have children, and—die. But while all human interests, kingdoms, and races undergo change, Truth remaineth. The mists of earth may obscure, but cannot hide it for ever; the fires of hell may encompass, but cannot consume it. The insensate prejudices of men may bar its progress for a time, but cannot put it in a perpetual prison.

SOCRATES was never more glorious than when he drank the hemlock—for conscience' sake. That divine man knew he was a martyr for truth, or what he believed to be truth. In this age of Tubal-Cainism, of mechanical inventions, when the ideal is sacrificed always to the practical, what hinders the progress of a true and out-and-out Medical Reform? It is that the higher faculties of men, as well as their grosser, are invited to take a part in it, and for the most part those higher faculties are eliminated.

"Let us eat and drink to-day, for to-morrow we die," say the selfish and the sensous, and the sensualist.

"Let us heap riches for the mere pleasure in the acquisition," say the AURICOMES of this world.

"Let us get the praise of men," say those ambitious of the world's applause.

"Let us get power," say those who are fond of rule—and even pismires are not insensible to this so-called pleasure.

But the truth-lover breathes a higher and serener air. He looks down from a lofty eminence on those who are floundering blindly in the mists and errors of low-lying Egypt.

Such a truth-lover was Hahnemann, whose name has been so vilified, and so wantonly *taken in vain.*

His at least was a clear spirit; he was the earthen channel that conveyed an immortal truth to mankind. He under-

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stood his mission. He proclaimed the truth he was commissioned to utter—he died—and his body is embalmed by the tenderness of his consort, who withholds his revised writings from his disciples and the world.

Such fantastic tricks are played in this world!

We are not insensible to the gross abuses that are now being practised in relation to homœopathy, and its advancement. We are not ignorant that many are disposed to bow down before a *brazen calf*—in disrespect or disregard of Hahnemann. But let them try as they will, they cannot convert a *calf* into a MAN, and much less a calf of their own making.

It is with sincere grief, and not without some bitterness of spirit, that we see broad and well-laid schemes for the advancement of our great Reform sacrificed to the aims of the selfish, the vain, and the ridiculous.

But there is evermore a rebound, and truth is indestructible; and though we now utter oracular sentences, we shall, at some time or other, feel ourselves authorized to speak out plainly.

But we, meanwhile, press on all those who have sincerely received our doctrine and believed in our practice, to qualify themselves to give "a reason for the faith that is in them." This is no child's play,—no acting charade,—but a serious and solemn reality.

We care nothing for the ribaldry of our opponents, for their ostentatious ignorance and their fatuous malignity; but we feel that those who do battle for this Cause honestly, should in return receive a more hearty support from those who profess to be of the like faith.

Correspondence.

A SCREED ON ASSES.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—The family of Ass is an old and distinguished one; we know that a brace of them were in the Ark, at the very least 4000 years ago.

An Ass may be more assish than an ass. He may have almost all his head behind his ears,—not a particularly good type of head.

An Ass of this ancient family may do very queer things; he may neglect contumeliously those who have advanced his worldly interests, and he may at the same time say, with a Sir Charles Grandison air and tone, "I value good will for its own sake, and as much if I get a shilling by it, as if I get a thousand pounds."

An Ass is also a very patient animal. He will bear kicks and rubs. He will roar in a vain imitation of a lion, but he will stomach huge affronts. He will daintily sniff at a *leaf*, but will greedily munch an *artichoke*.

He will let a *cur* yelp at him, and won't kick at him.

In short, such an Ass is a very strange animal—a psychological curiosity. This creature has a large self-regarding region.

Let me not be mistaken: I am illustrating the biped variety, not the four-footed original.

I have spoken of one specimen; let me give you another, and preface it by an apologue.

Once on a time, in a tropical colony, an Ass (biped) figured in the militia; and after a time got the command of a company. He had a favourite black servant, Pompey. So Pompey drove him one day to parade. The captain had the command; he was in full costume, and, within six degrees of the Equator, was in all the hot glory of *scarlet*—such is the Assish wisdom of the Horse-Guards, even in respect to British regiments in the tropics. The noble captain performed to his own entire satisfaction, as does a well-graced surgeon in an "operating theatre." He got home, bathed in perspiration, of course; got cool—and said to Pompey, "How did I give the word of command?" "Grandly, sir; you did it like a lion."—"Where did you ever see or hear a lion, Pompey?" "Oh, sir, you hab one here—and he go so," and Pompey imitated to the life the bray of a donkey.

Now, Sir, there is such a (biped) Ass to the fore at present, who does not see that his white Pompeys, when they give him leonine attributes, really ascribe to him those that are asinine. He is paraded as a head and director, in French and German periodicals, over a *corps*, which really regards him as an Ass.

With Ass-like solemnity—for the Ass is a solemn animal in his gait, his feeding, his regard, his amours—he propounds monstrous follies. As he is a King Ass, little Asses look on his wisdom as something oracular. He has discovered—in the secrecies of Ass-land—that the lower the vitality, the more necessary it is that humanity should be stinted of aliment. He has made other notable discoveries in science, butall of the same stamp—all intensely asinine.

Bray loudly, King Ass—and bray in various tones as loudly as ye can, ye little Asses!

Oh! that Landseer would take you all off for the amusement of ourselves and of our posterity!

Yet in their different ways very grand is each of these Asses I have sketched for your edification.

I have plenty more to do for you, if you like; but you must let me know, for I am only a modest

OBSERVER OF THE ASS-KIND.

[We shall be glad of more sketches from this wit. We do not recognise the characters; others may. But don't be too truculent, friend. —ED.]

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HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Allow me a small space in the next number of your valuable journal in which to notice the letter of your amiable correspondent Mr. Samuel Hanson, who, in entering the lists with me as the champion of the present Board of Management of the Hahnemann Hospital, disavows a combat *à l'outrance*, and proposes to break a lance in amity. Faithfully and like a true knight does he keep his word; all who glance at his reply to my letter must acquit him of having wielded any but a pointless weapon. But I am convinced that Mr. Hanson ought not to be an antagonist of mine in any sense, either hostile or amicable; and that, upon his own showing. He entreats the subscribers to suspend their judgment, because they cannot, from such premises as my letter contained, arrive at just conclusions; and he therefore proposes the appointment of a select committee to prepare a digest of all the minutes relating to the subject of clinical lectures and a medical school, for publication and circulation among the subscribers. I can only say that if this committee have access to all the documents and evidence necessary for it to arrive at the truth, and thereupon does its duty, the sole object of my letter will have been accomplished,* and publicity and information afforded to the subscribers on those points upon which they will be called upon to legislate at the next meeting. We are not at issue here therefore; both desire openness, fair play, and a clear understanding of the question.

Mr. Hanson next puts forward four grounds for his entreaty. First, that I have inadvertently lost sight of the fact, that much deliberation on the subject took place at the Board previous to the 18th of July. I certainly did not know it for a fact, though I might have presumed it. But of what value is it as a fact? If the opinion of the Medical Council, by which alone the Board ought to have been guided, was not formally demanded *until* the 18th of July, all discussions prior to the knowledge of that opinion were but so much time wasted; I therefore commenced my statement at the date when the question began to assume something like a definite and legitimate form. Now it appears, from Mr. Hanson's own statement, that though prior to that date he was a regular attendant at the meetings of the Board of Management, yet subsequently, "during the time that the obnoxious proceedings took place (October to January), he had, from pressing engagements, entirely given up attending." This gentleman is certainly quite right to call for a committee of inquiry, for he can have but slight idea of the subject; scarcely enough, I fancy, to entitle his modest judgment of my statement—viz. that it "is far otherwise than correct"—to much weight. Had he but exercised the same caution which he beseeches of the subscribers, and suspended his own judgment until he was better informed, I am sure that he would have entered the lists to break a lance in the same cause, and not against me. True, he entirely dissents from the conclusions I arrive at on the opinion of the Medical Council; but then has he read them aright? I can only judge of this by analogy. Let us see if Mr. Hanson always reads aright. His second ground for entreating a suspension of judgment is, that "as to discussions consequent upon the opinion of the Medical Council (at which he was not present), until the ultimate decision of the Board, on the 3rd January, I *carefully* perused all the documents and minutes, and had I been present, I should have adopted the same views at which the Board arrived." Now in this *careful* perusal he must have found that, at the meetings of the Medical Council, held on the 15th and 22nd of December, the question of title was warmly debated, and the opinions of twelve of the Medical Council strongly expressed on the subject, and placed in the hands of the Board, for their decision on that very point. Yet Mr. Hanson, as late as Thursday last, avowed his ignorance of the question of title; and I had myself to explain that it was the essence of the question, to the great surprise of the honourable chairman of the meeting at which it was first discussed, who very forcibly expressed his wonder that any one could suppose that the question of "mere title" was not the very *causa belli*, and if that were arranged all would go on well, so much for *careful perusals*. This misunderstanding of the real question explains Mr. Hanson's third ground of entreaty viz., that at a special meeting called by myself and others to reconsider the very subject, we were outvoted by thirteen to four; and therefore the subscribers must believe the thirteen right and the four wrong. Now, Sir, at that meeting I clearly enunciated the principle that the creation of a title would estrange the medical men, and hamper our future school, thereby materially injuring our influence and sphere of usefulness; but I was not listened to or even answered. Every member who spoke in reply blinked the question; and, in spite of repeated remonstrances on my part, the time of the meeting was occupied with matter that was *not in question*, viz. whether we should have clinical lectures or not—a point we are all agreed on. It is therefore on the very ground that the majority are so blind or so wilful that they cannot or will not see the true bearing of their acts that I considered it my duty to appeal to the subscribers, and most happy am I that I did so, since it has been the means of getting a committee of inquiry on the subject, a result I should have fought for in vain at the meetings of the Board.

Mr. Hanson's last ground is that "it is not expedient or *just* that a minority, if they cannot by regular attendance or argument influence the judgment of their friends, should call upon the public body to condemn that judgment which courtesy would presume to be *honestly* adopted, *if not wisely*." I am sure, Sir, my friend must have forgotten our true position when he wrote that paragraph, and if he is the candid upright man I take him to be, he must wish it re-

* The suppression of any documents or evidence relating to the subject would nullify the report of this committee, and my charge against the Board remain unanswered.

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called. Can he have recollected that we are a body appointed to regulate the affairs of a charity supported by other people's money—that we have no business with courtesy in matters connected with the welfare of the trust confided to us—and that to act therein *not wisely*, is to act *dishonestly*? since it is our duty, before we *honestly* adopt any measure, to see that it is a *wise one*. Had I, Sir, from feelings of courtesy winked at proceedings which I was sure would militate against the welfare of the Hospital, I should have spared myself much trouble, but at the expense of my honesty. I pointed out to the Board, at the meeting called to consider these appointments, the error they were about to fall into. I was not listened to. I then called another special meeting, to reconsider the subject; here, though listened to, I was not answered—the "honest but not wise" resolution was carried. It then became a duty to myself to resign my seat at the Board, or appeal to the subscribers, as I really wished well to the Hospital, and dreaded that, if a few more of these "honest but not wise" resolutions were come to, the Institution would before long be shut up. I thought it best to stimulate inquiry, and it seems my letter has had the desired effect. As to the etiquette or courtesy of writing it, I cannot but think that in the management of a public charity the interests of that charity should be alone considered. The subscribers must therefore judge of the *justness* of my appeal, and as to the Board of Management, I can only say, that the upright and well-meaning among them can take no offence at it. Allow me to conclude, Sir, with a few lines which fully exemplify the position I have attempted to establish, and which I hope it will be my aim always to hold in all matters, whether public or private:—

"With mean complaisance ne'er betray your trust,
Nor be so civil as to prove unjust.
Fear not the anger of the wise to raise,
Those best can bear reproof who merit praise."

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM GILL.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In your journal of this day (page 412), immediately preceding a letter from myself, is one from Mr. Hanson *in re* the Leaf circular.

This gentleman candidly admits that he relies entirely on his memory for his impression, and that that impression is—that the Leaf letter "is in exact conformity with the suggestions of our committee to Mr. Warne."

Now, nothing is more probable than that, after a lapse of eleven months and four days, with the very best intentions (and no one who has the pleasure of Mr. Hanson's acquaintance could doubt the purity of his intentions), an impression should be wrong—nothing, comparatively speaking, more improbable than that a minute of a committee made at the time a resolution was passed, *should be incorrect*.

In your editorial note on Mr. Hanson's letter, you say "he has mistaken the point;" and I beg to add, that his impression and the minute are at total variance, as will be seen by my letter to which I have just referred.

Having made this observation, I must decline to correspond with any more of Mr. Warne's friends on this subject. I reserve myself exclusively for Mr. Warne himself.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

F. J. SMITH.

74, Old Broad Street, Feb. 7, 1852.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—One of the great principles, I believe, of the Hahnemann Hospital was to have perfect equality among the medical men.

The appointment of clinical lecturers and professors, as such, with that title, was to give those so elected what Milton calls a "bad eminence."

I do not, however, mean to disparage the hero of the Paradise Lost, by comparing with him those so elected at the Hahnemann Hospital. That *hero* had an indisputable pre-eminence in Pandemonium.

There are now six medical officers of that Institution—one of them, it is reported, has taken upon himself to authorize some medical visitors to take and treat the cases of the out-patients in the Hospital.

He is, therefore, the *dux* of the school, as they say in Scotland.

It is difficult to say whether the impertinence or the presumption of this proceeding is the greatest; and as they submit to his dictation, the other five men are, clearly his *subordinates*. He is their chief—they are bound by his dietetics, his diagnosis, his doctrine, and his practice.

Out of the six remaining medical officers of the Hahnemann Hospital three are foreigners. Would it not be as well to change its name, and call it the "Hôtel des Etrangers?" London and its neighbourhood even now supply six other foreign practitioners to make up the original number of the medical staff.

This is a nut for the Board of Management to crack: but Englishmen find this sort of thing hard of digestion; and the Board of Management will probably discover that the General Annual Meeting will think so too, as well as does

A SUBSCRIBER TO THE HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times

SIR,—Your correspondent Mr. Hanson, in your number of the 7th inst., concludes his reply to Mr. Gill's letter of the week before by saying, that he is quite certain "that there is no desire among any of the Board to select any one more than another upon whom to confer the title of clinical lecturer, or to elevate any one as a head."

It appears to me that Mr. Gill charges the Board with having done the very thing which Mr. Hanson seems to think they have no desire to do. I certainly read both in the French and German newspapers, lately, a paragraph to the purport that the Hahnemann Hospital was presided over by Dr. Curie, who was Chief Physician and Medical Director of that Institution, which seems to bear Mr. Gill out in what he says.

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It follows, therefore, either that Mr. Hanson has been deceived and misled as to the desires and intentions of the Board, or that body has on this occasion *acted* contrary to its *intention;* in either case the results are the same, and threaten to be most disastrous to the Hospital; but if it should appear that the Board so acted against the advice of the majority of the Medical Council, it will indeed be a "*mystery*" to the subscribers, of whom, Sir, I am one, and

Your very humble servant,

OBSERVER.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—If the following case (which seems to be chiefly interesting from the fact of the child having been under allopathic treatment, and declared by the medical attendants to be past recovery) is worth insertion in your journal, I beg you will make use of it, and give it a place in your columns.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM WATSON.

7, Bower Place, Maidstone,
February 2, 1852.

Case.—On the morning of the 18th October, 1851, I was called out of my bed to see a child that was thought by the parents to be dying. On my arrival I ascertained that the little sufferer was under allopathic treatment, by two medical men, who also had been sent for as well as myself. One of them arrived whilst I was there, and I took my leave, assuring the parents that, although extremely ill, the child was not dying. I was again called upon by the father of the child, on the 21st of the same month, to know if I would take the case into my hands, as the allopaths had declared they could do nothing more for the child, and concluded by stating that nothing but a miracle could save the patient.

I told the father it was scarcely fair to ask me, at the eleventh hour, to treat the case, especially as the child was now not merely suffering from its disease, but in all likelihood was under the influence of a medicinal affection; that in treating it I should have to encounter both the one and the other, which, of course, would render the case more difficult, and the chances of recovery would be diminished. However, I assured him I would do all I could for the restoration of his child.

On paying my visit this day, I learnt that the child, a little girl of twenty-two months old, was cutting teeth, and had been seized with this attack at the house of an aunt in London, but was at once brought down to the country in a state of insensibilty. It had been about ten days or a fortnight under allopathic treatment, during which time it had been bled with leeches, blistered, had had mustard poultices applied, *Calomel*, every three hours, besides other medicines. No amelioration of the symptoms had taken place during this course of treatment. When I saw the child, it lay on the bed, with the eyes partially open, rolling the head from side to side; moaning and quite insensible to everything; it took nothing; the bowels were in a most disordered state; the motions black, green, slate-coloured, slimy, and especially offensive; passed involuntarily and frequently; extremities cold; countenance very pallid; the odour from the child remarkably sickening and oppressive. The attendants did not think it could survive twenty-four hours.

I put four globules of *Belladonna*, and four of *Chamomilla*, each into two table-spoonfuls of water. One teaspoonful to be taken alternately every hour.

October 22nd. No very apparent alteration, yet no ground lost.

I had the head shaved; the mouth to be moistened with water, or gum-water.

23rd. If anything, rather less rolling of the head, at times a cessation of it.

Sulphur, *Nux*, and *Belladonna*, every alternate two hours.

24th and 25th. The medicines have been continued, and the child is much more quiet. She is evidently better; motions still very bad, but less frequent; offensive odour not diminished.

26th. The moaning and rolling of the head have almost ceased; she begins to open her eyes; evacuations from the bowels rather more healthy. Beef-tea when she will take it. Omit *Sulphur* and *Nux*, and take *Belladonna* and *Chamomilla*, alternately, every three hours.

27th. Better in all respects; takes the beef-tea with much gusto.

28th. Improving; appears in much pain at times in the bowels; stools better; sleeps gently when free from pain.

Belladonna and *Arsenicum*, alternately, every three hours.

29th. Is much better; appears very hungry; to have a mutton chop for dinner.

30th. Improvement very great; appetite voracious; is continually crying out for more meat; to have a chop morning, noon, and evening. To omit all other medicine, and take simply one globule of *Chamomilla*, twice a day.

From this time her recovery was rapid, and in a few days I discontinued my visits to her.

The debility in this case was excessive, and for several weeks she was unable to stand upon her feet. After about a week or ten days she was content with one mutton chop *per diem*, nature appearing to be satisfied.

This was evidently a case of metastasis to the head from the bowels, which were disordered by teething, and the effect of the *Belladonna* in relieving the sympathetic affection of the brain was most remarkable. Her bowels gradually assumed a healthy state, and as her mother, from fatigue and anxiety, about the time of the child's recovery, was taken ill of typhus fever, I had daily opportunities of watching the progress of her recovery. The child is now in excellent health.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 134. Vol. III. | SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1852. | Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

Communications.

HOMŒOPATHIC AND ALLOPATHIC PRACTICE.

By an M.D. of Edinburgh.

In the neighbourhood where we reside, the new school of medicine having taken root nearly twenty years ago, has gradually encroached largely upon the domain of "legitimate medicine." We can enumerate seven or eight amateur homœopaths of either sex, each possessing a Jahr, and a case of globules to match. Some of them are skilful practitioners, and perform very numerous cures; and in *four* towns, not far distant, new homœopathic pharmacies have recently been opened, relying for support, no doubt, upon the well-known commercial principle of "demand and supply." Most probably, but for the exasperating language of a vulgar-minded and pandering medical press, lashing up the placid waters into a yeasty storm, the new system would have quietly supplanted the old, upon its merits; instead of, as now, taking its strongest holds by violence, and supplying Mr. Douglas Jerrold and Sir E. Bulwer Lytton with materials for excellent political and satirical hits* to amuse the novel-reading public, but to the serious detriment of what ought to be a noble profession. Such works as "The Practical Guide," "The Domestic Physician," and others of this class, tend very much in the direction of the old plan of prescribing for the name, and not for the symptoms of the disease, and on this account chiefly we deprecate all such popular books. For it may be taken to be a cogent proof of the abstract excellence of the homœopathic law which guides us in the selection of a remedy, that when much pressed for time, as in hurried dispensary practice, our success is not near so great as when pains are taken to collect all the indications a disease may offer, and these are then collated with the Materia Medica. It is this which renders the application of our renowned therapeutics so laborious, and the lack of this research it is that has caused well-meaning dilettanti Hahnemannists to bring so much discredit upon their system. For even where an able and accomplished physician has, by long study and extensive practice, so far mastered the Materia Medica Pura as to perceive intuitively, and without reference to books, the connection between a malady and its true homœopathic remedy, still the preliminary examination of the case, separating the symptoms into primary, and secondary, and accessory groups, with other minutiæ, requires the exercise of considerable skill and vigilance; and it is precisely here that the ill-educated or hasty practitioner and the amateur will continually be at fault: for the *application* of medicines must ever be based upon anatomy, physiology, and pathology, and without a knowledge, both competent and ready, of these three sciences, the most accurately-acquired pathogenesy of a medicine cannot be brought into serviceable play.

We may very fairly chronicle the fact, as one of the characteristics of the present allopathic school, that a practitioner could hardly be found who would think a case worth drawing up for publication, unless he were enabled to add the details of the necropsy. This first and principal point of interest consists in the relation he can establish between the symptoms during life and the appearances displayed after death. The utility indeed may not be great, but it is generally an interesting comparison, and it affords scope for considerable science and ability. His second point is to classify the pathological lesion, and if he can exhibit a good specimen of "Bright's disease," that may be preserved in alcohol, or a coloured drawing of "Simpson's honeycomb cells in the brain," he is conscious to himself that he has committed a laudable action. But should the diagnosis made during life, with science the most consummate, fail, and the dissecting-knife display an anomalous or commingled mass of diseased tissues, the scientific triumph is hardly less complete. It is held up as a *lusus morbosus*, and men gather round to see and touch and admire; and the enthusiastic young student ascends to his solitary chamber, profoundly im-

* Vide *Punch* passim, and *Blackwood's Magazine* for June last.

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pressed with the conviction that he has just learned a lesson of the highest practical importance. Alas! medical literature, the discussions of medical societies, and the teaching, too, in our hospitals and cliniques very sadly confirm all and much more that is here alleged against the pathological school. But let us shift the scene. The homœopath, on the contrary, delights in bringing forward instances of *cure*, not boastfully, as regards a new science, nor to advertise his private *savoir faire*, but because the *cures* contain the real point of interest and value to him. In fact, the Manuals daily used by the homœopathist abound with *useful* indications drawn from this science,—*ab usu in morbis*, as it is termed; such likewise are the "Repertories," or collections of cures, of Ruoff and of Dr. E. F. Rückert, to which no parallel whatever exists in allopathic literature; works whose very title,* it may be aptly said, turns aside from us—the true disciples of Hahnemann—the biting sarcasm of Addison:—"If, in the third place, we look into the profession of physick, we shall find a most formidable body of men. The sight of them is enough to make a man serious, for we may lay it down as a maxim, that when a nation abounds in physicians it grows thin of people. This body of men in our own country may be described like the British army in Cæsar's time: some of them slay in chariots, and some on foot. If the infantry do less execution than the charioteers, it is because they cannot be carried so soon into all quarters of the town, and dispatch so much business in so short a time."—*Spectator*, No. 21.

The following case is adduced to show, by ranging them in parallel columns, with what precision and confidence the homœopath, guided by the symptoms alone, follows his law of cure.

Obstinate Dyspepsia. Remedies, Sulphur and Nux Vomica.

Mr. J. T—, a farmer, æt. 67, was brought to me the 13th January, 1851. He came to please his friend, and not with the slightest expectation of deriving benefit from my "quackeries." His antecedents were these: in early life he had inflammation of the eyes, and wore a shade for several years, but eventually got the better of it. At a later period, a surfeit invaded the back, with considerable irritation and discharge. Last summer the complaint of the eyes returned, and was removed partly by caustic. He has had a weak stomach for many years, but last July he became much worse, and tried allopathic treatment in vain, for months. Nothing but essence of hemlock seemed to give even temporary relief, and the medical attedant had warned him that he laboured probably under incipient cancer of the pylorus; of late he has had recourse to spirits five or six times a day, to quell his sufferings, and to allay the distressing flatulence, hiccough, and vomiting that are fast wearing him out. For the last six or seven months every kind of food is sooner or later ejected from the stomach, and he is, in consequence, grown very thin and weak.

Symptoms present Jan. 13th.	*Symptoms of Sulphur.*
Constant uneasiness at epigastrium.	720, 28, 29. Constrictive pains of the stomach; tearing at the epigastrium.
Aggravated by food.	628. Weight at the stomach, soon after eating.
Which is at last vomited.	697. Food vomited the same afternoon.
Flatulent eructation.	651, 2, 3. Eructations.
Resembling hiccough.	650. Hiccough morning, evening, and even in bed.
Water-brash.	660. Et sequent. Pyrosis.
All the pains subside on lying down at night.	
Itching, red eruption on the back.	1675. Eruption causing a burning itching.
Eyelids inflamed at edges, and cilia scanty.	263. Inflammation of the eyelids without notable swelling.
Milky cloud on each cornea.	
Is greatly reduced in size.	
Is become impatient.	44 Irritable humour, disposed to find fault with everything.

He was accordingly ordered *Sulph.*, two globules, of the 30th dilution, in three doses; one night and morning.

Jan. 17th. The pain at the epigastrium, or at the sides, has hardly been felt since. The eructation and hiccough are decidedly less; has not felt sick, or been obliged to provoke vomiting, which he generally did every afternoon; eyelids are less red.

Symptoms produced by Nux Vomica.

334. After a meal, a watery fluid is gulped up.

340. Frequent hiccough, without any apparent cause.

378. Aching pain in the region of the

* Outlines of Successful Homœopathic Cures, collected, etc., by Dr. E. F. Rückert.

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stomach directly after a meal, as if he had eaten too much.

379. Pressure in the pit of the stomach, with distension after a meal.

970. An itching burning is felt in the eruptions.

1264. Is very much disposed to quarrel and feel vexed.

Prescription.—Nux Vomica, three globules, of the 12th dilution, in water, in six doses; one night and morning.

Jan. 24th. No sickness since; less suffering at epigastrium; the wind still, but no pain; rising of water almost gone; appetite much improved.

Prescription.—Sulph., two globules, of the 30th dilution, in three doses; one night and morning.

Feb. 6th. The medicine searched him a good deal about the stomach; no vomiting since, and less rising of water; no hiccough the last week; has had considerable itching about the body.

Prescription.—Nux Vomica, two globules, of the 30th dilution, in three doses; one night and morning. Pause five days, and repeat *Sulph.*, two globules, of the 30th dilution, as above.

March 6th. No more sickness; the eyes have suffered from a humour, but are better for the last ten days; some hiccough at night; has had much itching about the body, and some red rash, now gone off; the cloud in the centre of the cornea is thinner, especially on the left eye.

Prescription.—Sulph., three globules, of the 30th dilution, in solution, in six doses; one each morning.

May 28th. He has continued quite well ever since, and is getting very stout again.

What better commentary upon such a case can be made than is contained in § II. of the "Organon." "The perfection of a cure is rapid, gentle, and permanent restoration of the health, or removal and annihilation of the disease in its whole extent, in the shortest, safest, and most harmless way, on easily comprehensible principles." Though indeed some may perhaps view as a more clenching conclusion, the crowds of substantial relations and friends who, fee in hand, continue to besiege the door of the fortunate practitioner, whose surprising skill to their rural capacities seems little less than a species of omnipotence.

And now, Mr. Editor, having delivered ourselves safely, as we trust, of this medical narrative, lest any of the amateur fraternity should think themselves rudely elbowed or unhandsomely spoken of, permit us to call off the attention of your readers for a moment to an instance of professional surgery—not unparalleled, for it occurs every day; not unjustifiable, for the principles upon which this practice is founded are daily taught in the best schools of our metropolis, but a piece of surgery notwithstanding, that may best be designated by the title of a certain pamphlet in Cromwell's day, well known as "Killing no Murder." It is reprinted here from the London *Times* for November 26th, 1851, and struck us as an instance of surgical treatment so glaringly illustrative of the tenets of the orthodox school, that at the time we laid it by for future reference and comment.

"THE LATE COLLISION ON THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

"Weedon, Tuesday evening, Nov. 25,

"This afternoon, at one o'clock, the coroner's inquest on the body of Mr. James Currie, aged 52, one of the unfortunate passengers killed by the collision which took place on the London and North-Western Railway, at Weedon, on the afternoon of Saturday last, was opened before Mr. H. B. Hicks, coroner for Northamptonshire, at the Globe Hotel, Weedon.

"Mr. William Swan.—I am a surgeon, residing at Weedon, and was summoned about half-past four on Saturday afternoon to the Weedon station. I saw deceased, and found him lying on the floor of the station-house. There appeared to be *a great deal of blood* about the head. On a superficial examination, I found a large cut above the right ear, about three or four inches in length. He was in a comatose state, his pulse was *slow and feeble*, and he had very bad or stertorous breathing. He appeared in a very bad state. He was brought immediately here, and the symptoms continuing, I thought it advisable that bleeding should be resorted to, to prevent congestion. I was assisted by Dr. Campbell, and further examination took place. We applied leeches, a blister to the nape of the neck, and administered opening medicine. I continued with him till eleven o'clock on Saturday night. On the following day *we persisted in our mode of treatment—reduction*. He was insensible, with the exception of a lucid interval for a short time on Sunday. We continued our attendance, but he never rallied, and died yesterday afternoon about half-past six. I have this day made a post-mortem examination. There was extravasation over the external part of the brain, a deep-seated fracture of the skull was found from the right orbit of the eye to the left, quite sufficient to cause death. That was the cause of death. All other parts of the body were perfectly healthy.

Mr. Richard Gamble examined.—I am assistant-surgeon of the 4th Regiment, stationed at present in Weedon. I was called to the scene of accident by Lieutenant-Colonel Gold's servant. Deceased was labouring under severe cerebral symptoms. I continued my attendance till six o'clock yesterday evening, at which hour

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he expired. Made the post-mortem examination with Dr. Swan, and agreed with him as to the appearance and the cause of death."

All the medical gentlemen called in, three in number, agreed as to the proper course to be pursued, and as to the indications *secundum artem*, viz., reduction or depletion; therefore we are bound to accept their view of the treatment as one in all respects most sound and correct. It does, however, remind one irresistibly of Mr. Pettigrew's late interesting paper on "the history of the barber-surgeons, traced down from the earliest periods both here and abroad," and read last month, before the British Archæological Association. It shows, too, that very inconsiderable progress has since been made, in this direction at least.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

"Once upon a time," says Mr. Pettigrew, "that is, during the 10th, 11th, and 12th centuries, the clergy and Jews were the top men of the medical profession, and barbers, who were then of much greater consequence than now, were employed by them to assist in the baths, shave, apply ointments, and such like occupations. From the year 1131 down to 1163, the thunders of the successive Popes were launched at the heads of the practising ecclesiastics, and in the latter year they were prohibited from performing any operation involving bloodshed. The clergy for a long time afterwards practised physic, but had to give up surgery and leave it to their assistants. These worthies seem to have been particularly addicted to bleeding, and the painted pole and basin which occasionally may still be seen looming over the pavement of a country town, and marking the place where balm of Columbia or Macassar oil is retailed, were actually part of their stock of surgical instruments."

But to return for a moment to the sad case of the unfortunate nurseryman, upon whom the inquest was held. We insist that had homœopathic remedies been resorted to in his case instead of repeated blood-letting, life would in all probability have been prolonged for many hours; with a much greater amount of consciousness, or, as it was termed in the evidence, "of lucid interval." Recovery under such a frightful amount of injury as the post-mortem examination disclosed was apparently out of the question. But looking only to the symptoms present, and to the probable character of the injury—wound, with very violent contusion—we cannot, as physiologist, as pathologist, or as experienced practitioner, discover upon what principle a further loss of blood (for a good deal had already flowed from the wound in the scalp) was likely to prove beneficial to the dying man.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST, 1852.

EVEN an unjust cause, sometimes, gains by opposition; a just cause always gains by the resistance made to it. An eloquent statesman of France has lately declared that we live in times when even the intellect of man may be degraded, and ruined; when civilization may be thrown back into the mediæval type, of which some are enamoured. But we do not think so: nor do we believe that the thirty millions of the Anglo-Saxon race who inhabit these islands and the United States can be so easily disposed of.

The truths of homœopathy are becoming stamped on the Anglo-Saxon mind; and that bodes well for the progress of our Medical Reform. Our readers will find an interesting paper from Ohio in our present number, which shows the progress made by homœopathy among our transatlantic brethren.

A gentleman of the name of Routh has lately published what the Americans would call a *smart* pamphlet, entitled the "Fallacies of Homœopathy;" he uses gentlemanly language. We have been promised an analysis of his pamphlet by a skilful critic.

There is a book called the "Fallacies of the Faculty," which we think says more against Dr. Routh's method of practice than his book on the "Fallacies of Homœopathy" says against us.

He has shot his Parthian dart; it has been shot twice; once before a Medical Society, and now in type. It has fallen on the ground—"*sit tibi terra levis.*"

When Dr. Routh is a homœopathist, and he is young enough to become one, he will smile hereafter at his youthful enthusiasm in a direction contrary to the convictions of his riper manhood.

Hannibal vanquished the Romans, and was virtually subdued amid his own powers in Capua.

We require keen resistance at this pre-

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sent time, for we are in Capua. But we must not think we should pause in our work, because the assaults of our adversaries are less frequent.

The Editor of the *Medical Times and Gazette* speaks of the word homœopathy as an inanity; and we, therefore, presume he is altogether ignorant that the word "*homœopathic*" occurs several times in the New Testament, and that he may find it in Greek Lexicons and in Greek authors.

Thucydides remarked that those who know not the value of words seldom know the value of things. There is a precious meaning in the word "*homœopathic*," even though the Editor of the *Medical Times* has not discovered it; it speaks of the sympathy between the healer and the healed—between the healing remedy and the suffering organism. The greatest man that ever had his spirit shut up in flesh, needs not to quarrel with a word of such excellent significance, nor with the title of homœopathist that has been so worthily maintained by so many worthy persons.

There is much in the recent aspect of our affairs that requires grave counsel, serious resolves, and a determined course of action.

To have right counsel there should be a reliable council, and those who elect that body should abide by its decisions; and that council, to enforce its decrees, should be single-minded, and free from all prejudice.

We have no such œcumenical council —the more the pity. We have this and that Association, this and that Society; but there is no unity of purpose, no definite line of action.

In the most ancient and most loyal of the English colonies in the Antilles there is a prescriptive rule for the militia. Those who have shoes and stockings stand in the front rank; those who have shoes but not stockings, stand behind them; and the rear is made up of those that have neither shoes nor stockings. Many heroes do not understand this necessary distinction; and so there is confusion in their ranks.

It is certain that we require some regular plan for conducting our future campaigns.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In fulfilling the task I have undertaken, of giving to the world a brief narrative, from authentic documents, of the introduction of homœopathy into England, I called to-day on a medical man, from whom I hoped to obtain some information. What I required it was not in his power to afford; but he indulged me with the recital of the circumstances that led him, in the year 1837, to embrace homœopathy.

The incidents are in themselves so striking, and the charm of his style was so fascinating, that I could not help regretting it was not compatible with my numerous avocations to carry down my *narrative* to the period in question.

After leaving this gentleman, it occurred to me that what had so gratified me could scarcely fail to entertain others; nor could I believe that this case, that I had thus accidentally met with was the only one associated with facts of great interest: on the contrary, I felt that it was far more reasonable to imagine that each case has its peculiar and striking incidents. And if this be so, then does it follow that you will add no inconsiderable charm to your journal by presenting your readers with an occasional biographical sketch—once a month for instance—of some homœopathic practitioner. And a far more important end will be gained even than this by such a series of sketches, for the *Homœopathic Times* will thus become a Record Office, and this Biographia Homœopathica will furnish most important materials for the future historian.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
74 Old Broad Street, F. J. SMITH.
Feb. 16, 1852.

[We think the proposed history of homœopathy, with the biographies, or sketches of biography, proposed by our correspondent would be of exceeding interest to the homœopathic public, and we feel sensible of Mr. Frederick Smith's zeal for the good Cause, in devoting so much of his valuable time to this historical research. Dr. Quin, Mr. Uwins, R.A., and Mr. Headland (the first and for a long time the only homœopathic chemist in Great Britain) would be able to throw much light on the introduction of homœopathy into these kingdoms, and on its first struggles. The history of its first decennial æra in England will be intensely interesting.—ED.]

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Will you allow me to suggest to your contributors, as well as yourself, the propriety of all letters concerning the present misunderstanding at the Hahnemann Hospital having the writers' signatures appended. The Hahnemann Hospital question is one in which all sincere homœopaths, and particularly subscribers to the Hospital, must feel an intense interest, and therefore no one interested ought to be afraid to come forward openly. I protest against the mode of denouncing principles of action, as well as individuals, behind the hedge: my antagonists will bear me out in this, I believe. I should have addressed you long ago upon the subject of the Hahnemann Hospital, had not feelings of delicacy restrained me. My position is now altered, at which I cannot but feel more than happy, as my retirement from hospital

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service has freed me from much wear and tear and an atmosphere of strife, the offspring of an unwise policy, which nine-tenths of mankind, initiated into all the secret machinery, would construe into something very like undue artifice or finesse, to which no one of either "honour or gentlemanly feeling" will tamely submit. The recent disruption at the Hahnemann Hospital, which I and others in council failed to avert, will be proven to have resulted, I hesitate not to say, not because "wishes have not been attended to," but from what I have hinted, anü which it may be my duty shortly to unravel and place before the subscribers in an intelligible form. But I will forbear while an issue is now pending an investigation, that will no doubt prove satisfactory so far. I should not now have penned one syllable, had I not felt it due to myself to give a *public* denial to an inuendo in a note addressed to me by one of the physicians of the Hahnemann Hospital, to the effect that it is possible I am the contributor of what he considers an offensive letter, under the signature of "A Subscriber to the Hahnemann Hospital." That physician has denounced the proposal of the recent arrangements as lustily as any man, but has felt, from his peculiar position as a lecturer, that he could not take an active part to avert mischief; honestly do I pity him. My answer to that physician's suspicion has been, as it is now to the public, that I am thankful to say I can more agreeably and profitably employ all my time than writing letters under a feigned signature. You must well know, Mr. Editor, that I have not contributed a single communication upon the Hahnemann Hospital question, nor shall I without attaching my name. Truth and integrity of purpose have nothing to fear. Surely, one who took such an interest in the establishment of the Hahnemann Hospital—nay, as I shall hereafter prove, from conquering feelings and prejudices, to an extent that scarcely another man could, for the sole object of effecting union, and which was the means of congregating that grand demonstration at the London Tavern, on the 10th April, 1850,—which brought about the foundation of the Hospital—could not have any motive in kicking the same now sportively like a football. No! my affections for the Cause of Hahnemann are too deeply planted for me to indulge in such a game. Unhappily for my own peace, I have allowed my energies to be associated with those whom colleagues and others advised me to shun, and whom experience has now taught me I ought to have avoided; and if for my independence, I have received mere mud than thanks in furtherance of a *principle*, I am not in the least disconcerted. In this country no great institution can, in my opinion, flourish as it ought, which has for its object such an excellent and world-wide-spreading Medical Reform, unless based upon and governed by principles similar to those I and others have advocated, and to which I still cling The supineness of some and misgovernment by others, do not in the least militate against those *principles*.

The results of the Hahnemann Hospital experiment are to me and others ample and satisfactory, in some degree, for the sacrifices sustained. Some of your contributors have caught the spirit in which the constitution of the Hahnemann Hospital was conceived and framed, quite in accordance with the original proposition of the "Hahnemann Comemmoration dinner," which had, among other objects as set forth in a circular now before me, "the reconciliation of the differences which have split the homœopathic body into divers sections." That such a result would have been soon effected there cannot be a shadow of a doubt, had the *spirit* in which I addressed myself to those who *reluctantly* yielded to my views been acted on by them. For a *time* and a *purpose only*, as it would now appear, have they seemingly been honest and true.

There is a time to be up and doing, as well as to have done, so I will conclude for the present by taking a slight liberty with the poet's couplet, which well-nigh seems to express the truth—equally applicable to homœopaths and allopaths.

"'Tis *gow'd* makes *some* to fight the fiercer;
Without it *doctoring* wad be scareer."

Yours faithfully, D. WILSON.

[We fully exonerate Mr. Wilson. He has sent no communication on the late topic of the Hahnemann Hospital previous to this. We regret that some notes have inadvertantly been allowed to appear, which should not have been admitted without the signatures of the writers—ED.]

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Perhaps you may consider the following extracts from the last November issue of that excellent "Quarterly Magazine of Medicine and the Auxiliary Sciences," *The North American Homœopathic Journal*, of sufficient interest to secure a place in your widely-read periodical. Your American cotemporary, which has just closed its first year, has in each of its quarterly parts, as was to be expected from the celebrity of the names who undertook to conduct it, viz., *the* distinguished homœopathic Patriarch Dr. Constantine Hering, of Philadelphia, and his gifted coadjutors, Drs. Marcy and Metcalf, of New York, fully sustained the scientific reputation of our American colleagues.

The cases which tend to show the deleterious influence of tobacco, in whatever seductive form it may steal an ascendency over its victims, will, no doubt, be read with interest, and may afford a valuable hint to patients suffering from chronic diseases, who too often, to their own detriment, retard their cure by a persistence in acquired habits. On no subject does the general non-medical public require more minute and convincing information than the opposing influence of certain habits of life. Medical men, too, are continually required to explain their grounds of objection to certain foods and beverages, which they know to be medicinal in their action,—objections which would be more forcibly illustrated by a few examples, such as that here afforded, than by all the arguments we

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could advance. Abundance of instances can be given, I am sure, in the use or rather abuse of coffee and tea, as well as spices, pickles, peppers, and many more, *supposed* to be innocuous dietetic commodities, which it would be well to publish for the benefit and instruction of all interested.

Yours, etc.,
D. WILSON.

"*Tobacco.*—[The following long article by Mr. Shipman, from the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, will furnish the homœopathic physician with some admirable indications for this too much neglected drug.]

"In the year 1837, my attention was called to two cases of disease in the same family. The symptoms and phenomena attending them were so similar, that it struck me at once that they had a common origin. The first was that of a young gentleman D. W., a student at law, of a nervo-sanguine temperament. He had been a martyr to dyspepsia for two or three years. He had spent a year in the Western States, and had attended the law lectures at Cincinnati. While at the West he had acute ophthalmia, which was treated by active depletion with little benefit, as his eyes, when I first saw him, were highly injected; cornea vascular and semi-opaque, and the lids granular. He applied to me for the treatment of his eyes, but what most afflicted him constitutionally was low spirits, want of resolution, and general hypochondriasis. His stomach would receive food with a good relish, but the moment he had finished his meal a train of nervous symptoms came on, which harassed him for two hours, until the stomach was empty. Acidity, cardialgia, gastrodynia, palpitation of the heart, giddiness, vertigo, and fulness of the head, with the most profound gloom; keenly alive to every feeling, he was in constant fear of death, yet tempted to commit suicide, to escape from a life more intolerable than death itself. These symptoms harassed him for months, with varying degrees of intensity, when a new symptom arose which terrified him more than all the rest. His sleep had been broken by the most horrid imagery, in the shape of frightful dreams, for more than a year; but now, when the first hour of sleep came over him, he was suddenly awoke by a shock in the epigastrium, which started him in great alarm from his sleep. These shocks and startings were repeated several times in the course of the night, and as often as he fell into a slumber. They were at first confined to the epigastrium, but after a few weeks, the sensation was transmitted to the head, which he described as more unendurable than when confined to the epigastrium. It was followed by a sensation as if a rush of blood took place to the head, and a firm conviction in his mind that he should die with apoplexy. This impression preyed upon his mind incessantly.

I was often summoned in great haste, and found him agitated, with cold sweats, palpitation, and terrible apprehensions of immediate death. A little soothing encouragement, a dose of *Morphine* and *Carbonate of Ammonia*, would dispel his fears and quiet his agitation, and enable him to rest the remainder of the night with tolerable composure. This state of things lasted several months, during which time he was not in a condition to pursue any kind of business, and finding that medicines only gave him temporary relief, I suggested to him that tobacco might have some agency in his complaints (as he used it freely, by smoking, chewing, and snuffing), and advised him to abandon the habit. In this I was successful, so far as chewing and snuffing were concerned; but he was so much attached to his cigar, that it was a long time before he could be induced to leave that. I will here add, that from the time he left off the habit of chewing and snuffing, his health in some measure improved, particularly the shocks and epigastric sinking. He now became satisfied that this partial abandonment of the habit had been productive of good, and renounced the habit entirely; and the nocturnal shocks and epigastric sinking, with the whole train of nervous affections vanished as if by magic. His digestive powers gradually improved; the chronic inflammation of his eyes yielded readily to appropriate treatment; the gloom and despondency which had oppressed him as an incubus cleared away; the nervous palpitations and rushings of blood to the head subsided, and he was able to prosecute his studies with energy, was admitted to the practice of the law, and is now an able and talented member of the bar, in the possession of good health, spirits, and prosperity. The foregoing history I copy from my notes taken at the time. There were many other symptoms which are common in dyspeptic cases, and many of those described are found in every-day practice in nervous, dyspeptic, and hysterical habits. The sudden and complete cure of all the symptoms, on leaving off the use of tobacco, was too obvious to escape the observation either of patient or physician.

I will now briefly allude to the case of a sister of the gentleman whose case I have been describing, although not occurring in the order of my notes. She was married, and the mother of two children; her age, 39; dyspeptic for the last ten years; of a nervo-sanguine temperament; her youngest child ten years of age. Suffered since her last accouchement from leucorrhœa, partial prolapsus uteri, and hypochondriasis. Has smoked and snuffed tobacco for the last fifteen years; eight years ago began to have shocks at the epigastrium, with a sinking sensation at the pit of the stomach, cardialgia, acid eructations, a sense of rushing of blood to the head, palpitations, sleeplessness, and startings when first falling into slumber. These kept increasing upon her, when there came on tenderness of the spine along its whole length, but more especially in the cervical and lumbar regions, rigidity of the limbs, costiveness, derangement of the catamenia, etc. She had been under treatment for a long time, with little or no benefit. To soothe her feelings, she had taken more freely of snuff, and had smoked more often, as she fancied that it gave her temporary relief. Seeing the good effect from

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abandoning the use of tobacco in her brother, she made the same experiment in part herself, and with the same marked relief from many of the symptoms. The shocks at the epigastrium left her, sleep became quiet, her mind more cheerful, and the epigastric sinking, cardialgia, acidity, and eructations were greatly relieved. The spine, however, required cupping and counter-irritation, and with the use of anodynes and tonics she recovered a comfortable state of health. This patient has frequently ventured upon a moderate use of tobacco since, but after using it awhile, she experiences, though in a slight degree, her old feelings, and then quickly abandons it. She is perfectly satisfied of its pernicious influence upon her constitution, and therefore is in little danger of carrying its use again to excess.

S. E—, æt. 40, was in possession of good health until 1838, when he began to emaciate and grow pallid; his food did not digest well; with acidity, heartburn, gastralgia, palpitation of the heart, sinking at the pit of the stomach, and a host of nervous symptoms; gloom, hypochondria, and apprehensions of sudden death. But what most amazed him, and which filled his cup of misery full, were shocks at the epigastrium, which attacked him when first falling asleep every night. These followed him two years, and increased to such a degree that his sleep was a succession of starts, which nearly wore him out. At the end of two years they came upon him during the day. He described them as like shocks of electricity, and confined to the epigastrium. He was incapacitated from business of any kind, was weak, irresolute, and desponding; had consulted many physicians, and taken a great variety of medicines, with only temporary relief. On his giving me a history of his case, I was struck with its similarity to that of D. W., and inquired if he was not in the habit of using tobacco. He stated that he was, and had sometimes imagined that it might have some agency in producing some of his bad feelings, but had never had any physician advise him to leave it off, and, in reality, was too much a slave to its use to lightly make the sacrifice. Upon my assuring him that the symptoms and disease depended upon the habit, and that nothing but a complete and total abstinence from it would restore him, I extorted a promise that he would lay it aside a month at least. As he was costive, I prescribed the compound syrup of *Rhubarb*, and directed him to call again in a month. At the end of that time I was agreeably surprised to witness the improvement in the appearance of my patient. His countenance, which had previously exhibited a sallow, pallid aspect, was now ruddy with health and strength; he had gained fifteen pounds of flesh in the time, and his strength had increased daily from the time I last saw him. But what to him was more than all the rest, the annoying shocks, with the general nervous agitation attending, had entirely left him from the third day of his abstinence from tobacco. The dyspeptic affection, the palpitation, the gloom and depression of spirits, the apprehensions of death, had vanished as if by enchantment. He had resumed his business (that of a farmer); he could now sleep quietly through the night, and get up in the morning refreshed and buoyant in spirits, and is so convinced that tobacco was the root of all his previous complaints, that it requires no advice to induce him to forever refrain from its use. This man has now the most perfect health, and has taken no medicine since the first month.

C. P—, æt. 43; nervo-bilious temperament; farmer; temperate; has been a tobacco-chewer for twenty years; has been dyspeptic the same period more or less, attended with nervous palpitation and acidity, hypochondriasis and epigastric sinking. First began to have shocks at the epigastrium in 1839, in the night, on first getting asleep, which started him up in great agitation and alarm; was frequently obliged to get up and sit, for fear of the shocks. On his consulting me, I advised him to discontinue the use of tobacco, and prescribed no medicine. He left it off, and the shocks immediately subsided. He did not resume the use of tobacco again for eighteen months, and was healthy during the time. Being of an irresolute disposition, he resumed its use again, and in two months the shocks began with great severity. They were now felt in the chest and region of the heart, at first always in the night, but after awhile in the daytime, with a rushing of blood to the head, which would momentarily deprive him of consciousness. The shocks now took place in the head. This so terrified him that he earnestly besought me to prescribe something for him, and agreed to abide by my advice. My opinion was that no medicine would be of the least service without a complete abandonment of tobacco. This he solemnly pronounced he would do. I prescribed the compound syrup of *Rhubarb*, with the ammoniated tincture of *Valerian*. The shocks at once left him, his sleep became quiet, his dyspeptic symptoms disappeared, his mind became calm, spirits elastic, and he was capable of working his farm. Two or three times since he has cautiously ventured on the use of tobacco, but, after a certain length of time, his old feelings begin to appear; so that it is reduced to a demonstration that tobacco was the sole cause of his former troubles. This man has increased fifteen pounds in flesh, and his colour, from being sallow and pale, is of a ruddy hue.

S. C—, æt. 63, farmer; robust and healthy, until four years ago, when he began to complain of epigastric sinking, sleeplessness, palpitation, irritability, and nervous tremors. Shocks at the epigastrium came on at the first hour of slumber, which were repeated several times in the course of the night, and often in the morning before breakfast. Has been a tobacco-chewer thirty years, and a portion of the time to great excess. On his consulting me, I suggested that tobacco was the agent in all the trouble which he experienced. He said he had often suspected it, but had never had fortitude and resolution to forego its use, but agreed to make trial. The shocks immediately left him, together with all the train of nervous affections;

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his sleep became calm, his strength and flesh returned, his spirits improved, and he has gained twenty pounds of flesh in three months. He has not resumed the use of tobacco. This man was temperate in all things except tobacco, neither using tea nor coffee. He was sensible for years that something was wrong, but could not believe that an article in such universal use as tobacco, and one which he had used for a long series of years, could possibly cause his troubles. This, I am persuaded, is the case with hundreds who are similarly situated.

S. J—, æt. 54; nervous temperament; farmer by occupation; has been in the habit of using tobacco for ten years. It frequently has salivated him. He spits much, is emaciated, nervous and hypochondriacal. The shocks commenced about two years ago, in his bowels. They came on in the night, when first getting into a drowse; at length they came on in the daytime, with epigastric sinking, costiveness, and dyspepsia. I put him on the use of the compound syrup of *Rhubarb* and ammoniated tincture of *Valerian*, and, at the same time, he left off the use of tobacco. The shocks immediately left him, and he improved gradually, so that at the present time he is in comfortable health.

A. C—, æt. 27; is of a sanguine temperament, and robust habit; a farmer by occupation. Hs chewed tobacco for four years to excess; was taken, in the summer of 1841, suddenly with sinking at pit of stomach, and faintness, which obliged him to lie down in the field. Shocks at the epigastrium came on about the same time. These were first at night, on getting asleep, but after awhile in the daytime; at these times he would suddenly break out into a profuse perspiration. His digestion was tolerably good, and his health otherwise little impaired. He says that, previous to these symptoms, he had used large quantities of tobacco, but never imagined that it could hurt him. I advised him to immediately discontinue its use, which he did, and the shocks and faintings left him at once, and have never returned. This man took no medicine.

Rev. Mr. H—, æt. 30; of a nervo-sanguine temperament; addicted to the use of tobacco fifteen years. For many years he was troubled with epigastric sinking, and lately with shocks in the same region. He is in tolerable health in other respects, and, but for the annoyance which they occasion him when first getting asleep, would not think of asking medical advice. I recommended him to quit his tobacco, which he did, and a perfect cure was the result.

J. S., æt. 40; of a nervo-bilious temperament; followed the sea many years; commenced smoking for spitting up his food; soon commenced chewing, and carried it to excess, often using a pound a week. Five years ago, began to feel a sinking sensation at the pit of the stomach; then starting from his early slumbers, with a shock through the epigastrium, and sometimes chest; a rising sensation like an aura to his head, oppression at the chest great, and sudden difficulty of breathing, palpitation, choking, sudden faintings, unquiet sleep, frightful dreams, dyspepsia, and hypochondriasis. From being strong, robust, and resolute, he became weak, nervous, and timid. In this condition he applied to me for advice. It was with great difficulty that I could persuade him to quit his tobacco, and when he attempted it, was often a backslider. But soon he perceived the good effects, and was at length induced to lay it entirely aside, and with it went all his former bad symptoms. I have since ascertained that he was somewhat addicted to the use of ardent spirits, which may have contributed in a measure to some of the complaints.

From the same number we have much pleasure in laying before our readers the following interesting information, as regards homœopathy in America.

Medical Schools and Medical Societies.—The course which has been pursued within the past few years by medical societies, and still more recently by medical colleges, in relation to homœopathy and its advocates, will excite no surprise in the minds of those who are familiar with the progress of events in the medical world during the present century. The medical reform which was commenced hy Hahnemann fifty years ago, bears a striking resemblance in many respects to the course of every reform in matters vital to humanity with which the world has ever been blessed. When the great Protestant reformer commenced his career, the religious opinions and practice of nearly the whole civilized world were held in absolute subjection to the Romish Church. Martin Luther then stood forth single-handed, and with impassioned eloquence boldly exposed what he considered to be the errors of the prevailing church; he was first met by sneers and ridicule, then by fierce denunciations, and finally by all the oppressions which could be inflicted by legislative enactments. But the sentiments he then uttered gradually extended throughout the civilized world, until many of all nations and people have adopted them as true.

Hahnemann, with equal genius, equal benevolence, and superior acquired knowledge, has accomplished in medicine a revolution as great as that which Luther effected in religion. Like the latter, he has encountered successively, ridicule, sarcasm, sneers, denunciations, calumnies, and a variety of legal oppressions; but his doctrines, like those of the religious reformer, have already extended throughout the civilized world, and now reign triumphantly among the intellectual and thinking portion of mankind.

In view of these facts, is it strange that medical societies and medical colleges are so much alarmed, and with impotent anger, and silly assumptions of talent and knowledge, pass revengeful and illegal bye-laws for the purpose of depriving homœopaths of their just rights, and of dictating to them what they shall believe and what they shall not believe? The gentlemen of the old school have evidently become desperate, if we may judge from the bitter anger, the falsehoods and misrepresentations, and

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the petty oppressions in which they are constantly indulging towards the advocates of our school.

With respect to the inquisitorial and proscribing policy which is at present being pursued by a number of allopathic colleges in Europe, we can afford to treat it with the contempt which it merits. We have in this country two excellent medical institutions of our own, where students can get as thorough a knowledge of medicine, surgery, etc., as at any other college in America; and the first symptom of any oppression on the part of colleges in this country similar to that lately attempted in Europe, would be the signal to start a score of others in operation, which would prove formidable rivals in the business of affording instruction to the medical mind of "*Young America*." Our people are not to be put off with the cast-off opinions of the last two thousand years. Young America demands Young Physic, and she *will* be supplied, though allopathic dragons were as plenty as "the tiles on the housetops of Worms."

The "Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania" and the "Western College of Homœopathic Medicine" at Cleveland both afford facilities for instruction in all the branches pertaining to our art, which are equal to those of any allopathic institution. Why then should the believer in *similia* any longer seek an allopathic college? Why need he longer subject himself to the insults and blackguardism of disappointed Hippocratic professors, when he can listen to their absurd dogmas and learn their pernicious tendencies at an equally respectable homœopathic college?

We trust, hereafter, that every disciple of Hahnemann will exercise his entire influence in favour of a homœopathic institution, instead of lending aid to the vindictive and corrupt schools of our opponents.—E. E. M.

Homœopathy at the West.—The accounts we receive of the progress of homœopathy in the *Great West* are almost beyond belief. There seems to be a magic in it which converts whole townships at a stroke; scarce a town through the whole Ohio and Mississippi valleys but has its one or more homœopathic practitioners, with the attendant crowd of intelligent and zealous lay partisans. A monthly journal for lay readers is published at Buffalo; one has just been established in St. Louis, Mo.; one has been for some time issued in Cincinnati, Ohio, and so rapidly and thoroughly has the Queen City been converted to homœopathy, that we perceive that another is just commenced by Drs. Pulte and Gatchell. This multiplication of journals *for the laity* is a striking sign of the novel times upon which we are fallen, of the attention which homœopathy is exciting among the people, and of the passing away of old things, and that all are becoming new. A monthly journal is published in New Hampshire; one has been some six years in operation in New York, where we hear of the probability of the speedy appearance of another, and there is some talk of the establishment of a similar one in Philadelphia. We should be glad to see a weekly journal established in New York—the times will easily bear it.

Our allopathic friends throughout the country have been unwontedly silent for some time past; perhaps they are awaiting the result of the struggle across the water—perhaps they are becoming wiser and yielding to the tempest which they cannot restrain—in any event we wish them health and a rapid conversion to the blessed and only true *art of healing*.

Homœopathic Convention in Ohio.—A convention of homœopathic physicians met at Columbus on the 23rd ult., and seems to have been respectably attended, as it was obliged to adjourn from smaller quarters to the Methodist church. We have not seen a full report of its proceedings, but learn that it resulted in the organization of an "*Ohio College of Homœopathic Physicians*," which adjourned to meet next year at Dayton. We rejoice much in the evidences of the steady and rapid progress of homœopathy in this country, which is afforded by the frequency of these conventions. They are exceedingly serviceable not only by making the members of the profession personally known to each other, but also by giving the lie to that oft-repeated allopathic story that "homœopathy is going down." We should like to see a convention and state organization in every member of the Union. There is no state which does not number practitioners enough to make such a course practicable, and even necessary. Massachusetts, New York, Michigan, Illinois, and Ohio have set the example; who will be next to follow?

Professional Liberality in the Middle of the Nineteenth Century.— Hahnemann published an article upon this subject at the "*commencement* of the nineteenth century," which is so pertinent to some of the physicians of the present day, that we shall quote a few remarks, with the hope that certain individuals of the profession may profit by them, and in future restrain their aberrations from right and truth.

"I do not here refer," says he, "to that low, envious, trading spirit, for which the pressure of want is often the cause that can be best pleaded in excuse; I wish to say a few words about the professional jealousy of medical men among themselves, which is the prevalent custom in Germany, a *bellum omnium contra omnes*, which has had a most injurious influence on the prosperity of one of the noblest arts, and the one which stands most in need of improvement—medicine. For no sooner has a colleague made a suggestion that must be for the general good, put forward a perhaps useful proposition, discovered something profitable, than instantly the professional jealousy of his colleagues (with very few exceptions) falls foul of him, in order to bury in oblivion, or, if possible, to destroy the novelty by spoken or written depreciations, insinuations, sophistries, or even injurious aspersions, and all because—*it did not originate with themselves*.

Let the small men of the profession (for none

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but the *insignificant* and *morally base* ever descend to jealousy, false insinuations, and personal abuse), let all such ponder upon these remarks of our great master, and endeavour in future to profit by them. Combat principles freely, and meet all novel ideas fairly and honestly; but for the sake of our noble science, let no one entertain the vile sentiments so forcibly denounced by Hahnemann, or give countenance to any one who disgraces his calling by circulating falsehoods and calumny against his brethren who differ from him in opinion. But, above all, how detestable is the hypocrite who clothes himself in the garb of *piety*—who profanely *exhorts* and *prays* publicly in order to secure business, but whose heart is steeped in envy, malice, and rancour against his neighbours. Eschew especially the contaminating influence of these sacrilegious wretches, and spurn them beneath your feet as foul and slimy reptiles, whose breath is poison, and whose touch is pollution.

We regret to say there are some physicians to whom these remarks will apply with full force—men who have been publicly branded as falsifiers and slanderers—who *know* that they have been guilty of injuring their neighbour, and yet, with characteristic meanness and knavery, decline to retract their falsehoods. Such are perhaps more worthy of pity than of blame, but every right-minded man will find their society irksome, and will leave them to seek a congenial atmosphere among fellows of their own stamp.

E. E. M.

HOMŒOPATHY IN OHIO.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Respected Sir,—Pardon this unlooked-for intrusion, and permit us to introduce ourselves to your favourable notice as the newly organized association of the "Ohio College of Homœopathic Physicians."

Wishing to solicit a friendly correspondence with the "Homœopathic Medical Association" of London, and being wholly unacquainted with their address, we have been induced to take this measure. Any attention of a friendly character shall be considered by us of the West as invaluable, and it shall be hailed as a new and strong incentive to perseverance in the *noble* work of Hahnemannian medical reform. With earnestness and sincerity, we ask all possible favours which are coexistent with the rules of the "Association," and do ourselves most unhesitatingly promise the same—honorary membership if desired.

Accompanying this communication please find duplicates of the original constitution, bye-laws, and list of members, formed during the late convention and organization of our infant Society; accept one yourself, the other we offer to the London Association. It will doubtless be gratifying to the friends of homœopathic reform to know that the system in the West is attended with most signal success, and is spreading with astonishing rapidity; and it is our firm belief that the time will soon arrive when there shall be an entire revolution in medical science, providing the friends of "Homœopathy" will faithfully employ the necessary means of which they are possessed. May we therefore, request you to lay this communication before the honourable "Association," or the officers of the same, that we may be favoured with their attention at the earliest period practicable?

Should it be a matter of any consideration to you, please forward to us a prospectus of your very valuable journal, and we will use all honourable endeavours to extend its already wide circulation among the friends of the great Cause. Ere we conclude, permit us to assure you of our appreciation of and highest esteem for your zealous and indefatigable exertions, in diffusing light on the principles of the immortal Hahnemann, and may you long live to give the world those labours of benevolence and philanthropy.

With profound respect,

The Ohio College of Homœopathic Physicians,

G. St. Clair Hussey, M.D,

Cor. Secretary.

Portsmouth, Ohio, U.S.

January 16, 1852.

[We have received with this letter a copy of the proceedings of the Homœopathic Convention of Ohio, to which we will take an early opportunity of referring. We cannot fail to be well pleased with the fact that our labours are valued in the "Far-West." We wish our brethren there all success; and we shall be glad to reciprocate with them all and every kind of good fellowship.—Ed.]

CASES.

GASTRIC FEVER.

January 8th, 1852. M. A. W—, æt. 3, was quite well up to yesterday evening, when she became restless, and complained of headache. This morning she has vomited everything she has taken; food remains in the stomach for about half an hour, and then returns, with much retching and straining, in the same state as when taken. She is very thirsty; complains of no pain anywhere; pulse a little hurried; tongue coated with a very thin, white fur; bowels rather costive.

℞ Ipecac. 6, gl. viij.
Aquæ, ℥j. M.

A teaspoonful every three hours.

In the evening she was very ill; pulse 125; still vomiting everything she takes, with jelly-like mucus at intervals; skin very dry; has been very restless through the day, and very thirsty. Bowels not moved; eats a little biscuit and gruel.

℞ T. Aconit. 3, ♏ ij.
Aquæ, ℥j. M.

A teaspoonful every three hours through the night.

To be put into a warm bath.

9th. Passed a restless night; to-day pulse 132; tongue more thickly coated with white fur; the vomiting continues, though it has only occurred once during the last two hours. Complains of no pain; no appetite at all.

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The *Aconite* and *Ipecac.* to be continued, alternately, every two hours. A gruel injection, with Ol. Ric., ʒij.

In the evening she was better; the emetic had brought scarcely anything away; she had no relief since; has complained once or twice of pain in the abdomen, but she bears pressure on it well. Loss of appetite continues; she is very thirsty, and continually drinks cold water; the sickness has stopped since the middle of the day.

To go on in the same way through the night.

10th. Slept well till five a. m., when she became restless and uneasy, and vomited at seven o'clock, complaining of much pain in the stomach. At present she is composed and cheerful, and altogether much improved; pulse 120; tongue loaded with white fur; skin not so hot; thirst not so great; feels no pain, and asks for a little food. Continue.

In the evening she was much better; pulse 100; tongue cleaner. Two globules of *Bryonia* 6, to-night.

11th. Much better; pulse 96; tongue continues to clean; had a good night; no return of sickness; has had an evacuation, which was of a very light colour.

℞ Mercurius 30, gl. viij.
Aquæ, ʒj.

A teaspoonful twice a day.

12th. Nearly well; pulse 90; tongue much cleaner. Allowed beef-tea Continue *Merc.*

The next day the bowels were relieved, the evacuation being of a natural colour. Cured.

NEURALGIA OF LOWER JAW.

December 22nd, 1851. Mrs. W— for two weeks has suffered much from a kind of trismus, which affects her chiefly from night till three p. m. next day. During this time she can only open the jaw to the extent of half an inch, and cannot chew at all. She feels an aching, gnawing pain in the articulation of the right side, which is worse when she attempts to eat or to talk. During the remainder of the day she is able to open her mouth sufficiently to enable her to chew, though even then movement of the jaw is accompanied with a snapping noise, and is very painful. There is no swelling of the face; a little tenderness to pressure exists over the articulation of the right side.

℞ Rhus 12, gl. viij.
Aquæ, ʒiij. M.

A tablespoonful twice a day.

30th. Has been very much better since she took the medicine, and considers herself well.

PLEURISY.

September 11th, 1851. Miss L—, æt. 4, a very delicate, scrofulous girl, after feeling unwell for several days, was to-day seized with a fit of shivering, followed by much heat; very sharp pain in the right side, between the seventh and eighth ribs, hurting her very much when she coughs and breathes; short, barking cough; inability to lie on the right side; skin very dry and hot. Respirations 48, pulse 120.

℞ T. Aconit. 3, ♏ iv.
Aquæ, ʒiv. M.

Two tablespoonfuls every four hours.

12th. Better; does not feel nearly so much pain in the right side; dullness on percussion along the lower part of the right side of the chest; resp. 44, almost inaudible on right side; puerile on left; is able to lie a little on the right side; pulse 120; cough hard, and not so frequent.

℞ T. Bryon. 3, ♏ ij.
Aquæ, ʒiv. M.

Two tablespoonfuls every four hours.

In the evening she had a very sharp return of pain in the side, with increase of fever and cough.

Omit *Bryonia*, and resume *Aconite.*

13th. Decidedly better; resp. 34, pulse 116; cough more easy; countenance more cheerful. Continue *Aconite.*

In the evening I found that she had been able to get out of bed; has slept well. Continue *Aconite.*

14th. Much better; dullness on percussion decreasing. Resp. 28, pulse 108.

℞ Bryonia 12, gl. viij.
Aquæ, ʒiij. M.

A tablespoonful twice a day.

15th. Nearly well, and as strong as before her illness.

In this case it is observable how quickly the pain returned, on the premature substitution of *Bryonia* in the place of *Aconite.* Had this delicate young girl been treated allopathically, how protracted would her convalescence have been!

DYSPEPSIA.

November 17th, 1851. S. H—, æt. 18, a scrofulous, leuco-phlegmatic girl, has felt for six months a gnawing pain in the stomach, which got better two months ago, but has lately returned in an aggravated form. Her present symptoms are, a gnawing pain in the stomach, worse after eating; it comes on immediately after eating, lasts for an hour or so, abates, but soon returns again; drinking makes the pain worse; suffers every day from water-brash, chiefly in the afternoon; feels tenderness over the stomach, Tongue red at the edges, white in the centre; has a foul taste in the mouth, which is worse in the morning; the legs are stiff, and soon get tired; the arms are heavy, and holding them up increases the pain in the stomach; craving appetite; very thirsty in the morning; bowels regular; menses regular.

℞ Nux 6, gl. ij.

Every morning in water.

19th. Worse in all respects; the lassitude of the lower limbs much increased. Allow the medicine to continue its action.

21st. Very much better in all respects; stomach scarcely aches at all; tongue becoming natural; feels more able to endure fatigue. Still allow the medicine to act. She got quite well after this without further medicine.

PERITONITIS.

September 26th, 1851. J. F—, æt. 40, a hard-working, steady man, obliged, from the nature of his business, to take his meals at irregular hours; for a month at least has been ill, complaining constantly of pain in the stomach,

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and vomiting his food, mixed with blood. About ten days ago he came to me, complaining of aching pain all over the abdomen, with much flatulence, and loss of appetite. He soon got better of this, and did not leave off his work. I was hastily summoned to him to-day, and found him complaining of intense pain in the belly, which seized him suddenly at five a. m.; he now lies on his back with his belly drawn up; pulse 110, very weak; face very pale, and pinched-in expression; abdomen very sensitive to pressure; mouth and teeth very dry; and evidently he is most dangerously ill.

℞ Aconit. 3, ♏ viij.
Aquæ, ʒiij. M.

A tablespoonful every two hours.

In the evening he was not any better. Alternate *Mercurius* with the *Aconite*.

27th. Somewhat easier; the pain is still very acute, particularly on pressure; expression of the face much changed for the worse; mouth very dry; teeth becoming coated with sordes; belly tense and swollen; bowels not moved; pulse 120, very small. Continue *Mercurius*.

About three p. m. a state of collapse came on; the belly swelled more; and cold perspiration broke out over the skin. He died at seven a. m., on the 28th, sensible to the last, having been ill about forty-eight hours.

I could not obtain a post-mortem examination, but have no doubt that he died from rupture of the stomach, consequent on chronic inflammation of a small portion of that organ.

HOMŒOPATHIC EXPERIENCE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—S. D. G—, a young woman, had been some time subject to the following symptoms—she came to me in 1837:—Weight and splitting pain in the head; itching, and falling off of the hair; giddiness, as if tipsy; brain feels as if shaking; heat in the face, though the face is pale and yellow; sore throat; no appetite, with bad taste in the mouth; nausea, flatulence, and colic; cough, with white expectoration; oppression, with throbbing of the heart; pain in sacrum and arm; night perspirations. Two globules of *Nux*, 30th dilution, given at seven days' distance, cured her in a few weeks.

Miss S— had suffered for years from attacks of violent headache, which were accompanied by much feverish feeling at the time of suffering. She was well otherwise, and could not describe any particular symptom of the headache. When questioned, she said the pain was dreadful, and she had felt at different times all the symptoms I had mentioned in my questions. I gave her two globules of *Aconite*, 12th dilution, and the following day two globules of *Ignatia*, 12th dilution, which cured the headaches, and she has continued free from them.

Miss L— had for many months been subject to violent headaches, for which she had consulted her medical man, and had taken many drugs without receiving any relief. Her only symptoms were headaches, with sensation of fulness in the head; face red, and burning in head and face; the headaches lasted a day, and came on very often. Two globules of *Aconite*, 12th dilution; the following day, two globules of *Nux*, 12th dilution, and another globule the following day quite removed them.

Mrs. Lowe, aged thirty, 1837, complained of giddiness; nausea, with stupifying headache, with great thirst, and burning pain; eyes watery; face red, yellow, and burning; great burning in the nose; pain in the jaw; bad taste in the mouth; thirst, with disgust to drink; no appetite; food quite tasteless; flatulence; pain in the sides and pit of stomach; costiveness; pain in the nape of the neck; the shoulders and back are burning in bed; skin very sensitive, cannot bear the touch; pain in the limbs; only dozing sleep with startings. I gave her two globules of *Belladonna*, 12th dilution, and one globule next day. This in a few weeks quite removed all ailments. The reason I gave no more medicine was that amendment followed the taking of the medicine so decidedly, and the countenance regained its healthy look, that I felt sure no more would be required.

The same person came to me a few months after; she had continued perfectly free from her old symptoms, but complained of a pain in the right side of her abdomen, from which she had suffered for upwards of a year, since the birth of her last child. On questioning her, I found out that there was an unnatural pressure there during her pregnancy. My idea was that it was caused by the position of the child, which had injured some internal part. I gave, therefore, two globules of *Arnica*, 12th dilution. In a week she came and reported that the pain was entirely removed; she has felt no return of it.

When the scarlet fever was very much about, Betsy L—, a young married woman, came to me with her face very red and burning, and complained of sore throat. I gave her two globules of *Belladonna*, 12th dilution; the next day she was well.

Judith Corbet, a young woman, who had felt ill for one or two days, came to me at the same time; her symptoms were sore throat, no appetite, tongue white, face red and burning, bad taste in the mouth, no taste of food, warm and cold shiverings. I gave her two globules of *Belladonna*, 12th dilution; one the next morning; two more the following evening. She returned to me quite well.

These two cases, taken in time, no doubt escaped the scarlet fever. I had several other similar cases of children during the epidemic.

Joseph Pinwell, an infant of a month old, October 22nd, was and had been for some days in extreme pain, crying, and restless; he was hot, and had burning skin. The mother showed me the child's leg; from the outside of the middle of the thigh to the middle of the calf of the left leg was a red, inflamed space, here and there covered by a blistery eruption. I gave the babe one globule of *Aconite*, 12th dilution. The following day they brought the child; he had had a good night, the inflammation was gone, but the blisters remained. I gave one globule of *Ant. crud.*, 9th dilution; in a few days he was quite well, and continued so.

Betsy O—, aged five years, came to me

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with her face covered with large flat pimples, moist and crusty. I gave her one globule of *Mercury*, 12th dilution. The following week she came to me; her face was much better, but far from well. On examination I found the same eruption on the back of the head and other parts. I gave three doses of *Petroleum*, consisting of one globule, 30th dilution, to be taken every seven days. She came October 2nd, 1837, and was quite cured November 4th. The child lived at a distance too great to allow her to walk it easily, so that I gave three doses of *Petrol.* instead of the one I would have given, could I have seen her easily. I have no doubt that less medicine would have cured her.

H. C.

THE MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORT OF THE EXETER HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY FOR THE YEAR 1851.

	Remaining Jan. 1, 1851.	Admitted in 1851.
Cured and much benefited	36	219
No change	5	20
Dead	—	5
Results unknown	—	33
Remaining under treatment ..	—	66

In presenting to the subscribers the above table of cases treated at the Dispensary during the past year, the Medical Officers beg to offer the following explanation of the results:—

In comparing the number of cases "cured and much benefited" with those admitted under treatment, it must be particularly borne in mind that the great majority of patients were suffering from long-standing chronic diseases, for which they had been under much previous treatment at the allopathic public institutions or elsewhere, and that they had only resorted to the Homœopathic Dispensary *after they had tried all other means in vain;* viewing the table above in this light, the results cannot but be considered in the highest degree satisfactory, and manifest in the most striking manner the efficacy of the treatment. The five deaths occurred among patients admitted in the last stage of pulmonary consumption, and young children in a dying state when first seen. In the thirty-three cases where the results were unknown, the patients, after attending once or for a week or two, did not appear again, and, as they are generally most anxious to avail themselves of every opportunity of presenting them at the Dispensary, it is but reasonable to suppose that they ceased their attendance because they no longer felt that they required medical aid.

In consequence of the demand for subscribers' recommendations greatly exceeding the number issued, the committee, in January last, authorized the Dispenser to dispose of them to the poor at 2*s.* 6*d.* each, and to a very large extent have they availed themselves of this boon—thus proving the estimation in which this Institution is held by those for whose benefit it was established. The Medical Officers have also arranged to attend at the Dispensary four days in the week.

Dr. Guinness, on Mondays and Fridays, at ten o'clock.

Mr. Boughton Kingdon, on Tuesdays and Saturdays, at the same hour.

It is earnestly requested that the subscribers and friends of the Dispensary will strenuously exert themselves in behalf of this truly useful Institution, in order that the benefits may be extended still more amongst the suffering poor; numbers of whom are most anxious to avail themselves of its aid, but, unable to procure the recommendations, are debarred from its advantages.

Arthur Guinness, M.D.
Boughton Kingdon.

Exeter, January 21, 1852.

Miscellaneous.

Remarkable Recovery.—We find the following in *Le Siècle*:—"A religious custom has just prevented a person from being buried alive, and, singular to relate, this is the second time the same thing has happened to the same person. About ten years ago, Eulalie B—, then aged three years, daughter of honourable tradespeople in the Rue Montmorency, was attacked with typhus fever. After a fortnight's sickness she appeared to expire, and her parents, as a relief to their sorrow, left the house, leaving two of the girl's aunts to superintend the funeral. As the family belonged to the reformed religion, it was resolved, in compliance with the usual custom, to wash the body before placing it in the shroud. Whilst the water was warming, one of the aunts proposed that it should be made quite hot, and that part of the foot of the deceased should be placed in it. This was done, and the two females, to their surprise, fancied that they heard a slight sigh. They thereupon began to employ friction on different parts of the body, and succeeded in restoring the child to life. The girl continued to enjoy good health until recently, when she was attacked with brain fever, and, after suffering for some time, appeared to die. A physician declared her dead, and signed a certificate for the interment. One of the aunts watched the body in company with a nurse. The aunt having stated in the course of conversation the singular circumstance that had previously occurred, the nurse recommended that the proof of hot water should be again tried. The leg of the girl was accordingly plunged into hot water. This produced a similar result, and the girl recovered."

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Rebiew of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 135. Vol. III. | SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1852. | Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

Communications.

SUBTLE AGENTS AS ILLUSTRATIVE OF MEDICINAL ACTION.

Read by H. P. Gatchell, M.D.,

Before the Ohio College of Homœopathic Physicians.

The study of nature ever leads to the recognition of subtle agents, and the further investigation is carried the more deep is the conviction that only subtle fluids act, while the grosser combinations of matter are but acted upon; and that the more subtle the more active. Light, caloric, and electricity are universally diffused, and universally active tenants of the most opaque bodies; while Baron Reichenbach has recently demonstrated the existence of a new element, *odyle*, especially interesting in connection with organized bodies and the semi-organized crystal.

Nor are agents weak in proportion to their subtleness, as one accustomed to consider only massive bodies and mechanical forces might suppose; since the force of crystallization, capable of rending mighty masses of rock, and that of gravitation, which controls the stellar orbs, both belong to this class, and light itself, infinitely attenuated as it is, would prove destructive to the most durable bodies, if its influence were exerted upon them without intermission. And it certainly indicates a great lack of sound philosophy, a gross deficiency in perception of analogies, a very rude idea of power, that physicians of the antiquarian school should have medicinal influence so inseparably allied in their minds with massive doses.

When not a vital operation can be traced to its ultimate cause; when the prime agent of chemical affinities is as hidden as the human spirit itself; when gravitation, which controls the sun as perfectly as a mote, has never been searched out, it is superficial and unreflecting to deny to medicines the possible possession of interior powers, in virtue of which they operate, to modify the manifestation of the vital powers—powers which we can recognise through no chemical or mechanical means. Scrutinize the most active medicine with the microscope, weigh it in the most delicate balance, reduce it to its chemical elements, the medicinal force still eludes the search, still escapes detection. Nor can we predict in advance of physiological experiment the medical properties of any substance, whatever familiarity we may have with its other qualities. Hence we find Liebig alluding to experiments upon chemical relations of the constituents of the body, in the following terms:—"By pursuing this method, useful remedies or modes of treatment might by accident be discovered; but a rational physiology cannot be founded on mere re-actions, and the living body cannot be viewed as a chemical laboratory." And again:—"A diseased condition cannot be made to disappear by the chemical action of a remedy."

Beautifully illustrative of subtle forces, intimately associated with vital processes, and most subversive of the views of the antiquarian school—hence, for the most part, unceremoniously rejected by them—are the recent discoveries of Baron Reichenbach. His investigations prosecuted according to the most rigid methods of the physical sciences, by an experienced philosopher, are placed on too firm a basis to be disturbed by doubts or sneers; but like other recent treasures of novel character, snatched from the not unwilling hand of nature, the impress of time is needed to sanctify them, and to lend them the force of authority.

Not to attempt any detailed survey of the rich field which the Baron has wrought, it is sufficient for our present purpose to state that *odyle* is a universally-diffused, most subtle and most mobile element. It is radiated abundantly from the human hand, from crystals and from magnets, and is the medium of the operations grouped under the name of animal magnetism. Testing its qualities upon highly sensitive nervous systems, the Baron found that odyle plays an important part in the action of inorganic substances on the human system, in the sympathetic and other influences of one person upon another, and in the physiological changes occurring in each individual organism.

Through this medium an uneducated girl was able to arrange an immense va-

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riety of substances according to their electric states, by her feelings alone. In the language of the Baron:—"It is surpassing and in the highest degree worthy of notice that a human being, a girl perfectly ignorant of such things, is capable of classifying with certainty and accuracy, according to one of their innermost, profoundest, and most obscure peculiarities, their electro-chemical character, all the substances of this world, without seeing them, and by mere sensation.

Certainly it is surprising, viewed from the stand-point of half a century ago—it is incredible, if we regard the universe as made up merely of forms, weights, and magnitudes. But in the light of numerous modern developments, in the light of the philosophy of subtle forces, in the light of spiritual existence, it is no more incredible than that man thinks and feels, and it is only surprising because new. It is, however, matter for rejoicing that one like Baron Reichenbach, of deservedly wide reputation for knowledge, judgment, and rigid induction, has had the philosophy to pursue these researches, the clear-sightedness to perceive, and the courage to announce their results. The world will, with such aid, be prepared in time to recognise the true doctrine of medicinal action.

Thus the odylic force could not only be transmitted, like electricity, along a wire from the hands of the Baron to the persons of his subjects, but it could be communicated to both solids and liquids, so as to be retained for a time, and from them exert its peculiar influence on the subject. Thus an odylised glass of water can be selected by a sensitive from any number of glasses not thus charged; and whatever other relations to the system any substance might have, the odylic would be found superadded after the application of the operator's hands to the substance,

But experiments have been made more intimately associated with, and more fully illustrative of medicinal action, than those of Baron Reichenbach. In these experiments, medicines have been found to exert their specific influence by means of a current of electricity passed through the medicines to the person of the patient. In this way *Ipecacuanha* will be found to produce emesis, *Colocynth* catharsis, and so of all drugs and all possible influences. Now, since electricity is uniform in its nature, and retains its specific character after passing through the drug, the superadded medicinal influence can only arise from a new force combined with it in its passage; but this is not communicated in virtue of any transmission of the substance of the drug, since this remains undiminished. It must therefore be that the medicinal influence proper to each drug resides in a subtle, intangible force, inhabiting among the atoms of the drug.

A more convenient experiment, expressive of the same principle, may be made without the agency of electricity. Let a sensitive person hold a drug in his hand carefully enveloped in paper, and he will find its medicinal influence still exerted upon him, and this, though no odour is able to pass through the folds of the envelope. *Opium*, *Lobelia*, *Capsicum*, *Aloes* will narcotise, vomit, irritate, and purge; nor is the inodorous *Tartar Emetic* less active than the odorous *Opium*. In this experiment we have the medicinal force not transmitted along a current of electricity, but directly radiating its influence from the drug to the nerves, proving that medicines are always giving off such an influence, and that it is only necessary to its perception that a sensitive system should be placed in a proper relation.

But the purely dynamic character of the medicinal influence can be demonstrated by a more decisive experiment. Let a carefully-closed glass phial be substituted for the porous paper, and upon a sensitive subject the result is equally satisfactory, and more conclusive; since in this case it is quite impossible that any of the substance of the drug can have passed through the enclosing material. This experiment demonstrates that the medicinal influence, like the luminous, electric, and odylic, can pass through solid bodies. If any one objects that he does not know how such influence can pass through such a body, one might with propriety inquire if he knows how light, electricity, and odyle pass. The question of fact must always precede the question of cause or method; and it is proper always to settle first the reality of a phenomenon, and then to inquire into its relations. No philosopher will deny a result because he does not understand the mode. Minds undisciplined in philosophical pursuits betray this weakness, and even those who have acquired considerable reputation in science, through the exercise of a vigorous memory, with perhaps fine powers of perception, often vie in this with the rude and ignorant; but such lack powers of reflection, however much they may be distinguished for those of perception.

Does any one inquire how numerous are such sensitives as would become proper subjects of these experiments? I reply that Baron Reichenbach estimates them at one-third of the population of cities. And

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the most delicate of his experiments require a degree of sensitiveness as great as those which I now propose; but among sensitives, perhaps not one-quarter are proper subjects of these most delicate ones. It should be borne in mind that susceptibility exists in every degree, from that which in Reichenbach's experiments could respond to the influence of sulphur through forty feet of wire, to the hardy barbarian, who is scarcely sensible of ordinary changes of temperature. For myself, so numerous and varied have been the experiments of this kind (which I first saw attempted by Dr. Buchanan) in which I have participated, that I consider the relations which I have stated to be as well demonstrated as those of electricity itself. That they should be doubted, is no more strange than that when the secretary of the Royal Philosophical Society read before that learned body a letter from Franklin, detailing his then recent discoveries in electricity, the dignified assembly greeted the reading with a roar of laughter. The progress of events since that time renders laughter less prudent; and it is now pretty well ascertained that folly is more prompt with a sneer than wisdom.

The step is but short from experiments with drugs to those with attenuated medicines; I therefore endeavoured to make my experience in the one contribute to the producing of valuable fruit in the other. I have tested the influence of attenuated medicines by such experiments as left the question of their efficiency at rest. I have repeated these experiments on various sensitive persons, and taken such precautions as were necessary to exclude error. Among the most interesting was a series which I tried upon Dr. E—— T——, then a student of medicine. I knew this gentleman to be intelligent in medicine, as well as possessed of a highly impressible constitution; he promised therefore to be an excellent subject.

Accordingly, having mixed a few drops of medicated alcohol with half a glass of water, I gave him the water thus medicated, in teaspoonful doses, repeated it often enough to maintain the medicinal action, and leaving him to state the effects, with but few and those not leading questions. In my first experiment he gave a correct outline of the recorded pathogenesis of the medicine tested, remarking, after some twenty minutes, that he perceived a metallic taste and a styptic effect on the tongue, and concluding with expressing the opinion that the substance used was copper. It was *Cuprum*, fourth dilution.

In the second experiment he gave, as before, a correct outline, complaining especially of pains in the stomach and internal burning heat. He noticed also a corrosive effect in the mouth, and concluded with the opinion that it was arsenic. It was *Arsenicum*, fourth dilution.

In the third experiment he was again successful as to the symptomatology, but said nothing about the taste. On being questioned as to this, he described the taste as being peculiar, but faint and insipid. A remarkable feature of this experiment was, that while it was in progress he observed that his eyes were singularly affected, and turning to a fellow-student who had accompanied him, he remarked that his sensations were like those which the professor of surgery had that day described in connection with the disease on which he had lectured. The disease was fungus hæmatodes, and the medicine was *Carbo animalis*, sixth dilution. It is unnecessary to urge upon any homœopathist the striking accuracy of this result or the delicacy of the experiment. Had but one such an instance of accuracy occurred, we might set it down as accidental. A series of consecutive accurate results does not occur by accident; it indicates law, and all minds that have passed beyond the immature stage of childhood should be prepared to appreciate it. Numerous experiments, prosecuted with a variety of articles of different degrees of attenuation, from simple tinctures to the twenty-fifth dilution, demonstrate the influence of attenuations upon the sensitive.

This constitutional sensitiveness is analogous to the occasional sensitiveness developed by disease. Indeed the constitutional sensitiveness can hardly be considered as a normal state, and is generally found connected with some form of debility. It is an old maxim, that irritability is proportioned to debility.

But the circumstance which affords the most singular evidence of the most wonderfully subtle character of the medicinal influence occurred accidentally in the course of my experiments. While Dr. T. was holding the glass containing the medicated water, grasped by the thumb and fingers of each hand, with the tips of the fingers in contact, he accidentally separated them, he perceived at once a sharp thrill and a distinct medicinal effect. On restoring the contact of the fingers, the vividness of the influence ceased, on separating them it was renewed; and thus, as often as he produced or interrupted the contact, was

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the influence suspended or renewed. The possibility of all this is naturally suggested by that experiment of Reichenbach, in which it appears that the right and left sides are in opposite odylic states, and that a current perceptible to the sensitive subject can be produced by joining the hands.

It appears from the above-stated experiment that the odylic like the electric current is capable of conveying the medicinal influence.

When the fingers of Dr. T. were in contact the odylic current passed directly from hand to hand; when they were separated it passed through the glass, bearing along with it the influence of that peculiar property which substances have of operating upon the physiological forces, and which, like the interior principle of odours, is but imperfectly understood.

I found but little difference in Dr. T.'s impressibility to diluted medicine, whether it was brought in contact with the tongue and stomach, or its influence was propagated by the odylic current.

I have not entered into much detail in regard to these experiments, because they are of that simple character which any one can at any time try for himself. To those who may attempt them, I would recommend to try, at first, those requiring the least degree of impressibility—such as holding the more active drugs in the hand. They should bear in mind too, that the result will be striking in proportion to the sensitiveness of the subject. They would do well to remember also, that the number of persons capable of conducting philosophical experiments, especially of the more delicate kind, with success is but small; otherwise philosophy would not advance with tardy steps. It is rare enough to meet with those who can appreciate such experiments when made; much more those who can make them.

Experiments of this kind are especially interesting to the homœopathist, as, independently of their general philosophical character and the rich illustrations which they afford of the finer susceptibilities of the human constitution, they afford a ready means of obtaining an outline of the pathogenesis of any drug. I am aware that we can never dispense with those protracted provings, which afford us a knowledge of the more thorough effects of medicines upon the health; but it is sometimes convenient to make, with reference to a particular case, a partial proving, when time is not afforded for a more full one. It should also be remembered that the more searching effects can be obtained upon the sensitive as well as upon the unimpressible, and that too in a time short in proportion to the sensitiveness of the subject. I propose publishing, under the head of suggestive provings, some results which I have obtained from native drugs. I do this both for the value of the pathogenetic outline thus obtained, and for the sake of calling attention to the native materia, in order that the accuracy of this class of experiments may be tested by comparison, and that others may be induced, by repeating them, to afford additional demonstrations of the subtleness of medicinal forces.

Reviews.

Chemical Record, and Journal of Pharmacy.

In the 30th number of this serial (February 7, 1852) there is an editorial article on the "Dénouement of Homœopathic Fraud."

The statement of this Editor is to the effect that homœopathy has destroyed itself within the last four months; he asserts that a *circumstance* has "*struck a death-blow* at the *foundations* of homœopathy, and *enlightened* the public on the matter of the absurd pretensions of the Hahnemannic empirics."

We say nothing of this extraordinary jumble of words, but proceed to the important circumstance of the not very enlightened Editor of the *Chemical Record.*

"Some time in the autumn of last year, a gentleman named Rutter succeeded in combining after some fashion, not very clearly made known to the public, and probably not well understood by himself, an instrument made of brass rods, silk, sealing-wax, and we do not know what else. Let us not be accused of unscientific vagueness in our description; we cannot understand the machine, and never met with one who could; moreover, as the instrument is now proclaimed by its inventor a failure, there is very little inducement for us to go deeper into the theory of its mechanism at this time."

The only truth in this statement is, that Mr. Rutter's name is Rutter, and we have to inform this editorial scoffer at homœopathy that Mr. Rutter began his experiments some months before the autumn of last year; that the instrument is very simple, and its mechanism is of such a kind that even the restored king of *Lagos* could make it out; and that its inventor has *not proclaimed it a failure*, but that his

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faith in the reality of his experiments and in the value of his "machine" continues unabated.

"The machine, when made, was ushered into the world with all solemnity by the homœopaths, as a contrivance specially adapted for reducing the mystery of homœopathy to the level of the meanest understandings. Henceforth there would be no doubters; for science herself had come forward to proclaim the truth of homœopathy."

In answer to this paragraph we reply, that only very few, comparatively, of the homœopathists did believe that the "magnetoscope" would prove serviceable to homœopathy; that *not one* pretended that it was a contrivance for reducing the mystery of homœopathy to the level of the meanest understanding; that some few did hope, and some few hope still, that by this or some other instrument, contrived by this or some other inventor, science will show that the medicinal essence of medical substances does affect the human organism, independently of bulk and weight. Three homœopathic journals, at the onset, had articles in favour of the magnetoscope. In one of them Mr. Rutter and his experiments have been prematurely consigned to oblivion; in another there has been, since Dr. Madden's withdrawal of his favourable deductions from his experiments, strict silence; but in the third, the *Homœopathic Times*, the whole question of the odylic phenomena, and of Mr. Rutter's experiments, has been kept open.

"It will be necessary here for us to say, *in limine*, that, after all, the instrument was said merely to prove the power of small doses; leaving the proposition of *similia similibus* to stand exactly as it stood before."

This is not true; if the instrument can be proved to be trustworthy, it is as capable of proving the truth of the law, as "the power of small doses." In fact, one of Dr. Madden's original propositions was that he could by the magnetoscope prove the truth of the homœopathic law.

"A decillionth part of *Nux Vomica*, for instance, caused the index of the machine to move to the right; an equal quantity of *Belladonna*, to the left." Not true—see Mr. Rutter's pamphlet on "Magnetoid Currents."

We leave the editorial impertinence about Lord Belfast to his lordship to answer, if he will condescend to do so; but the Editor's account of the "explosion of the plot"—of the "kind friend of the inventor"—of "the deceiver publishing his deceit"—is altogether fictitious. The inventor still believes in his invention—the discoverer in his discoveries—the truth-seeker in what he believes to be the truths he has found.

Dr. Madden, who first made known Mr. Rutter's invention and its supposed applicability as a test of the homœopathic law, and of the homœopathic dose, and who himself made many experiments with the instrument, afterwards believed and believes that the delicate "machine" was not affected by the medicines, but was moved partly by the will of the operator, unconsciously exercised, and partly by muscular motion. Believing himself mistaken in his first views, he acknowledged what he believed to be error, and was as prompt in accounting for it as he was in enunciating what he thought to be truth, in the first instance.

"The real circumstances of the affair have been carefully suppressed by the homœopathic gentry, to the best of their ability. They have oozed forth, nevertheless; and one of the results of the publicity has been seen in the refusal of the first-class London publishers to have any further connection with the homœopathic imposture."

So far from there having been any concealment on the part of the homœopathists, the whole matter has been freely discussed, *pro* and *con*, in our columns; and the Editors of the *British Journal of Homœopathy* have declared, though the inventor has not done so, that the magnetoscope is a "failure." We are not aware that the first-class London publishers have refused to have "any further connection with the homœopathic imposture;" and if it should be the fact that others should follow the example of Messrs. Highley, it would be more from fear of the gall of the *Lancet* than from the "oozing out," that the magnetoscope had failed to prove the homœopathic law and dose.

In conclusion, we have to state that for every individual homœopath that has believed in the magnetoscope, we will engage to produce at least five allopaths who have so believed: so that, *mutatis mutandis*, belief in this instrument on the part of a few allopaths might be construed into an argument of the folly, fraud, and imposture of allopathy, if the mode of arguing adopted by the Editor of the *Chemical Record* were held to be legitimate. We wish him good digestion.

Ex pede Herculem: our readers may judge from this analysis of a review by one chemist, what is the real worth of the objections of other chemists.

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Homœopathy in 1851. Edited by J. RUTHERFURD RUSSELL, M.D. Published by James Hogg, 4, Nicolson Street, Edinburgh; and R. Groombridge and Sons, 5, Paternoster Row, London.

THIS book, with an engraved likeness of Hahnemann, and an engraving of his monument at Leipsic, and containing the greater number of the articles, of a controversial character, in defence of homœopathy, which have appeared for some time back up to the close of last year, is published for half a crown.

It is expressly meant for the public, for the non-medical reader.

There is first the capital letter of Professor Henderson to Dr. Forbes; then follow some excellent remarks by the late Dr. Andrew Combe, who was one of the Physicians-in-Ordinary, in Scotland, to the Queen, and was for a while physician to King Leopold, by whom he was held in the highest esteem.

Then there is a paper of Dr. Rutherfurd Russell, wherein is shown that the "young physic" of Dr. Forbes, followed to its legitimate conclusion, would land the medical inquirer amid the certitudes of homœopathy, instead of the mere expectances of the expectant school.

We have next a caustic article on Medical "Toogoodism." We think the word a very happy invention, for it strikes off and brands—as "canny shepherds brand their seely sheep"—the class of dogmatic opponents, of whatever rank or calling, and of whatever age of the world, to any new truth or proposed reform, because they *will* prefer, whether from prejudice or from interest, the Canongate to Carlton Terrace — any venerable prejudice to any truth newly made known.

Then follow two papers on Colleges; and next the New Test Act—an admirable essay; and then his reasons for embracing homœopathy, by Dr. Ransford, the one-while pet of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, graced by that august and venerable body with a present of plate and a most laudatory inscription thereon, but soon after fiercely denounced, because, having arrived at mature life, and in the full vigour of his understanding, and in the exercise of his private judgment on matters of opinion,—a right that every Briton enjoys, from the Queen at her dining-table to the scullion in her kitchen at Windsor, —he adopted homœopathy.

Then we have fulminations against homœopathy, succeeded by homœopathy and allopathy.

There is an excellent analysis of the Brighton protest against homœopathy; and then comes the withering blight of the petals of the rose of Putney, in the shape of a letter from the Reverend Rector of Wickwar to Dr. Rose Cormack.

> "Pure Putney! it is sad to think
> A ruthless parson's pen and ink
> Should do such mischief, and disclose
> The canker in thy boastful Rose.
> For now of all its glory shorn,
> It can no more thy heath adorn;
> Decay is in its beauty found;
> Its petals lie upon the ground:
> And wags their sides with laughter crack,
> While Everest tickles Cormack's back."

Then we have the East versus the West. In the long run we back the West—Yankee-land against Hindoo-land.

There is a capital trial of the Triumvirate of Edinburgh—Professors Syme, Christison, and Simpson.

Then there is Dr. Russell's eloquent address at the Second Congress of Homœopathic Practitioners.

Then comes a lively description of a trip to Leipsic; the Hahnemann jubilee, and the inauguration of Hahnemann's monument in that famous city.

The proceedings are next given of the Town Council of Edinburgh in reference to homœopathy.

The second edition of this book should be called for in a month. It affords in one volume a vast deal of matter, collected with great pains and much discrimination. The year 1850 was the year of the foundation of Homœopathic Hospitals; the year 1851 of a concerted persecution of the homœopathists—and this volume is the record of much of that persecution. Our readers will find in it much to interest them, and not a little calculated to rouse their energies, and awaken their sympathies in behalf of homœopathy.

THE

HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH, 1852.

WE have lately received the most gratifying accounts of the progress of homœopathy in various regions of the earth—in the East and West especially.

The fact of the establishment of a Homœopathic Hospital in Calcutta is very important; and not only some of the European medical men, but the native doctors, who are so well acquainted with

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their indigenous remedies, will be, as a matter of course, induced to make inquiry into our medical Reform.

In the Brazils and British Guiana, in Dutch Guiana, and other parts of the continent of South America, homœopathy has been introduced; and in several of the West India islands it is being practised.

Wherever public charities are established for the treatment of the poor on the homœopathic principle, and with the homœopathic practice, every individual favourable to homœopathy should, according to his or her means, assist in the work, and be ready to say to poor sufferers,—

"Auxilio tutos dimittam, opibusquo juvabo."

The homœopathic literature should also be frankly and generously supported; and among the writers in that field, the journalists should be assisted with information and materials. But in this, as in other departments, the proprietary as well as the editorial "We" have often to ask—

"Nos aliquid Rutulos contra juvisse nefandum est?"

The period is fast approaching for the celebration of the Annual Meetings of homœopathists, in connection with the public homœopathic charities. In addition to the three existing hospitals, we believe it is hoped that preparation will be made for the inauguration of one in Edinburgh. We conceive it to be very important that there should be one in that city and another in Dublin; because each of these cities is the seat of a renowned medical school; and in each of them, but especially in Edinburgh, there has been a notable persecution, set a-foot by medical allopathists, of homœopathy and homœopathists.

The allopathic journals abound with offensive and irrational abuse of our method of practice—offensive from the language made use of, and irrational, because there is a positive refusal to receive any amount of evidence in support of the Hahnemannic practice, to which there is opposed the most obstinate dogmatism.

In some cases, *speculum-mechanicians*, who have no great knowledge of general medicine; in others, reviewers, past or present, who have never had much practice; in others, chemists, who also have never had any considerable experience in the treatment of disease; in others, druggists—have been our assailants. We must add, that among those who have authoritatively pronounced against homœopathy are to be found men of fame and experience; but these have never made any *bonâ fide* trial of homœopathy.

Notwithstanding, our medical Reform is making great progress; and it is important that our public should be furnished with details of the rise and establishment and progress of homœopathy in these realms.

We are glad to find that a sketch, at least, is about to be given of its introduction into England.

That we give no hospital and dispensary reports, week after week, is not our fault; for we have repeatedly asked for them.

We are mortal, and liable to error—but we defy the gainsayers to deny us the character of endeavouring, to the best of our ability, with such means as have been at our disposal, to popularise homœopathy, and bring it home to the public as an established fact.

Our chief support, heretofore, in a difficult and sometimes irksome, in a toilsome and sometimes painful labour—not always a labour of love, except that we have always loved the cause of Hahnemann, which is the cause of humanity—has been the conviction of our honesty of purpose, of the unselfishness of our aims, and of our entire integrity throughout.

Correspondence.

ALLOPATHIC PRACTICES, PROVING HOMŒOPATHIC PRINCIPLES.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—The following fact has just come to my notice, which tends, in a striking degree, to confirm the doctrine of Hahnemann as propounded in his "Organon," axioms 244, 246, 279, and 280,] with their accessory notes, wherein he shows the propriety of small doses, when *homœopathically* administered, and the

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injurious effects of giving large doses of medicine, when homœopathic to the disease.

In treating the agues among European soldiers living in marshy countries, allopaths have discontinued the administration of *Quinine*, on account of the very unpleasant symptoms, headache, vertigo, etc., which it always leaves behind, after the patient is recovered; and they have now commenced to administer the *Bark* in powder, instead of the *Quinine*, imagining, as they *sagely* fancy, that the different other ingredients which the *Bark* contains besides the *Quinine* will counteract these injurious results, not considering that it is their wilful ignorance of the homœopathic principle explained by Hahnemann, and above referred to, which causes these unpleasant consequences, namely, giving doses of a homœopathic remedy—as *Quinine* most certainly is in ague—in too large and too often repeated doses, whereby the *vital principle* is provoked and stimulated to an undue action, instead of merely assisting it to throw off the morbific influence, which excites and continues the ague, in a gentle and quiet manner, by administering two or three small doses of the remedy. But neglecting this, through their stupidity in not investigating the action of *China* on the healthy system, they establish in the patient the pathogenetic symptoms of the drug, and consequently cannot account for these—to them—mysterious results.

Since they have discontinued the *Quinine*, these purely pathogenetic symptoms, headache, vertigo, etc., have considerably disappeared, which can only be attributed to the fact of administering the remedy, *i.e.* the *Quinine* contained in the *Bark*, in small doses, and consequently more in consistency with its homœopathic properties.

If any fact be calculated to induce allopathists to investigate the unstable, unphilosophic, and untherapeutic mode of their practice, one would naturally conclude that such facts as these ought to make them reflect, and hesitate to continue their wilful condemnation of a system of therapeutics of which they are altogether ignorant.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
HUGH HASTINGS, M.D.

Cheltenham, Feb. 9, 1852.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—If, instead of being a homœopathist, I was still in the ranks of allopathy, I should certainly now be forced—better late than never—to examine into and explore the arcana of a system which has drawn forth such volumes of unsparing abuse from allopathic journalists and speakers.

I would reason thus: there must surely be something in this new creed, else why be at such pains to write and talk it down? since if it were the absurdity they strive to represent, it must fade away before the searching light of truth—

> "And like the baseless fabric of a vision,
> Leave not a rack behind."

I think it was O'Connell used to say "he was the best-abused man in Europe." In like manner, we may affirm that homœopathy is the best-abused system, if not in Europe, at least in England, and we, its disciples, come in for a plentiful share of ugly names. It is fortunate that hard words break no bones, else would every one of our bodies be comminuted. Indeed, so trifling is the danger compared with the loudness of the threats, that the garrison, "few, but undismayed," can look even with amusement at the incongruous train of battering artillery pointed against our fortress, which—a moral Ehrenbreitstein—frowns defiance.

"Full of sound and fury," and pre-eminently first, is that great gun, the *Lancet*, whose discharge produces infinite smoke and noise, but none of whose shot, to my perception, "has made a breach in the battlement;" indeed, being formed of a base metal, full of flaws, it is likely soon to burst from an overcharge. I have already observed those who serve it are frightened by its recoil. Next is seen that polished brass piece, the *Medical Times*, less formidable in appearance, yet "willing enough to wound;" but its balls reach our ramparts so nearly spent, as to do little mischief. Then the *Monthly Journal*,, a heavy mortar from which Professor Simpson recently launched a coarse shell, crammed with futile assertions, which burst harmlessly in mid-air. The *Pharmaceutical Journal* follows in the wake, loaded with a more silicated detonating powder, and endeavouring to press unwilling chemistry into the service against us.

What shall we say of the speeches enunciated at sundry provincial meetings by members full of wine and wrath, and of the smaller fry of medical periodicals? Methinks they may be compared to flying artillery, more for show than use. So desperate indeed are allopathic efforts to extinguish us, that they have condescended to enlist the buffooneries of *Punch*, whose wit utterly forsakes him when he attemptsto be jocose at the expense ,of homœopathy.

It is really admirable to observe the marvellous unanimity on *this subject* of a profession united *in nothing else*. Homœopathy is condemned as a pestilent heresy by men who, being wholly ignorant of its principles and practice, must, forsooth, be competent judges. Let them but test it in an honest spirit, and full sure I am, many who came to scoff will remain to practise in our ranks. But they may depend upon this, that neither the "*incredulus odi*" of the sleek self-satisfied practitioner, who is perfectly content with things as they are, and vouchsafes us only a sneer, nor the one-sided assertions of speakers, who ingeniously, perhaps, but not ingenuously, parade long rows of infinitesimal calculations, throwing dust into the eyes of the hearers, but totally suppressing the admirable principle on which our medicines, be the doses large, small, or even infinitesimal, are administered, can long prevent the public from recognising the superior value and safety of homœopathi

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therapeutics, and finally adopting them in preference to the thousand and one theories of the old system, that wondrous piece of patchwork, over which solemn Professors seek to throw the venerable cloak of antiquity, and thus to conceal all defects and incongruities.

Let Doctor Simpson ride his own special hobby as often as he pleases, we do not object. When he has studied homœopathy (as Dr. Russell sensibly observes), we shall be glad to have his opinion of it, but not till then.

We know Mr. Syme to be an able surgeon, and if we were so unfortunate as to require an operation, would place ourselves in his hands with all confidence; but we are not aware what qualification he possesses for pronouncing a damnatory judgment on homœopathy. "*Ne chirurgus ultra scalpellum.*"

Let the *Lancet* rave on. We really feel for it, knowing that self-preservation is the first law of nature. If reckless assertions, coarse invectives, and frantic denunciations were passports to success, *it* must succeed.

To the public we would say, surely it is better to cure patients by minute doses, which do no injury at the time of taking, and leave no sting, than to subject them to massive and severe doses of, in many cases, deleterious substances, which, if life be preserved, often entail grievous sufferings and embitter their after years.

To our medical opponents we repeat, give us, or rather our system, a fair trial, and then condemn if you can; but let not monstrous statements, unsupported by a single fact, be paraded against us as proven truths. By our acts, by our success in encountering disease, we are willing to be estimated, not by the prudent swervings of our chariot-wheels from the deep and dangerous ruts which mark and mar the road of "Old Physic."

I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

February 5, 1852. C. C. T.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I am much surprised that, as the avowed organ and champion of homœopathy, you have not noticed, and that at some length, a matter very seriously affecting the whole body of homœopathic practitioners. I now beg to call your attention to the subject, viz., the draft of the new bill relating to the profession, which is likely to be introduced into parliament the present session. One of the clauses in that bill, as reported in the *Lancet* a week or two back, provides for the expulsion of medical men "guilty of irregular practice."

The *Lancet* is pretty quiet upon homœopathy just now, and no doubt with the object of quietly smuggling that bill through parliament in its present form.

Now I do not believe that anything will actually be done in the present session, because our profession are divided into so many sects and varieties of opinion, that I verily believe no minister would legislate for them; at the same time, it behoves us to be upon our guard, and take steps to oppose the obnoxious clause.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A PRACTITIONER.

Manchester, Feb. 9, 1852.

[We believe that the Association for the Protection of Homœopathic Students and Practitioners has undertaken to watch the bill our correspondent alludes to; and no doubt steps will be taken to vindicate homœopathy, and to put homœopathic practitioners in their right position.—ED.]

CASES BY GEO. STRONG, M.D.

RAPID RECOVERY FROM A FALL.

January 2nd, 1852. Alfred G—, a fine young man, of five-and-twenty, a gardener, was tying a rope around the stem of a pine about to be felled, having previously cut away the principal roots, swayed by the wind, the tree was falling with him, and he instinctively dropped to the ground. He fell upon the sward, from a height of not less than twenty-one feet, the lower part of the *sacrum* receiving the blow, while the trunk of the tree fell beside him, without inflicting any farther injury. It seems he lay unnoticed for a considerable time, being quite unable to move; this was about noon. When I saw him in his bed, whither he had been moved with much suffering, an hour after the accident, he was unable to pass any water; he seemed in pain, and completely prostrated and faint; he could not move or turn in bed without the greatest agony in the loins, *sacrum*, and *ossa pubis*. No fracture could be detected; pulse feeble and slow. *Tincture of Arnica*, twenty drops, of the 3rd dilation, in eight ounces of water—a teaspoonful to be taken every four hours; a compress moistened with the same to be applied to the *sacrum*, and renewed every two hours.

3rd. Soon after the second dose of the *Arnica* had been taken, he slept for three hours. He slept again the first part of the night, but awoke about four a.m., in great pain, particularly in the abdomen, which was tender to the touch; the loins and *sacrum* seem considerably easier; a troublesome, dry, and violent cough has come on. Five doses taken. Apprehending an aggravation, the medicine was discontinued until the evening.

4th. Two doses of *Arnica* taken; had a bad night from the incessant cough; abdomen very tender, but he has been able to stand, and to pass water; excellent appetite.

On the 5th he was up and walking about the garden.

8th. He came up to my consulting-room, complaining of the same constant cough. As he was of a very irritable temper, I decided upon *Nux Vomica* 12, every six hours, until the pain should abate.

10th. The first dose, he said, cured the cough completely; but he has been troubled the last twenty-four hours with a painful, ineffectual desire to urinate; sometimes a little

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urine flowed *guttatim*. He seemed to be much distressed, and asked to have an instrument passed; however, this new symptom being clearly an aggravation from the *Nux Vomica*, of which he had incautiously taken six doses, he was ordered a few papers of unmedicated *Sugar of Milk*.

The next day he reported himself quite well, and able to urinate freely. He can dig, but cannot wheel a barrow yet, or weed, without some uneasiness in the back.

NEURALGIA CURED BY BELLADONNA.

February 24th, 1851. M.s. J. D—, about thirty years of age, the wife of a builder, thinks she is *enceinte;* is a delicate-looking person, and subject to headache, with giddiness. She has been affected with neuralgic pains for the last four or five years, they were but slight at first. For the last four days she has suffered from a rheumatic pain of the entire right side of the head; it is a continual aching, with occasionally an acute shooting; it seems to follow the course of the infra-orbital nerve towards the ear; it does not affect the nose; the face flushes. She is worse by night, and thirsty; the pimple on her cheek is owing to some local application; she fancies that a bright light brings on the paroxysms. *Belladonna*, four globules, of the 6th dilution, in an ounce of water; a teaspoonful every three hours.

26th. Had some relief the same evening, and slept about midnight; the pain has been more endurable ever since; no more flushes of heat; the pain has now shifted towards the ear, and resembles a dull earache; is still thirsty. *Belladonna*, three globules, of the 30th dilution, dissolved in water; a sixth part every eighth hour.

March 3rd. For the last three days she has felt quite well, even at night; there was an increase of pain at first, and particularly of the giddiness. Yesterday, a thick red rash covered the face, with but little itching; it is now gone. The cure has proved a permanent one.

PRESTON HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

CASE I.

CONTINUED FEVER, ENTERITIS, BRONCHITIS.

September 16th. H. B—, æt. 20, seen to-day for the first time. Reported a week ill, and to have commenced with an attack of shivering. Her father, to whom she had frequent access, is only now convalescent from fever. Present state: head rather hot, with pains in the forehead, aggravated by the sitting posture; tongue dry, red, glazed; abdomen rather tense; thirst; pulse 90; bowels regular; sleep disturbed; raved last night.

Bell. 3.

17th. Passed a better night, without raving. Scarcely any headache to-day; complains chiefly of pains across her loins and in her feet. No motion from the bowels since; urine high coloured; abdomen less tense.

Bry. B.

18th. Her head feels confused. Tongue dry and red; constipation.

Nux Vom. 3.

19th. Bowels moved twice; feels easier since; less thirsty; abdomen more soft; pulse 90.

Continue *Nux Vom.*

20th. Slept about three hours last night. Head still confused; pupils dilated; she is averse to light. Some tenderness of abdomen on pressure; tongue white at the edges; red and fissured at the centre and tips; craves cold water.

Bell. 3; *Nux Vom.* 3, alternately.

21st. Increased debility; tongue more foul and cracked; had bilious vomiting in the night; bowels moved three times; abdomen more swelled; winces much under pressure. Slept for three hours. Pulse 108.

Bell. 3; *Bry.* B, alternately.

22nd. Diarrhœa has set in; had six watery motions since last report; tongue same; abdomen same; aversion to noise; respiration quickened; moaning; little sleep since; pulse small, 108, with tendency to rise.

Acon. i.; *Arsen* 3. Warm stupes to abdomen.

23rd. No material change; says she has pains all over her.

Arsen. 3; *Bry.* 3.

On account of her extreme debility at this stage, I was forced to order her a little wine.

24th. Nearly the same. Had about ten fluid stools since last visit; some broken sleep.

Continue.

25th. Is still purged, but not so frequently; has mucous vomiting and thirst; pulse 108.

Arsen. 3; *Rhus Tox.* 3, alternately.

27th. Rather better; slept more last night; less purging; abdomen less tense.

Continue.

October 1st. The stomach is now free from disturbance, and the motions are less frequent and more consistent. Her tongue is rather more clear, but still very sore and fissured. Omit wine and substitute beef-tea.

China i.

6th. The diarrhœa having nearly ceased, I had hoped my patient was over the worst, but a distressing attack of acute bronchitis now came on, with bloody sputa and severe lancinations through the chest. Respiration laboured; countenance expressive of extreme anxiety; debility excessive; pulse 120; sleep nearly lost. This was met by *Bry.* B, and *Phosph.* B, with *Hyosey* i., for the racking night-cough, the others being given alternately throughout the day. The more acute symptoms were removed in about a week, and my report of October 18th shows the chest to be free from sonorous râle; loose cough, with copious white sputa; general improvement; much less thirst; tongue moist, and its fissures healing; motions natural; pulse 108.

China A; *Phosph.* B.

24th. Is not so well, in consequence of

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having taken indigestible food, tongue white; nausea; bowels relaxed.

Puls. B.

27th. Is going on well; tongue quite clean; appetite much improved; cough relieved.

China A.

31st. Convalescent.

In this severe case, which I would term one of gastric fever, supervening after exposure to typhus contagion, I am of opinion that stimuli could not have been dispensed with, and that our remedies, admirable though they be, must have been over-tasked without these adjuvants. This is, I am aware, a disputed point with homœopathists; but, after all, it must be left to the judgment and experience of each practitioner when to give and when to safely withhold.

2. CATARRHAL OPHTHALMIA.

E. A—, æt. 6. Conjunctiva of both eyes injected; eyelids much swollen, and wholly closed; purple swelling under the eyes.

Bell. B; *Merc. c.* i., alternately.

Very much improved, after three days' treatment; opens the eyes fully, and can bear the light; the œdema of the lids is quite gone. For slight remaining redness of conjunctiva,

Sulph. 6. at night.

3. HOOPING-COUGH.

October 4th. H. G—, æt. 3, ill about a fortnight; a full, flabby child. Head extremely hot; face flushed; considerable dyspnœa; tongue foul; appetite impaired; sleep disturbed; the cough occurs in violent paroxysms.

Bell. 3; *Dros.* 3, alternately.

20th. Is very much bettur, both as to the cough and his general state of health.

Continue *Dros.* 3.

This case went on improving, and soon ceased to require medicine.

4. CHRONIC CEPHALALGIA.

A. L—, æt. 42, complexion dark; habit bilious. Had been subject to intermittent headache, chiefly frontal, for many years. The pain usually occurs in the morning, and ceases or is mitigated in the afternoon. It comes on particularly when she is hurried, with a weight over her eyes, and dimness of sight.

Arsen. 3, morning. *Sulph.* 6, night.

By a short course of these medicines she was soon relieved, if not cured.

5. GASTRIC DERANGEMENT, PILES.

October 20th. C. H—, æt. 22, states that she has been ill fifteen months; complains of aching across her forehead, and increased heat of head; tongue dry in the morning; thirst at night; gums swollen; sometimes bleeding; appetite impaired; water-brash; soreness of the epigastrium; bowels much constipated; bleeding piles; urine thick, dark, sometimes milky; cough, with white sputa; cold sweats about the head; low spirits; debility; faintness; pain across the loins; sleeps badly; pulse 120.

Nux Vom. 3, twice a day.

25th. Considerably improved. Head relieved; appetite better. Her bowels have acted every day since.

Nux Vom. 3; *Sulph.* 6.

November 15th. Is looking well. She states that she is remarkably improved in every respect, and has not enjoyed such good health for a long time.

Omit medicine.

6. GASTRALGIA.

October 22nd. A. B—, æt. 25, states that she has been ill for two years. Complains of pain in both temples, with heaviness over her eyes, and dimness of sight. Foul tongue every morning; bitter taste; nausea; soreness at the epigastrium; worse after food; eructations of wind; dry cough, aggravating the gastric pain; leucorrhœa; pains across the loins and in the legs; the right leg swells in the afternoon; has much thirst, and liking for sour drinks. When warm in bed, a red itching rash breaks out on her skin.

Lycopod. 6, morning. *Puls.* B, night.

29th. Headache and gastric symptoms; very much relieved; is still subject to the rash.

Puls. B., morning. *Hepar s.*, night.

November 5th. Says she is quite comfortable now, although before she commenced homœopathic treatment, she could not remain at rest for five minutes at a time, on account of the severity of the gastric pains. The eruption is disappearing. Her appetite being rather impaired, I gave *Nux Vom.* 3, a dose daily, and *Hepar s.* at bedtime.

12th. Came to-day to announce her cure; her appetite being much improved. and the eruption having quite disappeared. She stated that she found the medicine of more value than any she had ever taken.

7. EPILEPSY.

November 15th. J. N—, æt. 60. Has been subject to fits for the last twenty-five years, which occur frequently, and prevent him from following his trade as a weaver. The attacks begin with faintness, followed by insensibility, and stertorous breathing; he bites his tongue, and awakes with cries; memory impaired; has shooting pains in the occiput of a stunning character, and sometimes in the forehead; constipation and urinary difficulty.

Lachesis 6.

22nd He exhibits a remarkable improvement. Has had no fit since. The noise complained of in his head is removed; his memory and hearing are more clear; sleeps much better; appetite improved; bowels regular.

December 3rd. Reported going on well. Is able to work, and considers himself twenty years younger.

8. APHTHOUS DIARRHŒA.

November 18th. Mary J—, æt. 15 months, was brought to me to-day in a wretched, almost hopeless state. Her mother says she has been ill for fourteen days with purging, vomiting, and excessive thirst; her stools are white; her tongue is covered with aphthæ, and her gums swollen.

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Merc. c. 2; *Nux Vom.* 3, four times a day, alternately.

22nd. Very much improved; has no vomiting now; the aphthous spots are healing. She takes food better, and has rested well for the last two nights.

Merc. v. 3; *Nux Vom.* 6.

26th. A further improvement; the purging has nearly ceased. The cure was completed by a few doses of *Merc. v.* and *Sulphur.*

9. GASTRIC FEVER.

December 10th. Alice I—, æt. 6, ill three weeks. Head hot; countenance livid; tongue very foul, brown at the centre and edges, red at the tip; stools dark, slimy, offensive; urine thick and milky; much thirst; pulse 140; dry cough; starts in her sleep.

Arsen. 3, a dose three times a day.

15th. Is looking infinitely better. Her tongue is cleaning; she has less thirst; motions much less offensive and frequent.

Continue medicine.

17th. The amendment proceeds; her colour is very much improved.

Continue *Arsen.*

22nd. Nearly well; indeed the amendment was so great, that there was no occasion for bringing her again to the Dispensary.

10. SORE THROAT.

December 17th. J. G—, æt. 24. Chronic inflammation of the tonsils and pharynx, which he says he has had since his twelfth year. At present has a severe aggravation after taking cold, with some feverish symptoms.

Bell. 3; *Merc. c.* 3, alternately.

22nd. His throat is well. States that he found relief after the second dose.

11. DREGS OF SCARLATINA.

November 10th. Robert F—, æt. 2½. Had scarlatina three months since, and has been ailing from that time. He has a very large head; bloated cheeks, and enlarged abdomen. His face becomes very red and hot sometimes; he picks his nose; has much thirst, and is drowsy by day; has purging, six or seven motions daily, green and yellow; urine milky, becoming thick on cooling. He vomits frequently after coughing.

Bell. 3; *Cina* i., alternately.

15th. Improved; less purging and thirst; did not vomit since; much less cough.

Continue.

29th. Convalescent; has a most ravenous appetite. To take a dose of *Calc. c.* 6, and *Sulph.* 6, occasionally.

12. PNEUMONIA.

December 10th. John C—, æt. 40, had been subject to a cough for the three last winters; is now confined to bed by an accession of cold. Found him suffering from congestive headache, which was relieved by epistaxis coming on. Is hot and thirsty, with foul tongue; pulse 96; considerable dyspnœa; has an herpetic eruption on the upper lip.

There is a general dullness over the chest, and the breath-sound is obscure or altogether inaudible over the inferior two-thirds of both lungs.

Acon. i.; *Bry.* B, alternately.

11th. Passed a tolerably good night, and is much more easy to-day. Experienced relief very soon after taking the medicine. The headache is mitigated; pulse 96. Has a sharp stitch in the left mammary region on endeavouring to take a full inspiration; also pain under the left scapula. The lower lobes of both lungs are particulariy dull; sputa viscid, rust-coloured.

Continue medicine.

12th. Marked improvement to-day; oppression much relieved; pulse 72; tongue becoming cleaner; headache removed; had a comfortable night; cannot well lie on the right side. The lower lobe of the left lung exhibits most dullness, and a distinct crepitus is heard there about the centre of the seventh rib; sputa still rust-coloured.

Continue as before.

13th. Continues to improve. He can lie on either side to-day; his breathing is much more free; sputa tenacious, with only a trace of blood.

Continue.

14th. The chest is free from pain to-day; sputa less viscid, with a slight trace of blood. There is still dullness in the lower lobes of both lungs, but the respiratory murmur is extending, and much more audible.

Bry. B, and *Phosph.* B, alternately.

15th. A further improvement. Sputa free from blood to-day; tongue nearly clean; pulse 68; still some cough.

Continue *Bry* and *Phosph.*

17th. Convalescent.

CHELSEA HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

ON New Year's day a Dispensary, bearing the above title, was established at the Commercial Hall, King's Road, Chelsea. Days of attendance, Mondays and Thursdays, at ten, a.m. Each patient is admitted on the recommendation of an annual subscriber of one guinea, or on the payment of half-a-crown a month. The Medical Officers of the Institution are Dr. Neville Wood and Mr. Daniel Smith, M.R.C.S.E.

Miscellaneous.

A UNIVERSAL GENIUS.—We announced lately the death of Johnson Jex, the learned blacksmith of Letheringsett. He was the son of William Jex, a blacksmith, and was born at Billingford, in this county, in or about the year 1778. In his boyhood he was sent to a day school, but he has often been heard to say, that although he was *sent* off to school for years, he never *went* three months in his life. He frequently walked to Foulshum instead, to look in at the shop-window of Mr.

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Mayes, a watchmaker, who resided there. He did not learn to read or write at school, but taught himself afterwards. His mechanical talent manifested itself at a very early age. With regard to Jex's first experiment in clock-work, the following anecdote is related. When about twelve or thirteen years of age, a watch-maker went to his mother's house to clean her clock; Jex watched him while he took it in pieces, cleaned the works, and put them toge-ther again. No sooner had he left than the boy determined to try whether he could not do the same. He at once went to work, and com-pleted his task with all the skill and exactitude of an experienced hand. From that time he began to turn his attention to watch and clock-making, and eventually attained great excel-lence in the art. When about thirteen years old he became acquainted with Mr. Mayes, of whom mention has already been made. Mr. Mayes's attention was first attracted towards Jex by frequently observing him look in at the window. He at length asked him what he wanted. Jex replied, he "wished to see *that thing*," pointing to a newly-invented instru-ment for either clock or watch-making. Mr. Mayes showed it to him, but did not allow him to touch it. Jex declared he "could make one like it," and he accordingly did so in about a month. Mr. Mayes was delighted with the talent and ingenuity displayed by the boy, and from that time took great pleasure in showing him anything connected with his business. At his death he left Jex a legacy of £50, as a proof of the high esteem he entertained for him.

In early life Jex was by no means robust in health, and he afterwards declared his belief that working at the bout-hammer, at the black-smith's anvil, had been the means of strengthen-ing his constitution and saving his life. Some particulars of Jex's early history are given in Young's *General View of the Agriculture of the County of Norfolk*. We subjoin the following extract, written about the year 1802. "Under the head implements, I must not conclude with-out mentioning a person of most extraordinary mechanical talents. Mr. Jex, a young black-smith at Billingford, at sixteen years of age, having heard that there was such a machine as a way-measurer, he reflected by what machinery the result could be produced, and set to work to contrive one; the whole was his own inven-tion. It was done, as might be expected, in a roundabout way, a motion too accelerated, corrected by additional wheels, but throughout the complicity such accurate calculations were the basis of his work, that when finished and tried it was perfectly correct without alteration. His inventive talents are unquestionable. He has made a machine for cutting watch-pinions, a depthening tool, a machine for cutting and finishing watch-wheel teeth of his own inven-tion, a clock-barrel and fusee engine made without ever seeing anything of the kind. He made a clock, the teeth of the wheels cut with a hack saw, and the balance with a half-round file. He has made an electric machine, and a powerful horseshoe magnet. Upon being shown by Mr. Munnings a common barrow-drill, the delivery by a notched cylinder, he in-vented and wrought an absolutely new delivery; a brass cylinder, with holes, having moveable plugs governed by springs which clear the holes or cups, throwing out the seed of any size with great accuracy; and not liking the application of the springs on the outside of the cylinder, reversed the whole; and in a second now making, has placed them most ingeniously within it."

Shortly after Young's notice of him was written, Jex removed to Letheringsett, near Holt, where he worked as a common black-smith till within the last thirty years. Since that time he has employed workmen in the practical part of his business, but he continued till his decease to live in the house adjoining the blacksmith's shop. The first watch ever constructed by Jex was made after he had settled at Letheringsett, for his friend the Rev. T. Munnings, of Gorget, near Dereham. *Every part of this watch, including the silver face, and every tool employed in its construction, were of Jex's own making.* One of the greatest efforts of Jex's inventive powers was the con-struction of a gold chronometer, with what is technically termed a "*detached escapement*" and compensating balance, which was made long before he ever saw or heard of the "*detached escapement*" — the principle of which has since been so successfully applied by Arnold and Earnshaw. Jex turned the jewels himself, made the cases, the chain, the mainspring, and indeed every part of the watch, except the dial. The very instruments with which he executed this wonderful piece of mechanism were of his own workmanship. It is only by watchmakers themselves that this triumph of skill can be adequately appreciated. *They* know that no single man is ever employed to make a complete chronometer, but that different parts of the mechanism are intrusted to different hands, and that many are employed upon a single watch. This watch is now in the possession of Mr. Blakely, of Norwich.

Such was Jex's thirst for information, and such was his resolution to clear away every obstacle which impeded his progress, that, wishing to read some French works on Horo-logy, he mastered, *unassisted*, the French language, when about sixty years of age! He then read the books in question, but found that they contained nothing which was new to him, he having become thoroughly acquainted with the subject by previous study of English authors.

Another of Jex's inventions was a lathe of extraordinary power and ingenuity, which re-mained in his possession until his death. By means of this lathe, he was enabled to cut the teeth of wheels mathematically correct into any number, even or odd, up to 2,000, by means of a dividing plate. He also constructed a lathe on a minute scale for turning diamonds, which is very complicated in its structure. He in-vented an air-tight furnace door for his own greenhouse, so constructed that the fire would keep lighted from Saturday night till Monday

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morning, thus obviating the necessity of attending to it on Sunday. About ten years ago he invented a method of opening greenhouse windows to any required width, and so fastened that the wind had no power over them. Jex was also an iron and brass-founder, a glass-blower, a maker of mathematical instruments, barometers, thermometers, gun-barrels, air-guns, etc. He understood electricity, galvanism, electro-magnetism, etc., and had a thorough knowledge of chemistry as far as the metals are concerned. Amongst other sciences, Jex understood astronomy, and could calculate the time by the fixed stars. In taking astronomical observations, he was accustomed to make use of his own doorposts and a chimney opposite. He made telescopes and *metallic reflectors*, which are universally acknowledged to be extremely difficult of construction.

He was naturally a timid man, and excessively afraid of contagion; yet he lived in a state of filth which was almost sufficient of itself to generate disease. He never allowed a woman to enter his house for the sake of cleaning it, and his rooms consequently contained the accumulated dust of years. His disposition was shy and retiring; but whenever he met with any one whose tastes were similar to his own, he would converse for hours with the greatest delight on any subject connected with the arts and sciences. He was a man of the strictest integrity, and of unimpeachable veracity. He was *entirely* destitute of the love of money, and sought out truth *for its own sake*, and with no view to any personal gain. Such an example is rare indeed in this grasping and selfish age. He was kind in his manner to the poor, and rarely sent a mendicant away without relief. In 1845, Jex had a stroke of paralysis, from the effects of which he never entirely recovered. His intellect gradually lost much of its original power, and, the last year or two especially, a very marked alteration was perceptible. He was again attacked with paralysis in November last, and his death took place on the 5th of January last. His remains are interred in Letheringsett churchyard.—*Norfolk News.*

Death of the Centenarian John Maclean.—The oldest inhabitant of Inverness died on Wednesday. He had reached the seldom-equalled age of 105 years. Of the many local changes that have occurred in that time he was a living chronicle. A vigilant observer in his youth, and preserving a retentive memory, which the frailties of advanced age but slightly impaired, he was able to recount many out-of-the-way anecdotes, gathered both from tradition and personal remembrance. He recollected, it is said, the introduction here of most of what are now considered indispensable requisites in every town. In his youth there was only a weekly post from the south, by means of foot runners over the hills; and when the weather happened to be coarse, or the runner took "a glass too much," the letters were often several days behind. Afterwards the post was brought thrice a week, by way of Aberdeen. He remembered when the first postchaise was brought here, which continued for a long time to be the only four-wheeled carriage in the district; and about ten years afterwards (1770) the first cargo of coals was brought to the town, one cargo in the year being sufficient for a long time. The people were at first much surprised to find the "black stones" burn better than the good country peats. At that time there was no bank in the town; the houses were mostly thatched; there was plenty of fish and game, and no lack of smuggled tea and brandy, and cheap wine, so that the "merchants and writers" were well off, and their apprentices found them out at night wherever they were, and saw them safe home, though there were no lamps in the streets. The king's birthday was kept with great splendour; "the town's carpet" was carried out to the cross, and there the provost and bailies assembled and drank the claret wine, while the bonfire blazed. He used to speak with great gusto also of the doings when the judges came round; how a cartload of peats was burned in the tolbooth to put away the "bad scent," and then after the criminals were tried and condemned—which were nearly synonymous in those days—the judges, magistrates, and gentry walked up the river to the island in the Ness, crossed in the boat, took salmon out of the cruives, boiled and ate them on the green, with everything else in the style of a grand dinner, and with punch made in a hogshead—nothing less than a hogshead. The provost in those days was Mr. Hossack; he was called the "kicked provost," because he was kicked down a stair by General Hawlay and his officers after the battle of Culloden, in consequence of his remonstrating with them on their cruelty to the poor Highlanders. Latterly it afforded him his chief delight to open out on these reminiscences. His declining years were cheered by the charitable assistance of many families in the neighbourhood. His situation and history having been brought under the notice of her Majesty, when a visitor at Ardverikie in 1847, a donation of £10 was immediately forwarded to him, enclosed in a letter, which the late Mr. Anson, Keeper of the Privy Purse, addressed to "John Maclean, Esq." It found its appropriate destination, however, and the old man was full proud of the royal courtesy. His remains were interred on Saturday, and a great number of our most influential citizens accompanied them to their final resting-place.—*Inverness Advertiser.*

"An error is not the better for being common, nor truth the worse for having lain neglected; and if it were put to the vote anywhere in the world, I doubt, *as things are managed*, whether truth would have the majority, at least while the *authority of men*, and not the *examination of things*, must be its measure.—*Locke.*

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF A PAMPHLET BY DR. ROUTH,

Entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

I.

Scarcely three weeks have elapsed since a work bearing the above title issued from the press. The title is an imposing one. It promises no less than an exposure of the fallacy of homœopathic theory and practice, by means of the very facts which homœopaths have been accustomed to look upon as an illustration of the superiority of the new system over old medical systems of every kind. Whether the promise of the title-page be fulfilled in the course of the work or not, it will be a chief part of my task to inquire.

Although I have undertaken to write this analysis with a very short preparation indeed, considering the magnitude of the questions at issue, it is not to be supposed that Dr. Routh entered the field without a full preparation, or a deliberate purpose. This is neither the production of an idle hour, nor the first cast of the author's views. He informs us, in the first page of his introduction, that "he has been induced to publish in a *separate* form his researches on the subject of homœopathy," which means to say that this is the publication in a separate form of a paper or papers read before a medical society in London, some months ago. My readers will, I suppose, recollect having seen some notice of the discussion which then took place, in the columns of the *Homœopathic Times*. If I lay some stress upon this fact, it is simply to show that this essay has already been some time before the profession, and, if thought necessary, revised and improved.

That, in the opinion of the allopathic portion of the medical profession, this work is expected to do "great things," is evident from the first three lines of the introduction, which runs thus: "At the request of several distinguished friends, both in and out of the profession, I have been induced to publish in a separate form my researches on the subject of homœopathy." From this circumstance alone, even were there no other inducement, I cannot but feel it to be incumbent upon us to enter fully into the consideration of this would-be exposure of the system, which we look upon as having achieved a real reform in the practice of medicine. This it is my intention to do. But, in undertaking the task with so brief a preparation, in the midst, moreover, of all the duties which medical practice entails, and being able to spare for the purpose only a portion of the time which otherwise would be allotted to repose, I claim the reader's indulgence for any defects of style or other imperfections he may notice.

If therefore the reader, having perceived the importance of the subject, will bear patiently with me throughout the course of a few papers, I hope it will be in my power to show that none of the promises held out in the title-page of Dr. Routh's work have been fulfilled.

In the course of this critical analysis it will devolve upon me to consider—1. The motive which led to the researches contained in this work, and subsequently to its publication. 2. The plan and line of argument which form its groundwork. 3. The evidence brought forward in support of the various propositions enunciated by the author; and, lastly, his conclusions.

First, then, what was the *motive* for the preparation and publication of this pamphlet? It was urgent indeed. But with the deep sense of this urgency, and with the consciousness that something must be done, I do not intend to find fault. For it must be recollected that the question at issue concerns the health, the lives, and, consequently, the well-being of the community at large. It is one which, though it may become with the thoughtless a subject of a jest in time of health, is but too keenly felt in times of sickness and suffering. The aim of the author is not, however, very clearly expressed. We get at it more by inference than by the literal meaning of the words. This ob-

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scurity seems to proceed from some mental defect in the author, which results in confusion of terms, and leads him into logical fallacies, without which, if I may here state my full conviction, I believe no such work could be got up.

"This system," says Dr. Routh, "has unfortunately lately made and continues to make such progress in this country, and the metropolis in particular, and is extending its influence even amongst the most learned, and those whose high position in society gives them no little moral power over the opinions of the multitude, that our profession is, I think, bound to make it the subject of inquiry and investigation. Colleges of physicians and medical societies may and justly do condemn it, but their influence is confined to the moral power of the executive over their own members or fellows. The individual members of society at large have no part in this condemnation, and however they may look up with respect to the declaration of learned persons as embodying opinions of some weight, in this inquiring age something more is needed than a mere declaration." (pp. 1, 2).

It is obvious that in the author's mind *inquiry* and *investigation* with reference to homœopathy are equivalent to its *condemnation*, perhaps even synonymous. This twofold notion of investigation and condemnation, as one single process, seems to be the fixed point around which all his other notions gravitate. Perhaps the reader may think this observation of mine unfounded. Let him, however, read the book throughout, and he will feel convinced that it is not so, although possibly it may be prematurely stated in this place.

The admission in the above quotation that *this system has made and is still making progress in this country*, a progress which is styled unfortunate, supplies us with the *motive* which led Dr. Routh to make these researches. A little further on the twofold notion that homœopathy is to be *investigated and condemned*, gives the answer to my first question. The consideration of the plan of the work, and of the arguments forming its groundwork, will show how the author expects to stop the progress of homœopathy, which he so sincerely laments.

Although it would be my aim, in a critical analysis of this kind, to deal only with logical fallacies, were the essay got up as it ought to be, I am compelled, however uncongenial it may be to my feelings, to notice a *mode of argument* which I had thought all controversialists had agreed to banish from their writings, as foreign to their purpose, and only calculated to introduce into them an *animus* which might alike mislead either party, and carry him beyond the bounds of legitimate discussion or inquiry. I am sorry to say that Dr. Routh introduces into his essay elements which *ought not* to be found there, and which, should a new edition of his work see the light, he will, I doubt not, feel it right to expunge: his ardent zeal for a falling cause, which it is evident cannot come out scathless from a searching inquiry, has misled him. I notice this in no spirit of indignation, or anger; for it is not the part of one who unfurls the banner of reform in an important matter to lose his temper, or use hard words. Now it so happens that a great part of Dr. Routh's essay, and by no means the smallest portion of his argumentation, consists in *imputations of dishonesty* in one form or another. Selection and falsification are the chief arguments against homœopathy. I had always thought that imputations upon the *honesty* or *veracity* of individuals were not admissible in controversy, unless the clearest *proofs* could be at the same time adduced in support of such imputations; Dr. Routh gives us none. My readers may inquire how it is, seeing that the various institutions, upon the statistics of which he casts such imputations, are and have always been open to the inspection of medical men,—how it is that no one has as yet adduced a single fact in support of them? I, in my turn, ask also — how is this? I am no judge of, nor do I wish to discover, the motives of men. Dr. Routh is the last man that I should suspect of using deliberately a system of argumentation which is banished from all well-regulated controversy. Therefore, I offer this in explanation of his conduct; he was, as I have said above, misled by his ardent zeal for a falling cause, and, unconsciously perhaps, through inexperience, he has transgressed the limits of legitimate discussion.

I will therefore give Dr. Routh full credit for his really being convinced that he is successful in his endeavour, as expressed by him in the following words—"one thing I have endeavoured to do; it is to treat the subject as fairly and as honestly as I can" (p. 1).

Having thus protested against one of the principal features of the work under review, I will now proceed to consider the plan of the work, and the line of argument carried out in it.

Here I claim the fullest liberty of entering into a careful analysis of the arguments adduced. In the performance of

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this portion of my task I mean entirely to abstain from all considerations of motives, or of anything personal to the author or irrelevant to the subject.

The plan of the work is simply this: after the introduction, we have a chapter upon the theory of homœopathy, and upon the presumed absurdity of the small doses, in which are scattered here and there some assertions which have already been disposed of elsewhere, and which teach us nothing that we did not know before. Next comes a chapter on the circumstances which ought to influence our estimation, by means of statistics, of the value of medical treatment; which is, I may safely say, the best part of the work. In the next chapter, the propriety of taking as our basis in this estimation the general mortality of hospitals is very justly questioned; then follows a review of homœopathie statistics, under the different heads of *Pneumonia*, *Pleuritis*, *Peritonitis*, *Encephalitis*, and *Meningitis*; *Dysentery*, and *Fever*; and lastly, of *Cholera*. In an appendix are given eight pages of statistical tables, which seem to have been industriously and carefully prepared: these tables are arranged so as to exhibit, side by side, the allopathic and the homœopathic results, with the word "alleged" affixed to the latter.

Of the plan of the work I have nothing to say but that it is good, and well worked out. I may, moreover, declare that the author displays considerable ingenuity and skill in the arrangement of his materials: indeed, there are tables of figures in close succession, so managed as to conceal several errors of reasoning and omissions, which it will be a part of my office to point out. At present I will say no more of the materials brought forward in the work as evidence against homœopathy, in a future number of this journal I shall devote sufficient space to the examination of this evidence; I therefore proceed to inquire into the line of argumentation adopted by the author.

It will not be difficult for me to show that the whole work is essentially vitiated by faulty reasoning. Nearly all the author's conclusions are more or less tainted with error, either flowing from premises destitute of proof, or being irrelevant to the question at issue.

(*To be continued.*)

HOMŒOPATHY.

Anniversary Meeting of the Hahnemann Academy of Medicine of New York.—Inaugura Address of the President, Dr. Curtis.

THE anniversary meeting of the Hahnemann Academy of Medicine was held last evening at the Stuyvesant Institute. The address of the President elect, Dr. Curtis, was delivered in his absence, in consequence of indisposition, by the corresponding secretary, Dr. J. W. Metcalf. We give in the following abstract all the material portions of the President's remarks.

The address began with a sketch of the progress of homœopathy, especially in this country, contrasting the present condition of the school with a period little more than twenty years ago, when the late Dr. H. B. Gram was its only representative in this city. Dr. Curtis paid a well-deserved tribute to the memory of that estimable man and learned physician. Allusion was then briefly made to the contributions of Hahnemann to the Materia Medica, and the truly scientific form given to medicine by the recognition of his well-known law, solving relations between disease and medicine that constituted a perverser problem than the riddle of the Sphinx. The main subject of inquiry, the operation of substances recognised by the chemist as forming part of the body, and how far the law *similia similibus curantur* was modified by their agency, was then taken up. On this point the address proceeded.

To determine the relations of medicines to food—the cardinal point of attention—let us examine the various elementary substances in nature, in order to ascertain their relations to the animal economy. We observe, at the very outset, one fundamental difference existing among them, in virtue of which they are divisible into two classes. The first of these embraces those bodies which are either essential to or enter into the composition of the animal frame. The second consists of a class which are foreign to the organism, and the presence of which, even in comparatively minute quantities, disturbs the equilibrium of the functions and induces disease. The former of these, then, comprises constituent or alimentary bodies which, in proper combination, are homogeneous to the animal tissues; the latter are incapable, under all existing circumstances, of healthful assimilation, and hence, in regard to these tissues, are intrlnsically heterogeneous or poisonous. To the constituents belong, as the chemist demonstrates, carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, sulphur, phosphorus, chlorine, fluorine, magnesium, calcium, sodium, potassium, iron, silicium, etc. The non-constituent or foreign class embraces arsenic, gold, silver, platina, tin, zinc, mercury, antimony, nickel, bismuth, and many others.

A little reflection will now satisfy us that the above difference is fraught with important consequences to the pathologist and physician. To prosecute the thought, let us take iron and arsenic as examples. Iron is an indispensable element to blood and muscle, and is found in

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smaller quantities in other living matters; *some* iron, then, is normal or healthy, but neither the solids nor fluids, when sound, contain the least appreciable particle of arsenic. More recent chemical research has indeed occasionally pointed out the existence in the animal tissues of lead, copper, and other substances, not always recognised as constituent bodies; but nearer examination justifies the conclusion that several such are casual or extraneous rather than constant, while the total absence of all physical proof of the presence of many other elements found in nature, stamps the above as a legitimate distinction. To return, iron, then, is one of the animal elements, and, as such, subject to excess and deficiency; but is this the case with arsenic? The answer is no—the least portion of it in a healthy living organ is hostile. In this view, therefore, iron is dietetic, an orderly and constant supply of it being necessary to the economy; arsenic, on the other hand, is potentiai, dynamic, or alterative, its use being not for nourishment, but for exerting a modifying power over the morbid vital processes, until such time as, these being corrected, it may be eliminated from the organism. The function of arsenic in medicine, and of the class to which it belongs, may be aptly compared to that denominated *catalytic* in the language of chemistry, as will be readily understood by the scientific student. The conversion of starch, by boiling it with diluted sulphuric acid, into several kindred bodies, among which are gum and grape sugar, furnishes one of the most interesting examples of this phenomenon. In this result the acid undergoes no change, its simple presence being adequate to ensure the transformation of starch into sugar. The decomposition of oxygenated water by the contact of platinum or silver, is a still purer catalytic result. The effects of the acid and silver under these circumstances, taking place without combination or loss of the agents, illustrate what is termed dynamic action.

The criticism just rendered on iron is, of course, equally applicable to every nutriment; and again, the relations of arsenic hold uniformly good of all dynamic or catalytic elements. I have already remarked that these nutritive substances, in due proportions, compose the animal fabric; when they fall beneath this normal or regular standard, this deficiency just as certainly entails disorder as their excess. The one state, in fact, is starvation; the other repletion. Without lime, for example, the secretion of milk fails; the bones and teeth become soft, or are arrested in their development; without soda no bile can be formed; without phosphorus and magnesia, the nervous tissues lose their energy, and the impaired condition of the brain is evinced by loss of memory, frightful headaches, and impending paralysis Ghastly paleness, prostration, faintings, and coldness attend the lack of carbon; deprived of sulphur, the hair would rapidly cease to grow, and the absence of iron is marked by lividity, disordered digestion, passive dropsy, and other symptoms of an anæmic or chlorotic character.

The food we receive daily furnishes the natural source of these elementary substances, and serves during health to repair the waste of these matters through the skin, kidneys, and other excretories, consequent upon the voluntary and vegetative functions of the economy. Hence the equilibrium is preserved. Inordinate use of particular organs induces a disproportionate consumption of their substance, and hence of the elements from which this substance is formed. Excesses in watching, thought, and muscular effort, for example, by overtaxing the brain and muscular fibre, render these tissues rapidly effete, and therefore cause an exaggerated demand for their peculiar *pabulum*, as phosphorus and iron. It is very easy, thus, to perceive how a highly artificial and voluntary life, so distinctive of man, breaks the vegetative balance and produces impoverishment of nutrition. On the other side, inefficiency of the excretory organs, bad medication, and vicious feeding lead equally, sooner or later, to a surplus of one or more vital constituents.

These remarks suffice briefly to illustrate the subject, and prepare us for the next step in the investigation, which is evidently to determine their practical bearing on the elaboration of the Materia Medica, and consequently their influence in the treatment of the sick. If the views I have taken be correct, it is plainly erroneous to suppose that the cure of a malady always requires positive treatment—that is to say, *something* to be administered in the way of medicine. Cases are presumable, nay demonstrable, in which the main duty devolving on the rational physician should be the exclusion of some specific organic element, ascertained to preponderate already in the organism.

The only method known to the vitalist of determining the action on the human body of various substances, is watching and noting the changes which ensue on administering them to the healthy subject. Such was the course pursued by the modern master, and such are the results submitted to the world in his "Pure Materia Medica." Among the substances there *tried* and displayed, we find many of the nutriment class, viz., ammonia, lime, magnesia, soda, phosphorus, silex, carbon, potash, sulphur, iron, etc. It is in place, however, to observe here, that he contemplated only a purely positive pathogenesis, the nature of his experiments having been such as to ensure a class of symptoms dependent on an excess of the substance under trial. Hahnemann's records of dietetic agents are indeed particularly remarkable for symptom-groups of an apparently antagonistic character. These are classified by him as primary and secondary effects; the first, according to his opinion, being the product of the remedy; the other, the reaction of the constitution. These secondary groups may represent, then, a comparative, but by no means an absolute or abnormal, deficiency of vital elements. I have already, however, said sufficient to show that positive pathogenesis can never exhibit the indications for the employment of special nutritive elements. To assert the contrary would in act be to maintain that surplus and lack of thes

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elements are betrayed by precisely the same phenomena.

Such an assumption is contrary to reason and experience. We derive hence the important practical conclusion, that it behoves us to enter upon a new order of drug-provings which shall embrace the negative pathogenesis of all the alimentary substances. These trials will reveal the individual changes of the organism under the privation of particular elements, and thus pave the way to a system of accurate special dietetics. Studied in this light, the positive symptoms of dietetic bodies would in all cases point out not their homœopathicity, but their identity or isopathic quality in diseases they resemble. This position is of the gravest import, and, if not erroneously founded, shows that positive results of organic elements, now exhibited in our Materia Medica, are to be regarded as contra-indications of their use in disease. I should avoid iron, for example, when its positive symptoms indicated its excess in my constitution, or I should choose silex, because the symptoms of its negative trials corresponding with my own, declared an impoverishment of that particular constituent.

Thus, abstinence from acids is found proper in softening of the bones, and I have known inveterate catarrhs permanently ameliorated by the abandonment of common salt (chloride of sodium). Yet, apart from the distinctions I have just drawn, phosphoric acid would seem homœopathic to bone-softening, and no remedies in our service appear more appropriate in pulmonary catarrhs than the different forms of soda.

The prosecution of negative or positive trials would obviously present far greater difficulties than have been encountered in drug-provings hitherto. Each experiment of this kind must be grounded upon the systematic exclusion from the diet of the article on trial. It might in all probability be impossible totally to eliminate it; perhaps a reaction of it to the *minimum* would be sufficient, especially as these researches would require to be tested and perfected by the co-operation of the physiological chemist. Lime-provings would admit, for instance, of the use of potatoes, peas, and occasionally, perhaps, of oatmeal and wheat; it is much more abundant, however, in rye and barley, whence preparations from these would weaken the result; again, animal, muscle, milk, cheese, and shell-fish abound in lime, and therefore would be totally incompatible. The nutritious grains generally contain a great deal of silex, and hence unbolted meal would spoil the pathogenesis of this substance. In the composition of rye, we find about twenty-one times as much oxide of iron as in potatoes; the trials of iron would consequently make the former inadmissible; the yolk of eggs are so rich in iron, that their continued use as diet might elicit the symptoms of a surplus of this metal.

It is not my purpose, however, to extend here the details of this subject, but only to expose its principles, extent, and connection with chemical and dynamic medicine. There yet remains to be considered one important feature of the action on the constitution of assimilatable substances. I mean their behaviour in states of combination. The effects of vegetable and mineral acids generally present great varieties, and are very different from what, judging from their analysis, we might have been led to conjecture. Carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, and oxygen, so congenial to human want in the form of egg-white and cheese, combine either all or in part, in different poisons, from the paralysing strychnine to the still deadlier prussic acid.

Oxalic and nitric acids, and the wide range of vegetable alkaloids, are examples of this truth. Of these articles, the homœopathic Materia Medica embraces a large number; the symptoms of many of them are minute and extensive, and we prescribe them daily with greater or less success.

Such results appear at first sight to controvert the views I have offered, and to demonstrate no essential distinction to exist between the laws of pure food-elements and medicinal bodies. This doubt will cease to embarrass us if we consider that worn-out tissues, which obviously consist of alimentary elements, could never be extruded from the system were not certain combinations of these elements possible, inharmonic to and incompatible with the healthy structures; in other words, if carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, and oxygen, were under all circumstances, capable of appropriation, it is plain enough that the economy would never part with them at all. Hence it is evident that the presence of excretory matter in the constitution must necessarily awaken reactions or morbid manifestations, and in so far simulate the general results observed from the presence of strictly foreign elements.

This elucidation of the apparent discrepancy alluded to above, if not sufficiently full for future purposes, seems nevertheless satisfactory, and gives a clue for unravelling this intricate and interesting matter. Minute quantities of nitric, oxalic, and I believe prussic, acid are digestible—that is to say, capable of being resolved into their constituent elements, and thence of appropriation according to the normal laws of the economy; in larger quantities, however, the vital powers proving insufficient to rend or decompose them, they retain their proper organic combinations unbroken, and hence act as dynamic or chemical integers. This view is strengthened by the fact that in certain morbid states, cyanogen and nitric and oxalic acids pass the kidneys, thus proving the cognate vital relations of these and similar bodies to lithic acid and urea, which are the limits of the vital disintegrating power. The laws of vegetable remedies appear identically the same, and we find that heat, moisture, and exposure so far break up their constitutions as to prevent them from exciting a unitary action. Many poisonous plants are rendered edible by culinary processes. This explanation will perhaps serve also to show why we are not unfrequently disappointed in the operation of composite constituent remedies, their dynamic effect being lost if they undergo assimilation.

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Before concluding what I have to present on this topic, I wish to be distinctly understood as not proposing to supplant vital or dynamic by chemical medicine. My object has been to show the boundaries of each, and their mutual relations. Chemical medicine is inadequate to meet functional changes. On the other side, dynamic remedies will never, *per se*, feed the starved organs, nor render superfluous the banishment of some constituent prone to accumulate. It seems highly probable that our results in chronic diseases are often transient; because the reviving activity of affected organs is overwhelmed by reiterated material causes.

Hahnemann's psora doctrine is, in fact, only the rudimental philosophy of subjective disease. His views herein are indeed differently received by his followers—by some dogmatically embraced, by others, totally rejected; happily they in no case practically affect the great body of homœopathy or dynamic medicine proper, but they outshadow the significance of substance, as well as function or form in disease, and show that his far-reaching mind detected the necessity of a scientific method applied to the former. Dynamic and elemental medicine are really inseparable; they are related as passion to subject; the first concerns effects, the second causes; the grammar of the one is homœopathy, of the other chemistry. I shall have accomplished enough for the present, in behalf of this theme, if I succeed in arousing the attention of the school to its reality, and to the importance of exhaustive or negative trials of food-elements. That such trials must prove of great clinical value, and conduce especially to our success in the treatment of chronic diseases, appears beyond a doubt. An examination of the nature of crises belongs here, and is clearly interwoven with the above considerations, but it would be technical, and hence out of place in an address of a partly popular character.

After submitting this subject to the Academy, the address pointed out the grand practical aims of the profession as deserving of all honour. To accomplish these, the duties demanded at the bedside at the hands of the physician, are indeed the crowning triumph of the practitioner of medicine. They are the crucial trial of his learning, sagacity, and skill. Beyond the study or the lecture-room, medical speculations have no solid abiding-place. They savour of the lamp and of solitude; they pall upon the uninitiated, and perchance recoil at the contact of realities as from men in armour. It is the practising physician who bears the merit and demerit of medical systems. He it is who does battle with the ruthless legions of disease. Of him the patient requires not precedent, not authority, not hypothesis, but action and success. His current life is a constant repetition of this ordeal. To do his work, therefore, and do it well, deserves an honoured membership in his art. None comprehend so well as he the actual condition and the actual needs of his profession; none understand, like him, the dignity of a diagnostic, and the value of a cure. His hope in in the redemption of his art from the dusky recesses of conjecture and concealment, and its restoration to certainty and precision. His faith composes the possibility of these great objects. To ignore them as the ends, however distant, of medical research, is to abandon its goal, and degrade its practice to the level of instinct, or the chaos of accident.

The patient study of the phenomena exhibited by the organism in sickness and in health, and of its modifications from other causes, is the only means we possess of advancing in this pursuit. Such contemplation must lead to the evolution of principles which reveal the *nexus* of Nature's operations, and which, once obtained, give us mastery over their order, and thus enable man to realize the imprescriptible lordship of his destiny.

To give this, in its fulness, the chemist directs the flashing battery, or toils over the careful tube, the philosopher dives into the hidden sympathies of the magnet, anatomists call the microscope to aid, and psychologists introvert their thought and gaze on soul. Each intent upon his work, sees not, growing slowly beneath his hands, the towering pile which the sun of some auspicious morning shall suddenly irradiate to glorious symmetry.

For the present, then, let us address ourselves to the useful, nay, indispensable tasks, prophetic of this completeness; tasks which, though not triumphal, are manly, and even noble, and entitle us to a welcome brotherhood in that scattered band, who shall, one day, hold festive re-union, and whom Art shall emancipate in her wide-spread sabbath.—*New York Tribune*, Jan. 15, 1852.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, MARCH 6TH, 1852.

We are very glad to acknowledge that many of our friends, non-medical as well as professional, are showing a fresh and lively interest in this periodical.

In our present number will be found a very interesting account of the London College of Physicians in 1618, when the "British Solomon" was on the throne—

"Tempora mutantur nos et mutamur in illis."

Vast have been the changes in the Pharmacopœia since that time; and manifold have been the changes in medical theories and in medical practice. There has been, unquestionably, a greatly improved hygienic system, and this, apart altogether from allopathic practice, has prolonged the mean

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of life, when the physical existence is maintained under favourable circumstances.

Our readers will be glad to learn that the proprietors have just concluded important negotiations, which will enable them, at no distant time, to enlarge the journal, and to carry out the original design—not pecuniary gain, but the popular spread of homœopathy, and defence of its persecuted disciples. Success in every way has, at an earlier date than could have been expected, crowned their efforts. The *Homœopathic Times* will therefore soon be made, through powerful allies, with scholarly and independent editorship, totally unbiassed and unconnected with PARTY influence, the vehicle of communicating whatever may be of interest, abroad as well as at home, in the literature as well as the practice of homœopathy.

To enable the Editor to accomplish this fully, there should be the cordial support of the medical officers of hospitals and dispensaries, with weekly statements and reports of cases, and it is not doubted he will meet with every assistance and co-operation that may be desired at the hands of our American and foreign colleagues; and it is to be hoped that those of our own country will afford vigorous help.

There are already one quarterly, one monthly, two fortnightly, and one weekly, homœopathic journals. This fact speaks for itself; it shows how large our public is, and what interest they take in the progress of homœopathy.

While our shortcomings and our failures of whatever kind are freely acknowledged, full allowance should be made, and the wonder is, not that the *Homœopathic Times* has done no better, but that it has done so well, when the means and materials are considered that have been put at the disposal of its conductors.

As this is a kind of re-announcement of aims and intentions, of hopes and expectations, for the future, it is proper to thank most cordially the numerous subscribers, and not numerous contributors, who have heretofore supported this periodical. which has been always conducted with thorough independence, and shall be conducted so to the end of the chapter.

For whatever has been wrong, or deficient, or superfluous, it is right to apologize; over the past there is no control, the future is not ours, but of the present every one should make the best use in his power.

We suggest to our readers, to those, if there be any, unfriendly as well as those friendly to us, the wisdom and propriety of this passage from the Swan of Avon:—

"*Ham.* Let them be well used; for they are the abstract and brief chronicle of the (Homœopathic) times.

"*Pol.* I will use them according to their deserts.

"*Ham.* Odd's bodikin, man, much better: use every man after his desert, and who shall escape whipping? Use them after your own honour and dignity; the less they deserve, the more merit is in your bounty."

But, after all, we are conscious of deserving well, with certain limitations, of all who love the Cause of Hahnemann, which, as we have remarked, is the cause of humanity.

Correspondence.

YE COLLEDG OF PHYSITIANS. LONDON.—1618.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I have for some months past taken in your interesting periodical, and have earnestly studied the "principle" and "theory" of that marvellous system, homœopathy. I have tested the great efficacy of her "practice" in some of our dear children, as well as in my own case; have avowed myself her convert, and have endeavoured, in my humble sphere, to promote her cause among my relatives and friends; and having convinced my husband of the reasonableness of her claims, he was persuaded the other day to become a patient of that accomplished physician Dr. Quin, her firm, faithful champion, who planted her fair standard on British ground. Long may it wave by the side of its ancient royal sister; and may they together brave, for more than "a thousand years, the battle and the breeze."

But having taken up your paper of Jan. 31, I read to my husband some "Resolutions of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association.—Report on Irregular Practice."

"*Irregular practice!*" How startling! It was true we had tried it, and found it succeed to admiration, being free from many evils of Regular practice, and at the same time possessing a power over disease, both acute and chronic,

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truly astonishing. But then, being "*irregular*," ought we to continue it?

I must here tell you a little of what I have had to struggle through, before I attained to that confident state in which your Number 131 found me. For I have had to overcome the three grand difficulties alluded to in Mr. Sampson's charming essay, "Truths and their Reception:" first, the prejudices of an early education among highly esteemed medical men of the old school; secondly, the force of habit, that "second nature;" and thirdly, self-esteem and interest; for I was a *very* successful allopathic practitioner, rarely having occasion for any other, although we have had a rather numerous household. But now, having to deal with such delicate tissues, and refined, almost ethereal, medicines, with whose specific virtues I am not yet fully acquainted, my knowledge is quite insufficient for many cases; and my choice and, as I considered them, excellent prescriptions are dead letters; and my nice, French-polished medicine chest—once such a pleasure and treasure—is of little use, except to keep the tinctures of *Arnica* and *Rhus* in, the poor *Calomel* being thrown away; but all this would have been less than no sorrow, but rather gladness, had it not been for Number 131.

And what was to be done? One thing remained, which might finally decide us: once more to review both sides of the question. This, however, was not needful then, so far as regarded homœopathy, as I had lately been again reading many parts of Mr. Sampson's other lucid, masterly work, besides some of Hahnemann's most celebrated treatises; this simplified my task, and I began to reinvestigate allopathy.

With numberless books on this topic, from "the never-dying Hippocrates" to the present day, by talented and acknowledged authors, containing every variety, even to direct opposition, of opinion, both as to its theory and practice, it might have appeared, at the first blush of the matter, very easy to find one which would in every respect answer the purpose; but I could not be thus easily satisfied. Finding that Hahnemann's new and, as it seemed to me, very exquisite and valuable doctrine was "stigmatized" as a modern "delusion," I began to think is it not possible that innovations and "imposture" and "delusion" may be rife among the other party? This was a striking idea; and a sudden thought occurred to me—I will not take any modern guides on this subject; for however valuable is the accumulation of facts and cases, yet is there a danger that, while truths have been flashing out, errors have been creeping in; therefore, let me go back to the good old "Times," and endeavour to find that era when allopathy, that is to say, Regular practice, was in the zenith of its excellence and glory. But how was it possible to discover that very nick of time? I could not refer to those antique systems, each of which, to use Pliny's expressive words, was "a system of conjectures;" nor even to the twilight of Roger Bacon, when the darkness and dross of alchemy seem to have been inextricably mingled with the bright light and pure gold of research and experiment; and yet I must go beyond an Abernethy or a Darwin. And I could not, as it proved, have decided better than I did, when I fixed on the days of the "learned monarch," James the First,—a period I was evidently most fortunate in selecting, as the following considerations will prove:

It was then that any unhealthy, feverish excitement of the glorious Reformation had subsided, leaving the calmness and dignity of truth behind; and the illustrious reign of Elizabeth had intervened, giving opportunity for the development of rare talents in many philosophers, both literary and scientific; and it was before the wild tumult of the revolutionary perturbation of Cromwell and his adherents had begun its troublous ferment; just when an enchanting Shakespeare, an intrepid Raleigh, an unrivalled Bacon, an inductive Harvey, a metaphysical Donne, and an erudite Selden were contemporaries. Yes, that was the precise epoch to which I might unhesitatingly refer, for the soundest views in each "*regularly-educated medical practitioner.*"

Having but few books at home on the subject, my husband not being in the profession, I availed myself of a very extensive library in the neighbourhood, to which I have free access; and looking over a variety of works, I made a suggestive discovery. Perhaps, Sir, *you* well know, although I did not, that in James the First's time "The Colledg of Physitians," in London, published one of their most famous dispensatories, "Pharmacopœia Londin." (of which they have lately put forth a new and, I should suppose, a somewhat modified edition, but I have in vain endeavoured to find it in the library before alluded to), which had for its authors a number of the most distinguished men of the day. Among them were:

Henry Atkins, Doctor of Physick, the King's Physitian in Ordinary, and President of the Colledge of Physitians.

Theodore de Mayerne, Doctor of Physick, and Chiefe Physitian to both their Majesties.

John Craig, Will. Paddy, Gent., the King's Physitians in Ordinary; Thomas Trear, Thomas Moundeford, Mark Ridley, Edward Lister, Richard Palmer—seven of the eight chosen.

John Craig, the younger, Chiefe Physitian to Prince Charles.

Matthew Gwinn, the King's Physitian to the Tower.

William Harvey, the King's Sworn Physitian.

Leonard Poe, the King's Physitian to his Household.

John Raven, the Queen's Sworn Physitian. With others whom it might be tedious to enumerate.

Here was truly a "chosen" set of names; and now, if I could but find this celebrated compilation, what comfort and satisfaction I might expect. And I *did* find it; not the copy "compiled in the Latin tongue," with which I might have been a good deal perplexed, as I am not a first-rate classic, but "A Physicall Directory, or A Translation of the London Dispensatory, made by the Colledge of Physitians in

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London; being that book by which all apothecaries are strictly commanded to make all their physick.

Persius. "Disce, sed ira cadat naso, rugosaque sana."
Cicero. "Non nobis solum nati sumus sed etiam patriâ."

And this work was not only written and sanctioned by them, but there was "A Brief of his Majesty's Royal Proclamation, commanding all and singular apothecaries of this realm to follow this Pharmacopœia lately compiled by the Colledg of Physitians of London, under pain of our high displeasure; willing and commanding also hereby all majors, sheriffs, justices of peace, constables, etc., to be aiding and assisting; given at our Palace of White Hall, 26th of April, in the sixteenth year of our raign of England, France, and Ireland, and of Scotland 51, 1618."

How intensely gratifying was this! I opened the volume, turned over its pages, and what a constellation of the most brilliant sparklings of science and of "gallant experimental" wisdom did it contain!

I found also in this copy, what had before been considered as more unattainable than even the philosopher's stone, "a royal road to learning;" for on the cover was stamped in gold letters, "Gift of G. III."

There was an address from "The Colledge to the Candid Reader, commencing in a highly benevolent strain: "Physick, which gives thee health, wisheth good health to thee, and that it may the better provide for thy health, it hath built up this new apothecaries' shop;" and it was indeed a well-stored one. First came the "Simples: roots, barks, woods and their chips or rasplngs, herbs and their leaves, flowers, fruits, buds, seeds or grains, gums, tears, liquors and rosins, juyces, things bred of plants, living creatures, parts of living creatures, things belonging to the sea, mettals, minerals, and stones;" then followed the "compounds; compound waters, physical wines, physical vinegers, decoctions, syrups, compound syrups, syrups made with honey, rob, lohochs, preserves, conserves, species or pouders, electuaries, pills, troches, oyls, compound oyls, oyntments, plaisters, cerecloaths, chymical oyls, chymical preparations, the way of making extracts, the way of making salts of any kind of vegetables;" and to conclude, "preparations of certain medicines very necessary for apothecaries."

Some of these were carefully arranged in classes:—"The five cordial flowers, the five emollient herbs, the four greater hot seeds, the four lesser hot seeds, the four greater cold seeds, the four lesser cold seeds, the five greater roots, the two roots, the five lesser roots, the five capillary herbs, the four pluretical waters, common pot flowers, three stomach oyls, four hot ointments, four cold ointments, four ointments fit for chyrurgiens; precious fragments of saphire, granate, emerald, jacynth, sardine, ruby, pearls, amethist."

Among the very many recipes were, as you, Sir, may easily suppose, admirable remedies. These were, "Aqua mirabilis" and "aqua cœlestis;" "aqua protheriacalis" and "aqua cordialis frigida," "Saxoniæ," "syrup of roses solutive with hellebore montanus," and "syrup of roses solutive without hellebore," "a majesterial syrup of scabious compound," and "a majesterial syrup against melancholly," "syrup oxysaxccharum symplex Nicholaus," "sea-sand," "froath or foam of the sea," "species electuarii diatrag," "acanthe frigidi," "species electuarii diacal," "aminthes compositæ Fernelius," "cat's head," crab's eyes," "frog's liver," "oyl of swallows," "oyl of scorpions," "oyl of foxes," "unguentum diapompholigos nihili," "eclegma of squils," "emplastrum metroproptoticon," "agsick trochiocated," "troches of vipers," "lohoch sanum et expertum," and "mundificationum ex apio."

But even now you will scarcely realize the extreme value of this Pharmacopœia, unless I add a few details, which may be most acceptable to some of your readers, if their resolutions have been shaken by the "Resolutions of the Provincial Association; and to commence, let us glance at some extracts from their Materia Medica Pura:

"The head of a cole-black cat being burnt to ashes in a new pot, and some of the ashes blowen into the eye every day, helps such as have a skin growing over their sight; if there happen an inflammation, moisten an oak-leaf in water and lay over the eye. Mizaldus saith he hath (by this one only medicine) cured such as have been blind a whole year.

"Toadstone, being applied to the place, helps the bitings of venemous beasts, and quickly draws all the poyson to it. It is known to be a true one by this; hold it neer to any toad, and she will make proffer to take it away from you, if it be right, else not.

"Gold is temperate in quality; it wonderfully strengthens the heart and vital spirits; which one perceiving very wittily inserted these verses,—

> "For gold is cordial; and that's the reason
> Your raking misers live so long a season,

However, this is certain, in cordials it resists melancholly, faintings, swounings, feavers, and all such like infirmities incident either to the vital or animal spirit."

It is very interesting, Sir, in searching these archives, to catch here and there glimpses of what we, perhaps in our vanity, consider as the discoveries of later days. Is not the following one strictly hydropathic?

"Sea-sand, a man that hath the dropsy being set up in it, it draws out all the water."

And again, are not these forebodings of Mr. Rutter's wondrous magnetoscope, or at least of the mysterious results of the labours of Galvani, Volta, and Gauss?

"Raw silk heats and dries, cheers the heart, drives away sadnesse, comforts all the spirits, both natural, vital, and animal." What an importance does this give to the suggestion you have perhaps lately heard, of the probability of the cultivation of the mulberry tree, and of the silkworm, in our own land, so as to make silk a staple article of our commerce.

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"*The common Preparation of Filings of Steel* Take of filings of steel, cleansed by a load-stone, washing them in clean water, and drying them; then sprinkle them well with sharp wine vineger, stirring them well; dry them in the shaddow, often putting fresh vineger to them, so let it stand thirty daies, afterwards heat it into very fine powder, and keep it for your use.

"In such steel as is prepared by the fire with brimstone, you must note that unless after the burning it retain a smatch of the tast of vitriol, it is good for nothing."

You may be pleased to know, that the Colledg spoke very strongly of the effects of *Bryonia alba;* which, although "ill to be tampered with by the 'unskilful,' is yet held to be wholesome physick."

So true is it, that

"In the perfect circle of creation, not an 'atom could be spared,'
From earth's magnetic zone to the bind-weed round a hawthorn."

But the testimonies to homœopathy, and even to the infinitesimal dose, are very striking.

"The lungues of a fox, well dried (but not burned), is an admirable strengthener to the lungues: see the lohoch of fox lungues. The liver of a duck * * strengthens the liver exceedingly.

"The flesh of vipers being eaten * * resist poyson exceedingly, neither is there any better remedy under the sun for their bitings, than the head of the viper that bit you, bruised and applied to the place, and the flesh eaten; neither any comparable to the stingings of bees and wasps, etc., than the same which stung you, bruised and applied to the place.

"Swallows, the ashes of them being burnt and eaten, helps sore throats, being applied to them.

"The bone that is found in the heart of a stag is as soveraign a cordial, and as great a strengthner to the heart as any is, being beaten into powder.

"Jacinth strengthens the heart, being only worn in a ring. Cordamus saith, 'it increases riches and wisdom.' Amethist quickens the wit, and is profitable in huntings and fightings.

"Elks claws or hoofs are a soveraign remedy for epilepsy, though it be but worn in a ring; but, saith Mizaldus, it must be the hoof of the right foot behind."

Can we not most evidently perceive in some of these hints a decided, though feeble, yearning of the medical heart of those days, after the grand, though simple truth in therapeutics, enunciated by our "immortal Hahnemann"—*similia similibus curantur.*

I have little space for the "compounds;" but I scarcely like to omit all further allusion to them; they are very numerous. I may select two or three; it is too early in our English season for the composition of "oyntment of swallows," as it requires "sixteen swallows, whol and alive," and "May butter," besides the three other "simples," to commence with; and perhaps "oyls of scorpions" would be scarcely suitable for our English clime, as it would take "of scorpions, by number, thirty;" but "oyl of foxes" does sem more patriotic, so I venture to give that.

"*Oyl of Fozes, Mesne.*—Take a fat fox of a middle age, wearied with hunting, and new killed; the skin and bowels being taken away, and the bones broken, cut into many parts, boyl him in white wine and *conduit* water" (what weight would this give to the arguments in favour of 'the high-pressure systems being adopted by the commissioners of our metropolitan water-works'), "of each six pound, till almost half be consumed, scumming it dilligently; then mix with it four pound of old sweet oyl, common salt three pound, the flowers of sage, time, of each a pound; let it boyle till almost all the water be consumed, then ad water (wherein a handful of dill and time have been boyled) eight pound; boyl it again over a gentle fire, to the consumption of the water, then press out the oyl, and if any watery substance remain amongst it, separate it with a funnel, and keep the oyl for your use.

"It is exceeding good in pains of the joints, gouts, and pains in the back."—*Translator.*

We may presume that the "Manica Hippocrates, his sleeve, and strainer made of woolen cloath, sewed together in the form of a sugar-loaf," is the one intended.

This might be sufficient to induce many of your readers to commence a personal acquaintance with our sage apothecary; but as many of your country friends may not be as conveniently situated as I am for this privilege, I cannot refrain from a slight further trespass on your indulgence, while I give a surpassing remedy, already referred to by our author.

"*Lohoch of Fox Lungues.*" I should premise that "lohoch" is an Arabic word, called in Greek, ἐκλέγμα, in Latin, linctus, and that "it is in respect of body, something thicker than a syrup, and not so thick as an electuary.

"The use it was invented for was against the roughness of the windpipe, diseases, and inflammations of the lungs, difficulty of breathing, colds, coughs, etc.

"Its manner of reception is with a liquoris stick, bruised at end, to take up some and retain it in the mouth till it melt of its own accord.

"*The Preparation of Fox Lungues.*—Take of fox lungues, being fresh, the asperia arteria being taken away, wash them diligently with white wine wherein hysop and scabious have been boyled, dry it gently in an oven, but burn it not, then lay it up, wrapped in wormwood, horehound, or hysop, *dried.*"

"*Lohoch of Fox Lungues. Mesne.*—Take of fox lungues prepared, juyce of liquorish, maidenhair, annis seed, sweet fennel, seeds of each an ounce, sugar clarified with coltsfoot, water fifteen ounces, the things being beaten which may be beaten, and brought into very fine pouder; let them be made into a lohoch with the sugar.

"A. Mesne appoints sixteen ounces of honey, and no sugar nor uncertain quantity of coltsfoot water; and reason itself will tell you honey is most cleansing."—*Translator.*

"A. It cleanseth and uniteth ulcers in the

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lungues and breast, and is a present remedy in phtisicks.—*Translator.*

"Note.—*Phytick* is an ulceration of the lungues, and the very same disease usually called a consumptio of the lungues."

If this recipe could only be generally adopted, what an entirely new character would our English fox-chase assume; one might have felt that it was a pursuit scarcely worthy of so much of the time and money of our noblemen and gentlemen, merely for the destruction of what appeared to be an insignificant and useless animal, far different from the noble stag, or even the timid hare. But now how important do our foxes become, carrying, as they do, the remedy for some of the direst diseases in our country. We might then expect soon to have a very valuable new treatise, "on the rearing and management of the fox, with a special chapter on the treatment for the full expansion and healthy action of its lungs." How inferior in real worth, are "les foies gras de Strasbourg." And then the reward for that signal act of heroism, being "in at the death," will no longer be "the brush," but "the lungues;" and the careful mother's earnest desire for her young collegian, during the winter vacation, will not be "my dearest boy, be sure you put on your respirator," but, "Edward, dear, take care to bring home the lungs;" and we may fancy we almost hear her gentle but anxious voice, while directing her still-room maid to take away the "asperia arteria," and to use the wash of wine, and all the precautions necessary for the "compound."

As to oyls of "minerals and stones," I had better pass them by, as the sensible translator observes,—"Having perused these oyls following, I would willingly have left them quite out, I mean the manner allotted by the Colledg to make them, because I fear they and truth are *separatists.*"

This might appear somewhat severe upon the Colledg, but as the expression is ambiguous, may we not believe that the oyls are what are intended?

There was one receipt which might be extremely useful.

"Mathiolus, his great antidote against poyson and pestilence;" and it is truly *great*, and we may imagine exceedingly and peculiarly beneficial and potent, as it consists of about a hundred and twenty "simples," besides several "compounds," which are composed of nearly a hundred and fifty ingredients; but as several of these are only repetitions of others, we may state them perhaps at the moderate number altogether of one hundred and seventy-seven.

"The title shows you the scope of the author in compiling it; I believe it is excellent for those uses. I want time to examine what alterations the Colledg hath made in it, or whether any or none."—*Translator.*

These extracts from the recipes may suffice, although a large number might prove very interesting—

"Cum multis aliis, quæ nunc perscribere longum est,"

and indeed, some of them are of too cannibal a nature to insert here, as they might greatly shock the delicate nerves of many of your fair subscribers, who are not accustomed to such studies, and are far more in accordance with the manners and customs of the darkest ages of New Zealand and the Sandwich Islands, than for the enlightened, peaceful times of our benign, beneficent, beloved sovereign Queen Victoria, and her philosophical, philanthropic, princely consort, Albert.

In conclusion, Sir, I cannot do better than transcribe a few passages from an address of "The Translator to the Reader," being singularly suitable for our *own* "*Times.*"

"Courteous reader,—It is a proverb not more vulgar than true, that he that looks on in a game may see as much into it as he that playes. It cannot but be confessed, that this nation hath been playing a sad game a long time. The prize which we now play for, is THE LIBERTY OF THE SUBJECT. This is the part which some think is so sluggishly acted; but I am of opinion will speedily be ended with a joyful plaudite upon the English stage. So far as I can see by the help of my *optick nerves (whether it be intromittendo species or extramittendo radios, it matters not much) the liberty of our common-wealth (if I may call it so without a solecisme) is most infringed by three sorts of men, [b] priests, physitians, lawyers yet I accuse not all of those faculties, trades, or (if I may be so bold without offence); monopolies, for that were a bad trade that had never an honest man in it. *The one deceives men in matters belonging to their souls, the other in matters belonging to their bodies, the third in matters belonging to their estates.* Amongst these, physitians walk in the clouds, their waies being not so discernable to a vulgar view, as the waies of the other two are; and that's the reason men are led by a company of proud, insulting, domineering doctors, whose wits were born above five hundred years before themselves. Would it not pity a man to see whole estates wasted in physick, both body and purse consumed upon outlandish rubbish? Is it handsome and well-beseeming to see a doctor ride in state, in plush, with a footcloath, and not a grain of wit but what was in print before he was born? But some self-seekers (of whom I expect to be traduced for the translation of this book) will be objecting against me for quoting the vertues of the recepts, of which I meet with one in the epistle of the Colledg to the reader, viz., it tends to the destruction of the common-wealth, because thereby ignorant fellows will be induced to the practice of physick, and, therefore they say they wrote it only to the nurslings of Apollo. But I, if Apollo had served the *nine Muses* so as they serve the apothecaries, viz., hid all his art from them, they would have no more wit than *nine geese.* 2. All the nation are already physitians. If you ayl any thing, every one you meet, whether man or woman, will prescribe you a medicine for it. Now, whether this book thus

"* Indeed the discerning of these things belongs to the internal not the external sences."

"b. Romish."

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translated will make them more ignorant or more knowing, any one that hath but a grain of understanding may easily judg. 3. All the ancient physitians wrote in their own mother tongues, and native language. Mesne, Avicenna, Averrois, Rhazis, Serapio, etc, in Arabick. Galen, Hippocrates, etc., in Greek. Paracelsus, in High-Dutch. Did these do their countries good or harm, think ye? What reason can be given why England should be deprived of the benefit of other nations? Worthy countrymen, the Colledg doth in effect say, that you are the greatest fools under the sun; are you not much engaged to them, think you? I am confident there be those in this nation, that have wit enough to know that the *Papists* and the *Colledg of Physitians* will not suffer *divinity* and *physick* to be printed in our mother tongue, both upon one and the same grounds, and both colour it over with the same excuses.

"For my own part I am now in the prime of my age, therefore not affected with the lightness and vanity of youth, nor the dotage of old age. I am not at any private interest in doing this work, but purely the good of my country. I never received (that I know of) the least prejudice by any of the Colledg which might procure desire of revenge in a melancholly breast. I cannot boast as the Colledg did, that no errours are committed by the printer or my self. If it be childish, 't is the liker to my coppy. I hope the ingenious will favorably pass by my failings. Charity usually dwelleth in generous breasts; if this be kindly accepted, it shall be an engagement to me further to open this famous (though too much abused) art of physic to you, and withal alwaies to remaine your servant."

But the quick, hurried beat of the alarum warned me that the "early closing hour" was at hand; the clock struck four. I committed the fascinating volume to the care of one of the attentive, polite librarians, returned home, and sat down *a devoted homœpathist.*

Believe me to remain, Sir,
Your obedient subscriber,
UNA MADRE.

London, February 17, 1852.

P.S. If any of the knights-errant of the *Lancet*, should be so ungallant as to doubt the accuracy, the verbal *literal* accuracy of these quotations, let him make a pilgrimage to that palace of delights, the British Museum, and consult for himself, our sagacious apothecary and gentleman.—Press mark, $\frac{G.\ a.\ 1}{442}$

P.P.S. Do you not think that several of the medical men of the present day must be lineal descendants of some of the physicians in James's time? They have the same surnames, and so many of their drugs are of the same nature as theirs, and I could suspect their spirit is very similar; for after the translator has given a recipe, in which one of the ingredients is "white sugar one pound two ounces and two drachms," remarking, "this is notable—they should have added, two grains and a half and half a quarter," he adds, "I hope they (the Colledg) do not hold arbitrary government—they make such arbitrary receipts."

MODE OF KEEPING HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—It is my fate to be continually coming in contact with persons who have been under homœopathic treatment, and who tell me that they have found no benefit from it; others, again, admit that they have received benefit, but that they do not like the strict system of dietetics which is sometimes required, and therefore relinquish it. However, when I submit these parties to examination, particularly the first class, I find that it is they who are to blame, and not the system in question. Some there are who will not abstain from using camphorated dentifrices, others from strong scents, and other objectionable agents, but the most in fault, and I believe the greatest transgressors, are those who leave their medicine exposed, either to the full glare of sunlight or to the weaker but still powerful diffused daylight.

In order to give some of your readers an idea of the powerful influence exerted by light, I shall enter rather fully into particulars.

If we enter an ordinary chemist's shop, and examine the liquids in the bottles, we shall find loss of original colour, depositions of powders, muddiness of the tinctures, and in some of the delicate yet powerful compounds total decomposition; we find the bottles containing powders completely incrusted in front, but not at the back; and in every part of the shop we shall find strong evidences of the power of light. Now if such be the case with medicine in a concentrated state, what will happen when it is reduced to an infinitesimal quantity diffused through a clear liquid? The only wonder to me is, how we succeed so often.

But many will say, we can put it into a dark bottle, and then we shall be safe; but it unfortunately happens that dark-coloured bottles are generally blue, and are therefore useless. In order, therefore, to adopt a remedy, we must have a knowledge of the power we have to deal with.

An ordinary sunbeam is composed of three distinct principles—light, chemical power or actinism, and calorific or heating power. White glass allows the three to permeate it thoroughly; blue glass obstructs the illuminating power to a great extent, but offers no obstruction to the actinic rays. Yellow glass, on the contrary, admits an immense quantity of light, but is a perfect barrier to the chemical power. In proof of this we may expose the most sensitive photographic paper under a yellow glass to the bright glare of the sun for hours, without the least change. A more instructive proof is the following:—Place two pictures, one under a yellow glass, the other under a deep blue one, and take an impression from each by any photographic process; the one under the deep blue glass, although nearly invisible to sight, is perfectly represented, while the other will not have made the slightest impression.

From this it is perfectly evident, that if we wish to preserve our medicines unchanged, we must use bottles stained of a light yellow (that

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with oxide of silver is the best). The slight additional expense will certainly be no obstacle to the introduction of the stained glass for medicine-chest bottles, and for using as a regular recipient of the medicines when under treatment. Bottles are now made and graduated for persons to dissolve their powders in, most of them fitted with stoppers, though it would be an improvement to have a hole entering the bottle through the stopper, at right angles, to prevent the ingress of dust.

When we reflect on the character of our medicines, and the cases of life and death in which they are often used, we cannot be too careful how we preserve them.

Commending this to the especial notice of the homœopathic chemists, I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

HELIOS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—We live in an unbelieving age, in which too many men refuse to believe everything that they cannot exactly comprehend, and that they have not themselves seen; while with strange perverseness, rejoicing in their blissful ignorance, they refuse to test new discoveries, or to make the slightest effort to satisfy themselves as to their truth or falsehood. I trust I am a little in advance of some of these *philosophers*, and that I am ready to receive new discoveries upon good evidence, and to put them to the test, where I can, to satisfy any lingering doubts I may entertain on the matter.

On reading Dr. Gregory's translation of Reichenbach's work, I was perfectly satisfied with the evidence there produced in proof of the existence of odyle, as made manifest to numerous witnesses in luminous emanations from the poles of magnets, etc. etc. I lately had an opportunity, which I eagerly embraced, of experimenting in person upon the existence of this odylic light.

A young man has been travelling through the west of England, lecturing on electricity and magnetism. He formed, by means of a powerful galvanic battery, a horseshoe magnet, capable of supporting nearly three hundred weight. I got him to bring this down into my wine-cellar, from which I had carefully excluded all light, and to my great satisfaction I found that, out of a party of nearly twenty persons, ladies, gentlemen, and servants, more than one-half, including myself, saw a bright flash of light whenever the armature of the magnet was removed. Two of us, of whom I was one, saw a succession of luminous flashes from the poles of the magnet after the armature was removed.

One lady, by her own account, saw a luminous horizontal appearance, following probably the line of the armature when fixed on the magnet. There could be no mistake or fancy in the matter, as several voices frequently at the same instant called out when the light was seen, and were able to distinguish it at once from the sparks produced by disconnecting the wires of the battery. The lecturer saw nothing, and was much astonished that we did; he was perfectly satisfied of the fact, and hoped to make further experiments on the subject. We found that we could see nothing until the eye had got accustomed to the darkness, and shaken off the images impressed upon it on coming out of a lighted room. We had been engaged all the evening watching experiments at the lecture, and staring at dissolving views and chromatropes, which was a bad preparation of the eye for the inspection of the odylic light. I feel satisfied, for my own part, that on another occasion, when the eye had been less tried, I should see more of the luminous emanations from the magnet than I did on the night in question.

I send you this communication as one instance to show that it is much better to test a new discovery, than to deny its truth upon the grounds of our previous knowledge or ignorance.

I have also tested the truth of Reichenbach's statement with reference to the benefit to be derived by invalids, especially persons liable to any kind of hysterical or other fits, from their sleeping with their heads to the north. Reichenbach states that many persons suffer great inconvenience from restless and sleepless sensations, when lying with the head in any other direction, such symptoms being most unpleasantly developed when the head is placed to the east or west. According to Reichenbach's theory, these strange results arise from the odylic currents of the earth. Be this as it may, I have tried the effect of sleeping with the head to the north in a few cases, and in two of these with very marked results. In one case, a little boy, of between three and four years, has been changed from a very restless to a very sound sleeper; in the other, a servant-maid in my house, who is liable to hysterical and fainting fits, has from a very bad sleeper been suddenly, much to her own astonishment, transformed into a very sound one. Where persons sleep badly, I should strongly recommend them to put their heads to the north and try the result, even though they do not receive Reichenbach's theory on the subject. To adopt the scripture language, let us "prove all things, and hold fast that which is good."

Faithfully yours,

A NON-MEDICAL OBSERVER.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.

PROFESSOR BRANDE delivered a very interesting lecture at this Institution on Saturday, the 28th Feb., on the refining of sugar. Having given a brief chemical history of the staple sent to this country to be refined, he proceeded to explain, very fully and clearly, the method by which the raw material is converted into the beautiful crystalline products in general use in this country. This consists in dissolving this staple in boiling water: to this solution is added lime-water and blood, which enable the refiner to get rid of many of the impurities invariably associated with raw sugar. The liquor is then passed through filter bags on to a bed of animal charcoal, which deprives the solution of most of the remaining impurities. Here Mr. Brande

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spoke in high terms of some improvement in the construction of filter bags, the invention of Dr. Price. The liquor so prepared is then boiled in a vacuum-pan,—the invention of Howard. Heat is destructive to sugar, and the vacuum-pan, enabling the refiner to evaporate at 140° of Fahrenheit (instead of 212° required in the open vessels formerly employed), is now generally used throughout England. The liquor having been thus boiled, is let down into a vessel called "the heater," where it is stirred about for a few minutes, at a slightly elevated temperature, for the purpose of increasing the grain. The mass is then placed in moulds, with the apex downwards, in which is an aperture which is closed with a peg; after remaining in these moulds for twenty-four hours, the peg is removed, and that part of the mass that has not crystallized runs through the hole. A small quantity of the sugar is now taken off the whole of the base of the mass, and mixed with water. The water percolates, washing the crystals in its passage. A material called magma (that is, water saturated with white sugar) is now employed. This material also percolates, washing every crystal in its downward course, and depositing the white sugar, of which it was composed, in the interstices it has made. The mass, after this operation, is left for a few hours, then taken out of the mould, covered with paper, placed in a stove heated to 120° Fahrenheit, and kept there for two days, after which it is fit for the market. The syrup which drains, as we have seen, from the potted mass is submitted to a subsequent treatment, and made into an inferior kind of refined sugar.

The learned professor passed a high eulogium upon certain rotary or centrifugal machines lately invented, for separating the syrup just alluded to from the crystalline mass; and also on a machine invented by M. Van Goethen, of Lembecq, for drying loaves; the latter, however, on account of its great mass and the velocity required, he feared might be attended with danger, which had been the case, in fact, as we understood him to say, in one or two instances.

The lecturer, in conclusion, adverted to certain chemical agents that had been suggested as being superior to blood and lime for defecation—alumina was one; but the drawbacks, he said, to its use were such that he did not expect it would ever be generally employed. There were also other chemical agents, but none of them claimed any particular attention, excepting that known by the name of Dr. Scoffern's process. It was now, he observed, two years since he brought this subject before his audience, on a Friday evening in January. He then stated that it was, chemically speaking, a very beautiful method of refining; that the agent employed—acetate of lead—although a poison, admitted of being extracted with the greatest ease by means of sulphurous acid; and that the test required by the inventor to be used to determine whether the whole of the lead employed had been extracted, was so easily and cheaply prepared, and might be applied with such facility, that no trace of lead could be left in the sugar so manufactured, except through the most unpardonable carelessness. "I expressed," he continued, "the hope that so efficacious and beautiful a system of refining would obtain public favour, and I am now happy to find that there are at least two refineries employing this process on a large scale in this country. But whatever the effect of this process," he concluded, "applied to the refining operation, may prove in a commercial point of view, it is to the sugar-growing countries that I look to see its maximum advantage realized."

The lectures at this Institution are of a far more popular character than they were formerly. Any one possessing ordinary intelligence, and having had the advantage of such an education as is usually given to ladies and gentlemen (and of which science forms but a subordinate part), can now fully enter into and appreciate the topics discussed. And delivered as these lectures are, by some of the most distinguished men of the day—such as Faraday, Brande, Playfair, and Mantell—we cannot too strongly urge on our readers the advantage to be derived by attending this theatre of useful knowledge.

For ourselves we shall make a point of publishing from time to time, some such brief sketch as the foregoing, whenever the lectures shall appear to us to possess more than ordinary interest or instruction.

THE MEDICAL REPORT OF THE BARNSTAPLE HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

A GENERAL meeting of the subscribers to this Institution was held on Friday, the 20th instant, the Rev. J. H. Gosset, chairman; John Joce, Esq., M.R.C.S., Medical Officer.

During the past eleven months, 230 patients have been admitted to the benefits of the Dispensary, and with the following results:

Cured	161
Relieved	52
Died	2
Discharged	2
Remaining under treatment..	13
	230

The Medical Officer is desirous of submitting to the subscribers that by far the major part of the patients had been long previously under treatment at the allopathic institutions or elsewhere. The results are therefore in the highest degree satisfactory, and sufficiently attest the success of the homœopathic mode of treatment. The patients who died were both admitted in an advanced stage of consumption.

In the absence of the late treasurer, the Medical Officer has much gratification in announcing that Earl Fortescue has kindly forwarded a second donation of £5 towards the support of the Institution.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF A PAMPHLET BY DR. ROUTH,

Entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

II.

Having concluded my last paper with the assertion that "nearly all the author's conclusions are more or less tainted with error, either flowing from premises destitute of proof, or being irrelevant to the question at issue," it is necessary that I should show cause for such an assertion. This will be done in the course of the present paper.

It is always good in scientific research to consider well the ground upon which we stand before we proceed upon our course. It is necessary, moreover, to mark out the road we intend to follow before we enter into matters of detail, in the intricacies of which we might become so tangled, that to extricate ourselves would be an achievement all but impossible. The traveller journeying in an unknown country, who, on the brow of a hill seeing an immense forest before him, through the mazes of which he would have to thread his way, should neglect to select, in the distant horizon, some mountain peak or other conspicuous object to serve as his guide when engaged in the windings of the labyrinth below him, would be looked upon, not only as devoid of common sense or prudence, but also as deserving of destruction, should such a fate be his. In scientific research the landmarks are neither mountain peaks nor objects already existing in nature. They are mental conceptions, but as such, and although merely acts of the mind, they are as inevitably connected with the very foundations of human intellect, as the irregular surface of the earth is with the purposes for which it was created.

These conceptions are called, in scientific language, *hypotheses*, which mean suppositions, or simply questions. Hypotheses are usually looked upon as mental conceptions in a more advanced state of realization than mere questions; as when, for instance, hypotheses are made to play the part of theories, but it is an error. Allopathic medicine is full of these theories. There would be no evil in this if it were *always recollected* that hypotheses are never more founded than mere *suppositions* ought to be, yet the habit of assuming hypotheses *as probable*, has led to the assumption of many of them as real facts in ordinary medicine. I need no further example than one of the very fundamental points in medicine—namely, the assumption that *bleeding is useful*, nay, *necessary*, in inflammatory diseases of a severe character. This has always been looked upon as a fact which could not be doubted, at least it has been so looked upon by the immense majority of physicians. Yet subsequent experience, the result especially of homœopathic practice, has shown that this fundamental point in the creed of nearly every physician is a mere *hypothesis*. It has been proved that it is *not necessary; neither* has it been shown to be *useful*. Indeed there is pretty strong evidence to the contrary; this evidence being no less than the practice *now* followed in large hospitals at Vienna and Leipsic, under the direction of learned physicians, whom we might style *allopathists*, were it not that the appellation *hygienists* is more appropriate to them.

But what is the use of hypotheses, the reader will ask, if they are capable of leading us into such errors? My answer is, they are never to lose the character of hypotheses, they are never to hold a place in our estimation as worth anything more than mere suppositions, until fully verified by carefully and properly conducted investigations.

I crave forgiveness for this *apparent* digression. That it is not entirely beside the question the reader will perceive, when shortly he will be introduced to the facts of which Dr. Routh's work is made up.

But there is a principal reason why I have thought it necessary to show that hypotheses or questions, if limited to their true office, and never losing their character as suppositions, may be useful as guides to

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direct us in our researches in difficult or intricate investigations.

Now there is one signal advantage to be derived from their use, both by the reader and by the investigator himself. By the former, for he is thereby enabled to follow the author in the details of his investigations, without fearing to be misled; his guides will tell him at once when the author swerves from the correct course, and when he returns to it. By the latter, for he has before him the means of again and again examining the course upon which he is proceeding, and of ascertaining whether it be wavering, circuitous, or direct.

Again, the fact that an author distinctly states beforehand the questions to be solved, the course he intends to follow in order to attain their solution, is, in itself, to the reader a *guarantee of truth.*

It is not so with the sophist. His method of entering the field is neither bold, nor open, nor frank. He proceeds cautiously to lay down some principle which is to be *the conclusion itself,* but he carefully guards his intention from too clear a view. His course is then circuitous, ambiguous, and doubtful; it is neither open nor tangible, and therefore not easily detected. He quietly assumes inferences from his principle at starting; these are brought out casually without much show, but nevertheless assumed; then his course continues to be equally obscure, until, at the conclusion, we find the assumptions from his principle stated at the outset brought forward *as correctly inferred from his researches,* and from these assumptions, arranged as premises, he draws a conclusion, What? His conclusion is the very fact or principle which was laid down as proved at starting. In this mode of conducting an investigation *into matter of fact,* several logical fallacies may be necessary. For instance, we have necessarily an *assumed* premise, then it is necessary to argue in a *very large circle,* and to encumber the various steps of the progress with as much irrelevant matter as possible, in order to conceal the weak part, namely, the *assumed premises.*

I am sorry to say it, but I cannot avoid doing so, the above is exactly the picture of the essay before me.

In dealing with it, therefore, I mean to be careful to follow the proceeding laid down as a guide in the commencement of this paper. I shall take care to have my landmarks, in order not to become involved with Dr. Routh in inextricable confusion.

I will therefore begin by laying down an hypothesis. Let us suppose, for instance, the object of the author to have been a *bonâ fide* inquiry into the merits of homœopathy. Starting from the superiority the statistics of homœopathic institutions exhibit—he might call it "alleged," if he chose: for this we would allow him the fullest liberty, for the plain reason that an hypothesis is in reality only a supposition —proceeding in this manner, he would perhaps have drawn out a simple argument, in the syllogistic form, for the sake of greater accuracy. This argument would read thus:—

I. Any (or every) medical system which presents results manifestly superior to those produced by the ordinary modes of treatment, is *relatively* of more value as a means of curing disease. Homœopathy presents results superior to those produced by the ordinary system. Therefore, homœopathy is relatively more valuable.

This would have been the first step in his inquiry; the point to be ascertained being the *truth* or *fallacy* of the premise, "*homœopathy presents results superior to those produced by the ordinary system.*" With its truth or fallacy, homœopathy *as a system*—let not this be forgotten; for the author does admit that cures are sometimes obtained in the old system by homœopathic practice (see p. 6, *line* 9 *and following lines*)—must stand or fall, not *absolutely* be it remembered, but *relatively* to the ordinary system.

If this point were ascertained *upon sure and undeniable evidence,* it is obvious to every person endowed with common sense that *homœopathy would no longer be a flourishing system, but a thing of the past.*

But if this inquiry resulted in proclaiming the superiority of homœopathy, *as a system,* over the ordinary practice, the inquiry would not end here. It would lead to a further step, which may be stated in the following form:—

II. Every system which presents results superior to those observed when cases of disease are left to nature *alone,* is to be declared as really possessing the power of curing disease.

Homœopathic results are superior to those observed when cases of disease are left to nature alone. Therefore—

Homœopathy really possesses the power of curing disease.

The point to be investigated here is whether, under homœopathic treatment, patients recover more frequently and more rapidly, than when they are left to nature alone.

The above conclusions are of course denied by allopathists; but I here solemnly declare, that the rejection by allopathists

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of these conclusions is purely of an *à priori* character, never having been made after a careful inquiry into the two points above stated. As a proof of the correctness of this declaration, I give Dr. Routh's book itself; a book professing to condemn homœopathy, after a full, a fair, and a candid inquiry into its merits. I want no other proof of the truth of the homœopathic tables standing at the end of it, side by side with the allopathic, in the full glow of their superiority. Let this be said, however, with the caution to the reader that, although the correctness of these tables is disputed in the body of the work, although they present the results of homœopathic practice in institutions ever open to any medical man who may choose to visit them, although the proof of their fallacy would have been easy if they had been really false, *no proof whatever is brought forward.* Of course, I do not look upon the suggestion of possibilities, imputing inaccuracy or *dishonesty* to those who have drawn them up, as proofs of their falsification. Were the institutions closed to the inspection of allopathists, the consideration of such possibilities would then be legitimate, and the imputation of trickery, selection, and dishonesty in a measure excusable; but as the case stands, these suggestions are indicative of the weakness of the allopathic cause, whilst the imputations are neither more nor less than unwarrantable *slanders.*

I cannot quit this topic, to pass on to an examination of the author's reasoning, without observing that every homœopathist has gone through the above inquiry for himself, before adopting homœopathy. I cannot say whether every one has reasoned *precisely* as I have stated in the above two forms of argument, but I may aver that the reasoning of each must have been substantially the same. Each has first formed his conclusions regarding the superiority of homœopathy *relatively* to allopathy; this was an easy task. But not so with the next, for the terms of comparison were not to be found, seeing that it is far from easy to show that allopathic results are not in reality *greatly inferior* to those observed when the cases are left to nature. Dr. Routh glances lightly beside this question. It is a rock which would split the author's frail bark, as it has already proved the destruction of the more mighty fabric, which sailed gallantly and boldly in the same waters. I allude to the *British and Foreign Medical Review.* But I may state it as my belief, that no man can practise homœopathy with care and watchfulness, without soon perceiving that his remedies really have the power of *curing disease.* But of this more hereafter. I now proceed to expose the argumentation of the author of "The Fallacy of Homœopathy."

There are two leading arguments in Dr. Routh's attack upon homœopathy; they proceed side by side, and are alternately put forward as the occasion may require, when dealing with individual facts. The first may be stated as follows:—

1. Every medical system which pretends to cure disease by the agency of medicines totally powerless to influence disease, is false as a system of cure.

The homœopathic system does this. Therefore the homœopathic system is false.

It will be observed that the whole of the argument is based, as regards homœopathy, upon the assumption of the premise—*the homœopathic system pretends to cure disease by the agency of medicines totally powerless.* The truth of this assumed premise is denied by homœopathists, yet upon it, *although denied,* the author builds up his whole case.

He starts from a proposition, given in the introductory part in three places, in the body of the work in four, and again in the conclusions. This proposition appears each time clothed in different words.

In the introductory part it is worded as follows:—

1. "The belief, therefore, that anything so small could have any effect on disease, is too ridiculous to require comment." (p. 8).

2. "Thus are we compelled to conclude that the infinitesimal doses, neither by analogy nor upon any theoretical grounds, can have any power upon the human frame." (p. 16).

3. "The infinitesimal dose is, therefore, inert; but even small doses, not infinitesimals, may be so." (p. 17).

Be it remembered that these propositions —I might say *conclusions*—are given in the introductory part, before any of the facts usually brought forward by homœopathists in support of the efficacy of the means employed are even noticed. It is by the light thus afforded by this *à priori* conclusion that the facts themselves are to be examined.

In the second part of the work the author asserts, without producing any proof of his assertion, that "in most cases not influenced by mind, the cure is effected by the dietary rules enforced and not by the mere globule" (p. 36).

At page 55 he gives us the history of a case of extensive double pneumonia with delirium, lividity of countenance, etc., observed by him in Fleischmann's hospital, and says, "yet, without a single poultice,

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cataplasm, or other treatment than *the inert globule*, rest, emollient drinks, a warm atmosphere, and starvation, she got well."

A few lines above he alludes to "the homœopathic treatment, which an allopath will consider as no treatment at all."

In the conclusions we have—"In the homœopathic cures effected, globulism is absolutely for nothing."

Now upon this proposition, which is the beginning and end of his principal line of argument, he has based a mode of reasoning, which I have above reduced into the syllogistic form for the convenience of the reader. It is not, however, to be supposed that it is an easy task to find out what he means to say until we reach his conclusions. The fact is that, feeling the weakness of his case—knowing that the whole of it depends upon the assumption of the premise, "the homœopathic system pretends to cure disease by the agency of medicines which are totally powerless"—he has preferred to allow a veil of obscurity to hang about it, whilst, arguing in *a very large circle*, the various steps of his progress are almost unnoticed.

His argument, the question to be proved being *whether homœopathic medicines have the power to cure or not*, runs thus:—

1. Homœopathic medicines are totally inert.

2. Cures are brought forward to show that these medicines really possess curative powers.

3. But these medicines, being inert, cannot be the means by which these cures are produced.

4. Therefore the cures must be due to other causes.

5. Moreover, it so happens that age, locality, and other circumstances, may modify the results of disease.

6. Moreover, homœopathists have an interest to deceive.

7. Therefore it is probable that their cases are "selected," "cajoled," and the statistics "falsified."

8. On the other hand, allopathic statistics are accurate, honest, and to be depended upon.

9. But they present results inferior to the homœopathic.

10. Now, considering that allopathic practice is useful and powerful, such an inferiority cannot be real.

11. Because, if real, it would imply that the homœopathic medicines are powerful enough to cure disease.

12. But these medicines are totally powerless.

13. Therefore it is certain that the statistics are false.

14. Now, "after what, I trust, has been an impartial and temperate inquiry," I am compelled to arrive at the conclusion that—"in the homœopathic cures effected, globulism is absolutely for nothing, *and the practitioner who would attribute such cures to globulism, must be considered as either full of simplicity or a friend to quackery.*" (Conclusion, p. 75.)

This, reader, is the author's line of argument, divested of all its incumbrances and of its ornaments; in its bare form it is not likely to catch either friend or foe. That it is neither overdrawn nor incorrectly stated, I leave it to you to judge, book in hand.

I have said, that one of the author's fallacies is the assumption of a premise which is unfounded. In his argument this appears, as already stated, several times in the course of his work.

But I have also said that there is another fallacy; the latter consists in proving what is irrelevant to the question at issue—the *ignoratio elenchi* of logicians.

Some samples of this fallacy are apparent in the fourteen steps enumerated above. But we have it in its most striking form in the conclusions at the end of the book.

There are homœopathic cures, there are statistical tables, this nobody denies. There is, moreover, something which, borrowing Dr. Routh's phraseology, I may call "an unpleasant fact" for the allopathists, which is that these tables exhibit a rate of mortality under allopathic practice *greatly exceeding* that which occurs under homœopathic practice. This fact is so unpleasant to allopathy that it is keenly felt that, unless it be explained away, the progress of homœopathy will not be arrested.

Dr. Routh therefore boldly undertakes to perform the task. By means of various considerations, some of which are very ingenious, arranged, moreover, with tables of figures, he is led to infer that perhaps the cases may have been inaccurately classified; that they may have been selected; that perhaps there may have been some trick. In fact, he gives a host of possibilities, points at "unfortunate coincidences for the homœopaths" as indicative of "cajolery;" but of these presumptions he brings *no proof whatever*. I shall have, when dealing with the details of his book, to enter more freely into the various points; therefore I may dismiss them at present, having brought them forward merely to show how, from such premises, he deduces the second series of his conclusions—that the homœopathic statistics are falsified, and therefore that their comparison with the

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allopathic is unfair, and not to be depended on. This conclusion is irrelevant to the question at issue; namely, *whether homœopathy has really the power of curing disease in a degree superior to allopathy*. And yet it is so placed, that no one who does not see through the fallacies of the book will rise from its perusal without exclaiming, "Homœopathy is a fallacy!" This last conclusion is not given by the author, neither is it deducible from the four propositions which form his second series of conclusions, but it is so arranged, that the conclusion last named will *by most persons* be drawn from it almost inevitably. Therein lies the sophism.

It may here be noticed again that the chief part—I ought perhaps to say *the whole*—of Dr. Routh's argumentation is based upon the assumption that homœopathic medicines are *totally inert*; the reason for this assumption being the supposed impossibility that a quadrillionth, a sextillionth, or a decillionth of a grain of medicine should possess any power to cure disease. Upon this single assumption his denial of some of the homœopathic results, and his doubts of the accuracy of homœopathic statistics in general are based. If it be really founded, his work will stand; if not, it will inevitably fall, crushed by its own weight.

Dr. Routh professes to have entered into deep and lengthened researches respecting homœopathy. He has written a book which has met with the approbation of the Medical Society of London, upon the faith, of course, of the researches in it being complete. What will the members of that Society think of the work, when they find out that the foundation-stone upon which the whole rested, is after all but a foundation of sand?

Dr. Routh assumes that homœopathy consists in the use of quadrillionths, sextillionths, and decillionths of a grain of medicine only, and upon that assumption he bases all his reasonings. Upon that basis he rests his motives for accusing several German physicians of dishonesty, denies their cases because, forsooth, the cures are produced only by "an inert globule!"

Now, Dr. Routh *knew* that these cures were not produced by globules at all. He *knew* that they were produced by the lowest dilutions of the tinctures. Witness two cases reported by himself (pp. 59, 65), in which the 2nd dilution of the *Tincture of Aconite* was given every three hours, and the 1st dilution of the *Tincture of Belladonna* every two hours. He *ought to have known* that Dr. Fleischmann uses not the centesimal dilutions, but the decimal. For instance, the 1st dilution of *Belladonna* is prepared with ninety drops of *Alcohol* and ten drops of the strong *Tincture of Belladonna*. He *knew* or *ought to have known* these facts; they go against his arguments; they are not stated; therefore his work is not trustworthy.

Should he re-issue his "Fallacies of Homœopathy," I recommend to his notice the following quotation from Professor Henderson's letter to Dr. Forbes, published six years ago, and which, considering the ability and position of the writer, it is singular he should have overlooked. "You have been unfortunate in not having considered attentively the means which Dr. Fleischmann used in the course of his remarkable success in inflammation of the lungs. Had you done so, you might have avoided the blunder which I have now exposed; for you would have discovered that the solution of *Phosphorus*, which formed his principal remedy, contained a notable quantity of that very active substance. If you had consulted Fleischmann's notice of his practice, contained in the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, No. 5, you would have found that his *first* attenuation of *Phosphorus* contains, in every hundred drops, a grain of the drug; in the *second*, nearly one-tenth of a grain; and in the *third*, about one-hundredth. These are the attenuations used by homœopathists in severe cases of pneumonia, as you will perceive from the cases detailed by Fleischmann and myself. Now, if you had considered that the dose of this medicine, when given after the rules of your own school, is only about the fiftieth of a grain, or only double the dose of the first homœopathic attenuation, you could hardly have concluded that the homœopathic treatment of pneumonia is incapable of producing any positive effect. You would have perceived that it is not by the millionth, or the billionth of a grain of *Phosphorus* that the homœopathists claim the credit of curing pneumonia so much more successfully than others. And I may here remark, in reference to acute diseases, that the lower or stronger attenuations of the medicines are those almost universally used, a circumstance which you do not seem to have known, when you made the general remark at p. 229, that 'the primary dilutions or attenuations are used comparatively rarely,' otherwise you would, doubtless, have made an exception in respect to inflammations, and thus have silenced the clamour of those opponents who labour to frighten the public out of its propriety by representations founded alike on malice and ignorance. Whatever may be thought of the higher attenuations and their alleged value, in

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chronic diseases, there can be no doubt, in the mind of any rational man, as to the lower both actually containing a very sensible quantity of medicine and being capable of producing a sensible effect, even though experience had not abundantly proved that they do." (p. 18).

(To be continued.)

Review.

Medicina Mechanica, or the Theory and Practice of Active and Passive Exercises and Manipulations considered as a Branch of Therapeutics, and as adapted both to the Treatment and Cure of many Forms of Chronic Disease. By JOHN W. F. BLUNDELL, M.D. London: John Churchhill, Princes Street, Soho. 1852.

BOOK-MAKING has become a trade; and to put forth a book is now the usual course of any one who practises or intends to practise a specialty, so that the treatise is elaborated or compiled, not to convey the stores of knowledge and the practical views of the author, but to advertise him. In former times, a treatise on any special branch of medicine was looked upon as the result of deep study and mature experience. The book before us does not certainly belong to this order. Dr. Blundell has at once leapt in *medias res;* after a few months' experience of Ling's Therapeutics he writes oracularly, and claims to be an authority.

Mr. De Betou, to whose practice Dr. Blundell has succeeded, was not a pupil of the Swedish Institution. He acquired the knowledge of Ling's method through his partnership with Mr. Ehrenhoff, who, after having studied Ling's system at the Institution at Stockholm, for two years, came to England to practise, in 1845. It is true that Mr. De Betou had for some years previously made use, in a limited way, of some mechanical movements or other, which have about the same relation to Ling's movements as the processes of Mr. Harrup, of Brighton, or those of Mr. Beveridge, of Edinburgh, and of divers others of that class of gymnosophists. Dr. Blundell is therefore thoroughly mistaken in supposing that Mr. De Betou introduced Ling's system into England; and from whomever he obtained the materials, he has sometimes published as Mr. De Betou's teaching the *ipsissima verba* of Ling himself; and he has also reproduced, without any acknowledgment and without the sanction of the real author, Professor Branting's formulæ.

Dr. Blundell then appears to some advantage in some parts of his book, in the plumage of birds of broader pinion and loftier flight than himself or his preceptor.

Mr. Ehrenhoff was supplied with Branting's formulæ by the Professor himself in strict confidence; and to Mr. Ehrenhoff's surprise, no doubt, they are found in this book—how obtained does not appear.

But as the traveller in the desert comes now and then to an oasis, so the reader of this volume will every now and then find some excellent principles clearly laid down, some sound reasoning on the physiology of the movement-cure, and some true practical views; but such passages are due to Ling and Branting chiefly.

This book is entitled "*Medicina Mechanica,*" but is without mechanics or order; a work on Swedish gymnastics, by an author uninstructed therein. As it is, we cannot but feel that Dr. Blundell, so far from adding any valuable testimony to the excellence of Ling's method, has only proved the efficacy of the application of mechanical agency in an exceedingly superficial and sketchy manner. The inefficient knowledge of Dr. Blundell's teacher, as far as Ling's system goes, may in some measure account for, though it cannot justify, the defects of the book. The two living authorities on the subject, Professor Branting, of Stockholm, and Professor Georgii, of London, should lose no time in giving us a full and satisfactory treatise on Ling's movement-cure. If they, after the experience of a quarter of a century, leave their master's reputation and his claims to the honours of the lawgiver in therapeutic gymnastics to the mercy of compilers, the fault and the injustice to the memory of Ling are theirs.

The profession has a right to be properly and fully instructed in Ling's views and principles, and with respect to his theory and practice, and not to be allowed to remain satisfied, perforce, with crude compilations of comparatively inexperienced persons.

We give an extract from the didactic part, and one of Mr. De Beton's cases.

"Let the reader consider for a moment how much of health depends on a full development of the chest, and how much is performed therefore by a treatment which expands that chest—an operation which is safely carried out by properly-directed muscular exercises. This example is a diseased condition of the body as much as any other, and it is simply by removing, in this case as in others, existing obstructions, that similar diseases can be cured. The little knowledge we have attained of the subtle laws of Nature prevents our giving a clear and succinct account of the physiological re-

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sults of our movements, at least in the minutiæ of repro luction, absorption, and the like. It is ever our plain duty to follow Nature, and *act* by her indicated examples. Ling, ever mindful of these difficulties, has very ably given us *three* deductions connected with even an ordinary diagnosis. They are as follows, namely:—

"1st. 'If the dynamical (nervous) agent is the predominant, the disease shows itself by more mechanical phenomena;' as we may observe in the various involuntary emotions and passions, displayed in powerful or subdued muscular action, whether internal or external.

"2nd. 'If the mechanical (muscular) agent is the strongest, the phenomena are more chemical;' as in the accelerated course of the circulation, increased nutrition, or in the lengthened chain of the *momenta* of the sanguiferous system.

"3rd. 'If the chemical (sanguineous, etc.) agent is prevalent, we may mark more dynamical symptoms;' as in all those cases where the *vital* forces are disturbed, such as in the various conditions of fever, mental disturbance, excessive sensibility, and the like.

"*Luxation of the Jaw, with Paralysis of the Muscles of the Face, etc.*—Miss H—, aged 39. This lady, of nervous-lymphatic temperament, had been subject to the above distressing attacks for a considerable period, the usual medical treatment in such cases having failed to remove the cause of her malady, or restore the general tone of the system. She experienced at times violent headaches, with nervous derangement, loss of voice, luxation of the lower jaw combined with paralysis of the temporal and zygomatic muscles, and partial congestion of the facial nerve or of a portion of the brain itself.

"*Treatment.*—As her general health was otherwise unimpaired, and the systematic disturbance of a local character, the manipulations were carefully directed towards the region of the mischief, in order to remove the tendency to congestion, increase the activity of the absorbent vessels of the head, and give tone to the muscles and ligaments of the affected part. These began with active movements of the muscles of the neck and head, combined with nerve-pressure chiefly on the trunk and branches of the seventh pair, and percussion over the neck and occipital region; these were followed by active motions to the muscles of the jaw, pressure on the parotid and sublingual glands, and lastly, strong active diverting movements of the muscles of the abdomen and extremities. The result was, that in a very short time she was perfectly restored, nor has she subsequently experienced any return of the former symptoms. This case is one which demands particular attention, as it evidences in the most striking manner the efficacy of a mechanical treatment to parts (suffering under the common effect of local fulness or determination of blood) which are accessible to the practitioner; and it is moreover important, as a period of two years had been given, and with a reasonable knowledge of the case, before the diseased part could regain its former vigour."

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13TH, 1852.

THE time for action should be always prepared for: as none should undertake a war, so none should undertake a part in a practical reform, like homœopathy, without counting the cost.

The medical men who practise after the manner of this reform, have the most unpleasant duty. Their success is vilipended; their character assailed; their honesty impugned. In the last week's *Lancet* there is a case stated, and called "the fruits of homœopathy;" than which nothing can be more lame and impotent, and a charge against a respectable homœopathic practitioner is made to rest on the tittle-tattle of a nurse.

Man is mortal, the sons and daughters of flesh are mortal, so far as their bodies are concerned: it is the Will of the Maker, and as sin brought disease into the world, so disease has brought death. The homœopathists do not claim the power of preventing death, and yet they are treated as though they had advanced so mad a claim. We demand that the results of our practice on a large scale should be compared with the results of the drugging practice.

Some time ago a case at Norwich excited the virtuous indignation of the virtuous *Lancet*: the practitioner then impugned has made out an exceedingly good case on the medical merits of the question. Will he receive reparation? of course not.

Little do the routine practitioners of allopathy know of the labour of the conscientious homœopathist who does not pursue a routine practice. The homœopathist encounters obloquy, and has to endure far more mental toil and anxiety than the allopathist. Alp on Alp arises as he pursues his course; and the more experience he gains, the more he feels how small is his knowledge in comparison of the vast field of study and observation it is his duty to examine.

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We fully believe that of all the sciences man has undertaken to investigate and master, homœopathy is the most important and dignified. It embraces the largest interests, for its sphere of operation is the whole circle of humanity. It is a Sovran Science, for it reduces under its domain all accessories to healing; it is autocratic, for it relies on the law of a lawgiver; it is aristocratic, for it eliminates the best and worthiest elements for healing; it is democratic, for it descends into the cellar, ascends to the garret, and affords its beneficent aid to the masses, as well as to the Corinthian pillars of society.

Yet it is this homœopathy that a sciolist Williams sneers at, and a Rose Cormack denounces.

The pity is that the homœopathists themselves are not exactly *brethren*: but it is the lot of humanity. Very glorious were the true men of the Commonwealth, but how few were those true men, when they are weighed in the balance. Be this as it may, our proportion of true men is fully as great as that of the old sect of medicine; and we have a bond of union they never had—the law of healing.

We believe this to be a law of Nature; and if so, it must become an established law, like that of equivalents, or gravitation, or the laws of motion.

"There is no rebellion like that of the belly," said Napoleon: there is no rebellion against a medical tyranny, such as that of prescriptive allopathy, like that which induces people to refuse to be condemned to a bad medical practice, when they can have one that is much better.

There is at present, at all events, a dissettlement of men's opinions, on medicine as well as on other subjects: and we are coming to the "day of reckoning."

The men of Manchester the other day subscribed £27,000 in twenty-five minutes for what they believe to be a just cause. We should like to see the like enthusiasm for our Cause on the part of our adherents.

Correspondence.

COLCHESTER AND HOMŒOPATHY.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—The inhabitants of Colchester and its neighbourhood have for some time past been desirous of obtaining a resident homœopathic practitioner.

The population is about 20,000. Many families have embraced homœopathic principles; several have consulted various London homœopaths, but the necessity of a resident surgeon is daily increasingly felt. Several have purchased the medicines and books, and are doctoring not only themselves, but their neighbours. About twenty heads of houses, most of them with large and increasing families, amongst the middle classes, would rejoice to see a homœopath, of good moral character and professional habits, settle in the town. In midwifery he would find employment from the beginning.

If by inserting this note in your valuable journal you can aid us, or by any other means, you will be doing a great service. Any further information I shall be most happy to supply through you,

And have the honour to remain, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
A. B.

THE BRITISH SOLOMON.

"A Brief of his Maiestie's Royal Proclamation, commanding all Apothecaries of this Realm to follow this Pharmacopœia, lately compiled by the Colledg of Physitians of London.

"Whereas by our especial commandment there hath been of late compiled in the Latin tongue, by the Colledg of Physitians of London, a book entituled Pharmacopœia Londin. is now perfected, and is a work greatly tending to the publick good of our subjects, and we minding that all falsehood, differences, varieties, or uncertainties in making or composing of medicines, and distilling of oyls or waters, hereafter be utterly taken away and abolished; and that in the time to come the manner and form prescribed in the said book should be generally and solely practised by apothecaries, in their compositions of medicines, and distillation of waters for all such things as are therein named and prescribed. We therefore desirous in all things to provide for the common good of our subjects, and intending to settle and establish the general use of the said book in this realm of England, do hereby signifie and declare our royal will and pleasure to be, and hereby straightly require, charge, and command all and singular apothecaries within this our realm of England, or the dominions thereof, that they and every of them, immediately after the said Pharmacop. Londin. shall be printed and published, do not compound, or make any medicine or medicinable receipt, or prescription, or distil any oyl, or waters, or other extractions, that

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are or shall be in the said Pharmacop. Londin. mentioned and named after the waies or means prescribed or directed, by any other books or Dispensatories whatsoever, but after the only manner and form that hereby is or shall be directed, prescribed, and set down by the said book, and according to the weights and measures that are or shall be therein limited, and not otherwise, etc., upon pain of our high displeasure, and to incur such penalties and punishment as may be inflicted upon offenders herein, for their contempt or neglect of this our Roial commandment. Willing and commanding also hereby all majors, sheriffs, justices of peace, constables, etc., to be aiding, abetting, and assisting. Given at our Palace of White-Hall, 26. of April, in the 16. year of our reign of England, France, and Ireland, and of Scotland 51, 1618."

ALLOPATHY IN THE 17TH CENTURY.

"THE COLLEDGE TO THE CANDID READER.

"Physick, which gives thee health, wisheth good health to thee; and that it may the better provide for thy health, it hath built up this new apothecaries' shop; which it hath not only stored with a rich magazine of wholsom medicines, but hath also taken so much care for thy safety, that they should be compounded faithfully, without deceit; safely, without error. But thon wilt say, What need is there of this? seeing there is scarce a forrein city or university of any fame, but have abundantly performed this, both antient and modern; perhaps it is true. But if so many antients, as Mesne, Myrepsus, Alexandrinus, and others, rested not satisfied in this, but every one of them would have his own Dispensatory—the Romans theirs, the Venetians theirs, the Florentine theirs, the Bergomenses theirs, the Augustan theirs, and others which we pass by in silence, why should not the Londoners have theirs? as their own proper garment; the praise of which consists not in that it is gorgeous, but in that it is their own; not in that it is made of purple or pall, but in that it is * fitted to English bodies. Besides, it happens that we are rather distracted than furnished with such varieties; this plenty hath set us to seek, and that disease we meet withal here ariseth altogether of fulness. The vaster the wood is, and the more paths it hath, the sooner may the passenger lose his way. The more spacious the sea is, the more need of a pilot. And this our apothecaries having been a long time destitute of, are tossed up and down with diverse waves, and suffer a thousand distractions; one, in making up his medicines, running in one path; another in another: one follows Cordus, another Fernelius, a third the Augustane physitians, and a fourth his own fancy; so that a medicine comes to have so many several ideas as there are shops: which mischief, that it may not turn epidemical, to the great hazard both of physitians and sick people, wee intend by this work, like as by an anchor cast, to settle the floating course of compounding medicines, and to restrain it within its proper bounds and channels: whilst we do not only teach one and the same rule and method of compounding, but also impose and command it (from which men ought not to err a hair's bredth, as they say); that so both physitians and apothecaries being guided by one and the same threed, they may unanimously proceed, these in prescribing, those in compounding medicines.

"There is another grievous plague, also, which cals aloud for a Dispensatory, to wit, the deceit and impostures of men who, to get a little gain, sell filthy dregs instead of good drugs; nay, even those which are of most value, treacle, mithridate, and alkermes, are adulterated, so that they are no longer antidotes, but poysons; not a help, but a destruction to the sick: such abominable man-slayers, though they deserve the whip or gallows rather than our censure, yet all may happily be salved, (for English men) by benefit of this book, and poor sick people's health provided for. The happy and salubrious counsel, the glory and praise of which we do not ascribe to ourselves, but (that we may confess the very truth) its original came higher, and its rise was more divine; the beginning came from Jupiter, we mean, from our most soveraign, and (which is more rare) most learned, and (which is more grateful) most vigilant for the publick safety KING JAMES; who, as he hath alwaies studied, and happily settled peace in the Christian orb, unity in the Britton orb, conformity in the Ecclesiastical orb, so he hath vouchsafed to illustrate our Appollinary orb and physical sphear with his light, and to appoint wholsom laws to us, for a physical concord and certain harmony of making medicines; so that as before he had respect to the salvation of souls, so here to the health of bodies; before to the dignity of the subject, here to their life and health: so that it may be truly spoken of him, which the divine prophet spoke of the sun, Nothing is hid from his heat, nothing secluded from his care; and the same motto seems to be engraven by a divine hand upon his breast which is upon his coyn, The safety of the people is the supream law: for when he had granted new liberties, new priviledges to the Apothecaries of London, by his letters patent, he inculcates upon this above all,—that when this Dispensatory comes out to publick view, they should religiously bind themselves to that as to a sacred rule, and should obey the decrees of the Colledg of Physitians; to which Royal mandate it was but equal for us to obey, and at length we brought the matter so about that this London Dispensatory is brought forth to publick view, in a habit neither slovenly nor proud, neither wanting nor redundant; in which, although we reverence the learned and gray hairs of the ancient, and have placed their receipts, as it were, in the front, yet we neither reject nor despise the supplies of modern affusions, but we have left them a place and corner in the

"* Some wise men question that extreamly."

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reer, that so they may serve as auxiliaries to the model of Physick. Neither have we superstitiously tied ourselves to the steps of the ancients so, as that we bring nothing new of our own, for all here described is not transcribed; we have not furnished our apothecaries' shop altogether with forrain wares, but we have added some new ones, and of our own, which we bring forth into the publick as aproved by frequent use; some we have changed in the ancient forms, both the sence and name of the author being preserved, not moved thereto so much through desire of novelty, as compelled thereto by necessity, especially where such simples as are prescribed cannot easily be had, in the place of which we prescribe others, like unto them in vertue. The like we have done in the composition of pils, which, if they were made into a mass after the ancient manner, with juyces or waters, they would soon be too dry, therefore, we have appointed it to be done with syrups; also, whereas in most authors, some things are totally left to the judgment of the artificer, especially in the quantity of honey and sugar, under these two letters *q. s.*, or words [so much as is sufficient], whence it comes to pass that the same medicine hath neither the same consistence, nor the same vertue, we have for the future * taken away this power from the artificer, and for this cause have taken some of the most skilful apothecaries into counsel with us, by whose help and pains we have agreed upon a certain manner of composition, and have designed a certain quantity and dose, which they may not ad to nor take from. And lastly, seeing in most Dispensatories, both ancient and moderu, the use and vertue of every medicine is described, whence ignorant fellows and mountebanks may arm themselves for the practice of physiek, and so put a sword into a madman's hand for the destruction of the commonwealth, we have added nothing at all of the vertues; for we write this to the learned only, and to the nurslings of Apollo, for the health, not the understanding of the vulgar. We need not give a reason why we dispose of it in this order; we have placed the simple bdfore the compound, the internal before the external, the liquid before the sollid: we have digested them all into several classes, that so they may be brought into use and practice with little search. Thus (courteous reader) thou hast both what we have done, and why we have done it so. It is a work to which all the Colledg have brought their talents, as all the Gods did to Pandora in the play, but under the auspicy of a most worthy president, by who, not only as president, but by whose counsel, help, and indefatigable study, this building was finished, which as it is (friendly reader) we vow it to thine and the publick good, and hope it will be commodious for thee; and if it please thy palat, use it and fare well.

"From the Colledg of London, Decemb., anno 1618.

"* In a hopsack."

HOMŒOPATHIC EXPERIENCE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Harriet R— came to me, July 1837. She was ten years of age, very subject to eruptions; her ears were sore, and ran with a watery discharge, and her fingers were covered with a blistery eruption. I gave her two globules of *Sepia*, 30th dilution; the following week she was so much better that I gave no more medicine. She continued to improve, and in a few weeks was quite well.

Rachel G—, about twenty-two years of age, came to me in May, 1838. Giddiness; weight in the head; cannot bear the light; pain in the sides of the head; throbbing in the head; pain in the roots of the hair; noise and pain in the ears; bleeding at the nose; the skin of the face tender when touched; often has pain in all the teeth; tongue burning, and covered with mucus in the morning; dryness in the throat, which sometimes impedes swallowing; bad taste in the mouth; after eating, nausea, and a wish to vomit; food has lost its taste; longing for something nice to eat, without knowing what to choose; bitter eructations; abdomen swelled, hard, and feeling of fulness; deficient evacuations, with pain in the back; small cough, with bitter expectoration; oppression in the chest, with fulness when the head is low in bed; cannot breathe when lying on left side; pain as of ulceration in the chest; throbbing of the heart; pain and stiffness in the back; weight in the arms and shoulders; numbness in the shoulders and hands. She sometimes loses the use of her hand in holding anything; veins of the hand are swelled like cords; weight, with weakness and trembling of the legs; swelling of the feet, and sensation as if they were weak and broken; pain and sore feeling on the top of the thigh, which is painful when touched; pricking of the joints; after sitting a long time, going out in the air relieves her; feels worse *after* walking; on rising in the morning feels well, but her weakness is so great that dressing brings back her ailings; frequent throbbings all over the body; agitation and throng of ideas retard sleep; starting in sleep; partial perspiration at night; inward heat, with cold skin; the whole skin very sensitive; cannot bear to be touched. I gave her one globule of *Pulsatilla*, 18th dilution, one globule a week; she improved rapidly. The second week I asked a medical man (of the old school) to examine her. He told me she had a complaint of the heart. I continued the weekly doses of one globule of *Pulsatilla*, and in a short time she was quite rid of all ailings, and became strong. I did not note the number of doses, but know that the young woman was well many months after this cure. I have not seen her since, as she left the island.

George Lowe, aged twenty, 1836. In blasting stones, he shattered his forefinger; the nail was blown off; the finger had the appearance of a small plum dumpling, at the end of a stiff finger, the whole very much inflamed. I gave two globules of *Arnica*, 6th dilution; the following day the inflammation and acute pain were gone. I gave one more globule; it im-

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proved so much that I waited three days and then gave two more globules. At the end of seven days he could work again; and at the end of the fortnight the new nail grew, and no more inconvenience was felt. The man told me that a young man who worked with him had had a similar accident six weeks before, and he was still under his doctor's hands and unable to work.

Elizabeth M—, aged thirty, 1837. Sore throat; tongue swelled; palate swollen; bad taste in the mouth; feeling of splitting in the head; worse when stooping; headaches; nausea in the morning. Enuresis, prolapsus uteri. I gave two globules of *Belladonna*, 30th dilution; the next day the throat was better; gave one globule more. At the end of a week, the head, throat, and palate were cured, and the rest so much improved that I did not give more medicine. After a few weeks she had no return of any of her former complaints.

Mary G—, aged eighteen, 1837. Since an infant, she had been afflicted with violent headaches, accompanied with great thirst, and swellings of her legs. I gave *Puls.*, but without any good result; the following week I gave two globules of *Aconite*, 24th dilution. The next day she was better, and less thirsty. I gave one globule more; in a week she was so much better, that no more medicine was required.

H. C.

CASES.

CROUP.

June 29th, 1851. J. B—, æt. 3, an unhealthy, scrofulous child; one member of his family has already died from this disease, and several of the others have suffered severely from it. At half-past twelve a m., to-day, I found him suffering from a cough, which he had had since last night, and which was attended with the rough, peculiar sound indicating commencing croup. As there was no fever present, and the child was lively and breathing easily, I gave him *Drosera* twice a day. In the evening I was again sent for, and was informed that an hour or two ago his breathing had become laboured, and the cough dry and accompanied with a ringing noise; he was now asleep; respiration harsh and very audible; pulse 148; skin hot and dry; a good deal of restlessness present.

℞ Aconit. 6, gl. viij.
Aquæ, ʒiss. M.

A teaspoonful every hour, whilst the child is awake.

30th. Slept well during the night; the heat and restlessness subsiding with each dose of the medicine, of which only two were given. He appears now much better, and is lively and active; respiration loud and harsh, with much resonance on coughing, and great difficulty in bringing anything up; pulse 120; appetite none.

℞ Spongia 12.

A globule every three hours.

In the evening the cough was better, and the child doing very well.

July 1st. Much better; he slept well, and the fever is very much abated; breathing not quite so loud; the harsh, rasping sound of croup is almost gone; cough loose and easy; was a little sick this morning.

A globule of *Hepar* to be alternated with one of *Spongia*, every six hours.

2nd. Nearly well. Continue *Hepar* only.

3rd. Cured. The mother tells me that no case of croup occurring in her family has been so easily got over.

LICHEN URTICATUS (?).

August 18th, 1851. Mrs. S—, æt. 64, in good health, with the exception that a week ago an eruption appeared upon her hands, which quickly spread over several parts of the body. It is a papular eruption, and consists of small nodosities under the skin, of a reddish colour, accompanied with swelling of the hands, and with violent itching and burning, which are worse at night than in the daytime. It is thick upon the back of the hands, upon the arms, the shoulders, the knees, and the feet. The eyelids are affected, being red and swollen, itching violently, and sticking together during the night; there is much lachrymation during the day; the bowels are rather costive; the urine is clear.

℞ T. Sulph., half a drop every morning.
Mercurius 12, a globule every night.

22nd. Very much better; the eruption is dying away, and the itching has nearly disappeared; sleep much better; the hands are not so swollen. Continue.

25th. Quite cured.

LICHEN CIRCUMSCRIPTUS.

August 30th, 1851. S. B—, æt. 11, enjoyed good health until a month ago, when an eruption appeared in the middle of the back, which soon spread so considerably as to invade the neck and shoulders. It comes out in circular patches, which are red, and consist of pimples aggregated together, and slightly raised above the surface of the skin; these patches run together, and, as Erasmus Wilson describes the disease, "produce an irregular tracery of curved and broken lines." A furfuraceous desquamation covers the area of the circles; the red colour is more vivid at night than in the day, and the eruption is attended with violent itching, and bleeds when scratched; small pustules appear here and there; not much affection of the general health; bowels regular; tongue covered with a thin white fur; appetite pretty good.

℞ Sulphur 12.

A globule night and morning.

September 2nd. Better; no new patches have made their appearance, and the old ones are failing, and are not attended with so much itching. Continue.

10th. Almost well. I saw no more of her.

A brother of this girl came to me with exactly the same eruption two or three months ago. It was situated on the chest, and yielded to *Sulphur* just as quickly.

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ENTERITIS, WITH PERITONEAL INFLAMMATION.

December 1st, 1851. Miss S—, æt. 12, a weakly child, very subject to bronchitic attacks, was ailing a little two days ago, and to-day, after eating indigestible food, was attacked with violent pain in the abdomen, forcing her to writhe about in agony. I saw her at eleven p.m.; the pain was then easier than it had been; the abdomen very sensitive to pressure, particularly low down in the right iliac region—not hard or distended; an obtuse feeling of fulness in that region; pulse 132; she lies quietly on her back, unable to move without severe suffering; tongue white; breath foul; much thirst; skin hot. Has had bran poultices applied, which relieved the pain; the bowels have been confined to-day, though an enema has been given; they have been rather costive for some days past; very little urine passed.

℞ T. Aconit. 3, ♏ j.
T. Bellad. 3, ♏ j.

Alternately every hour.

2nd. In much the same state; pulse 132; a little tympanitis over the abdomen, with much pain on pressure, and constant aching in the right side. She has had no violent fit of pain since last night; no relief from the bowels; face flushed; skin dry; has passed urine twice, which was tolerably clear.

℞ T. Bryonia 3, ♏ j.
T. Merc. 3, ♏ j.

Alternately every three hours.

3rd. Violent purging set in yesterday afternoon, which was continued through the night, and is still continuing; she has passed about thirty stools in fourteen hours; they are dark and offensive, and some of them very copious; those passed last are more slimy, and contain bilious, green matter. She is evidently relieved by the free purging; pulse 113; face flushed; much pain in the right side, particularly on movement or pressure.

℞ T. China, ♏ j.

Every two hours, with *Aconite* in the intermediate hours.

In the evening she has had only one stool since beginning the *China*, but there has been much inclination to evacuate the bowels this evening, with inability to do so; face not so much flushed; pulse 119, not so full as it was this morning; not quite so much pain in the belly, which, however, is still very tender on pressure; countenance placid. She takes arrow-root and milk with appetite; tongue white, with the edges and the tip natural in colour; breath not offensive; no sleep through the day, and very little last night.

Continue the *China* twice in the night; two globules of *Hyoscyamus* 6, to procure sleep.

4th. Slept about six hours last night, with an interval of an hour's wakefulness; bowels moved three times since I last saw her, with much pain; motion green and offensive; has flatulence occasionally, which causes great pain; pulse 103; abdomen not quite so painful; the tenderness is more limited in its extent. To have

℞ Puls. 3, ♏ j, every three hours.

Evening. Since leaving off the *China*, she has been purged four times, the motions being of the same character as those passed in the morning; the flatulence has also been troublesome; is cheerful; cheek rather flushed; pulse 113; enjoyed her food.

Omit *Puls. Cham.* 3, ♏ j, every three hours, and *Hyoscyamus*, if restless.

5th. Has not passed so good a night; the flatulent colic continued till three a.m., in spite of the remedies employed to check it; bowels moved three or four times. At three a.m. the *China* was resumed at intervals of three hours. Soon after the first dose she fell asleep, and slept without waking for three hours; a little painful flatulence then disturbed her, after which she slept for two hours more. At present she has had no motion since a quarter past twelve a.m.; she is troubled with occasional flatulence, which does not cause so much pain; there is no swelling of the abdomen; still much pain on pressure; pulse 104; whitish tongue; good appetite.

Chicken-broth; continue *China*.

Evening. Had a bad day from half-past eleven a.m. till three p.m., passing five motions with much pain and moaning; they were orange-coloured, accompanied with flatulence, and caused smarting at the rectum. Since three o'clock she has been much better—ate her broth with much relish; pulse 104, soft; spirits good; has less pain, can bear to be moved without complaint.

℞ Sulph. 6, gl. ij, alternately with
Hyoscyamus 6, gl. ij.

Twice through the night.

6th. Progresses most favourably; has had no disturbance of the bowels since last evening, when a motion passed soon after I left; slept well; pulse 101; tongue cleaning rapidly; abdomen still tender on pressure, but this symptom is gradually diminishing. To eat a little chicken.

Continue *China* as before through the day, every three hours; *Sulphur*, as before, twice in the night.

7th. Continues to improve; bowels have been moved once to-day—motion rather more solid, and not so much pain in passing it; appetite good; tenderness of right side still diminishing; pulse 90; tongue clean; able to sit up out of bed; spirits very good; countenance natural, without any mark of the debility one generally expects after an acute disease.

℞ China, three times a day.
Sulphur, one dose at night.

The after-progress of this case was admirably illustrative of the fact that acute diseases, when treated homœopathically, leave little weakness behind them, relieving patients from the tedious convalescence so common in allopathic practice, and which appears to be owing more to the remedies employed than to the actual disease. My patient began now to get about; a dose or two of *Calcarea* was required to remove some slight tendency to curvature of the spine, owing to weakness of the dorsal muscles, and in a fortnight from the time I first saw her, she was running about in the garden, with no apparent remains of her disease.

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REPORT OF THE WORCESTER HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

ATTENDANCE—Wednesday and Saturday, at twelve o'clock.

Donations and subscriptions received by the Treasurer, Wilson Burgess, Esq., Lark Hill; at the Old Bank; and by Dr. Massy, 70, Broad Street, Worcester.

The annual meeting of the subscribers was held at the Institution, February 18, 1852.

The Report of the Medical Officer, of patients admitted and discharged, from the 14th of March, 1851, having been received as follows:

DISEASES.*	Number of Patients	DISCHARGED. Cured.	Benefited.	Not benefited.	Died.	Remain on books.
Fevers, including Scarlatina, Typhus, & Intermittent Fever.	4	3	..	..	..	1
Inflammatory Diseases, consisting principally of Rheumatism, and Affections of the Chest.....	19	8	9	..	..	2
Apoplexy & Affections of the Head	14	6	6	1	..	1
Disorders of the Nervous System.	11	3	7	..	..	1
Disorders incidental to Females..	29	17	7	..	..	5
Dropsy & Diseases of the Kidneys	8	4	4	..	..	..
Bilious and Stomach Complaints..	24	13	6	1	..	4
Diarrhœa, Dysentery, and Cholera	7	5	1	..	..	1
Diseases of Children, principally Water on the Brain, Smallpox, Croup, Measles, Hooping Cough	4	3	..	..	..	1
Pectoral Complaints, including Cases of Cough, Asthma, Diseases of Heart, and Consumption	23	7	11	..	..	5
Catarrh and Influenza..	8	4	3	..	..	1
Scrofula and Diseases of the Skin..	15	6	8	..	..	1
Surgical Cases, consisting of Abscesses, Wounds, Sores, etc	15	5	8	..	..	2
Cases of Rupture	1	..	1	..	..	..
Medicinal.....	2	..	1	..	1	..
Total....	184	84	72	2*	1†	25

Signed, R. TUTHILL MASSY, M.D.
February 18th, 1852.

Resolved unanimously—"That the warmest thanks of the meeting be given to Dr. Massy, for his kind attention and talented services to the sick poor of this charity, for the past year."

Dr. Massy having acknowledged the vote of thanks:—the President then examined the Treasurer's account.

Resolved unanimously—"That the thanks of the meeting be given to the Treasurer for his attention to the general interests of this Institution, and that he be requested to continue his services."

Statistics derived from long experience in various countries, under an almost infinite variety of conditions, demonstrate the superiority of the new method of curing diseases, which, while simple, rapid, economic, and certain in its character, does not deter the patient from pursuing his usual avocations.

The advantages of the homœopathic system over the allopathic treatment are thus briefly and clearly described by an eminent physician:

1. It raises therapeutics to the rank of a positive science.
2. It renders the art of curing diseases safe, certain, and prompt.
3. It frees the science of disease from *vain conjectures*, and *absurd hypotheses*.
4. Its practice is attended with a less number of fatal cases.
5. It shortens the duration of diseases.
6. It avoids protracted and dangerous convalescences.
7. It extends the curative sphere of medical art.
8. *It avoids all violent, painful, and often injurious remedial means.*
9. It is more economical.
10. And lastly. It cures with greater ease and comfort to the sufferer.

* The diseases are classified more to suit the increasing condition of the Institution than for its present limited number, as may be observed under those classed Fevers and Diseases of Children.

† One, incurable insanity; the other, incurable dyspepsia.

‡ This man was dying when visited by the Medical Officer. The poor fellow traced or ascribed his dropsy of chest, abdomen, and extremities, to a large bleeding which was performed eighteen months before, and his present excessive pains and suffering, to violent cathartic remedies.

Miscellaneous.

A DEAD SEA BATH.—I bathed in the Dead Sea. The ground covered by the water sloped so gradually that I was not only forced to "sneak in," but to walk through the water nearly a quarter of a mile before I could get out of my depth. When at last I was able to attempt a dive, the salt held in solution made my eyes smart so sharply that the pain I thus suffered, joined with the weakness occasioned by the want of food, made me giddy and faint for some moments, but I soon grew better. I knew beforehand the impossibility of sinking in this buoyant water, but I was surprised to find that I could not swim at my accustomed pace—my legs and feet were lifted so high and dry out of the lake that my stroke was baffled, and I found myself kicking against the thin air, instead of the dense fluid upon which I was swimming. The water is perfectly bright and clear—its taste detestable. After finishing my attempts at swimming and diving, I took some time in regaining the shore, and before I began to dress I found that the sun had already evaporated the water which clung to me, and that my skin was thickly incrusted with salts.—*Eothen.*

PHYSICIANS. — The first who deserve the name of physicians started from the Temples of Cos and Cnidos; they began to throw off the veil of mysticism, and to lay the foundation of an art founded upon the experience and observation of nature. Among them the most eminent place belongs to Hippocrates, the son of Heraclides. Next to Hippocrates, some other great men deserve mention, for having added new medicines to those already known, or for having taught a better method of dispensing them, as Dyocles of Carystus, Praxagoras, of Cos, Chry-

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sippus of Cnidos, Theophrastus of Ererus, Nicander of Calopho, Heras of Cappadocia. From these times dates the separation of medicine from dietetics, surgery, and pharmacy, which was brought about by the school of Alexandria. This division has influenced the preparation of medicines, because only those who cured by internal remedies and prepared medicines were called pharmaceutists; whilst the physicians who cured only by the strict rules of diet were called dietetics; and those who performed manual operations only were called surgeons.—*Annals of Pharmacy and Practical Chemistry.*

HEREDITARY FEATURES.—A peculiar thickness of the under lip has been hereditary in the Imperial House of Hapsburg ever since the marriage, some centuries ago, with the Polish family of Jagellon, whence it came. In our own royal family a certain fulness of the lower and lateral parts of the face is conspicuous in the portraits of the whole series of sovereigns from George I. to Victoria, and has been equally marked in other members of the family. The females of the ducal house of Gordon have long been remarkable for a peculiarly elegant conformation of the neck. The Clackmannanshire Bruces, who are descended from a common stock with the famous Robert Bruce of Scotland, are said to have that strongly-marked form of the cheek-bones and jaws which appears on the coins of that heroic monarch, as it did in his actual face when his bones were disinterred at Dunfermline, about thirty years ago. The prevalent tallness of the inhabitants of Potsdam, many of whom are descended from the gigantic guards of Frederick I.; the Spanish features observable in the people of the county of Galway, in which, some centuries ago, several Spanish settlements were made; and the hereditary beauty of the women of Prague—are well-known facts which have frequently attracted the attention of chronologists. The burgesses of Rome (the most invariable portion of every population) exhibit at the present day precisely the same type of face and form as their ancestors, whose busts may be seen carved in relief on the ancient sarcophagi; and the Jewish physiognomies portrayed upon the sepulchral monuments of Egypt are identical with those which may be observed among modern Jews in the streets of any of our great cities.—*Records of Creation.*

SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH. — On Monday last, by permission of the directors of the submarine telegraph between England and France, a series of interesting experiments were made by Mr. Reid, telegraph engineer, of University Street, London, for the purpose of testing a pair of double-needle instruments and two new batteries which he had constructed. One of these instruments was placed in the Company's office at Dover, and the other in the French office at Calais, with a battery to each. Two of the submarine wires were then connected with the instruments, and put in circuit with the batteries. The length of the submarine cable in the Channel is about twenty-four miles, and about five miles of land telegraph on each side, making in round numbers a circuit of sixty-eight miles. The battery that was to work this distance formed a strong contrast to the present battery now in use, the length being only 4 inches by 1½ deep, and the weight 1lb. 5oz., while the old common battery used on the lines is 36 inches long, 7½ inches wide, 8½ inches deep, and weighs 64lb. Some of the telegraph clerks in the office smiled incredulously when Mr. Reid connected the miniature battery with the instrument, but were surprised to find the signals to and from Dover and Calais quite equal to the signals they were receiving from their former batteries. The next experiment was for the purpose of testing an improvement in the double-needle instrument, and will require the utmost stretch of faith on the part of our readers to believe. It was as follows:—The miniature batteries were removed from the instruments on each side of the Channel, and a piece of zinc, three-fourths of an inch square, and a piece of silver to correspond, were then introduced into the mouth of the operator at the office in Dover, and instructions sent to do the same at Calais. The wires attached to these pieces of metal were then connected with the instruments, and by this simple means, and by the simplest of all batteries, the telegraph clerks sent several messages to and fro from England to France. The next experiment was similar to this, only a larger piece of zinc and a larger piece of silver were introduced into the mouth of the operator. The result was an improvement of the signals. This was on the evening of Monday, March 1. The next day, March 2, the experiments were repeated with the same success. The instruments with the miniature batteries transmitted all the commercial messages, prices of stock, funds, etc, till one o'clock, when they were packed up and sent to London. It was thought that during these operations the miniature battery would become exhausted; on the reverse, it improved, and seemed perfectly to maintain its character. From these experiments we may conclude a new revolution is in progress with telegraphs and batteries.—*Times*, March 4, 1852.

[We have inserted the above notice of the "Submarine Telegraph," as in no department has science made so clearly manifest the operations of an invisible and subtle agency, with whose qualities our knowledge would seem to be in its infancy. The *incredulous smiles* of "some of the telegraph clerks" forcibly bring to our mind similar smiles and the dogged obstinacy of *many* of our allopathic brethren, in reference to the grand truths of homœopathy. We wonder so many can now be found to believe the evidence of their own senses. The late Dr. James Johnson once said in our presence, before a learned medical society, that in medical matters in which he had no *faith*, he would not credit the trustworthiness of his own eyesight. So it now is with the bulk of the profession, and it is only the pressure from without that will open their eyes to a true estimate of their *senses*.—ED.]

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF A PAMPHLET BY DR. ROUTH,

Entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

III.

Having given a general outline of Dr. Routh's book, I now proceed to the consideration, in detail, of the three parts into which it is divided.

After a short introduction, to which I have already alluded, the author gives us in Part I. a brief history of the manner in which Hahnemann's discovery of the homœopathic law—or *maxim*, as it is called in the "Organon"—*similia similibus curantur* was made. He also notices the subsequent steps taken by Hahnemann to test this law, and apply it to the cure of disease. This account is taken from the Latin edition of the "Materia Medica Pura," published at Dresden and Leipsic, in 1826, under the joint editorship of Stapf, Gross, and Brunnow. Why Dr. Routh preferred this work as his source of information respecting the mental process which led Hahnemann from the discovery of his principle or law to the complete development of his doctrines, I am at a loss to find out. In such cases most persons would prefer to go to the main source at once, if it were possible so to do. Now Dr. Routh might have availed himself of Dr. Dudgeon's excellent translation of the "Organon of Medicine," which would have told him as much respecting Hahnemann's researches as the book he availed himself of, and much more besides; but his object was apparently much less to give a full account of the labours of our great master, than to sneer at him for what he considers a *great defect* in his mode of conducting his investigations.

"The Editor of the Latin edition of his 'Materia Medica' informs us,' says Dr. Routh, "that, after *very many* experiments (these very many experiments are found to have been made with some forty-five medicines only), and comparing these experiments with those accidentally occurring (*sic*) in the practice of or especially performed by other practitioners at different times, he found this law to be one of *universal* application. These experiments occupied him six years, and it was not till 1796 that he published his famous dissertation in *Hufeland's Journal*, in which he made known his discoveries. If any credit thus is due to Hahnemann for originality, it is for these forty-five or fifty experiments;" and further down we find, "this tendency to *universalize* or to deduce from a *few facts* a doctrine, which it is then assumed universally applies, cannot be too strongly reprehended" (pp. 4, 5).

So here is a distinct accusation! Hahnemann first, and his disciples after him, drew inferences from a few facts, and then applied these inferences to the whole range of medical facts, past, present, and to come! This is a very serious charge indeed; it is, however, consoling to find that, although bringing forward an accusation of the most sweeping character, the author, no doubt, through a kindly deference to our feelings, spares us the trite expression, "too hasty a generalization of facts," so often applied in allopathic medicine to theories and practice of every kind, which for a time engage the attention of physicians, and then sink entombed in merited oblivion.

With reference to this charge I cannot help stating my conviction, that the author has never reflected upon the manner in which *great discoveries* are made in science, and more especially those which bring to light the *fundamental laws* which govern the relations in which the different bodies of creation stand to each other; whether they be planetary masses, or other celestial bodies revolving in immense orbits in admirable harmony, or simply atoms, so small that none of the means placed at our disposal by chemistry or microscopy can enable us to isolate them, or to form a more correct notion of what they may be than our *imagination* can suggest. Such laws are not simply "generalizations of facts," or "deductions from a few facts" applied universally; they are, in truth, the expression of the fundamental relations existing

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between the various bodies which constitute the whole creation, and as such are deserving of our closest attention.

Let us suppose a law of this kind to exist in medicine. Let us suppose an intimate relation, capable of being expressed by some simple *formula*, to exist between the phenomena of the disease, on the one hand, and the properties of the medicine which cures it with certainty, on the other; would it not be of immense advantage, a matter of vital necessity indeed, to discover that law? What would it signify, with reference to a law of this kind, whether it were deduced from a few facts only, or from many thousands? The number of facts has nothing to do with the law, provided, upon careful investigation, it be found to hold good in all cases of disease. No great discovery of the sort was ever made by statistics.

But what is really of importance is, that such a law should be only looked upon as a *mere hypothesis* until fully verified. Now I declare it, to the honour and glory of Hahnemann, *he has done all this.* He discovered a law, he expressed it in a formula which is sufficient for all practical purposes, he has verified it, and we, after him, likewise. What is there, then, to be "*strongly reprehended*" in Hahnemann, or in his disciples, upon this score?

But I cannot quit this subject without pointing out the manner in which facts are transformed in the author's hands, so as to lead to a conclusion in accordance with his *à priori* views. In the quotation above given, we see first, "*very many experiments* with forty-five medicines only;" this is next transformed into "*forty-five or fifty experiments*," and finally, into "a *few facts.*" This is singular! But it is not the only example of inaccuracy in the book.

In connection with the above comments of Dr. Routh upon Hahnemann's doctrines, he draws particular attention to "two *logical fallacies!*" The first has already been stated.

The second is, that "Hahnemann's experiments were made with *appreciable*, not *infinitesimal* doses. Nor is it logical to conclude that, because a large (or even a small) allopathic dose has mimicked a disease in health (*sic!*), therefore, when that disease occurs, an infinitesimal dose will cure. Assuming the principle to be correct, we can understand that a *similar allopathic dose might cure*, but not an *infinitesimal* dose, and yet these preliminary experiments are spoken of by homœopathists, to justify their doctrine of infinitesimals" (p. 5).

I crave forgiveness of the Editor of the *Homœopathic Times*, for occupying so much of his space in so unprofitable a manner. My excuse for doing so is, that I wish to give an instance of the manner in which allopathists again and again attack homœopathy, without knowing what Hahnemann's doctrines really are. The whole paragraph is *inaccurate.* It is *inaccurate* as to the facts stated. Hahnemann used *appreciable* doses in his experiments; he also used *infinitesimal* (Organon, § cxxviii.) Neither is the inference correct. The doses were diminished, not upon *à priori* reasoning, but in their application in the treatment of disease, in order to avoid unnecessary medicinal effects, aggravations, etc.

Dr. Routh says, "*Idiosyncrasy* is seldom regarded. For example: it is notorious that, in some instances, particular individuals are peculiarly influenced by *Ipecacuanha*, so that a grain, or much less, will, if sprinkled through the air, bring about the most violent symptoms of catarrh; and yet it is not logical to conclude, that in *all* cases an infinitesimal dose of *Ipecacuanha* will cure or greatly meliorate the symptoms of catarrh." This assertion respecting idiosyncrasy is *without* foundation. The extreme care manifested by all homœopathic practitioners, in their inquiries respecting the peculiarities of the constitution of their patients, is sufficient evidence in contradiction of it. The inference that Dr. Routh ascribes to homœopathists is so decidedly against the whole spirit of Hahnemann's doctrines, that I wonder any man, knowing what he is writing about, should prefer such a charge. Let Dr. Routh read the Introduction to Hahnemann's "Organon" (London, 1849), and he will feel convinced that the first requisite in him who wishes to discourse upon homœopathy, is to know something about it. Speaking of the custom among physicians of the old school, of attempting to discover the general *character* of any given case of disease as indicative of the appropriate remedy, he says, in a note (p. 5), "Every physician who treats disease according to such general characters, however he may affect to claim the name of homœopathist, is and ever will remain, in fact, a generalizing allopath; for without the most minute individualization, homœopathy is not conceivable." And yet Dr. Routh says, that because *Ipecacuanha* may produce catarrh, we would give it *in all cases of catarrh!* For one thing, however, I must thank Dr. Routh, namely, for the information that persons possessed of the idiosyncrasy alluded to become affected, when inhaling minute particles of *Ipecacu-*

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anha, with *catarrh*—I had always thought the principal effect was *spasmodic asthma.*

One word more about idiosyncrasy. So little has it been disregarded by Hahnemann, that he has devoted to the consideration of it one of his longest paragraphs (Organon, § cxvii.) Dr. Henderson has presented the question of idiosyncrasies, in their relation to morbid conditions and susceptibility of the most delicate medicinal influence, in a new and interesting manner, in the following words: "Now, a person in disease has an idiosyncrasy or peculiarity of constitution, for the time, either of the body generally or some part of it, and is sensible to influences which have no action, or no action of the same kind or intensity, on a person in health. * * * * * Homœopathists maintain it to be the result of their experience that diseased parts are sensitive to still more delicate influences, when these are of a kind that have in each case a special and peculiar fitness to act medicinally upon the affected organ, in accordance with the homœopathic law.* * * * There is, then, a special relation between the disease and the medicine which is homœopathic to it, *the part affected coming to possess an idiosyncrasy or peculiarity of constitution for the time, that renders it susceptible of an influence from a quantity of such medicine, which, in a healthy state, would fail to affect it at all.*" (Reply to Dr. Simpson, 1st edition, p. 26.)

The psoric theory next claims our author's attention. He considers its promulgation by Hahnemann as giving "no evidence of increased mental powers and ability, but rather of the reverse" (p. 5). A little lower down, he tells us that Hahnemann discovered "that most diseases were produced by scabies." Although the psoric theory is purely a *pathological* theory, and, as such, has no more to do with a theory of *therapeutics* than any other pathological question, and therefore might be at once dismissed, I am desirous of not evading any difficulty, and therefore will make a few remarks upon it.

In the first place, I may remark that Dr. Routh is again at fault in his statement that "most diseases were," according to Hahnemann, "produced by scabies. This statement is *not accurate.*

Hahnemann believed that *chronic* diseases arose "from a chronic miasm" (Organon, § lxxviii.), which, so long as it remained in the system, was the cause of repeated attacks of illness in various forms. The "chronic miasmatic diseases" were those which arose from the presence in the system of the miasms of *psora, syphilis,* and *sycosis* (the condylomatous disease). But it must be remembered that he distinguished chronic diseases under two heads: first, the "true *chronic* natural diseases;" second, the diseases inappropriately named chronic (§ lxxvii.), which are simply diseases kept up by habits injurious to the constitution, by bad ventilation, by living in unhealthy localities, especially marshy districts, by excessive exertion of body or mind, by medicines taken in too large quantities, etc. etc. Who will not at once perceive that the latter class comprises by far the larger number of chronic complaints?

The transmission of the syphilitic taint from parent to offspring is too well known to require comment. But I cannot allow the sneer at the venerable name of Hahnemann, with reference to psora or sycosis as causes of hereditary chronic disease, to pass unnoticed. Let me therefore ask Dr. Routh, how he, belonging as he does to a school, the members of which generally admit the transmission from parent to offspring of a large number of chronic complaints, can think of deriding Hahnemann on this account? Whether the taint be called *strumous, cancerous,* etc., or simply *psoric,* it matters but little, so long as we admit that something exists establishing a difference between one individual and another, with reference to a tendency inherent in either to become affected with chronic disease.

I request the reader to bear in mind the following admission: "Allopaths, admitting the occasional truth of this doctrine, *similia similibus curantnr,* have given the larger dose. The experiments of Majendie have shown that *Tartar Emetic,* in doses of six to eight grains, will produce, amongst other lesions, *pneumonia,* if not rejected by vomiting. Every day's experience proves the efficacy of large doses of *Tartar Emetic* in curing pneumonia and other affections of the lungs" (p. 6).

(To be continued.)

NARRATIVE OF THE INTRODUCTION OF HOMŒOPATHY INTO ENGLAND.

By F. J. Smith.

If, in speaking of the labouring population of the United Kingdom, I am understood to include in this term men, women, and children—all, in fact, who by their labour, of whatever kind it be, tend to advance the well-being of society, from the Prime Minister downwards,—I shall not, I think, be amenable to the charge of exaggeration, if I assume—

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First, that 1,500,000 of these labourers are annually prevented by illness, for the space of fifteen days, from the discharge of their ordinary occupations; and

Secondly, if I take the average value of their labour at 2*s.* 6*d.* per diem.

However simple and obvious these assumptions may, at first sight, appear, we shall presently see that they are suggestive of trains of thought almost inexhaustible.

Vulgar as arithmetic is by some persons considered to be, the world cannot be carried on without it; and I must beg your readers of this class to forgive me while I proceed to point out, that it follows from the assumptions just made that 56,250,000 shillings, or £2,812,500 sterling, are thus annually lost to the country! And if to this sum be added the not unreasonable charge of 10*d.* per diem for medicine and attendance, the amount will be £3,750,000!

A consideration such as this can scarcely fail to arrest the attention of the most inconsiderate, and to excite the desire to know something more on a subject so important. I will therefore carry the thought a little further. Disease may be said, generally, to consist of two kinds—acute and chronic. Amongst the former may be enumerated scarlet-fever, smallpox, typhus-fever, cholera, etc.; amongst the latter are disorders arising out of the use (or abuse) of strong medicines.

That the victims of both these classes of disease (but especially the former, and by consequence, also, the latter) may be materially reduced in number, by the general introduction of sanitary measures, no one in the preseut day attempts to deny. But after all that can be done in this direction shall have been accomplished, there will still remain an immense mass of disease to be dealt with.

In passing, then, I would observe that it is the bounden duty of every man to exert himself to bring about sanitary reforms of every kind, till nothing remains to be effected for the amelioration of the condition of his fellow-creatures in this particular.

Meanwhile, however, we have the huge arithmetical fact to deal with—of a loss to this country, by the accident of illness, of £3,750,000 annually,—a fact, one would imagine, of sufficient importance to awaken the attention of statesmen, and of the legislature generally, to the condition of the medical art in this country.

Now, let us imagine, for a moment, attention aroused and directed to this point. What would be discovered? The inquirer would find such lamentations as the following from the most able, zealous, and honourable members of the allopathic profession.

From Dr. Paris he would learn: "The file of every apothecary would furnish a volume of instances where the ingredients of the prescription were fighting together in the dark."

He would hear Dr. James Johnson saying: "I declare it to be my most conscientious opinion that, if there were not a single physician, or surgeon, or apothecary, or man-midwife, or chemist, or druggist, or drug in the world, there would be *less* mortality amongst mankind than there is now."

He would find Dr. Billing exclaiming: "I visited the different schools of medicine, and the students of each hinted, if they did not assert, that the other sects killed their patients."

He would tremble at the awful announcement of Franks: "Thousands are slaughtered in the quiet sick-room."

He would shudder at the melancholy profession of faith uttered by Reid: "More infantile subjects are, perhaps, diurnally destroyed by the mortar and pestle than, in the ancient Bethlehem, fell victims in one day to the Herodian massacre."

And he would at least rejoice that the plague has ceased to visit this country, on learning from Dr. R. R. Madden the utter impotence of allopathy in that disease. In his work entitled "Travels in Turkey, Egypt, Nubia, and Palestine in 1824, 1825, 1826, and 1827," this learned allopathic physician, thus writes: "There was only one thing constant and unequivocal, and that was the ultimate event; almost every patient I treated, or saw treated, in Constantinople, was bled, purged, or vomited to keep down the inflammatory fever, and every patient died exhausted.....In short, we did as all other practitioners did: we continued to bleed, and our patients continued to die." (Vol. i. pp. 260, 261.)*

The testimony of Sir Astley Cooper is very characteristic: "The science of medicine," he says, "was *founded on conjecture*, and improved by *murder*."

Dr. Brown says: he "WASTED more than twenty years in learning, teaching, and diligently scrutinizing every part of medicine." Observe *that twenty years so devoted* he considered himself to have WASTED.

Knighton's mournful soliloquy is: "Medicine seems one of those ill-fated arts whose improvement bears no proportion to its antiquity."

Gregory passionately declares "medical

* These volumes consist of a series of letters addressed to eminent colleagues; and curiously enough the extracts in question are from a letter to Dr. Quin, of London, who was at that time practising as an allopathic physician at Naples.

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doctrines are little better than stark-staring absurdities."

Abernethy, in his peculiarly graphic language, thus delineates the state of medical affairs: "There has been," says he, "a great increase of medical men of late years, but, upon my life, diseases have increased in proportion."

Baillie unhesitatingly announces that he has no faith *whatever* in medicine.*

Huffland, of Berlin, who has been most appropriately denominated the Nestor of medicine, reviewing his past career at the age of eighty years, gave utterance to the following sad reflections: "My opinion is, that more harm than good is done by physicians (allopathic); and I am convinced that had I left my patients to nature, instead of prescribing drugs for them, more would have been saved."

Few men are better acquainted with the literature of their own profession than is Dr. Forbes, the philanthropic court physician, with the writings of his medical brethren in past times and at the present period; fewer still better able to estimate at its intrinsic value the testimony of each author. It is with no feeling of surprise, therefore, that we find this truly great man thus announcing his own convictions as to the state of his own profession. "Things have arrived at such a pitch," he says, "that they cannot be *worse*. They must mend or end. We believe they will *mend*—we flatter ourselves that there is yet enough of young blood, and energy and wisdom in our ranks to redeem the past, and to achieve that glorious regeneration which has been long announced by infallible signs and portents in these latter days. Old as we are," continued this noble-hearted veteran, "we yet hope to see raised the standard of 'young physic,' though we cannot expect to see it furled afrer the destined victory is won."

Those who remember the appearance of this article, in the *British and Foreign Medical Review* of 1846, will not easily forget the sensation it produced in the allopathic ranks. For the information of such as are not acquainted with the subject, it may be as well to observe, that this Review is the *magnum opus* of allopathy; that every man who writes an article in it, has not only to consider his own sentiments but those of the asssociated profession

* The reader is referred to Mr. Gibbs' able work on the Medical Registration Bill, where he will find most of the foregoing extracts, with many more equally instructive. Mr. Gibbs very properly demurs to the propriety of endowing a profession thus denounced by its most gifted members, with such extraordinary powers and privileges as that bill could have conferred.

This article was, therefore, regarded as a betrayal of the citadel by a distinguished general, if not by the commander-in-chief! an announcement to the enemy that the garrison was perfectly ignorant of the *art* for which it had obtained general credit; that all was chaos and confusion within; and that however impregnable the walls might appear, the fortress would become an easy prey to any well-directed attack, however few the assailants, provided only the attack were conducted upon some *general law*.

One more quotation on this part of our subject, and we have done. And we will select our authority from the ranks of those most distinguished by their thorough acquaintance with that branch of science from which so much is expected on all hands, at the present moment—we allude to chemistry. Foremost in this class, since the decease of that justly esteemed chemical physician, Dr. Prout, is unquestionably Dr. Golding Bird; and this is what he says in 1849: "No one can, for any length of time, be engaged in the active practice of his profession (allopathy), or in the observation of disease, without encountering phenomena sufficiently puzzling to surround him with unforeseen difficulties, and often sufficiently inexplicable to force upon his mind the conclusion that medical science, or at least the share of it falling to his lot, is by no means perfect or *exact*. I believe this will be granted by all whose experience has been extensive enough to produce humility."

It is impossible to read this humble confession of so deservedly popular a physician, without a feeling of regret that he, who could thus express himself, should want the time or the true humility of mind to inquire into the truth of the Hahnemannic system—a system that would reveal to him much that is now "puzzling" and "inexplicable;" furnish him with the means of overcoming many an "unforeseen difficulty;" and enable him from his heart to say, with graceful and unfeigned humility,—what is not "perfect or exact" in my practice is not in my *science*, but in *myself*.

Starkie, in his admirable work entitled "A Practical Treatise of the Law of Evidence," remarks: "Whatever a party *voluntarily* admits to be true, though the admission be contrary to his interest, may reasonably be taken for the truth.* The presumption is, that the party who made the declaration or entry would not have made it, contrary to his own interest, unless it had been true.†" So far as the subject under consideration is concerned, the evidence

* Vol. i, p. 35, 2nd edition, 1833. † Ibid., p. 45.

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we have adduced is of this class. We have had before us a variety of witnesses, all well qualified to give evidence on the point under consideration, all men distinguished by abilities, acquirements, and professional *status*;—men living by that profession whose condition they have thus disclosed;—men, whose interest it was to exalt, not to denounce their profession;—who could have had no motive, save that of truth, in thus proclaiming its (utter) inefficiency. And we shall not be over-stating the effect of the evidence, if we assert that it amounts to a complete condemnatiou of allopathy. But perhaps it will be more satisfactory to sum up the whole case, in the language of Dr. James Johnson, already quoted. "I declare it to be my most conscientious opinion, that if there were not a single physician (allopathic), or surgeon, or apothecary, or man-midwife, or chemist, or druggist, or drug in the world, there would be LESS mortality amongst mankind than there is *now*."

And is this *all* that has been accomplished in 2000 years? There has been no lack of talent, none of education, none of energy; on the contrary, these in all their associated power have been brought to bear upon the subject. Whence, then, this "lame and impotent conclusion?"

Again, if we compare this state of things with that presented by, comparatively speaking, modern sciences, the contrast becomes remarkably striking. To adduce only two examples: we find geology and electro-magnetism—the former in a few years, the latter in still fewer,—making extraordinary strides, taking rank amongst the great sciences, and recognised as such by philosophers of every country.

The students of allopathy may be numbered by millions; those of geology and electro-magnetism at most by thousands. And if to this consideration we add the element of time, and *assume* each to be founded in *truth*, we have presented to the mind a problem which no amount of ingenuity can solve. What, then, is the inference to be drawn? To my mind, the conclusion is irresistible, and it is this,—that the evidence of the allopathic practitioners, given above, is correct, viz., that allopathy, to use the language of Sir Astley Cooper, was "founded on conjecture," not on truth. On this hypothesis everything falls into order; there is no longer any apparent inconsistency, no apparent caprice in the demeanour of science; the absence of success on the part of allopathy is explained; constructed on "a foundation of conjecture," and shifting perpetually from one conjecture to another, as each was discovered to be untenable, what else but confusion and disaster could be expected? While true to herself, and faithful to her God, science has continued, century after century, to scowl on the proffer of so unholy an alliance!

And is it to be conceived that the beneficent Father of the Universe, who has established (as philosophers have discovered) so many laws for the well-being of his creatures, hath ordained no *law* for the preservation and restoration of their health—the greatest of earthly blessings? All *à priori* reasoning is against such a supposition.

Whether an universal sanitary law has been *discovered*, and is *acted upon*, is another question. But that such a law has been *ordained*, who shall venture to doubt? A time there was, when the law of gravitation was unknown; nevertheless it existed. An universal law of healing, then, may have been *ordained*, and not yet *discovered*. The practical question therefore is—*has* an universal law of healing been discovered, and *is* it acted upon?

(To be continued.)

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20TH, 1852.

ALL who have faith in the science of homœopathy—for it is a science—and are interested in its progress, are indebted to Dr. OZANNE for his analysis of Dr. ROUTH'S pamphlet, entitled the "Fallacies of Homœopathy."

It is well that such a pamphlet should be shown to be a thing of shreds and sophisms, of deductions from false premises, and tainted with the errors of the old sect. Had the pamphlet not been answered, many would have supposed that homœopathy was nothing else than the "expectant medicine" of those who believe drugging to be noxious, and recommend, in fact, that nothing at all be done, but that Nature should be left to her throes and her perturbations, her disorders and diseases. With such persons the "*vis medicatrix*," the inborn healing power, goes for much; with the allopathic school it goes for much; but homœopathy assists, guides, directs,

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overrules what is called nature in whatever relates to health and disease.

The aim of Dr. OZANNE is to show, without imputing in the least degree falsity to the man, that the whole of Dr. ROUTH'S reasoning is vicious and false, made up of unreasonable assumptions and deductions. We think the task worthy of Dr. OZANNE, and we have no doubt he will completely overthrow the specious and hollow pretensions of the pretentious and ambitious author, who assumes for himself the prerogative of remitting Hahnemann, his doctrine and his practice, and his thousands of disciples to the tomb of the Capulets.

Another of our valued correspondents is engaged in unfolding the history of the introduction of homœopathy into England. From our knowledge of the historian, we know he will do it in a fair and honourable spirit; and we presume he will be furnished with all necessary materials by all who can contribute authentic facts relating to the introduction of our Reform into these kingdoms.

Another esteemed correspondent—last but not least, in our estimation—is engaged in reproducing from the past the spectral iniquities of allopathy—the grisly shades of a portentous drugging system—the jejune inanities of polypharmacy—the puerilities, absurdities, and fearful outrages of that vaunted system on common sense and on the citadel of mortal life.

We have by our vilipenders been called at different times many hard names; but we have the most numerous testimonies to the fact of our usefulness, and to the weight of our influence.

We hope that a succession of valuable papers from valued contributors will satisfy our public that those who are able are becoming willing to assist us with their contributions.

At all events we have nailed our colours to the mast—we sail in the good ship Integrity—Hahnemann is our captain; we have charts for the oceans already discovered and the realms already mastered, and we have the means of future discoveries almost without end, and our banner is inscribed with the motto—"The greatest attainable amount of health for the greatest number of human beings."

THE HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITALS OF LONDON.

THE period is fast approaching for the Annual Commemorations of Hahnemann.

It happens this year that the 10th of April, Hahnemann's birthday, falls between Good Friday and Easter; and for that reason the Board of Management of the London Homœopathic Hospital has appointed the 21st of April for their festival.

The authorities of the Hahnemann Hospital have not yet announced their festival-day.

We are not in possession of facts to enable us to say anything of the actual or relative prosperity of these hospitals.

The London Homœopathic Hospital is *officered* on what we have always contended to be a vicious principle; but, so far as we can judge, its business has been well conducted.

The Hahnemann Hospital is *officered* on what we believe to be the right principle; but, as is well known to most who take any interest in homœopathy, circumstances have taken place which have caused the secession of some of its medical officers, and there are at present flagrant differences of opinion among those who constitute its Board of Management, as well as among those who constitute its Medical Council—

> "Ex illo fluere, ac retro sublapsa referri,
> *Res* Danaum, *fractæ vires.*"

It would be for the manifest advantage of the Cause, if the directors of each Hospital would call a public meeting of the subscribers to both of them, and bring about their amalgamation.

Correspondence.

THE NEW MEDICAL REFORM BILL.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—As has been already intimated to your readers, by a practitioner residing in this town, it is proposed to introduce into parliament a bill to secure uniformity in medical education

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and qualification; by which act a board of examination is provided, which all who intend to practise medicine must pass, whatever grade in the profession they may ultimately desire to occupy.

This proposition suggests three questions:—1st. Is such an act a desideratum? 2ndly. Supposing that it is so, is this the most befitting time to procure it? 3rdly. Is the proposed bill the most desirable that could be obtained for the purpose?

We may, for the sake of argument, acknowledge the first question as decided in the affirmative. But with regard to the suitability of the time or instrument, we must enter a demurrer: the time is not appropriate, because the profession at large is divided on more than one important point. But supposing that homœopathy and its title to credence be the only ground on which a difference of opinion exists, it is assuredly most important that this question should receive that impartial and deliberate investigation which has hitherto been denied it in this country. A licence "*ad practicandum artem medicinæ*," etc., is to be granted to men who, in the course it may be of a very short period after their commencing practice, will, by the mere force of circumstances, be led to investigate a system of therapeutics they have had no previous opportunity of studying, and of which the public have no guarantee of their qualification to practise. Whereas, were this bill delayed only for a few years, homœopathy would then, most undoubtedly, hold a position in medical estimation very different to that in which it at present stands. It will, in short, if its progress be as rapid as it has been during the past ten months, and we see no just cause or impediment why it should not, but rather the contrary, especially if our friend the "*Lancet*" and his more polished cotemporary, the "*Medical Times and Gazette*," will but fan the blaze their ire has served to kindle—it will, we say, under these circumstances, be the grand basis on which medical practice is conducted. The *Materia Medica Pura* will be taught in all our schools, aye, even in *Auld Reekie*, in spite of all the despicable efforts of that medical protectionist triumvirate, Syme, Christison, and Simpson; and, as a natural consequence, will form one of the most important elements in their examination of aspirants to medical honours.

This, of itself, we think, forms a sufficient argument why the present should meet with that determined opposition which, on other grounds, it so thoroughly deserves. But we must hasten to consider the third point, viz. is the proposed bill the most desirable means by which this supposed desideratum can be obtained? To this question we give a most emphatic negative, and that for the following reasons.

The examining board is to be constituted by men equally celebrated for their ignorance and hatred of homœopathy; what, then, will be the result of this? The conduct of the Medical Faculty of Edinburgh towards myself will be merely an example for the new board—invested with far greater power than that of Edinburgh—to imitate. That they will do so has been more than hinted at by the Editor of the "*Lancet*" in last week's number.

But supposing that homœopathists are admitted to examination, and passed, there still remains in the hands of the Medical Council a means of depriving them of their rights, viz. by condemning homœopathy as "irregular practice." A condemnation which it has already received at the hands of the very men who are to form the council board. In fact, the all but unlimited power placed in the hands of the Medical Council makes the bill savour more of the despotic nature of a Parisian decree of the present day than of the deliberations of three hundred educated English practitioners of medicine, aided by the legal counsel of a "member of the junior bar."

We hope and trust therefore that no means will be spared to enlighten those in whose hands the fate of the proposed "Medical Reform Bill" will lie: first, of the premature nature of the measure; and secondly, of its all but certain tendency to ruin the practitioners of homœopathy; a body daily increasing in strength, by the reception into its ranks of men of no mean intellectual power or moral worth among the adherents of the old school.

I remain, Sir,

Yours truly,

ALFRED C. POPE.

Homœopathic Hospital, Manchester,
March 10, 1852.

[We do not see what the homœopathists can do, except by petition to parliament. Homœopathy is too vigorous a plant to be ruined by decrees or hostile enactments. It is rooted in truth, is watered by the dew of experience, is becoming endeared to the public mind, and will flourish. We wish Mr. Pope would again try conclusions with the Medical Faculty of Edinburgh. We have always considered him to have been very ill advised in the matter, and we, from the interest we take in him, recommend him to demand, as a right, to be re-examined on the two subjects in which it was alleged he was deficient. It is what we would do ourselves, if we were in his place. The devil is not so black as he is painted, according to the proverb; and we think the Medical Faculty of Edinburgh should be allowed an opportunity of showing their repentance. Our readers will peruse Mr. Pope's note on the Medical Reform Bill with interest and pleasure.—ED.]

ENCOMIUM ON MERCURY.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Although we may say, "old times" are "changed," we cannot add, "old manners gone;" in proof of this, you may like to see a few passages from an old work, published in or about 1733, entitled "Encomium Argenti Vivi; a Treatise upon the Use and Properties of Quicksilver, by a Gentleman of Trinity College, Cambridge."

After giving an interesting and detailed ac-

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count of its natural history, and the method of obtaining it; its properties, chemical history, etc., the author goes on to speak of its "Physical Use," and says. "It is a difficult matter to remove vulgar Errors; they are as strongly rooted as the most inveterate Disease, and Reason and Physic are frequently baffled by both. How high did the cry run formerly against the Use of the Bark, one of the best medicines in the *Materia Medica*. What Fears! What apprehensions of its evil consequences! What strange misconstructions of its Effects, and downright absolute perversion of its Properties! Nothing can be safe from such misconceptions; neither merit in man, nor excellence in Medicine. The wiser and more honest Part of Mankind, by the natural Turn of Thought and Temper, as naturally engage in Defence of both; and there have been very few noble Remedies found, either by Art or Chance, and brought in Practice by the skillful Right-judging part of the Faculty, but have been as generously supported by Reason and Argument at the very Instant that the Torrent of popular Clamour was at the Height against them. The Cause of both is the same; and the Party formed against both the same likewise. The great Physician, of course, falls into a Method of Practice, which the lazy, the little, the unskillful Practitioner can no more imitate than he can understand.

"Where is the Wonder therefore, that such exert all the Malice they are Masters of, and strive to blast what they cannot copy?

"Were Hippocrates and Freind to rise from the dead, they would again, for a while, suffer the same Fate. But the World by Degrees comes generally about, and all this Envy only directs us where to pay our Applause.

"It only remains for such to proceed upon their own strength; as a genius will see further into Nature, in the compass of a few years, than ordinary souls, were they to live a Thousand.

"As some are made Enemies through Envy, others may become so through Interest. I hardly doubt but that some of the trading Tribe are found useful enough this Way; they can serve very well for *Mercuries* to carry and hawk about Scandal; and people in Business are allowed to act from a view of gain, perhaps by some such great Philosophers, the vulgar Error of Quicksilver being a poison might be fortify'd; as who can tell what a Distruction just Apprehensions of its virtues might occasion to Gally-pots; how many Phials might be thrown away, etc. We must therefore try to remove this prejudice, and so clear our Way to a more full and larger account of its Efficacy. * * * * *

"That several of our greatest Practitioners have frequently made use of Mercury in disguise, done eminent service to their Patients with it, and gained much Reputation to themselves, is with me past all Doubt: that many now continue to use it likewise, with as good Success and as much secrecy, I doubt not neither.

"Nay, some are found who speak evil of it in public, but, notwithstanding, give it concealed in private; a strong Argument in its Favour, whatever views may oblige them to act in such a manner. Such little Pieces of Craft will ever be practised by some, especially such as stand in need of them.

"But those who set out upon different principles, who consider Physic not as a Trade but as a Science, a useful and an honourable one, and intend the Good of Mankind by Profession, never act thus in the dark; their Practice is very fair and open, and Friends they are to those who, like themselves, are content with the Reputation of doing Good, and borrow not assistance from Cabals and Parties to steal a name. Such was the late Dr. Freind; and such are several now living, Ornaments of the Faculty, and most useful members of Society.

* * * * *

"Experience is the best Guide, and Facts the strongest recommendation; these Gentlemen *a* have found it useful, and accordingly openly declare what Relief they have found it to give; it is an easy matter to cry out Quack! Empiric! but the World will still think such men as honest, as skillful, who prove their Practice by well-attested Facts. This is the very case with these two Gentlemen; Cabals and Factions are known to subsist among the Faculty; and it may be much safer to kill in the Common Roads of practice, than cure out of it. Rumours are very apt to rise, and Falshoods to fly about, when Physicians shall dare to be greater Friends to the Patient than the Apothecary."

And now let the name of Hahnemann be substituted for that of Dr. Frieind, and the word homœopathy for quicksilver; and then "let us reflect."

These remarkable and well-expressed sentiments were publicly put forth about one hundred and twenty years ago, or rather more; and wonderful advances have been made in numberless paths, both of art and science, since that time; and unwieldy machines have given place to the powerful though tractable steam-engine; and the well-appointed mail-coach, with its noble steeds and enterprising, intrepid driver, lags far behind the fleet, energetic express train; and the echo of our beloved monarch's speech from the throne—instead of journeying for hours over British ground, and voyaging slowly across the Channel, and then being dragged its long, weary way by poor, lean, French horses, yoked to their cumbrous chariot, with harness of rope—flashes into beautiful, unhappy Paris almost like the lightning itself; and the coarse, heavy "drug," whose very name had become a by-word for what is a burden, unsaleable and unwelcome in our markets, has been refined, and nearly, if not quite, etherealized, and is the mighty though invisible inhabitant of the exquisite, glorious "globule;" while the prejudice of the medical heart, in its various forms of "*delusion*," remains the same: unchanged, stereotyped, petrified. What word can be found fully to denote

a Thomas Dover, M.B., and Mr. Belloste, an eminent surgeon abroad.

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the stolid, fixed, imperturbable, impenetrable dullness and obstinacy of its spirit?

Believe me to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

UNA MADRE.

THE HOMŒOPATHISTS AND THE HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—A few sentences in your last *leader* satisfy me that you will not impugn the truth of the following postulate, upon which what little I have to say is grounded, namely, that the homœopaths give a very inadequate support to your excellent periodical. I will now humbly endeavour to investigate the causes of this apparent apathy of some, if not most, of your medical colleagues. It is notorious that you have ever placed yourself in the forefront of the battle for them, because you fight under the same banner, and have uniformly defended their cause alike from the phlebotomy of the *Lancet* and from the petty carpings of those lecturers at Bristol and other places who have wished to flesh their swords upon the venerated name of Hahnemann and his benevolent discoveries. These gentlemen have found it more convenient to deal with theories than facts; for it is comparatively easy to show that our infinitesimal doses *must* produce only infinitesimal effects; in fact, I believe, they give us the credit of dividing "that which has no parts," or "the smallest indivisible part of matter," as well as the more bungling performance of splitting hairs: and yet when we turn to facts and show them (through a microscope, if you please) what these "motes that people the sun's beam" have effected, lo and behold, the venue is changed, they stand over on the other tack, and attempt to throw discredit on the cures produced by them. If they say truth, our patients must indeed have strong imaginations; for if faith can take a man to pieces, dust him, lubricate him, and set up a regular action in his system, as Dent would do for your chronometer, or Joe Manton for your double barrel, why then there is an end of medical jurisprudence, be it homœopathic or allopathic; the matter lies in a nutshell, the age of miracles has returned. Let us macadamise the roads with our crushed globules, and let our allopathic brethren flush the sewers with *Jalap* and *Castor Oil*, and then let us unite in a humble petition to her Majesty to extend the royal touch, as of yore, to suffering humanity, and open a dispensary at Buckingham Palace. But it is with the stubborn things called facts that we wish to deal, and precisely on this point it is that our adversaries would, if we would let them, conquer, Parthian-like, in flight. They cannot deny that we daily perform hundreds of cures, but then, forsooth, it is all done by faith and regimen!! If the former, we may easily believe the feats of Tarquin with the razor and whetstone; if the latter, why then do these regular opponents of ours nauseate their patients, rather than extend the wand of Dr. Sangrado over their banquets, and march them out for fatigue duty, like the captain of hydropathic celebrity at Ramsgat? What an incentive then does our government hold out to crime, since the treadmill and the diet for the refractory is a cure, not a penalty; the univereal panacea—the elixir of life!!

Many causes may be assigned for the imputed professional indifference to the success of the *Homœopathic Times;* one we may trace in the paucity of practitioners; "a nihilo nihil fit" will, I fear, apply to them, until we emulate the example of foreign lands, and surround our sea-girt isle with a pacific army of practitioners, who can at least prescribe a "remedy not worse than the disease." Homœopathy flourishes in Calcutta, and in all the provinces of the western world, from Boston down the entire seaboard to Rio Janeiro. And is England to be again stigmatized in the nineteenth century as an *Ultima Thule* as regards the most important of all sciences—the science of prolonging life and increasing our means of enjoying it? The universe, Sir, and England along with it, sympathises with you; for, while *your* efforts are paralysed by the want of due support, they have a more cruel want—that of the circulation of the resources which have been drawn from our common mother for the good of mankind.

I am satisfied that, if the mass of practitioners who already think with you, would cast off that semblance "of modest and ingenuous worth which blushes at its own praise;" or, in other words, would no longer be influenced by the fear of appearing to wish to advertise *themselves*, while they are apparently supporting *you*, that we should hear through your medium of well-authenticated cases of cure, sufficient to convince the sceptical and confirm the wavering. It is true that many bestow their best wishes upon you, who cannot give you their time; let them, then, submit to become coiners of the latter commodity, remembering the words of the old song, "the best of all ways to lengthen our days, is to steal a few hours from the night;" their contributions would not be less lucid if indebted to the aid of the midnight oil. But is it really essential that the modest gentlemen I have referred to should be "shown up in print?" If they will not avow themselves, let them adopt a *nom de guerre;* let them pull the wires behind the scenes, as in the Marionette theatre; we don't want them to "strut their little hour" on the boards, we want their experiences, and you want them also, and a little of their substantial favours, the sinews of war, besides. I make these observations, because I think there is that in your columns which entitles you to the public support, for one good turn deserves another; and have you not supported, and that nobly, the homœopathic cause at Bristol, at Huddersfield, at Sunderland, at Ross, at Edinburgh, Exeter, and divers other places? Is it not to your advocacy that the metropolitan and provincial homœopathic hospitals are indebted for fully half of their present support, and that at the expenditure of your energies and your time? And though I sincerely trust that a future harvest of fame, power, and emolument awaits you, the crop has not yet invited the sickle. If

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abandoned by you, what, let me ask, would be our position? The solitary pickets, of whose too great isolation I have been complaining, would be rapidly driven in, and a war of extermination carried into our very camp. Debellation (if I may coin a word) would be the watchword of the foe, and the very men who are now content to see you fight their battles, without joining your ranks as contributors, would be left to oppose the poisoned arrows of the *Lancet* and the more refined sword-play of the classical *Medical Times*.

But, Sir, the cause of truth will triumph, however ill defended; mankind, whether you are well or ill supported, must one day acknowledge the efficacy of our benevolent art. Indifference in its professors may delay, but cannot prevent, our success, and if the remarks which I have made should succeed in arousing one of the goodly band of practitioners who are not ashamed of unfurling our standard to a greater zeal, or inducing one of the thousands who, it is well known, are only too glad to avail themselves (*sub rosâ*) of our preparations, to avow himself a disciple of Hahnemann, I shall not regret having troubled you with them. The Anti-Corn-law League combined and persevered until it got its own way; surely, then, a league to emancipate us from the shackles of professional routine, and its solemn absurdities, where life and health are concerned, deserves as good a fate.

Some, doubtless, may be cured *secundum artem* (if not killed in the operation), but they are the favourable exceptions; the "οι πολλοι" alas! derive about as much benefit as suitors in Chancery, whose judgments are for their posterity, not for themselves; and as the case of Jarndyce *v.* Jarndyce, in "Bleak House," furnished play for the wit of succeeding generations of lawyers, so does the unhappy allopathic patient serve as a target for the pills of unfledged M. D.s, or a laboratory for the compounds of experimentalizing apothecaries.

Your obedient servant,

E. ROBERTS, Cantab.

[We are obliged to our correspondent for the expression of his good opinion: some of our professional brethren have assisted us vigorously, and the homœopathic public has afforded us a liberal share of support. The number of professional homœopathists is not so small as our correspondent supposes.

We hope with the proposed enlargement of our paper to secure a far wider range of circulation, on account of the increase and variety of our materials. We have had a difficult and sometimes an arduous task to perform; but we have done the best in our power, and, after a little while, that *best* of the *past* will issue, we trust and believe, in a much *better* for the future. We shall soon have taken a new starting-point, with a much wider base of operations, to use military terms; and we shall be able at once to carry on a powerful defence, and to advance steadily and surely into the far-spreading domains of medical superstition and medieval barbarism. Our lines of defence are impregnable; for they exist in a law of nature and in experience, they are defended by the batteries of Hahnemann, Constantine Hering, Bœninghausen, and other worthies; our advances are made and championed by conviction, good faith, honesty of purpose, and invincible resolution. We hope to have heavy-armed warriors, skirmishers, and foraging parties. The work of the pioneers has been already done. ED.]

AURORA BOREALIS.

(*From the Liverpool Courier.*)

A RECENT and remarkable display of this very beautiful meteor leads us to dwell a little upon the phenomenon. But let us first present a description of the polar-lights, which were seen in February last, as given in the pages of a contemporary:—"A remarkably brilliant display of the aurora occurred on Thursday night last (19th), illuminating all above the horizon to a degree far exceeding what has been previously witnessed for many years. It appears to have commenced about nine o'clock, p.m., when three distinct arches of pure white transparent light appeared, stretching from east to west across the zenith. These lasted for about ten minutes, during which the most beautiful flashes of red and yellow light issued from, crossed, and occasionally mingled with the white. For more than half an hour afterwards streaks of white and red light radiated in every direction from a point about half a degree north-east of Castor, resembling patches of nebulous light, as seen through a powerful telescope. From ten to eleven o'clock, the light streaming up from the western horizon frequently resembled the reflection thrown to the sky by a large distant conflagration. Columns of light, of various degrees of length and breadth, and tinged with almost every variety of colour, shot up, formed and disappeared with extraordinary rapidity. At midnight, the radiance of the heavens was equal to that of the moon at full. Every portion of the firmament was illumined at the same moment; and the streamers that continued to shoot athwart the expanse appeared to be as palpable as if they consisted of material substance, though the stars in every quarter still shone brightly through. The colours of the several arcs and streamers now began to deepen; lilac, pink, red, deep crimson, blue, purple, yellow, and green were visible at once—now separate, and anon mingled in indescribable beauty and sublimity; and they continued to ascend until all converged at the zenith, where the centre shortly afterwards opened, leaving a brilliant circle of glory. The whole pageant, in about a quarter of an hour from that time, began gradually to vanish; but it was not till the approach of dawn that the silvery streaks of light which had filled the sky had totally disappeared. The impressive silence which prevailed during the time this phenomenon was in activity added grandeur and awe to the spectacle. Not a breath of air seemed stirring, and every distant sound on the river, every clank of chain on board a ship, each rattle of a wheel over the pavement, though far remote, and every footfall

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for two or three streets off, were distinctly audible. For the last few days the air has been greatly charged with electricity. This accounts for the magnificent display witnessed on the night in question, which would have been visible on the previous night had the clouds been less dense; for, at the Observatory, Mr. Hartnup distinctly saw streamers, similar in appearance to those described, ascending, during a break in the clouds, on Wednesday evening."

Like other natural phenomena, the aurora borealis attracted attention in remotest times, and often must the world's grey fathers have speculated upon its cause. Some contented themselves with describing the appearance; others sought for it an explanation in the science of olden times; but by far the largest mass of observers, those in whom the poetic germ lurked, viewed it as a kind of myth, or received it with superstitious awe. While the rude Indians, therein beheld the spirits of their fathers roaming to the boundless, the more civilized looked upon the meteor as portentous of national calamity, of fire and sword; yet both were wrong, and though wide apart, the bond uniting both is the silver cord of poetry.

"In fancy's eye encount'ring armies glare,
And sanguine ensigns wave unfurl'd in air!
Hence the deep vulgar deem impending fate,
A monarch ruined, or unpeopled state."

Writing, however, at the last moment, when even part of our impression is in type, and with political news swelling our columns, and claiming, through their importance, our first attention, we must leave this region of speculation and descend to stern facts; and wondrous as is the variety in the exhibitions of the polar lights, simple are the truths which science has revealed.

This meteor is not exclusively a *northern* one, we have a southern aurora too; but rarely do we see the *aurora australis* in this latitude. The meteor in both hemispheres is alike. Before it breaks out in those brilliant coruscations, the practised eye can behold a sign, though here less visibly depicted than in the polar regions. We refer to the darkening of the sky in the horizon, nearly in the plane of the magnetic meridian. This indication has been termed the *dark segment*. Though dark and gloomy by the contrast, stars yet shine through it like gems in the midst of a smoky vapour.

Above, and bounding this hazy segment, there now rises a *luminous arc*, clearly defined below, but somewhat indistinctly limited above, and imperceptibly mingling its radiance with the sky. This arc is not always white—this arc is never stationary; it flickers and expands, advancing towards the zenith, and almost invariably is bisected by the magnetic meridian.

Luminous beams now, or at the interval of some hours, shoot from this auroral arc, and tend towards that portion of the sky which is subsequently to display the auroral crown. These beams or streamers are in continual vibration, and often change their form. In proportion to their number, length, and colour—for they are not always white or yellow, but often red, and of other hues—is the beauty of the exhibition. Sometimes these rays mingle with columns of smoky darkness, mobile as those which illuminate the sky. Finally, and as if the climax, these "burning spears" gather in the upper heavens, forming a radiant wreath or *crown*, and then they disappear. The phenomenon is over; perchance some curdled masses remain behind, but they too fade away, and "leave not a rack behind."

At other times the polar lights present an aspect altogether different; they then resemble luminous and many-coloured clouds flitting overhead, vanishing and suddenly reappearing; or they appear as hanging drapery, or a flag floating in the breeze. When such a display occurs, the phenomenon is truly a splendid one; the more if the hues are vivid, varied, deep, and transparent. In the arctic circle such appearances are not unfrequent, and in these lands of desolation an indescribable charm is often added by the physical aspect of the spot; the ground, far as the eye can span, dazzles with the snow, while the sky above glitters with these flickering lights and twinkling stars. There

"No living creature could be seen to stray:
While solitude and perfect silence reign'd."

The aurora borealis is often seen simultaneously over a wide extent of country. Its limits, in fact, cannot be bounded.

The height of the meteor is still a problem in physical science, and doubtless the reason of this is the difficulty of ascertaining that observers in remote places are making their measurements of the *same* auroral arc. Another arises from viewing the display, such as that consisting chiefly of flickering rays, and the other of nebulous patches, at one and the same phenomenon. We believe the latter is in reality much nearer to the earth than the former. The one may be within the range of our atmosphere, but the other is doubtless far above its limits—probably about 180 miles above the surface of our globe. The influence of the polar lights upon the magnetic needle has been duly established, and its connection with electricity or magnetism fairly demonstrated. Displays in the United States and Siberia have produced shaking of the needle in Europe: and during the continuance of the phenomenon the earth's magnetism is diminished. Of its origin we have not yet directly spoken, but we have hinted at magnetism as the cause. It were to extend this article far beyond our assigned limits, to enter into an examination of all the theories; perhaps we may do so on another opportunity. Meanwhile, let our readers wait for the return of the meteor, and fail not to watch its frolics.

Before entering upon the theory of this meteor, let us return for a moment to the recent display, (that is, on the evening of Thursday week,) to point out the extent of its visible appearance on that occasion. It was seen at Edinburgh, Glasgow, Kendal, Preston, Manchester, Chester, Nottingham, Swansea, and London, as may be drawn from the following extracts from our contemporaries:—

From a Glasgow correspondent of the *Scotsman*:—"The aurora borealis burst forth immediately after sunset, and gradually overspread

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the northern section of the heavens. Between ten and eleven o'clock a luminous band began to stretch around the horizon, and by a quarter past eleven had completely circumscribed it to a height of 20 deg., and at other times betwixt 45 deg. From this belt (forming a base like the arch in the borealis) coruscations of a pale yellow, or pale green and yellow, rippled and darted towards the zenith, round which they irradiated in fine, brilliant pencillings, and sometimes gathered in sheets like lurid clouds. Occasionally it seemed as if a gust of wind swept from the horizon to the zenith, wakening some phosphoric vapour (previously latent) into a livid, uncertain flame; again flowing gently, and producing the phenomenon with nicer decision. The light emitted was of a modified, starlight character. The phenomenon continued for about an hour."

At Edinburgh it was visible between the hours of eight and eleven, p.m. "The streamers were unusually vivid, and darted unceasingly across the whole expanse of the sky, ultimately subsiding into a sort of pale curtain of light, hung, as it were, from the zenith towards the northern and western horizon."

At Kendal it was very brilliant, both on Wednesday and Thursday nights; at one time flashing apparently from every quarter towards the zenith, and at another displaying rich crimson and purple hues.

At Preston it was also seen on both evenings, chiefly in the north and north-west, and occasionally very brilliant, the phenomena remaining visible for a considerable time.

A correspondent of a Bolton paper describes it very much as it was seen in Manchester:—"On Thursday night this phenomenon was splendidly visible in Bolton, shining with something of its arctic brilliancy, and producing, at times, nearly as much light as the full moon. It was observed from nine o'clock till past twelve, p.m., but was visible for some hours longer From eleven to twelve, p.m., bright coruscations of light were seen issuing from the north, some of them in broad striped bands, nearly perpendicular, and others reaching nearly to the zenith. At the same time transverse bands shot forth in an angular direction, both from the north-east and north-west, meeting in radiating points and circles near the line of the ecliptic. While the perpendicular columns of light remained stationary, and shooting forth their coruscations in the same direction as the column from which they emanated, volumes of filmy light came rolling from the north, under these stationary bands, and seemingly at a much less elevation, and spreading with immense velocity towards the south, like very thin transparent clouds, or gleams of phosphorescence. Occasionally coloured streaks were seen, and also masses of reddish smoky-looking substance, not unlike the reflection of a fire, from a light cloudy atmosphere. This was seen most distinctly about half-past eleven, p.m." This observer thinks the phenomena tend to prove "that the aurora borealis or northern lights are the result of magnetic force, and not of electricity, as supposed by Sir Humphrey Davy."

A correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* describes the display, having seen it so late as three, a.m., on Friday, when, he says, the flashes of silvery light came chiefly from the north and north-west, extending to the zenith, and even sometimes beyond, southwards. "We find," says the *Guardian*, "by the newspapers, that the aurora of Thursday night was even over a greater extent of country; as far north as Glasgow and Edinburgh, and as far south as London. At Glasgow the aurora commenced early in the evening, and continued for some months to flit across the sky, with a radiance that rendered the night almost as clear as if illuminated by the moon, then at her greatest age. It seems to have been attended by a great derangement of electric action through the telegraphic wires, by which it was found almost impossible, till an advanced hour of the morning, to transmit the usual parliamentary intelligence from the south."

At Chester, the aurora was seen for upwards of an hour on Thursday night, commencing a little before eleven o'clock, the coruscations being exceedingly splendid.

A long and detailed communication appears in the *Times*, from M. E. J. Lowe, of Highfield-house Observatory, near Nottingham, who states that the aurora of Thursday night was superior to any display since November 17, 1848, and describes its principal features from seven, p.m., Thursday, (at intervals,) till five, a.m., Friday. We copy his notice of its period of greatest brilliancy:—"11h. 55m. Magnificent curtains, which met and formed a cupola in the centre of a triangle formed by Z, and u Leonis Minoris (about AR 10h. 7m., decl. 29 deg. 8m. 50 sec. N.) The rays sprang up from all directions towards this point, yet did not stop at the cupola, for each ray shot past it at a distance of half a degree, becoming at the same time bent. At times the central point was pure sky surrounded by a milky ring; at others a white circle of about the diameter of the moon, surrounded by a ring of clear sky, but mostly very fantastic in form, resembling wings and wavy lines. Among the more striking features of the aurora were—1st, the many shapes of the central point, and its oscillations at about 12h. 35m.; 2dly, the perfect canopy of light at 11h. 55m.; 3rdly, the large portion of the sky occupied by the phenomena, and its descending as far south as Cor Hydræ; 4thly, the length of time it lasted; and, 5thly, the independence which one beam seemed to have to every other. The readings of the instruments at 11 p.m., (of Thursday), were—barometer, 29·973. (corrected;) thermometer, 29·4 deg.; wet-bulb thermometer, 29 deg.; maximum temperature for the day, 39·3 deg.; force of wind, 0·5; direction, NN.W.; sky cloudless throughout the display, and had been nearly so all day previous to it. There were faint auroral arches on the 15th, 17th, and 18th; violent gales of wind from the N.W. on the 16th, 17th, and 18th; snow on the 18th, with much lightning in the evening in the west."

At Swansea, South Wales, it was seen between eight, p.m., and twelve; exhibiting the most

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brilliant phenomena witnessed for many years. In endeavouring to solve the question of its origin, we must bear in mind the electro-magnetic influence of the polar lights, the great height of at least one species of the phenomenon —and here, parenthetically, if we are to believe the statements made by some that a noise accompanies the meteor, then must it occasionally occupy a lower altitude; but that sound attends, is far from being established—and the greater fact that the light is *direct*, not reflected.

Many fanciful theories have been propounded; that it was a solar emanation was held by Marian; that it is the impulse of material light disturbing the higher atmosphere was the opinion of St. Pierre—both utterly untenable. Some years ago, Sir John Ross offered another explanation, but not more satisfactory. It had its prototype in that of Monge, who supposed the phenomenon to be clouds illuminated by reflections of solar light from other clouds; Ross fancied it to be the reflection of solar light upon lofty clouds from fields of circumpolar ice and glaciers. Libes conjectured that it arose from decomposition of the atmospheric gases by the agency of electricity—a theory which cannot be established, and against which there are the strongest arguments. Others have supposed it to be a nebular fluid, or gaseous matter, acted upon by the earth's magnetism; and another theory has been broached, that the atmosphere contains metallic particles minutely divided, which, on these occasions, become themselves the subjects of electric and magnetic agencies. To define the height of the meteor would go far, by exclusion, to determine this doubtful point.

The magnetism of the aurora borealis indicates, without a doubt, a close relationship. That the meteor is electrical was conjectured long ago by Halley, and pointed out hy Eberhard and Paul Frisi. This opinion is held by Humboldt, Dalton, Young, Brewster, Kæmtz, Herschel, and many others. By this view, the parallelism of the auroral beams with the magnetic meridian, like staves of a cask running paralled to its axis, also the intensity of the phenomenon near the magnetic poles, and its decrease as we recede towards the magnetic equator, are explained; and the analogy is preserved by the experiments of De la Rive.

The hypothesis of the late Mr. Sturgeon is worthy of consideration, though we do not accede to it. "It originates," says he, "in a sudden change of temperature in the upper regions of the atmosphere, which gives rise to a corresponding disturbance of the electric fluid, causing extensive movements of it amongst the attenuated air and aqueous vapour illuminating them, as it spreads in various directions, according as the different parts are prepared for its reception and diffusion." Referring to those streaks of cirri and cirristrati—the *polar-bands*—which occasionally are seen, he conjectures that they "become luminous conductors, and form streamers of the aurora borealis, displaying different degrees of brilliancy, in correspondence with the nubiferous arrangement and the quantity of electric fluid flowing through it." So far, this theory requires that the polar-lights should occupy a very low position; and it is known to meteorologists that the aqueous vapour mingled with our atmosphere rises to comparatively low altitudes, that its amount is determined by temperature, and that its vesicles are frozen in the region of the cirrus cloud. To meet this objection, Mr. Sturgeon says: "It is possible, however, that on many occasions the electrical disturbances may take place even at higher altitudes, and the light be transmitted through the thinnest bands of these nubiferous arrangements, which would give the appearance of streamers or luminous beams, as decidedly as if they were themselves the conductors or channels of electrical transmission." To this we apprehend the diffusion of the meteor over so large an extent of country offers a disproving argument. The phenomenon has been seen simultaneousiy from the empire of the Czar, westward, to the native forests of America, and from the north of Europe to the equator. We cannot suppose nubiferous vapour spreading over an area so vast. As little can we agree with Mr. Sturgeon, "that similar arrangements of still more attenuated aqueous vapour are frequently found at altitudes where they are far beyond the reach of observation, until illuminated by electric disturbances." We are unwilling, however, to controvert that part of his hypothesis which assigns caloric as the exciting cause. "A sudden depression of temperature, that produces lightning amongst the clouds, would produce an aurora borealis in a higher region of the air; a depression of temperature at the earth's surface invariably succeeds a lightning-storm, and almost as certainly follows an aurora borealis; and very often both of these electrical phenomena appear simultaneously, showing that the disturbance extends to a great height, and the fall of temperature below the freezing-point which succeeds these phenomena, as well as the immense hailstones that attend lightning, infer that the change of temperature commences far above the earth's surface, and that it progresses downwards with various degree of speed."

The *dark segment* below the auroral are, which we have described as the first indication of a grand display of the polar light, is supposed by Argelander to be something real, and not, as Parry and Struwe think, only contrast with the luminosity above. When more luminous arcs than one appear, they are believed to arise by reflection from frozen crystals floating in the air.

PHARMACY BILL.—This bill was read a second time on Wednesday night in the House of Commons, and referred to a Select Committee. It gives great powers to the Pharmaceutical Society, and its wording should be carefully watched.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF DR. ROUTH'S "FALLACIES OF HOMŒOPATHY."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

Entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

IV.

Dr. Routh, gives *Arsenious Acid* and *Mercury* as further instances of the occasional truth of the homœopathic law. "But," says he, "numerous instances could be mentioned of the contrary. *Gallic Acid* and *Turpentine* exert a specific influence in cases of hemorrhage. Can these medicines produce hemorrhage?" This would, of course, be a triumphant objection, if it were well founded, for it was precisely by carefully studying "the cases in which the specific remedy for a disease of never-varying character has been revealed to physicians of the ordinary school (not by their own investigation, but *by the empirical practice of the common people*) wherewith they were enabled to effect a direct cure; as, for instance, of the venereal disease with *Mercury;* of the morbid state resulting from contusions with *Arnica;* of marsh ague with *Cinchona Bark;* of recent cases of itch with *Flowers of Sulphur*," etc. It was by taking these cases, and endeavouring, "*for the weal of mankind, to ascertain how these cures, as rare in their occurrence as they are remarkable in their beneficial results, really took place*" (Organon pp. 97—99), that Hahnemann discovered the homœopathic law. Although in the course of these investigations the great Master searched well through the records of medicine for such cases, he found them to be rare indeed; and it is for this reason that his first experiments, instituted for the purpose of accounting for these striking cures by something more satisfactory to his inquiring mind than the mere word *specific*, were not numerous. Dr. Routh has made this the subject of a *sneer*, which, although intended for Hahnemann, applies in truth only to the old system. But this law, discovered in the manner above stated, and subsequently verified by years of careful experimentation, is capable of explaining not only the cures which Hahnemann found recorded in the annals of medicine, but likewise those which have occurred since his time; on one condition however, namely, that the two necessary elements of the problem—the phenomena of the disease on the one hand, and the pathogenetic effects of the drug upon the healthy subject on the other—be first known.

Dr. Routh brings forward two substances as examples of the fallibility of the law. One of them, *Gallic Acid*, although discovered long ago by Scheele, has only been recently found to be useful in *hemorrhage*, particularly in *hæmaturia*. Its effects upon the healthy subject have not yet been ascertained, therefore we cannot at present say whether in it the law will hold good or not. I should say that if its action in arresting hemorrhage be *really specific*, that is, *not dependent upon its chemical action* on the salts of iron in the blood, it will be found some day or another to be capable of producing *hæmaturia*. We are in a different position with regard to *Turpentine*, which has been proved upon the healthy subject. It will therefore be proper to enter into a few developments respecting it, seeing that it is brought forward as a proof of the non-existence of the homœopathic law as a *general law*.

First, then, as regards the cures. We have a very interesting case of the cure of *hæmaturia* by means of a few drops of the *Oil of Turpentine*, recorded by Mr. Vincent (Observations on some Parts of Surgical Practice). We have also Dr. Thomas Smith's good opinion of the virtues of *Turpentine* in *hæmatemesis*, *hæmaturia*, *hæmoptysis*, and *epistaxis*. As regards hæmatemesis, the cessation of the bleeding would be no proof of the *specific* action of *Turpentine;* it might be the result of the direct action of the oil upon the bleeding vessels. But it is different with regard to the other forms of hemorrhage mentioned; to *cure* these the oil must be absorbed. Now I know a person in whom the vapour of *Turpentine* has repeatedly, and at distant periods, produced epistaxis. A sudden death occurred

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in this island little more than a year ago, through hemorrhage from the lungs, in a man who was taking a teaspoonful of the *Oil of Turpent ne* each evening—a popular remedy for rheumatism. But as it is not fair to bring forward as proofs facts which have not been previously published, I refer the reader to the "Homœopathic Materia Medica," in proof of the power of *Turpentine* to produce *hæmaturia*. I also quote the following words from Mr. Vincent, whose case of *hæmaturia* has already been mentioned. "Few great gifts come to us without alloy, and *Turpentine* is no exception to the rule. In the first place, there are few drugs more repugnant to delicate stomachs. In many it excites vomiting, in others it causes painful strangury, and *the irritation of the urinary organs is sometimes so great that blood is passed with the urine.*" There are other cases on record in which *hæmaturia* was produced by the inhalation of the vapour of *Turpentine*. Dr. Cotton, of the New York Hospital, reports such a case; the subject being a sailor engaged in a vessel freighted with turpentine, who knew no less than twelve men who had suffered in the same way from inhaling *Turpentine*. Dr. Harris, of the New York City Dispensary, met in one summer with three such cases. (New York Journal of Medicine, in North America; Journal of Homœopathy, vol. i. p. 125.)

"*Turpentine* and the *Oil of Male-fern* are specifics in many cases of tapeworm. Would a healthy person taking *Turpentine* continually have tapeworm? * * * The legitimate homœopaths answer the objection to the examples of *Turpentine, Gallic Acid, Oil of Male-fern* thus: if they should produce respectively hemorrhage and tapeworm, etc., this would be *isopathy*, not homœopathy. The objection, however, still holds. Do they produce anything *like* a tapeworm, any *animal* like it? and then the last example cannot be got over" (Routh, pp. 6, 7). To any one at all acquainted with *the* homœopathy founded by Hahnemann, the above extracts will lead to one conclusion only; namely, the lamentable unfitness of the author for the task he undertook. It grieves me to have to point out the absurdities and errors contained in the above few lines; but I *must* do so, for it is a part of my task. It is *not true* that homœopaths would call the production and cure of hemorrhage by *Gallic Acid* and *Turpentine isopathy*. It is evident that Dr. Routh does not know the distinction between *isopathy* and *homœopathy*. In the former, the disease is cured or prevented by one of its own products; namely, the virus which at the same time produces and is produced by it. In the latter, the disease is cured by an agent which produces on the healthy subject a disease resembling it, but not identical with it. I may here give an instance of the difference, which will avoid my reverting to it again further on, when the author speaks of vaccination and of small-pox. Whatever may be the theories now extant respecting the identity or non-identity of the vaccine-lymph with the virus of the small-pox, we cannot look upon vaccination as *isopathic*, because the lymph does *not* produce *small-pox*, but something resembling it. The inoculation of the small-pox virus would be *isopathic*, because it would produce a small-pox pustule and nothing else. Vaccination is, therefore, strictly *homœopathic*. Having thus instanced the distinction between the two, which it is clear Dr. Routh does not understand, although the Greek adjectives which enter into the composition of the words isopathy and homœopathy respectively bear a very dissimilar meaning, and might have led him to comprehend the distinction of the two. In the first the adjective means *equal* or *equivalent to*, in the latter it simply means *similar* or *like to*. If the reader, after these remarks, will therefore read over the above extracts from Dr. Routh, he will perceive that the author has been led into the following absurdity. If *Turpentine* cures hemorrhage *isopathically, then hemorrhage must* and can *produce turpentine*, which is an absurdity!

Dr. Routh asks whether any of the drugs he mentions were ever known to produce tapeworm. Now, in my turn, I ask whether he has ever read in the works of Hahnemann, or any of his disciples, that drugs acting upon the healthy subject could produce tapeworm, or any other animal or vegetable parasite, or even such common diseases as small-pox, scarlatina, measles, syphilis, sycosis, psora, cancer, tubercles, etc.? It is really high time that those who attack homœopathy should first study it carefully, not in the works of a Wood or of a Simpson, but in those of acknowledged authority in the homœopathic school!

Nor has it ever been asserted by Hahnemann or his followers that *Iodine* produced *goitre*, the action of this drug upon glands generally, and upon the thyroid in particular, as instanced in the works of allopathic authors, is sufficient for their purpose. If, however, Dr. Routh is not satisfied with these few words, I shall be happy to enter into a further discussion of the subject at some future period. At present I cannot do so, as much of the space allotted to me has already been wasted in the considera-

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tion of tedious details, whereas the chief object in view is to enter into an examination of the merits of homœopathy, not in a few chronic complaints, but in *acute diseases* of the most urgent and of the most dangerous character. I might therefore have waived the consideration of these various objections, and told the author that *a system which, based upon a principle or law, and which has produced in the most dangerous acute diseases results far surpassing those obtained by any system previously known,* is not to be pulled down or even shaken by raising objections in matters of detail, or diverting the attention of his readers to questions of secondary importance.

"In some cases of *otitis*," says Dr. Routh, "involving the dura-mater, we have shivering followed by hot fits, exactly resembling the paroxysms of ague, of a quotidian, and sometimes tertian, or other type; and what is still more singular, is, that they seem to be checked for the time by the exhibition of *Bark*. Now *Bark* certainly produces symptoms, as alleged by homœopaths, very *like* those of ague: in addition, intense headache, all the symptoms of cerebral congestion, eruption within the ear (Jahr), etc., and deafness. In this case, therefore, we have the exact application of the principle, *similia similibus curentur*, and yet death would inevitably follow the practice" (p. 7).

The author is unfortunate in his objection. In the first place, the selection of the remedy would not be made by a homœopathist, deserving of the name, upon such vague indications as those given by him. Hahnemann carefully guards us against taking indefinite symptoms, such as "nausea, debility, headache, and so forth" (Organon, § cxlv.), and also against single symptoms, such as the *type* of a disease, or *one-sided* symptoms generally, as the sole indication for the selection of the appropriate medicine. Now, in cases of otitis, involving the dura-mater, there are several symptoms besides those mentioned by Dr. Routh, which would guide the homœopathist in his choice of the medicine. For instance, acute pain in the internal ear, with sleeplessness, perhaps delirium, or a comatose state, the position of the head of the patient, the state of the pulse, etc.. Now, *Bark* does not give any of those symptoms from which *alone* the physician could draw his diagnosis. The supervention of aguish paroxysms would not lead homœopathists to the exhibition of *Bark;* for, supposing the case to be one of otitis, these phenomena would lead him to consider whether suppuration might not be taking place, whether the petrous portion of the temporal bone might not be affected with caries, etc., and then he would study carefully the symptoms of *Hepar sulphuris, Calc.*, or some other remedy that might suit better these symptoms. It so happens that the aguish paroxysms are among the *indefinite* symptoms mentioned by Hahnemann. They are to be found in *Belladonna*, and in *Hep. sulph.*, and *Calc.*, as well as in *Bark;* the homœopathist could not therefore be misled by them, whereas an allopathist might be; therefore the objection solely applies to the old system, not to the new. But I will give a case in point. In Dr. Abercrombie's "Researches on Diseases of the Brain" (London, 1836, p. 30), the history of a patient affected with inflammation of the dura-mater, who was made to take *Quinine*, because *the symptoms assumed an intermittent character*, is given, together with the post-mortem examination.

It is not my intention to enter here into the question of the small or infinitesimal doses, with regard to their power of modifying diseases, further than to remark, that it is not a point to be settled by *à prior* reasoning; neither is the action of the small doses to be explained any more than we can explain numerous other facts which no one doubts, because they come within the range of his daily experience. This question is to be decided by *experience* alone. It is upon this foundation only that homœopathists ground their belief in the power of minute doses of medicine, and it is upon this foundation alone that discrepancies have arisen respecting the quantity of the dose necessary in given diseases. Strange it is, that the author does not perceive that this very circumstance—the different opinions entertained by different homœopathists respecting the quantity of the dose—clearly proves that homœopathists are not led by *à priori* deductions from supposed facts, as he would lead us to believe. This, therefore, so far from being a founded objection to the system, only shows that the amount of the dose is as yet an open question, and that each individual practitioner is only bound by this rule,—to use a dose which must be *sufficient*, but *never excessive*. In ascertaining the sufficiency or the excess of the dose, he must be guided by the experience of others as well as by his own.

(*To be continued.*)

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NARRATIVE OF THE INTRODUCTION OF HOMŒOPATHY INTO ENGLAND.

By F. J. Smith.

(*Continued from page* 492.)

Having in our first article shown the huge annual loss to this country occasioned by the accident of illness, the incompetency of allopathy to deal with disease, by evidence adduced from the writings of its most distinguished practitioners, and the improbability of the beneficent Father of the Universe having ordained no law for the preservation and restoration of health; and having deduced from these premises the moral obligation of endeavouring to discover whether any system of medical practice extant is based on an universal law of healing, we now proceed in this paper to observe, that this question involves an investigation into all the medical systems extant. And in vain will the inquirer search for any system even *professing* to be based on an universal law of healing,* till he arrives at that instituted by Hahnemann, and practised by his disciples; and in this system he will find all his *à priori* reasoning fully vindicated—at least professedly.

Having at length reached—at any rate in appearance—*terra firma*, we cannot conceive so philosophical an investigator as our supposed inquirer, to be, doing less than examine with most searching scrutiny whatever has been written by eminent authors, who have trodden the same path before him. We will, therefore, imagine him carefully studying Dr. Joslin's "Principles of Homœopathy," a masterly production; the "Concise View of Homœopathy," by C. W. L., of Dublin, a work of extraordinary merit; the elegant yet demonstrative reasoning of Marmaduke Sampson, Esq., in his various writings; Dr. Quin, "Du Traitement Homœopathique du Choléra," of which Dr. Joslin thus speaks, "probably the best practical work that has hitherto been written on the cholera;" and Dr. J. Rutherfurd Russell's "Homœopathy in 1851," an excellent compilation of many valuable letters and pamphlets that have appeared at various times, connected together with much skill and judgment, and interspersed with some powerful remarks. These and other able productions of homœopathic writers having been well digested, we have no fear of our inquirer stopping short of the immortal works of the illustrious Hahnemann himself.

In a sketch so brief as this narrative must necessarily be, it is not possible to furnish many extracts. On the whole, then, I consider it best to confine myself to the second of the treatises named, more especially because it relates the steps taken by a free and enlightened people in reference to the two medical systems under consideration, and contains the response made to that people by their legislature. In the appendix to this work will be found, amongst other intensely interesting details, a petition presented to the Hungarian Diet, in 1843, founded on facts derived from public record:—

1. That the mortality in homœopathic hospitals was not quite six per cent., whereas in allopathic hospitals it amounted to more than twelve per cent. (S. Tab. iv.)

2. That, in severe inflammation, allopathy loses nearly fifteen per cent., homœopathy not quite five per cent. (S. Tab. vii.)

3. That, in nervous and putrid fevers, allopathy loses twenty-one, and homœopathy twelve per cent. (S. Tab. viii.)

4. That, in the treatment of cholera, allopathy lost fifty-three per cent., homœopathy only eight and three-quarters per cent. (S. Tab. x.)

5. That the average duration of cases, allopathically treated, is 29 days—while that of those homœopathically treated is only 21 days (page 222).

6. That homœopathic hospitals do not require, under equal circumstances, half the expense of allopathic establishments. (S. Tab. vi.)

The language of these petitioners is at once so manly, so temperate, and so forcible, that I cannot forbear to add the following quotation; and would that it might find its way to every statesman—to every governor of every hospital—to every member of every board of guardians—to every philanthropist—and to every parent in this country. The quotation is this: "We prefer laying numbers instead of mere words before the Diet, and if they cannot be shown to be erroneous, it is clear that, with regard to public interests, there is a vast difference between the new and the old system of treatment. We hold it to be our duty to point out to the representatives of the country the two facts, relating to the saving of both human life and public money, without intending to injure any one. We hold this

* Professional hydropathists do not claim for Preissnitz's system this universality. It is very far from being my wish to underrate hydropathy. I believe it to be an excellent palliative in some disorders; and of course, where it is homœopathic o a disease, curative.

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to be our duty, also, because we are well acquainted with both systems, and we think it advisable now to come forward, because the results obtained in our hospitals are so extensive and comprehensive, that a conclusive judgment may be based upon them."

Accompanying the petition were tabular views of the patients treated, during several years, at the Homœopathic Hospital of Güns, Gyongyos, Vienna, and Linz; and a comparative view of the results of allopathic and homœopathic treatment of patients at the Elisabetherin, Barmberzigen Brüder, the Hospital of the Israelites, and the General Hospital of Vienna; at the Barmberzigen Brüder of Ofen, the Hospital of St. Rochus at Pesth, of the Jacobspital of Leipzig, and the Charité at Berlin. The comparison gives (as an average result) $12\frac{1}{8}$ per cent. deaths under allopathic treatment, and $5\frac{6}{8}$ per cent. deaths under homœopathic treatment. In the homœopathic hospitals, the expense for every patient amounts to twenty-two kreutzers per day; in allopathic hospitals to fifty-two and a half kreutzers (page 174.)

We are happy to be able to add, that the petition addressed to the Hungarian Diet relative to the establishment, at the expense of the government, of a chair and homœopathic hospital at the University of Pesth, was adopted *almost unanimously* by both houses (page 174).

In the appendix, from which I am quoting, will also be found most satisfactory comparative statements of allopathic and homœopathic treatment, as applied to the sick of the 4th Regiment of French Hussars, during the years 1830-31-32-33 and 34, together with some striking results obtained by homœopathic treatment during the years 1835, 1836, and the first six months of 1837, signed and certified as correct by Laburthe, M.D., surgeon to the regiment, and by L de Bragk, colonel of the 4th Regiment of Hussars.

In the same appendix the inquirer will find an exceedingly interesting statement illustrating the comparative merits of the two systems of homœopathic and allopathic practice, in the Hospital of the State Prison at Auburn, New York.

Such are the effects of homœopathic treatment. And if the question be put—what, then, is homœopathy? the answer is brief. It is a medical system, founded on an universal law of healing, expressed by the words *similia similibus curantur*. If the subject be pursued, and a second question asked—when was it first promulgated, and what number of votaries does it boast? the reply is equally brief. It was first promulgated by Hahnemann, in the year 1796, and now numbers nearly five-thousand practitioners;* and if we except those who have graduated at the different homœopathic colleges in the United States, these five thousand practitioners, all educated in the tenets of allopathy, all engaged in practice, all risking income and professional status, for the sake of what they believed, after careful investigation, to be the truth—men whose average attainments will certainly bear comparison with the average attainments of the body they have left; while of some it may be said, that allopathy will search in vain for their superiors in classical knowledge, scientific acquirements, and medical skill.

And here it may not be uninteresting to the general reader to be informed, that hundreds of men, bred to the practice of allopathy, have deserted its ranks, on account of its scientifico-unsatisfactory character. Of these distinguished scientific seceders, perhaps the most conspicuous are, Locke, Smollett, Goldsmith, Crabbe, Sir James Mackintosh, Lord Abinger, and Lord Langdale; to this list we will add but one other name. Amongst the thousands whose diurnal course is from Paddington to the Royal Exchange and back, few are perhaps aware that within a bowshot of Finsbury-square is at least one spot sacred to genius. Northward of this quadrangular pile, to the left, is a terrace of some thirty houses, inhabited by merchants and professional men, while to the right is a lower range of buildings, occupied by tradesmen of various classes. Such was not the case formerly, this terrace, like its more aristocratic *vis-à-vis*, was composed of private dwellings, the fourth of which was the residence of a general practitioner of the name of Rance. He who, some thirty years ago, had occasion for the medical services of this amiable apothecary, on entering a small room designated the "surgery," was addressed by a youth remarkable for the attractiveness of his personal appearance and the elegance of his manners; beyond this mere outward show, probably not one in a hundred saw anything observable. The youthful disciple of Esculapius was, however, revolving great schemes in his fertile imagination; and there were not wanting those who, even at this period, augured a distinguished career from the varied and sparkling conversation that flowed from his lips. In due time, by the aid of literature, he exchanged medicine for the law, and migrated from the noise and bustle of the City-road to the more genial

* Homœopathic Times, February, 1852.

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atmosphere of the Temple. Here, by the assiduous cultivation of inherited talent, he has taken a high position in the profession of his choice, and become the well-known author of the "Diary of a Late Physician," "Ten Thousand a Year," and other highly popular works. Curiously enough, the successor to this distinguished student also abandoned the medical profession. Finally, the good old man died, and the very house itself abandoned the profession, and has passed into the hands of an optician, whose glittering articles now arrest the attention of the passenger on his way to the city.

We need hardly observe that this episode on medical seceders has been introduced, not because it has any direct bearing on our argument, but on account of its historical and topographical interest. We will now, therefore, return to the main topic of discussion, by observing that we have had before us evidence of an unimpeachable character respecting these two systems of medical treatment. Allopathists have been allowed to speak for themselves; and the homœopathic evidence adduced is the identical evidence that wrought conviction in the Hungarian Diet, and induced both houses to adopt, *almost unanimously*, a resolution to establish, at the expense of the government, a chair and homœopathic hospital at the University of Pesth—the richest university in the world save that of Oxford!

We might now go on to show the estimation in which allopathy is held by homœopathic practitioners; and, considering that such practitioners are acquainted with both systems, their testimony could scarcely fail to be interesting. But inasmuch as such evidence would not advance the argument against allopathy one iota beyond the point to which their own testimony inevitably conducts it—for this would be impossible—we prefer to leave that part of our case where it stands.

The evidence of allopathists in favour of homœopathy stands on a very different footing; and we are bound to adduce it, if only to do honour to the individuals from whom it emanates. We shall select our extracts from the admirable work of Mr. Sampson,* to which reference has already been made, and which the reader is earnestly recommended carefully to examine.

Germany.—Hufeland, of whom we have already spoken as the Nestor of medicine, says: "Homœopathy seems to be particularly valuable in two points of view: first, because it promises to lead the art of healing back to the only true path of quiet observation and experience, and to give new life to the too much-neglected worth of symptomatology; and, secondly, because it furnishes simplicity in the treatment of disease."

France.—Broussais, the founder and champion of the celebrated "Doctrine Physiologique," says: "Many distinguished persons are occupied with it (homœopathy). We cannot reject it without a hearing. We *must* investigate the truth it contains;" and he was thus engaged when his lamented death terminated his important investigations.

Italy.—The venerable Professor Brera says: "It deserves by no means contempt; but, on the contrary, a cool and impartial investigation."

America. — Valentine Mott, justly esteemed the pride of American surgery, observes: "Hahnemann is one of the most accomplished and scientific physicians of the present age."

England. — Mr. Kingdon, the eminent surgeon, on one occasion, read a paper before the London Medical Society (which was subsequently published in the *Lancet*), in which, after stating that his most profitable business is with gentlemen in the city,—"men whose minds are enlarged by education and occupation,"—goes on to say, that these gentlemen having forced homœopathy on his attention, "he sought an introduction to Dr. Quin, of whom he had heard most honourable report;" that he found Dr. Quin, "after a close intimacy of some months' duration, a most honourable, candid, gentlemanlike, and highly-educated man, with too much intellectuality easily to deceive himself. and too much honour to deceive another;" that he (Mr. Kingdon) made many experiments (the particulars he gives), the results of which were highly satisfactory, etc. etc.; and he thus concludes: "Notwithstanding all the trouble required' (to obtain a thorough knowledge of homœopathy), "it is my present belief that it is well worth while to take it; and, after what I have seen. or, if you please, what I have fancied I have seen, I feel that it is the duty of *every medical man* to look into it; for it is certain either that a number of cases are better without medicine than with it, *or*, that these unimaginable doses of carefully-prepared medicines *do impress the nerves so as to influence the actions of life.*"*

* Truths, and their Reception, considered in their Relation to the Doctrine of Homœopathy. Second Edition. Samuel Highley, Fleet Street.

* It is melancholy to think that this paper gave rise to a very angry discussion amongst the members of the Society present, and that a tacit understanding was come to, that the subject should never again be mooted in that assembly.

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Dr. Combe says: "After the presumptive evidence adduced, if *I* were now in practice, I should hold myself *bound*, without further delay, to test its truth by careful and extensive experiment."

Mr. Liston, of University College Hospital.—Dr. Quin, in a biographical sketch of this distinguished man, which appeared in the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, in January, 1848, after speaking of the cordial intimacy that had subsisted between himself and Mr. Liston for years, observes: "One day in the beginning of January, 1836, Mr. Liston was lamenting over the fatality that attended his treatment of the great majority of cases admitted into his hospital with erysipelas of the head, and stated that, in the physicians' wards the results were much the same as in the surgical wards;" that he (Dr. Quin) "mentioned that he had had several very severe cases, and that they had every one recovered under homœopathic treatment; that he happened to have a case that he had barely commenced, and that he offered to show it to Mr. Liston; that Liston accepted the offer, watched it, and the result was his employment of the same remedies at his hospital, with perfect success; the particulars of treatment appeared in the *Lancet* of the 6th and 13th February, and the 16th of April, 1836. After giving the details of these cases, Mr. Liston thus addressed the students: 'Without adopting the theory of this medical sect (the homœopathic), you *ought not to reject its doctrines* without due examination and inquiry.'"

It would be no difficult task to furnish page after page of evidence of this nature, from the works of men of equal standing with those from whose writings this selection has been made. Enough, however, has been advanced to demonstrate the absurdity of refusing to examine into the homœopathic system of healing. With examination we are content, for honest inquiry was never yet instituted without conviction being the result. And we are ourselves acquainted with the case of one of the leading homœopathic practitioners of London, who sat down to study the writings of Hahnemann, for the purpose of exposing the fallacy of his system, and ended by becoming a convert; like a celebrated infidel, who examined the Bible with the design of producing a sceptical treatise, and ended with writing in favour of religion.

Assuming, then, that the effect of this allopathic testimony in favour of homœopathy has been sufficient to produce a deep and lasting conviction of the folly of neglecting to examine into our system, we may safely request of our readers the favour of a reperusal of the homœopathic evidence adduced, in order to their being the better prepared for realizing the consequences that flow from it

But before we proceed to comment on this evidence, we must be permitted to make one general remark, viz., that the tendency of true science is to advance, as in the case of chemistry: the tendency of pseudo-science to remain stationary, or to decline, as in the case of alchemy. We do not introduce this position as the basis of a substantive argument, but it is at least of value as collateral evidence; and judged of by this test, what is the conclusion to be drawn respecting the two rival systems of medicine we have been considering?

With every discovery of a new drug, we find the Hahnemannic system confirmed, and thus is homœopathy in a constant state of progress: in so far, therefore, it possesses the vital character of a true science. Allopathy, on the other hand, after 2000 years, has to confess that, "without my interference, human mortality would be less!" If, then, allopathy has not been stationary, how fearful must have been its state previously! how slow its advance, if it has been in a state of progression during 2000 years, and has only attained to this point, after the lapse of twenty centuries! and how little hopes are to be entertained respecting it, even on this most favourable supposition. It is, however, far more reasonable to conclude, as the fact unquestionably is, that it has, for all practical purposes, remained stationary; and is thus self-branded with the character of a pseudo-science.

From the homœopathic evidence adduced, we will at present select but one single fact, and connect it with the arithmetical statement with which we commenced this article—£3,750,000 annually lost to this country by the accident of illness.

Now, assuming that homœopathy can cure disease in a period, which, compared with that required by allopathy, stands in the ratio of twenty-one days to twenty-nine days (as stated in the foregoing evidence), it follows that, by the general adoption of the former system, £1,034,483 would be annually saved by this country.

Let us pause for a moment. We have here a medical system, in whose existence all *à priori* reasoning would incline us to believe—supported by the authority of names of the highest order for intellect, medical attainment, and character—silently declaring its capability of saving this country

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£1,034,483 per annum. Is any statesman justified in neglecting to investigate the evidence on which such a system rests? Whatever may be the answer of *to-day*, our own deliberate conviction is, that posterity will not acquit him from putting aside the question, when the evidence that can be proved to exist at the present time is weighed—as it will one day be—by the impartial tribunal of the future.

But it may be replied that statesmen have more important things to do than to attend to medical disputes, or to investigate the merits of rival systems.

If this answer be intended to assert that statesmen have nothing to do with the physical, moral, intellectual, and pecuniary well-being of the people they govern, we deny the proposition absolutely. And if this be not the intention, then is the answer beside the question.

It may, however, be said that the majority of medical men *i. e.* allopathic practitioners, declare homœopathy to be humbug and quackery. The medical men of Harvey's and Jenner's day used viler names when speaking of those great benefactors of mankind; and now the views of Harvey and Jenner are universally received. Look again at Columbus, Galileo, and a thousand others; in fact, the history of every man or system that has been in advance of the age incontestably proves that scorn and obloquy are the lot of truth on its entrance into this world. So that if this argument be worth anything, it tells against the objector.

But lest any one should demur that these are not the days of Columbus, of Harvey, or of Jenner, and should be disposed to contend, or lead others to draw the conclusion, that truth hath, in these times, but to be presented to the attention of public bodies in order to ensure for it a ready reception, we will refer to the *Times* of this very day (March 5, 1852), where the objector will find, in the leader on the Inns of Court (composed of men of the highest legal position in the country), that men in all ages are essentially the same; that they are distinguished by the same hatred of innovation, and that the only difference that time has introduced, is the *means* adopted to maintain their position.

It is, of course, superfluous to say of a leader of the *Times* that it will well repay the trouble of perusal; our regret is that we have not space for introducing more than the first and last sentences of this admirable article: "Various are the means," says the writer, "by which delinquent public bodies seek to elude the unwelcome ingress of reform* * * * * Twice since then (1845) have they (the Inns of Court) projected reforms (in consequence of a parliamentary committee), and twice *shamefully abandoned* them; and now we (the *Times*) say emphatically with Lord Campbell, that the matter is for the *legislature alone*, and not for the *institutions* which have lost, amidst sloth and corruption, *the wish and even the power of self-regeneration.*"

Having drawn our illustrations of the tendency of human institutions to resist the progress of improvement from the profession of physic and the law, we shall perhaps, be only doing justice to the cause of truth by referring to the other great profession—divinity. And it fortunately happens that a pamphlet on this subject has just made its appearance; so that our evidence will be of the most recent date. The writer, who appears to be a man of prodigious powers of mind, observes: "There cannot be a heavier or more awful charge brought against the Church than this; and so extensive and so perfect in all its parts is this shameful and fearfully ruinous complication, that it is difficult to say where the work of reformation can possibly begin" (page 32.)* Again: "Every parish is a fortified place" (page 33). Again: "The clergy have been the Church's bane; merciful God! let them become the Church's hope" (page 33). Such is the testimony of a clergyman and a man of no common order of mind. And lest any one should be led to imagine from these extracts that the author's object is to disparage that Church of which he is a priest, I am bound to say that the contrary is the fact, and that he appears to be a most zealous advocate for the divine character of that institution. Indeed it would seem that his sole object in thus representing her condition, is to arouse his brethren (to whom the pamphlet is addressed) to a sense of duty and responsibility, just as the object of the *Times*, in the extracts I have given from that journal, and of Lord Campbell, whose authority they cite, is not to destroy the Inns of Court, but to reform them.

(To be continued.)

HOMŒOPATHY IN SWEDEN.

By Dr. Liedbeck, of Stockholm.

In consequence of an article in the *London Pharmaceutical Journal*, by Dr. Hamberg, of Stockholm, we have received a letter from our well-known colleague

* Spiritual Vitality. An Address to the Clergy by the Rev. R. Aitken, Incumbent of Pendeen, Cornwall, etc. London, Parker, 377, Strand, 1852.

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Dr. Liedbeck, requesting the publication of the following remarks.

Dr. Hamberg, the proprietor of a chemist's shop in Stockholm, says: "The so-called homœopathic apothecaries' shops do not exist in Sweden; they are not necessary, inasmuch as homœopathy does not seem likely to become long-lived here, and will soon become an historical curiosity. It is very probable, indeed I believe it, that in Sweden, as well as in other countries, many hysterical ladies, or *malades imaginaires*, male as well as female, have perhaps derived comfort from the homœopathic sugar-plums, and from interesting conversations with the homœopathic, long-suffering physician. But Swedes in general do not like this kind of medicine; no foreign, and only one Swedish physician practises homœopathy in Stockholm, and, in the country, I believe, not a single one."

As far as the reality of homœopathy in Sweden goes, it has hitherto been rather intensive than extensive, as my contributions to the homœopathic periodicals for many years, in Germany, and of late in England,—and also my many popular works on the subject, in Swedish, as well as my translation of the "Organon," as early as 1835, bear witness. For many years homœopathy was almost entirely confined to the University of Upsala, where my lamented teacher, Professor Wallenberg, and myself, the only medical recipients of the Hahnemannian doctrine, were engaged as public teachers. It was from Professor Wahlenberg's lectures, and afterwards from the study of Hahnemann's writings, that I became a convert to homœopathy, as early as 1826; though my practice properly dates from 1832, for during the interval I was engaged in an official position as physician to the House of Correction at Langholm, and as official provincial physician of Halland. I can sincerely say that the close examination requisite for the treatment of my present patients (averaging from 300 to 400 a year) gives me more mental anxiety and labour than when I occupied my former post as allopathic practitioner, and used to see 300 cases of typhus a week, during the prevailing epidemic in Halland. During my homœopathic practice, up to the present time, on an average, 7,300 cases have been treated by me, not to mention cases of angina or toothache, with which I have had more to do than any Swedish physician who is not a professional dentist. For the first-mentioned disease I introduced, before any other of my colleagues, *Ferrum aceticum* as a remedy, in consequence of my own observations, which were afterwards confirmed by those of Rademacher, as well as from the pathogenetic effects of the medicine.

The epithet of "long suffering" which Dr. Hamberg applies to me is both right and wrong; in short, I have always through my practice been enabled to support a large family, without the assistance of any one, and that shows that homœopathy has supported me. But the Doctor is right in so far as I, more than any man, have "suffered long," to see the widely-diffused system of Hahnemann, with its superior law of healing, so greatly disregarded, and making so little progress in the land of Linnæus, who, with Gustavus Adolphus and with Ling, are surely among the world's worthies. I console myself, however, with these words of Ling—"truth is the image of the Eternal, and is incorruptible," so nearly corresponding to those of our own *Master:* "Is not truth eternal, although it has been discovered but an hour ago?" So much for Dr. Hamberg, who, I hope, will not become hysterical and hypochondriacal, when he learns that at present there are six "long-suffering" homœopathic physicians in Sweden, whose names I shall be happy to communicate in a subsequent paper, with some of their cases. As early as 1832 there were already six physicians practising homœopathy in this country; since that time, however, there have been several defections from our band, from want of moral courage, indolence, want of encouragement, etc., but affairs are somewhat more promising at present; as far as I am personally concerned, my sphere of action has been considerably enlarged since I resigned my official position at Upsala, and public attention has been attracted to the subject, in consequence of the cures which I have been enabled to perform in the capital, where persons of all ranks and occupations have been more and more interested in the matter. Among others I may mention our celebrated authoress, Frederika Bremer, more generally known abroad than any other I could mention.

In addition to former cases communicated by me to your valuable journal, allow me to add the following, which may not altogether be without interest for your readers.

Case I.

Angina faucium et Tonsillaris cured with Camphor and Digitalis.

Mrs. Roos, forty years old, rather corpulent, the mother of two children, having a weak sight, and whose con-

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stitution, when I settled here (1846), was almost broken up, in consequence of a seven months' course of Hydrargyrus cum cretâ, in allopathic doses of this medicine, which had brought on greenish evacuations and copious vomitings, loss of spirits, and toothache; the teeth were discoloured, with bluish gums; there was also a fatty general deposition; for which ailments *Belladonna* 1, afforded her the greatest relief (especially for the vomitings), as well as *Oxid. Ferri*, which diminished the fat, and acted upon the muscular tissues, so as to produce greater strength and better health than she had enjoyed for years. At any accidental relapse she found very great benefit from the iron. Of late she suffered from a nervous disorder, and without consulting me had applied an empiric remedy, consisting of *Tincture of Opium* and *Valerian*; in conseq uence of which she passed a restless night, with dreams, and had a slight difficulty in swallowing. I gave her *Tincture of Iron* in the beginning of February, 1852, one drop to be taken every hour; but whether the patient during the course of the year was over-saturated with iron, or only suffered from the prevailing epidemic of sore throat, on the 10th of February the angina grew worse; the tonsils, especially the right, became blue red; the throat intensely red; considerable difficulty in swallowing; fever with *throbbing in the region of the cerebellum, isochronic with the pulse*; this symptom, the cure of which I have before mentioned in "Hygeia," xiii. p. 456, and have frequently seen, and heard of being cured by *Spirit of Camphor*, determined me first upon letting the patient inhale it, which she found refreshing, after which I gave five drops in a glass of warm water, a teaspoonful to be taken every quarter of an hour, and, in proportion to the alleviation, one every hour.

In the afternoon the fever had quite disappeared, and the throbbing headache was scarcely perceptible, with greater intervals, and, on closer examination, was found to be isochronic with that pulsation which corresponds to the expiration. I allowed the patient to sleep throughout the night without medicine; on the morning of the 11th the fever and headache had departed, the pulse becoming slow, feeble, and a little irregular. The patient felt herself weak; the sore throat worse than ever, so that during the night she could not swallow at all, in the morning only with great difficulty. The state of the pulse decided me upon employing *Digitalis*, three drops in half a tumbler of water, a teaspoonful to be taken every other hour. This removed at first the dryness in the throat, alleviated the swallowing with every teaspoonful, and gave her new strength. On the 12th she was completely restored.

Observations.—Although in this case I was induced to select *Camphor* as well as *Digitalis*, principally from the state of the pulse, and the correspondence of this symptom in harmony with the pathogenetic action of these remedies, we find, however, as regards *Digitalis*, a still greater correspondence with acute quinsy. Hahnemann (Materia Medica Pura, 2nd German edition) mentions "sore throat (sympt. 13), soreness in the fauces" (82). Hartlaub and Trinks (Reine Arzneimittellehre, vol. iii. p. 161.) "dryness in the throat." Noack and Trinks (Homœopath. Arzneimittellehre, vol. i. p. 681) mention "great dryness in the organs of deglutition" as physiological effects of this remedy; nay, Hahnemann had already cured with it swelling of the glands. Noack and Trinks (loc. cit., p. 60), Rademacher, at a later period, employed *Digitalis* externally as a generally successful remedy in diseases of the glands, viz., in affections of the mamillary, axillary, submaxillary, and parotid glands (Erfahrungs-Heillehre.)

I do not know, notwithstanding, any physician, be he allopathist, homœopath, or of the Rademacher sect, who has observed before me such a rapid cure, or who even has employed *Digitalis* as a remedy in acute amygdalitis. I had certainly some other clue in this case for the application of this remedy, inasmuch as the patient resembled her father very much, who, at the age of ninety, died of hypertrophy of the heart, with disease of the valves, etc., and during my treatment found more relief from *Tinct. Digitalis*, gutt. 3, than any other remedy, though its effects were only temporary.

Case II.

Larygneal and Pulmonary Phthisis quickly and considerably relieved by Ferrum aceticum.

Mr. Törnblom, court valet, aged forty-three, of slender stature, light hair, and born in the country, of healthy parents, had suffered for a year from spitting of blood, afterwards hoarseness, loss of voice, and night perspirations. Under other medical treatment he had used *Cod-liver Oil*, from two to twelve tablespoonfuls a day, till at last he lost his appetite, and after that he took "yellow powders," probably *Iodide of Mercury*, in large doses, so that

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his breath had become very fetid, to his own annoyance as well as that of his friends. The upper part of one of the lungs yielded a dull percussion on the back; his position was stooping and round-shouldered, weakness, emaciation, sleeplessness, great difficulty of swallowing, but at present no night perspirations. Such was his state on the 5th of February, this year, when he asked my advice, as he said, quite coolly, "Nothing else or nobody else had been able to help him." I prescribed *Ferrum aceticum Rademacheri*, ʒij, one drop to be taken in the hour. The following day (Feb. 6), when I saw the patient, he met me saying that he had not passed so good a night for months, and that he never had taken such a beneficial medicine. The hoarseness was considerably diminished, the swallowing easy, and the fetid breath also diminished. "A new doctor always works a miracle!" will many a sceptic exclaim. The followers of Rademacher and certain allopaths will find the doses too small, others the remedy unfit and incorrect, according to the rules of the art. As it is a fact that most homœopaths do not use iron in such minute doses as other remedies (Dr. Rentsch, of Wismar, one of the advocates for high powers, uses still (1849) one grain of iron for a dose, see Allg. Hom. Zeit., vol. xxxviii. page 2), they will not, however, disapprove of my modification of the ounce-doses of Rademacher. If my colleagues can show me a better remedy, and a more appropriate dose, I shall be glad to adopt it, but I wish for something more than mere assertion—"that if I, for instance, had given 30, it would have succeeded quite as well, if not better." As my own experience, as well as that of others, has satisfied me that this is not the case with the iron remedies, I shall, therefore, be little induced to administer high powers of *Ferrum*, as my challenge to my colleagues to publish their experience with those powers has been still unanswered. I do not find reported any cure by high powers, or even the 30th dilution of *Ferrum*, that can be compared to those obtained by iron in substantial doses, as administered by Rademacher, Kæmpfer, Heinrichsen, Rummel, Kallenbach, myself, and others. Should relapses of bleeding from the lungs occur, many old-fashioned practitioners will say that it was in consequence of iron; but the patient who is able to swallow his food, will not so easily be convinced that the remedy which had saved him from a death of starvation was so dangerous as those who consider iron contraindicated in tuberculosis. Dr. Fleischmann, of Vienna, says that he has not yet seen any case of tuberculous affection of the lungs cured better by homœopathy than by other means. Be it so: is it not, then, our bounden duty to employ anything that alleviates when assistance is so impracticable and art so impotent, and when the hope of the patient is such a powerful engine towards restoration?

Just as I had finished writing this (13th February) I was summoned to attend the patient, who then could eat; the hoarseness had disappeared, but he complained of a difficulty in breathing. His dilated pupils decided me upon trying the leaf of *Belladonna*, to be smoked. I have often before seen emphysematsis, or asthma, tamed and subdued, as well as spitting of blood from tuberculosis at any rate palliated, by this application. I cannot tell whether the smoking of *Belladonna* will be successful in this case, but I am satisfied, from former observations in a similar case of asthma, in which the leaf of *Belladonna* had been freely used instead of tobacco (a pound of it), that no injury was suffered by the patient. Tobacco is also, according to my own proving, far more irritating than *Belladonna*, which, though it burns the tongue more, does not appear to affect the body so much.

(To be continued.)

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27TH, 1852.

Now that there is a lull in the storm of persecution to which homœopathy was lately subjected—now that the weekly organs of our allopathic brethren are silent concerning us, and we are left for awhile to repose—now that the "Pharmacy Bill," which was designed to give such large powers to the Pharmaceutical Society, from which some saw a designed impediment, in the way of legal enactment, to the practice and progress of homœopathy, has been, if not virtually shelved, sent into committee under strong opposition, from whence it is likely to come forth wonderfully modified—it behoves the friends of our Cause to take time by the forelock, and use the opportunities they have.

In our last number we alluded, as we

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have so often done, to the desirableness of having for the present only *one* large and effective *Hospital*, wherein scope would be allowed for ample observation of homœopathic practice in all the various diseases and accidents to which mortal flesh is heir.

We are satisfied that such an Hospital would be a great blessing to us all, and a school of experience to medical inquirers, who would no longer feel it necessary to resort to foreign shores.

As a matter of course, statistics emanating from such an Hospital would more impressively arrest attention, and, above all, such an Institution would put an end to unhappy dissensions, about which the real homœopathic public care not one straw. The majority, we believe, only wish to see the funds subscribed by them applied to useful and beneficent purposes.

We have no desire to offend the class-views of any individual or individuals, but we think, as public journalists, we have a right to offer our opinion, the more particularly as we are practically too well acquainted with the painful fact—painful as a hindrance to our auspicious progress—that numerous individuals have not only suspended, but temporarily withdrawn their subscriptions, until they can see and be assured of something like a settled union.

We believe a favourable crisis has now arrived for a permanent settlement of affairs. We do not ask for the amalgamation of the profession in the metropolis, for however much to be desired, *that*, we are painfully convinced, will *never* come to pass, nor is it desirable, from our experience, that there should be any such thing, while the rank partisanship prevails in a body *without*, sufficiently powerful to intrude *class interest*, and who have the bad taste not to see that their idol worship cannot and will not be tolerated. We are bound to speak out. These are the individuals who, in the ardour of all their seeming philanthropic enthusiasm, are the real hindrance to our Cause, and to our progress and union—a *blight* that is more to be dreaded and shunned than the most flagrant allopathic nepotism.

We again say, the public—yes, *the real homœopathic public*—who wish to see such an Hospital as we and they desire, and as we have always advocated, have now a favourable opportunity for an *amalgamation of subscribers*.

We feel strongly on this question, and although there may be some minor points in the constitution of one establishment requiring modification at the next general meeting of its subscribers, we are morally certain, if its executive will look to this, and the question ot a large Hospital, the latter object may *now* be accomplished, without the *amour propre* of the subscribers on either side being in the least compromised.

We have not recently been informed how the Manchester Hospital fares; nor do we know what is the prospect of a homœopathic hospital being instituted at Edinburgh this year. The establishment of such an institution in that ancient city and time-honoured school of medicine would be an epoch in the history of homœopathy; but to effect this, the public require to be appealed to, and should largely contribute.

The proceedings during next month cannot fail to have important results in the way of a triumphant progress, should our hints be listened to, for our doctrine and practice. If there be a check, it can only be temporary, but still we should do better without it; and it would be more satisfactory to announce the triumph than to have to submit to the check. It remains to be seen what will be done, and what left undone.

In Mr. Harrild's beautiful almanac for the current year, we find it announced for the 10th April, Hahnemann (homœopathist) born, 1755—nearly a century since! On the 10th April, 1855, there should be a Hahnemann Jubilee in every country that has received the blessings of his teaching. It behoves those of us in this country who call ourselves his disciples, so to use the interval,—life, strength, and opportunities granted to us,—as to make our British Jubilee worthy of the memory of the enlightened medical philosopher Samuel Hahnemann.

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THE HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL.

THE Annual Meeting of this Hospital will be held on the 2nd of April next. As some very important events have occurred since the last general meeting, it is hoped that there will be a very numerous attendance of subscribers.

Some of the members of the Board of Management have addressed a circular to the governors and subscribers, in which they state their intention to propose the following Resolution, in reference to the appointment of clinical lecturers with *that title.*

RESOLUTION—"That the formal appointment of Clinical Lecturers by the Board of Management be not confirmed, but that, in accordance with the written opinions of the majority of the Medical Council, clinical instruction and lectures be given by the physicians and surgeons of the Hospital, without title of any sort."

It is clear that all those who take any real interest in public homœopathic institutions, and who have heretofore supported this Hospital, should, either in person or by proxy, give a distinct answer to the circular we have alluded to. From our advertising columns it will be seen that, before the General Meeting on the 2nd April, a pamphlet will appear, etc., setting forth the facts of the case: it may be obtained of any homœopathic publisher or chemist.

In our last week's number, and in our first leader of this week, we have urged the desirableness of the *amalgamation of the subscribers* of the two metropolitan hospitals. This is a "consummation devoutly to be wished."

Obituary.

WE regret to announce the death of Charles Thorold Wood, Esq., which took place on the 13th of March, at Campsall Hall, near Doncaster. He was in his 76th year. Mr. Wood was one of the earliest and most steadfast lay supporters of homœopathy in this country. During his fatal illness, which lasted three weeks, he more than once expressed a wish for his recovery, chiefly because he considered that this would add another triumph to the annals of homœopathy. Although medicine failed in curing the disease, it promptly and certainly mitigated the sufferings of the invalid. Mr. Wood was deeply interested in the success of this Journal, and in all matters relative to the great medical reform. To the last he delighted in conversing respecting the history and prospects of homœopathy. Throughout his fatal illness he was attended by Dr. Dunn, of Doncaster, and by his son, Dr. Neville Wood, of London. Dr. Quin was likewise summoned from London during the course of the malady.

The deceased is interred in the family vault, in the church at Thoresby, near Alford, Lincolnshire. His remains were followed to the grave by his surviving relatives, and by all the tenants upon his estate at Thoresby.

CASES.

CHRONIC GASTRITIS.

January 7th, 1852. M. A— a cook, æt. 23; has complained for some months of a smarting pain in the left hypochondrium, and under the left breast, aggravated by eating, and worse on pressure; fanciful appetite, and confined bowels; menses quite regular. She had taken *Bryonia* and *Sulphur*, with relief of these symptoms. On the evening of the 6th she was seized with a violent fit of vomiting while at work: she fell down insensible, bringing up a large quantity of black fluid, composed of dark blood, mixed with the secretion of the stomach, and undigested food; she soon recovered her senses, but felt very ill after the attack, complaining of very distressing, burning, smarting pain in the stomach, with tenderness on pressure; much pain under the breast, and great tightness of the chest, together with a continual dry cough, which aggravates all her pains; constant thirst; foul taste in the mouth; tongue coated with a thick yellow fur; complete loss of appetite; no fever; spirits very low; great debility, so that she was obliged to keep her bed.

℞ T. Bryonia 3, ♏ j.
Nux, ʒj. M. t. d. s.

8th. Under this remedy the violence of the cough abated, but otherwise no amendment has taken place. She had a very restless night, complaining much of frightful dreams, and fancying that things were in bed with her; feels much pain in the back and in the limbs, with frontal headache; took a dessert-spoonful of *Castor Oil* this morning, which brought away a black motion, composed evidently of blood, like that which she had vomited; throat feels full and uncomfortable.

T. Bellad. 3, ♏ss, to be alternated with
T. Bryonia 3, ♏ss, every three hours.

9th. No better; throat very uncomfortable, with a sensation as if a piece of meat lay in it; it is sensitive to pressure, which causes a tendency to choke; great aversion to food; cough much better; the pain in the stomach remains the same.

℞ T. Lachesis 5, ♏ss.
Aquæ, ʒj. t. d. s.

10th. No better; the menses have appeared to-day.

℞ T. Arsenic. 3, ♏ j. t. d. s.

11th. Somewhat better; is more cheerful, and

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desirous of sitting up; bowels costive. Continue *Arsenic.*

12th. Decidedly better; tongue cleaner; the burning pain in the stomach is much relieved, and it is not so tender to pressure; bowels moved twice to-day, but little passed; the dreams at night still continue very unpleasant. Continue the *Arsenic.*

12th. Better in all respects; can get about a little; tongue much cleaner; appetite returned; thirst much diminished; the pain in the stomach is liable to be aggravated by any exertion; cough nearly gone. Continue *Arsenic.*

She continued to improve during the 14th and 15th; *Kali bichromicum* 3, globules ij, were then ordered twice a day.

17th. Not much difference; *Natrum muriaticum* 3, gr. ss. b. d.

On the 19th she was better in all respects, and on the 21st so much improved that she was able to bear a long journey home.

The burning pain in the stomach, the capricious appetite, and the vomiting of blood are characteristic symptoms of chronic inflammation of the stomach; in such cases the mischief is often confined to a small portion of the mucous membrane, and if it be not checked in time, it is apt to terminate in ulceration and perforation. In this and in some other cases of the same kind which have come under my care, *Arsenic* has seemed to be of great service in relieving the pain, checking the sickness, and appearing to restore the integrity of the organ. In chronic enteritis, asthenic dysentery, and several other affections of the alimentary canal, it is also of the greatest service. The following case is illustrative of its use in such affections.

January 25th. W. T—, æt. 8, a delicate scrofulous boy; has been out of health for eight months, and for the last two months has been purged as many as twenty times every day. The usual allopathic remedies have been tried without the slightest relief. He is extremely emaciated, and very pale; the abdomen is hard and rather enlarged, and he complains of pain in it, low down in the right iliac region, worse on pressure, and sometimes so violent as to force him to scream out; his appetite is very bad, and after eating he feels much pain across the epigastrium; great thirst; tongue dry, fiery red, with the papillæ raised at the tip; coated at the side and back with a thick yellowish fur; breath offensive; the passage of the fœces does not occasion him much pain; they are only passed during the day; are watery, of various colours, often containing streaks of blood and undigested food; occasionally he feels sick, but he does not vomit; sleep restless, with much screaming, and grating of the teeth; he feels sometimes much pain in the right leg, and has a tendency to limp on that side; spirits very depressed; he feels exceedingly weak and low; pulse 120, sharp and small.

℞ T. Arsenic. 3, ♏ j.
Aquæ ʒj. t. d. s.

26th. Since beginning the *Arsenic*, has had only one motion, which was more solid; ate a little better to-day, and looks more cheerful. Continue *Arsenic.*

27th. Has had motions this morning, which were pale and liquid; pain in the abdomen not quite so acute; thirst less; appetite better; slept much better; pulse 105; tongue continues much the same. Continue *Arsenic.*

28th. Bowels not moved at all since yesterday; in all respects better. Continue *Arsenic.*

29th. Bowels moved only once yesterday, not at all to-day. Continue *Arsenic*, only once a day.

31st. Bowels not moved since the 28th; complains very seldom of the pain in the right side; appetite better, though fastidious; no thirst; more cheerful; and more inclined for exertion; pulse 105; tongue beginning to lose the vivid red colour. Omit *Arsenic.*

℞ Sulph. 6, ʒij. b. d.

After this the treatment consisted chiefly in the administration of *Sulphur* and *Calcarea.* The state of the bowels continued most satisfactory, and no return to the *Arsenic* was called for. With a view to making him more fat, the use of *Cod liver Oil* was resorted too; but it excited so much loathing, that it was soon given up. He is still taking *Calearea* three times a week; his general health is very much improved, and he is recovering his flesh and strength.

ACUTE BRONCHITIS.

January 10th. M. T—, æt. 7; has been poorly some time, and since yesterday suffering from the following symptoms: violent fever, with general uneasiness in the limbs, and unwillingness to move; much cough, causing pain and soreness of the chest; sputa white and frothy, and tinged with blood; pulse 130; tongue foul, with thick white fur; breath offensive; skin hot and dry.

℞ T. Aconit. 3, 4tis horis.

11th. Much wandering during the night, with restless sleep; bowels moved twice; fœces yellowish and slimy; pulse 129, sharp; cough very distressing; tongue furred, white; sibilus and large crepitation over the chest; face flushed; no appetite; not so much pain in the back and limbs.

Alternate *T. Aconite* 3, and *T. Bryonia* 3, every two hours.

12th. Very much better in all respects; pulse 120, much softer; cough not quite so violent; sputa no longer tinged with blood; the sibilus is giving place to rhonchus over the chest; able to get out of bed. Continue *Bryonia*, t. d.

13. Cough nearly well; general health also improved.

℞ T. Sulph. 3. ♏ j.
Aquæ 3, ʒvj. t. d.

She got quite well soon after beginning this.

J. C. Lynch,
Sudbury, Suffolk.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 140. Vol. III. | SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1852. | Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

Communications.

NARRATIVE OF THE INTRODUCTION OF HOMŒOPATHY INTO ENGLAND.

By F. J. Smith.

(*Continued from page* 508.)

Fruitfully suggestive as is the train of thought we have been following, let it be remembered that it all flows from the consideration of *one* single factin evidence, out of *six* that we have extracted; and that the selection has been made from a perfect El Dorado of medical statistics. We will now endeavour, very briefly, to exhibit some of the consequences resulting from the other five points.

First, then, the average mortality has been shown to be in allopathic hospitals 12 per cent.; in homœopathic hospitals not quite 6 per cent. Excluding from our consideration those who die of pure old age (and alas! how small is that number), and confining our attention to those who die annually of *disease*, if we now bring to bear the comparative mortality table just quoted, we shall see that the lives of more than one-half of this number might be lengthened indefinitely were homœopathy universally practised. And who shall adequately realize this idea? widows and widowers, bereaved parents and helpless orphans, all—and this it is that gives intensity to the thought—all unnecessarily so!—come crowding on the mind, till imagination sickens at the sight of woe.

But before we draw a veil over the heart-rending picture, we must beg the reader to bear with us while we glance for a single moment at one other comparative table of mortality. Allopathy, as we have seen, loses, in the treatment of cholera, 53 per cent., homœopathy only 8¾ per cent. Here is a disease, which, while it selects its victims chiefly from amongst the working-classes, strikes terror into almost every breast when it visits a country, on account of its fatal results under the general system—that is, the allopathic mode of treatment. Sparing neither age nor sex, it hurries its victim into another world all unprepared, too often with no provision made for his dependants, and it affords him no time to make any.

There is scarcely a parish in Great Britain that is not at this moment feeling, in a pecuniary sense, the consequences of the last visitation of this fatal disease, from the widows and orphans it has had, and still has, to provide for. But what is this pecuniary consideration compared with the consequences to these bereaved ones? And could these poor sufferers be made sensible that out of every 106 of the dead 88 might still be alive, what language could express their sentiments? With what feelings would they regard those whom Providence, in placing above them, designed to be their exemplars and instructors, and who, by reason of their superior education and more abundant leisure, are without excuse for not having devoted both these gifts to an investigation into the merits of the rival medical systems we have been considering; and have thus been the means of extending the blessings of homœopathy throughout the length and breadth of the land, and of averting from 88 out of every 106 of the families, whose protectors fell victims to cholera, the crushing calamity under which they now groan?

It has been with no feeling save one of deepest concern, that we have traced out some of the practical results of the statistics we have quoted. The subject is, no doubt, intensely distressing; but that is not philanthropy—it is but a mawkish sentimentality—that cannot endure the sight of truth—how gloomy or revolting soever may be its appearance. Nay, it is from the contemplation of woe in its most helpless and harrowing condition, that true philanthropy learns her profoundest lessons, and acquires the moral power to perform her noblest achievements. Let no one, then, having the slightest pretension to philanthropy refuse to cherish the remembrance of the facts and their results which we have thus laid before him. They should be dwelt upon; every homœopathist should make them known to the utmost limits of the circle of his acquaintance, and every effort should be put forth for extending the blessings of such a life-saving system!

With a sensation of exquisite relief, we

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now turn to a consideration of the two remaining statistical tables we have brought under notice. From the first we learn "that the average duration of cases allopathically treated is twenty-nine days, that of those homœopathically treated only twenty-one days;" by the second we find "that the expense for every patient amounts to twenty-two kreutzers per day, in homœopathic hospitals; in allopathic hospitals to fifty-two and a half kreutzers." Here we have statistics pregnant with hope and happiness for our poor fellow-creatures. The allopathic hospitals have but to change their system to homœopathy, and for every 21,000 patients they receive, they can accommodate 29,000! so far as relates to space; and as to expense, for every 29,000 now relieved they could relieve 68,545!! Anything in the shape of a comment on such a calculation would be but to weaken its effect.

Our extracts and the reasoning upon them have extended to so great a length, that it may be well just briefly to recapitulate what has been advanced. We have, then, proved by the evidence of allopathic practitioners, that their system "was founded in conjecture," and has no pretension to the name of a scienec ; and that mortality would be less if allopathy did not exist, and patients were left to the *vis medicatrix naturæ*, or, if we may be permitted the privilege of coining a term—to phusipathy.

We have seen from the writings of eminent allopathists, that not only did they teach the necessity of examining into homœopathy, but actually practised what they taught; while one employed the system in his private practice, and two—who, alas! were cut off in the midst of their experiments—introduced it into their hospitals.

We have also shown—by official returns—that the average mortality under homœopathy is more than 50 per cent. less than under allopathy; while, in the case of cholera, out of every 106 persons who have been carried off by that frightful scourge, 88 might have been saved!

On the rapidity of convalescence under homœopathy, arising from the fact that no depleting measures are used, and, therefore, that, the disease being conquered, the patient has nothing to do but to get well; whereas under allopathy, the patient has to recover from the combined effects of the disease and the remedies employed, —on the tendency of allopathy to convert acute disease into some incurable chronic affection—on the tendency of the allopathic system to produce medicinal disease—on the almost unfailing success of homœopathy in scarlet fever, so frequently fatal in allopathy—on the use in homœopathy of a prophylactic in this alarming malady, so that when it enters a family, the other members may be effectually preserved from attack, and the absence of any such preservative in allopathy—on these and many more topics of great interest we do not enlarge. Evidence on these points abounds; but as we have, for the sake of brevity, forborne to introduce it, it is scarcely fair to make such topics subjects of disquisition.

Enough however, has, we trust, been advanced in the way of fact and argument, to demonstrate the moral obligation under which the community is placed, of investigating the evidence on which homœopathy is founded. We will now, therefore, select three classes, on which, as we think, this obligation in a special manner rests, and address a few words to each.

To the statesman we would say—you devote much time and energy to the study of Adam Smith, Burke, and McCulloch; because these writers address themselves to subjects connected with the wealth of nations and the progress of society—in homœopathy you have a system which professes—and the profession is supported by unimpeachable authority—to be capable of adding negatively, if not positively, to the wealth of this country, and to its moral and intellectual advancement. You spend weeks, if not months, every year in debating how a million pounds sterling may be saved to the country, by this measure or by that.—Here is a system which professes to be capable of saving the country £1,034,483 per annum. You appoint your sanitary commissioners to inquire how mortality may be diminished by a fraction.—Here is a system that professes to be capable of reducing mortality by one-half. You have your advocates for this and that measure of Poor-law Reform, that so the burden of supporting the unfortunate may be diminished.—Here is a system professing to be capable of saving the country from the *cause* which throws on your unions for support, numberless widows and orphans prematurely such. The Hungarian Diet listened to homœopathic evidence, and, with a far less amount of fact and argument, was moved to the establishing, at the expense of the Government, of a chair and hospital on the homœopathic principle. Will British senators turn a deaf ear to our appeal, and refuse to *investigate?* All we ask is that you will *investigate.* Let every statesman do *this,* and then carry into practical operation the

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lessons he has learnt, just as he would carry into practical operation the truths imbibed from the study of the political writers we have named, and we ask no more. The statesman of the present day cannot commit his memory to posterity in sure and certain hope of an honoured reception hereafter, if he have done less.

We come now to the minister of religion and the philanthropist.—The observations we have addressed to statesmen apply with tenfold force to you! *You* profess to be actuated by higher than mere earthly considerations—you profess to have taken under your special care the social, moral, and spiritual condition of the poorer classes, who have neither the time, the education, nor the opportunity to investigate such subjects for themselves—you profess to have traced out an intimate connection between sickness and crime* amongst the lower orders.—Here is a system which professes to be capable of diminishing the days of sickness by one-third, and mortality by one-half. It is an act of impiety—nothing less—in you to neglect to investigate the evidence on which such a system rests.

Parents of England—if the observations addressed to statesmen, ministers of religion, and philanthropists, backed by the earnest, though unexpressed, solicitations of your dependent offspring, animate you not to the task of at once investigating this subject, we have no arguments for you. *You* must be left to your own remorse, when the truth shall force itself upon you—that days of anguish might have been spared your children, and that one *who is not*, might have been seated by your side.

The homœopathic system of healing for which I have thus bespoken an impartial investigation, on the ground that it is supported by *à priori* and *à posteriori* argument of the most cogent character, was promulgated by the illustrious Hahnemann in the year 1796.

Comparatively brief as has been its existence, and requiring, as it has done, on the part of its student an unbiassed mind, willingness to acknowledge himself to have been in error, and readiness at all hazards to embrace the truth; opposed as it is to vested rights, professional prejudice, and party associations; and vilified as it has been—the common lot of truth—by place and power trembling for existence, it nevertheless numbers, as we have seen, at the present time, nearly 5000 practitioners, including men of the highest professional rank and attainments.

If its future career is to be gathered from its past history, and the impetus it has already acquired is to be taken as any criterion of the destiny that awaits it, and if, above all, it be true—"Magna est veritas et prævalebit"— then will homœopathy overspread every land and diffuse its blessings through every family.

And if such is to be its lofty destiny, the history of its introduction into England will one day have to be written. Whether homœopathy has assumed sufficient importance in this country to warrant such an undertaking at the present moment, it concerns me not now to inquire. But of this I am fully persuaded, that—

> "If it be now, 'tis not to come;
> If it be not to come, it will be now;
> If it be not now, yet it will come;
> The *readiness* is all."

And with a view to this "readiness," I propose now to give a brief outline of the introduction of homœopathy into England, from authentic documents. With no such ambitious design, then, as that of writing a history, but in the unpretending character of a simple collector of facts, claiming no greater merit than fidelity, and no lesser than a love of truth, I venture to submit to the homœopathic world a narrative of the circumstances which led to the introduction of this science into England.

(*To be continued.*)

* Lord Shaftesbury, on the 13th of July, 1849, declared it to be his "opinion that ninety-nine cases of crime out of every hundred were the result of want of employment." The connection between sickness and loss of employment is too obvious to require remark.

Lest it should be said that this statement is the result solely of English experience, we will quote from an able pamphlet, by William Gladstone, Esq., the philanthropist, entitled "Report of the Special Committee appointed by the National Assembly of France, to consider the Treatment of Juvenile Offenders." At page 12 we have this most touching announcement. "What is in general the class of these unprotected children? For the most part, they are creatures destitute of any domestic education." It is perfectly obvious that, *cæteris paribus*, in the ratio of sickness must be diminished means; and in the ratio of diminished means, diminished education. This pamphlet should be studied by every one interested in the state of our criminals.

HOMŒOPATHY IN SWEDEN.

By Dr. Liedbeck, of Stockholm.

(*Continued from page* 511.)

As regards the doctrine of doses and its relation to different persons, and the liberty in research necessary in this respect, irrespective of the dogma of infinitesimal doses, and still less of the stereotyped allopathic prescriptions, I do not know for our practice a more instructive case than the following.

Two ladies (H—m), sisters, having married two brothers, consulted me on the 15th December, 1851, against a long-standing and distressing headache. They have

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both blue eyes and dark hair, somewhat resembling each other, however the one more like her father, the other like her mother. The parents had also suffered from headaches, and one of their brothers labours also under this complaint; symptoms the same as in both the sisters, viz., pain across the vertex, with a shivering sensation, lancinations, and vertigo, especially when stooping; these symptoms are aggravated by eating. I give here an outline of the cases of the two ladies for comparison.

No. 1, aged twenty-one, with dilated pupils, not disposed to shed tears.	No. 2, aged twenty-eight, small and contracted pupils; disposed to shed tears.
No child, after four years' marriage.	Mother to a boy during the first year of her marriage.
High-coloured face, already as a girl, more than her sister.	*Pale;* the period, which formerly continued only for a couple of days, lasts after that time, five or six days.
The headache increased during the periods.	The same.
Headache already as a child.	The same.
Leucorrhœa occurred later than the headache.	No leucorrhœa since the patient became a mother.
No cough.	Dry cough, but the lungs otherwise healthy.
Headache, accompanied with a tension in the eyes; the sight is, however, good; the eyes clear and lively.	Makes use of *spectacles* for *weak* sight; the eyes look dull.
Sensation as if there was a block in the head; likes more *warmth* when the headache occurs.	Pressure over the head, sometimes *clavus;* will have *cold* applications on the head when it aches.
The menses rather diminished since the leucorrhœa begun, though not in a considerable degree.	Has lost a great deal of *blood* whilst in accouchement, after which her headache grew worse; night-perspirations.

It appeared to me in Case No 1 most important to get rid of the leucorrhœa. I effected this by a remedy already recommended by Linnæus (Materia Medica, p. 28, edit. Schœbii), viz., *Ossa Sepiæ*, with the addition of *Sacch. Lactis*, aa ʒj, one teaspoonful morning and evening (Hygeia, vol. xi. p. 54). The headache continued, however, and was increased through an occasional sprain in the back in January, 1852, which yielded within forty-eight hours to a single dose of *Rhus* 3. The remaining headache appeared to me to ndicate *Ignatia.*

According to Noack and Trinks (Homœop. Arzneimittellehre 1843, p. 832), "the inhabitants of the Philippine Islands wear the *Ignatia* as an amulet for all diseases," a fact, which though made known by Murray in the last century, I did not know myself until 1844, when in Munich, where I heard our colleague Dr. Buchner mention that the amulet had been found to be of service, when *Ignatia* taken internally had failed. Since this time I have rather employed *Ignatia* as an amulet, where this remedy has appeared to be indicated, instead of the usual mode of administering it; and I bored a hole in the bean itself, and suspended it by a silk riband at the pit of the stomach. The patient continued well from the 29th January, 1852; but on an attempt to remove the bean, the headache reappeared the following day, and was not relieved until the bean was replaced. She wears it now, and continues well. This is only one of the many cases in my practice in which wearing this amulet has proved successful.

In the Case No. 2, I thought it important to substitute the iron which the system had lost through bleeding, and also to employ iron for its positive effects and its empirically known assistance in cases where blood has been lost. However, she found no relief either from *Ferrum carbonicum*, ʒj nor from *Ferrum phosphoricum*, ʒj, one pinch to be taken three times a day. The night-perspirations did not diminish at all in this case, although the iron appeared to me as essential in her case as *Sepia* and *Ignatia* in her sister's. I gave *Ignatia* 3, without any success. The patient at last requested that she might use the *Ignatia*-amulet, to which I acceded; but she found herself attacked with increased night-perspirations and headaches. I therefore removed it, 29th January, 1852. I gave her *Ignatia* 22, three globules, to be taken night and morning. As she became better in consequence, I tried repeated doses in the middle of the day, but she found herself at that time always heavy and sleepy, and on attempting to give the medicine every morning and evening, I found it was best to administer it only in the evening, as otherwise she became tired and sleepy the whole day.

25th February. She also was perfectly cured by *Ignatia* 22.

Observations.—It is evident that *Ignatia* was in both cases the principal remedy, though the dose was as essential for success. No. 1 was ameliorated and cured only by wearing the amulet. The symptoms of No. 2 became aggravated by the amulet and

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Ignatia 3, but the 22nd dilution of the remedy effected a cure. It may be easy to say that No. 1 would also have been cured with *Ignatia* 22. But how can one know it? It is enough for me, at present, that the amulet cured No. 1, but not her sister, who, more deepy affected, and with a greater sensitiveness, required a higher dilution. How to find the just dose in every individual case is therefore one of the great difficulties of the reformed medicine. I do not think that the masters of the high powers has a greater knowledge in this respect than the heroes of allopathy, with their traditional grain-doses or their fragments. For these it is the easiest to declare both the amulet of the popular medicine and the homœopathic application of *Ignatia* as nothing but "imagination, charlatanism, quackery," etc., because their grains' quantity has not been used (*habeant sibi!*), or perhaps the headache (of Dr. Hamberg) is considered "imagination," because the diagnosis cannot be proved by physical signs; but as no motive existed for a *feigned disorder* in these two cases, I think myself justified in believing in the reality of the symptoms, as they were stated by the patients, at least till the contrary has been fully proved.

The indifferentists, as well as our antagonists, will at last pretend that the diet effected the cure. Well, then, their fault is so much the greater in not having adopted such a diet for their patients, or made an attempt to get it more followed amongst men in general.

I add only a few words on *Sepia* as a remedy in leucorrhœa. There are a great many cases which are cured by the remedy, and at the same time amenorrhœa. C. Linnæus (Materia Medica) makes a distinction of "*vis*;" absorbens, adstringens, from "*usus*:" gonorrhœa, fluor albus, febris intermittens of *Ossa Sepiæ*. It appears certain that *Sepia*, with its action of chalk, unites something more, which is pretended to have induced Hahnemann to the proving of *Succus Sepiæ*. Dr. Schlesier (Hygeia, xi. 1. c.) has practically found, and I have also confirmed the effect of *Sepia* in cases of leucorrhœa, and though I cannot recommend it as a general remedy, it has proved very active in many cases of this often very troublesome symptom in women. The only thing to wish for is, that this remedy had been so proved as Hahnemann's *Calcarea*, and afterwards reproved; as for instance, *Natr. mur.*, in the Austrian Periodical, iv.; then we could expect to know in future something more decided about the specific action of various species of calcareous substances, either the pure and unmixed chemical, or those from the animal kingdom (*Sepia, Testa Ostrearum, Lapillæ Cancrorum*, eggshells, lobster-shells, etc.), or from the mineral kingdom (marble, chalk, etc.) I think that until these provings have taken place, the pure empiricism (which is not needful) and homœopathy have a large field of action. Because I do not consider myself justified, should I not employ the rich sources of chalk where I find it, in a physiological point of view, necessary as well as iron, even in large doses. For it is not always a question of reproduction and reaction only, but a real *production* and *action* of these substances in the organism.

[We beg to correct a mistake, as regards Dr. Hamberg, in our last Number, who, we have been told, has not for the last four years had any chemist's shop in Stockholm, but is at present Assistant Professor of Pharmacy to the Royal Caroline Institution, and to the Pharmaceutical Institution of Stockholm.—ED.]

THE DISEASES OF CHILDREN.

By Dr. Frederick Augustus Günther.

Part I.—the physical training of the child.

Section I.—first period of infancy.

The Suckling.

Upon an appropriate physical training of the infant in the first twelvemonth of its existence depend in a great measure the health and strength of the man or woman in after-life, and yet there is hardly another subject so imperfectly and ill understood as this most important one. Thousands of infants fall victims to a lamentable ignorance on the part of mothers and nurses of even the plainest and most elementary rules of hygiene; thousands of unfortunate valetudinarians are doomed to drag along with them through life the results and consequence of an unhappy disregard of these rules, or perchance also of the application of some irrational and pernicious system of physical training. On the other hand, it is an equally well-established fact, that a proper and judicious tending and nursing of the first period of infancy will, in many cases, suffice to modify considerably, if not altogether to cure and eradicate, disorders and morbid affections that the child has actually brought with it into the world, owing, in most instances, to a diseased condition of one or both parents.

I think, therefore, a few plain and intel-

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ligible instructions and hints on a proper mode of physical training of infants and children will not prove unacceptable to mothers and to those intrusted with the care of the nursery.

First and foremost we have—

1. *The Skin.*—The skin is that organ through the medium of which most of the relations of the body with the outer world are conducted; it receives the most important elements of life (caloric, etc.), and conducts them to the other parts of the organismus; it separates and eliminates through its surface, in the form of cutaneous exhalation, those matters which are no longer adapted to aid and maintain the operations of life. The importance of the latter function (cutaneous exhalation) may be readily gathered from the known consequences of a sudden cold striking a body in a state of perspiration.

Now the matter continually eliminated by the skin is always a little sticky, and of a nature to stop up the pores of that organ, if from inattention to the rules of cleanliness it is permitted to remain and dry upon the surface of the skin; and when the cutaneous pores are thus obstructed, a serious obstacle is, of course, offered to the elimination of those matters which, though not positively hurtful, are yet, as already stated, no longer adapted for the purposes and operations of life, and require accordingly to be ejected from the organism. It is, then, plainly of the utmost consequence to provide at all periods of life for the uninterrupted performance of this most important function; but its importance is even considerably enhanced in the case of infants. The skin of the new-born child differs greatly from that of an adult: it is much looser and much more delicate, and less apt to resist surrounding influences, to which it is moreover still much more exposed than the latter; not only does it absorb fluids with which it happens to come into contact much more readily than is the case with adults, but it ejects also from the body a vastly larger amount of eliminated matter, and more particularly of mucus, which latter, in cases when proper attention is not paid to cleanliness, accumulates often to a considerable amount, interfering most materially and seriously with the functions of the skin, to the great detriment of the tender and fragile organismus of the child. The experience of every day furnishes us with ample proofs of the truth of the preceding remarks. How well do children thrive that have a proper care bestowed upon their skin and its functions! how vigorous is the development of their physical and mental power and capacities! how little are they troubled with catarrhs, rheumatisms, and the vast host of cutaneous diseases that usually fall to the lot of those whose parents are eithernot mindful oftheir sacred duties or obstinately reject the light of truth, and cling to some foolish system of their own!

The two principal means to which we resort for the purpose of maintaining and preserving intact and in full vigour the functions of the infantile skin are, the *bath* and the *ablution.*

River-water or rain-water is the most appropriate fluid for the children's bath. As the process of boiling deprives water of the most vivifying and invigorating of its principles, the best way is to boil only a portion of the water, and to mix this with fresh cold water until the required temperature is attained. The temperature of the *first* bath, into which the baby ought to be placed immediately after its birth, should be such that one can bear to hold the elbow in it for some time without feeling any disagreeable sensation. This first bath serves at the same time to cleanse the skin of the caseous coating that covers it, for the readier attainment of which purpose a small amount of wheat bran should be added to the bath, but *no soap*, since this would but ill comport with the tender skin of the new-born infant. Immediately upon its removal from the bath, the child must be placed in warmed linen cloths, tenderly wiped dry with the same, and then cleanly dressed, and put to bed. A bath of this description the child ought to have every day during the first year of its existence, and afterwards two or three times a week. After a time, however, generally two or three weeks after birth, the *temperature* of the bath may be gradually reduced: at the end of the first year of life, it need exceed only by a little that of the room; and at a later period still the bath may be administered quite cold. But care should always be taken to let the reduction proceed as slowly and gradually as possible.

The tub should be of an oblong shape, and of sufficient capacity for the purpose for which it is intended. The water should reach to the breast of the child. The child is to be placed (without a single shred of clothing) in the bath in a half-sitting, half-lying position, and no part of the body, except the head, must be permitted to project over the surface of the water; since the naked skin exposed to the influence of the surrounding colder atmosphere is but too liable to catch cold. During the immersion the whole body of the babe should be carefully and gently rubbed with a nice soft sponge, this in-

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creases the activity of the skin, and is thus of the greatest benefit to the health of the child. *The head also ought to be washed like the rest,* no matter whether it is covered with the so-called *scab.* The notion entertained by many people that the existence of this scab is most intimately connected with the health and well-being of the child is assuredly one of the most foolish and mischievous. Whenever a child is found to be affected with the scab, the mother or nurse ought at once to soften the crust with oil of sweet almonds, or with unsalted butter, and to remove the softened crust by means of a soft comb, and in a tender and cautious manner, so as not to hurt or injure the child.

After the bath the babe must always be wiped dry, with warmed linen cloths, as expeditiously as possible; it should then be wrapped up in warmed clothes, and its little head covered with a light cap, thus attired it is placed in its little bed, which also ought to be moderately warmed; then it will speedily fall asleep, and enjoy a truly refreshing slumber, accompanied by moderate perspiration.

The following precautionary rules ought never to be lost sight of in the bathing of infants.

1. The bath should always be administered in the nursery, when every precaution should be taken to avoid all draught of air; in winter the nursery should, of course, be moderately heated.

2. The child must never be put into the bath immediately after its awakening from sleep, nor during digestion; ten o'clock in the forenoon is usually the best time for the bath.

3. During the first three or four weeks of life, the babe must be kept in the bath ten minutes only; afterwards the time may be gradually increased to fifteen or, at a later period, even to eighteen or twenty minutes.

Ablutions, although unquestionably also of great benefit to children, must still be looked upon as a very imperfect substitute for the bath. Yet *local* ablutions must often be had recourse to in the case of infants, for the purpose of securing cleanliness; and *general ablutions* in the case of bigger children, who are no longer put into the bath every day.

The danger of the child catching cold is always greater in the operation of washing it than it is in bathing it, since in the former, only one part of the body after the other is exposed to the influence and action of the water.

The precautionary rules to be observed in the washing of children are the same as those just now given for the proper administration of the bath. We may, however, remark, in addition, that the contact of the water with the skin should not be unduly prolonged; two or three downward rubs with the wet sponge ought to suffice, and the washed part should always at once be wiped dry. During the first two or three weeks of the existence of the baby, the water used for washing it should be lukewarm; it may afterwards be used cooler and cooler every succeeding day, so that at last, by the end of the sixth or eighth week, it is brought down to the common temperature.

Hufeland wrote in 1799, on the advantage of cold ablutions, as follows.

"It is incredible of what extraordinary effect and influence this simple practice is. It keeps up cleanliness, hardens imperceptibly the surface, and makes it insensible; strengthens the whole nervous system and the muscular fibre, and lays the first foundation for a sound and active skin—that important organ in the animal economy of which the habitual neglect forms one of the principal and most prolific sources of the many ills and aches that affect man. In my practice I generally have the ablutions of new-born infants performed in tepid water, up to the end of the third or fourth week, when I prescribe a gradual lowering of the temperature, until finally the child is washed in cold water. Children very readily accustom themselves to this mode of proceeding, and there is not the slightest danger in it. However, there are two things which must not be lost sight of, viz.: in the first place, the mother or nurse should always wait about half an hour after taking the child out of bed, before she proceeds to wash it; and in the second place, the operation should always be performed quickly, and the humid parts speedily rubbed dry; since this not only calls forth a salutary reaction of the skin, but prevents also the evaporation of the water from the surface, which is but too apt to lead to colds. In the case of feeble and delicate children, the best way is to perform the ablution in the evening, and to put the child to bed immediately after. Happy those to whom a judicious training has rendered the habit of a general cold wash every day an absolute necessity to their existence. In this they possess one of the strongest protections against gout, rheumatism, nervous debility, catarrh, and many other affections—one of the most efficient preservatives of health. I know at the present time several persons who had been ailing for years, martyrs to gout, rheumatism, and

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spasms, and who, as a last trial, had recourse to a general cold wash every day, and with the most complete effect; they have got rid of their torments, and enjoy now most robust health. One of the principal conditions to a successful practice of cold ablutions is to keep the skin in the regular habit of them, and never to omit a single day; trifling indispositions, for instance, should not be allowed to interfere with their regular application. Violent catarrhs, however, eruptions, diarrhœas, and fevers will, of course, necessitate an interruption of the practice, or at all events, the substitution of warm water for cold."

Those parts of the infantile body which are exposed to the action of the urinary and intestinal excretions require particular attention. A neglect of the requirements of cleanliness here is but too apt to give rise to even serious inflammations and ulcerations of the parts exposed to the contact of the acrid matter ejected from the body. Whenever a baby becomes restless and cries, without any apparent indication of hunger, it ought to be at once undressed and looked to, and in most cases the cause of its crying and restlessness will be found to be the one hinted at here. The swaddling-clothes should never be used to wipe the parts, since this simply tends to irritate the skin, and to render it more susceptible of the excoriating action of the acrid matter that it comes from time to time necessarily into contact with; the parts should be washed clean with a soft sponge, kept expressly for the purpose, and dipped in lukewarm water, and should then be carefully but gently wiped with a soft, warmed cloth. I think I need hardly add, that the child must then be supplied with clean and dry clothes. Should the action of the acrid excretions already have produced excoriations of the parts in contact with them, these may be healed by repeated washing with cold water, and dusting with worm-dust (worm-dust of birch wood answers the purpose best), or with the powder of dried rose-leaves. Lycopodium powder acts injuriously, and on no account whatsoever should any metallic substance ever be resorted to, such as sugar of lead, calamine powder, calamine ointment, etc.; the application of such substances would involve the greatest danger to the health and even to the life of the infant. Excoriations of a more serious kind or degree require the administration of internal remedies.

The cavity of the mouth must also be carefully attended to, since neglect here leads frequently to thrush and ulcerations Each time the child has sucked, the nurse should wipe the interior of its little mouth with a fine, soft, linen rag wrapped round the finger; the nipples of the mother or nurse's breast should also be carefully wiped each time after having given suck to the child. The child should always be removed from the breast the instant it falls asleep; otherwise the milk remaining in its mouth may turn acid there, and then give rise to the formation of thrush. But under all circumstances it is always best, as a general rule, to wipe the mouth of the infant repeatedly with a linen rag wrapped round the finger, and dipped in cold water.

Part II.—Therapeutics.

Preliminary Remarks.

Therapeutics, or the art of healing in a more restricted sense, is that part of the medical science which teaches the mode of treating and curing diseases.

The remedies employed in homœopathic practice are administered to children best in the form of globules, the doses being respectively, one to two globules for sucklings, two to three for children under seven years of age, and three to five for children above seven years of age.

In acute diseases the doses may and even must be repeated, according to the nature and violence of the affection, every two hours, or every hour, or perhaps even every quarter of an hour. The mother or nurse of a suckling under medical treatment must absolutely conform to the rules of homœopathic diet, and more particularly abstain from coffee, tea, spices, so-called domestic medicines, and carefully avoid all agitation and excitement.

The homœopathic medicines kept for use must be exposed neither to the air nor to the light, nor to very great heat or excessive cold; all strong scents and odours must be carefully excluded from the place where they are kept.

Section I.—Diseases of the first period of infancy.

This section embraces, properly speaking, only those diseases which are prevalent in *sucklings*; but from the nature of the subject, it is impossible to avoid taking in a certain class of diseases also, which occur equally at a more advanced period of infancy. Those diseases, however, which are equally met with in adults, have been omitted here, except such as happen to exhibit in their course or symptoms some material or striking difference, according to the respective age of the patient.

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1. *Insufficient dilatation and activity of the lungs.*—This is an affection of the most serious kind; its cause is to be sought for in a faulty condition and deficient activity of the lungs; in most cases, it is absolutely incurable, and generally leads even to a *speedy* extinction of life. I will here endeavour to explain its nature.

The first breathing of the new-born child causes the lungs to dilate, from the action of the atmospheric air in the air-cells of the pulmonic tissue. The immediate consequence of this dilatation is the rushing of the blood into the lungs, when that fluid comes into contact with the oxygen of the atmosphere, and undergoes those changes, which are indispensable to prepare it for the part assigned to it in the operations of life. But these several processes can take place only when the first breathing of the new-born child is performed with the requisite vigour and energy; since otherwise the air-cells of the lungs are only partially dilated, and the circulation of the blood through this vital organ is only incompletely accomplished. But in order that the first breathing of the child be effected with the necessary energy, the child (which, as it were, even *during* its birth should continue to undergo a process of maturation and preparation for the functions of life) must, before it sees the light of the world, strongly feel the want of air, and must thus be forced to appropriate this important element to itself in the requisite quantity, and with all its innate energy. Now there are cases in which the birth of a child proceeds *too expeditiously*, so that, at its entrance into the world, the want of oxygen has not yet had time to make itself felt in the economy, and there is accordingly less inclination on its part to make an effort to draw in the atmospheric air. Indeed it breathes but very feebly, and dilates neither its lungs nor the walls of the chest to the requisite extent; the consequence is that the air-cells at the surface of the pulmonary parenchyma alone are dilated, and the deeper-lying parts are left altogether untouched by the air. This again interferes, of course, materially with the oxygenation of the blood, and hence with all the operations of life. In many instances this goes so far indeed, that the manifestations of life become visibly diminished after birth, and the child succumbs in a few hours, without the attendants being able to assign any other cause for the sudden extinction of the little creature, except the very vague one of *general debility*. And how could it happen otherwise? Lungs that are not fully dilated, are unable to receive all the blood conducted to them through the pulmonary artery, and there must accordingly occur in this artery a stoppage of the circulation; moreover, the quantity of atmospheric air being insufficient, the blood cannot be fully arterialized, and thus, retaining in a measure its venous character, it acquires hence a tendency to a sluggish course and to stoppage. An unfortunate little creature labouring under such an affection shows unmistakably all the signs of a serious oppression; the natural generation of heat proceeds but imperfectly, and the nutrition sinks lower and lower, the longer this state lasts. That such deficient activity of the lungs immediately after birth must, if not instantly remedied, speedily lead to the extinction of life, will be self-evident to everybody. If therefore, in the case of a babe that has been born into the world readily, quickly, and without any signs of mechanical pressure, and we observe that the front side of the chest fails to arch sufficiently, and remains rather flat, that the respiration imparts only a trifling motion to the walls of the chest and abdomen, and that the cry of the child sounds feeble, hoarse, or whining, we may assume that the atmospheric air has not yet sufficiently acted upon the lungs. If to these symptoms is added a general paleness intermixed with blueness, and spread all over the body, the assumption becomes a positive certainty. In such case the immediate indication is to proceed without delay to endeavour to establish a deeper and more vigorous respiration, by rubbing either with the hand or with a soft brush the soles of the feet, but more particularly the abdomen, and the parts about the midriff. If this simple operation leads to a vigorous screaming on the part of the baby, there is no doubt of a favourable result; under any circumstances, however, the aid of a physician must be called in *instantly*, since perchance a few hours after the birth all the aid that the medical art can afford may come too late.

2. *Inflammation of the pectoral gland.*—This affection, which occurs occasionally in new-born children, arises mostly from a foolish proceeding on the part of midwives, who fancy they ought to remove the milk contained in the breast of the baby, and resort for that purpose to a pressing and squeezing of the nipples; in some instances it arises also from the pressure or irritation caused by some article of dress; more rarely from internal morbid disposition. In cases when the affection arises from mechanical causes, we observe occasionally induration, instead of inflammation, and which induration will, after a

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time, resolve itself again and disappear, or change to inflammation. During the inflammatory period, which lasts from about four to six days, the child suffers great pain in the affected breast, is feverish, restless, and sleeps little; however, when the inflammatory period has run its course, and a little abscess has been formed, and the little pus contained in it has been carefully and gently squeezed out, there remains only a little soreness to the touch, and in three or four days all is well again, provided the healing operation of nature be not interfered with by an irrational treatment. If the affection is perceived in time, a few doses of *Arnica Montana* may prevent its further development. If there exists already redness of the part and inflammatory action, *Chamomilla* is indicated, succeeded afterwards by *Belladonna*, and should this prove of no avail, *Bryonia*. If an abscess forms, with suppuration, *Hepar sulphuris* should be given, and a few days after, *Silicea*.

(*To be continued.*)

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3RD, 1852.

THESE are stirring times for those who take a real interest in our Medical Reform. By reason of the divisions, lukewarmness, and apathy that are unhappily found among us—as they have been found among all advocates of any real reform in all past times—there have been many sore lets and hindrances interposed in our way.

A few years ago some of our foremost men doubted that there was any *homœopathic public*. It is a matter of triumphant satisfaction to us to know that this journal has proved that there is such a thing.

Our excellent colleague, Dr. LIEDBECK, of Stockholm, favours us with some of his valuable experience. *Si sic omnes!*

Dr. OZANNE is worthily engaged in refuting the sophisms of the most respectable author that has yet published in this country a formal attempt at a disproof of homœopathy.

Mr. SMITH is no less worthily engaged in giving us a narrative of the introduction of homœopathy into Britain.

Mr. WILSON has just published a letter, in which he shows some of the causes of the divisions among us. Every homœopathist, medical and non-medical, should read this forcible explanation of the present state of things in one of our public institutions.

It is manifest that no force of our opponents, of hostile medical sectarians, can do us any damage.

What the homœopathic public requires is, a large and effective hospital in the metropolis. Such an Institution should be on the broadest and most liberal basis.

If such an one could be established—and we see no reason why it should not be accomplished at this time—and if it were endowed, at least in a great measure, so as to give it the character of stability—we believe a real work would be done.

This is one of the most pressing things.

A Medical Council has been proposed, of five members, to be elected by their colleagues for a term of years; to which council all matters touching the medical body should be referred, with a promised obedience to its decisions. This we think would be a very useful institution.

Mr. POPE'S case, as so plainly narrated by himself in our present number, shows the necessity of our obtaining a Charter.

It was proposed six or seven years ago, that successive volumes of Transactions, and a Cyclopædia of Practical Medicine, should be published. Nothing of this kind has been yet done; and yet both these works are much wanted.

In fact, the real work of settling and developing our Reform in these kingdoms, is yet to be done. We look on what has been already achieved to have been chiefly the necessary work of the pioneers.

We require a large and effeetive hospital in London; an authoritative Council; a Charter; a digest of the doctrine and practice of homœopathy.

This is work enough before us, and to accomplish it we need a zealous Medical Union, and a public jealous of their true interests, and zealous for the Cause.

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Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I have only just seen the remarks you have appended to my note on the "Medical Reform Bill," and trust that you will allow me to say a few words in reply.

I gather from what you state, that you imagine that I have made no efforts to obtain a re-examination from the Edinburgh Faculty; but this is far from being the case. Several letters have passed between Professor Balfour and myself on this subject; and the result of my correspondence has been, that the Dean refuses me any explicit answer to the question whether I shall not be rejected again, because I intend not only to study but, to the best of my ability, to practise homœopathy. Twice, at least, has Dr Balfour evaded this query: in the first instance, by referring me to the resolutions of the Edinburgh Faculty, contained in the *Edinburgh Monthly Medical Journal* for September, 1851; and more lately, by stating that "the Medical Faculty are not in the habit of making stipulations with candidates as to the nature of their examinations." But were more proof wanting of the confirmed obstinacy of the Edinburgh Faculty, I recommend to your notice the review of the Homœopathic Petition to the Town Council of Edinburgh, in their Journal for February, 1852. The whole article goes to show that, despite the Lord Provost's remark, "that every student, whatever his notions regarding homœopathy might be, would henceforth find no barrier to his obtaining degrees," the Faculty will do all in their power to prevent those graduating who intend either to study or practise homœopathy. In one place, the writer, referring to a gentleman who graduated last year, says, he did so "by successfully hiding his homœopathic talent."

These remarks will, I think, show sufficient reason why my trying to pass in Edinburgh is utterly useless. But I have gone farther than Edinburgh.

I have obtained, through a friend, information from an official authority that the "Test Act" was to be established in Aberdeen, and that I had no chance of passing the board of King's College. Upon hearing this, I wrote to Marischal College, Aberdeen, and to the University of Glasgow, but neither of these august bodies deigned to reply to the letter of a convicted homœopath.

Every one knows that, unless a homœopath chooses for the nonce to silence his conscience, he cannot obtain the M. D. of St. Andrew's. I should be very sorry to do this for my degree, and still more so for such a one.

Unfortunately, as it has now turned out, I never intended to practise as a surgeon, but to confine myself as nearly as possible to medicine. Having therefore no intention of applying for the College of Surgeon's diploma, I did not during my curriculum attend to some of the minor regulations of the College, neither did I take out the full number of lectures on anatomy required by that body, and consequently they have refused to admit me to examination until I shall have complied with all their requirements. This would occupy a period of three years, and little would be gained by it in the end, to make up for such a waste of time. I hope the foregoing statements will prove to you that I have not rested quietly on my oars, but have tried every means of obtaining a legal recognition of my medical education. If any of your readers can give me any further hints on this subject privately, I shall feel myself deeply indebted to them. Your statement that I have been "ill advised," is, I think, far from being the case. But whether I have been so or not, I believe that everything has been done with the best intent, and with the most purely disinterested motives, and not only so, but, I believe, that all that could have been done has been so in the best possible way.

I take this opportunity of thanking you, and all those medical and non-medical friends who have interested themselves on my behalf, for the great kindness you and they have shown me.

I remain, Sir, yours truly,

ALFRED C. POPE.

Homœopathic Hospital, Manchester,
March 23, 1852.

[We are glad to have received this full explanation from Mr. Pope. We had been informed, as it were *authoritatively*, that he had not and would not make any application to the Edinburgh Faculty for re-examination. His own letter sets that at rest: he has done everything he could do. This case, as now so fully explained, shows the absolute necessity of a charter for the homœopathists.—ED.]

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—"As your periodical has a very extensive circulation amongst non-professional subscribers, the following cases will very probably interest them, and strengthen them in advocating the Cause of homœopathy. The first letter was received by me quite unexpectedly; the writer had resided in Calcutta, where he was attacked with dysentery, and ordered to return to England. He informed me that he was the subject of diarrhœa during the whole of his homeward voyage. You have a *verbatim* copy of the communication, on which I make no comment, it will tell its own "unvarnished tale." I furnish you with the name in confidence, to obviate all suspicion of an attempt to make up a case." I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

P. M. WILMOT.

Southampton, March 25, 1852.

MY DEAR SIR,—If only as a matter of gratitude to you, as well as in the hope that others may be similarly benefited, I feel bound to state to you in writing the unexpected relief, indeed I may say cure, I have derived from your treatment. I am sure when I applied to you with the short detail of my case, which I consider fortunate under the circumstances, having been given in writing, perfect stranger as you were

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to me, I had little hope of so speedy or so satisfactory a result. The tone of my letter will convince any one of this ; so that it is not *faith* that has cured me. Amongst other lessons I hope I shall have learned never again to ridicule or to pooh-pooh a system or a science, because the theory is opposed to what is termed "natural convictions," or, in other words, because I may not be able to understand the action of a remedy, to determine that it can possibly have none, or to determine, as is constantly done, in opposition to admitted facts, that "matter" so minutely subdivided as the homœopathic system prescribes, *ceases to possess any attribute either for good or ill.* Let those who still maintain this in opposition to all facts and experience, determine satisfactorily *at what point of subdivision* the action ceases. Let me not attribute "motives," but rather refer to the *cures* which the system is constantly furnishing, and particularly to my own case. To use the words of my last medical attendant, "he had gone through the entire Pharmacopœia ; if anything else occurred to him he would let me know ; thought attention to diet only would likely to be of use to me." This is now nearly six months ago, and when I applied to you, I had not for that period taken any drug of any kind ; so it is not *abstinence* from medicines that has cured me. I am anxious to clear the ground a little before I detail my symptoms, because the matters I have noticed are generally fallen back upon by opponents, when beaten upon other more essential points. Well, when I applied to you, I was daily increasing in debility, from the effects of a constant purging, the action of the bowels being excited at least ten or twelve times in the twenty-four hours, night and day, without intermission (not quite so frequent in the first instance or throughout), for nearly two years, an interval of a few weeks only excepted, *induced originally* by a tropical residence, seven years ago. During the first week of your treatment I experienced little or no relief. So sceptical did I continue, that every time I mixed the powders it was with the recurrence of this feeling, to which I more than once gave utterance : "I hope this man is not cheating me with sugar and water ;" consoling myself with the after-thought, that if one such practitioner could be found, surely so large a body of men as the professors of the system now number could never, knowingly, give currency to, and continue to practise, such a deception. The only alteration I made in my diet was substituting cocoa for coffee, at breakfast ; so that it is not *diet* that has cured me. My avocations have been pursued as usual, and the weather has been unpropitious, constant easterly winds. Now if it is neither "faith," "*medicine,*" abstinence from medicine, diet, nor change of air or scene, to which I am to attribute so decided an improvement—for I must tell you my complaint ceased entirely from Tuesday last, just a fortnight from the period at which I first took your remedies—would it be too much to require of those with whom "homœopathy" and "humbug" are terms synonymous, to give *some rational* explanation of the recovery here detailed ? For obvious reasons I do not wish my name published, but you are at perfect liberty to make any use of this statement, authenticating it by referring parties to me when necessary, for I feel too much gratitude not to spare any reasonable trouble in furtherance of the Cause, for the benefit of others.

I am, dear Sir, yours very truly,
To P. M. Wilmot, Esq. M.D.

The subject of the following case is a young lady, not married, aged 22. Her sister consulted me about her, and in answer to a letter the patient sent me the subjoined replies. She was furnished with remedies, and requested to see me at the expiration of a week, if possible.

"The diarrhœa commenced in the winter of 1847, the evacuations light in colour, and liquid ; it was then stopped daily by medicine, which I received from a medical gentleman attending me ; that attack lasted about two months ; it has continued more or less ever since. From my childhood I have suffered slightly from the headache, but ever since the attack of diarrhœa, in 1847, I have seldom been free from it ; the evacuations then occurred seven or eight times in the day, at present they are liquid and dark in colour, no lumps in them, neither is there any appearance of food undigested ; the evacuations occur generally five times in the day ; a day seldom passes without four, they are most numerous in the morning, directly after breakfast, or else in the evening ; none occur in the night, they are preceded by pain across the middle part of the stomach ; exercise does not bring on diarrhœa, but it frequently does the headache ; it is not influenced by atmospherical changes ; vegetables, fruits, and any meat, except mutton or game, increase the disease, likewise wine of any kind, and cold water. I often feel very well for an hour or two after breakfast, but no vomiting ; the tongue looks very white in parts, and red in other parts ; the headaches are more frequent every alternate fortnight ; the head is then seldom free from pain ; the top of the head is most affected, which is very tender indeed to the touch, so much so, that at times I can scarcely bear my hair to rest on it ; the pain is throbbing over my eyes, and piercing like a knife on the top of the head, with a great feeling of sickness ; it is seldom anything is rejected from the stomach besides water, unless I have taken a journey, and then it is of a dark yellow substance. The urine is not passed when the bowels are acted on, but some little time after ; the colour is light when diarrhœa prevails, dark and thick with the headaches. My rest is very disturbed, but no pain in the night, except my back (the centre) and my right side, which are very painful ; no depression of spirits, but a good deal of trembling nervousness, with the diarrhœa ; I have always a feeling of coldness in the feet and hands, and sometimes my legs swell in the evening. I take bitter ale, except when I have the headache, then I take brandy and water, with my dinner and supper. I have taken a great deal of *Calomel,* but not the

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last three months, *that I am aware* of. My last prescription I enclose, (pills and mixture,) of both of which I have taken considerable quantities the last six months, and likewise plain *Turkey Rhubarb*, from neither of which have I derived the slightest benefit. Pills: *Blue pill, Colocynth, Henbane.* Mixture: *Aromatic Confection* and *Sedative Solution of Opium.*

"I shall feel greatly indebted to you if you can prescribe anything you think will benefit my health, and I assure you I will persevere most strictly with the rules you lay down.

"I remain, yours truly,

"Berwick, Feb. 28, 1852. "A. B.

"I bore the journey home, forty miles, remarkably well, and have had no return of diarrhœa for the last fortnight. I have been free from headache until yesterday, when I suffered from a throbbing pain in the back part of the head. I have no pain in the back or side. "Yours truly,

"Berwick, March, 1852. "A. B.

"P.S—The past fortnight was that always attended with headache."

SERPENT CHARMERS.

(From Dr. Kitto's Pictorial Family Bible.)

In general these serpent-charmers were and are distinct tribes of men in their several countries, professing the power they claim to be an inherent and natural function. The most famous serpent-charmers of antiquity were the Psylli, a people of Cyrenaica; and that theirs was believed to be a natural power appears from the story told by Pliny, that they were accustomed to try the legitimacy of their new-born children by exposing them to the most cruel and venomous serpents, who dared not molest or even approach them unless they were illegitimate. He thinks their power resided in some peculiar odour in their persons, which the serpents abhorred. Lucan says the same; and the passage in which that poet speaks of them affords a complete exposition of the ancient belief concerning the charming of serpents. He chiefly describes the measures which they took to protect the Roman camp. When the encampment was marked out, they marched around it chanting their charms, the "mystic sound" of which chased the serpents far away. But not trusting entirely to this, they kept up fires, of different kinds of wood, beyond the furthest tents, the smell of which prevented the serpents from approaching. Thus the camp was protected during the night. But if any soldier, when abroad in the daytime, happened to be bitten, the Pyslli exerted their powers to effect a cure. First they rubbed the wounded part around with saliva, to prevent, as they said, the poison from spreading while they essayed their arts to extract it.

> Then sudden he begins the magic song,
> And rolls the numbers hasty o'er his tongue;
> Swift he runs on, nor pauses once for breath,
> To stop the progress of approaching death,
> He fears the cure might suffer by delay,
> And life be lost but for a moment's stay.
>
> Thus oft, though deep within the veins it lies,
> By magic numbers chased, the mischief flies;
> But if it hear too slow—if still it stay,
> And scorn the potent charmer to obey,
> With forceful lips he fastens on the wound,
> Drains out and spits the venom to the ground.
> *Pharsalia*, ix. Rowe

In this account we find the voice repeatedly mentioned; and it is to "the *voice* of the charmer" that the Psalmist refers. We may suppose that, as in the passage we have quoted, the charmers used a form of words, a charm, or else chanted a song in some peculiar manner. So Eusebius, in mentioning that Palestine abounded in serpent-charmers in his time, says that they usually employed a verbal charm. This is still one of the processes of the Oriental serpent-charmers. Roberts says that the following is considered in India the most potent form of words against serpents: "Oh! serpent, thou who art coiled in my path, get out of my way; for around thee are the mongoos, the porcupine, and the kite in his circles is ready to take thee." The Egyptian serpent-charmers also employ vocal sounds and a form of words to draw the venomous creatures from their retreats. Mr. Lane says: "He assumes an air of mystery, strikes the walls with a short palm-stick, whistles, makes a clucking noise with his tongue, and spits upon the ground; and generally says, 'I adjure you by God, if ye be above, or if ye be below, that ye come forth: I adjure ye by the most Great Name, if ye be obedient, come forth; and if ye be disobedient, die! die! die!'" In these cases we may be sure that if any true effect were produced, it was by the sound of the voice, not by the form of words, which was doubtless addressed to other ears than those of serpents; and in the latter instance we may conclude the whistling and clucking to have been the most operative parts of the process.

But music is also much employed by the charmers of serpents. By means of pipes, flutes, whistles (calls), or small drums, they profess to attract them from their retreats, to subdue their ferocity, and (when the serpents are tame ones exhibited by themselves) to make them dance, and perform various motions regulated by the notes of the music. We see nothing difficult to believe in the statement that serpents may be, as some other creatures are, influenced or attracted by music, or even the voice of man, properly regulated; or that the proper regulation of the music or the voice for the designated end may not have been discovered and rendered most effective, by men who for successive generations have given their sole attention to the subject. Indeed, it is perhaps capable of proof that music, even in common hands, has power over serpents. Sir William Jones believed so, although not an ocular evidence. Enumerating instances of the powerful effects of music upon animals, he says: "A learned native of this country (India) told me, that he had frequently seen the most venomous and malignant snakes leave their holes upon hearing notes from a flute, which, as he supposed, gave them peculiar delight."

As to their pretensions of being in their own

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persons insensible to the poison of serpents, we have never met with any satisfactory proof of it. Those which they exhibit, and by which they often allow themselves to be bitten, are confessedly deprived of all or most of their venomous power by the extraction of their poison-fangs. But nevertheless, we know ourselves and have read many authenticated instances of their fearless handling of very venomous serpents in their native state; and it is therefore our impression that they possess some knack in seizing and handling such serpents, which prevents them from biting till their poison-fangs have been extracted. Their presence of mind and the possession of such a secret easily accounts for all the stories told on this point. But when they do happen to fail, and to receive a bite from the serpent, they die as others. They seem also to trust to the effect of their music in so diverting the attention of the serpents as to prevent them from attempting to exercise the fatal power they possess. In this also they sometimes fail. Roberts mentions an Indian serpent-charmer who came to a gentleman's house to exhibit his tame snakes. He was told that there was a cobra di capello in a cage, and asked if he could charm it. "Oh, yes!" said the charmer, and the serpent was accordingly released from its cage. The man began his incantations and charms; but the reptile fastened upon his arm, and he was dead before night. This serpent "would not listen to the voice of the charmer."

We will now briefly specify the principal forms in which the serpent-charmers exercise the powers which they claim. As the houses in some parts of the East are much infested with serpents, the most profitable part of the charmer's business is to detect their retreat and draw them forth. They certainly discover where they are without ocular evidence, and make them come forth, either in the manner already described, or by the notes of a pipe. It is often said that the charmer introduces his tame serpents, and that they obey the accustomed call, and are exhibited in proof of the triumph of the charmer's art. This may sometimes be the case; but instances are known in which there could not have been any collusion or contrivance; and, after the severest test and scrutiny, many have been obliged to rest in the conclusion that the charmers do really possess the physical means of discovering the presence of serpents without seeing them, and of attracting them from their lurking-places. This is Mr. Lane's conclusion, who also suspects that they discover the presence of serpents by the smell, and compares their attractive powers to those of the fowler, who by the fascination of his voice allures the bird into his net. In the *Missionary Magazine* for March, 1837, a missionary to India (G. Gogerly) states that some incredulous persons, after the most minute and careful precautions against artifice of any kind, sent a serpent-charmer into the garden. "The man began playing with his pipe, and proceeding from one part of the garden to another for some minutes, stopped at a part of the wall much injured by age, and intimated that a serpent was within. He then played quicker, and his notes were louder, when almost immediately a large cobra di capello put forth his hooded head, and the man fearlessly ran to the spot, seized it by the throat, and drew it forth. He then showed the poison-fangs, and beat them out; afterwards it was taken to the room where his baskets were left, and deposited among the rest." From the statement of the precautions used on this occasion, for which we refer to the publication, this was a very fair trial. Does not his beating out the poison-fangs explain the Psalmist's meaning? "Break their teeth, O God, in their mouth." This is usually done by the serpent-charmers, who then tame them, and use them in various exhibitions. These exhibitions are much the same everywhere. The most usual are thus described by Mr. Gogerly, in the paper above cited: "Taking out eight or ten different kinds they cast them on the ground. The animals immediately made off in different directions. The *sap-wullah* (charmer) then applies his pipe to his mouth, and sends forth a few of his peculiar notes, and all the serpents stop as though enchanted; they then turn towards the musician, and approaching him within two feet, raise their heads from the ground, and bending backward and forward, keep time with the tune. When he ceases playing, they drop their heads, and remain quiet on the ground." He adds, that there is another and inferior kind of serpent-charmers, who are Bengalese of the lowest caste. They do not use the pipe, but merely beat with their fingers a small drum which is held in the hand. Sometimes these men, sitting on the ground, hold the cover of a basket with one hand, and with the other pull the tails of the serpents, and otherwise irritate them, until the animals become so infuriated that they dart forward and seize the naked arm of the *sap-wullah*, which he exposes for the purpose. They sometimes allow their arms to be bitten in this manner till they are covered with blood.

Other serpent-charmers allow large serpents to twine around their bodies, as if merely to show their perfect tameness, and the impunity with which they are able

> "To dally with the crested worm,
> To stroke his azure neck, or to receive
> The lambent homage of his arrowy tongue."

Others, again, in this situation, allow themselves, when compressed in the serpent's folds, to be dreadfully wounded in many places (the poison-fangs, of course, being wanting), till, when streaming with blood, tortured, swollen, and in a really dangerous condition, the coadjutor makes his appearance, and applies the pipe or whistle to his lips. The serpents listen to the music, gradually unloose their coils, and creep back to the cage from which they had been released at the commencement of the awful and cruel exhibition.

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Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

THE DISEASES OF CHILDREN.

By Dr. Frederick Augustus Günther.

(*Continued from page* 524.)

3. *Sleep.*—"The sleep in the first six months of life is a sacred sleep," says Hufeland. "It is the workshop of ever-active nature. It is an indispensable condition to the healthy development of the child; it ought never to be disturbed or meddled with in any way whatsoever; and the gradual shortening of the time allotted to it should be left entirely and alone to the natural instinct of the child itself."

Yes, truly, sleep quiet and undisturbed, and hence refreshing and invigorating, is a most indispensable condition to the healthy development of the child; and it behoves therefore those that are charged with the care of infants, scrupulously to remove and avoid everything that might tend to deprive the slumber of the infant of its essential requisites. Loud noises and dazzling light, especially, ought to be kept away from the couch of the sleeping infant; and care should also be taken to protect it from troublesome insects. The temperature and ventilation of the nursery also ought to be properly attended to.

The but too common practice of nurses to prevent their nurslings from indulging their natural inclination to slumber at certain periods of the day, because they are afraid that the infant may afterwards be restless at night, and then disturb their own sweet slumber, is also sufficiently injurious to the well-being of the poor infant; but still more hurtful and inexcusable is another trick which nurses have, to wake the infant suddenly, and to snatch it out of its little bed, exposing it thus to the almost certain chance of catching cold, in addition to the unpleasant effect of the sudden interruption of its slumber (restlessness, crying, disinclination to take nourishment, etc.) On no account whatsoever ought an infant to be disturbed from its sleep. Nature is the best judge of the proper duration of an infant's slumber.

The *position* of the child in bed also is by no means a matter of indifference. A child should never be made to lie on the back, or in an horizontal position, but always on its side (best, alternately one day on the right, the other on the left side), and the head and chest raised, but not extravagantly high. Lying on the back has this great disadvantage, that it interferes with the easy breathing of the infant; moreover, the saliva and phlegm are thereby prevented from running out at the corner of the mouth, and may thus unluckily find their way into the windpipe, when they are sure to produce serious and distressing fits of coughing, which may eventually end in positive suffocation.

No infant ought to be put to sleep immediately after having taken suck, since the inevitable consequence of such a proceeding must be to interfere seriously with the digestive functions. The safest way is to carry the child, after it has had its suck, about on the arm, with a little gentle dandling, until the breaking of wind, either upwards or downwards, indicates a properly advanced state of digestion; the infant may then, after the removal of all articles of clothing confining or pressing upon its body, be safely put into its little bed.

When the infant awakes from sleep, it should be taken gently out of bed and laid on the dressing-bolster or cushion, when its evacuations will take place, and when it may be properly cleaned. The nurse should particularly avoid to bring the tender eyes of the just-awakened infant into sudden contact with any strong or dazzling light.

To keep an infant, when not asleep, in bed for the whole day, is both cruel and hurtful.

Sleeplessness in infants may proceed from many causes. In cases where the child does not cry or is even lively, sleeplessness is probably owing simply to the absence of any want of sleep on its part, or perhaps there may be too much noise in the room, or the light may be too strong. On the other hand, if the child is crying, this may be simply an intimation on its part that it does not want to stay in bed, or that it is hungry, or that it lies uncomfortably, or is troubled with wind, or

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pricked by a pin in its clothing, or feels too hot in its little bed, etc., etc. A judicious mother or nurse will generally be able to find out to which of these causes she has to ascribe the restlessness of her infant or nursling. I may add here that the crying and screaming of an infant is not by any means invariably a sign of discomfort or a symptom of pain. In many instances it is simply a manifestation of vigour and vital energy, and an admirable means to which nature resorts to strengthen the organs of respiration, and to expel the flatus that may have accumulated in the digestive tube.

Nothing can be more dangerous and reprehensible than certain modes and means which nurses and nursery-maids and even mothers will sometimes not scruple to have recourse to, for the purpose of putting a restless infant to sleep. Of these I may mention here, more especially, decoction of *Poppy-seeds* and other preparations of *Poppy*, and even of *Opium*, tickling of the abdomen, etc. Even the gentler and more harmless means of lulling and singing infants to sleep are not without their disadvantage: the child gets but too speedily accustomed to being thus coaxed to sleep, and will afterwards insist upon the repetition of the same process every time it is put to bed.

I think I need hardly add here that sleeplessness, proceeding from actual illness of the infant, can be expected to give way only with the removal of that illness.

3. *Clothing and Linen.*—The natural and legitimate purpose of clothing is simply to cover the body in obedience to the laws of decency, and also to protect it against hurtful influences from without. But as *fashion* has done in the matter of the dress of grown-up people, so *prejudice* and *custom* have unfortunately been permitted to interfere more or less seriously and injuriously with the mode of clothing infants.

The clothing of infants should be neither too light nor too warm, and on no consideration whatsoever ought it to be tight-fitting; common sense should teach people that any pressure upon the young and tender limbs and organs of an infant must of necessity seriously interfere with the free and natural development of their limbs and organs.

All those articles of baby's clothing that are intended to come into immediate contact with the skin of the infant ought to be made of nice soft linen that has already previously been worn somewhat, since even the finest and apparently softest *new* linen will be almost sure to irritate the exceedingly sensitive skin of an infant.

And here let me recommend again to mothers and nurses the utmost cleanliness. Not only ought the swaddling-clothes, etc., soiled by the infant, to be speedily removed, and dry and clean ones put in their stead, but the whole of the linen clothing of the infant should be changed every day, and the other articles of clothing, at all events, every third or, at the latest, every fourth day.

Especial care should always be taken to place on the infant none but thoroughly dried and moderately warmed clothes.

The infant should always be let suck first before it is dressed and swathed in the morning; since, if the child be dressed on an empty stomach, the subsequent omission of nutriment into the latter will be almost sure to expand it beyond the generally rather narrow limits assigned to that organ by the swathing, bands, even when they have not been drawn very tight; the pressure on the stomach resulting from this state of things generally leads to vomiting, etc.

4. *The Nursery.*—The selection of a proper room to serve as a nursery is a matter of paramount importance in the physical training of infants. Wherever the means of the parents will admit of it, a large, dry, lofty, airy, and well-lighted room ought to be chosen, sheltered from draughts, and removed as far as possible from the din of the street.

Light is one of the most essential requisites for the proper development of organic bodies in general. As a plant reared in darkness will inevitably be stunted in growth, colourless, and without perfume, so also man, deprived of the genial influence of the light of day, exhibits a sickly, bloated appearance, and grows weak, lazy, and apathetic, though even he be plentifully supplied with the other necessaries of life. Light is, therefore, an essential requisite for a good nursery. On the other hand, however, nothing can possibly be more injurious to the tender visual organs of the newborn infant than the direct acting upon them of the solar rays, or of the beams of some bright lamp or candle. The windows of the nursery should, therefore, be screened by green curtains from the too vivid light of the sun, and a screen should be equally placed before the evening lamp. The head part of the little bed ought to be arched over with a piece of green sarsnet, to prevent the rays of light falling over the brow into the eye, since this imparts to infancy a morbid tendency to turn the eye upwards. Nor ought the window or night-lamp occupy a position in which it may

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attract the side glance of the child, since this has a tendency to induce squinting.

A pure and wholesome air is one of the most indispensable conditions to the proper and healthy development of the infant. Let, therefore, everything be kept away from the nursery that may tend to vitiate the air in that room, and more especially all night-chairs or vessels, warming-pans, smoky lamps, or candles, dirty linen, articles of furniture painted fresh with oil-colour, odorous flowers, and, above all, every species of incense or fumigating powder. The introduction of a coal-pan, for the purpose of keeping hot food or drink of the child, ought also to be strictly prohibited, as well as the drying of clothes, or of wood, or of herbs in the nursery.

A fearful abuse is carried on with the kissing of infants. It is by no means judicious on the part of a mother to imprint long kisses on the lips of her infant, since she thus compels the poor thing to breathe the air which she herself exhales, and which has, of course, lost its vitalizing powers. But it is actually reprehensible to let the poor infant receive the kisses of everybody who may choose to bestow that delicacy upon it. In how many instances have not disgusting diseases been thus actually *breathed* into the poor baby!

5. *Jaundice.*—The jaundice of new-born infants differs in many essential points from the disease of the same name in adults. The intestinal excretions of adults affected with this disorder are clayey and whitish, and do not indicate the presence of bile in them; whereas in the case of new-born infants, the defecations look green or yellowish-brown, and contain an undue proportion of bile. On the other hand, the urinary secretion of jaundiced adults is of a brown or dark-yellow colour, and betrays the presence of a large quantity of bile; whereas that of new-born infants labouring under an attack of that disease remains perfectly unaltered and colourless, owing to the natural lack of vigour in the secretive functions of the kidneys of infants.

In adults, jaundice proceeds, in most instances, from an abnormal direction of the bile; in new-born infants, it owes its origin to an over-large amount of bile secreted by an over-active liver. This organ is, in fact, very large and active in new-born infants in proportion to their size, and this tends naturally to promote an abundant secretion of bile.

With the exception of the greenish coloration of the alvine excretions, and the yellow hue presented by the skin all over the body, but more particularly in the face, the infant exhibits hardly any signs of indisposition; indeed it does not thrive, nor does it grow any way bigger, but it mostly continues to suck and sleep well-with occasional starts and screams, however, indicative of transient pain in the intestinal tube. There is hardly ever any fever, except when the jaundice happens to be complicated with some other disorder.

The most common and frequent determining cause of the jaundice of new-born infants is a cold; if proper care be taken, therefore, to shield the little patient effectively from further continuance of the action and influence of that cause, nature will, in most cases, effect a speedy cure: in four to six days the skin and the alvine excretions will recover their natural colour, and the infant be again as well as it was before the attack. But if the child continues to be exposed to the action of the determining cause of the disorder, if it is placed to sleep in a damp bed, or swathed in damp clothes. the jaundice may continue for weeks, and assume even a more serious character.

The removal of the determining cause, then, is the most effective way to cure the jaundice of new-born infants. The homœopathic remedies indicated against it are, *Aconitum, China, Digitalis, Pulsatilla, Mercurius vivus,* and *Acidum phosphoricum.*

The jaundice of new-born infants is, however, often also the result of the action of some rhubarb draught or electuary which the poor infant has been obliged to swallow; in such cases *Nux Vomica* is indicated.

6. *Trismus or Lockjaw.*—Trismus, at any time of life, is one of the most serious and dangerous affections that man is liable to. In the case of new-born infants, the danger is even greater than in adults. The malady makes its appearance suddenly, usually within the first week or fortnight after birth. The lower jaw of the infant is, in such cases, found immovable, and either firmly set against the upper or fixed at a few lines from the latter, so as to leave a small opening between. In either case the child is deprived of the power of sucking. At first the tension of the contracted muscles will sometimes give way for a time, and the mobility of the lower jaw will return, together with the power of sucking. But, if help be not speedily afforded to the little sufferer, the spasm will return, and at last continue without intermission till death closes the scene, which is generally about the second, third, or fourth day after the invasion of the disease. The concomitant

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symptoms of trismus are signs of general suffering, peculiar paleness of the face, difficult breathing, groans, sleeplessness to a greater or lesser degree, sluggish action of the rectum and bladder, general debility; fever, however, is not always present.

The trismus of new-born infants originates sometimes in a severe cold; in which case it is usually complicated with jaundice; but it results also often from graver causes, such as lesion of the brain, and stretching (distension) of the spinal cord, suffered during the process of birth. The gravity of these causes is in itself sufficient to explain the fatal nature of the affection to which they give birth; if we add to this the serious impediment opposed by lockjaw to the nutrition of the child, we can hardly wonder that this affection should so frequently terminate fatally.

Nux Vomica is the homœopathic remedy against trismus. Good results have been obtained from it in many cases of lockjaw; it is usually administered in small doses, every six hours. In cases where the lower jaw is firmly set against the upper, the globule may be dissolved in a teaspoonful of water, and a few drops of the solution be squirted up into the little patient's nose, or one or two drops of one of the lower attenuations of *Nux Vomica* may be added to a clyster of water. If the spasm gives way a little, so as to restore the mobility of the lower jaw, the child may be put to the breast, care being taken to facilitate to it, as much as possible, the act of sucking; or the milk may be squeezed from the breast into its mouth, should it be unable to accomplish suction. Enemas and baths of cow milk may also be administered to support, in some measure, the strength of the little patient. I think I need hardly add, that in an affection of so grave and fatal a character as lockjaw, the aid of a physician ought always to be claimed without delay.

(*To be continued.*)

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF DR. ROUTH'S "FALLACIES OF HOMŒOPATHY."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

Entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

V.

The author next directs our attention to some remarks of the Editor of the *Homœopathic Times* upon the use of *pilules*, or large-sized globules. He quotes the following words:—"Some practitioners who practise homœopathy, so far as they can, *secretly*, in cases where their patients like active treatment, make use of all shifts to conceal the fact that they are giving homœopathic remedies. * * * * It is obvious that pills or pilules greatly facilitate this mode of doing business." The meaning of these words is so evident, that I wonder any one could think of putting upon them the interpretation given by Dr. Routh. "Others," says he, "have adopted a larger-sized globule, which they call *pilule*, so as to be able to give *larger* doses." Now, he says himself that such a pilule, "when medicated, contains about the *fourth* part of a drop of the tincture" (pp. 9, 10). This is given as a very important circumstance, greatly shaking the character of homœopathists for consistency, when all the homœopathic periodicals teem with details of cases in which the tinctures and triturations of the medicines are given by drops and grains. The question, whether pilules, globules, or drops of the tinctures are to be preferred, is merely one of convenience; for it must be remembered that globules and pilules are only medicated with *diluted* tinctures, and that, as regards a quantity, a globule of a given centesimal dilution is equivalent to an entire drop of the dilution next to it. But the meaning of the Editor evidently is, that those medical practitioners who, although believers in homœopathy, are too deficient in moral courage or too careful of their pecuniary interests to avow their belief openly, would find their "mode of doing business" *secretly* greatly facilitated by the use of large pills, approaching in size the pills of the ordinary mode of practice. Nothing but the wish to perplex the reader could lead to such a perversion of the sense of the words quoted by Dr. Routh from the Editor of the *Homœopathic Times*.

"Again, there is another objection that *can be* offered;" this objection relates to the possible admixture of *carbon* with the common sugar, or sugar of milk, of which the globules are made, which admixture the author thinks would neutralize the medicine with which the globule has been medicated. Many other objections of the same kind *might* also be made. But what importance is to be attached to such objections, founded as they are upon mere supposition? If, after all, there is no carbon left with the sugar after its purification, what becomes of the objection? Let me again remind Dr. Routh, that homœopathists do not, as he imagines, base their belief in the action of

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infinitesimals upon *à priori* grounds. Their belief rests upon *experience*. Now, as experience has pronounced in this case, and has shown that, whatever may be the impurities admixed with the globules in the course of their preparation, they nevertheless do possess curative powers, what have we to do with objections founded upon bare probabilities?

We now come to a series of objections, to which, if we may judge by the space devoted to them, the author attaches no small value.

"Their remedies are too subtle for appreciation even by the most erudite. They depend exclusively on the good faith of those who serve them; and all their experiments are open to fallacy, unless we feel disposed to grant them, what we cannot do, perfection. The force of this objection has been felt, and attempts have been made to evade it. *This very undiscoverable subtilty in their effects*, after attenuation and infinitesimal division, so as to evade the most delicate tests, chemical, mechanical, or otherwise, *has been explained by pretended analogous comparisons;* for instance, malaria or other contagious miasmata, the influence of powerful odorific substances, vaccination and inoculation, the influence of mineral and other waters containing infinitesimal quantities of medicinal substances. I shall speak of these *seriatim*" (p. 12). The objections raised, be it remembered, are brought forward to disprove not the medicinal properties of the medicines, but the *pretended analogous comparison* by which the *very undiscoverable subtilty* in their *effect* is explained by homœopathists. I ask pardon for the phraseology; it is not mine. I cannot, however, help using the author's own words, although obscure. I ought perhaps to say, I must use them *because* of their obscurity, for I should otherwise not be sure of giving a faithful account of his meaning. I cannot help remarking likewise upon the obscurity of the objections themselves, which has given me more trouble to make them out than their intrinsic worth can at all entitle them to.

In his first objection, Dr. Routh says "we have no right to argue *à priori* that because certain medicines taken by inhalation, and thereby at once absorbed into the blood or acting on the mucous surface, produce certain effects, that therefore the same result will follow the employment of such substances taken as ingesta, *i. e.* by the mouth and submitted to the influence of digestion." The argument is in itself correct, but, like many others in the book, it is *misapplied*. No homœopathist has ever, to my knowledge, reasoned in this way, and I think the author would have done far better to quote the opinion of homœopathic writers and combat them, than to ascribe to homœopathists the creations of his own fancy. Dr. Routh's facts, however, call for a few remarks. He does not, in stating that different effects are produced by the direct absorption of a medicinal or other substance into the blood, and its absorption after being submitted to the process of digestion, make a distinction, which is so obvious, that I wonder he should have overlooked it. There is, then, a great difference between substances which are poisonous because they are *undergoing decomposition*, such as *putrid flesh* (instanced by the author), or the products of animal organisms in disease, such as "the *black vomit* of patients affected with malignant fever in Africa" (instanced by the author), or *pus*, or some products of animal organisms in health, such as the *venom* of serpents and *medicines* truly so called. Animal or vegetable substances undergoing decomposition, morbid secretions, pus, the venom of serpents, may be, and probably are, transformed in the stomach by the gastric juice, undergoing a real digestion, the results of which are not injurious to the system if absorbed; but this does not hold good, or at least only partially, for the majority of drugs. If Dr. Routh could prove that medicines taken by the mouth produce *no effect*, his objection might be deserving of consideration, but as this is opposed to the experience of all men, his objection falls to the ground.

I cannot quit this subject without making one additional remark in connection with the process of digestion and the ingestion of medicines into the stomach. Dr. Routh's objection, founded upon the action of digestion upon medicines, applies in some degree to most allopathic preparations, which must, from their form, excite the secretion of the gastric juice, and their activity may in many cases be thereby impaired. But this does not apply to homœopathic preparations, which, for the most part, may be absorbed by the mucous membrane of the mouth or œsophagus, without descending into the stomach at all, or if they do, it is probable that they do not excite the secretion of the gastric juice, hence no decomposition can take place. But this remark is offered simply to contrast the preparations used by the two schools, not to prove the action of those of the new system, which must be proved by its influence on disease, the only test we need acknowledge.

The second objection is supplied by the

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example of vaccination and inoculation. "It is commonly adduced," says Dr. Routh, "in support of the action of homœopathic remedies, that these operations are instances:—1st. When very small quantities of medicine may produce very powerful effects," and 2nd, that inoculation and vaccination prevent smallpox or render it milder; "so, upon the same principle, medicines which in health will generate the disease, or one analogous to it, will, when taken internally by the mouth, cure the disease" (pp. 13, 14). The author says that, the argument, if applicable at all, is true only of *isopathy*, not of *homœopathy*. In my last paper I gave a sufficient reason for calling vaccination *homœopathic*, which is, that the vaccine lymph *neither produces nor is produced by smallpox*. Inoculation of the smallpox virus, as a preventive of smallpox, is of course *isopathy*.

In his third objection, the author says that "it is not true that medicines inoculated or injected into the blood always produce the same symptoms as when taken internally by the mouth" (p. 14). His examples of substances injected are *oils, milk, alcohol, acids, alkalies*, which kill respectively, by *obstructing* the blood-vessels or by *disorganizing* by their chemical action the mass of blood. He adds, "the simple *inoculation* of many oils, milk, etc., will produce no effect." Why will they not, is it because they are medicines or because they are not? I am sorry to take up the time of the reader with such futile reasoning. Who will not perceive that a certain *quantity* of oil, of milk, of water, of *blood even*, injected into the veins may kill, not that they possess any *medicinal* or poisonous qualities, but because, if admixed in a certain quantity, they render the blood unfit to circulate through the capillary vessels. If by inoculation, milk and oils, which are neither *poisonous* nor *medicinal*, produce no effect, it is simply because so little is absorbed that the blood is not thereby rendered unfit for circulation. These facts have not the slightest bearing upon the question at issue.

In the fourth objection we have an example of a confusion of terms, which is, to say the least, unaccountable. "The preventive effect of inoculation or vaccination is confined only to smallpox. Measles may be produced in like manner; but then the disease is not rendered milder. Erysipelas, ringworm, scald-head, charbon, itch, and many other diseases, may be produced by inoculation; the *disease is neither prevented, arrested*, nor rendered milder, if present. It is not fair, therefore, to generalize or deduce a universal conclusion from exceptional facts" (p. 15). It is a *confusion of terms* to say that a disease, which *has been produced* by a given agency, is *not thereby prevented!* Dr. Routh wishes to make an objection. He has a confused idea of what kind of objection *may be* made; but he does not seem to be acquainted with the facts he talks of with sufficient clearness to avoid falling into an egregious blunder. I will therefore help him out of his difficulty, but in doing so I must point out, that this is the man who sets himself up as the judge of the reasoning, of the acts and the *motives* of others.

The objection, if any, applies to isopathy, not to homœopathy. The prevention of smallpox, and its transformation by vaccination into a milder disease, is a blessing which homœopathy may fairly, by the strictest rules of scientific deduction, claim as its own. The isopathic process of inoculation is followed by a disease which is generally less virulent than the same disease would be if contracted in any other way. By a like process measles are not rendered milder. The author adduces, as further examples of diseases which are transmissible by inoculation, those named in the above extract. But here, with the possibility of transmission by inoculation, the analogy stops. The essential difference between the first two (smallpox and measles) and the others being, that the former very rarely occurs more than once in the same individual. The susceptibility of contracting the disease is, as it is generally termed, *exhausted* by one attack; hence the advantage of inoculation, that is, the production of a mild attack of smallpox, in the place of what may be a severe attack of the same. It is because of this peculiarity that we may inoculate, but for no other reason. On the other hand, vaccination—the *homœopathic process*—possesses great advantages over inoculation. In like manner, the homœopathic remedies for measles and the other diseases instanced possess marked advantages over the inoculation of them, that is, if we admit the fact, of which for my part I have great doubts, that the inoculation of them leads to any advantage at all. I rather suspect that Dr. Routh falls here into the error of most of those who write against homœopathy, which is, that they look upon homœopathic treatment as a system which pretends to cure a disease by the *very agency* which has produced it. If he do entertain this notion, it would in a measure account for the absurdities in the paragraph I have quoted from him.

The last objection is a curious one, "the alleged infinitesimal quantities of

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substances in mineral waters, and which even allopaths admit to possess medicinal qualities, is no argument in favour of homœopathy. * * * Infinitesimal doses are precisely those *which are not appreciable or detectible even by the most minute chemical tests.* * * * The word 'infinitesimal' cannot thus fairly be applied, especially if we do not confine our attention to one ingredient only, but to all" (p. 15). It is thus clear, that in Dr. Routh's mind the word *infinitesimal* is *synonymous* with *homœopathy.* Homœopathy consists in infinitesimals and in nothing else! I have already shown that although all, or nearly all, homœopathists admit the curative power of infinitesimals, they rarely use them in acute disease. In the diseases respecting which Dr. Routh has entered into his inquiry they are used only by a few homœopathists, and yet it is upon the supposed fact that they have been treated by infinitesimals, that he denies the cures of nearly all the cases to which his attention has been directed in his book.

The admixture of *Iodide of Potassium,* in the proportion of one to five per cent., with the salt in daily use, as a preventive of *goitre,* which, it is now believed, is due to the presence, in the water drunk, of too large a proportion of salts of magnesia, "cannot be fairly adduced as favourable to the infinitesimal doctrine" (p. 15). Probably not. I rather think the *Iodide of Potassium* is here neither allopathic nor homœopathic, that it is merely *antidotal.*

I will now conclude this paper with the following objection to the explanation of the possibility of infinitesimals being capable of influencing disease, by means of analogous facts taken from the wide domain of nature.

"Again, with reference to the subtle ethereal influence, this question is sometimes asked :—How much scent remains *behind after* a hare, so that the dogs may detect it? Here is an example of an infitesimal dose exerting a sensible effect. I must answer, how is it that in frosty weather the scent is destroyed and the dogs lose it, and yet the hare passed equally over the ground? Second, how do we know that it is not owing to an undulating movement that smell is diffused? It is so for light—so for sound—so for touch" (p. 13).

Why not! but this new theory of the transmission of smells, broached for the purpose of supplying an argument against infinitesimals, would only be tenable if the author could show that the emanations from scented bodies are governed in their movements by laws analogous to those which govern light and sound. If scents consist only in undulating movements, they must be capable of reflection from the surfaces of bodies in accordance with given laws, and of transmission through solids under certain conditions. Again, if, like the rays of light or the waves of sound, scents consist in undulating movements, they are scarcely capable of being confined within a glass-stoppered phial! Who ever heard of a ray of light or of a sound preserved for years in a well-corked bottle? The action of frosty weather on scents, instead of favouring the author's theory, is only a further proof against it. Who does not perceive that it proves that the emanations from scented bodies are capable, like other vapours, of condensation in low temperatures?

(To be continued.)

NARRATIVE OF THE INTRODUCTION OF HOMŒOPATHY INTO ENGLAND.

By F. J. Smith.

(*Continued from page* 517.)

That a subject of such stirring interest to the present generation as the introduction of homœopathy into England, and which will, in all probability, be of far greater interest to future ages—embracing millions of human beings where thousands are now numbered—should be left to the ordinary casualties of events, can be regarded as little less than criminal, when materials are known to exist which require but to be recorded in order to avert the calamity which delay would most probably occasion.

Those who are acquainted with the literature of the past will immediately recognise the force of this remark; for it will at once occur to them that scarcely has one great man lived, or any great event occurred, respecting whom or which various and conflicting accounts do not exist, much of which contradiction would have been avoided had authentic information been collected at the time. For a century after the death of Isaac Newton—to mention but one instance—no other account of his life and pursuits appeared than those supplied by the Eloge of Fontenelle, and the few details given by the friend of his latter years, Dr. Pemberton; and every one is familiar with the fact that it required a committee of the Royal Society, in 1712, to settle the dispute about the discovery of fluxions.

And if such were the fate of Newton and of fluxions, a hundred years may easily steal away—and a quarter

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of that period is already gone—before a full detailed history of the introduction of homœopathy into England is published: many of the records now existing may be destroyed; pseudo materials, with that marvellous tenacity of life which belongs to the lowest class of being, may survive; the task of the historian be rendered perplexing, and his conclusions possibly erroneous.

Nor are these apprehensions mere speculations derived from analogical reasoning. Already has appeared, in at least three publications, a most erroneous narrative of the introduction of homœopathy into England. The first of these is the *Allgemeine Homœopathische Zeitung*, which ascribes this honour to the noble family of Shrewsbury. Its story runs thus: "That the Countess of Shrewsbury having married the Italian Prince Doria Pamphili, the latter was followed into England by his body physician, Dr. de Romani, in 1830—that the Queen Dowager Adelaide, having been given up by her allopathic physicians, was saved by Dr. Stapf, an eminent homœopathic physician in Naunberg, who had been expressly sent for to Germany—that this cure opened the mansions of the nobility to the new system; and that Dr. Quin, who was at this time physician to King Leopold, and resident in Brussels, hearing of the success that attended homœopathic practice in this country, threw up his situation and settled in London, where he soon obtained a very large practice."

Now, it so happens that there are scarcely two words in the whole of this anecdote that are correct:—

1st. The Countess of Shrewsbury, for the simplest of all reasons, did not marry Prince Doria Pamphili, her husband being then alive, which he is at the present moment. It is true that the Prince did marry a Talbot, but the member of this ancient family with whom the alliance was contracted, was a daughter of Lord Shrewsbury—the Lady Maria. The marriage, however, did not take place till the year 1838—eleven years after homœopathy had been introdueed into England.* Dr. Romani certainly visited this country in the winter of 1830, with Lord Shrewsbury; but remained here only six months, residing at Alton Towers.†

2nd. Queen Adelaide was not given up by her allopathic physicians. She suffered for years from a chronic affection of the respiratory organs, which ultimately terminated her valuable life. Being on a visit to her brother, the Duke of Saxe Meiningen, in the summer of 1833, the Queen, already favourably disposed to homœopathy from the circumstance of some of her household being under the care of Dr. Quin, acquiesced in the Duke's request that she should see his physician, Dr. Stapf. Under his care she appears to have received some temporary benefit. In 1835, he was again consulted in London by Her Majesty. Her Majesty was also attended, for a short time, by Dr. Harris Dunsford, (an excellent and much-lamented homœopathic physician), to whom she graciously acceded the permission to dedicate to her his valuable work, entitled "The Practical Advantages of Homœopathy." In deference to the wishes of her husband, the Queen discontinued the treatment, and remained to the last an allopathic patient, under the care of Sir David Davies and Dr. Bright.

3rd. It is true that Dr. Quin was physician to the person to Prince Leopold when H.R.H. resided in this country as a member of our Royal Family. It is also true that Dr. Quin received the appointment of physician-in-ordinary to H.R.H., when he became King of the Belgians; but Dr. Quin did not follow the King to Belgium—never resided there, and could not, therefore, either in 1830 or 1835, have thrown up his situation in Brussels to practise in this country. The fact is, as we shall presently see, that Dr. Quin had been practising homœopathy already eight years previously to the visit of Dr. Stapf.

Replete as this narrative of the *Allgemeine Homœopathische Zeitung* is with historical errors, it nevertheless has obtained a very extensive currency, from the circumstance of its being copied into a highly respectable* periodical, the *Quarterly Homœopathic Journal*, edited by Dr. Becker, and published in Boston (U. S.), in January, 1849.

But a circumstance still more to be regretted than either of the former, is, that the *Homœopathic Times* of London, forgetful of its inaugural address, follows, in March 1850, the same incorrect authority, and gives substantially the same account of the introduction of homœopathy into England.

The sacred fidelity of history forbids us

* Vide Elogio di Lady Guandalina Talbot, Principesssa Borghese, da Francesca Romani.—Napoli, 1840, page 16.

† Ibid., page 15.

* It is not intended by this to imply that the *Allgemeine Homœopathische Zeitung* is not also a highly respectable journal; on the contrary, we hold that periodical in great esteem. We use the words in a positive sense, and simply mean to assert that the circumstance of a highly respectable journal, published in the *English* language, copying the narrative in question, obtained for it a very extensive circulation.

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to pass over this discrepancy, even though committed by a periodical that has rendered such eminent service to the cause of homœopathy as the *Homœopathic Times*. Indeed, the higher the standing of a literary work, the more important does it become that its mistakes should be corrected. We should not, therefore, be fulfilling the task we have undertaken with that impartiality which can alone entitle this effort to respect and confidence, if we forbore to extract, and confront with one another, the contradictory passages to which we have referred.

The first passage is as follows: "More than twenty years have now elapsed since the homœopathic system of medicine was *first introduced* to the notice of the profession in this country by Dr. Frederick F. Quin, physician to the King of the Belgians and the Duchess of Cambridge, the present distinguished President of the British Homœopathic Society."—*Homœopathic Times*, August 4, 1849, vol. i. p. 1. The second passage runs thus: "Dr. de Romani, under the auspices of the Shrewsbury family, and Dr. Belluomini, FOLLOWED BY DR. QUIN, were the first pioneers of homœopathy in England, nearly a quarter of a century ago."—*Homœopathic Times*, March 23, 1850, vol. i. p. 502.

Having thus acquitted ourselves of a painful duty, it will not be improper to remark, that it may be taken as an axiom in respect of periodical literature, that the inaugural number is the result of the concentrated care and consideration of weeks, if not of months. On that number much of the success of the journal is known to depend; error in any point—*e. g.*, the history of its subject—would be well-nigh fatal. The tendency of use, and especially of success, is to engender confidence and to lead to the abandonment of precaution. And it may be that occasional contradiction, in incidental matters, is a thing practically unavoidable in such publications; for, even supposing one and the same editor to write every leader, he could not be expected to keep constantly in mind every name and date he had incidentally introduced in the course of his labours. This being impossible, he must rely on well-accredited works for such materials, and his authority having been misled, he would be misled too; and thus contradiction would arise. The chances of occasional incidental contradiction are further augmented by the fact, that all the leaders of any given publication are not, and cannot, in the nature of things, be written by the same individual. Be this as it may, it follows from the principle we have laid down that, in respect of accuracy, the inaugural number of any periodical is more likely to be correct, as to the history of its subject, than any subsequent number. And applying this reasoning to the case before us, it is obvious that the inaugural address of the *Homœopathic Times* is more likely to be accurate than its leader of March, 1850.

Now, in the inaugural address in question, we have the introduction of homœopathy into England ascribed to Dr. Quin in the year 1827. This is in unison with Dr. Black's admirable article on cholera in the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, vol. i., published in 1843, wherein he says, "Dr. Quin was the first physician who introduced homœopathy into England;" and with an able pamphlet by "Aliquis," published by Mr. Headland in 1848, where, amongst the errata correcting the text, we find,—"at page 9, it is stated 'homœopathy was introduced into England seventeen years ago;' it was introduced by Dr. Quin in 1827."

On the other hand, we have, as already noticed, three publications ascribing the introduction of homœopathy into England to the noble family of Shrewsbury and Dr. de Romani, viz.:—1st, *Allgemeine Homœopathische Zeitung*; 2nd, the *Quarterly Homœopathic Journal*, for January, 1849, of Boston (U. S.); 3rd, the *Homœopathic Times* of 23rd March, 1850. But we have already shown that the second and third of these periodicals took the first for their authority; and we have also shown that the narrative, as given by that journal, is inaccurate throughout.

It only remains for us to add, that we have searched in vain for any account* which ascribes to any other individual or individuals the honour in question. The Shrewsbury-Romani story, then, being completely disposed of, Dr. Quin is left in undisputed possession of the field.

The positive necessity for obtaining an undebatable starting-point for homœopathy must be our apology for this long and, we fear, somewhat tedious dissertation on the conflicting evidence we have been compelled to examine. Having, however, succeeded—as we trust we have to the satisfaction of our readers—in clearing away the obscurities that have hitherto beset

* It may, perhaps, be necessary here to observe, that Mr. Warne, in a letter published on the 17th January last, in the *Homœopathic Times*, on this subject, introduces these words:—"Every homœopathist is, I fancy, aware of the large expenditure incurred by Mr. Leaf, in the introduction and advancement of homœopathy in this country." We feel persuaded that neither Mr. Leaf nor Mr. Warne would wish us to comment on this quotation. It is enough that it does not, in the slightest degree, invalidate our statement.

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the path of the historical student, we will now proceed, without further preface, with our narrative.

[We should have no difficulty in convincing our historian, and any good reasoner, that it does not follow that an inaugural address, on any given topic, must be more correct than any subsequent one. The Whateley school of logic does not reason in this manner.

Mr. Smith points out a discrepance between a statement in our first number and that in a subsequent one, as to the introduction of homœopathy; but we can assure him that on each occasion we had information, at the time, which was supplied to us by reliable authorities, as we thought. Progress and correction generally go hand-in-hand, and we have no doubt, if there be any lay or professional parties who are in possession of facts which our much-esteemed historian so much desiderates, they will be induced to come forward, and supply him with those facts.

(*To be continued.*)

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10TH, 1852.

IN the most magnificent Institution of Polity that was ever framed, whereby men were to be influenced and guided through the medium of their senses and their imagination, because they had not reached the standard of full-grown men, that is, were incapable of self-government by pure reason and austere faith, there was not only a hierophant, and a splendid staff of subordinates of a princely order, but there were "hewers of wood and drawers of water."

In all human attempts on the part of numbers for a common object, this gradation of minds and spirits must hold true. While the operatives are engaged in the coarser work, and do their duty as subordinates, the master-spirits, not content with the full appreciation of the scheme which is being elaborated, follow out, by prevision, the consequences, and look forward to permanent results.

It is human to err; it is proper if any go wrong, that they should be willing to retrace their steps. The seers have not always unclouded vision, and the philosophers have not aways a clear judgment, and none, of whatever intellectual calibre, are justified in neglecting the just claims of

"The bold athletic mass
Whom freedom leads, and brotherhood combines."

Our founder, SAMUEL HAHNEMANN, left a precious bequest to his disciples—not the mines of Golconda, nor the treasures of El Dorado, but something far more priceless—the unfolding of thehealing law for the physical reparation of mankind:—he left them *work* to perform, not wealth to enjoy—he left them the full tasking of all their powers, according to their different capacities of body and mind, and their different opportunities. *Each has something to do.*

Shall men dig and delve in California or in Australia for the yellow dust that makes what the creatures of the world call wealth, and shall the disciples of Hahnemann not dig and delve in the mines of Nature for health-imparting remedies?

Hospitals have been established in Britain for the propagation of this true and downright Medical Reform. But the object of the far-seeing is not to have the *name* of hospitals, the *ad captandum* frippery of a *soi-disant* public service of successful practitioners, but the reality of an unmistakable work.

It is clear that, to produce a real conviction, real results on a large scale must be shown; and therefore a large hospital is needed.

Now those who are entitled, or think themselves entitled, to the leadership, or any office of trust, in the working out of our Reform, should be men both capable and willing to take a large view of the past, the present, and the future: they should follow out the consequences, and look to the permanent results of any scheme they originate. As a cosmopolite and a citizen, a man is useful in his generation, or he is nothing.

Now what real work has been done for the *secure* establishment of homœopathy in these realms?

We pause for a reply from any who may think themselves able to answer the question.

A quarter of a century has passed since homœopathy was introduced into these countries—nearly a generation of men.

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Has the work done been proportionate to the time, the means, the appliances, the opportunities, and the men? we trow, *not.*

Our vindictive enemies say we, the medical advocates of homœopathy, have taken it up and pursue it from sordid motives and for gain. We do not know *one* individual who has made a fortune by it; if our adversaries know any such, let them be named.

Let there be united action—the wisdom resulting from deliberate counsel — let there be a wide-spread basis of operations, and a large scheme, and let it be carried out with an intelligent eye to the *consequences* and the *permanent results.* None must build houses of cards for the pleasure of puffing them down—as children do.

The character of *permanence* must be stamped on our Institutions.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Sir,—An esteemed medical friend, but a determined enemy to our great Cause, placed in my hands yesterday the oration of which I send you two extracts, and as I have not observed any notice of this "oration" in your journal, perhaps the perusal of the extracts may afford you some amusement.

Dr. Little, it will be perceived, has, like most others of his class, passed by the great law, propounded by Hahnemann, and plunged at once into the question of infinitesimal doses.

This mode of dealing with a subject so important to the best interests of all classes must result from ignorance or dishonesty, and Dr. Little is quite welcome to select which of the terms is applicable to himself.

If we are to take Dr. Little's mode of opposing the spread of homœopathy as a sample of that which will in future be recognised by our opponents as the only way of stopping the onward progress of the heresy, its ultimate success is certain: and I cannot avoid saying, that the precious extracts I now forward to you of Dr. Little's oration are totally unworthy of a place in an oration before the Hunterian Society, and until the medical profession shall grapple with the great law of "*similia similibus curantur,*" all the abusive terms which may be made use of can and ought to go for nothing, and will indeed be disregarded by all who soberly and honestly seek the truth.

I am, Sir,
Your very obedient servant,
M. Marshall.

Bank of England, March 30, 1852.

REPORT

Of the Hunterian Oration, delivered before the Members of the Hunterian Society.

By W. J. Little, M.D.
Delivered 4th February, 1852.

.....Page 4. This annual gathering of the members and friends of the Hunterian Society affords, amongst other advantages, an opportunity of reviewing some matters of general interest to our profession which have occurred during the past year. Amongst these we may survey the progress or decadence of empiricism within and without our ranks. The stand is at length made against homœopathy. It is a subject of congratulation, nevertheless, that the profession has so long left this quackery unnoticed. In the land of its origin, its hollowness and falseness were soon apparent, and the monster absurdity was strangled almost in its birth. Here no master-mind like Stieglitz has, until lately, deemed it worthy of exposure and refutation. Homœopathy has, in fact, been abandoned to its course; left by physicians to mere contempt. In this tolerant community, however, the scorn of the profession has been mistaken for fear; but as long as the freedom of thought and action conceded to homœopathy was confined to itself—as long as homœopaths were content to be homœopaths—as long as its mysteries were confined to a separate sect, who made no claim to belong to the regular ranks, but who rather boasted of their divergence from us, it was not desirable that our profession should openly notice it; but when homœopathy seeks to invest itself with the mantle of orthodoxy; when it aspires to invade the halls of our universities, and to instil its virus into the minds of our alumni, it is full time for the profession to oppose with energy the double imposture. This opposition has now become a necessity—nay, indeed, it has become an imperative duty; for the tendency of the delusion, with its exaggerated belief in the efficacy of drugs, and its assertion of the potency of infinitesimal doses of medicinal agents, is to engender universal scepticism as to the value of medicinal substances. As in theology itself, so in medicine, extremes will meet; the larger and more unreasonable the demands made upon the credulity, the imagination, and the superstition of the disciple, the greater his proneness to fall into utter disbelief.

With the profession fully alive to the tendency of the new claims of the followers of Hahnemann and others; with the certainty that hereafter both sides of the question will be kept before the public—"Magna est veritas, ac prævalebit!"

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That portion of society which has yielded to the seductions of this quackery will be undeceived. Whilst another generation is springing up, perhaps some new folly, which, in its turn, will share the inevitable fate of homœopathy—to be consigned to the contempt and derision of society, as soon as its novelty has subsided, and the halo of mystery which surrounds it has been dissipated by the steady radiance of truth: moreover, the mere multitude of elixirs vitæ, homœopathy, hydropathy, mesmerism, and other "*isms*" without end, must in time bewilder the beguiled, and eventually lead to the regular physician for refuge. The number of the homœopathic pretenders is said to have increased, yet the interest to credulous or dishonest men to continue to labour in the diffusion of these absurdities must diminish as their number is augmented; and even such men will find that legitimate medicine is equally or even more profitable in a pecuniary sense; when, of course, they will make a virtue of necessity, and return to the beaten path of science and of common sense. The spread of so many quackeries in the present day, even among educated men, has occasioned surprise; yet when the inducements to empirical practice are so numerous, and possess such solid attractions, there is little cause for any astonishment. All educated men are not proof against evil temptations, nor inaccessible to sordid motives.

Besides, every system of quackery may contain some element of good, however much that element may be obscured or abused. Homœopathy, for example, pretends to cure with globules, while the really effective agents which it can wield are pilfered from the armoury of the regular practitioner; and, indeed, from this point of view, each so-called *system* is but an additional compliment to regular medicine, an unintentional homage to that true system of the healing art established by the unwearied searches of devoted inquirers on the basis of knowledge and sound philosophy. Thus each pretended system is but a gigantic hypocrisy, unconsciously rendering, as it were, the usual tribute of vice to virtue. Each consists but of a leaf taken from the venerable book of medicine—the accumulated and recorded experience of ages—and prostituted to the purpose of acquiring a distinction unattainable by honourable rivalry and competition in the arena of legitimate practice; or, as an excuse for non-possession of the education, the acquirements, or the diploma of the regular practitioner,—a leaf expanded into a huge system of credulity and imposture. These terms would be harsh if applied to the members of any sect rightly claiming to be cultivators of science; but surely those of the homœopaths who really believe in the efficacy of infinitesimal doses—of doses so small, a billionth or decillionth, for example, whose very expression in figures notation can hardly bring upon its tablets—may at least be justly termed credulous; whilst the remainder, if they have not so debased their intellect as to credit the doctrine, are plainly obnoxious to the charge of imposture, for their adoption of a practice repugnant to their own common sense, merely as a profitable livelihood.

The most charitable supposition would be, that such intelligent men as have embraced homœopathy had previously become sceptics as to the value of drugs, under any mode of administration, following in this the theory of those physicians who assert that the average duration of disease and the average mortality of mankind (all other things being equal), are the same whatever be the medicines administered. This scepticism of the value of drugs may by some be regarded as an excuse for practising with them in a harmless form, relying upon expectancy, diet, and hygiene.

Now this covert reliance upon time, diet, and hygiene constitutes the hypocrisy of homœopathy. It is true that expectancy, or the belief that nature alone is competent to cure every curable disease, and intuitively to teach what aliment to withhold and what to administer, has long existed as a doctrine in medicine, and, when legitimately entertained and modified, it holds a place in the creed of every rational practitioner.....

Yet in the present day a system of gymnastics, called kinesopathy, is gravely propounded for the cure of disease! Behold the abuse of another leaf from our book.

Our book, I say, because, "rich with the spoils of time," it is the repository of all the recorded wisdom of our noble art, and each and every pretended new system will be found, if scrutinized, to rest upon the abuse of some page abstracted without acknowledgment from its almost exhaustless treasures.

This is the secret of the partial or temporary success of every quackery—Morisonianism, brandy-and-saltism, Hollowayism, White-mustardism, St. John Longism —quackeries in every way worthy to be classed with homœopathy and hydropathy.

[*Little* by name, not *large* by nature, he
Shows us how circumscribed his powers be.

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Denouncing what he knows not, he's a boy
That blows soap-bubbles or that breaks his toy.
But allopathy, like himself, is brittle,
So we can laugh at this harangue of *Little*.
"*Multum in parvo*"—sometimes we avouch,
But in this critic *Little* is not *much*.—ED.]

Correspondence.

HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Allow me, through the medium of your columns, to address the homœopathic public upon a subject that I have had long at heart. It is nothing less than the establishment of another homœopathic medical charity, of a nature that I sincerely believe will give more than twice the relief to the sick for the same expenditure, than any of the present existing hospitals, and its funds will be obtained from a source that will but little, if at all, interfere with the resources from which the present medical charities draw their support.

I propose that a hospital should be established devoted exclusively to the relief of children. The idea was suggested to me about a year ago, by a medical man of eminence, who stated it to be the only way of showing the full superiority of the homœopathic system.

The great majority of cases in ordinary hospitals are so concatenated with drug diseases, the result of long-continued allopathic treatment, that simple diseases have been rendered complicated, and in many instances incurable. I am given to understand, that the chance of cure in a child hitherto undrugged is as four to one greater than that of a middle-aged man having swallowed the average amount of medicines. I have only estimated it at half this.

I propose that the subscriptions to this hospital shall be limited to the sum of five shillings; it will be observed that there are scarcely any subscriptions to the other hospitals lower in amount than one pound. Thus far, the funds of the hospital may be considered as being drawn from a source peculiar to itself; but as donations will also be received for the children's hospital, to a very limited extent these may interfere with funds that might otherwise have gone to another hospital. However, the main dependency of the children's hospital will be upon the multitude of small subscriptions.

With regard to the medical staff, it is not proposed to make the belonging to a particular society a qualification, as in the London Homœopathic Hospital, neither is it proposed to have a large number of medical men attached to the hospital, upon a principle of equality, as was formerly the case in the Hahnemann Hospital.

The qualification for a medical officer of the children's hospital is proposed to be that he shall follow the precepts of Samuel Hahnemann, as laid down in the Organon. Take the definition of a physician from the words of Dr Constantine Hering, of Philadelphia.

"I acknowledge as 'practitioners of our school,' such only as are accustomed to observe the general, practical rules laid down in the Organon, *i. e.*, those which require the most careful inquiry into the symptoms of each case, as a case by itself; the writing down of all the symptoms, the selecting of one remedy according to the characteristic similarity, and the administering of that one in the smallest doses, and at the longest intervals the case allows."

It is perfectly true that, in this age of rapid progression, it is impossible to stereotype a system—that improvements and change *must* take place; but in this instance mere change, without improvement, is in general easily to be distinguished from an advance in knowledge, from the circumstance that the change, without improvement, is generally to save the labour of the physician.

A true homœopath, when he undertakes a case, may perhaps spend an hour or two in his closet studying the symptoms that he has before laboriously collected; he then gives a minute dose of a carefully-selected medicine, and the germs of a serious illness may at once be eradicated. The patient pays his fee, treats the matter lightly; there was little the matter with him; one dose cured him; he would probably have got well of himself.

A second physician takes no such trouble; he administers at once the medicine that he thinks will alleviate the symptoms the patient most complains of; then attacks a second and a third symptom, which are in their turns alleviated, while the vitality of the disease is only partially affected. This treatment is something like the economy of giving bad wine, it not only costs less at first, but it lasts a great deal longer. There is, however, this difference, *the patient is satisfied* with the medical treatment, the symptoms that he complains of are one by one alleviated, and he gets well in the end, and sooner than he would under allopathy. *The mere selfish interests of the physician are not the same as those of the patient*; the inferior mode of practice often paying the best.

Take, on the other hand, an instance of improvement in the science of homœopathy. Hahnemann always gave his medicines singly; his favourite pupil Bönninghausen constantly gives them in alternation, but *only after lengthened, laborious research into the affinities of medicines;* he never gives drugs in alternation, without having previously ascertained by experiments their effects in alternation. If he gets increased power by this change in treatment, he has got it at the expense of increased labour to himself.

How different this from the man who, to save himself trouble in investigation, gives one medicine for one symptom, and another in alternation for another symptom, without knowing anything of their combined effects in alternation.

The best mode that we have of the carrying out the true principles of the Organon is, by

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asking only those to subscribe who wish to see those principles carried out, and these carefully selecting their Board of Management. Perhaps it might be well if the physicians were periodically called upon to select a case each for publication, as a specimen of their work.

Now with regard to funds: to the ladies I look first. Ought we not to calculate that each mother, whose child's life has been saved by homœopathy, will give five shillings to help to save the lives of the children of her poorer fellow-creatures.

Next I turn to the numerous body of homœopaths, whose faith is great but whose worldly circumstances are small. To you I say, that if you will only subscribe your five shillings, and *attend regularly the general meetings*, give a careful vote in the selection of your Board of Management, and, as far as lies in your power, see that they do their duty, you will do more good to the hospital and to homœopathy than a man that gives ten times the amount, and troubles himself no further on the subject.

To the rich I address myself, reminding them that the proposed scheme admits of large donations; and that though the hospital may be carried on chiefly by small subscriptions, yet we require something in hand to start with.

I shall be happy to receive any communication on this interesting subject from *any one*, who is willing to co-operate with me, on the principle of true faith in homœopathy.

Should this proposal appear to meet with approval, a meeting will be called after Easter.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

A. H. MACDONALD MORETON.

112, Gloucester Place, Portman Square.

AMALGAMATION OF THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I am sorry to see that you are all at loggerheads; you will remember I predicted as much when on a sudden uprose two committees, two dinners, two hospitals, two medical staffs. It grieved me at the time, and I think it might have been avoided, had the Cause been kept in view, in lieu of the self-aggrandizement of a few individuals. My own views may be peculiar, but I will state them. The medical men should resign in a body in both hospitals, and leave the lay-supporters to choose the staff, one-half to be for life, the other half for three years, and then a re-election; the two hospitals to be amalgamated, and one school and one hospital worthy the name would spring up as if by magic. I know that hundreds would ere this have subscribed, but for the divisions and squabbles, and jealousies of medical men. When will medical men understand their high calling, and feel and act rightly to each other, to patients, and to God?

I cannot leave here even for a day, and if I could I would not, except it were to assist at a *fusion*. I am going to build forthwith a small hospital, and I shall feel obliged if you will give me the names of any wealthy people that would be likely to assist me. I am not rich, but will make much sacrifice for the Cause.

Yours sincerely,

RUSTICUS EXPECTANS.

April 3, 1852.

[The above note is from an excellent homœopathic practitioner. We make no comments on it. Some will think the plan good and comprehensive, some will think it Utopian.

We shall be very glad to receive the "*benevolence*" for his hospital from any who are disposed to give help in that direction.—ED.]

HYPOCHONDRIASIS.

A MARRIED woman, aged thirty-two, consulted me in October, 1837. Four years previously she had lost a child; and, whilst watching it during its illness, was suddenly seized with terrific apprehensions. From that period she became very low-spirited, and *dreaded being alone;* and imagining she was pursued by an evil spirit, she ran from room to room, and felt as if she must fly from all around her. She experienced a throbbing headache and a feeling as if the eyes would burst, and fancied that she "saw a spot on her forehead which passed down to the stomach;" she had thirst, and occasionally slight shivering. This state was completely relieved, in about three months, by the employment of *Platina*, *Belladonna*, *Tinct. Sulph.*, *Stramonium*, and *Phosphorus*. The patient, although naturally of a nervous temperament, has remained to the present time free from the malady, and is now in very good health.

A gentleman in the city, aged thirty-five, engaged in laborious mental exertions, complained of great weakness of sight with dizziness; occasionally, the power of vision suddenly forsook him for many seconds. He suffered also from headache attended with a dragging sensation, extending from the eyes to the back of the head. His sleep was disturbed, his spirits were greatly depressed, and he felt a desire to be alone and in the dark. He complained that his memory of late had become defective. The remedy I considered most appropriate to the case, *Nux Vomica*, was of immediate benefit. The nervous system became tranquil, the spirits improved, and he was able to write and read with but little inconvenience. *Chamomilla* was given to relieve biliary disturbance, and *Nux Vomica* afterwards repeated, which, in about six weeks, completely dispersed the remaining evils.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 142. Vol. III.] SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1852. [Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

Communications.

THE DISEASES OF CHILDREN.

By Dr. Frederick Augustus Günther.

(*Continued from page* 532.)

Whilst the nursery is being swept and cleaned, the baby ought to be put into another moderately warm room; should this, however, be impracticable, care must be taken to cover the floor with moistened sawdust, and to draw the broom lightly over it, so as to avoid the rising of dusty particles into the air which the child has to breathe. Among the very poor, when a single small room, with low ceiling, is generally made to answer the several purposes of kitchen, parlour, nursery, bedroom, etc., and in which parents and children live crowded together, perhaps even in company with a pig or some other animal, frequent ventilation and purification of the air is a matter of the highest importance. The best and simplest means to effect this is to open the door and windows, both in the fore and afternoon, no matter what the state of the weather may happen to be. The baby should in the meantime be carefully protected from the draught by wrapping the bedclothes around it, and placing a screen before its couch. There is no necessity either to leave the door and windows open for hours together, as some people fancy; a few minutes at a time will suffice, provided the operation be repeated from time to time. Ventilators in the windows are very useful contrivances for the purification of the air, but better still are those placed in the wall near the floor, in some corner or other of the room, since the lower layers of the air contain always the most injurious matter, which, from their specific weight, sink to the ground.

A moderately warm *temperature* which, like light and air, is indispensable to the growth and development of animals and plants, is equally one of the most important requisites for a properly-constituted nursery. The too much is here as hurtful as the too little. The proper temperature of the nursery is about 65 to 70° Fahrenheit. The door and windows of the nursery ought to be close shutting, to guard against draughts. In summer, the temperature may generally be kept at about 70° by the opening of the windows, by curtains, etc.

I have already had occasion to remark that a calm and undisturbed rest is most beneficial to infants. It will certainly be granted that the ear of the new-born child is a most delicate organ, and one would imagine that common sense should suffice to deter people from assailing this tender organ with any kind of noise; but it is by no means so. Scarcely has the infant been born into the world when a host of grandmothers, aunts, cousins, and gossips pounce upon the helpless little creature, and inflict on its acutely sensitive ear torrents of female eloquence in commendation of its beauty, and of the strong resemblance which it bears to either or to both parents; to scrutinize and ascertain the which more closely and minutely, the poor innocent is, mayhap, dragged to the bright light of day, or of a lamp, which, of course, cannot fail to inflict ineffable torture on the equally tender and sensitive visual organs of the infant.

The nursery ought, where it is practicable, to be placed in a part of the house removed as much as possible from the noise of the street. All loud noises, screams, harsh and grating sounds ought to be strictly prohibited. The door should be opened and shut gently. Nothing can possibly be more foolish and hurtful than the much prevailing practice to still children by loud drumming on a box, or against the window, or by making a deafening noise with a mortar, bell, drum, trumpet, etc.

7. *The Infant's Couch.*—The wicker or basket cradles, which were formerly so much in vogue, have deservedly fallen into discredit now, on account of the facilities which they offer to the location of bugs. *Rocking-cradles* of any kind or material are positively objectionable. I do not mean to say that rocking in moderation is hurtful to the infant; yet there can be no doubt that it presents always this inconvenience, that the infant gets speedily accustomed to it, and refuses afterwards to go to sleep without it. But long-continued rocking is ab-

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solutely hurtful to the child; it has the same narcotic effect upon the system as the juice of the poppy. At first the child is lulled thereby readily enough into a species of forced sleep; but in proportion as the infant gets accustomed to the sensation of rocking, a longer and longer continuance of the operation becomes necessary, until at length even the most violent and incessant rocking fails to effect its purpose; whilst, on the other hand, it tends to heat and excite the child, and to prevent the evacuation of the stools and of the urine. Violent and long-continued swinging and rocking produce, even in adults, many disagreeable symptoms and sensations, such as giddiness, nausea, retching, vomiting, lassitude, etc. Common sense, therefore, ought to tell us that its effect upon tender infants, with their soft, almost still fluid brains, can only be highly injurious.

The child ought accordingly to sleep in a *standing* bedstead, made either of soft or of hard wood, or, better still, of iron bars. The wood of the bedstead should either be left in its natural state or French-polished, but on no account painted with oil-colour or any composition containing turpentine; at all events, a bedstead so painted ought to have been exposed for two or three months continually to the atmosphere, so as to get rid of the noxious emanations of the ingredients composing the paint. As regards the polishing of wooden bedsteads, I must here remark that French-polishers are in the habit of staining the wood by means of nitric acid. Now, this is a most powerful and subtile agent, that cannot fail to exercise an injurious action on the health of the child. Anybody who doubts this, may speedily convince himself of his error, by placing an article of bronze or copper in the vicinity of a piece of furniture stained by means of nitric acid; the metal article will speedily turn black, even though the furniture may have left the shop six months. Care ought to be taken therefore to prevent, at all events, the bedsteads intended for the nursery being stained with nitric acid. Lime-water may be advantageously substituted instead of the acid; but the safest way is to leave the wood altogether unstained.

The most appropriate form of bedstead is that resembling a chest, resting on four legs, and the upper part, to the extent of one-third of the depth, consisting of open trellis-work. The bedstead ought to be of sufficient depth to guard against the possibility of the child's tumbling out over the sides.

The *bedding* should consist of—1, a mattress, loosely stuffed with horsehair, or, better still, of a bed filled with oat-chaff, over this is spread a linen sheet, folded double or fourfold, and upon this is laid a piece of flannel; 2, a flat pillow or bolster, loosely stuffed with horsehair; 3, a cotton coverlet or blanket, lined with cotton. In winter, a very light cover-bed, stuffed with down, may be added; but this must be withdrawn as soon as the weather gets warm again.

On no account should children be made to sleep on feather-beds, since these are much too hot, and impede the free exhalation of the skin, and favour moreover, from the yielding nature of their material, the tendency to curvature of the spine. The bed whereon the infant lies, ought to be horizontal, and only raised a very little at the head part. It must be always kept dry and clean, and ought to be aired every day. If an oat-chaff mattress is used, the stuffing material must be renewed from time to time. Warming-pans should be had recourse to only in the case of new-born infants, and during the winter season.

8. *The Nursery-maid.*—The selection of the person to whom a mother intrusts the care of tending her child or children is a matter of high importance. A nursery-maid or nurse should neither be too old nor too young; twenty-four to thirty years is about the proper age. Young girls are generally careless and thoughtless; old women, on the other hand, are rarely in robust health. Persons of a very advanced age should never be let tend children or carry them about in their arms, since the child may thereby suffer a serious loss of vital power through animal-magnetic influence.

Health, kindness of disposition, sweetness of temper, affection for children, cleanliness and neatness are qualities almost indispensable in a good nursery-maid or nurse.

(*To be continued.*)

THE HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL.

Communicated by the Honorary Secretary.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Subscribers, held at the Hospital, on Friday, April 2, 1852, the following proceedings took place, the Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were read.

The Honorary Secretary then read the following Report:

The Board of Management, in making their Second Annual Report to the subscribers of the Hahnemann Hospital, are pleased to have it in their power to refer to the statistics of the

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Hospital, not merely as a satisfactory testimony of the benefits which it has been the means of bestowing on the suffering poor, but also of the wide-spreading and increasing knowledge of the homœopathic system.

From the following summary of the statistics it will be seen that upwards of 6047 patients have, since the commencement, been partakers of the benefits of the Hospital treatment, which it is to be hoped will be still fu ther extended.

Total number of patients from commencement	6047
Out-patients from 16th March, 1851, to 16th March, 1852	3966
In-patients from 16th March, 1852, to 16th March, 1852	254
Total	4220

Of whom—	Out.	In.
Have been discharged, Cured	1146	126
,, ,, Improved	1067	89
Total	2213	215
Unaltered	50	8
Under treatment	1213	25
Result unknown	931	5
Died	13	15
No account rendered	75	..
Total	4495	268
Deduct out-patients left under treatment last year	529	14
Total	3966	254

In the Report of the Board to the First Annual General Meeting, adopted by the subscribers, the objects for which the Hospital was founded were set forth, and the third object was there stated, viz., "to afford facilities to the medical student or inquirer, for obtaining a knowledge of the homœopathic doctrine and practice; at the bedside of the patient; by clinical lectures; and by lectures in the Hahnemann School to be attached to the Hospital, on Homœopathic Therapeutics, and Materia Medica."

The Medical Council, on the 4th March, 1851, resolved, "That those lectures should be forthwith commenced, and delivered at the Hospital at least once a week, and oftener if practicable;" and five clinical lectures were consequently delivered by the officers on the *rota* of March and April, 1851.

Finding that these lectures were discontinued by the succeeding Medical Officers in *rota*, the Board of Management, from July, 1851, sought from the Medical Council the resumption of this important means of communicating medical knowledge, and establishing a medical school.

Being desirous, as laymen, that the whole of the matters connected with these lectures should be supervised by the Medical Council, the Board continued that question before the Council, and it was, from time to time, considered and much discussed by them; and, on the 22nd December, the Medical Council resolved, "That the Board of Management having, on various occasions, heard the opinions of the Medical Council, it be left to themselves to act upon their own judgment in the matter."

In consequence of this resolution, and in pursuance of the recommendation of the Medical Council of 5th November, the Board of Management determined to accept the offers of Drs. Dudgeon and Epps, to deliver lectures on the General Principles and Practice of Homœopathy, and on Materia Medica; and of Drs. Curie and Henriques to deliver Clinical Lectures.

Much earnest discussion prevailed amongst the members of the Medical Council in reference to the establishment of these lectures, but it was satisfactory to the Board to find that the importance of the lectures was admitted by all; yet although the differences pertained to what, in their opinion, was of comparatively minor interest, they regret that, in the warm and earnest minds of some of the Medical Staff, these points were deemed so important as to lead the following gentlemen to withdraw their professional services, viz., Drs. Chapman and Chepmell, Messrs. Hands and Wilson.

However much the Board deplore these differences, they have the satisfaction of assuring the subscribers that their benevolent purposes have been well fulfilled in regard to the healing of the sick and afflicted, and to the promotion of homœopathy.

The Board cannot but express their hope that these benefits will be continued, and that by the establishment of a Medical School at the Hospital the advantages of the system may, and doubtless will, in course of time, be still more widely diffused.

The Board have now to report upon the financial condition of the Hospital, which they regret does not exhibit that favourable aspect which the good effected in it should warrant.

The balance in hand on April, 1851, was	£1337	0	4
Subscriptions and Donations since received	1246	17	5
From the Bazaar has been already received	480	0	0

which has yet to be increased.

And here a grateful tribute of thanks must be rendered to the Ladies' Committee, by whom and through whom alone this welcome addition to the funds of the Hospital has been achieved.

The expenditure for the past twelve months has been, as the Board believes, managed with the strictest economy, relatively to efficiency. It amounts to £2158 18*s.* 7*d.*, and leaves a balance in hand, after all liabilities are paid, of £904 19*s.* 2*d.*

In addition, there are still promised subscriptions and donations not yet received, amounting to £350, which the Board hope will be, before long, remitted to them, and which have, doubtless, been hitherto inadvertently deferred.

If, however, the Hahnemann Hospital is to prosper, the Board can in no respect qualify the expressions in the last Report with regard to the paramount necessity of an endowment fund and a capital fund, and they cannot too

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strongly impress upon all friends of homœopathy the urgent need of supporting an Institution which in its infancy has already effected so large an amount of good, and which, they trust, is yet destined to extend the blessings of homœopathy over a still larger field: on this subject, while warmly thanking the subscribers for the support bestowed, the Board cannot do better than re-state the concluding paragraph of their last Report, viz.:—

"Still, without a large increase of annual subscriptions, and still more noble donations, the good work cannot prosper; wherefore the Board beg to commend the good Cause to the earnest advocacy and support of every present subscriber, with a humble hope that, under the blessings of the Author of all good, this commencement of a beneficent Institution may be followed by such generous and self-denying contributions as may give it a deep and lasting foundation."

Agreeably to Law V., the twenty-one elected members of the Board now go out of office, and it rests with the Annual General Meeting to choose the same number of non-medical subscribers to be of the Board for the year ensuing.

The Board having availed themselves of the proffered services, *pro tempore*, of Mr. J. J. G. Wilkinson, desire to recommend him for election as one of the Medical Officers of the Hospital.

In conclusion, the Board consider that the warmest thanks of the subscribers are eminently due to the members of the present Medical Staff of the Hospital, as well as to the members who have retired, for their valuable and effective services; the gratifying results of which have been displayed in the daily increase in the number of patients, who have thronged to avail themselves of the assistance so ably and liberally rendered.

To the noble President the thanks of the subscribers are also especially due, for his unwearied attention to the interests of the Hospital, and to the promotion of the Cause which the establishment of the Hospital, it is hoped, will for ever sustain.

It was moved by PHILIP SANDOZ, Esq., seconded by G. H. FLETCHER, Esq., and passed in the affirmative, "That the Report now read be received, and be printed and circulated under the direction of the Board of Management."

It was moved by F. SANDOZ, Esq., seconded by W. A. CASE, Esq., and passed in the affirmative, "That J. J. G. Wilkinson, Esq., M.R.C.S.E., be one of the Medical Officers of the Hahnemann Hospital."

The following gentlemen were then elected members of the Board of Management for the year ensuing:—

W. H. Ashurst, Esq.	Thomas Higgs, Esq.
W. T. Berger, Esq.	T. H. Johnston, Esq.
W. A. Case, Esq.	C.P.Leslie,Esq.,M.P.
J. M. Douglas, Esq.	John Miller, Esq.
G. H. Fletcher, Esq.	Lieut.-Gen. Sir Chas. Pasley, K.C.B.
John Fowler, Esq.	F. Sandoz, Esq.
Jos. Glover, Esq.	W. Stephenson, Esq.
S. Hanson, Esq.	W. Warne, Esq.
S. Sugden, Esq.	C. Wilkinson, Esq.
A. Templeton, Esq.	S. Wilson, Esq., Ald.
Major Tyndale.	

The thanks of the meeting having been voted to the Honorary Secretary, Mr. Warne,

It was moved by the Hon. A. H. MORETON, and seconded by A. P. PHELPS, Esq., "That the formal appointment of Clinical Lecturers by the Board of Management be not approved."

This motion was put, and negatived by a large majority.

The thanks of the meeting were then unanimously voted to the noble President, when his lordship addressed the meeting to the following effect:—

The members of the Board who may have attended at the many discussions which have taken place on the subject which has been principally mooted this day, will confess, that in the position I have the honour to hold, I have endeavoured to keep my opinion to myself; but it does appear to me that the time is now come when, as every one else has expressed his opinion, and the discussion is ended, I also may without impropriety express mine. It has been said that the principles on which the Hospital was founded have been departed from. I regret that the gentleman who made this assertion should have left the meeting before I could have the opportunity of making these few remarks. I remember well when certain gentlemen, among whom were two of those who have lately seceded from the medical staff, called upon me to ascertain whether I was willing to be the President of a Hospital which they had some hopes of establishing; and I recollect saying to them, "But, gentlemen, are you sure that you can let the past be the past, and that the jealousies and prejudices that have so notoriously kept you divided among yourselves, and weakened the Cause, will not again recur; unless you are quite sure on this point, I see not the use of this effort;" and it was only because of their earnest and positive assurances that such should be the case, and that those feelings which have been revived should not be revived, that I consented to have my name associated with the undertaking. I remember, too, that one of the measures contemplated by these gentlemen, and one which they most urgently insisted upon as essential to the broad principle on which the Institution was to be established, was *that the government should be entirely* A LAY GOVERNMENT, altogether independent of medical men and medical influence and interference. I can assure you, gentlemen, that I have given much attention to the subject which has led to division among us, and have read and considered all the documents relating to it with the utmost possible care; and I confess to you, that I cannot agree with the opinion which has been expressed as to the violation of the principles of this Institution by the proceedings of the Board. Had I seen any departure from those principles, I would most assuredly have retired from my position as president. I can, however, trace nothing of the kind, but, on the contrary, I believe that the proceedings of the Board have been fair and right; I fully concur

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in them, and know of no act of theirs of which I can disapprove. I deplore the secession, which the Board, with the greatest courtesy and kindness, endeavoured to avert, and I can throw no blame on the Committee as the cause of it. What they have done I consider right; and although one result may be some loss to us for the present, if the same comprehensive principles are kept to, I hope next year that we shall be found to have recovered from it, and have outlived the unpleasant effect of the present proceedings.

The meeting then dissolved.

[Our readers will, no doubt, be pleased to have, in addition to this statement furnished us by the Honorary Secretary, a full abstract of the report of our own Reporter.—ED.]

Another Report, being a full Abstract from a Verbatim Copy of Notes furnished by a Short-hand Writer.

A General Meeting of Subscribers of the above Institution was held at the Hospital, 39, Bloomsbury Square, on Friday, April 2, 1852, Lord R. GROSVENOR in the chair.

The SECRETARY read the minutes of the last general meeting.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the business of the meeting, spoke as follows:—Gentlemen, it becomes my duty, as President of the Hospital, and as chairman of the present meeting, to open and commence the proceedings of this day, and I will do so by making a few, and a very few, preliminary remarks. The time has now arrived when it becomes necessary for those to whom you last delegated the management of this undertaking to give an account of their stewardship, and also to ask your directions with regard to its future management. The general summary of what has taken place will be given to you in the Report which will shortly be read; and also it will give you an account of the most interesting and prominent events which have taken place during the past year. Generally speaking, I think it inexpedient for the chairman to allude to any of the details of a Report, partly because, in so doing, he might be apt to give a partial view of the subject, which will come before you by means of the Report itself in its full detail. I shall consequently not attempt to call your attention to any portion of the Report, but allow it to speak for itself. Unfortunately, however, circumstances have happened which will not now be brought before you for the first time, but circumstances which unhappily have become matters of notoriety; and, also, a circular has been sent round to the various subscribers of this Institution, signed by four members of the Committee of Management, stating that it is their intention to move a vote, calling in question the conduct of the committee to whom you delegated your authority last year. It is necessary for me to say one or two words on this subject, and I shall trespass on your time for a very short period. Now, what I wish to say is this, certain acts were done by the managing committee, which have led to the resignation of four gentlemen who this time last year were a portion of our medical staff. That act of resignation was acquiesced in most reluctantly by the Committee of Management; but, however, as unfortunately that determination was persevered in, I can now only allude to them as four gentlemen who are no longer on your staff, but who formerly formed a part of it. Now as these gentlemen, at least one or two of them—I do not know exactly how many—but as Mr. Wilson is here, and as some others may be here who may desire to say something on this subject, and as I also stated before, that some gentlemen are about to make a motion calling in question the conduct of your committee, I mention these circumstances for the purpose of giving weight to the appeal which I am now going to make to the gentlemen composing this meeting; namely, to make a request that any gentleman in the course of his address to this meeting will have the kindness to address himself to me as the chairman; in the next place, that he will do the utmost in his power to avoid using any irritating expressions or any personalities of any description; and lastly, that those who are here will give as patient attention as they possibly can to all that may be be said in contravention of what may have been before stated. I am quite sure I shall not make this appeal in vain. I feel certain that our business on this occasion will be conducted with calmness and good temper, and I can only express a wish in the language which is familiar to all those who attend the early part of the meeting of the House of Commons when our prayers are said, that laying aside all private interests, prejudices, and party affections, the result of our deliberations may tend not only to the permanent maintenance of this Institution, but also that it may be very largely extended in that direction which we all desire, because we conceive it to be a matter of the utmost importance not to ourselves only, not merely to the interest which any one of us may have as regards ourselves, our families, or our friends, but we consider it to be the means, and it certainly will be if we are able to continue and extend it, under Divine Providence, of conferring a lasting benefit on the country to which we belong, as well as to mankind at large. Having, I hope, not transgressed the boundaries that I set myself, I will now call on the Secretary to read the Report.

Mr. WARNE, the Secretary, then read the Report, and also the statement of the receipts and expenditure, and the statement of the number of patients.

Mr. P. SANDOZ said he had great pleasure in proposing a motion to the effect—"That the Report now read, and the acts and proceedings of the Board of Management be approved and confirmed, and that the Report be printed and circulated under the direction of the Board of Management." The Report that had been read was not quite so satisfactory in one respect as he should like it to be, he alluded to the small balance in hand; but that was a matter that did not come within the control of the Board of Management, it was one of those things that they could not help directly, but

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which they hoped to be able to improve by further assistance.

Mr. G. H. FLETCHER seconded the motion.

The CHAIRMAN.—Before proceeding any further, Mr. Moreton is going to move an amendment to that proposition; but I wish the meeting to take this into consideration—I never knew of such a phrase as this being used in a motion of this kind; "that the acts and proceedings of the Board of Management be approved and confirmed." Now, I understand the position in which we stand to be this, that the subscribers delegate their authority to a certain body, who, not all being able to transact the business at once together, delegate it to a smaller body to have it properly transacted, but in order to make them responsible for their acts, they delegate it only for a certain time, and at the end of that time they are called to account for the acts which they have done. During the year the authority of the subscribers is represented by the Board of Management, and after the expiration of that time they have to account to the subscribers. When the time comes round for holding a public meeting, the Board of Management do not appeal to the subscribers for any confirmation of what they have done, except indirectly, in this way—the subscribers can turn them all out if they do not choose to continue them, and that is a sufficiently conclusive hint that they are not satisfied with the conduct they have pursued; but I think it is not only very unusual to proceed in this way, but that it is also informal.

Mr. F. SANDOZ merely wished to say a few words on the question of order. He thought it was a very common thing that the Board might report their proceedings at an annual meeting, and a motion might be put that the Report now read be received and approved, where, as in this case, circumstances are related which actually call on the subscribers for the expression of their opinion; the words might perhaps be surplusage, but he contended that it was in the breast of the mover whether he would simply say that the Report be received, or if the word "approved" was wished to be added, it might be in the breast of the seconder.

Mr. PATERSON addressed the meeting in opposition to the motion.

The CHAIRMAN.—I am entirely in the hands of the meeting in this matter, but I still hold the same opinion. I think it is very unusual, and not an orderly mode of proceeding; I think you should merely move that the Report be received. If any gentleman has an objection to that Report being received, he may state it. I do not think it would be wise to put these words in. If the meeting are of opinion that they had better remain in, I must of course bow to their decision; but you do not appeal for confirmation of your acts at all in any other way than by resigning your office, and being elected again or not. I mention it simply for the sake of order. Unless you have a special rule to the effect that the acts of the Board of Management shall not be considered as binding and valid till they are confirmed by a general meeting, then I can understand the object of your motion. You have made a Report, and the question is whether that shall be received, printed, and circulated in the usual form. I had better put it in this shape, that the Report now read be received, and printed, and circulated, under the direction of the Board of Management.

Mr. F SANDOZ said, if the four gentlemen who had given notice of their intention to move an amendment to the resolution, would shape it accordingly, it might do; for the notice of resolution to be put as an amendment was "that the formal appointment of clinical lecturers by the Board of Management be not confirmed."

The CHAIRMAN.—That resolution cannot be put.

Mr. F. SANDOZ said, with that understanding, he was perfectly satisfied to leave it in that shape; and he would move that the Report be received in the words that his lordship proposed.

Mr. FLETCHER seconded the motion.

The CHAIRMAN then put the motion in the form last proposed.

The Hon. A. H. MORETON rose to make some observations on that part of the Report wherein it is stated that the Board of Mangement "accepted the offers of Drs. Curie and Henriques to deliver clinical lectures." He stated that this was not exactly consistent with the fact, for these gentlemen *offered themselves as lecturers in answer to an official advertisement as candidates for the clinical lectureships*. Their offers were accepted, and they were appointed *clinical lecturers* to the Hospital. They returned, in writing, thanks to the Board of Management for their appointments; and, in consequence of these appointments, four medical officers of the Hospital resigned. Let it be remembered, that it had been frequently stated that if clinical lectures were given by any gentlemen simply in virtue of their office without any specific title, no objection would be made to any appointments of any gentlemen as medical officers for in-door service. It was notorious to all that there had been a considerable difference of opinion among the members of the Board of Management; it therefore appeared to him absolutely necessary that the opinions of the subscribers to the Hospital should be taken on this subject. He acknowledged that it was a disagreeable necessity; but the difference of opinion, which appeared at first sight to be trifling, was really of importance, namely, whether the gentlemen giving clinical lectures should be called the Clinical Lecturers of the Hahnemann Hospital, or whether they should simply deliver their clinical lectures as medical officers of the Hospital, without any title or distinction being conferred on them. No doubt it would occur to many people that it was a mere matter of moonshine under which term they deliver their clinical instruction, and he confessed that at first he attached very little importance to it. It was not until three letters were received by the Board of Management from Drs. Chapman and Chepmell and Mr. Wilson, stating that they considered the Board were raising certain members to a higher eminence than others, and that it would give great

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dissatisfaction to the medical body, and be injurious to the interests of the Institution, that he became aware of its importance. It was on that ground that he voted against the appointments, and supported an amendment, which was moved, "that clinical lectures should be given by the medical officers without any distinction whatever." The amendment was, however, unfortunately lost, and the consequence was that four of our medical staff thought it their duty to retire, and he feared that more deplorable consequences would follow, if the Board persisted in the course they had adopted; he for one could not continue his support to the Hospital. Perhaps, to obtain a clear view of the subject, it would be most convenient to go through the different transactions that had taken place on the subject of clinical lectures. First, one of the purposes for which the Hospital was founded was to give instruction to medical pupils. Next, lectures were given by Messrs. Curie, Henriques, and Hamilton, medical officers of the in-patients. Next, in their turn, Drs. Chapman and Chepmell and Messrs. Wilson and Hands became medical officers of the in-patients. The printed Report states that these gentlemen refused to give any clinical lectures. Mr. Moreton observed that, though true as to formal lectures, it did not appear to him to give a fair representation of the state of the case, and he begged to read a letter that had been read at the last meeting of the Board of Management:—

"To Dr. Chapman, Dr. Chepmell, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Hands.

"Gentlemen,—You will readily believe that we the undersigned students of homœopathy have been intensely and anxiously waiting the result of the misunderstanding which has lately arisen between the Board of Management and the Medical Council of the Hahnemann Hospital.

"Into the merits of the case we would not presume to enter. As respects ourselves, we cannot for a moment entertain the idea of your withdrawal as medical officers of the Hospital without the deepest regret.

"We beg to acknowledge with gratitude that we have at all times received from you every aid, assistance, and instruction in the study of homœopathy; and we earnestly hope any differences of opinion leading to your resignation may not be of so insurmountable a character as to deprive us of your clinical instruction; on the contrary, we trust you will conceive the true noblenese of duty to consist in making sacrifices in behalf of the educated spread of homœopathy by your disciples, as well as the welfare of the numberless patients who seek to avail themselves of your treatment.

"We remain, with every feeling of respect and esteem, "Gentlemen, yours obediently,

"George Rogers, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.A.C.
A. E. Blest, M.D., M.R.C.S.L., *Retired List, Madras Army.*
S. Wielobycki, M.D., L.R.C.S.E., *Practitioner of Homœopathy.*
John Anderson, M.R.C.S.L., L.A.C.
F. L. R. Suss Hahnemann, M.D., *Surgeon-Accoucheur.*
David McDonnell Reed, Licentiate of Medicine, M.R.C.S.E., *Practitioner of Homœopathy.*

"Hahnemann Hospital,
"22nd January, 1852."

The Board of Management next sent a circular to the twenty members of the Board of Management, asking the opinion of each of them "as to the present system of medical officers of the Hahnemann Hospital with special reference to the delivery of clinical lectures," etc. Of the twenty, fifteen returned answers; two of these were of opinion that clinical lectures should be given by professors; the remaining thirteen thought that medical instruction should be given by the medical officers of the Hospital without appointment or title of any sort. Next we come to a joint meeting of the Medical Council and Committee of Board of Management, at which it was agreed that "clinical lectures on medicine and surgery should be established, and that two medical officers should be selected for that purpose." The Board of Management then advertised for candidates to fill these offices: only two candidates offered—Dr. Curie, for the clinical lectureship on medicine, and Dr. Henriques, for the clinical lectureship on surgery. These offers were referred to the Medical Council for their approval on December 15th. The Medical Council declined recommending them, but resolved instead that the Council, having considered the subject submitted to them by the Board, are of opinion that the previous scheme for appointing lectureships should be modified, and instead of appointing lecturers, the medical officers of the in-patients should be bound to give lectures; no title to accompany the giver of such lectures. They then adjourned the subject for confirmation to another meeting, and directed that those members who could not attend should be requested to forward their views in writing. At the next meeting letters were read from five absent members, all being in favour of lectures by simple physicians, without any appointment of lecturer. The Council then resolved that "the Board of Management having on various occasions heard the opinions of the Medical Council, it be left to themselves to act upon their own judgment in the matter." The honourable gentleman observed that he thought that was the most sensible resolution the Council had come to, as the Board of Management had lying upon their table the written opinions at length of fifteen out of twenty of the Medical Council; that it appeared to him that by letters was the only way to really ascertain the sentiments of the Medical Council upon any important question, as they were a body scattered over Great Britain; one was in Edinburgh, another in Bristol, another in Brighton, and so on. A question, however, had arisen, whether the Medical Council should be considered as having decided in the manner represented in the Report; for if any weight was to be given to the written opinions of absent members, as was resolved at the prior meeting, who were all in favour of confirming the former resolution, the former resolution must be considered as confirmed. He, however, thought

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it of very little importance whether they confirmed the last meeting, which was against having any appointed clinical lecturers, or referred the Board of Management to the recorded opinions of the members of the Medical Council, which were as thirteen to two against the appointment of medical lecturers. The next point he called their attention to was a special meeting of the Board of Management, called to appoint lecturers. At this meeting letters were read from Drs. Chapman and Chepmell and Mr. Wilson, objecting to the formal appointment of clinical lecturers, as placing certain medical men in a position of superiority over their fellows, as creating discontent amongst the medical officers, and being likely to do much injury to the Hospital. Acting upon the advice contained in these letters, and considering these appointments as quite unnecessary, he voted against them. Immediately the resignations of Drs. Chapman and Chepmell and Messrs. Wilson and Hands, as medical officers of the Hospital, were sent in. The minority of the Board of Management, considering that this schism in the Hospital was very injurious and quite unnecessarily brought on, called a special meeting, to try to induce the Board of Management to reconsider their decision, it now appearing clear that these medical titles were considered of very high importance. The four medical gentlemen resigned because they considered that it gave the medical men holding these offices a superiority over the others of the medical staff; and in the honourable gentleman's opinion, the Board of Management conferred these titles upon these medical gentlemen for the purpose of giving them a superiority over other medical men. (Cries of "No, no.") He then stated that at the special meeting held to consider this question, he had distinctly stated that if these same gentlemen would give these same lectures to the same audience, simply as medical officers of the Hospital, with the sanction of the Board of Management, without calling themselves the Clinical Lecturers of the Hospital, their opposition would be at an end, and they would be satisfied. The case then stands thus: these gentlemen were appointed clinical lecturers to the Hahnemann Hospital by the Board of Management, after thirteen out of fifteen members of the Medical Council had declared these appointments unadvisable; after they knew that these appointments would occasion the resignation of one-third of their medical staff, and thus appointed these two individuals to these two offices without their having been recommended to them by the Medical Council, or by any part of the same, either directly or indirectly. From the time that they first apprehended a danger of schism, he (Mr. Moreton) and those that acted with him had used all the exertions that they could to avert it; from the time of the first warning that they had, from the letters sent to the Board of Management, up to this time when the subscriptions have fallen off, as compared with last year, to the amount of some hundreds of pounds, they (the minority of the Board of Management) feeling confident that they have acted for the benefit of the Hospital to the best of their judgment, offer the following resolution for your approval: "That the formal appointment of Clinical Lecturers by the Board of Management be not confirmed, but that, in accordance with the written opinions of the majority of the Medical Council, clinical instruction and lectures be given by the physicians and surgeons of the Hospital, without title of any sort."

A SUBSCRIBER suggested that they had better receive the Report, and then let Mr. Moreton's motion come as a substantive motion.

The CHAIRMAN.—Mr. Moreton can either move the omission of the paragraph in the Report which he objects to, or he may bring his own motion forward in an altered form, after the Report has been received and before any re-election of the Committee of Management takes place. He might then move it somewhat in this way: "that the appointment of clinical lecturers in this Hospital is not in accordance with the written opinions of the majority of the Medical Council."

The Honourable A. H. MORETON.—I consent to withdraw my motion at present, upon the understanding that it is to be entertained after the Report has been received.

Mr. F. SANDOZ asked if his lordship would now put the motion for receiving the Report.

Mr. GILL.—Before that is done, allow me to speak to the motion. I regret that I cannot consent to the reception of that Report in its present form. I object to the wording of that portion of it which relates to the recent establishment of clinical lectures by the Board of Management. I made the same objection in committee, and feel bound to state my reasons to the subscribers. The paragraph I allude to is so worded as to convey to every reader the idea that the offers of two gentlemen to deliver clinical lectures at this Hospital have simply been accepted by the Board of Management. If this were the fact, it would be a matter of deep congratulation; but I am sorry to say that this paragraph does not represent the true state of the case, but is rather an ingenious misrepresentation of it, as I shall presently prove to this meeting. I hold in my hand a paper printed by order of the Committee of Management, or at least averred to be so, which gives notice that clinical lectureships have been established in this Hospital, and that Drs. Curie and Henriques are the two appointed lecturers. How, then, is the statement in this paper to be reconciled with that in the paragraph of the Report? Why, the two cannot be reconciled; for there is a wide difference between accepting an offer to deliver lectures made by one of the physicians or surgeons on duty, and a special appointment to a formal lectureship. I say there is a wide difference; for in the one case any member of the medical staff might offer and obtain an equal share of audience and attention; whereas, in the other, a specific and very conspicuous pre-eminence is conferred upon the person appointed; for I believe it is only usual to confer the chair of clinical lecturer in a Hospital upon those who have attained to considerable renown in their profession. Now, my lord, although the Report does not say as much, such appointments have been made in this Hospital by the

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Committee of Management, and that too without the sanction of your Medical Council. These appointments are contrary to the principle of equality upon which the Hospital was established, and have been strongly opposed by those who are desirous of maintaining that principle in its integrity; and I suppose it is for that reason that they are only alluded to in the Report in the ambiguous manner which I have pointed out. But the framers of that Report well know, however they may attempt to pass over the fact in silence, that the "offers" of Drs. Curie and Henriques were offers of candidateship for the honourable post of Clinical Lecturers; that the appointments are made, and the gentlemen appointed consider themselves as formally in office; and that their office clothes them with a dignity, as well in the eyes of the profession as of the public, which they did not possess before the Committee of Management conferred it upon them by these appointments. I will not now stay to point out the disastrous effects of the course adopted by the Board in this matter, they are unhappily too evident, if, indeed, you have yet experienced all you will have to experience; but I cannot forbear to express my surprise, if the principle of medical equality was in any case to be departed from, that the Board of Management should have taken upon themselves to prescribe when and in favour of whom that departure should be exercised. It would have been more seemly, if a chief physician must be elected, to have left it to the Medical Council to determine who of their number should be so honoured. I have only to add, that I consider the Report in its present form, as far as it relates to clinical lectures, as totally untrue, and calculated to mislead the subscribers; and, as a member of the Board of Management, from which it is supposed to emanate, I entirely disavow it, and must vote against its reception.

Mr. F. SANDOZ replied to the observations of Mr. Gill, to the effect that the statements in the Report were not true. He asked, should this be considered as a question of confidence or no confidence in the Board of Management, whether they should be trusted or mistrusted; and he would say for himself that he should not have the honour of serving them again at the Board of Management. His feeling was this: he would work, where there was labour, with all his heart, but where there are enmity, jealousy, or malice, never; and he for one should back out. But he would ask the meeting to confirm the past, and upon this one fact, that the Board had had no view whatever but the general good. He should therefore vote for the reception of the Report.

The CHAIRMAN said, it had been moved by Mr. Moreton, and seconded by Mr. Gill, that this Report be not received.

Mr. F. SANDOZ understood the question was, receive or not receive, without any amendment at all.

The CHAIRMAN.—They have stated their reasons, that it does contain matter which is not matter of fact. Does any gentleman wish to address the meeting on that subject?

Mr. ASHURST said, he must say a word or two, in consequence of Mr. Sandoz having spoken of malice existing on the part of those gentlemen who had opposed them. He (Mr. Ashurst) was a member of the Board of Management, and had had frequent opportunities of judging of the conduct of those gentlemen, and he felt bound to say that it had always been characterised by the utmost candour, courtesy, and fairness; and although he was opposed to them in the view they had taken on this subject, he believed that they were acting from conviction and upon principle. He felt that the duty of the Board of Management, as laymen, was to take counsel. They had their attention called to the up-coming of the science of homœopathy; they felt that it would be best spread through the means of clinical instruction, and it was most important that those who were competent should be induced to give it. It was agreed that there should be clinical lectures. They found that that was discontinued, and they called the attention of the Medical Council to it. For six months they had kept that question before them, and he thought it mattered little whether they were or were not called lecturers, inasmuch as anybody who heard of a lecture would necessarily consider the person so delivering it a lecturer, whether he had that title or not.

Dr. EPPS then addressed the meeting in favour of the appointment of lecturers, contending that a great distinction ought to be made between those medical men who had devoted the greater part of their lives to the prosecution of their studies in order to attain the summit of their profession, and those who were considerably their juniors in years and experience.

The CHAIRMAN then put the question, that this Report be now received, which was carried by a large majority.

Some conversation here ensued, which resulted in four of the gentlemen who opposed the reception of the Report announcing their wish to retire from the Committee of Management.

Mr. G. P. NICHOLS said, it was a great pity there should be any misunderstanding—he meant with respect to the gentlemen who had retired from the Committee of Management. It ought not to go before the subscribers and the public that there was anything like internal dissension; and he was quite sure that if those gentlemen would continue their places at the Board, it would give great satisfaction.

Mr. GILL would say a few words in answer to the gentleman who had last spoken. The difference which existed between himself and colleagues and the rest of the Board of Management was not so slight as was thought; it was a difference which went to the foundation of the whole constitution of the Hospital. He would mention that another hospital had existed in London for some time previous to the establishment of this. That hospital had been so exclusive in its appointment of medical men as to cause many gentlemen to be excluded from its medical staff, and this Hospital was established to give those gentlemen who were so excluded the opportunity of displaying those talents

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which Dr. Epps had so eloquently dilated upon It was the express condition upon which this Hospital was founded, that there should be a medical equality. He contended that the appointments recently made by the Committee were a direct breach of that condition, inasmuch as they do establish what Dr. Epps had allowed to be a medical superiority. Now, whether the principle of medical equality was a tenable one or not, was not the question. If his opinion were asked he should say it was not; but so long as subscribers paid their money on the faith of that system being acted up to, it was most improper to infringe upon it. For his own part he could not conscientiously be a party to it, and should not only retire from the Board of Management, but withdraw entirely from the Hospital as at present constituted; for even if the principle of equality were dispensed with, he could not approve of the system adopted by the Committee of appointing their chief officers without the sanction of any medical council, thus depriving the public of the only guarantee of their efficiency which could be of any value.

Lieut.-General Sir C. PASLEY bore testimony to the great benefits of homœopathy as experienced by himself and a member of his own family.

Dr. CLARK said, the object of this Hospital was to benefit the poor, and not to benefit any particular class of medical men, and if any gentlemen withdrew their subscriptions, they were not withdrawing them from the medical officers but from the poor, for whose benefit it was applied.

Mr. GILL explained, that he thought it a doubtful benefit to the poor, submitting them to treatment in a hospital whose medical men were appointed not by the vote of a medical council, but without the sanction of that body, through private influence in the Board of Management, which was composed of laymen. The poor should not want what he could afford to give them, but he would take care to subscribe it to an Institution scrupulous in the execution of the trust confided to them.

The CHAIRMAN said, the proposition now was, that the former Board of Management be re-elected, with the exception of five gentlemen who retired.

This having been agreed to,

The CHAIRMAN put the question, whether certain specified names should be substituted for those who had retired, which was carried.

The proposal for the temporary appointment of Mr. Wilkinson as medical officer of the Hospital was also carried.

The CHAIRMAN.—Gentlemen, Mr. Moreton wishes to have his motion regularly put from the chair.

This announcement was received with loud expressions of dissent.

Mr. MORETON arose, and complained that he had temporarily withdrawn his motion, on the condition that it should be so put; but the noise was so great, that his remarks were inaudible, and the honourable gentleman was ultimately obliged to sit down.

The motion of the Hon. A. H. Moreton was then put and negatived.

Dr. EPPS proposed a vote of thanks to the Honorary Secretary, Mr. Warne, which was seconded by Mr. ASHURST, and carried unanimously.

Mr. WARNE returned thanks.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman was next proposed, and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN. — Gentlemen, I have to thank you, and shall do so as briefly as possible. I will for one moment refer to what took place at the commencement of this Institution, when I was requested to preside. I said, "If I do endeavour to render what services I can, will you promise me that all professional jealousies shall be laid aside; that you will not suffer irritating questions to arise; that you will submit to be governed by the majority; and that we shall all really unite together, heart and soul, to carry forward this good work?" They said, "We will promise you that." And I added this. I said, "Depend upon it, if you do allow them to interfere, you will only be giving yourselves trouble in vain, and the superstructure you are attempting to raise will be based on a rotten foundation." In that assurance I undertook the office which I have the honour to hold, and I did expect that, after those solemn assertions, great forbearance would be shown by all the medical officers. I want to reconcile everybody, if I can. I did foresee that, unless people came frankly to the scheme, it would be impossible to carry it out. The principle upon which the Hospital was established was this: that there should be no medical clique—that no person should become a member of the medical staff who should assume any superiority or direction. Why, what was the cause that gentlemen left the other Institution? It was the independent cause, that it should be a board of lay management. Now, I have perused the minutes of this committee with the greatest attention, and I declare that, if that principle were violated, I would give up my office of President; but as I consider that that principle has not been violated, I cannot conceive the extraordinary objections that have been taken. I cordially concur with the Board of Management in the proceedings they have taken; and I do so for this reason: the immense sacrifice of time, the great patience and courtesy with which they followed up their resolution, and the forbearance which they have shown, excited a great feeling of satisfaction on my part. If they had not shown those feelings, I may appeal to those who know me, whether they think it likely that I would have supported them? That being the case, I deeply regret this secession, and these unfortunate differences; but I cannot accuse the Committee of Management of having done anything to contribute to it. My belief is, that they have done every single thing in their power; they have acted honestly, honourably, and impartially. I do not blame the gentlemen who differ from them in supporting their own opinions, they are perhaps quite right in thinking as they do; but I am very sorry that they should think it necessary to

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withdraw, that they should let it go forth to the world that there are dissensions amongst us. But although this may cause us some damage and loss for the present, I hope, and I am quite sure, that if a well-principled course is pursued, that next year we shall find we have survived it, and are not at all in bad odour wth the public.

The meeting then separated.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, APRIL 17TH, 1852.

THE HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL.

WE have before us the report of the proceedings at the Annual Meeting of the Hahnemann Hospital, furnished by the Honorary Secretary; another report, of much greater length, with the speeches that were made, being an abstract of full notes taken by a short-hand reporter; and we have, in addition, Mr. WILSON'S letter to the governors and subscribers, which, to our mind, conclusively settles the question.

The circumstances that led to the secession of some of the members of the Medical Staff are to be regretted, for the sake of a public Institution, that was commenced under such flourishing auspices.

The whole case lies in a nutshell. The Hahnemann Hospital was founded for the treatment of patients on the homœopathic principle; the Medical Officers were to be on a footing of perfect equality, touching their *status*, being subject only to the natural and inevitable inequalities of differences in industry, talent, and attainments; furthermore, the Board of Management was to be guided by and act according to the advice of the Medical Council in all "medical arrangements."

At the public dinner of 1851, the first open disturbing cause, in our opinion, arose, in the glorification of one medical officer by several of the speakers, and by the noticeable fact, that the noble chairman volunteered as a toast the health of that individual — thus emphatically designating him as the head and chief of the Medical Staff.

It was afterwards frequently debated whether or no there should be a Medical School. The majority of the Medical Council recommended that lectures on the Principles and Practice of Homœopathy should be given, and also on the Materia Medica. They further recommended that clinical instruction and lectures should be given.

After many discussions, the whole question of clinical lectures was referred back to the Board of Management, with the obvious intention that they should collate the votes of the Medical Council, and come to a decision in accordance with the advice of the majority of that Medical Council, which was, that clinical instruction and lectures should be given, but without any title of Clinical Lecturer or Professor.

The Board of Management, however, appointed two lecturers on the Principles and Practice of Homœopathy and on the Materia Medica, to which the Medical Council made no objection; but they also appointed two Clinical Lecturers or Professors, *with the title*, in direct opposition to the advice of the majority of the Medical Council.

There were other signs and tokens also of the elevation of the individual Medical Officer, already indicated, to the foremost and pre-eminent station of representative of homœopathy in the Hospital; while his superiority in intellectual and moral fitness, as well as in medical science and professional skill, was not allowed by the great majority of his colleagues.

The Medical Staff originally consisted of twelve, but was by this time reduced to ten, by the resignation of one and the absence abroad of another of its Medical Officers.

Of these ten, *four* at once resigned their medical appointments, and two others joined them one day in the act of resignation, but withdrew their signatures the day following, on a pretext explained in Mr. WILSON'S letter.

At the Annual Meeting a proposition was made to reconsider the appointment of Clinical Lecturers or Professors, but was

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rejected by a great majority of the governors and subscribers present, who also refused that *proxies* should be taken as votes, all of these having been sent for the withdrawal of the obnoxious titles.

We believe that the majority of the Medical Council was right, and the majority of the Board of Management was wrong, in the matter of dispute between them. We presume that the members of the Medical Council who constituted the majority will resign their appointments; and that the four members of the Medical Staff who have resigned their medical appointments, will withdraw altogether from the Hospital.

We think the two Clinical Lecturers or Professors who maintained their pretension and claim to an invidious title, in opposition to the majority of the Medical Council, and the Board of Management which decreed in opposition to the advice of that majority, cannot be aequitted of blame in causing this disruption in an Institution so young, founded on such comprehensive principles, and capable of such future good to successive generations of the dwellers in the metropolis.

We satisfy ourselves with this concise *résumé* of the proceedings, and with the few remarks we have made. Our readers can judge for themselves, and to their judgment it may be left to acquit or condemn those who have seceded—or those who have in a manner, as we think, compelled that secession; especially when they consider that it is known that peace may have been preserved, and the disruption in the Hospital prevented by the withdrawal of a claim to an invidious title on the part of individuals, and by the concession of the Board of Management to the declared opinions of the majority of the Medical Council.

THE NORTHERN HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

THE first meeting of the Northern Homœopathic Medical Association was held in the Homœopathic Dispensary, Leeds, on the 11th of March. The following gentlemen were present:—Drs. Irvine, Ramsbotham, Ransford, McLeod, Cameron, Wright, Craig, Johnson, and Atkin; Messrs. Phillips, Holland, Pearce, Brady, and Booth. Mr. Spencer Hall and Mr. Turner were present as visitors.

Letters of apology for unavoidable absence had been received from Drs. Drysdale, Hilbers, Russell, Sutherland, Dunn, McDowal, Norton, and Tuckey; Messrs. Moore, Scholefield, Harrison, Sharp, J. J. Grey, and Pope.

Dr. Irvine, who had acted as chairman at the preliminary meetings, took the chair, and proposed Mr. Phillips as president; this motion was seconded by Dr. Ramsbotham, and unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Phillips having taken the chair, and made some preliminary observations, Dr. Atkin, the general secretary, read the minutes of the preliminary meeting.

The following rules were agreed to, and adopted as the rules of the Association.

1. The Association shall be called the Northern Medical Homœopathic Association.

2. The Association shall be composed of qualified medical practitioners.

3. The Association shall meet at least half-yearly, in some town in Lancashire or Yorkshire.

4. At each meeting the time and place of next meeting shall be appointed.

5. Each meeting shall choose a chairman, who shall hold the office and title of president until the next meeting.

6. The Association shall have two secretaries: a general secretary, to be chosen annually, whose duties shall be to preserve the records of the Association, minutes of meetings, etc.; and a local secretary, to be chosen at the preceding meeting, to assist the general secretary, and make the requisite local arrangements for the meeting.

7. The meetings shall be regulated by such laws as always govern public meetings, and five members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum at any meeting.

8. Each member shall pay an annual subscription of five shillings, to be paid to the general secretary, at the first annual meeting each year.

9. The business of the meeting shall consist of communications on the progress of homœopathy, practical papers, and descriptions.

10. Gentlemen desirous of becoming members of the Association, must transmit their names, with a recommendation signed by two members of the Association, to the general secretary, a month before the meeting. The application and recommendation shall be circulated with the notices; and the admission shall take place by ballot at the next meeting; a majority of two-thirds of the members present being necessary for election.

11. No alteration nor addition to the rules of the Society shall be considered, unless notice of the proposed alteration or addition shall have been given to the general secretary a month before the meeting.

In addition to these, it was proposed that the Association shall have the power of expelling any member who shall have been guilty of a breach of professional etiquette. After some discussion, the consideration of this rule was postponed to the next meeting; and Dr. Cameron was requested to prepare a draft of the rule.

It was moved by Dr. Irvine, seconded by Mr. Pearce, and unanimously agreed, that all who, by paying their subscriptions before the end of April next, afford proof of their intention of joining the Association, shall be considered original members.

A letter from Mr. Harrison was read, calling the attention of the Association to Clause xxvii. of the new Medical Reform Bill, prepared by the Provincial Medical and Surgical

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Association. Messrs. Phillips, Holland, and Dr. Atkin were appointed to watch over the progress of the bill, and to take such measures as they may deem requisite for the protection of the interests of homœopathic practitioners.

Dr. Craig read an account of his proving of *Cotyledon Umbilicus*, and also some cases in which it had been used successfully. Several members took part in the discussion which followed; and the thanks of the Association were given to Dr. Craig for his interesting communication.

The next meeting was appointed to be held in Huddersfield, on Friday, 2nd July, at half-past two p.m. Dr. Ramsbotham was appointed local secretary.

The thanks of the Association were given to the committee of the Leeds Dispensary, for the accommodation they had afforded the Association, and to Mr. Phillips for his conduct in the chair.

The members dined together in the evening.

CASES.

CROUP FOLLOWED BY BRONCHITIS.

February 21st, 1852. T. G—, æt. 3½, a stout, healthy boy; was quite well up to last night, when he was attacked about midnight with a hard, dry, croupy cough. Both he and his sister have been subject to attacks of croup, particularly during the prevalence of north-easterly winds, which were now very piercing; the attacks have generally yielded to emetics of *Ipecacuanha Wine;* in this instance, however, the disease rapidly increased, and the cough and breathing became much affected towards morning. I saw him at eight a.m., and finding no fever upon him, prescribed *Spongia* 3, gr. j, 3tiis horis. I was called to see him again, at half-past two p.m., and found that he had been much worse since the morning; his pulse was now 132; respiration 36, loud and harsh; constant cough, hoarse and ringing; great restlessness; constant putting of the hand up to the throat; short slumbers during the remission of the paroxysms of coughing; face red and bloated.

℞ T. Aconit. 3, ♏ ss.
T. Spongia 3, ♏ ss.

To be administered every two hours alternately.

The disease continued to increase during the next hour, and the medicines were ordered to be administered every half-hour.

Evening, half-past nine. Better decidedly; there has been no violent return of the cough, which is still loud and harsh, but more inclined to loosen; respiration not so loud; pulse 128; respiration 82. Continue.

February 22nd. The cough was rather worse from eleven p.m., till two a.m; after two, however, he fell asleep, and did not awake till seven a.m. He is much better this morning; there is no noise during respiration, and the cough, though resonant, is loose; he is cheerful and active; skin quite cool; pulse 108.

℞ Hepar Sulph. 3, gr. ss.; 4tis horis.

23rd. Was restless and feverish through the night; coughing very much, but without any croupy sound. Much better this morning; running about down stairs, and very cheerful; some rhonchus on breathing. Continue.

Evening, about three p.m. Much hard, dry cough came on, and he became hot and uncomfortable; larynx entirely unaffected; has probably caught cold, in consequence of imprudent exposure during the morning; pulse at present quick. He is very restless and hot.

℞ T. Aconit. 3, ♏ ss.

Occasionally through the night.

24th. Passed a very bad night, sleeping but little; rambling occasionally; skin burning hot, and dry; occasional hard, dry cough, during which he complained of pain in the chest and head. Towards morning he beeame better, the cough got looser, and was attended with less pain; he slept more quietly, and the skin became moist; there is now much nasal coryza, with some headache; has had a warm bath, which has much refreshed him; bowels relieved; after the bath, he slept five hours, coughing but very little; much better to-day; skin cool; no thirst; cough looser, with a little headache and slight wheezing in the chest; pulse 115.

℞ Spongia and Belladonna, alternately every two hours.

25th. Rather feverish and restless through the night, is better to-day; cough quite loose; pulse soft, 108; skin moist; bowels rather inclined to be relaxed.

℞ Sulph. ter die sum.

26th. Had a very good night; to-day is considerably better in all respects. Continue.

27th. With the exception of a slight cough, is quite well.

ASTHENIC APOPLEXY, WITH PARALYSIS.

Mrs. W—, æt. 49, a very thin and abstemious woman, of sedentary habits; she has lately been taking more exercise than usual, without mending her diet, and for some days has been complaining of headache, affecting the top of the head. Early yesterday morning, February 23rd, 1852, whilst alone in her bedroom, she fell down insensible; when I got to her, I found her recovering her senses, and paralysed completely on the left side; she could speak, but not distinctly, and was tolerably conscious; able to swallow liquids; fæces and urine passed involuntarily.

℞ Bellad. 12, gtt. xij.
Aquæ ℥iij. M. ℥ss. 3tiis horis.

At eleven a.m., six hours after the fit, was quite conscious and able to speak distinctly; has been sick two or three times, bringing up badly-smelling mucus. The left side of the face is quite paralysed, together with the left side of the neck, the arm, and the leg; tickling the side of the foot excites feeble movements of the great toe; very little sensation in the paralysed limbs; complains of no pain anywhere. Pulse 85, irregular. Ordered small quantities of brandy, beef-tea. Continue the *Bellad.*

In the evening I found that she had been sick constantly through the day; she now looks more

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prostrated, lying with the eyes shut, and taking no notice of anything; speaks if spoken to, but immediately relapses into the same state of apparent stupor.

℞ T. Ipecac. 3, ♏ ss. 2dis horis.

February 23rd. About half-past twelve a.m., seemed much worse, but revived after this, and had a good night; had no return of the sickness after taking the *Ipecac.* To-day she is more flushed; the face is red and swollen; pulse 93; skin hot; does not complain of any pain, and speaks only when spoken to; bowels not relieved; this feverish state increased during the day, and in the evening the pulse was 100, strong and full. She has passed urine. Omit the brandy.

℞ T. Aconit. 3, ♏ ss. 2dis horis.

24th Passed a good night, and to-day is much better; the flushing of the face has subsided; pulse 90, quiet. She continued to improve during the day; spoke more readily, and took more notice; has manifested much desire for food; she is able to move the foot a little; the hand is perfectly motionless; no relief from the bowels; she passed urine early this morning, but has not been able to pass any since. In the evening I drew off a pint with the catheter, with much relief to her. Continue the *Aconit.*

25th. Continues to improve; appetite very good; fever quite subsided; pulse 90, irregular; speaks distinctly; slept well; suffers no pain. Catheterism in the evening. Continue *Aconit.*

26th. Had not so good a night; cheerful to-day, and is able to be lifted out of bed and placed in an arm-chair; bowels not relieved; has passed no urine.

℞ Ol. Ric. ʒij, statim.

Continue *Aconit.* Catheterism in the evening.

27th. A warm-water enema was administered this morning, with relief to the bowels; in all respects improving; has passed urine naturally to-day, in small quantities at a time.

℞ Baryta carb. b. d.

29th. Is improving much under the *Baryta;* passes urine quite freely; the paralysed side is improving wonderfully; she can move the leg freely; the hand is more under her control, but not nearly to the same extent as her leg; the distortion of the face is less, and she talks and smiles in a more natural manner; appetite much better than it was before her attack; very cheerful; sleeps well; bowels regular. Continue the *Baryta.*

March 3rd. Is well enough to be brought down stairs. Continue.

5th. Can walk across the room with her attendant's help; moves the hand much better. Continue.

10th. Gets out in the open air in a hand-carriage; can use the hand, and walks very well. She is continuing to progress in the most satisfactory manner.

OTITIS.

March 13th, 1852. J. P—, æt. 9. On the 9th instant was severely boxed about the ears by his schoolmaster; the next day he complained of a pain the right ear, with a discharge of thin ceruminous matter; the ear then got better, but deafness in it remained. On the 11th, the left ear became affected in a more violent degree; the pain in it was very intense, resisting fomentations and other domestic applications, and it was accompanied with much fever. To-day he is complaining of violent attacks of pain in this ear, which come on occasionally, are of an acutely darting, stinging character, much aggravated by talking or attempting to chew, and preventing him getting any sleep at night; there is much throbbing pain of the ear, with violent beating of the carotid and temporal arteries, and a slight purulent discharge runs from the ear; he is very deaf in both ears, so that he can only hear a watch tick at the distance of about an inch from the meatus; pulse 120; skin very hot and dry; tongue covered with yellow fur; breath offensive; great thirst; no appetite; no pain in the right ear.

℞ Aconit. and Puls., every three hours alternately.

14th. The pain left him about an hour after taking the first dose of *Puls.*, and he had a very good night; to-day has had a little pain, which soon passed off; very much better in all other respects; pulse 108; appetite and hearing much improved. Continue *Puls.*

15th. Has had no return of pain, and feels almost well; deafness considerably better.

16th. Quite well.

In another case of otitis, brought on by exposure to north-easterly winds in crossing the Channel, *Mercurius* relieved the intense pain, when *Pulsatilla* had failed.

J. C. Lynch, Sudbury, Suffolk.

Miscellaneous.

Melancholy Results of Passion.—Mr. G. Collard, of Elverton Farm, near Dover, had been engaged in a somewhat angry altercation with one of his tenants on the grounds near his residence, and the parties had separated only a few paces, when Mr. C. fell and almost instantly expired. The deceased appears to have been previously in his usual health. He has left a wife and family of 16 children to bewail their loss.

A Woman frightened to Death.—On Thursday as Mrs Shele, living at Box-hill, was walking towards the Box station, with the intention of going by rail to Bath, the day mail-train, which leaves London at 10 15 a.m., passed her at full speed, and so alarmed her that she fell down insensible. She was immediately removed to the station, and medical assistance having been obtained, she was put to bed at the Station Inn, and the usual remedies applied. The shock, however, was too great for human skill to alleviate, and she expired at midnight.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 143. Vol. III. | SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1852. | Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

Communications.

THE DISEASES OF CHILDREN.

By Dr. Frederick Augustus Gunther.

(*Continued from page* 544.)

9. *Ophthalmia* in new-born infants arises usually from the sudden transition from darkness to light, which the infant usually experiences at its entrance into the world, and may accordingly, in most cases, be readily guarded against by shielding the infant from any sudden impression of bright or glaring natural or artificial light; the room in which the accouchement takes place and in which the infant lies ought to be half-darkened by curtains in the day-time, and by lamp or candle-screens at night. Moreover, the room must be kept perfectly free from smoke, fumes, or dust of any kind; and, above all things, the drying of wet clothes ought to be strictly prohibited.

In infants affected with ophthalmy, the eyeballs look red and puffed up, a thin, sharp, whitish matter trickles from the eye; after a time the matter gets thicker, and assumes a yellowish tint; it accumulates, during sleep, in the inner corner of the eye, where it stiffens and hardens, and keeps the eyelids closely agglutinated. If the malady be allowed to continue its career unchecked, the inflammation spreads to the eyeball, the white of the eye gets red, the affected parts are burning hot, and the infant suffers great pain, as is evident from its moaning, crying, and restlessness. These symptoms are attended with running from the eyes of a hardly credible amount of mucus (erroneously mistaken by many for purulent matter), and even of sanguinolent water. Incurable affections of the eye, and even total blindness, may be the final issue of this grave disorder, if proper means be not taken in time to arrest its progress.

As soon as the first symptoms (redness of the eyelids, etc.) make their appearance, the mother or nurse of the suckling must take a dose of *Aconitum*, and repeat the same every six or eight hours; after two or three days, a dose of *Ignatia amara* must be given, and repeated every twenty-four hours. In the case of children that are being brought up by hand, the remedies must, of course, be administered to the infant. Should diarrhœa be present, *Chamomilla* is indicated. If these remedies fail to check the evil, recourse must be had to *Sulphur* or *Calcarea carbonica*; in many cases, it will be found advantageous to give the two latter remedies one after the other (of course, at proper intervals). If the inflammation is of a catarrhal nature, a few doses of *Aconitum* should be given first, and, if required, *Euphrasia*. If the inflammation is attended with running from the nose, *Pulsatilla* and *Rhus* are indicated; if the discharge from the nose is sharp, virulent, and biting, *Arsenicum* must be had recourse to. Complication with a so-called dry cold in the head requires the selection to be made from *Bryonia*, *Nux Vomica*, and *Ignatia amara*. If the evil is of somewhat long standing, *Veratrum*, *Phosphorus*, *Hepar Sulphuris*, and *Graphites* should be studied.

It is a practice in great favour with mothers and nurses to apply their milk to the inflamed eyelids, particularly for the purpose of softening and removing the hardened mucous matter which gathers in the corner of the eye, and between the lids generally. This practice is most objectionable; the action of the milk upon the affected parts tends to increase the secretion of mucous matter, and thus to aggravate the very symptoms against which it is intended to act; besides, the repeated application of milk causes also, after a time, excoriation of the borders of the eyelids, which is an additional aggravation. Leeches, also, are objectionable; the bite of a leech causes always considerable irritation, and we know that even a trifling irritation of the skin is often suffices in new-born infants to cause extensive local inflammation of that organ.

10. *Diarrhœa* is one of the most frequently-occurring affections of the first period of infancy; it arises from manifold causes, but mostly from gross dietetic transgression on the part of the mother or nurse, or from the ingestion of bad or acid milk; and very frequently also from the infant's catching cold. In most cases the

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diarrhœa of infants is not very dangerous, and it is better to endeavour combating it simply by dietetic means, than to suppress it by remedies.

A species of infantile diarrhœa, for instance, which frequently occurs during dentition, ought not to be meddled with at all, since its suppression might actually endanger the life of the child. The intestinal tube of the infant is possessed only of very limited digestive power, and has not sufficient tone to resist the operations of the natural chemical process; the ingestion of matters, already on the point of turning sour, or of any difficult digestible alimentary substances, must therefore necessarily lead to diarrhœa.

In cases where dietetic measures fail to check the diarrhœa, homœopathic remedies must, of course, be resorted to. If a cold has been the exciting cause, and if the diarrhœa has made its appearance suddenly, *Opium* is indicated; if the diarrhœa is not attended with gripes or pains in the belly, *Dulcamara* should be given; the same remedy will answer equally in cases where a certain time has intervened between the catching cold and the manifestations of the symptoms of diarrhœa. If the evacuations are very watery, slimy, greenish, and fetid, and attended with gripes, and perhaps also with nausea and vomiting, *Chamomilla* will be found useful. *Bryonia* is a most excellent remedy against diarrhœa from a sudden cold. Flatulency, tenesmus, evacuations with slime and blood, require the administration of *Nux Vomica*. In all such cases, however, the best way is to consult a homœopathic practitioner; and this is even absolutely indispensable if *Nux Vomica* fail to produce the desired effect. If the dejections (in diarrhœa from cold) happen to be remarkably watery, sharp, and of a brownish colour, *China* will be found to answer. In cases where the diarrhœa arises from dietetic errors, *Ipecacuanha* will generally give relief, if vomiting is a concomitant symptom; *Coffea cruda*, if the patient is sleepless and excited; *Nux Vomica*, if the evacuations are followed by great prostration, and if nausea and pains in the belly are present. *Pulsatilla* is indicated under these circumstances, if the diarrhœa has arisen in consequence of the ingestion of an over-rich and fat milk.

11. *Hiccough.*—It stands to reason that the atmospheric air, even in a warm room, must at first make a rather adverse impression upon the new-born infant; no wonder then, that in the first few days or weeks of life the slightest exposure to a somewhat colder air than usual should induce hiccough. But this symptom is, under these circumstances, of no importance or consequence whatever, and may be left entirely to nature; in proportion as the child gets a little stronger, the hiccough will make its appearance more and more rarely, and at last discontinue. However, some parents cannot help feeling a little apprehensive about this hiccough, particularly if it happens to be the first child, and if the fits are of frequent occurrence, and of some duration. The best and simplest means against it is to put the infant to the breast, and to let it get warm there; or to give it a small quantity (the third or fourth part of a teaspoonful) of finely-pounded sugar.

(To be continued.)

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF DR. ROUTH'S "FALLACIES OF HOMŒOPATHY."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

Entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

VI.

There is a dark page in the history of the allopathic opposition to the progress of homœopathy that I fain would leave unopened. In it are recorded accusations against homœopathists, which aim at nothing short of holding them up to the world as a set of base deceivers, whose statements are unworthy of credit, and whose characters are mean and contemptible.

Although disclaiming "abuse" in the introductory part of his work, as a mode of disproving and arresting the progress of the homœopathic doctrine, although protesting against the manner in which the new system has been hitherto opposed, the author soon forgets all his fine professions, and consents to make himself the channel for the propagation of the same system of attack upon the *characters* of the disciples of Hahnemann. His "fairness" and "impartiality" allow him to repeat the same groundless charges and unjustifiable imputations of dishonesty. He consents to identify himself with those whose conduct he condemns: let him, then, not complain, should some part of the censure which they so fully deserve fall to his share.

It is not without much reluctance that I approach this subject; for it leaves me no choice but to give the most unqualified con-

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demnation of a spirit which no prejudice can excuse, since it exhibits itself in the most barefaced violation of truth and propriety. Hitherto I had thought that truth was in itself an object worthy of the exercise of our most strenuous efforts, and as a sufficient recompense, when discovered, for continued exertions, sustained perhaps throughout the whole extent of the life of an individual. But here—and this is a fact significant of the character of the movement against homœopathy, significant in the highest degree of the spirit of those engaged in it—but here this bright jewel is sacrificed to serve the interests of a party, who, we are told, have "no interest to deceive," but whose every step belies this assertion—who, whilst professing to be guided by fairness and impartiality, are following a course in which their impartiality appears clothed in the most inveterate prejudices; and their fairness assumes the garb of the most bitter spirit of persecution!

The charges brought forward against homœopathy by Dr. Routh are, for the most part, not new: nearly all of them, moreover, have already been refuted elsewhere. But as it seems to be the settled plan of the allopathic champions resolutely to advance a set of stories more or less detrimental to homœopathy, and, regardless of truth, to repeat them again and again, even when proved to be without foundation, I cannot, if I would faithfully discharge my duty, avoid taking notice of them.

In doing so I request the reader to bear in mind these two circumstances: first, that a true story can generally bear a close scrutiny in all its parts, or is at least correct in the more important of the particulars which it narrates; and, second, that a mode of attack, which, in default of other arguments, consists chiefly of imputations upon the character of opponents, is, if such imputations be groundless, thereby characterised as lying and slanderous, and hence devoid of all claims upon our attention.

I have carefully picked out all the charges brought forward against *homœopathists* in Part I., and find them to be nine in number, exclusive of allusions to the so-called *magnetoscope* and to the *mixed practice*, said to be commended by those whose authority in the homœopathic ranks is deservedly entitled to much weight.

In the first series I have classed the cases brought forward to show that homœopathic medicines are totally inert, and that homœopathic chemists are in the habit of selling globules which, although carefully bottled, corked, and labelled with the names of medicines, are nevertheless—and this with their full knowledge and consent—totally *unmedicated.*

Charge 1st: Dr. Simpson's box of globules.—"It is in this way (the powerlessness of the medicine) that we can explain the non-distinction by the homœopathic physician of globules of all kinds completely intermixed by a child, and which produced precisely the same effect on the system as those duly separated and labelled by the most careful of homœopathic compounders (see Simpson's 'Homœopathy,' 2nd edition)."

This story has been endowed with more importance than it originally had any claim to, by having gone the round of the metropolitan and provincial newspapers. It may well, therefore, arrest our attention for a few moments.

When I inform the reader that the homœopathic physician alluded to was Dr. Henderson, and that Dr. Henderson had published his "Reply" to Dr. Simpson's attack before the second edition of the latter was issued, he will feel somewhat surprised that Dr. Routh did not, in that spirit of fairness to which he lays a claim, notice Dr. Henderson's explanation. This omission compels me to quote rather largely from Dr. Henderson.

"The story of the box, in which all the medicines are said by Dr. Simpson to have been mixed before they were given to me, meets me in the published speech in a somewhat different form from that in which I heard of it formerly from the author of the petty narrative. He told me on that former occasion, on the 10th of June last, that I had said to him, some six or seven years ago, 'your box has converted me.' I remember well, sir, and so must Dr. Simpson, that I replied to him emphatically on that occasion that *I did not believe that I had ever said so*, and that because it would have been untrue. My first experiments on homœopathy were made by medicines from five different sources, in addition to Dr. Simpson's box. The 'respected secretary of the Society' favoured me with a box, in connection with which there was, as became his character, no trick, but all that was fair and honest. Dr. Russell supplied me with many other medicines; Headland, of London, did so too; the chemist in this city at a later period did the same; and some I prepared with my own hands. The results were published, and drew from Dr. Forbes, of London, the admission that, had the cases been treated according to the rules of the ordinary school, he would have regarded the results as 'very satisfactory.' Among them were 'some wonderful effects and

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cures,' which I have always regarded as evidences of the power of homœopathic remedies; but that they were due to 'Dr. Simpson's own former homœopathic box,' in which the trick was, I do not believe that I could have ever averred, because I was not in the habit of noting in each case from what source the medicines I employed were taken, for I suspected no trick. Since Dr. Simpson made his trick public, I have suspected, reasonably enough, that some of the failures, which I could not formerly account for but on the ground of my own want of skill, must have been due to the dishonest box" (Reply, p. 80).

Let this story be a caution to those who may be desirous of testing homœopathic medicines. Let them beware of receiving their medicines through the hands of men who are not above practising *a trick*, and who will only divulge it if the decision of the experimentalist be favourable to homœopathy.

Charge 2nd.—"*One of the first, if not the very first, wholesale firms in London was in the habit of supplying its customers simply with Sugar of Milk globules, labelling them, however, according to the different homœopathic names of drugs;* this statement having been made by the agent of this firm at the house of Messrs. Gilpin and Co., druggists, Newcastle."

The reviewer of Dr. Routh's work, in the last number of the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, remarks upon this: "The allopaths have been often challenged to give the name of this 'wholesale house,' but they have never condescended to do so. It would be sufficient, therefore, to dismiss the slander with contempt; but we may as well observe that there is no *particular wholesale* homœopathic druggist in London. We believe, however, that the story has arisen from the fact of some homœopathic druggists being in the practice of purchasing pure sugar globules from the confectioners, for the purpose of medicating such by tinctures."

Charge 3rd.—"*It is in this manner (the want of power of infinitesimal doses) that we can explain the secession of Dr. Holland, late physician to one of the London Homœopathic Hospitals.*"

Dr. Routh is deserving of commendation for this discovery. He has decidedly "a turn" for explanation. In this field he displays considerable ingenuity; but by some "unfortunate coincidence," for which he will I hope account satisfactorily, his explanations are seldom, if ever, *correct.*

As Dr. Routh has quoted from the Report of the London Homœopathic Hospital (vide Appendix, p. 82), aud had therefore access to the following explanation as given in the speech of Dr. Quin (Report, p. 29), I should feel some surprise at his not noticing it, were it not that in his work there are other examples of omissions of the same kind, when that course happens to be the most convenient to him.

"He (Dr. Quin) must be pardoned for taking this opportunity to allude to the retirement, some months ago, of one of their colleagues from the medical duties of the Hospital. Dr. Calvert Holland, whose attainments both as a physician and a writer, were well-known and highly appreciated, had, from a sensitive regard for the interest of the hospital, considered it his duty to withdraw, fearing that his continuing to hold office might expose the institution to a portion of those illiberal and ungenerous attacks with which he had been assailed, on the pretext of a recent publication of his. He (Dr. Quin) could assure the meeting from his own knowledge, that that work had been written a long time, and had actually been printed some months, though he believed not published, before Dr. Holland's acceptance of the office of Provisional Physician to the Hospital."

The attacks to which Dr. Quin alluded in his speech, and of which he complained rather bitterly, were made, and this I have on the best authority, not by an allopathic periodical but by the *Homœopathic Times*, the Editor of which could not, of course, be aware that certain practices recommended in Dr. Holland's work were the result of a state of transition in the mind of the author, from which he had fully emerged some time before his appointment to the Homœopathic Hospital.

My quotation from Dr. Routh would lead the reader to the belief that Dr. Holland had left the Homœopathic Hospital thoroughly disgusted with homœopathy. That such was not the case, the extract from Dr. Quin's speech fully testifies. But this is not all. I am informed, both by Dr. Quin and the Honorary Secretary of the Hospital, that Dr. Holland is still a homœopathic practitioner; that he is now settled at Sheffield, the scene of his former literary labours; that they have repeatedly heard from him, and that he continues to hold homœopathy in the highest estimation.

Charge 4th.—"*The resignation of the late House Physician of the Leipsic Homœopathic Hospital, who, convinced of the nullity and danger of the system, gave up the appointment, and published an exposition of the practice pursued in the hospital.*" The worthy man!

There is some reason to believe that if

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Dr. Routh were fully acquainted with the character of this individual, who, to quiet his conscience, gave up an appointment, he would be careful not to take any notice of this portion of his career.

The reviewer in the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, already quoted, says upon this subject: "This is a mistake: the gentleman alluded to did *not give* up the appointment, but was *given up* by it, and *dismissed therefrom for mal-practices.*"

I have made some inquiries upon this subject. One of my correspondents, who knows a good deal about the German Homœopathic Hospitals, says, in a letter to me, "I know nothing about the renegade house-surgeon, unless it was one Fickel, who stole the funds of the Leipsic Hospital, and is now expiating his crimes at the hulks." Of this Fickel, Dr. Henderson, in his "Reply" (p. 15), says: "We certainly find him eventually a house-pupil in a common gaol, studying the consequences of *swindling*." Dr. Routh evidently quotes what he says of this house-surgeon from Simpson's "Homœopathy." Dr. Simpson, in his turn, quotes from Mr. Lee, whose authority is a work published at Leipsic in 1840, the title of which is "Ueber die Nichtigkeit der Homöopathie:"—"Can he be the person, of the same name, selected by Mr. Lee as a credible witness against homœopathy, and who published in 1840, at Leipsic too, a work entitled 'Direkter Beweis von *die Nichtigkeit der Homöopathie* als Heilsystem?' If so, Mr. Lee, Herr Fickel, and Dr. Simpson deserve the cordial thanks of the homœopathic world for their respective, and about equally *respectable*, performances in this matter."

The second series of charges comprises cases brought forward to show that homœopathists are guilty of a mode of deception—the admixture with their medicines of the most active allopathic drugs, which he, ever ready with an explanation, easily accounts for: "Occasionally, however, it becomes necessary to show that homœopathic medicines have really an effect, and this is especially useful with unbelievers. Our strongest active principles are put in a homœopathic pill or pilule, and administered."

The instances of this "treachery" which he condescends to give us, are the following:—

Charge 5th.—"*Indeed, chemical analysis has proved to what extent this fraud is carried on occasionally;* one-third of a grain of *Morphia*" has been found.

This case of a third of a grain of *Morphia* having been found in a dose of medicine given by a homœopathic physician is not specific; but we recognise in it a story which was by no means new when taken up by Dr. Simpson, and which gained nothing in novelty when repeated by Dr. Routh. Dr. Taylor has been challenged again and again in the *Homœopathic Times* to name the practitioner whom he accuses of this piece of inconsistency. He has not thought fit to do so. What are we to infer from his silence?

By these remarks I do not wish it to be understood that homœopathists never give *appreciable* doses of medicine. But I do not believe that any homœopathist ever gave so large a dose of *Morphia*.

Dr. Routh seems to be under some strange delusion respecting the practice of homœopathy, when he states, in

Charge 6th—"*Appreciable doses of Mercury have been found.*" Why not? If Dr. Routh had taken the trouble of reading the cases published in the various homœopathic periodicals; if he had consulted *Hartmann's Therapie*, and other standard guides to the homœopathic treatment of disease, he would have found that the first and second triturations or dilutions, both centesimal and decimal, are frequently prescribed by homœopathists. He, moreover, ought to know that, by means of the *Protochloride of Tin*, the *galvanic* and the *silver* tests, *Mercury* could be detected in the second centesimal and in the fourth or fifth decimal dilutions or triturations.

As further examples of fraud and treachery, we have—

Charge 8th.—"*It was owing to such treachery that the Duke of Cannizzaro was killed by three homœopathic globules.*"

I might dismiss this charge by quoting the following from Dr. Henderson's "Reply:" "I have information from a friend of the deceased duke, that he died suddenly in Sicily some ten or twelve years ago, and that no rumour existed, at the time, of his death having been caused in the way mentioned by Mr. Lee" (p. 17).

But I think it proper to prove, from Dr. Routh's own statements, that the death of the duke could not have been caused by the homœopathic medicines.

Let us suppose the globules to have contained "a concentrated preparation of *Nux Vomica*," as it is stated on the allopathic side. Now, what is the smallest quantity of *Nux Vomica*, or rather of *Strychnia* (its most active principle), that will kill a man? We are told that "the *smallest dose* which has yet been known to prove fatal, was in the case of Dr. Warner, who swallowed *half a grain* of the *Sulphate of Strychnia* by mistake for *Morphia*." (Taylor on Poisons, p. 777.)

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We are also told by Dr. Routh (p. 9), that seventy-five globules will only absorb one drop of tincture. Let us suppose that each drop of the tincture contains fifty per cent. of the *Salt of Strychnia*, it would require 150 globules to absorb a quantity of tincture containing one grain of the poison; three globules would therefore only contain the fiftieth of a grain. But Taylor tells us that the smallest quantity which has been known to kili a man is *half a grain;* therefore the death could not be due to a concentrated preparation of *Nux Vomica*, as the allopathists declare. Dr. Routh has been simple enough to be deluded by his belief that allopathists have "*no interest to deceive*" into the adoption as truth of a manifest falsehood.

But I cannot so readily acquit him of all intention to deceive, when he states that "one-fiftieth of a grain of *Aconite* may kill." The drift of the whole paragraph (p. 10) is to show that homœopathists are dangerous persons, and occasionally *kill* their patients by "*fraud*" and "*treachery*." Let not, however, my reader, if unacquainted with the details of *toxicology*, be in the least alarmed upon this score. Dr. Routh, if quoting from "Philips's Pharmacopœia," or from Liebig's "Organic Chemistry," ought to have said—"*the fiftieth* of a grain of *Aconitine* may kill *a sparrow*."

Let us, however, see whether the duke might not have been killed by *Aconitine*, of which it is said by Christison, that "*it is perhaps the most subtile of all known poisons*." One grain of the solution of *Aconitine*, in spirit, could scarcely contain more than fifty per cent. of that principle; one grain therefore would only medicate 150 globules. Three of these globules, the number said to have poisoned the duke, would thus only contain the fiftieth of a grain of *Aconitine*, the quantity which will only kill *a sparrow*.

Charge 9th.—"*The death of Mr. Horace Green, of New York, who swallowed in sport a number of homœopathic globules, is explained in the same way*," and I might add, is *likewise disposed of in the same way;* for who will, after the careful analysis of the eight preceding charges given above, feel disposed to look upon this last, unsupported by evidence of any kind, as at all more credible than its forerunners?

I have patiently gone through this series of charges, because I could not avoid doing so. Despicable as is this mode of attack on a system of medicine, which appeals to real and tangible facts in support of its claims to our most earnest consideration, I cannot say that I was moved by the overflow of indignation which may have disturbed the equanimity of others; but this I will say, that I have been moved by the deepest commiseration for the author's melancholy situation, compelled as he was to do battle with borrowed arms, in the use of which he was so little skilled, that his blows were more fatal to his friends than to his foes, and his exertions more likely to bring discredit than honour upon himself. Let him leave those wicked fabrications to those who have concocted them, and let him no longer be deluded into the belief, that if allopathists have, as he thinks, "no interest to deceive," they are on that account incapable of deceiving.

(*To be continued.*)

[We have received distinct information that Dr. Calvert Holland has entirely withdrawn from homœopathy. We think he is bound, in all fairness and honesty, to say whether this is true or not.—ED.]

NARRATIVE OF THE INTRODUCTION OF HOMŒOPATHY INTO ENGLAND.

BY F. J. SMITH.

(*Continued from page* 538.)

THE introduction of homœopathy into England being, by common consent, ascribed to Dr. Quin, and the year 1827 being, beyond dispute, the date of this important event, it must now be our object to record the steps taken by him to whom the British Isles are thus so deeply indebted, to qualify himself for so great and arduous an undertaking.

And this, through the courtesy of the brother of an eminent allopathic physician of London, we are enabled in some measure to do. Resident in Naples at the period in question, and for some years previously, was an artist who enjoys an European celebrity from the power with which he delineates nature on canvas. Between this artist and Dr. Quin (who had been practising in that city since 1821) a friendship of the most intimate character appears to have sprung up. Our artist was the brother of the gentleman just referred to; and in the course of the correspondence between these distinguished kinsmen, frequent mention occurs of Dr. Quin. Fortunately, the letters are preserved, and it is to these that we are indebted for the information we are enabled to supply.

Under date, Naples, April, 1825, we learn—"Dr. Quin came out to Italy several years ago with the Duchess of Devonshire .... He has for some time past been engaged in investigating a new system of medicine practised by a German physician, Dr. Necker. Necker, however

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is only a disciple of the founder of the system, whose name is Hahnemann."

This extract does not, certainly, give us the history of the circumstances that led Dr. Quin to investigate the subject of homœopathy. This we shall obtain from other sources hereafter. We have introduced the quotation merely to show that in April, 1825, Dr. Quin had been "*for some time*" engaged in the investigation of homœopathy.

Under date, Naples, June, 1826, the same writer observes:—"Necker's practice, or rather Hahnemann's doctrines, occasioned so much talk in the medical world, that Dr. Quin has considered it necessary to go to Germany to study and investigate it more closely than he can here. He is now in the neighbourhood of Leipsic, staying with Hahnemann, who is very proud of his English scholar. He appreciates the spirit and love of his profession, of Dr. Quin, in leaving a lucrative position at Naples, where he was reaping a rich harvest, to come out to him and put himself again to school."

Lest it should be considered that we are travelling at too rapid a pace, and, *per saltum*, instead of systematically tracing Dr. Quin's progress step by step, we beg to assure the reader that it is our intention to fill up the sketch before we have completed our task; meanwhile we must be allowed to lay down certain points in our chart, that the course of our narrative may not be interrupted hereafter by the necessity for reference to authorities.

From this extract, then, it is evident that Dr. Quin was in June, 1826, studying homœopathy at the feet of Hahnemann, somewhere near Leipsic.

The same authority informs us: "Naples, March 8, 1827. Dr. Quin has come back from Germany, if not a complete and declared convert to the doctrine, at least so impressed with its importance as to continue its study with much perseverance and order, and Quin is anything but a trifler."

It may reasonably be inferred from this extract, that Dr. Quin's return to Naples took place at no very remote period from the date in question. The topic had evidently not been mentioned in the writer's preceding letter, and the freshness with which he speaks of the event, shows that it was a circumstance of comparatively recent occurrence, and yet sufficiently remote to allow of Dr. Quin's studies being spoken of as characterised by "perseverance and order."

We shall avail ourselves of but one more quotation from these interesting letters. It is dated Naples, May 3, 1827. "You will soon have Quin in London, and I shall soon follow, for Naples will lose more than half its charms. He has been invited by Prince Leopold of Saxe Coburg to become his physician, and to travel with his Royal Highness. Dr. Quin says he shall be able to make you *stay in the room* whilst he explains to you Hahnemann's system. Quin is no enthusiast, nor is he easily won by any out-of-the-way thing. He laughed as much and as long as anybody about the subject, till it was forced upon his observation in a way that made him determine on investigating it, and he has seen enough to convince him that his laughter was out of place. He does not practise it as yet *exclusively* to any extent, but he is always ready to seize any opportune case to apply medicine in this way; and he tells me the investigation of the system has given him new notions of the powers of medicine. He certainly went the right way about it. He learnt German on purpose to read the works written upon it, and, not satisfied with the results which he had witnessed here, he went to Germany, to the fountain-head—Hahnemann, and became acquainted with almost all the professors in the different towns in Germany who practise it."

There are, as it appears to us, several facts of great interest contained in the preceding extract, and important in an historical point of view to be borne in mind. To trace to their origin causes that have exercised a vast influence on society can never be uninstructive; and from this letter we learn that the proximate cause at least of the establishment of homœopathy in this country was the appointment of Dr. Quin to the post of physician to Prince Leopold. It might be curious to speculate on the state of this science in England at the present period, had the royal favour fallen on some other physician. This, however, is not the place for such dissertations: we merely throw out the suggestion, *en passant*, for those who are fond of indulging in such speculations, and we pass on to observe that we gather, also (constructively at least), from the letter under consideration, the aversion of a learned allopathic physician of London to homœopathy; for it appears that he had intimated his determination not "to stay in the room" should the subject be introduced; and we happen to know that this gentleman lived to regard the science in a very different light. Finally, we are admitted, by this extract, to a view of the effects of homœopathic evidence on the mind of Dr. Quin. Its first announcement was received with ridicule; evidence roused a spirit of inquiry; and study wrought conviction.

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But the circumstance that will give rise to the most curious debate amongst our readers is probably this—that he who had thrown up a lucrative position in Naples that he might study a new medical system in Leipsic; and who returned to the former city a convert to the system, should not at once have commenced practising it *exclusively*.

Now, it is of great importance that this apparent contradiction should be distinctly explained and apprehended; more especially, as our conviction is that the history of almost every homœopathic practitioner would furnish evidence of a very similar character. We take it, therefore, that some general cause is at work, and it must be our aim to discover and point it out.

It has probably been oftentimes felt, if not expressed, that if allopathy be "based on conjecture" not on truth; and homœopathy be based on an universal law of nature; that, no sooner are these truths apprehended by the mind of the physician, than the former system would be *absolutely* abandoned and the latter *exclusively* practised. And this is unquestionably true in the abstract, but, like most abstract truths when applied to human practice, admitting of some modification. For it must be borne in mind that, while the skill in diagnosis possessed by the new convert is the result of the study of his professional life, and applies equally to both systems, his experience in the application of homœopathic remedies is measured by the period of his conversion. If he decide on the one right remedy, the disease, as a rule, yields to his treatment. If his selection be incorrect, the medicine, as a rule, is unavailing—useless. While, then, homœopathy is not at fault, in the case of failure, but the physician, it follows, nevertheless, that a very intimate knowledge of the Materia Medica Homœopathica is essential to the successful treatment of disease; and it may be safely affirmed that this is not to be fully obtained by the study and experience of a few months—perhaps not even of years. Here, then, we think we find the cause of what we believe to be the rule—that allopaths, after their conversion to homœopathy, continue to practise for a time allopathically in severe cases, and employ the homœopathic remedies only in non-dangerous cases at first. It is not that they doubt the power of homœopathy, but that they lack confidence in their own knowlege; and the fact that they go on to adopt it *exclusively*, is the best evidence of their not doubting, but, contrariwise, entertaining the most entire confidence in the system itself.

And we are prepared to maintain that this was the proper course for a conscientious physician to take in the infancy of the science, who did not go the length of Dr. James Johnson in believing, that "without allopathic interference, human mortality would be less than it is." For, who but a physician shall adequately realize in all its intensity the tremendous consideration, that life and death are, humanly speaking, dependent on his individual skill? If, then, under such awful circustances, he could be found to admit the false sentiment of consistency to prevail with him, and lead him to the employing of his newly-adopted system, while yet conscious that he had not, and could not have, thoroughly mastered its Materia Medica, what language would be fit to employ in characterising so vain and wicked a trifler?

Nor, does this reasoning apply exclusively to the transition from allopathy to homœopathy. It applies equally to the transition from one mode of allopathic treatment to another; and it is a recognised rule of hospital practice not to adopt at once any new means of cure, however high the authority from which it emanates, but to select cases for its application.

Now, this was precisely the course taken by Dr. Quin; it is, as we believe, the course followed by many transition-allopaths in the present day, and it is further sanctioned by general hospital practice. And we think we have shown that not only was this course judicious in the comparative infancy of the science, but that it was the only course open to Dr. Quin as a moral and accountable agent.

Now, we are very far from approving of this mixture of practice; and we do not hesitate to declare our opinion to be, that the day in which it should be tolerated has passed for ever, as respects this country. Here, there are facilities enough for an allopathic practitioner to make himself master of homœopathy; and this he is bound to do before he ventures to practise that system. In the present position of affairs, however, in the medical world, there is no security against any allopathic practitioner—but half-informed on the subject of homœopathy—commencing as a homœopath, and thus bringing discredit on the cause. Were a council established for the examination of allopathic practitioners desirous of practising homœopathy, and empowered to grant certificates of qualification, this great evil would be avoided; as lay homœopaths might be put on their guard—after the establishment of such a council—against the employment of any fresh convert who had not applied for and obtained such

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certificate. This, as it appears to us, would be an effectual preventive of a great evil with which, as we think, homœopathy is threatened; for, in proportion to its extension will be the inducement for practitioners to abandon the old for the new system; and if this arrangement be not speedily made, it may soon be too late to establish it.

To return to our narrative—the letter on which we have been commenting, is unquestionably couched in language calculated to lead to the belief that Dr. Quin was at this time (May 3, 1827) residing at Naples. The employment of the present tense may probably be accounted for on the supposition that the writer was expounding the known sentiments and relating the conduct of Dr. Quin, during his brief sojourn at Naples, after his return from Leipsic, or transcribing the thoughts contained in some letter he had received from the new convert. Certain, however, it is that at this very date Dr. Quin was already in London, which he appears to have reached some time in the month of April.

From the month of April, 1827, then, is to be dated the introduction of homœopathy into England.

Had a Lyell or a Rawlinson returned to this country after a sojourn of a considerable period in foreign lands, devoted to the investigation of geological or antiquarian phenomena, and in possession of important facts, the course they would have pursued would have been to attend the first meeting of the Societies to which they respectively belong, and to lay the facts they had collected before their scientific brethren, accompanied with the reasonings which to their minds these facts suggested. That Dr. Quin did not adopt a similar course, appears to us to present in strong contrast the medical and the scientific societies of this country.

The scientific societies of this country—to their glory be it recorded—are ever on the alert for facts; ever ready to listen to the arguments of their members. They are not established for the advocacy of an hypothesis or a theory, but for the discovery of truth.

From his acquaintance with the medical institutions of this country, it probably did not occur to Dr. Quin to present himself before them, for the purpose of submitting to his brethren his newly-acquired knowledge. If such a suggestion ever passed through his mind, it is clear that he did not put it into execution; nor is it less certain that bootless would have been his enterprise, as demonstrated by the recent demeanour of the Edinburgh Universities.

On H.R.H. marriage with the Princess Charlotte—the idol of the English nation—Prince Leopold, after residing some time at Camelford House, took up his residence in this country in the royal palaces of Marlborough House and Claremont. Hither he was accompanied by his physician, Dr. Stockmar. The doctor subsequently succeeded to his father's title of baron, and was appointed to the post of comptroller of his Royal Higness's household. A vacancy of physician to his Royal Highness's person in consequence occurred, and Dr. Quin, whom his Royal Highness had previously often consulted professionally, was selected to fill this honourable position. It was perfectly well known to the prince that Dr. Quin had become imbued with the doctrines of Hahnemann; but, rightly judging that this superadded knowledge did not detract from his merits as a general physician, the prince intrusted him with the care of his health; and the herald of homœopathy returned with H.R.H. to this country.

Having established the fact that, for two years at least, Dr. Quin had been engaged in the investigation of homœopathy; that he had studied the science under Hahnemann himself, and returned a convert to Naples; and that, leaving that city, he reached this country in April, 1827, we have now to consider the course he pursued with a view to establishing the new doctrine in England.

And if the argument as to the expediency of caution, as applied to Naples, be regarded as valid, it must apply with augmented force to this country. Here Dr. Quin stood alone. In cases of danger and difficulty, when it is customary to call in medical associates for consultation, with no one could he consult had he treated his patients homœopathically. To be convinced that homœopathy could do more than allopathy was one thing. To be confident that *he*, with his comparatively limited knowledge of the science, could do more for a patient than the associated allopathic wisdom of London, was another. Moreover, homœopathy does not affect to cure every disease in every stage, else, instead of the statistics we have exhibited, showing an average decrease of mortality under homœopathy as compared with allopathy of fifty per cent., we should have to proclaim homœopathy to be an universal panacea, save in the case of extreme old age, where the human habitation was absolutely worn out. We do not say that this will not be the case when homœopathy shall have attained its maturity—on the contrary, we believe that such is the destiny that awaits its progress—but we do say that this is not its present state: still less was it its state in 1827. Since then

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some must have died of severe disease in 1827, although treated with the greatest homœopathic skill; and since the death of such patients might have been visited on the system instead of on the fatality of the attack; and since, should this unjust verdict have been pronounced, the cause of homœopathy would have suffered, and its progress have been greatly retarded—we maintain that the homœopathic physician who stood alone in this country in 1827, exercised a laudable discretion—and a discretion for which every homœopath in Great Britain probably has cause to be grateful at this moment for—in selecting his cases for treatment, and in refusing to treat homœopathically such cases as involved the possibility of a fatal termination.

It is therefore with gratitude we record that the conduct of Dr. Quin was characterised by the laudable discretion we have advocated. Cases of a non-fatal character, both acute and chronic, abound in general practice. On these he had ample opportunities of demonstrating the advantages of the new system, and in these cases he never failed to employ it. And thus, as his patients began to appreciate its advantages, and to gain confidence in its power, and as he became more and more versed by study and practice in the resources of the homœopathic science and art, he gradually introduced it, until he ceased to employ allopathic remedies altogether.

London, Claremont, Esher, and Hampton Court were the localities where the blessings of the new system were first made known. There, alike in the palace, the mansion, the cottage, and the hovel, were its powers felt and appreciated. Amongst the early distinguished converts to homœopathy may be mentioned the names of the Neapolitan Ambassador, Count Ludolf and family; Lady Seton; Sir Richard Acton; the Dowager Lady Acton; Prince Lieven; Lord Ponsonby; General Lord Lynedoch; Lady Keith; Count Sibolesk, the Russian Chargé d'Affaires; Prince Czartoryski; Count Zamunlic, and others.

To these illustrious names we would willingly add, were we in possession of them, some of the early converts to homœopathy from amongst the poor. We doubt not that many an interesting tradition is floating about the neighbourhood of Claremont and of Esher which might be woven into a touching narrative of devotion and self-sacrifice. We know enough of this class of the community to feel satisfied that there must have been many an instance of self-abnegation which would entitle the devotee to take rank with the potentates of the earth. We can conceive of a mother—perchance a widow—whose only son, after being given up by his allopathic attendant, was saved through the instrumentality of Dr. Quin. We can imagine the sentiment of gratitude in such a case rising into a passion, and elevating its subject into a heroine. We can conceive the widow sacrificing her time and energies—elements on which every physical comfort in this class depends—to the making known the blessings of homœopathy. We can imagine her obtaining the consent of some poor neighbour (albeit sceptical of the powers of the new system, yet desperate from the consciousness that the resources of the old had been exhausted in a vain attempt to save her drooping and afflicted child) to submit to homœopathic treatment. We can conceive the anxiety of the advocate now giving place to a fearful sense of responsibility for the life of the patient, and the reputation of the system. The case given up by allopathy, and therefore desperate, yet admitting room for the bereaved mother, should it terminate fatally, to throw the blame on the new system, and indirectly on the advocate! how fearful must have been the felt responsibility! The only chance of a successful issue would be seen to lie in the strictest attention to the physician's directions; the medicines must be administered at stated times; the case must be carefully watched. But the widow's love for that system which gave back to her her only son is inexhaustible. Her daily toil ended, her own domestic duties performed, she sallies forth to her neighbour's cottage, and takes her place at the bedside of the patient, and through the silent watches of the night she tends the sufferer, administering to her wants, and giving her the medicines. At length Nature, thus assisted by the powers of the new system, asserts her supremacy, and the patient is convalescent. It is not for us to trace the emotions of the respective individuals. We are simply concerned with the devotion to homœopathy exhibited. And we declare, on our knowledge of the poor of this country, that this imaginary sketch is, in all human probability, a reality, and the type of numerous instances that occurred at the time. We lay it, therefore, on the inhabitants of Claremont and of Esher to investigate the traditions of their localities, and to record them in your columns; for no history of the introduction of homœopathy into England will be *complete* which does not assign to each class of the community

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the share it respectively had in advancing the Cause. Neither will any history be *just* that does not place side by side with the illustrious by birth who rendered service to homœopathy in its infancy, the names of the poor, how humble soever they may have been, who rendered themselves illustrious by their acts of devotion.

(*To be continued.*)

[We were not before aware that Dr. Quin had ever studied the science (homœopathy) under Hahnemann himself. What time of study? We should be very glad of Dr. Quin's own statement of his homœopathic studies. His simple declaration of dates would at once settle the point who introduced homœopathy.—Ed.]

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24th, 1852.

We have just been on the border of the illimitable Ocean; we have seen, according to Æschylus, the infinite dimples of the immeasurable laughter of that vast Body; we have seen, while the penetrating East wind swept the shore, patches of Cærulean blue, like the prophetic eyes of Hope, amidst the clouds—and these are to us *signs*.

It is recorded of Sir Isaac Newton, that, after he had made his great discoveries in astronomical science, on being congratulated thereon, he said, "Well! I feel like a schoolboy who has been picking up a few shells on the shore of Eternity." An expression sublime as it was simple.

It is the case with the best of us. We are *here* to-day, and to-morrow we are *there*.

With such thoughts we are not *precisians*. But immense, indeed, is the task of each homœopathist, who understands or has even a glimmering of understanding of the doctrine and practice of Hahnemann.

Such an one cares not a jot for a name as a watchword of party; such an one holds in scorn all inferior motives, aims, and desires—rejects disdainfully the paltriness of a mean self-glorification; and manfully breasts the ascent that he may reach the hill-top of Truth.

Hard measure, indeed, has Hahnemann received—called by *judges* a myriad-minded man, by the ignorant a visionary and a theorist. But yet Samuel Hahnemann towers above his fellows in the might and majesty of a gigantic intellect, as well as in the force of his moral character.

We are passing through one of the surges of our Medical Reform—there are *breakers* ahead, *breakers* astern, *breakers* all round us—but still there is smooth water amidst them, and Hahnemann, as he lives in his writings, is our pilot.

Nothing has yet been done in the way of an establishment of a large hospital for the treatment of the ailing on the principle of homœopathy. It is all yet to be done.

A small affair of the sort is, of necessity, a ridiculous thing: we have always said so.

Vastness is an essential element of the sublime, even though that vastness be made up of molecules, of atoms. So is this earth made up; and so, doubtless, is each of the planets that moves round its particular sun.

Will the homœopathic public remain dumb and irresponsive to our frequent appeals? Will the medical men remain indifferent to the necessity of united action? We know not; but this we do know, that Truth is indestructible.

It is on this principle we make our stand, and we have no fear whatever for the issue. We care not for Czar nor for St. Simonian—the two extremes of civic and political life. We look to the end: we have done our duty, according to our conscience, faithfully; and we care not for misrepresentations. We bide our time hopefully and confidently. *Stare loco nescit* is not our motto, any more than is the *stare super antiquas vias*.

We are open to conviction, but we have fixt principles for our guides; and the vast Infinity is before us, around us, and beyond us.

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THE HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITALS.

We lately gave the Report of the Hahnemann Hospital for the year; we have now before us the Report of the London Homœopathic Hospital. The expenditure of the last twelve months has been less than half that of the other Hospital; nor is there much difference in the number of in-patients.

The expenditure of the Hahnemann Hospital for the year was £2,158 18*s.* 7*d.*, that of the London Homœopathic Hospital was £1,013 2*s.* 7*d.* The number of in-patients at the former for the year was 254, in the latter was 212.

It will be at once obvious that most of these cases, in each Hospital, must have been of those suffering from chronic maladies.

The number of patients in each is ridiculously small. We (the writer of this article) have *heretofore* prescribed for many patients, most of them suffering from acute disease, in one long day, as have been treated as in-patients at either of these Hospitals *in one year.*

This is a manifest absurdity; and it is to be deplored, that in the great capital of the greatest of earth's empires, there should be any burlesque on so grand an institution as an "Hospital," and especially in connection with homœopathy. We trust that the homœopathic public will come to the rescue, and provide at least *one large* hospital, from which satisfactory statistics of the homœopathic treatment of acute diseases may be derived.

The total balance remaining to the Hahnemann Hospital is £904 19*s.* 2*d.*, that of the London Homœopathic Hospital is £984 11*s.* 7*d.* So that in funds they are about equal. In the former, 3,966 out-patients were treated; in the latter, 3,008.

The ladies who patronised the Hahnemann Hospital, by their Bazaar obtained £480, which has yet to be increased.

Two hundred and twenty-six ladies, including H.R.H. the Princess Mary of Cambridge and the Ladies Somerset, obtained for the London Homœopathic Hospital during the past year £146 12*s.* 3*d.*

We are very sorry indeed that, excepting as dispensaries for the treatment of out-patients, both our London Hospitals have failed, so far, and have afforded so few statistical results.

Our readers will remember that we have always argued the necessity of the establishment of one large hospital, on a broad basis, with comprehensive principles. We have no bias for either of the metropolitan Hospitals. We should like to see them united, and we believe that *then* the homœopathic public would *endow* such an Institution.

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHESTER HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

PHYSICIAN—J. E. NORTON, ESQ., M.D.

THIS Institution was opened April 1st, 1851 and during the year ending March 31st, 1852, the total number of patients has been 614.

	Recommended.	Paying *	Total.
Attending the Dispensary	51	525	576
Visited at their Homes	8	30	38
Total	59	555	614

Classification of Diseases.

Amenia	13	Dysmenorrhœa	8
Acidity	1	Dentition	5
Amaurosis	1	Dysentery	3
Asthma	7	Dysuria	2
Anasarca	2	Eczema	3
Abscess	5	Enteralgia	10
Amblyopia	2	Eruptions of the Skin	13
Ague	1	Epilepsy	6
Apoplexy	2	Erysipelas	3
Bronchitis	12	Enteritis	1
Bronchitis Chronica.	36	Flatulency	4
Brain Softening	1	Fetid Breath	1
Blepharitis	4	Fever, Intermittent	1
Boils	1	Fever, Typhoid	2
Biliousness	1	Fever, Mucous	1
Convulsions	1	Fistula	1
Costiveness	5	Fever, Infantile	1
Cough	2	Gastritis Chronica	5
Critical Age	10	Glandular Swelling	5
Catarrh	7	Goitre	3
Carbuncle	1	Gastrodynia	6
Cystitis	2	Gleet	1
Cancer	3	Gastralgia	11
Copaiba, effects of	2	Gonorrhœa	1
Dropsy	1	Green Tea, effects of	1
Diabetes	1	Gout	1
Debility	9	Gravel	2
Diarrhœa, Chronic.	4	Hoarseness	2
Diarrhœa	18	Hæmoptysis	1
Diarrhœa, Infantile.	7	Hypochondriasis	6
Deafness	4	Headache	21
Delirium Tremens.	1		

* This Institution is partly supported by donations and subscriptions, and partly by small weekly payments, made by such patients as are not recommended by subscribers. Those suffering from acute disease are visited at their own homes.

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Headache, Sick..	1	Paralysis	4
Hip-joint Disease.	4	Phthisis	7
Heart, disease of.	7	Prolapsus Ani ..	2
Housemaid's Knee	1	Pleurodynia	6
Hooping-cough ..	3	Paralysis Agitans.	1
Hepatitis	2	Quinsy	4
Hysteria.....	1	Rheumatism	23
Hydrocephalus ..	1	Rheumatism Chronica.....	4
Indigestion.... .	26	Rhagades	2
Intoxication	1	Scrofula	5
Inflammation of Bowels	1	Stomacace	2
Influenza	2	Scald Head.....	2
Jaundice.....	4	Spermatorrhœa ..	1
Lumbago	3	Spinal Abscess ..	2
Leuchorrhœa	2	Spinal Disease ..	5
Laryngitis	1	Syphilis	3
Metrorrhagia	1	Syphilis, Secondary	3
Moral Emotions, effects of.....	2	Toothache	2
Menorrhagia	3	Thrush	1
Monomania	2	Tracheitis	3
Mercurialism	4	Tabes Mesenterica.	1
Neuralgia	14	Tonsillitis Chronica	2
Nephritis	2	Ulcer of Palate ..	1
Nervousness	1	Ulcer of the Leg.	10
Orchitis	2	Uterine Disease..	9
Ophthalmia	4	Ulcerated Throat.	1
Ophthalmia Chronica.....	2	Urethretis	1
Otorrhœa	2	Varicose Veins ..	1
Periostitis	1	Vertigo	2
Prolapsus Uteri..	2	Vomiting	1
Pleuritis	3	Vescitis	1
Pyrosis	6	Worms	38
Piles	5	Whitlow	1
		Wounds	3

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Manchester,
April 12th, 1852.

SIR,—In the last number of the *Medico-Chirurgical Review* (alas! no longer Forbes's) is a review of "Routh's "Fallacies of Homœopathy," in which the homœopaths are liberally pelted with mud, the theory of dynamization is especially stigmatized as absurd. At page 560 of the same number is an extract from the *Bull. de Thérap.*, tom. xli., p. 373, to the effect that M. Fredericq treats epilepsy with benefit in cases deemed incurable by *Belladonna;* and on the opposite page is a quotation from *L'Union Médicale*, 1851, No. 150, to the following effect. "To the present time, pharmacologists have always considered pulverization as a mere change of form in bodies, each particle of the divided body being regarded as a diminutive, without change of property, of the entire mass."

While admitting that in most cases this is a mere expression of the fact, M. Dorvault believes that there is a greater number of substances than is suspected, in which this operation induces a modification of their chemical characters and *medicinal* properties. At present he can only adduce two or three examples in justification of this opinion. Every one knows that sugar, on being powdered, loses a portion of its solubility and sweetening power. Is this referrible to an altered electrical condition of the sugar, as the phosphorescence which is developed during pulverization in the dark might lead us to suspect? Again, gum arabic, when powdered, possesses neither the same taste nor solubility as when entire; and pulverization so diminishes the solubility of arsenious acid, that while a kilogramme of water will dissolve forty grammes in the vitreous state, it will only dissolve fourteen of the powder. In the above examples, the modification is exhibited by diminution of solubility, but in other cases it may manifest itself in other directions.

Both these are testimonies to the truth of homœopathy. The latter is the discovery of Hahnemann. Go on, M. Dorvault, and prosecute what Hahnemann began, but do not claim the credit of the discovery, for verily it belongeth not to thee.

We thank the gentle Editor of the *Medico-Chirurgical Review.*

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
CHIRURGICUS.

[We are much obliged to our correspondent, and we will look to the articles he refers to. The allopathists are taking many leaves out of our book. We have now before us a prescription in which *Nux Vomica* is clearly indicated, written by one of the foremost of the physicians of London. We transcribe it for the benefit of the multitude.

℞ Ext. Nucis Vomicæ, gr. vj.
Sacchar. Lactis, gr. xxiv.
Tere optimè in mortario, et adde Glycyrrhiz.
℈jj. Fiant pilulæ xxiv.
Sig. One on every second night.

The dose is *small*, on allopathic principles of treatment. The case is one of spinal irritation, and defect of vital force from that cause.

The truth of the matter is (*pace* Dr. Little), that the allopaths take many *leaves* out of our books. Nine-tenths of the men of ability, who practise allopathy, do *not believe in druggery*.—ED.]

THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS AND HOMŒOPATHY.

To the Editor of the Lancet.

SIR,—The Council of the College of Surgeons have sent the following reply to the memorial of the meeting of the medical men of this town and neighbourhood, praying them to express some opinion on the doctrine and practice of homœopathy.

"College of Surgeons, March 9, 1852.

"SIR,—I am desired to acquaint you that your communication, enclosing copies of resolutions of a meeting of the medical profession of Hull and its neighbourhood, held in the Hull General Infirmary on the 6th of January last, on the subject of homœopathy, has been laid before the Council of this College, and that the Council,

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after mature deliberation, consider it inexpedient to interfere in the matter.

I have the honour to be, etc.,

"EDM. BALFOUR, Secretary."

The members of the College will hence perceive that they must not look to their nominal head for sympathy or assistance in the humiliating contest which they are compelled to maintain with this impudent but successful imposture.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

HENRY COOPER, M.D.

Hull, March, 1852.

CASE.

(From the Practical Advantages of Homœopathy, by the late Dr. Harris Dunsford.)

ASTHMA.

A LADY, of very high rank, had suffered several years from severe attacks of asthma, which, for six months before I was called in, had scarcely ceased, and for some weeks previously they were so severe that the patient had not been able to lie down at all, and had scarcely slept during that period. This distinguished lady was under the care of two of the leading physicians of the metropolis, and there being evidently an imminent danger of water in the chest, they both declared their inability to prescribe any other remedies but palliatives; and expressed their fears that these would be more injurious than beneficial. Under these circumstances, in the autumn of 1839, I was requested to prescribe. There was frequent severe cough, chiefly at night, extreme difficulty of breathing on the least motion, even on walking across the room; constant wheezing; œdema of the feet; pallid, tumid countenance; and, on some occasions, a livid hue, with blackness of the lips. I at once administered *Hyoscyamus;* and, during the night, the patient slept at intervals com posedly, a relief she had not experienced for a considerable period. On the following day *Arsenicum* was taken in solution, and continued, in very minute doses, for a fortnight. Under the use of this remedy, the sleep returned, she was able to lie down in a horizontal position, and the asthma ceased almost entirely. *Nux Vomica* was given, with a view to correct functional derangement of the liver, to which the patient is subject; and, subsequently, *Cuprum.* The result was highly gratifying. This eminent lady, in less than a month, was relieved from the distressing symptoms she had so long experienced, and has remained entirely free from them to this time; the general health being nearly restored. Many attacks of asthma may be effectually relieved during the fit, even when there is little hope of a radical cure. I was suddenly called up to prescribe for a young lady, then under the care of another physician, who was out of town upon a professional engagement. The patient, being unwilling to consult any other medical man, had remained resting on her knees and elbows for several hours, finding that the only position in which she could obtain a little relief. Spasm of the glottis, however, occurred, and naturally occasioned the greatest alarm. I administered *Hyoscyamus* in solution every half minute, until the danger of suffocation had passed, and, afterwards, *Arsenicum* dissolved, every five minutes; and, in less than an hour, the patient was able to lie on her back; she slept comfortably, and was relieved altogether from that paroxysm.

Miscellaneous.

SINGULAR ATMOSPHERIC PHENOMENA.—On Good Friday morning, shortly before one o'clock, the various persons passing over the metropolitan bridges, as well as many thousands on the south side of the river, were alarmed at beholding a singular appearance in the heavens, which at once led them to conclude that a terrible conflagration had broken out in the neighbourhood of the Old Kent-road, near New-cross, or Deptford. Messenger after messenger arrived at the Brigade and West or England fire-engine stations, requesting the aid of the firemen to subdue what was supposed to be a terrible fire. The parties in charge of the engines, upon looking out of the windows of the fire-stations were equally deceived, and forthwith the engines of the Brigade belonging to that side of the water, started in search of what was expected to be a dreadful conflagration, followed by Mr. Connorton with the West of England engine and firemen. The scene that presented itself was one of fearful brilliancy. The heavens presented at the south-eastern quarter an appearance of sheets of flame, of various hues; first, the light lemon tint, then changing to deep orange, after which they changed to a deep vermilion. The engines were driven with all possible speed in the direction of the supposed fire, but after proceeding some miles, the moon shone out with the greatest splendour. The engines were therefore ordered back to their several stations.

POISON-EATERS.—The first court of assizes, with trial by jury, established in Styria, was opened at Cilli ten days ago. A man was tried for having poisoned an old soldier. Amongst questions submitted to the jury was one to the effect, whether the deceased had been a "poison-eater," to which the jury replied in the affirmative. This caused some surprise in Vienna, and inquiries were made as to what it meant. It turns out that in the districts of Lower Austria and Styria, near the Hungarian frontier, there are men who make a practice of eating small portions of arsenic with the soft part of bread. This gives them a clear complexion, and increases the intellectual faculties, but if persisted in causes languor and shortens life. The men are called by the peasantry "poison-eaters."

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 144. Vol. III.] SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1852. [Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

Communications.

NARRATIVE OF THE INTRODUCTION OF HOMŒOPATHY INTO ENGLAND.

By F. J. Smith, Esq.

(*Continued from page* 567.)

A treatise on the consequences of events regarded, at the moment of their occurrence, as simply fortuitous, could scarcely fail to be interesting, if not instructive. We are disposed to believe that, if this task were performed with minuteness and precision, it would be found that in no inconsiderable proportion of cases, circumstances that were at the time considered accidental, if not unfortunate—courses which all human prudence would, had it been possible, have avoided—turned out, in the sequel, the very best means of effecting the end to be accomplished.

And the case under review is, as we think, a remarkable illustration of this proposition. Unquestionably, prudence would have suggested the propriety of the first apostle of homœopathy to England locating himself in London, and becoming a permanent resident in the metropolis. We are far, however, from being certain that the very necessity of Dr. Quin's position compelling him to travel whithersoever H. R. H. went, was not the most effectual method that could have been devised of spreading throughout England a knowledge of homœopathy, while it was, beyond a doubt, the means of making known the science in various parts of the Continent, in a manner, and with a rapidity, which could in no other way have been accomplished.

In order to a just appreciation of the whole bearings of the case, it must be premised, that it was usually the practice of H. R. H. to travel at the close of that period of the year called "the London season;" that Dr. Quin's patients were principally amongst the nobility and higher classes; that it is the custom of a portion of these classes to pass the ex-London season in foreign travel; and that whereas, when in England, such persons confine themselves, as a rule, to some one medical man, when abroad they gladly avail themselves of the services of any English physician of note whom they may meet.

And if these circumstances have a general application, they must be admitted to apply with peculiar force to the case of a man accredited as the physician to a member of the Royal Family of England. It will therefore, we presume, be readily understood that numerous opportunities for practice must have been afforded to Dr. Quin when travelling abroad—greater, indeed, than could have fallen to his lot had he remained at home during the ex-London season; and, consequently, that he must have thus had greater facilities for making known homœopathy to English families resident or travelling abroad, than by adopting that course which prudence, as we have intimated above, would probably have dictated.

And it is important that it should be clearly apprehended, that science is not like an article of merchandise—a thing that may be puffed, advertised, or in any other way *forced* into notice. Neither is it permitted to medical men, even if they could stoop to such practices, to imitate the obtrusive acts of successful tradesmen. Medical science is essentially a matter of experience—*quoad* the public. Let laymen find themselves more speedily and effectually cured by one mode of treatment than by any other, and they will adopt and recommend it. The medical man who aspires to a distinguished and honourable reputation, apart from the walks of literature—and these, be it remembered, were not at this time open to the practitioner, for there was as yet no British homœopathic public to address—must therefore put forth all his skill in curing the patients that wait upon him. In search of patients he cannot go. He is bound by a code of etiquette as uncompromising as the laws of the Medes and Persians; and he who should violate that code would bring odium on himself, and involve his cause in disgrace.

The question, then, assumes this form: Given a new method of medical treatment superior to any known, and the herald of this system practising in London amongst a class of Englishmen, almost all of whom, at a particular season of the year, quit

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London, adjourning either to the country or the Continent, and when abroad willingly avail themselves of the medical services of any English physician of eminence—how shall this herald most effectually make known his mission? To this question there can, as it appears to us, be but one answer, viz., to adjourn to the Continent himself. And such was the course which the position of Dr. Quin, as physician to Prince Leopold, actually necessitated; and thus was the very accident of position rendered tributary to the advancement of the cause of homœopathy in England.

Taking, however, a broader view of the subject, and regarding the whole human race as one vast family—the light in which that race must surely be regarded by the Father of us all—we can trace distinctly a great and altogether undebatable advantage accruing from the fortuitous circumstances of Dr. Quin's connection with the household of Prince Leopold.

In the course of the continental excursions he was, in consequence, compelled to make, Dr. Quin visited many parts of Europe where homœopathy was, if not unknown, as yet unestablished. In Paris, for instance, there was at this time no homœopathic practitioner. When Dr. Quin, therefore, reached the metropolis of France, besides being consulted by his own English patients who happened to be there, and such of his countrymen who preferred an English to a foreign physician, he appears to have had the honour of being called in to prescribe for, and thereby to make known homœopathy to, some of the most celebrated personages in France. Of these it will suffice to instance some members of the Royal Family and court of the unfortunate Charles X., and the already distinguished Duke (Louis Philippe) of Orleans, so soon to become King of the French, and subsequently an exile at Claremont—one of the official residences of his English physician.

Paris, however, was but one spot amongst many visited by Dr. Quin in the course of these travels, and where he became the means of either establishing or extending a knowledge of homœopathy. In Saxony, the birthplace of our great medical reform; in Austria, where its most decided extra-Prussian conquests had been won; and in Italy, where it had made for itself a home—in all these great European divisions there was many a town where homœopathy was unknown, or struggling for existence; and these, as opportunity served, he visited, promulgating the new doctrines and encouraging the adherents.

That Dr. Quin's continental success was considerable, no one has ever ventured to deny. And while we are disposed to concede to his admirers the possession, on his part, of talents, acquirements, and skill of no ordinary kind, embellished by a felicity of manner but rarely met with, we are not prepared to admit that to these is to be attributed, by any means, the totality of that success which marked his career, or of that influence which, as we shall hereafter have occasion to show, he acquired abroad.

Besides the immediate influence which accompanied (as we have already shown) Dr. Quin's rank as physician to Prince Leopold, there was another accident arising out of this position, which probably contributed not a little to the end we are now considering.

Of all the obstacles to the reception of new truths, the greatest, perhaps, is scepticism as to the sincerity of the advocate. Novelty of doctrine is regarded by most minds as an argument against its reception; and the circumstances of the advocate must be peculiar indeed, if he escape suspicion.

Now, when a physician attached to royalty is travelling abroad in company with his august patient, he is, of course, liable to be summoned at any moment to quit the place of his temporary sojourn. Under these circumstances, he cannot regard himself as a practitioner of the locality, and can only consent to undertake cases subject to the condition of a sudden removal. Thus released from the ordinary obligations of a practitioner, Dr. Quin could not, as we have ascertained on undoubted authority, be prevailed on to accept remuneration for his attendance.

However absurd and unjust it may be, there will always attach more or less of suspicion to the herald of a truth, provided personal interest be connected, albeit accidentally, with his mission. In the case under review this great *deterrer* was absent. The most suspicious of mortals might repose with confidence in the sincerity, at least, of the gratuitous adviser; the most malignant of opponents could not insinuate a motive of self-interest; while generosity of mind must have recognised in this unrequited labour, a love of science and a conviction of truth calculated to allay, in a great degree, the prejudice which novelty of doctrine is apt to excite, and to which homœopathy is peculiarly exposed, on account of its *apparently* disproportionate agency for combating disease.*

* This idea of *disproportion* is based on the prejudice that large doses of medicine are necessary to overcome disease. We call it a *prejudice*, because it appears to originate thus in the mind: large doses

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Without, then, denying great personal merit to the herald, and nothing doubting that the *éclat* of position aided his conquests to the cause of homœopathy, we are still of opinion that the circumstance of Dr. Quin's determination of practising without remuneration, whilst travelling with Prince Leopold abroad, contributed in no slight degree to the success with which his continental efforts were crowned.

In the list of these conquests to the doctrines of Hahnemann, we recognise many a name now sacred to history; of these we will record only H. S. H. the Duke of Mecklenburgh Schwerin, the Queen of Bavaria, the Duke of Leuchtenberg, Princes of the House of Saxony and Prussia, H. S. H. the Duchess of Sagan, sovereign of Courland, Prince and Princess Metternich, different members of the reigning House of Cobourg, the Duke and Duchess of Grammont, Prince Talleyrand, the Duchess of Dino, the Duke and Duchess of Guiche, and the unfortunate Duchess of Praslin, who fell by the hand of her wretched husband. This list might be greatly extended; we will add, however, but two more names, and worthy of all honour are their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Lucca, for, the former having been cured by Dr. Quin of an obstinate chronic disease which had utterly baffled the ordinary method of treatment, these illustrious individuals have bestowed on homœopathy their warmest support, and have ever since had each a homœopathic physician attached to their persons.

We have purposely anticipated somewhat the chronology of our subject, that we might dispose generally, and in a few words, of that which, while it can scarcely be said to come within the limits of this undertaking, could not be omitted without some prejudice to that service which was rendered by British enterprise and zeal to the cause of homœopathy abroad. Having thus briefly laid claim, on behalf of this country, to the merit in question, we will now proceed with our narrative from that point to which the reader had been conducted before we were tempted to diverge.

(*To be continued.*)

were universal before Hahnemann's (so-called) discoveries, and are still general where his system does not prevail; hence the mind, associating power with mass, concludes (and this is the *prejudice*) that large doses are essential to the cure of disease. It is obvious, however, that the whole case resolves itself into a question of experience from the mere fact, that, while allopaths give grain-doses of one remedy, they give ounce-doses of another. The dose, therefore, is regulated by the ascertained power of the agent employed, *i. e.*, by experience. Whether the infinitesimal dose, prepared after the homœopathic plan, and administered on the homœopathic law, be capable of producing the effect ascribed to it is therefore and must be solely a question of experience, and does not admit of being determined by any process of *à priori* argument. But when the mind concludes that infinitesimal doses *cannot* possess the power ascribed to them, it ignores experience, and is therefore the victim of prejudice.

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF DR. ROUTH'S "FALLACIES OF HOMŒOPATHY."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

Entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

VII.

The second part of Dr. Routh's work is entirely taken up with the discussion of the circumstances which may influence the results of treatment in given diseases, and hence influence, to a certain extent, our estimate of the value of particular methods of treatment. "If," says he, "it be shown that the homœopaths neglect these wholly or in part, so must their conclusions in support of the efficacy of their treatment be *disbelieved*."

His division of this part of his work is best given in his own words: "There are general causes which occasion a difference in mortality, which require consideration. These are—1st, the effects of difference of locality; 2ndly, the constitutional type of prevailing diseases; 3rdly, peculiar mental epidemics or idiosyncrasies, if I may so term them, which at different times, in the histories of nations or epochs of individual life, influence health and modify general mortality; 4thly, hygienic discipline."

This looks all fair and good, and I may say that if the discussion of the question at issue, namely, the relative value of the two rival systems of practice, were undertaken in a proper spirit, each of the above points, forming the heading of a chapter of the inquiry, much might be done towards the elucidation of truth. In this manner many objections, frequently brought forward against homœopathy by persons only superficially acquainted with it, would be for ever silenced, and, as an immediate result, the attention of all conscientious inquirers would be directed to the questions upon which the whole controversy rests; thus making a real advance towards a *bonâ fide* judgment of the merits of the rival systems. Unfortunately, our author's mind is so biassed by prejudice, that he can neither see the truth nor state it correctly when he does see it. This unfits him for the task he undertakes. However, as free discussion can only lead to good, we may follow him throughout his remarks, pausing here

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and there to consider his *facts* or *assertions of matter of fact*, whenever we meet with any. This has already been done in the preceding papers, for the obvious reason that a writer who brings forward statements on the authority of other persons, without quoting their words, or telling us the book or place where we may verify the authenticity of these statements, is much in the position of a witness before a court of law, the value of whose testimony in things which cannot be verified by the judge, is *tested* by a careful scrutiny of its accuracy in things which can be verified. We thus proceed in things scientific; from what is known or can be verified, to what is unknown and not within the reach of our means of verification; the writer, whose testimony in things which we can verify, is found to be trustworthy, is likewise trusted, and reasonably so, in all his other statements. Be it remembered that I am not alluding to matter of *opinion*, but to matter of *fact*.

Before entering into particulars, it is proper to remark that, although Dr. Routh has devoted a very considerable part of his work to these inquiries, he has failed to do *one thing*, which any plain matter-of-fact person would have thought a *sine quâ non* of the inquiries, namely, to show that this dissertation on the circumstances which may affect our appreciation of statistics *in general*, has anything to do with homœopathic statistics in *particular*. Failing to do this, his dissertation cannot be looked upon as a part of his inquiry. What was then the motive for introducing it, my reader will ask? The motive is obvious enough. I have already had occasion to allude to it, in my survey of the *fallacies* which vitiate the author's whole line of argument. By this means *a thing is proved*, which most readers will imagine bears in the most marked manner upon the question at issue. I say *most readers*, for this work is evidently designed for the *people*, not for the *profession*. Now, this thing proven does not bear upon the question at issue in the least. A scientific mind will see through this at once. But not so the mind unaccustomed to submit facts and reasoning to a careful and patient examination: such a mind *will be deceived*. Is it by such a process that the advance of homœopathy is to be checked?

To show how little these various points affect the question at issue, I request the reader to examine Dr. Routh's Appendix, in which the homœopathic and allopathic statistics are placed side by side.

If he take care to compare the results obtained in the two sets of cases in such a manner, that his terms of comparison will only comprise cases occurring *in the same place* and *at the same time*, he will at once silence the three first objections. As for the fourth — hygienic discipline, — it is almost too ridiculous to require comment. However, I may as well remark, that in Dr. Routh's Appendix, hospital results (Fleischmann's) are given of a date as far back as 1835. Now, Dr. Fleischmann was under the obligation of giving *monthly returns* to the Government Medical Inspector of Hospitals; is it to be supposed, that if Dr. Fleischmann's results, so far superior to the allopathic, were due to hygienic discipline, and that if this discipline were a thing so patent, the allopathic hospitals would not, years ago have adopted it?

We may now pass on to Dr. Routh's different headings, with the view of examining the *facts* adduced in proof of his propositions.

1. *Difference of Locality.* — The author says, that "mortality may be expressed generally by life-tables, not far different from one another, at least for Europe, etc. Yet due regard must sometimes be paid to special circumstances. It is thus a common source of fallacy among homœopaths to assert, that because in a certain country or city a certain favourable result has followed treatment which they have directed, therefore in all countries or cities similar results would follow their practice. Unfortunately, experience belies this assertion" (p. 18). What assertion? The reader would imagine that the assertion is, that *homœopathic results are, or would be, superior in all countries*. So far as we know, they *are* superior; and we may fairly infer, that as we have for the basis of our appreciation of the powers of homœopathy results obtained in almost every country in Europe, they would probably be superior in all other climes. But Dr. Routh's facts are brought forward not to disprove this assertion, but the inference that the facts observed in one country do not afford sufficient grounds for the belief that similar results would follow a similar practice in other countries. It is *this inference* which he says is *belied* by experience, not the *assertion* that homœopathic results are superior. His facts are directed against the inference, not against the assertion. This is a further example of that looseness of phraseology, which involves the question to be solved in inextricable confusion. It is a fault so frequent in this book, that it is deserving of the most marked censure.

In support of his statements, Dr. Routh appeals to his own observation of disease during *his visit* (we hear nothing here of

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the constitutional type of prevailing disease) to the Continent. In England, he had seen acute inflammatory fever as a frequent consequence of surgical operations, requiring "most energetic treatment, perhaps sanguineous depletion." But, says he, "a visit to the Parisian hospitals convinced me that a totally different order of things prevailed there. The inflammations after operations were usually suppurative and *aplastic;* adhesions by the first intention were of rare occurrence," whereas in England these inflammations "were usually *plastic* in kind." But, strange to say, whilst in the *surgical* wards of the hospitals in either country this difference prevailed, the state of things in the *medical* wards was exactly the reverse, for in England, in the medical cases, "this dynamic type was less certain;" whilst in Paris, "the inflammations were more dynamic, and bore depletion well.' This fact, if founded upon accurate observation, would be worthy of the investigation of scientific men. To persons of ordinary understanding, however, a fact of this kind is too anomalous to be admitted without extensive and careful observation; for it seems, in truth, an absurdity to declare that, in any given locality, men, whose customs, whose food, and whose constitutions are as nearly as possible similar, should be affected with a "*dynamic*" inflammation if in the fever wards of an hospital, but if in the surgical, with inflammation of a low kind; and that in another locality, they should be affected with a "dynamic" inflammation in the surgical, and with one of a low kind if in the fever wards.

There is, however, a very simple mode of solving the difficulty. Dr. Routh's inferences are drawn from the kind of treatment supposed to be requisite. In one case depletory measures are said to be required, or to be "well borne," but not in the other, although it is not said that they were ever tried in the latter. In proof of inflammatory disease being "more *dynamic* at Paris," he adduces "the success of M. Bouillaud's *jugulating* system" in pneumonia. But Dr. Routh forgets to state that the *superiority* of the *jugulating* system is contested by nearly all the leading allopathists in Paris! I will not, however, content myself with a bare assertion; I refer the reader to the chapter in which Grisolle treats of bleeding in pneumonia, and in which he shows that M. Bouillaud's results are in no way superior to those produced by more moderate bleeding (*De la Pneumonie*, pp. 581, et. seq.) I may also add, from my own knowledge (having officiated during two years as *élève externe* in Professor Foucquier's clinical wards, adjoining those of Professor Bouillaud), that in 1837-38, it was remarked by my fellow-pupils, that by M. Bouillaud's system the disease was not alone more frequently and more rapidly *jugulated* but the patient likewise, and that a larger proportion of deaths occurred in his wards from acute diseases in general, than in those of his colleague in the clinical professorship.

With reference to adhesions by first intention, after surgical operation, I do not look upon Dr. Routh's assertion, that they are "of rare occurrence," as correct.

He next gives us the results of his observations at Vienna; but if not more accurate than those made at Paris, they are certainly not deserving of much confidence.

He asserts, amongst other things, that at Vienna, "in the medical cases, the inflammations *were generally slight in kind*, and did not require depletion;" and yet in *his* Appendix, in which the statistics of the Vienna allopathic hospitals are given, we find that, with the exception of *peritonitis*, the proportion of deaths to recoveries is as great at Vienna as in the Scotch hospitals, the statistics of which are given in the same tables. In *fever* and in *dysentery* there is scarcely any difference worth noticing. What are we to think after this fact, of the author's accuracy? If I abstain from charging him with the intention to deceive his readers, I cannot acquit him of a degree of negligence in making his statements, which, in a matter of such importance as the question at issue, is most blameable.

Our author next introduces a subject which is made to play a very important part in the course of his work—namely, the *relative frequency* of Bright's disease of the kidney. He asserts that it is by far less frequent at Vienna than in other places. The fact asserted by him (which I have shown from his own tables not to hold good, except in the single case of peritonitis), that many cases terminated more favourably at Vienna than they would have done elsewhere, is thus explained: "I attribute much of this to a most important pathological fact, which I cannot too strongly insist upon, namely, the extreme rarity of *Bright's disease of the kidneys*. Of this I am satisfied, not only from clinical observations in the wards, but from positive examination of the dead. * * * * Speaking generally, I should say, from memory, it did not occur in five per cent. of the cases examined. The proportion is probably much larger" (p. 19). As the relative frequency of *Bright's disease* is

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made to play a very important part in Dr. Routh's attack upon homœopathic statistics, he ought, in all fairness, to have stated from the statistics of British hospitals, of which he has made so much use in his book, the exact proportion of cases in which that disease is met with after death.

In order to explain the superiority of the homœopathic results at Vienna in *pneumonia* and in *pleurisy*, Dr. Routh brings in *Bright's disease*, which is, he says, "very rare at Vienna, and very common here." He states its frequency at Vienna to be about five per cent., or one case in twenty. He does not state its frequency at home. I have no means of ascertaining the proportion of cases in which it occurs in London. But that is not necessary; for in all the homœopathic works which I have seen, with one exception,* the only institution in the United Kingdom with whose statistics of pleurisy and pneumonia the homœopathic results, under Fleischmann's treatment are compared, is the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh. I will therefore state the proportion of cases in a Report of the Infirmary, which I have before me. I will also endeavour to ascertain it from the Reports of the Glasgow Infirmary during four consecutive years.

Amongst a series of tables, admirably arranged by Dr. Peacock, we find, in his "*Appendix to the Reports regarding the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh*," p. 15, a statement, in a tabular form, of the cases of granular disease of the kidneys (*Bright's disease*) treated between 1st of October, 1841, and 1st of October, 1842. There were six deaths among the males, and four among the females; the total number of deaths for the year, from all causes, being 443. This gives only one death from *Bright's disease* to 44 from other causes. At Vienna the proportion is stated to be 1 to 20.

In the years 1846-47-48-49, at the Glasgow Infirmary, there were 38 deaths from *renal dropsy* and from *diseased kidney*, to 2,518 deaths from other causes,—that is, 1 to 66; the proportion at Vienna being 1 to 20. I have not been able to find in the Glasgow Reports—recommended for their completeness by Dr. Routh—any other deaths that could be ascribed to *Bright's disease;* but, in order not to leave the shadow of a doubt in favour of the objection, I will add the cases classed under the headings of *anasarca*, *ascites*, and *general dropsy*, the only ones that might possibly be ascribed to *Bright's disease*. These amount, in the course of the above four years, to 41, which, added to the cases of *renal dropsy* and *kidney disease*, give an aggregate of 79 cases, being in the proportion to the total of deaths from all causes as 1 is to 31; the proportion at Vienna being 1 to 20. But I must here declare, that these deaths from *general dropsy* cannot fairly be classed with the cases of death from *Bright's disease*, because the patients having died in the Infirmary, the post-mortem examination would have revealed the granular disease of the kidney, *if it had existed;* therefore these deaths can scarcely be ascribed to *Bright's disease of the kidney*.

II. "*The constitutional type of disease* may vary in the same country or locality, at intervals of years, months, and even days." This is perfectly true, if understood within reasonable limits; but if we ascribe, with Dr. Routh, to this cause alone the great revolutions in allopathic practice which have from time to time occurred, we expose ourselves to the risk of falling into grievous errors.

To the change in type of a given disease, he thinks "the high praise formerly bestowed on many medicines, now recognised to be almost inert, may have been due in part;" but I might appropriately add, that it was *chiefly due to imperfect observation*. The only apparent object of this section is to state, that epidemics often decline in severity as each week passes on, and that "whoever had treated the last cases would be considered the best doctor, and the homœopaths, if so circumstanced, might boast of having cured the largest per centage of cases—*a trick, I fear, more than once resorted to*" (p. 21). Why does he not give a single instance of such a trick?

He mentions as an instance of the changeable characters of epidemics, that in puerperal fever, "on one occasion, after the most fearful mortality, *Ipecacuanha* was *accidentally* found to act as a specific; and yet two years afterwards, on the recurrence of a similar epidemic, it entirely failed to do any good." This case, and Sydenham's confession of his difficulties in the treatment of every new epidemic, show that the *accumulated experience of ages*, of which the allopathic school so often boasts, is, in epidemic disease, a very fallacious guide. "In every new epidemic," says Sydenham, "it is as much as (nay, it is more than) I can do to avoid risking the lives of one or two of the first who apply

* In Dr. Marsden's "Notes on Homœopathy," p. 35, a series of cases published by Dr. A. Todd Thomson, is introduced as a term of comparison with Fleischmann's tables. This series comprises thirty-eight cases, of which eleven terminated in death.

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to me as patients" (*Epidemic Diseases*, chap. ii.) It is one of the great advantages of homœopathic treatment, that it may be carried on successfully without risking one or two lives at the beginning of every epidemic. The *Ipecacuanha*, discovered by *accident*, was in reality discovered to be good, in the same way as all remedies are discovered in allopathy, namely, *ab usu in morbis*.

Dr. Routh gives, as his chief illustration of the change of type of disease, the practice of Dr. Clutterbuck in fever, so different from the present mode of treatment of that disease.

"Thus, twenty years ago, Dr. Clutterbuck brought in free venesection in cases of continued fever, and *the plan was eminently successful*." Whereas, "during the whole of last year, in the Fever Hospital (London) no blood-letting, not even by topical abstraction, was called for" (p. 20). Dr. Routh's statement respecting Dr. Clutterbuck's success is not correct. His inference, that venesection could be better borne twenty years ago than at present, is therefore without foundation. Dr. Clutterbuck had a theory of fever, and was apparently blinded by it, in his appreciation of the results of his treatment. Dr. Graves evidently alludes to it, when he says of bleeding, and more particularly of arteriotomy in fever: "Nothing was more common than to see a physician ordering the temporal artery to be opened on the eighth, ninth, or even tenth day. This was very much the practice during the time when the doctrine of typhus being the result of inflammation of the brain prevailed in this country (Ireland) and England, and *a very unsuccessful practice it was*" (*Clinical Lectures*, 2nd edit., vol. i. p. 147).

I quote the following from Dr. R. Williams's *Elements of Medicine*, p. 79. "The evidence in favour of the practice of bleeding is not of the same amount, neither is it of the same value. Dr. Clutterbuck is among the first who attempted to revive the practice of bleeding in fever. He considers the disease to be essentially inflammation of the brain, and bleeding to be the rule of treatment. The quantity of blood to be drawn to be in the inverse ratio of the duration of the disease. In support of this *methodus medendi*, Dr. Clutterbuck gives fourteen cases treated by severe depletion, and in some cases exceeding sixty ounces of blood, but of these cases three died, and in one the disease ran on: a mortality certainly evidencing no remarkable success. *But much difficulty exists as to the admission of the cases;* for in all, he bled early in the disease, and in one instance, within six hours after the attack, a period of time too short to allow the most discriminating physician to determine between fever and those many ephemeral febriculæ which simulate the first symptoms of typhus."

(*To be continued.*)

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, MAY 1ST, 1852.

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

It affords us, amid the storms that rage, no small gratification to perceive that our energetic and ably-conducted popular contemporary, the *American Journal of Homœopathy*, speaks of the *Homœopathic Times* as follows:—"This is a most valuable journal for homœopaths in the U. S., enabling them to keep themselves 'posted up' to every thing that is going on in Europe in homœopathy."

We only wish the same honest and kindred feeling of brotherhood actuated our domestic colleagues: if it were so, the truth of the adage would be falsified—"Benefactors are seldom appreciated in the country of their birth."

The highest compliment which we find paid to our labours is in the reprint of many of our articles, for which we entertain no sort of jealousy, but have the most anxious wish to reciprocate civilities; and as a by no means inappropriate introduction with the motto of our cotemporary—"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."—We proceed with much pleasure to transcribe into our pages an article which so entirely breathes our sentiments, that to alter in the least would damage; therefore we make no further apology.

"THE ALLOPATHIC SCHOOL.

"If we were to yield to our feelings, we should never pen another article against our opponents. But our judgment dictates to us that it is our duty, with the means at hand, to continue to exhibit to the public the evil of a

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system of medicine which is destroying the health of our citizens, and filling thousands of graves prematurely. We cannot find it in our heart to wound the feelings, without a good and sufficient reason, of any one of our professional brethren who are opposed to us in doctrine and practice. But truth demands, the public good demands, that we should inflict the wound, however severe the pain.

"As a starting-point to the subject of this article, let the reader distinctly understand that there can be but two modes of administering medicine to the sick, viz., allopathic and homœopathic. The former admits of an infinite variety, without a singly clearly-defined principle; while the latter cannot be practised except by chance, unless its principles are clearly perceived and strictly followed. The one is exact and approximates certainty; and the other is loose, indefinite, and uncertain. These are now established facts which at this period cause the most unheard-of writhings throughout the entire allopathic school.

"We can scarcely believe what we hear and see—the phenomena to which we refer are unparalleled in the history of the world. For twenty-four hundred years a mode of medical treatment of the sick has been pursued without any essential change, and for thirteen hundred years of that time the doctrines and practice of one man controlled every acknowledged practitioner, no one of these daring to gainsay or express a doubt of the truth of the commonly-received doctrines; and not only so, but the image of allopathy, notwithstanding her ugliness, was seemingly indelibly stamped upon the minds of the people in every part of the civilized world; and her system advocated with a zeal and honesty worthy of all praise, by the most talented and learned men the world ever knew; yet with all this fortress-like protection, which could only be disturbed by the power of Omnipotence itself, fifty years ago, the sufferings of a sick world became so extreme by the very means employed to relieve it, that the cries of the distressed reached the throne of God. He, in his usual way of government in the management of human affairs, selected and qualified one man as the medium of conveying a safe and more certain mode of relieving human maladies than had hitherto been known. The system of healing revealed through Hahnemann was so directly and completely opposed to that which prevailed, that his theory alone accomplished but little; but when one and another, afflicted with what was thought, and declared by old-school physicians, to be incurable maladies, tried the new system of treatment, and found rapid and permanent relief, the people began to proclaim their happy experience of homœopathy, and the number increased from year to year, every one bearing the same testimony. The influence thus combined became a sort of battering-ram to the old walls.

"Allopathy has been building for ages structures which were deemed so thick and strong, that they were thought quite impregnable. But truth, that mighty antagonist of error, has accomplished wonders in the last fifty years in exposing the false theories of allopathy, as well as demonstrating the dangerous tendency of her practice.

"So powerful has been the influence of homœopathy on the profession, as well as on the people, that the allopathic school itself is in a state of amazement. It is deeply mortified to find the rapid inroads which homœopathy is making, the effect of which is, that the practitioners of allopathy have been compelled to modify their practice by almost renouncing the lancet, leeches, and cupping; by diminishing the quantity of medicine, and an acknowledgment that salivation by mercury is not necessary. True, there are those who still adhere to the 'heroic' practice, but they are comparatively few, and generally esteemed the most ignorant of that school. Things have changed in another respect, since the promulgation of homœopathy. The time was that a physician was hardly acknowledged until he was at least forty years old, but now the juniors, who are not wedded to old and doubtful measures, secure the confidence of the people by yielding gradually to the convictions of their own minds, induced by the prevalence of homœopathy; and although their practice is yet uncertain and unsafe, still it is not so pernicious as the old 'heroic' practice by the lancet, emetics, cathartics, etc.

Another change has been going on for the last few years, which begins to be manifest, and causes much anxiety among the professors of our colleges. That to which we refer, is the spirit of toleration which prevails among students of medicine. A very large proportion of the graduates of our medical institutions will not allow themselves to be unduly [prejudiced against homœopathy, but resolve to investigate, secretly or openly, the claims of the new system of medicine. In one college, of over 400 students, an unjust attack upon homœopathy and homœopathists would not be endured; a single attempt was promptly put down by a decided expression of disapprobation on the part of the students.

"In a word, the old allopathic practice has already received a blow, from which it can never recover; and the advice of Dr. Forbes begins to produce effect everywhere, and the restorative powers of nature are applauded to the skies, and thereby allopaths pretend to account for and acknowledge at the same time the success of homœopathic practice.

"Allopathy is beyond doubt doomed to annihilation, and the time of her execution depends upon the strictness of homœopathic practitioners in adherence to the law *similia similibus curantur*."

LONDON HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

The third anniversary festival of this Institution took place at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate street, on Wednesday evening, the 21st instant, and was numerously attended. The Earl of Albemarle presided on the occasion, and was supported by the Marquis of Douro; Culling C. Smith, Esq.; Dr. Quin; M. B. Sampson, Esq.; T. Uwins, Esq., R.A.; J. P. Knight,

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Esq., R.A.; Rev. J. Gosset; Dr. Trueman; Ambrose Moore, Esq.; Rev. J. Burnett; E. Esdaile, Esq.; N. Barton, Esq.; Dr. Hamilton; H. Bateman, Esq.; Captain King; Captain Branford, R.N., and upwards of 100 medical and lay-supporters of the Hospital. The galleries were graced by a large number of ladies, whose presence added very much to the brilliant appearance of the festival.

The CHAIRMAN introduced the toast of "The Queen," by proposing her to those around him as the model of a chief magistrate, and to those above them (the ladies in the galleries) as the model of every domestic virtue. (Loud cheers.) The toast was enthusiastically received.

The "Health of Prince Albert and the Prince of Wales" was then duly honoured.

The next toast was—"The Duchess of Cambridge, the patroness of the Institution." (Loud applause.)

Mr. PAYNE proposed the toast of "The Duke of Wellington and the Army," and having alluded to the progress of homœopathy, accompanied it with a desire that the new medical science of which they were the ardent supporters, might be the means of further prolonging so valuable a life. (Loud cheers.)

The Marquis of DOURO responded. He most gladly re-echoed the prayer that the life of the noble duke might be prolonged for many a year. (Cheers.) He was happy to say that the noble duke still enjoyed not only the advantages which should accompany old age, but that there was nothing to interfere with his health and usefulness. (Renewed cheers.) This could not fail to be satisfactory, not only to the company present, but to the whole nation. He (the Marquis of Douro) was not one of those who apprehended that the enemy was at the gate; but to those who entertained that apprehension it must be satisfactory to know that the duke was "within it." (Loud and long-continued cheers.) The noble marquis concluded by proposing the toast of "The Navy," as a branch of the public service which he was sure could and would do whatever could be expected from it, and that was—everything. (Cheers.)

Captain BRANFORD, R.N., returned thanks, and was much applauded.

Mr. YELDHAM was called upon by the noble chairman to propose the next toast, "The immortal memory of Samuel Hahnemann, the founder of Homœopathy." In doing so, Mr. Yeldham said that that great man (Hahnemann) had, by the happy instinct of his genius, been able to discover the true principle of medical science, and had by this discovery dispelled the cloud which had enveloped medicine for three thousand years. (Cheers.) There was something ennobling in the contact with truth. No man could receive and act upon a great truth without being raised in moral and mental worth by it. In the case of Hahnemann his whole life was an argument in proof of the correctness of his principles. Pure and simple in his wants; active, enterprising, and earnest in the development of the great principle which he so happily discovered, he was an illustrious example whom every homœopathist should endeavour to imitate. (Loud cheers.) Entertaining these views, he might perhaps be asked why he had refused to subscribe to the monument in memory of this great man which had recently been erected in Germany. His answer was simply this:—While he was much gratified to find that the Germans were doing honour to the fame of their illustrious countryman in his own country, he felt that the genius of Hahnemann must, at no long period, be known and honoured in every part of the civilized world; and wherever it was so known, monuments of the most enduring and useful kind—monuments of brick-and-mortar Hospitals for the reception of the sick poor—would eventually be raised; and as this had been done in England, he gave all his influence to the attempt which they had that evening met to celebrate—the successful attempt to establish the "London Homœopathic Hospital." (Loud cheers.) This was the reason why he had not taken any active part in promoting the erection of the monument in Germany, and he trusted his explanation would prove satisfactory. (Cheers.) After pressing upon the attention of the company the necessity of homœopathists bearing contentedly the opposition they must meet with—as every new truth had hitherto been so met, Mr. Yeldham concluded by proposing "The immortal memory of Hahnemann," which was drunk in solemn silence.

The Earl of ALBEMARLE then said the toast he had to propose was a natural corollary to that which had preceded it. It was "Success to the London Homœopathic Hospital." The pleasing task he had before him was to recommend it to their notice. All around him were doubtless aware that in dramatic entertainments there was generally a middle-aged gentleman who took the "heavy business." (Laughter.) On this occasion their manager (Dr. Quin) had very judiciously "cast" his parts. They had heard eloquence from Mr. Yeldham, and he (Lord Albemarle) would have to trouble them with the "heavy business," but he hoped he should be enabled to make up for his deficiency in eloquence by business-like proceedings. (Cheers.) It was nearly half a century since an English Hahnemann endeavoured to introduce the science, and, like the pioneers of all great changes in long-established customs and usages, he was met by many obstacles, and that, to medical men, most fatal of stigmas, "charlatanery." It was to be remembered, however, that Galileo, when he first made known his so-called heresies relative to the motion of the earth, met with a harder fate even than that, but yet posterity has done justice to that great man. (Hear, hear.) If he (the Earl of Albemarle) knew anything about the English character, it was that they liked a bold stand-up fight and no favour. (Hear.) He would not say that he would never enter upon a course of treatment under the allopathic system, but as the new system had been so eminently successful in instances where allopathy had failed, he thought that it should have fair play; and it was in that spirit that he had come there that evening. (Cheers.) Proceeding to business matters, it was necessary to inform their friends that the

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London Homœopathic Hospital was established in the month of October, in the year 1849, but was not opened for the reception of patients until April, 1850, on the anniversary of the birthday of Hahnemann. It thus appeared that the Institution was scarcely two years old, but he must say that it was a very thriving child, considering the hard treatment to which it had been subjected by its professional opponents during its nursing—(laughter)—and he thought that if it went on thriving as during the past two years, it would prove a credit to its (glancing slily at Dr. Quin) "papa." (Cheers and laughter.) It appeared from the statistics of the Hospital, that the number of patients during the first year was 156, of whom 97 were discharged cured, and 6 died, the remainder having been either relieved, dismissed, or under treatment; and during the year ending on the 31st March, 1852, the in-patients numbered 213, the number cured 128, and deceased 7. The total number of patients received during the year ending 31st March, 1851, was 1,703, and during the year ending on 31st March, 1852, 3,221, making altogether 4,924 persons under homœopathic treatment. From the statement of the accounts, it appeared that whilst the number of patients had largely augmented, the charges had, oddly enough, become homœopathic—(laughter)—indeed, one of the wonders of the infinitesimal system. The expenditure of the two years had very closely approximated; but it was to be remembered that nearly double the number of persons had been relieved during the latter year, and the charge per head was 8*s*. 9¼*d*. (Hear, hear.) He must, in speaking and pleading for success, remember that they all liked economy in the abstract, to whatever political party they might belong. There was one point—the apothecary's bill—that even the allopaths would understand—(hear and laughter)—and that also particularly deserved the attention of the supporters of the Institution. He recollected that in his youth the draughts black, red, and yellow were not only very nasty but also very expensive. What did they think of 5,000 patients and an apothecary's bill of 23*l*. for two years? (Laughter, and prolonged cheering.) He believed that if all medical establishments were conducted as theirs had been, there would not be a living for one-twentieth of the present number of those gentlemen—no, not even one; and he would probably be thinner than the starved practitioner described in *Romeo and Juliet*. (Laughter.) The number of patients cured in the Hospital in the first year being 97, and during the second year 682, he had reason to say that the child was an infant Hercules to have increased so much in that brief period. (Cheers.) The bulk of the cases were chronic—in fact, the Rejected Addresses of other Hospitals, and not very likely patients for empirics to found a reputation on. (Hear, hear.) The noble earl, in continuation, stated that the reports of the Registrar-General proved that the annual depopulation of the United Kingdom arising from preventible causes amounted to the population of a whole country, and adverted to the power of homœopathy to mitigate the fearful waste of human life. With respect to the comparative success of the homœopathic and allopathic modes of treatment, he stated that the tables of various Continental and English Hospitals showed in cases of acute disease, that the proportion of patients dying under homœopathic treatment was in one case 3½ per cent. against 28 per cent. under the old system. In another 9 per cent. against 22½, and in one description of disease—of the chest and lungs—of 331 patients admitted, 229 were cured and 102 died under the allopathic system; and under homœopathy, out of 278 patients afflicted with the same disease, 251 had been cured and only 27 died. (Cheers.) In conclusion, the noble earl said he feared his zeal in the cause had outstepped his discretion, but as he was desirous of performing well the "heavy business" his manager had allotted him, he trusted his audience would excuse him. He then proposed, with pleasurable feelings "The Success of the London Homœopathic Hospital." (Much cheering.)

The toast having been drank with much enthusiasm,

Mr. BARTON shortly proposed "The healths of his Grace the Duke of Beaufort and the Marquis of Anglesey, the vice-presidents of the Institution."

The toast having been cordially responded to,

Dr. QUIN rose for the purpose of proposing the health of the noble chairman. (Cheers.) He felt certain that the company would agree with him as to the admirable manner in which the noble earl had gone through the intricate proceedings of the evening. The "heavy business" had never been more lightly or elegantly done on any boards. (Cheers and laughter.) The Institution was, however, more deeply indebted to the noble earl than his hearers were perhaps aware, for he had arrived the previous evening from Paris with the express object of presiding at their festival, but at the same time totally unaware of the arduous duties he had to perform. It was, however, an example of the readiness with which the nobles of the land were willing to lend their aid for the benefit of their more humble fellow-creatures. All parties could meet, and all party feeling and distinctions be banished, on the neutral grounds of charity. (Applause.) On the occasion of their first festival they had had the happiness of having a distinguished disciple of the late Sir Robert Peel; last year an ardent admirer of the noble lord the present Premier; and the presidential chair was now occupied by a firm and effective supporter of Lord John Russell. (Cheers.) It would ill become them not to express their sense of the manner in which the nobility came forward on occasions of that sort. (Hear, hear.) It, however, was necessary for him to advert to some points connected with their Institution. It was known that a charge had been made against them that the council was composed of a medical clique, and another Institution had claimed peculiar support from the public on the ground that its affairs would be administered by a lay council. He disclaimed the imputation that their affairs were not *de facto* under lay management, the medical officers on the council

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studiously abstaining from interference unless their opinions and interpositi n were asked (hear, hear); and he would say further that he attributed their present proud position to the fact that their affairs were under lay-management. (Cheers.) As to the charge of the medical officers being a clique, he could assure them that the contrary was the fact, they having English, Irish, Scotch, German, and Polish physicians in connection with the Hospital. The only qualification required by the council was that they should have received a thorough medical education and training. Dr. Quin then stated that the daughter of Hahnemann occupied a seat in the gallery; and that his grandson, Dr. Lüsse, was one of the medical officers of their Institution. (Cheers) He then proposed the toast—"Health and prosperity to the noble earl in the chair"—and concluded an effective speech by an enumeration of the military services of his lordship, and also his valuable contributions to literature, both geographical and historical, and said that it was not a little honour to them that the noble earl should preside on that occasion. (Cheers.)

The Earl of ALBEMARLE, in returning thanks, said, that his modesty had been put to severe proof by his kind friend, who had been an allopath in praise, whatever might be his profession. His noble friend (the Marquis of Douro) had spoken of military subordination, and subordination had placed him in that chair; for as a grateful patient of Dr. Quin's, who pressed him, when suffering from a severe attack of neuralgia, to take the chair, he felt that as he had afforded him so much relief he had a right to command, and consequently he had accepted the honour. (Cheers.) The gracious and kind and indulgent manner in which he had been received had left him no cause for regret at having done so. (Loud cheers.)

CULLING C. SMITH, Esq., then proposed the "Health of the Princess Mary of Cambridge," through whose influence, in conjunction with a committee of ladies organized for the purpose, their Institution had been much benefited—a penny subscription having ripened into the golden harvest of upwards of £146.

On the health of the Medical Officers and the Members of the British Homœopathic Society being given,

The Rev. J. H. GOSSETT said,—Rejoicing as I do over the progress of homœopathy, I come here to add to my joy in that particular. The details of the success of homœopathy in the metropolis particularly interest me. I had no idea that I should have been called on to address you this evening. I have to propose the health of the Medical Officers of your Institution, and of the Members of the British Homœopathic society. I have some claims on this undertaking, as you will acknowledge, when I tell you I have medical blood in my veins; and that I am the grandson of a physician, who deserved well of his country, and of mankind. He was also an antiquary—an F.R.S.A. In one particular I differ from him—I am irreverent towards the stocks and stones of old allopathy. But from him I inherit a love for medical science, and though I belong to a profession yet more important than that of medicine, I hope, please God, to dedicate some of my sons to the medical science; and I trust they will follow in the wake of the great Sage of Saxony. In proposing this toast, I look on these gentlemen and the society from which they are to be recruited as specimens of that small though valuable body, which has been brought out from the midst of the medical profession of this country. I look on them as the gold-diggers in Australia and California regard the grains of gold they have washed out, painfully, from the auriferous earth. I regard the homœopathic medical body as the fine gold extracted from the allopathic mass of heterogeneous matter. At much self-sacrifice have the individuals of this meritorious body left their old position; and after much toil have they taken their present stand, and worthy are they of our esteem and regard. But I am one of many, who feel the want of homœopathic medical practitioners in the provinces. I have been nine years an earnest disciple of homœopathy, but only within the last three months have I had a homœopathic practitioner within a comfortable distance of my house. For some years I had none nearer than forty miles. I know of no means so likely to provide us provincials with homœopathic medical advisers as the establishment of hospitals, for the treatment of disease on the homœopathic principle. Every gentleman who works in such hospitals, is working for the benefit of the homœopathic public in the provinces. This work they do from a love of the Cause, for I do not suspect it profits them materially in their private practice. Let me suggest to you one topic of consolation: if you have not cured many, you have not *killed* any patients. You are not to be numbered among the skilled destroyers of your kind. You could not say as much if you were the medical officers of an allopathic Institution. I will give you the opinion of one of their own body, whom I met in the shop of Mr. Headland a few days since. He was a doctor of the old school, but had himself derived benefit from homœopathy; but being no longer young, and having a sufficiency, he did not care to qualify himself to practise it. Speaking of some of the doctors of the old school, he observed they were regular "Joe Mantons, sure to kill." I give then, *ex animo*, the health of the "Medical Officers of your Institution and of the Members of the British Homœopathic Society."

Several other toasts followed, which were duly responded to, and the company separated at an advanced hour. The subscriptions during the evening were announced by Mr. R. Buchan, the honorary secretary, to have reached £712 6*s*. 2*d*.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Mr. G. Buckland, assisted by Messrs. Benson and Francis.

MANCHESTER HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.

(*From the Manchester Guardian.*)

THE annual meeting of the Manchester Homœo-

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pathic Hospital and Dispensary, Bloom Street, was held on Wednesday morning, in the large room of the Town Hall, there being a numerous and very respectable audience, including a large number of ladies.—R. Barnes, Esq., mayor, presided; and among the gentlemen upon or near the platform were the Revs. Canon Slade, Vicar of Bolton; R. Durnford, Rector of Middleton; Wm. Burchell, Rochdale; R. Frost, Richard Fletcher, J. Kendall, R. Jones, E. Morris, and H. H. Jones, F.R.A.S., of the Rusholme road Cemetery. Drs. Walker, Hon. Sec. of the Institution, Norton, H. Johnson, Tuckey, M'Dowall, and Pope; Alderman Sir John Potter; Messrs. Salis Schwabe, James Thompson, Joshua Knowles, Joseph Heron, Town-clerk; Wm. Hoyland, Nicholas Heald, E. C. Holland, Joseph Adshead, H. P. Rée, Edward Phillips, Wm. Armitage, Edwin Waters, Henry Dixon, Wm. Heron, H. Waterhouse, G. Wildes, E. Grundy, C. H. Rickards, G. Bradshaw, H. Pope, jun., Ivie Mackie, C. Dufield, etc. The Chairman said he presided on that occasion not because he had been personally benefited by the science of homœopathy, or because he was fully acquainted with its details and working, but because he felt it to be his duty, in his public capacity, to occupy the chair, inasmuch as he believed the object of the Institution was to promote the public good, by ameliorating, in the most pleasing and agreeable manner, the "ills which flesh is heir to." There wera now many adherents to homœopathy in Prussia, Belgium, France, the United States, and this country; it was now become, in a great degree, a recognised agent, and the footing it had gained here and elsewhere entitled it to their consideration and support. When he remembered the rapid strides which had been made of late years in chemistry, astronomy, geology, and other sciences, he did not understand why the science of medicine should be an exception; and he thought that everything which, like homœopathy, claimed to be an advance should be properly received and fully investigated. (Hear.)—The Secretary read letters of apology for their absence, from the Earl of Wilton, President and Patron of the Institution; Professor Scott, Principal of Owen's College; Revs. A. A. Bagshaw, E. Walker, R. Litler, and W. Thornton (of Stockport); and from Mr. E. Benson. Professor Scott said, "I regret that I shall not have the opportunity of declaring my unshaken conviction that homœopathy is true, and, in accordance with the resolution you put into my hands, that it is particularly the cause of the poor." The Secretary next read the following Report for the last year.

"In presenting the Second Annuai Report of this Institution, the committee have to meet their friends and subscribers under circumstances which are very encouraging. The Dispensary has been in operation ten years, and this is the fifth year in which it has been conducted in part on the self-supporting principle; those patients who can afford it being required to pay 1s. each per month. The present attendance of patients averages 100 per day, or about 30,000 per annum; and of this number 3,294 have been new cases, although there have been two or three other homœopathic dispensaries opened in the neighbourhood during the past year, all of which are well attended. 4,580 monthly payments have been made, yielding £229 to the funds of the Institution.

"HOSPITAL.—This is the second year since the Hospital was opened, and in this department of the Institution the committee have been equally encouraged as regards the success of the treatment. The number of cases received into the Hospital for the year is 166; fewer than the committee at first expected to be able to admit, as they contemplated receiving some gratuitously, and others as low as 2s. 6d. each per week. The very heavy expenses in necessary alterations, and furnishing the Hospital, have, however, kept the funds in so limited a state that the committee have not felt warranted in adopting a lower rate than 5s. each per week. This operates very unfavourably as regards the extent of the usefulness of the Hospital, many of the working-classes being unable to pay that sum. A few patients were, indeed, admitted at 2s. 6d. each per week, at first, but the committee were soon compelled to increase the charge. The attention of the subscribers and friends is particularly directed to the tabular medical report and the analysis of cases appended to the Report. It is proposed to publish a review of the nature of each case admitted into the Hospital since the 10th of April of last year up to the same date of the present, drawn up by the resident medical officer of the Institution, Dr. Pope. The conclusions which have been arrived at by that gentleman, from the experience of the past year in our Hospital are as follows:—First. That every acute case, admitted as such, has recovered, and that in a shorter time and with far greater ease than usually happens in similar cases, under allopathic treatment. Secondly. That many have recovered who had previously sought assistance at other institutions without relief. Thirdly. That a large number of cases of chronic disease, where complete recovery was (on account of organic lesions) impossible, have been greatly improved, and their lives thereby rendered much more comfortable to themselves, and in all human probability lengthened. Fourthly. That all the cases which have been discharged, as being either incurable or unaltered, were with one exception, in a condition, on admission, which placed at defiance all means of relief. Fifthly. That in those which have died and been inspected after death, disease was found to exist to such an extent as to render prolongation of life perfectly impossible; and in those, too, where a post-mortem examination could not be obtained, the symptoms during life were of such a nature as to compel a similar conclusion. Sixthly. That the experience of the past year in this Hospital, where no case holding out a prospect, however distant, of affording even temporary relief, has been refused admission, proves that the principle of homœopathy is a guide whereby diseases may be cured both speedily and effectually. The committee are deeply sen-

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sible of their obligations to the honorary medical officers, for the very efficient services rendered during the year, oftentimes at great inconvenience to themselves; and hope to be favoured with a continuance of their valuable assistance. The cash account shows a balance of £270 11s. 1d. due to the treasurer, which the committee sincerely trust their friends will not only enable them to repay at an early date, but also vigorously to carry on the benevolent objects proposed by the Institution."

The cash account contained the following items:—Subscriptions and donations, £396 16s. 4d.; received from dispensary patients, £229 7s., at 1s. each per month; hospital patients, £196 13s. 6d., at 5s. per week. Owing to the bank, £208 6s. 11d.; to the treasurer, £64 4s. 11d: making a total of £270 11s. 3d. Owing to the bankers at the beginning of the year, £197 0s. 3d.; paid for medicines, £77 17s.; provisions, £324 8s. 4d.; wages and salaries, £225 7s. The expenditure for the year had been £1,093 8s. 1d.—The Rev. R. Durnford moved "That the Report now read be adopted and printed." He was glad to hear from the mayor that he considered the Homœopathic Hospital a necessity; for himself, he (Mr. Durnford) thought there was plenty of room for both systems; and he thought it was not without reason that the founders of the Homœopathic Institution had exerted themselves to meet the prevailing necessities of the enormous population by which we were surrounded. The resolution he had moved did no more than call upon those present to say that the Hospital was a necessity in Manchester, and to pledge them to support it to the best of their ability. The necessity was shown by the people who had swarmed to the Hospital; the sacrifices which those people had made to avail themselves of the peculiar system of treatment; and the immense success which had attended that treatment. He hoped their opponents would soon become content to allow them to do good in their own way, as they were entirely content to allow their opponents to do. He had been a subscriber to the Royal Infirmary ever since he came to Manchester; but from the very moment when, thirty years ago, he turned his attention to medical subjects, he was convinced that there was another and a truer system, and he was glad to find now that that truer system was established, side by side with the prevalent one, in Manchester. He saw, from the papers, recently that it was determined to merge the House of Recovery with the Royal Infirmary. He did not pretend to give an opinion as to the propriety of that course; but he observed that at the meeting a very decided opinion was expressed that further hospital accommodation was needed, and he saw in this a strong argument in favour of the general support and enlargement of the Homœopathic Hospital. It was a mistake to suppose that homœopathists read none but the books of Hahnemann. Their medical men paid willing homage to the mighty luminaries of former ages, Hippocrates, Galen, and others. All they said was, that in aftertimes there arose a master mind, who gave the key to all accumulated facts, which enabled them to harmonize the various theories, and afford a principle on which medicine could rest. The homœopathic medical men had endured the coldness of friends, the hatred of enemies, and even persecution itself; they had sacrificed their name, and, in the opinion of many, their character, to uphold what they conscientiously believed to be the truth; and in doing so they had conferred untold benefit on millions of their countrymen, not only in connection with medicine, but in bearing thus clear testimony to the power of conscience and truth, beyond all human considerations. The only way in which those services could be properly repaid was for their friends to step forward and clear the Hospital of the incumbrance which now beset it.—Mr. Salis Schwabe seconded the motion. He hesitated, at first, when, two or three years ago, he was requested to accept the treasurership of the Homœopathic Institution, because he had long been connected with and felt a deep interest in the Royal Infirmary; but he hesitated no longer, when he reflected that the Homœopathic Hospital must be an advantage to the Infirmary and the dispensaries of the town, at least to the extent to which it provided for out and in-patients. He had seen vast good to the Report fully proved that the Hospital deserved result from homœopathy; and he thought that public support. He highly approved of the principle by which the Institution was made partly self-supporting; and he believed that the same principle might to some extent be applied to the Infirmary, many of the patients in which would, he was sure, if they had the opportunity, rather pay something for what they received, than receive that assistance gratuitously. He was not inclined to be favourable to the adoption of homœopathy, to the entire exclusion of allopathy, or the reverse. He thought the professors of one ought to avail themselves, in cases where they thought it suitable, of the practice of the other; and he thought that as there was a Homœopathic Hospital in Manchester, the general body of medical practitioners ought to make themselves acquainted with the science. If homœopathy was founded on a delusion, that delusion should be exposed; if the cures said to have been performed by it were the effect of imagination, let it be so proved: but, for himself, he could not believe that imagination had ever brought about the cures which he knew to have been effected in the Homœopathic Hospital. On this point there was also the answer afforded by the undeniable effect of homœopathic medicines on infants. He thought a little more charity and less of vituperation and ill-will on each side could not fail to result in great good to the public.—The resolution was unanimously agreed to. The Rev. Canon Slade moved the second resolution. He said that he rose from a plain sense of duty, in the first place, to a charitable institution, which he was sure was calculated to confer immeasurable good upon this city, and in whose welfare he took a deep and warm interest; and in the second place, to acknowledge the benefits bestowed by homœopathy on himself, on his friends, and on many of his poorer

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neighbours,—and thus to record his own opinion and judgment, such as they might be, in favour of the system. He was not deterred from this course by what he knew to have been asserted, that none adopted homœopathy but knaves and fools. He preferred homœopathy, because, as compared with allopathy, its cures were more frequent, more speedy, and more lasting; and also becaure they left none of those injurious consequences which were so apt to be produced by the depletions of the other party, those consequences being often more dangerous and difficult of removal than the original disease. He admitted that the infinitesimal doses seemed very absurd, and he was not surprised at the ridicule which had been heaped upon them; but putting aside the question of small or large doses, both systems must be tested by experience; and he knew that there was as certain an effect produced by *Aconite* or *Belladonna*, administered homœopathically, as by *Bark*, *Colocynth*, *Rhubarb*, or any other drug, allopathically administered. The rev. gentleman related several instances of successful treatment by homœopathists, which had come under his notice, and predicted that the system would ultimately triumphantly prevail. — Mr. W. Hoyland seconded the motion; and it was unanimously agreed to.—In moving the next resolution, Mr. Adshead referred to his connection with the Royal Infirmary, and said that he was satisfied he was aiding that Institution by doing what he could to promote the success of the Homœopathic Hospital and Dispensary. Those who were writing and talking about the necessity for a second hospital in Manchester, would find, if they extended their inquiries to Bloom Street, that we already possessed a second hospital, which only needed encouragement and support to make it extensively useful. Mr. H. Dixon seconded the resolution. He said there were many heads of families who were now in doubt, in case of sickness, as to which system they should place the patient under. In order to do away with this state of things, he would suggest that fifty or sixty patients, taken indiscriminately, should be treated homœopathically in one of the wards of the Royal Infirmary, and that an equal number of patients, as nearly as possible under similar circumstances, should be treated allopathically in a second ward. A committee of intelligent gentlemen should be appointed to watch the progress of those patients, and the result should be by them made public. In proof of the advantages of the homœopathic treatment, the speaker read the substance of a petition, founded on facts derived from public records, which was presented to the Hungarian Diet, in 1843, as follows:—

"1. That the mortality in homœopathic hospitals was not quite 6 per cent., whereas in allopathic hospitals it amounted to more than 12 per cent. 2. That, in severe inflammation, allopathy loses nearly 15 per cent., homœopathy not quite 5 per cent. 3. That, in nervous and putrid fevers, allopathy loses 21, and homœopathy 12 per cent. 4. That, in the treatment of cholera, allopathy lost 53 per cent., homœopathy only 8¾ per cent. 5. That the average duration of cases, allopathically treated, is 29 days—while that of those homœopathically treated is only 21 days. 6. That homœopathic hospitals do not require, under equal circumstances, half the expense of allopathic establishments."

The resolution was unanimously agreed to. The subsequent speakers were Mr. Joshua Knowles, Revs. William Burchell and R. Fletcher, Mr. H. P. Rée, and Mr. Joseph Heron. Mr. Catlow, surgeon, attempted to speak when two of the resolutions were being put, but the chairman decided that his doing so would be out of order. Alderman Sir John Potter having taken the vacated chair, a vote of thanks to R. Barnes, Esq., the mayor, for his kindness in presiding, was moved by Mr. Schwabe, seconded by the Rev. R. Durnford, and carried by acclamation. The mayor briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the proceedings then terminated shortly after half-past one o'clock.

CASE.

(From the Practical Advantages of Homœopathy, by the late Dr. Harris Dunsford.)

PHTHISIS.

A butler, aged thirty-three, consulted me in June, 1829; he had suffered for some months, from slight hacking cough, with expectoration of thick yellowish matter of a nauseous taste. He complained of shortness of breath; his pulse was accelerated; he could not lie on the right side, which was dull on percussion; and he had frequently spit florid blood. Several members of his family had died of consumption. *Pulsatilla* was at first administered, which diminished the cough as well as the expectoration, and also lowered the pulse. Under the employment of *Stannum* he rapidly improved, and he could lie on the right side. In a month, so great a change had taken place, that the sound on percussion had become improved; and, in a few weeks more, had entirely resumed its natural character. The pain at the chest gradually ceased, and this patient has since completely recovered, and returned to his situation.

[Judging by the date of this case, Dr. Harris Dunsford was one of the earliest practitioners, some say the earliest (which seems doubtful since the appearance of Mr. Smith's narrative), of homœopathy in this country. He died in the prime of life, and was deeply regretted by his friends and patients, all of whom hold his memory in lively respect and esteem. He was a very able and successful homœopathist; he was industrious, pains-taking, honest and sincere.—ED.]

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

THE DISEASES OF CHILDREN.

By Dr. Frederick Augustus Günther.

(Continued from page 558.)

Section II. Nutrition of the new-born infant.

1. *The Milk of the Mother.*—"Every healthy mother ought to suckle her child," says Jörg, in his address to mothers. "I will not base this maxim upon the obligations of moral duty. I know too well how little weight these obligations have with mothers that are disinclined to fulfil them; therefore I address myself entirely to your understanding, taking from the never-erring book of Nature alone those reasons which I shall adduce here in support of the principle that it is my desire to inculcate in you. You must know that even after the birth of the child an excess of nutritious matter continues to be elaborated in the organism of the mother, and that the final process of gestation—parturition—causes simply a change in the direction of that excess, which now flows towards the lacteal or mammary glands, where it appears as milk, and continues thus to afford appropriate nutriment to the child. In addition to this I must inform you, that in the same way as Nature has fixed at nine months the period of gestation, so she has also fixed at nine months the time the mother shall continue to feed the child from her genial bosom. Nature wills and directs that the child be fed and maintained on the natural food furnished by the mother, for a period of eighty weeks altogether, the first half *in utero*, the other half by lactation; and it is acting just as much against the laws of Nature to endeavour to shirk and to delegate to others the performance of this nutritive function in the last forty weeks, as it would be to try to do so in the first forty weeks, if such a thing were within the range of possibility. Now the laws of Nature cannot be set at nought with impunity; Nature never proceeds *per saltum*, and least so, assuredly, in the nutrition of the child through the mother. In the same gradual way as this function progresses and increases from the time of conception to the period of delivery, so it ought to be let decrease again, in the natural way, down to the proper period of weaning. In the first weeks of pregnancy, the fœtus is very small, and requires accordingly but little of the maternal juices; but as time wears on, and the fœtus increases in size, it requires a proportionably increasing amount of nutritive matter: and Nature has so arranged that the child, after its birth into the world, should for six months longer depend entirely for its nutrition upon the maternal breast, and continue after to do so partially for three months more. When the infant has reached the age of six months, and begins to be able to partake of other alimentary substances besides the milk of its mother, the lacteal secretion enters on the period of its gradual diminution, which terminates at last, in a few months more, in its total cessation; that is, of course, if the dictates of Nature have been properly obeyed. But when the natural power is arbitrarily interfered with, when the nutritive function devolving upon the mother is cut short in the middle, and the suckling of the child delegated to another person, the mother has to pay the penalty; inflammation of the breasts, suppuration of the breasts, too often puerperal fever, and a host of other disorders, are the usual consequences of a mother's refusal to listen to Nature's instinct—the nutrition of the child."

But it is also for the *child's* sake that every mother is in duty bound to afford the natural nourishment to her child. The new-born infant requires a nutriment as much as possible analogous to that which it received *in utero*, and this nutriment is to be found in the mother's milk alone. This fluid being a product of the same body that maintained the fœtus in life and health up to the period of birth, is alone fit to serve for the nutrition of the new-born infant; it is the only alimentary substance adapted to the capacity of the delicate digestive organs of the infant, which possess only the faculty of absorption, but certainly not that of assimilation.

However, there are, of course, certain

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obstacles which will interfere more or less absolutely with the *faculty* or *fitness* of the mother to nurse her child. Thus, deep-rooted chronic and infectious diseases, reputed incurable, or at all events known to be curable with difficulty only, as epilepsy, chorea, hysteric affections, gout, scrofula, pulmonary consumption, itch, tetters, etc., ought always to be held to disqualify a mother for the task of nursing her child.

Also mothers, who, though not actually ill, exhibit unmistakable signs that they bear within them the germ of some serious disease ought to be prohibited from nursing. To this class belong more particularly females of tall and slender shape, with flat and narrow chest, and shoulderblades protruding, wing fashion, and with circumscribed flush on the cheeks, and a tendency to perspire; and also women labouring under great sensitiveness, weakness, and irritability of the nervous system.

Habitually sickly and weakly females also had better abstain from nursing, more particularly if they happen to have had a difficult and protracted labour, attended with considerable loss, or if they are liable to violent emotions.

But the glands themselves oppose frequently more or less serious obstacles to suckling: thus, it occurs often in the case of very youthful mothers that the glands are not completely formed and developed; there may be also other physical obstacles. In others there is a positive and permanent suppression of the secretion of the milk; in others, again, the sucking of the child causes a peculiar, sharp, lancinating pain, which extends through the glands to the spine, and manifests itself at times with so much intensity, that the mother actually faints away.

The highly important question,—*When is the new-born infant to be put for the first time to the breast of the mother?* has been solved by many practitioners in a most irrational manner; a foolish fallacy has been allowed to prevail on this subject, viz., that the *first* milk of the mother has an injurious action on the child, and that it is necessary to free the bowels of the latter from the excrementitious matter contained in them before it can be allowed to suck. In accordance and conformity with this immensely absurd notion, the unfortunate little creature is, upon its very entrance into the world, treated to a dose of rhubarb-syrup, or of manna, or of aniseed or fennel-tea, or infusion of chamomile, or some other drug,—of course, all for "poor baby's good." Now if the people who act in this manner would only for one moment reflect upon the delicacy of the infantile organs, they could not fail to see that medicinal agents, even of the mildest description, will and must exercise a most irritating and hence injurious action upon the tender stomach and intestines of the new-born infant, and they would cease to wonder that spasms in the stomach, abdominal pains, dyspepsia, diarrhœa, jaundice, etc., should so readily seize upon the darling, "that surely had everything done to make it comfortable, and was so nicely purged, and in such proper time."

No, let these foolish, old notions of our grandmothers be discarded for ever; there is no more appropriate purgative for the new-born infant than the first milk of its parent, and nothing can possibly be more absurd than to remove this first milk, as is frequently done, by artificial means. But even if the first milk should fail, as will occasionally happen, to bring about the desired evacuation, there is no need whatever for the slightest anxiety or apprehension on the score of this matter. The innate organic force of the child will mostly suffice to get rid of it in the natural way. Should, however, twenty-four hours have elapsed after the birth of the child, and the expected evacuation not yet make its appearance, a simple clyster or two with lukewarm water will be sure to bring it about; but on no account whatsoever should purgatives be resorted to.

A few hours after birth, when the mother has recovered a little, and the infant has enjoyed its first sleep, it should be put to the mother, and this even in cases when the mother intends to engage a wet-nurse, since her own safety absolutely requires, during the first days after confinement, that the glands should be relieved. Although the child obtains generally at first only a small quantity of milk, yet by its sucking it contributes to induce a more copious secretion of that fluid. As I have already stated, it will happen sometimes that the breasts of the mother contain as yet no secretion; the attempts at sucking must be repeated, notwithstanding, from time to time during the first twelve to twenty-four hours. On the first day of its life the child may, without inconvenience, do without any nutriment at all, if care be only taken to keep the mouth moist by instilling now and then a teaspoonful of milk-warm water. There is, accordingly, no danger of starvation for the infant in the continuance of these attempts to bring about a proper secretion of milk. Of course, should twenty-four hours pass without the desired result being obtained, a wet-nurse must be had recourse to, or the child must be brought up by hand.

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The first attempts at nursing meet also occasionally with obstacles, in some instances imputable to the faulty manner in which the child is held to the breast; in others, to disinclination of the child, or to some natural defect in the organ of suction. Thus, for instance, the infant may not feel the want of nutriment, or it may be too weak to suck, or the tongue-tie is too long; or the child is held to the breast in a manner to impede the respiration through the nose, etc. All such obstacles may usually be removed with greater or less facility.

(To be continued.)

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF DR. ROUTH'S "FALLACIES OF HOMŒOPATHY."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

Entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

VIII.

III. *The Influence of the Mind.*—There are, according to Dr. Routh, "three ways in which it may be supposed to act: 1, by imagination and credulity; 2, emotionally; 3, epidemically."

As the author ascribes all the recoveries which take place under homœopathic treatment either to the *vis medicatrix naturæ* (the sanative power of nature), seconded by good hygienic and dietary rules, or to the *vis medicatrix mentis* (the sanative power of the mind), or to both, it behoves us to inquire into the evidence brought forward in this section, for the purpose of shaking our confidence in the statistics of homœopathic hospitals. This evidence ought to be of the most undeniable character. It ought, moreover, to bear upon disease of every kind, and more especially upon those serious forms of acute disease which are made the subject of inquiry in the second section of Part III. For it must not be forgotten that this dissertation upon the circumstances which may affect our appreciation of *statistics in general*, although bearing in no particular way upon homœopathic more than upon allopathic statistics, is ushered in, nevertheless, by very strong language indeed. "In testing the value of statistical returns, there are several sources of fallacy which must be guarded against. *If it be shown* that the homœopaths neglect these wholly or in part, so must their conclusions in support of the efficacy of their treatment be disbelieved" (p. 18). Who would not suppose, that in a work entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries upon which the Results of that Practice are estimated"—who would not imagine that our author has really *shown* that homœopathic statistics are, more than the allopathic, open to the sources of fallacy which he enumerates? That he has not done so, the examination of the various facts adduced in support of his opinions will, I believe, fully prove.

But here the thought arises in my mind, that perhaps the author is speaking of the *absolute* value of the homœopathic statistics, not of their *relative* value, when compared with the allopathic.

If so, the inquiry is perfectly legitimate, and the dissertation quite in its place. But if it be indeed so, the whole book is nothing but a great deception practised upon the public, who will never look upon it in any other light than as an essay intending to show that the superiority of homœopathic results of practice, as asserted by homœopathists, is a mere fiction, not a reality; the results of deception, not of a *bonâ fide* statement of facts. Finally, if it be so, I am discussing a question of the most serious import with one who, whilst he attempts to explain the *superiority* of the results obtained by homœopathic practitioners, by ascribing them to agencies which are not the exclusive property of either system (the influence of the mind, of diet, of good hygienic discipline, of the sanative tendency of nature), avoids inquiring into the *inferiority* of allopathic results, the notable degree of which, seeing that he does not believe that homœopathic medicines are *really curative*—ought to have raised in his mind the doubt whether the allopathic remedial means are not in reality *destructive of human life*.

But in an inquiry such as this, at a time, too, when our materials for forming a correct estimation of the *absolute* value of either system are alike scanty and uncertain, when the most we can do is to compare, as closely and as accurately as possible, the results obtained by the old schools and by the new—in an inquiry such as this much could have been done by ascertaining the following points. 1. The frequency of cures by mental influences of any kind. 2. The nature of the diseases believed to be so cured, whether fevers, inflammations, etc., or simply the class of diseases usually called *nervous*. 3. Whether such cures are more frequent in homœopathic than in allopathic institutions *of the same kind*, at *the same time*, and in *the same place*.

Had Dr. Routh's efforts been directed towards the solution of a few such ques-

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tions, instead of collecting, as he has done, examples of extraordinary recoveries from disorders, be it observed, of the *nervous system only*—had he given examples of cures by mental influences in inflammations of the *lungs, pleuræ*, or *peritoneum*, in *dysentery*, in *typhus*, or in *cholera*—had he, moreover, shown that in the latter diseases mental influences can in any way account for the great superiority of homœopathic results, then would he be justifiable in casting a doubt upon the validity of our statistics.

I will now proceed to examine the facts brought forward in support of his opinions.

First. The mind may act by *imagination* and *credulity*. We are here told that vexation, annoyance, or care may bring on dyspepsia, diarrhœa, or even mania. We are also told that the author cured a patient affected with "hypochondriasis of some duration" by means of two bread pills; the fact that *this* hypochondriasis of some duration could be cured in so short a time by any means makes me doubt the correctness of the diagnosis. We are also told that the author "once effected a cure upon a very susceptible individual, about forty, *labouring under intense cerebral congestion*," by the mere threat of venesection; the mere preparation of his apparatus almost brought about syncope, and in the course of *a few minutes* all necessity that might have existed to bleed ceased." This is certainly an easy mode of curing "*intense cerebral congestion*," but I doubt its efficacy in any case of that disease, or indeed in any other case than one of headache, with great nervous excitement, such as this was.

The most curious part of this section, however, remains to be told. It appears that Dr. Routh does not think it so highly reprehensible to practise deception upon his patients as most of my readers would do; and that, after all, I may perhaps have been wrong in resenting so warmly the accusation of deception which he brings forward against the disciples of Hahnemann; for it would seem that he thinks deception is in certain cases justifiable. Hear what he says. "I was myself struck at the results of some experiments I conducted in some fifty or sixty cases * * * I also experimented with coloured water. My plan was to employ three kinds of coloured water—red, yellow, and blue—to work upon the imagination of my patients, *describing this water to be a deadly poison*, and having it labelled *accordingly, giving express caution to keep the medicine from the children.* I invented a series of symptoms as likely to follow" (p. 24). With a genius so fertile in caution and invention, for the mere purpose of ascertaining the power of imagination in producing a disordered condition of the nervous system—for this was the only effect produced—where is the assurance to the reader that, for the purpose of arresting the progress of homœopathy, a like process has not been *most innocently* followed?

Second. *Mind may act emotionally.*—In this section we are told how "a lady, who for several years had lost the use of her lower extremities, was startled by a rat running near her. Having an extreme antipathy to this animal, she made an effort, and sprang upon a table near. The power, however, was not permanently restored" (p. 26). How Sir B. Brodie restored the power of walking to "a young lady, who had lost all the power of her legs," and who declared that the attempt to walk would kill her, by *insisting that she should do so*, and this in a few days only (Ibid.) How Dr. Bright met with the case of another young lady, who "for nine months had been laid on her back, and had lost the use of her legs," and who, "if she attempted to move, was thrown into a paroxysm of agitation and excruciating agony," and who nevertheless suddenly recovered all her powers, "under a deep religious impression" (Ibid.) We are also told of a poor woman who had been bedridden for years. "On one occasion, the house took fire, and she fell down upon her bed, through the ceiling, into the street. From that moment she got up and was enabled to walk; cured by a strong emotion of terror" (p. 27); and finally, we are told of the late Dr. J—, of Christchurch, who "was a martyr for years to asthma. On one occasion, while superintending the works in a house he was building, he fell down the staircase from a height; from that moment the asthma disappeared" (Ibid.)

None of these cases, it seems to me, enable us to advance much into our inquiry, namely, to ascertain how it is that Dr. Fleischmann's results at Vienna, for instance, are superior to those given in the statistics of the allopathic general hospital of that city. Neither do they show how the influence of the mind can have much to do with this superiority. For if, for the sake of argument, it were granted that occasionally Dr. Fleischmann might be at liberty to burn down a wing of his hospital, that a few of his bedridden patients might have an opportunity of falling through the floor into the street, and then to rebuild it, that a few of his asthmatic patients might have the privilege of superintending the works and of falling down stairs "from a height," it is obvious that such means could only be used now and then, and not

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systematically. But granting that, occasionally, strong emotions may tend to produce the sudden recovery of patients afflicted with diseases of the nervous system, is there any evidence that by such means *pneumonia, pleurisy,* or *cholera* can be cured in a larger proportion of cases than under the best-directed allopathic treatment? That is the question.

Third. *Mental Epidemics.*—It is clear that "mental epidemics"—such is the term sanctioned by usage, under which are described great convulsions of the public mind under the influence of national calamities, such as pestilence, famine, great wars, etc., or of superstition—it is clear that mental epidemics can be taken into account to explain the superiority of homœopathic statistics only when such epidemics really do exist. Dr. Routh has advanced nothing to show that Dr. Fleischmann's success at Vienna, or that of Dr. Tessier at Paris, during the years 1847-48-49, was due to *mental epidemics.* Indeed, if we compare the results obtained by the latter in the years 1848-49, with those obtained by Grisolle several years previously—the results obtained among the labouring population of the Faubourg St. Antoine during the excitement of the Revolution of 1848 and for months after, with those obtained by Grisolle in the full prosperity and quiet of Louis Philippe's reign, as we shall do—we are instituting a comparison between cases treated homœopathically under unfavourable circumstances, and cases treated allopathically under ordinary circumstances.

We have next a neat little *episode,* in the shape of a chapter upon *coincidences.* Dr. Routh is right, as every one will admit, in stating that "it does not follow, that because a patient takes a certain medicine and recovery follows, that the cure was the effect of this medicine" (p. 29). Neither does it follow that we are greater gainers by coincidences than the allopathists; but this at least is certain, that in a large number of cases the average of coincidences must be pretty equal on both sides.

"To get over these sources of fallacy, homœopaths appeal to the experience derived from their practice among animals and little children, *who, they allege, have no reasoning powers,* and on whose diseases therefore the mind cannot exert any influence" (p. 30). Dr. Routh is here again open to the reproach I have already made: he advances statements of what homœopathists have written or said, which are neither correct in form nor true in substance. This assertion that little children and animals have no reasoning powers was never, to my knowledge, made by any homœopathic writer, and I defy Dr. Routh to produce a passage from a homœopathic work implying it.

The fact of the matter is, that to the objection made by allopathists to homœopathic cures, that they are the result not of medicinal action, but of the *imagination* of the patient, it has been answered that cures in infant children or in animals cannot be explained in that manner; therefore that the objection falls to the ground. But, as I have said before, these mental influences have not been shown to produce a larger per-centage of recoveries in serious inflammatory diseases or in cholera; therefore they are entirely foreign to our present inquiry, which is chiefly into the relative merits of the two systems, in respect of these forms of disease.

Dr. Routh "very much questions the truth of the conclusion that animals or infants cannot be influenced by psychical causes" (p. 34); and since animals have reasoning and emotional faculties, "*a fortiori,* must this influence be found among infants? The power of memory in after-life to recall sensations experienced in childhood may be limited; but to deny that children, even infants, are insusceptible of pleasing or displeasing emotions, would be manifestly unphilosophical" (p. 35). But who denies that children have both intelligence and feeling? Certainly not the homœopathists.

But the singular feature in Dr. Routh's theory is, that it inevitably leads to the conclusion, that beings who are endowed with thought and feeling are therefore capable of recovering through mental influences. In the case of an infant incapable of speaking or of understanding others by the faculty of speech, knowing and caring nothing of life or of death, neither wishing for the continuation of the former nor fearing the latter, knowing nothing of homœopathy or of allopathy, neither moved by confidence in the one nor dread of the other—in an infant, therefore, if there be any mental influence at work, it cannot be excited from without; it must be from a spontaneous effort of the mind, directed towards the state of the internal functions, and capable of restoring them to healthy action, if disordered. Of the possibility or impossibility of such a thing, we have no means of judging. But the theory of mental influence being *sanative* in infancy is curious. It is an application to medicine of the famous axiom of the philosopher of old; the foundation of psychology—the γνῶθι σεαυτὸν—becomes the foundation of a new system in medicine.

(*To be continued.*)

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REVIEWERS REVIEWED.

By a Progressist.

"After a calm comes a storm." The medical editors, finding how rapidly new science is operating against them, deem it necessary to continue their abuse of homœopathy and hydropathy. In No. 91 of the *Medical Times and Gazette*, March 27, 1852, there is a notice of Dr. Routh's "Fallacies," also a notice of Dr. T. R. Armitage's book on "Hydropathy as applied to Acute Disease." They commence thus: "As a system of quackery, the more modern hydropathy rivals, if it does not exceed, the danger and fatality of homœopathy." Let us conceive a person attempting to convince the world upon some point on which it is predisposed to join in the conviction. He, of course, exerts every possible ingenuity in forming his documents, and framing the appearance of a chain of testimony in support of his statement. It is quite possible that he might thus deceive a considerable number of credulous persons, and that others, who did not believe his statement, might yet find difficulty in proving its fallacy. The case before us is literally this. A young physician walks through most of the German hydropathic establishments, and a large hospital at Berlin, and then considers himself fully justified in asserting that the powers of diagnosis of the hydropath is utterly unworthy of confidence, and that frequently all the knowledge afforded by common sense, or acquired by a fatal experience, are insufficient to prevent them from committing grave errors in the application of their treatment. In pneumonia, on the whole, he finds it extremely inferior to the ordinary antiphlogistics. In fever, he says that the whole duration of the disease is little affected; that the delirium and stupor are greatly relieved, and the general per centage of recovery a high one; and because a young physician writes a book *against* hydropathy, the reviewer recommends the profession to read it, and informs them they "will find it an interesting, and in some respects an original, contribution to our knowledge of a valuable agent."

It is to be regretted, for the progress of science, that young men, with their heads brimful of the dogmas of the schools, should endeavour to bring themselves into notoriety by partially investigating a subject, and reporting on it generally.

After seeing, a young physician's vanity might be seized with the desire to narrate, to gratify the passions of those he desired to please. What was not seen might be imagined. Our opinions, it is well known, are often formed by our feelings. An uneasy feeling produces assents or dissents of different kinds. True philosophy is simple and intelligible; but we owe confused systems to men of vague and obscure ideas. Theories should always be understood as only made for a time, and considered capable of improvement.

What the result of water-treatment in pneumonia may be I can offer no opinion, never having seen a case treated hydropathically; but of its effect in the treatment of fever I can say that cold water, in the form of wet-sheets, plunges, etc., will effect more towards a diminution of the heat and fever than the allopathist can, let his therapeutic agents be ever so varied. The hydropathist abstracts heat, the allopathist abstracts blood. The patient treated with water is well in a few hours. The patient who has lost blood is low, languid, and wretched; has either a long state of convalescence, or sinks into a state of chronic disease. In the *British and Foreign Medical Review*, vol. xxiii. p. 271, there are eight cases of fever reported by J. H. Stallard, Esq., Surgeon to the Leicester General Dispensary, where this treatment was pursued. "The cases," says Mr. Stallard, "I have reported are not *selected cases*, they are those which presented themselves as being most proper for the trial, and are all which came under my *entire* observation in the Fever Institution." Seven recovered, the eighth died; but Mr. Stallard remarks, "the last case, though terminating fatally, does not furnish a single argument against the use of the cold-sheet. The death was, no doubt, caused by sudden congestion of the lungs, to which fever patients are especially prone, and the tendency to which was probably augmented by the dose of *morphine* administered over night to allay the excessive restlessness." "To say that cold water, employed in the mode lately introduced by Priessnitz, is not a powerful therapeutic agent, is simply to express ignorance of a common and well-known fact."*

The universally-adopted plan of the allopathist, when he perceives that any new therapeutical agent has been introduced, if the *modus operandi* does not come within his comprehension, or that effects more beneficial and curative result than can be produced by "old physic," is to term it quackery or humbug. "Shall those arts which have discovered a thousand instruments for inflicting pain or suffering on civilized man, never discover any new

* Dr. Forbes, British and Foreign Medical Review, vol. xxiii. p. 269.

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means of making him happy? Shall the fruit of the tree of knowledge always continue bitter--shall it never be ripened by the radiance of the sun of benevolence? If there be any sufficiently cold-hearted to believe this, let them remain idle. To us, hope, which though it should be vain, is yet an eternal source, will remain; it will ever prompt to actions which, though they should deserve no laurels of triumph from mankind, will never have raised them by watering the earth with blood."*

The same Editor,† in noticing Dr. Armitage's book, says, "for the huudredth time we must reiterate the notorious fact, that what is now known as hydropathy, the universal panacea of an ignorant peasant, has been for centuries a valuable adjuvant to the therapeutics of legitimate medicine."

We tell the reviewers that Priessnitz did not use water as an adjuvant, he used it as a specific. It had "indeed fallen into a subordinate position," until Priessnitz told them how to use it. They call him an ignorant peasant; if the reviewer, when reviewing his own acts through life, could conscientiously lay his hand on his heart and say he had effected half the good that Priessnitz had done, he might congratulate himself. Let him look to other men who made the road for these reviewers, that they have nothing to do but to follow; so complete do they consider the law has been established, that they have not even the trouble of thinking. John Hunter immortalized himself by studying and teaching anatomy and surgery. Priessnitz immortalized himself by the introduction of the wet-sheet, and the present system of water-treatment. Priessnitz was the son of a farmer. The father of John Hunter and William Hunter possessed a small farm; so far, in the beginning of life, the Hunters and Priessnitz were equal. Bloomfield, who wrote the "Farmer's Boy," was a shoemaker, and worked in a garret. The Editor of the *British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review* informs us that a "tradesman of Taunton managed to get admitted to examination at the College of Surgeons by the production of fraudulent certificates;" if we are to believe Mr. Blake's statement, published by Highley in 1848, which appears to be quite as credible as the testimony of the other medical men, the certificates are not fraudulent. Mr. Blake has been sneered at because he was a tradesman. Does the reviewer recollect that John Hunter was a tradesman, and worked three years as a cabinet-maker, in Glasgow?

* Last Days of a Philosopher, by Sir H. Davy.
† Medical Times and Gazette.

Hydropathy is based upon sound hygienic and physiological principles. It is only where it gets into the hands of lay proprietors, carried on either with or without an experienced medical man, becoming merely a trading establishment, that the profession should manifest their scornful rejection, and use their utmost endeavours to rout out the whole phalanx of such harpies. These are the instances reviewers should seek and expose, and withhold the pen of scurrility from their brethren, whose only fault is that they have thought more deeply than themselves.

A grand objection the reviewers bring forward against homœopathic writers is, that they write that they may be understood; "the public is an unfit tribunal, incompetent to decide." Make them competent then, teach them physiology; let them have a knowledge of their own frame; teach them "the general principles of the human constitution, and of the circumstances in which man is placed." We are glad to hear that the grievance and wrong inflicted on those taxes known as the "Taxes on Knowledge," will be among the first that will occupy the attention of our new Chancellor of the Exchequer, and although it is not likely that these taxes will be repealed in the expiring parliament, we know that this minister is known to have such literary sympathies as to dispose him to give an earnest attention to the subject, and study the question for himself. A very striking instance of talent, training, and discipline has been displayed by this gentleman. Laughed at by the House of Commons, in his maiden speech, as he concluded he said, "I will sit down now, but the time will come when you will hear me." He remained quiet for a time, but gained great approbation in the education and copyright questions, with other masterly speeches, and in a few years he received the highest honours the House could bestow; being gratified also by the spontaneous tribute of Lord John Russell, "that his talents and services fully entitle him to the office he holds." Educate the people we say, they will then be able to choose their *own physician.*

Among the numerous advantages which the present age possesses, none appears more conspicuous than that derived from cheap literature. The stores of information, which in the days of our forefathers were only accessible to few, are now placed within the reach of almost every aspirant to wisdom. It is evident, from the prodigious sale of various periodicals of the present day, of the favourable countenance

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they receive, and it is an infallible sign of their great utility, that they are universally spread and appreciated by all classes. The learned read for relaxation, the ignorant for instruction, the poor for the cheapness. It is an undoubted fact that this species of literature has contributed more to enlighten the majority of the people than any other cause; and the high degree of intelligence possessed by the middle and even the lower classes of society in this nation, when contrasted with that of neighbouring countries, may be wholly attributed to the influence which these publications have had over their minds. The great Tully cried out, in raptures, "What is there, oh, ye gods! more desirable than knowledge? what more excellent and lovely? what brings so much quiet satisfaction?" How would he have rejoiced had he beheld the present intellectual state of society in England? The press—daily, weekly, monthly—pours fourth a flood, at which all who thirst for knowledge of any kind may have their thirst slaked. "Knowledge," said Lord Bacon, "is power."

There is now an earnest desire, even in the mind of the humble inquirer after truth, which gains strength as it advances. How presumptuous is it then for reviewers to suppose they can direct the thoughts of the public, by announcing to them that they are "incompetent. "Show light," said a very intellectual friend of mine, "and darkness will disappear." It is striking to remark how closely the philosophy of human nature harmonizes with the declarations of the sacred writings.

"This is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth, cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest that they are wrought in God."

This nineteenth century abounds with valuable information, for the scientific industry and stirring enterprise of the period are unprecedented. "The human mind without instruction is," as Addison has observed, "like marble in a quarry, which shows none of its inherent beauties till the skill of the polisher fetches out the colours, makes the surface shine, and discovers every ornamental cloud-spot and vein that run through its body. Knowledge, in like manner, when it works upon a noble mind, draws out to view every perfection."

(*To be continued.*)

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, MAY 8TH, 1852.

HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL AT DONCASTER.

DR. DUNN, the very excellent and spirited representative of homœopathy in that ilk, is about to institute the Doncaster Homœopathic Hospital. This is a very admirable enterprise.

He is isolated, and therefore the design is the more courageous. His scheme well merits the full encouragement and cordial assistance of all who are friendly to homœopathy, medical and non-medical.

He has *begun* the work, and it would be indeed "too bad," if he were left unaided. He is fully *determined to succeed*, and will spare no pains and no sacrifice to accomplish his purpose.

The district in which he lives is thinly peopled; he has, it is true, received the greatest encouragement from those in his neighbourhood, but it is absolutely necessary that he should receive *material assistance*, in the shape of large pecuniary help, from every locality where homœopathy has been established.

He is surrounded by many difficulties; he is the target, in his own place, at which the envenomed darts of hatred, malice, and uncharitableness are vindictively cast.

Cold indeed must the heart be, and intensely selfish and egotistical, that does not respond to Dr. DUNN's appeal for aid and support in his arduous undertaking.

We shall be glad to receive donations and subscriptions for the Doncaster Homœopathic Hospital, or they may be sent direct to Dr. DUNN, Doncaster.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I am greatly obliged by your notice of my projected hospital. You will be glad to hear that I have met with support from all parties, and one friend has headed the list by presenting me with the land, valued at £232. Yet I am aware how much I need the assistance of the benevolent, wherever situated; and this induces me to request you to give insertion to this

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letter in your valuable paper. Placed in an isolated, and comparatively thinly-peopled district, few can imagine the toil, anxiety, and vexation that accompany the lonely homœopath. Medical men shun him, and are not very scrupulous as to the means of annoyance. In a small town like this the difficulties are immense, and were it not for the inward and deep conviction that homœopathy is the greatest temporal blessing that was ever granted to mankind, it would require more than human courage to brave them. It is in the hope of extending this blessing to thousands, that I have determined to erect an hospital where all comers may be treated on its mild and salutary principles; and I appeal with confidence to a benevolent public to aid me in such a bold though necessary undertaking. I shall soon have the elevation engraved, when I shall ask yonr kindness to insert it.

If my success be complete, as I have every reason to believe it will, homœopathy will have a name and status in Yorkshire, worthy of the Cause. Had I such spirited, wealthy, and benevolent patrons as Mr. Leaf, Lord Robert Grosvenor, or the Earl of Albemarle, I should not have to seek aid from a distance; but here we are few and not wealthy, and I shall therefore feel deeply obliged if you, as the organ of the homœopathic body, will receive subscriptions for the "St. James's Hospital," Doncaster. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
Doucaster, April 28, 1852. GEORGE DUNN.

Obituary.

(Commmunicated).

THE DEATH OF MR. DALRYMPLE.

THIS event occurred on the 1st inst., and the loss of so eminent an ophthalmic surgeon cannot be easily replaced.

Mr. Dalrymple has for some years occupied the first place in this department of surgical science. His books on the "Anatomy of the Eye," and on the "Pathology of the Human Eye," and his admirable illustrative plates are well known to the profession.

He was not only a consummate surgeon in the department to which he confined himself, but he was a man of fine moral and intellectual faculties. The departure of such a man is always a loss to the community.

With respect to the treatment of the diseases of the eye, which has for the most part been engrossed by operating surgeons, it is quite a mistake on the part of the public to suppose that only surgeons should treat them, and that they constitute what are called "surgical cases." Wherever or whenever a surgical operation is needed then the expert surgeon is required; but nine-tenths of the cases that are seen in the consulting-room of the pure surgeon, in the case of those who practise ophthalmic as well as of those who practise general surgery, are in fact strictly medical.

In truth, the two originators of Ophthalmic Institutions in Britain and in Europe were both physicians, Dr. Saunders and Dr. Farre; the latter of whom still lives in the body, enjoying a green and honoured old age. The first Institution was founded, we believe, in 1805.

If there would not be any great advantage to the public or advancement of pure homœopathic practice, certainly there would be essential service rendered to our own body, if several of our rising homœopathic practitioners would devote themselves more exclusively to rigid diagnosis in specialties, after the manner of allopaths, to obstetric surgery, ophthalmic diseases, and those of the ear.

Not that we have greater respect for or confidence in a man who dubs himself obstetrician, oculist, aurist, or dentist; for we believe that specialties, as at present understood and practised by allopaths, are in too many instances mere claptraps, craftily adopted to cajole the anxious and credulous public.

No doubt, one using the well-directed energy of a mind amply endowed and qualified for the prosecution of a special inquiry in special diagnosis, a master-mind, which does not, in its all-absorbing pursuit of diagnosis and morbid anatomy, neglect the due appreciation of what Hahnemann implies by the "totality" of symptoms, would be a special diagnostician, invaluable on many occasions to many of his brethren, and certainly well-fitted to check allopathic arrogance.

The public have, by long custom, been educated to expect, in protracted and dangerous and intricate cases, such special consultations; and we have, therefore, a duty to perform to our patients, as well as a conscientious path to tread for the good of our fellow-beings.

But as it is, we fearlessly pronounce that diseases of the organs of sight and hearing are far more successfully treated by homœopathic remedies, administered according to the homœopathic law, than by the best resources of allopathy.

The lamented death of the honoured and honourable John Dalrymple suggests another reflection. In medical and surgical practice, as well as in military life, every blank made in society by the death of an officer, or one in large practice, constitutes a prize that is eagerly contended for by the survivors.

The place of Dalrymple will be stepped

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into, even as he stepped into Tyrrell's; may the successor, in this instance, be as worthy! But who is to supply the place of a Hahnemann now; and, after their departure, who are to supply the places of Constantine Hering and Bœninghausen? In proportion as the philosophy of Hahnemann is more profound than that of any Medical School that existed before him, and as the successful practice of homœopathy is more difficult than that of any other school, so is the difficulty increased in supplying the place of our Worthies.

Mr. Dalrymple had been in very ill-health for some years, but he continued in harness almost to the very last.

SPRING ASSIZES.

Northern Circuit, Durham.—March 25, 1882.

THE learned Judges arrived in this city yesterday, and opened the commission. This morning Mr. BARON SELDEN charged the grand jury in the Crown Court, and at twelve o'clock Mr. JUSTICE BLACKSTONE commenced the civil business in the Nisi Prius Court.

The civil list has three causes entered, two of which are special juries. The crown calendar contains the names of five prisoners; of whom one is indicted for murder, and the remainder for minor offences.

Crown Court.—(*Before* Mr. BARON SELDEN.) *James Simpson* was placed at the bar, charged with the wilful murder of Richard Edgar, by administering to him medicines and other treatment, in quantities and qualities, not according with regular practice.

Cases of this description having been for some years exceedingly rare, this trial had long been anticipated with the greatest interest, and the court was densely crowded at an early hour; large numbers of the members of the neighbouring families of the nobility and gentry, including many ladies, being present.

The Hon. STEPHEN YELDHAM, Q.C., appeared for the prosecution; the prisoner was defended by Mr. WAKLEY.

The prisoner, who is a man of gentlemanly appearance, but with a remarkably obstinate expression of countenance, pleaded *Not Guilty*.

Mr. YELDHAM stated the facts of the case very clearly and concisely, pointing out to the jury the distinction which was to be drawn between the regular and legitimate practice now recognised by authority, and that antiquated and irregular system, to which, unhappily, a few ignorant persons still adhered; in doing which, the learned counsel appeared to great advantage, from his well-known scientific knowledge of the principle, theory, and practice of medicine; particularly in regard to the various forms of acute disease.

The widow of the deceased was then called, a most respectable-looking, rather delicately-featured woman, with a very pale, mournful face; she appeared extremely weak, and was allowed a chair to sit on during her examination.

What is your name?—Sarah Edgar, sir.

Are you the widow of Richard Edgar?—(In an agitated manner) I am.

Were you with your husband when he died?—No. I was very ill and unable to attend upon him.

Then did you not see him during his illness?—Only for a few hours, just at the first.

Who nursed him?—Mostly Edward Price, a kind neighbour, and a girl, who came in from the village school at odd times to help.

Where do you live?—In Hazelhurst parish.

Of what did your husband die?—Here the poor woman hesitated and faintly whispered, I am not sure.

Mr. YELDHAM, kindly, but firmly.—Speak up, my good woman, we cannot hear you. *Of what did your husband die?*—The witness, again hesitating, at length replied, in a louder and more distinct tone, I'm afraid he was murdered, sir.

Here Mr. WAKLEY interposed, exclaiming—I really must protest against such questions! Surely, it would have been more seemly to have had a coroner's inquest held on the body.

The widow, in a state of great excitement, was allowed to stand down.

The second witness was Edward Price, an intelligent, good-looking countryman.

I believe you knew Richard Edgar?—Very well, your honour.

What sort of a man was he?—A rather fine, handsome man.

Yes, but I mean in character?—A truly good man and very kind neighbour.

Was he a sober man?—Quite. He once wanted to take the pledge, but his doctor wouldn't let him; he said it might be all very well so to do, for them as hadn't no higher motive for temperance, but for a steady, sober man like him, who had a constitution which now and then needed a little mild, home-brewed ale, it would be more of a snare than a help, and so he never did.

Were you with him when he died?—I was.

And during all the time of his illness?—Very nigh, for I was so fond on him, and I was slack of work just then; and his wife, poor thing, was taken very badly, and there was nobody to see to him but me like, and a bit of a lass from the school.

Did you fetch the doctor?—Yes, but he was not a right one—I mean—that is—at least—he was not his own doctor.

Who was his own doctor, as you call him?—Dr. Alfred Pope; but he was gone a long way into Devonshire, to see his father, who was very ill.

What doctor, then, had you?—A Dr. James Simpson, from a parish hard by, but folks don't like him; he is such a contrary man to Dr. Pope, contrary—that is, in his ways.

Mr. WAKLEY.—How can you be a judge of a doctor's ways?—Why, sir, you see as how poor Richard was given to have such fevers, and oft-times I was in and out, and gave him

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his medicines; and I was once errand-lad to a potecary, and so picked up a thought of physic-learning. And once afore, when his tidy wife was gone to see her old mother, many a mile away, he was very ill, and nobody was with him but me, so I know'd a deal about it; and Dr. Pope, who is a wonderful clever man, and very pleasant and free-spoken, tell'd me how to give the things. He don't *practise*, as they call it, now, as he once did, but he lives in a fine house near, and he has such a darling, bonnie wife, and such jewels of children; and they say he's got a mint of money, and so he must, for he gives such a power of it away. But as this is a lone place he is very good, and goes to any poor body as sends for him, and won't take no money. Folks do say as how, when he was a young man, the Faculty in Edinburgh wanted to stop him from being a doctor, but I canna quite credit that; for he's so mighty wise in doctoring and other matters, and—

Mr. WAKLEY, suddenly interrupting him—Come, man, do go on about Edgar; we don't want to hear all the life and most surprising adventures of either Robinson Crusoe or of Dr. Alfred Crosby Pope.

Well, sir, and so, as I was a-saying, he showed me how to give the physic; but dear a me, there was scarce aught to give but some little white morsels; I was obligated to put on my glasses for to see 'em, and they looked all alike, though they were very different and powerful in their workings, and very soon cured him, always.

Cross-examined by Mr. WAKLEY.—Are you, Edward Price, certain that there was nothing given to the late patient by Dr. Pope, clandestinely, that is to say, on the sly. Recollect, man, you are on your oath!

And sure I wouldn't speak false if I were not; but it's quite true, that there was nought whatsomdever.

Mr. YELDHAM.—Did you hear the names of any of the medicines?

One was *Aconitie;* made, Dr. Pope was a-saying—for he explained a good deal of things to me, and though I was main puzzled at first, it all seemed reasonable and plain after—of a tall, dull blue-flowered, poisonous plant, like what grows in our plot of a garden; we call it Monkshood. I used to be afeard on it, when the bairns were young, lest may happen they should eat any on it; but now I'm fain to look at it, and think what a blessed thing it is for fever and inflammations.

Was there any other medicine?—A very trifle of *Belladonnie*—a wild weed as grows in lanes and hedges, and among old ruins—and something else, but I don't just now hit on the name.

And was Edgar *never* bled, nor leeched, nor blistered in those severe attacks?—Oh no, sir, *never!* Dr. Pope tell'd him as how, though he was of a somewhat inflammable nature, he must never be bled; that he never had too much blood in him, and that if, where it was bad, some were to be drawn out, it wouldn't make the rest good, no more than thick wine being taken out of a cask would make the rest clear. No, no, says he, physic must do the deed, not blood-letting. It was that as made Richard so loath to be bled when the new doctor come, and so he says a many times, and begs hard about it; but at last Dr. Simpson gets angry, and says as how he were a doctor, a physician, a professor, and a feller of the Royal Society of Edinburgh—I think them was the words—and that, forsooth, sure he ought best to know.

Can you tell us anything of his treatment of the patient?—Alack and well-a-day, sir, and can't I! for I tended him night and day, and many was the tear I shed for him; but I could'nt do no better nor I did. Once axed I, "shall I gang o'er to Durham and fetch another doctor? who I know'd was a great friend of Dr. Pope; but Dr. Simpson flies into quite a passion, and says, if you do "under" any "pretences," I will never consent to "meet" him "in consultation, or hold professional intercourse with those who practise homœopathy." I think as them was the very words, indeed I'm sure on't; but I did'nt justly ken all about it, nor why one doctor should'nt like to talk to another; particular to one as had cured hundreds of sick folks to my knowledge—a many more than I have ever known him to do—and some on 'em as Dr. Simpson had tried his hand at, but all for nothing at all. But he was very much fashed, and I was afeard on him making a noise about it when poor Richard's head was so bad, and I said no more.

And then what did Dr. Simpson do?—Oh! why, first of all he felt his pulse, and said, he must try to cut the fever short by blood-letting, so he bled him a good matter of a basinful: and, says he, keep that till to-morrow; then, as soon as the arm was bound up, he, that is Richard, had a vomit, after that he had a many doses of physics, *Calomie*, *Opium*, and *Antimony-powder*, and some *sudorifie*, but I did'nt rightly know what that was; and there were other strong things. This went on for some six or seven days. and Edgar, who was never over-strong, got weaker and weaker, and was very badly indeed. But stay—I forgot; the second day when the doctor come, he takes down the basin from the shelf, and looks now at it and then at Richard, and I fancied I heard him say, "very buff coat." I did'nt ken what that meant, but I was afeard it was about a strait waistcoat, for you see, sir, as how Richard, though he was quite the man—some said a proud man—was very mild and gentle, and did'nt want no restraint, but I said nothing. And then the doctor said to himself, but just so as we could hear him, he *decidedly* ought to be bled again. Then says Richard, "Please not, sir." Then says the doctor, *very* slowly, after a long time o' thinking, "*Well, I'll wait awhile, perhaps it is better to leave Nature to herself and not to interfere with her.*"

Did Dr. Simpson seem to think him very ill?—No, sir, not so very; he said as many were as bad, and got over it: and every day he came he said as how we must persevere with active treatment, and that he was a-doing as well as

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could be expected—till the very last night; but then he shook his head as he was a going out of the door, and said, "He's very ill; but I have done my utmost—that is a comfort,—and have left no stone unturned. Let me know if you want me again." But wait—I'm getting on too fast; as I was a-saying, he got weaker and weaker; then the doctor said he might take any little thing he fancied, but not beefsteak nor mutton-chop; but, poor dear soul, he couldn't take nothing at all but a drop of water, or a sup o' gruel. At last he seemed a *leetle* stronger; but just then he got violent delirious, and I got frightened, for I couldn't hold him all by myself. So I sends for Dr. Simpson, and he comes. And then Richard's head was shaved, and ice, from our good Squire's, put afore and behind his head, and just at top a blister; then he was quieted, and altogether pacified; only he began to mutter strange words, about how he must not be bled—that he should die if he was bled,—and then who would take care of his dear Sarah and the sweet babies. Then his tongue looked very dry and brown, and the limbs became all powerless like; then we had to send again to the Hall for wine, and other nourishing things for him; and his poor feet had mustard plasters on; but he sank—sank—sank—and died!

And did Dr. Simpson call again?—Yes, about two hours after he died; but he didn't see him: he just says, it was a common kind of fever, which he had oftentimes known to end in that fashion; and good-morrow, and left us.

William Brown was then called.

What are you, Mr. Brown?—A grocer and linendraper, sir, and a dealer in china, glass, and earthenware.

Is that all?—And druggist, if I may so say. Once that was my only profession, but that golden age is gone by.

Did you send any medicines to Richard Edgar in the course of last November?—Yes, a good many; all that were ordered for him by Dr. Simpson.

Are you sure, Mr. Brown, that there were no mistakes in the dispensing of them?—Quite certain; for I compounded them all myself, and I know the drugs were genuine, for I bought them many years ago at Apothecaries' Hall, and had kept them most carefully ever since.

The case for the prosecution having closed, the prisoner's counsel addressed the jury, contending that, although the prisoner had treated the deceased upon a system that had been superseded, yet that the indictment could not be sustained, merely because a better system had been latterly introduced; and called several witnesses to character.

The Judge then summed up the evidence, and continued:—Gentlemen of the jury, I feel it to be my serious duty to make a few observations on this very painful case. It is remarkable that it is the *third* of the kind I have had under my notice during the present assizes. Of the two other practitioners—being also north-country-men—you have doubtless heard. I have endeavoured to be as lenient as possible in those instances, but a third has compelled me, after mature deliberation, to realize the obligation I am under, of doing all in my power towards putting an end to all such irregular practice. It is most lamentable to reflect, that, with so very large and most respectable a body of regularly-educated medical practitioners, there should still be any persons left so infatuated as to adhere to the "fallacies," "delusions," and "impostures," of allopathy,—a system "so utterly opposed to science and common sense, as well as so completely at variance with the experience of the medical profession, and, I am happy to say, now equally unsanctioned by law, that it ought to be in [no way or degree practised or countenanced;" but, at the same time, I feel "anxious to state, that" I am "actuated" solely "by a strong sense of the importance of the subject in its relation both to humanity and morals;" for I "most conscientiously believe, that the countenance afforded to the form of charlatanry," to which I have alluded, "is detrimental to the true interests of the public;" and is, moreover, "subversive of that strict integrity which ought" ever, and, I am glad to avow, in most cases, does "characterise our practitioners of medicine, and which has long distinguished the profession in these kingdoms." Still, as it does not appear that there was any *malice prepense* towards the unfortunate deceased, whatever there may have been towards the system of homœopathy and its adherents, and as there is a strong feeling in the public mind in these days against capital punishment, as, too, the law permits a jury to reduce the offence to manslaughter, you will probably feel it to be your duty to take the more favourable view of the case, but this discretion is placed entirely with *you*, and you will retire to consider your verdict.

The jury, without retiring, brought in a verdict of manslaughter. The learned baron immediately sentenced the prisoner to three years imprisonment; and the court adjourned.

Nisi Prius Court. — (*Before Mr. Justice Blackstone.*) The causes in this court to-day were of no interest.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I have not had time this week to continue my Narrative. I have much pleasure, however, in forwarding to you a condensed report of Professor Faraday's lecture delivered last Saturday, at the Royal Institution, on ozone. I have condensed this account from the report given by the *Chemical Record;* a publication on which I have more than once had occasion to comment with severity, because of the unfairness with which it dealt with homœopathy. I am happy to see that this journal has, of late, confined itself to the treatment of subjects in a purely scientific manner, and has now taken rank with the leading journals of that class of literature, while it seems destined, on account of the importance which chemistry is assuming in this country, and the felicitous style in which

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it renders this science comprehensible by persons of ordinary education, to become one of the most popular journals of the day.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
May 1, 1852. F. J. SMITH.

PROFESSOR FARADAY ON OZONE.

Those who have operated with an electric-machine will not have failed to notice a peculiar smell which occurs in an apartment where the machine is in action. This has been denominated the "electric smell," and it presents a marvellous field for philosophic contemplation. What is this smell? Does it depend on a substance *formed?* Does it depend on a substance *modified?* Such are the two questions which *first* present themselves for consideration. Numerous questions then rise involuntarily up for solution in the mind of a thinking philosopher. Is this smell consistent with any other manifestation? Yes: for if a piece of paper be moistened with a solution of starch and iodide of potassium, the paper is tinged blue; now, this tinging blue is an indication of the liberation of *iodine*, and this liberation of *iodine* is an indication of the agency of oxygen; hence, thus far has been established a connection between oxygen in an active condition and the electric smell.

It remained for Professor Schönbein, of Bâle, to develope the germ of knowledge conveyed by the electric smell—to expand and generalize it; to show that the same smell and its corresponding agency might be generated at pleasure by various means, which it was the object of Professor Faraday's lecture to set forth—to render manifest, for instance, qualities of bleaching, of intense oxidation, of deodorization; to show that the agent on which all this depended was constantly generated in the stupendous laboratory of the physical world; and, lastly, to prove that the mysterious gaseous agency was neither more nor less than oxygen —oxygen gas existing in an allotropic form. Seeing then that oxygen gas may exist in this state, it may be asked, in what does chemical identity consist? In what will these developments of allotropism end,* and whether the so-called chemical elements may not be, after all, mere allotropic conditions of one universal essence?

Having obtained a supply of oxygen, the lecturer now proceeded to lay before his audience a test of its presence. "If I take a jar of this colourless gas," he remarked—"no matter what it is called—and, passing the jar which contains it under the water of a pneumatic trough, then invert the jar, and liberate its contents into another jar containing oxygen —an orange-red colour results, and the gaseous volume, which before this treatment remained of permanent bulk when in contact with water, now becomes diminished by absorption. Now, no known gas, save oxygen, or a gaseous mixture containing it, will effect this change; and hence it follows that the gas in question becomes a specific test for oxygen."

The lecturer now repeated the experiment, merely substituting atmospheric air for the pure oxygen, which he operated upon previously, and the same orange-red colour resulted; hence it was demonstrated that the atmosphere contained oxygen.

Mr. Faraday now drew the attention of his audience to the contemplation of oxygen gas, as it exists in the atmosphere; how apparently bland and inactive, bathing continually not only our external skin, but the most delicate air-passages of our lungs, without injury. He next expatiated on the apparent inactivity of oxygen, as it exists in water, and in flint and clay.

Rising from the contemplation of oxygen suggested by these examples, how surprising, how wonderful is it to view and speculate upon the glorious manifestations of power it exhibits when brought into an active state!

These exalted agencies of oxygen constitute what are ordinarily termed the phenomena of combustion, and which in their ordinary occurrence are familiar to all; oxygen being the portion of the atmosphere which alone promotes this agency.

Mr. Faraday now impressed upon his audience the necessity of creating two primary ideas of gaseous oxygen. Firstly, the idea of oxygen gas in a state of rest; secondly, the idea of this gas in that intense condition of activity characterised by the phenomena of combustion. A third idea he would desire them to create by and bye; and indeed a consideration of this third or interposed idea would constitute the main object of his present lecture. The extremes he, however, desired his audience to limit their attention to at first,—the mean should be interposed.

Pointing to a little phosphorus in an open funnel, and therefore in contact with the atmospheric air, the lecturer remarked, that although phosphorus had a great tendency to combine with oxygen, and the latter to combine with phosphorus, yet the resulting action was very slight; the oxygen being in a passive or waiting condition. On charcoal, similarly exposed, oxygen exercised no effect; on wood, an effect that was at best only slight. Nor were these conditions greatly intensified if the substances in question were plunged into pure oxygen gas; all these instances served to illustrate one primary idea of the qualities of oxygen gas;—an idea which represented the one end of the scale of its phenomena.

If now, the same phosphorus and the same charcoal were plunged respectively, whilst ignited, into jars of atmospheric air, the active qualities of oxygen would be recognised; and the phenomena would be still more intensified if pure oxygen gas were employed instead of atmospheric air. The lecturer here performed the experiment just indicated.

Having thus developed the qualities of oxygen gas, as manifested at the two ends of the scale

* May it not be well for homœopathic chemists to consider whether, in the trituration of medicinal substances, a change does not take place, which imparts to the substance acted on or developes in it new powers—on which this subject of allotropism throws some light?

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of its phenomena respectively, namely, in its passive or waiting, and in its active state, Professor Faraday now proceeded to interpose between these two extremes a mean, namely, oxygen in its intermediate or allotropic condition of *Ozone*. He developed this part of the subject by dipping into a jar of atmospheric air a piece of test-paper for the presence of ozone; namely, paper on which had been laid a mixture of iodide of potassium and starch. The paper remained unchanged. The lecturer now put into the same bottle, containing a little water, a piece of clean phosphorus, and allowed it to stand for a few minutes. Then, dipping the same test-paper into the bottle, the paper became blue, thus demonstrating the presence (firstly) of oxygen, (secondly) of oxygen in a condition of greater activity than ordinary oxygen; demonstrating, in point of fact, the presence of ozonized oxygen.

In this latter state oxygen has acquired some very remarkable properties: it bleaches rapidly—an effect which the lecturer demonstrated by pouring into it a solution of indigo. It acts on substances on which it exerted no agency before. Thus the metal silver, even in the condition of thin leaf, is unacted upon by ordinary oxygen; but, when immersed into ozonized oxygen—whether unmixed or forming a constituent of atmospheric air—silver-leaf rapidly crumbles into oxide. In point of fact, under the influence of oxygen in this state, silver is no longer a noble metal. Not only does the preceding experiment demonstrate the activity of ozone, but demonstrates it to be oxygen;—because only oxygen could have formed oxide of silver by union with that metal. Moreover, the same fact can be demonstrated by passing ozone through a red-hot tube. It goes in ozone at one end of the tube, and comes out mere common oxygen at the other.

In addition to the qualities of ozone already detailed, it has others, and very remarkable ones. If a piece of tainted meat be immersed in it, the ill odour immediately departs. Hence, if viewed merely in relation to its deodorizing and disinfecting qualities, ozone must be destined by nature to perform some highly-important functions.

There are various methods of preparing ozone besides electricity and the agency of phosphorus. One only of these the lecturer could show, owing to the restricted limits of his time. The plan consists in immersing a heated body into a mixture of ether vapour and atmospheric air. Taking a wide-mouthed jar, the lecturer tested it for ozone by means of paper imbued with iodide of potassium and starch; but no ozone was present. He now poured in a few drops of ether, and tested it again, bnt still no ozone was there. Now, immersing into the mixed vapour a heated glass rod, he tested it once more—when the test-paper indicated an abundant presence of ozone.

"It would be readily inferred," remarked the lecturer, "that this ozonized condition of oxygen must necessarily be formed in nature's grand economy, and it wus doubtless intended to subserve some highly-important uses." Schönbein had speculated on its relations to disease and health—speculations on the consideration of which the lecturer was precluded from entering on this occasion. The most casual reflection on the qualities of ozonized oxygen would be sufficient to cause an appreciation of its influence on the changes of eremacausis or decay. Pointing to a piece of decayed wood, Professor Faraday remarked that the result might be considered as the effect of a slow combustion.

As ozone may be considered as an allotropic intermediate condition of oxygen gas, midway between its state of rest and its state of complete activity—so may oxygen in a solid state be made to assume a somewhat parallel intermediate condition. Thus, in the material gun-cotton a large amount of oxygen was stored; inactive to all appearance, but ready to spring into activity so soon as its combining force should be exalted by the contact of fire. (The lecturer, at this stage, showed the effect of burning gun-cotton.) As gun-cotton was prepared, so might he prepare gun-paper and gun-sawdust. A specimen of each was shown by Professor Faraday. "Although in all these substances," the lecturer remarked, "the oxygen appeared strictly quiescent, yet, in point of fact, this was not the case; a decomposition, slow but sure—a sort of modified combustion—was going on." Taking a piece of gun-paper which had been some time prepared, the lecturer showed that it had totally lost its extraordinary combustive power; only burning now like common paper. On examining its texture he found it to be weakened. The paper could now be torn with far greater facility than before; a sort of decay had ensued, not very dissimilar, probably, to the decay which affects woody fibre under ordinary circumstances, and which isso destructive to timber.

The intermediate, half-active, half-quiescent condition of oxygen in solid combination, as evidenced by gun-cotton and its congeners, the lecturer remarked, was most extraordinary. On a former occasion he had pointed out the remarkable quiescence of powers existing in gunpowder; but gunpowder was only a mechanical union of elements—gun-cotton and its congeners, a chemical combination.

Mr. Faraday concluded his lecture by directing the attention of his audience to the enormous amount of oxygen which exists in the material world. This consideration he impressed on his audience by referring to the tables. Not only does oxygen constitute eight-ninths of water and one-fifth of atmospheric air, but it constitutes one-half by weight of silica—the most abundant principle of rock and stone. No one could reflect upon these extraordinary facts without rising from the contemplation impressed with a conviction of the high importance of oxygen in the economy of the physical universe.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Rebiew of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—ST. BERNARD.

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Communications.

HOMŒOPATHY IN SWEDEN.

By Dr. Liedbeck, of Stockholm.

(*Continued from page* 519.)

I give the following extracts from the letters of one of our latest converts to the reformed medicine, Dr. Petesson, of Calmar, who not only "feels himself honoured in presenting himself before the public as a homœopathic physician, but will also, in the next Report to the Medical College of Stockholm, announce himself as an undoubting recipient of the Hahnemannian doctrine." Perhaps, also, the tone of Dr. Petesson will be of more interest to the majority of the readers of the *Homœopathic Times* than my own more sceptical communications in medical matters; sceptical in every respect, excepting as regards the great law for all organic reaction, *simile simili medetur*. Vital reaction is the Archimedean-Hahnemannian fixed point for all that lives and breathes; this is the only true compass in the hand of the physician for steering a right course, and keeping clear of the many hidden or unhidden rocks he has to encounter at every step of his anxious career.

But first allow me only to mention one interesting case which occurred in my own practice not long ago, as it has some reference to the valuable observations about tobacco which I read lately in the *Homœopathic Times*. In the year 1848, I was consulted by a patient, aged between thirty and forty, short, with blue eyes and light hair, meek and weak and tremulous, who complained of being *anaphrodisiac*, but wished to be married. He stooped, was thin, and of a pale and yellowish complexion. On his entering my room I perceived directly a strong smell of snuff, and observed also that the lower part of the nose and the upper lip bore the brownish signal of a snuffer, and the black waistcoat was well brown-powdered. I remembered that Lallemand (vol. ii. p. 14, Paris, 1839,) had observed, "Anaphrodisie par la fumée du tabac." I did not, however, know that snuff only could produce this effect, but I did not hesitate to trace the correspondent effect in the present case. I therefore told the patient that he was the only one who could cure himself, by discontinuing snuff or tobacco in any other form. He willingly agreed to do so, but as he wished besides to have some remedy, I gave him at once *Spir. Phos.*, 2 drops.

After two months the patient visited me again, pretending that the remedy had cured him, adding, however, that he never could believe that taking snuff was so injurious as he had found it since he had left it off. He now looked perfectly well, an image of health, upright, and with an expression of life and spirit in his countenance. The patient now preaches on the injurious effect of snuff amongst the brethren. I think the abstinence from the pernicious but tempting weed in this case did more towards recovery than the single dose of *Phosphorus* I administered, considering that we are all more or less under the influence of *Phosphorus* by the constant use of lucifer-matches, and that the patient thus ought to have been cured before, had *Phosphorus* been the true remedial agent.

But to return to Dr. Petesson. In his letters to me he gives the following account of his conversion to homœopathy:—"Through some of your writings, but principally from reading your pamphlet on 'Small-Pox and its Treatment,'* as well as through one of your former patients, the celebrated Professor Schwartz, my attention has been directed to homœopathy, which previously, from prejudice and ignorance, I had not considered worthy of notice; and I feel at the present moment, to make use of a theological expression, like a suddenly-awakened sinner. I have commenced seriously to study and to prove, and have consequently come to the profound conviction, that the Hahnemannian method of cure is the only true and rational one. The whole of my previous career of nearly twenty years' practice lies before my repentant memory as a great error. In proportion as my knowledge of my newly-adopted science increases, I am resolved to abandon the old routine, though the new *study* requires unceasing labour.

"My first experiments were made with

* Translated in the British Journal of Homœopathy.

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the remedy (*Vinum Stibiatum*) proposed by you for small-pox, *the almost infallibility of which, when applied in time, I have had an opportunity to observe in more than one hundred patients.* During the autumn I have succeeded in making some cures, which I believe would not have been obtained by allopathic means."

Case 1. — A milliner had for three months suffered from a continued aching and pain of the stomach, with vomiting of everything that she took, either solid or fluid. I diagnosed a commenced *scirrhus ventriculi;* however, after one drop of *Arsen.* 5, repeated for five days, the patient was so perfectly restored, that she can now take whatever food she likes, with impunity.

Case 2.—The wife of a labouring man, suffering from an old crural hernia for three days, presented symptoms of incarceration, and without result had used enemas, *Epsom Salts,* and *Castor Oil,* which were immediately rejected. After two doses of *Nux Vom.,* the incarcerated bowel was spontaneously replaced, during a copious evacuation.

Case 3.—An habitual constipation of ten years' standing was cured in three weeks by *Alumina* 4, one drop daily. The patient, instead of having alvine relief every three days, is now relieved twice a day.

Cases 4 *and* 5.—Two cases of acute rheumatism were cured—one in a week, the other in a fortnight—by *Aconite, Bryonia,* and *Pulsatilla.* Formerly in my allopathic practice, I did not succeed in curing this disease in less than a month or six weeks.

The following case appears to me remarkable as well in a physiological point of view as for the quick effects of the homœopathic treatment.

Case 6.—Miss H. A—, aged nineteen, of a sanguine temperament, of fair complexion, mild temper, and quite regular, had been directed to take *Rust of Iron* in very great quantities for *gastrodynia* of long standing. The disease disappeared after a fortnight's use of the remedy, but the patient was suddenly assailed with delirium of a peculiar character. She became talkative and somewhat odd; she perpetually changed the subject of conversation; was very attentive to everything that took place around her. She exhibited great liveliness, her eyes flashed brilliantly; and her sense of hearing became exceedingly acute. This state of animation, during which she recognised every one she had previously known, and neither spake nor acted altogether irrationally, lasted generally three or four hours at a time; then suddenly the expression of her face became serious and almost suffering, and she began to speak as in her healthy condition. She complained of a burning pain at a spot, about the size of half a crown, on the anterior part of the left side of the head. On being felt, this spot was much hotter than any other part of the head. This lucid interval did not last longer than from five to ten minutes, when her delirium recurred as above. Instead of the headache, she had at times attacks of a violent spasm in the chest, accompanied with violent screaming, and often followed by swooning. These symptoms had lasted four weeks when I was consulted. She was in a delirious state when I arrived, and was at first somewhat shy; but gave a tolerably correct account of her symptoms, and answered my questions without hesitation. After a while, when she returned to what was called her natural state, she bowed to me again, as if she had not before seen me; for though she remembered everything which occurred during her delirium, it was to her as if it had passed long ago or as a memory of other days. I gave her some globules of *Belladonna,* though *Coff.* was perhaps more indicated, as she had not during the whole of her illness slept uninterruptedly for an hour. The patient, however, was quiet during the whole of the night, and spoke rationally, though she did not sleep. The delirium reappeared the following morning, but disappeared for several days after another dose of *Belladonna.* As I have not been able to revisit her, on account of the long distance, I only know of her state from report. Her delirium generally reappeared afterwards only for an hour in the evening, but in the same proportion as these symptoms diminished, reappeared her old gastrodynia, in the same form as before. I have sent her, in succession, *Nux, Chamomilla, Cocculus, Bismuth,* and *Sepia;* but nothing appears as yet to have had a decided effect.

In the beginning of March, five cases of croup occurred in my practice, four of which I treated homœopathically. Two were cured, but were seen soon after the commencement of the attack; the two others succumbed, but I did not see them till the fatal termination was near at hand, as the plastic exudation had taken place before I saw them.

In one of these cases, though yet in my homœopathic noviciate, I opposed the use of leeches and emetics, which were advised by my allopathic *confrère* Dr. F., who was called to meet me in consultation.

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I gave instead *Aconite, Spong.*, and *Hepar*, of which the first two were used during the first twenty-four hours, and the last during the second and following day.

No fresh attack occurred. My allopathic brother confirmed the accuracy of my diagnosis, confessed it was an undoubted case of croup, but denied the efficacy of the remedies, because, in compliance with the wishes of the parents, I had allowed the application of warm-water compresses to the throat. The hot water did everything, according to him, and the *Aconite, Spongia,* and *Hepar* had done nothing. So seeing is sometimes *not* believing.

I have lately seen a most satisfactory effect of *Calcarea carbonica*, in a case of chronic habitual headache. A maid-servant, aged twenty, with regular periods, but of a scrofulous diathesis, had suffered from a constant headache for upwards of four years. Almost without any hope of curing a disease of so long a standing, I gave her *Calcarea* 5, five drops thrice a day. On the sixth day after the commencement of the treatment she was quite free from her headache, and has continued so ever since.

Two peasants sought my advice some time ago, who suffered from epilepsy, occurring during the night, but preceded by distinct premonitory intimations. I twice gave them *Belladonna* 4, a drop to be taken on the first perception of the premonitory signs; and I have had the satisfaction to hear from them that no regular attacks have since taken place. I cannot, however, hope that their cure is yet accomplished.

If I have met with some failures in my homœopathic practice hitherto, which I do not deny, I put them altogether to the account of my ignorance; and the satisfaction I feel in having commenced this mode of practice repays me manifold for the sneers and sarcasms that ever and anon buzz about me, on account of my having dissented from the *orthodox* medical faith.

(*To be continued.*)

NARRATIVE OF THE INTRODUCTION OF HOMŒOPATHY INTO ENGLAND.

By F. J. Smith, Esq.

(*Continued from page* 573.)

If the state of the public mind, in relation to any given subject, may be gathered, as it is now generally admitted that it may, from the periodical literature of the day, it must be allowed that the medical mind of England was closely sealed against the reception of the doctrines of Hahnemann when Dr. Quin, returning from Italy in the spring of 1827, took up his quarters in this country under the auspices of Prince Leopold.

Two medical periodicals of higher repute and of more extensive circulation did not then exist than the *Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal* and the *Medico-Chirurgical Review.* In the 28th volume, and in the 92nd number of the former of these works, published on the 1st July, 1827, we find an article entitled "An Outline of the Homœopathic Doctrine, or the Medical Theory of Hahnemann, by Edward John Spry," in which the writer states—"Many physicians in that country (Italy), but more particularly at Naples and its neighbourhood, have become converts to its theory. In Vienna and Prague it has become quite fashionable. The peculiarities of the proposed maxims appear to have attracted general attention; they were supported by some and ridiculed by others; and as no schemes are too visionary not to procure some proselytes, Hahnemann succeeded in raising a party who publicly espoused his opinions. A long paper-war was the consequence, which has not yet terminated, but which has succeeded in setting the medical men of Germany by the ears, and of forming them into two great sects—the homœopathekers and the antipathekers. It may not be uninteresting to show how such opinions operate in practice; and if we may judge from the opportunities afforded by Hahnemann himself, the conclusion cannot prove satisfactory." The writer then gives the history of two cases treated by Hahnemann, and proceeds: "It is rather singular that these are the only two cases of homœopathical cures reported by Hahnemann, although many are scattered up and down in the writings of his disciples. They are sufficient to show that the system utterly fails when brought to the test of experience; and however ingenious the theory may sound, it appears too ridiculous in its application even to obtain supporters on this side of the Channel. Although this homœopathic party is still numerous in Germany, it is but right to say that its popularity appears to be deservedly on the wane, and it is probable that it will die a natural death in the days of the next generation."

This quotation being solely introduced for the sake of its evidence as to the state of the medical mind in this country, on the subject of homœopathy, in the year 1827, it will not be expected that we should enter upon a criticism of its statements and arguments. We cannot, however, forbear to

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observe that the insult offered to that great nation—Germany—which has produced such giant minds, reminds us of the grave-digger in Hamlet, and his opinion of the English. We must also draw attention to the admission that the effect of Hahnemann's writings had been to divide Germany into "two great (medical) sects"—an effect surely not to be produced on a body of scientific men by statements and reasonings simply "ridiculous." We have further the implication that there is something extremely "ingenious" in the theory of homœopathy. And we must be allowed to express our sympathy for Dr. Spry, who, if he be still a denizen of earth (which, if we may judge by his style, is more than probable), must have passed a life of the deepest mortification in witnessing the constant increase of the Hahnemannic system, in spite of his prognostication that "it was too ridiculous ever to obtain supporters on this side of the Channel;" and that it was "probable it would die a natural death" on the Continent "in the days of the next generation."

Important as is the foregoing extract as evidence as to the state of the medical mind in 1827, it becomes additionally valuable from the fact that the extract itself is referred to and eulogized by the *Medico-Chirurgical Review* of London, edited by no less a personage than Dr. James Johnson. In the seventh volume of that celebrated work, published 1st of October, 1827, appeared an article with the word "Homœopathy" for its title. Homœopathy is not the only subject, however, upon which the writer expatiates, as our readers will see. We are here admitted to a view of the state of the allopathic profession; and a melancholy picture truly it is! Nor need homœopathists wonder at the insults that have been heaped on their system, when they see with what remorseless hate it is the custom of medical men to pursue one another. "As there is said to be," observes the reviewer, "a time for all things, probably the present time is one when we ought to cry rather than laugh, seeing the profession torn with dissensions and contentions from the South Foreland to the Pentland Frith—the patrons and the professors of Universities at drawn daggers, and, what is worse, at law with one another. Physicians and surgeons at war with and warred on by their respective colleges, and carrying their petitions and litigations into Parliament and courts of justice; one class of the profession endeavouring to supplant another; in short, the contest carried down to individuals, so that in every town, almost in every street, the foot of one man is opposed to that of his neighbour; while the press inflames the ire of contending parties, and ever and anon cries out, 'war even to the knife.' In such a state of things, it is charitable in our venerable cotemporary of the North to place before the public a GERMAN FARCE, which, unlike the apple of discord, must raise one universal and harmonious laugh among all ranks of the profession. Our cotemporary has acted on a celebrated precept of antiquity, laid down by no less a personage than Homer himself, and put on record by the wily Ulysses:—

"'Hear me, my friends, who this good banquet grace,
'Tis sweet to play the fool in time and place.'

"From what has been observed above, we think there cannot be a better time or place to play the fool than the present; and sincerely do we hope that 'grim-visaged war' may smooth his angry front, and 'chain the red dragons of his iron car' while attending to the entertainment which our humorous friend, Mr. Spry, has provided for the occasion. The scene of the homœopathic farce is, as it ought to be, laid in Germany, that huge protuberance of ideality in the brain of Europe, and the *dramatis personæ* are Professor Hahnemann and his disciples. It may not be improper to remind the audience that the principal actor, viz., the said professor, for a long time prepared his own medicines, to *prevent their being known*, and was, eventually, expelled from Leipsic for thus encroaching on the privilege of the apothecaries, and for persisting in keeping his remedies a secret.* Here follows a note which our medical universities will do well to consider. The charters of the German colleges were less favourable to quackery than that which was granted by the amiable (or rather amorous) Henry the Eighth of this country. In Germany, quacks are driven out of society, and regular graduates of regular universities are respected. *Here*, the quack is protected in the exercise of his art; but the physician who has undergone the discipline of the first medical universities in Europe is persecuted and prosecuted to the utmost rigour of the law."

The article proceeds. "The gist of the homœopathic system may be easily and briefly stated. Hippocrates broached the fanciful docrine, that a disease should be

* It is hardly necessary to say that the story of secrecy, in the sense in which it is here employed, is a fabrication. Every man of science knows that to arrive at *certainty* in respect of any experiment, he must be perfectly assured as to the agents he employs. Such a person will therefore regard the fact that Hahnemann "prepared his own medicines," as a very high testimony to his character as a scientific physician.

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cured by things that induce a state opposite to that of the disease, '*contraria contrariis medentur.*' The German professor strikes out in a diametrically opposite path, and maintains that disordered actions in the human body are to be cured by inducing other disordered actions of the *same kind*, but only much slighter in degree—'*similia similibus curantur.*' The doctrine of anti-pathy had much foundation both in reason and fact. Thus the burning heat of fever naturally suggests cooling drink and cool air; constipation calling for purgatives; diarrhœa for astringents; soporose diseases demand irritation; irritation calls for sedatives, etc. But what shall we say to homœopathy? Do venesection and purgation induce diseases resembling pneumonia, ophthalmia, hepatitis, and other inflammations, when these are cured by the above means? The idea is preposterous. But the effects which he attributes to medicines in the most inconceivably minute doses would stagger the credence of any but a German. Thus *Camomile flowers*, 1481 symptoms; *Elder flowers*, 116; *Iron*, 228; *Bark*, 469; and *Platinum*, 402!!! The thousandth part of a grain of *Arsenic* is the largest dose that should be given, and the hundred-thousandth part is enough in ordinary cases. A drop of the spirituous *Tincture of Sarsaparilla* is said to be a strong dose. The seven-millionth part of a grain of *Cucumis Colocynthis* acts sometimes too powerfully. It is no wonder that the Leipsic apothecaries chased Hahnemann out of their territory. We understand that a certain worshipful company in this country have instituted an action against Mr. Spry for disseminating a doctrine subversive of the best interests of *society*—at least *their* Society. In *this* prosecution we apprehend there will be no lack of alacrity on the part of the plaintiffs."

Observations such as these speak for themselves, and bear with them their own refutation. We must be permitted, however, to observe that there is as distinct and separate a history of every leader of our daily papers, and of every article of our periodical literature, as there is of every kingdom on the face of the earth; and that a knowledge of such history would throw considerable light on the argument employed. We cannot pretend to furnish the precise history of the production under review, but this we do know, that the *Medico-Chirurgical Review* was at the period in question conducted by Dr. James Johnson. Whether he were the author of the article on homœopathy we cannot venture to decide; we can only aver that the style of that article and of his writings in general is very similar. We happen also to know, on undoubted authority, that when Dr. Quin was in England in the autumn of 1824, he mentioned to Dr. Johnson (with whom he was at this time on the most intimate terms) that a new system of medicine, to which he had given some attention, was being practised in Naples, having been imported from Germany, where it was founded by a celebrated physician of Leipsic, of the name of Hahnemann. Dr. Johnson appeared to be much interested, and was certainly not a little amused, with the account given by Dr. Quin, whom he recommended to continue his investigations into the practice, on his return to Naples, adding the request, that he would furnish him (Dr. Johnson) with an article on homœopathy for insertion in his periodical. It would not be correct to say that the recommendation of this celebrated physician was followed by Dr. Quin, because he had previously resolved on resuming his inquiries into the new medical system. However, on again reaching Naples, Dr. Quin renewed his investigations into the Hahnemannic doctrines and practice, as proved by the letter of the distinguished artist dated in April, 1825, and cited by us in a former part of this Narrative. The result of these investigations was of a very different character from that anticipated by the Editor of the *Medico-Chirurgical Review*. Dr. Quin, therefore, with becoming frankness, informed Dr. James Johnson of the decided change his mind had undergone, adding, that if he wrote an article at all, it would be of a nature not likely, he feared, to find favour either with the Editor or his professional readers. To this letter no reply was received. Nevertheless, on his return to England in the spring of 1827, Dr. Quin called on Dr. James Johnson, when the latter inquired if it were true that he had been studying homœopathy in Germany, and had become a convert to the system. Dr. Quin, of course, replied in the affirmative; whereupon—*miserabile dictu!*—a coolness ensued, which ended in a total estrangement, much to the regret of Dr. Quin, who entertained a great respect for the talents of his friend, and held in high esteem the many valuable qualities by which his character was adorned.

What connection the facts just related have with the article on homœopathy in the *Medico-Chirurgical Review* it is impossible for us to say. Each reader will draw a conclusion for himself. But on this, we think, all will be agreed, that the anecdote is illustrative of the state of the medical

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mind of the country in the year 1827; and that if a man of Dr. James Johnson's character, position, and attainments could indite or insert in his journal such an article as that from which our extracts have been taken, and could so demean himself as our anecdote relates, there must have been a rancour and a virulence in the opposition with which homœopathy had to contend on its first promulgation in England, which, while it rendered caution an indispensable qualification in the herald, must excite our amazement when we reflect on the conquests that have been made, from amongst the ranks of the profession, during so short a period as a quarter of a century.

(*To be continued.*)

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF DR. ROUTH'S "FALLACIES OF HOMŒOPATHY."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

Entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

IX.

VI. *Influence of Hygienic Discipline.*—It has been shown in the preceding papers that Dr. Routh has brought forward no evidence whatever in his attempt to prove that the superiority of homœopathic results is due to *difference of locality*, to the *constitutional type of prevailing diseases*, or to the *influence of the mind*. Neither does he, in the section which forms the subject of this paper, give any proof of its being due to *diet* or to *hygienic* discipline. We have assertions, it is true; but assertions are not proof. For instance, we have the following at page 36: "If we look at the cases published by their most distinguished writers, and in which the attention to diet is recorded, we are forcibly struck by *the extraordinary manner in which this is enforced*. Coupling this with the admissions made by converts to allopathy, we cannot fail to be convinced that, in most cases, not influenced by mind, *the cure is effected by the dietary rules enforced*, and not by the mere globule."

As this subject is constantly brought forward by the opponents of homœopathy, and as it is found by them to be a short and easy method of denying facts to ascribe all to *the diet*, I have thought it right to inquire if there is, after all, anything so "extraordinary" in it or in the manner in which it is enforced. One circumstance has chiefly induced me to do so. It is that most of our non-medical friends are frequently at a loss what to say when this objection is made, although fully convinced in their own minds of its futility.

In the course of this inquiry we shall have to consider two points: 1st. Whether in homœopathic treatment so extraordinary a degree of attention is paid to diet as is asserted; and whether the dietary is in itself so very peculiar. 2ndly. Whether this objection, so constantly urged by allopathic physicians, is advanced by them in any other light than as a mere argument; whether, in fine, they believe or not that the homœopathic dietary is so good as they choose to say, when it is brought forward as an objection to homœopathic facts.

Upon the first head, the evidence adduced will be taken from Hahnemann's "Organon of Medcine" and from the diet-rules of the Hahnemann Hospital in London; it will also consist of the dietary followed in Dr. Tessier's wards during the time that his researches in pneumonia and cholera, as published in his work (to be referred to frequently in the sequel) were carried on.

Upon the second head, the evidence adduced will be taken from the Reports of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary (mentioned with commendation by Dr. Routh), and will be supported by a few extracts from the expenditure of that establishment.

We should expect from Dr. Routh's statement respecting the "extraordinary manner in which this (the diet) is enforced" by homœopathists, that in Hahnemann's Organon considerable space would be devoted to it. But it is not so. The question of diet and hygienic discipline is mentioned in only five out of 294 sections, and in a book containing 339 pages, less than three are taken up by it.

What is said by Hahnemann, however, in these three short pages is so replete with sound practical sense, that it cannot be out of place here to transcribe it.

"Considering the minuteness of the doses necessary and proper in homœopathic treatment, we may easily understand that, during the treatment, everything must be removed from the *diet and regimen* which can have any medicinal action, in order that the small dose may not be overbalanced and extinguished or disturbed by any foreign medical irritant. Hence the careful investigation into such obstacles to cure is so much the more necessary in the case of patients affected by chronic diseases, as their disease is usually aggravated by such noxious influences and other frequently unnoticed errors in the regimen, which are productive of morbid effects. The most appropriate

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regimen during the employment in chronic diseases consists in the removal of such obstacles to recovery, and in supplying, where necessary, the reverse; innocent, moral, and intellectual recreation, active exercise in the open air in almost all kinds of weather (daily walks and light manual labour), suitable, unmedicinal food and drink, and so forth." The three sections which I have transcribed (cclix. and following) contain all that is said by Hahnemann of the dietary in *chronic* diseases, with the exception, however, of a note, in which a few articles of diet are named and objected to. Among these we notice: coffee, fine Chinese and other herb-teas; beer prepared with medicinal vegetable substances (hops are medicinal) unsuitable for the patient's state; so-called fine liqueurs made with medicinal spices; spiced chocolate; highly-spiced dishes and sauces; dishes of herbs, roots, and stalks of plants possessing medicinal qualities; old cheese and meats that are in a state of decomposition, or that possess medicinal properties. Then we have a few cautions against "excesses in food and in the use of sugar and salt, as also spirituous drinks;" recommendations to avoid sedentary modes of living; in fact, just what any well-educated person in our day would attempt to inculcate upon the young. The note ends thus: "All these things must be as far as possible avoided or removed, *in order that the cure may not be obstructed or rendered impossible.* Some of my disciples seem needlessly to increase the difficulties of the patient's dietary, by forbidding the use of many more, tolerably indifferent, things, which is not to be commended."

It is clear, therefore, that the broad principle upon which all homœopathic dietary rules are framed is twofold. It consists in the removal or avoidance of everything which may be hurtful to the patient, or which might, being medicinal, arrest the action of the minute doses of homœopathic medicine.

The dietary in *acute* disease, which concerns us most in this inquiry, is equally simple. "In acute diseases, on the other hand, except in cases of mental alienation, the subtile, infallible, internal sense of the awakened life-preserving faculty determines so clearly and precisely, that the physician only requires to counsel the friends and attendants to put no obstacles in the way of the voice of Nature, by a refusal of anything the patient urgently desires in the way of food, or by asking and persuading him to partake of anything injurious. The desire of the patient affected by an acute disease, with regard to food and drink, is certainly chiefly for things that give palliative relief; they are, however, not, strictly speaking, of a medicinal character, and merely supply a sort of want. The slight hindrances that the gratification of this desire, *within moderate bounds*, could oppose to the radical removal of the disease, will be amply counteracted and overcome by the power of the homœopathically-suited medicine, and the vital force set free by it, as also by the refreshment that follows from taking what has been so ardently longed for. In like manner, in acute diseases, the temperature of the room, and the heat or coolness of the evenings, must also be arranged entirely in conformity with the patient's wish" (sec. cclxii. et seq.) That is all that is said by Hahnemann on diet and hygienic discipline.

In the diet rules of the Hahnemann Hospital the same principles are followed, but the articles are specified and classed under two heads—"aliments allowed," and "aliments forbidden." Among the latter are tea, wine, spirits, and porter, to which I shall have to allude presently.

It is singular that Dr. Routh, who can find no objection whatever to the authenticity of the cases recorded by Dr. Tessier, in his work on the homœopathic treatmeut of pneumonia and cholera, should lay so much stress upon the homœopathic dietary rules as the cause of recovery, when he knew that in Dr. Tessier's wards no change whatever had taken place in the dietary of the patients, which remained just the same as when they were under allopathic treatment. I say that *he knew* this, for I have tolerably strong evidence that he must know it; and if he did not, he has shown himself guilty of a degree of negligence, which, in an inquiry such as this, is in the highest degree reprehensible. The evidence is the following: — In the first volume of the *Homœopathic Times*, a series of papers entitled "Homœopathy in Paris" was published. These papers contained a description of the Hôpital St. Marguerite and of Dr. Tessier's wards. In this description the following paragraph is to be found: "At present, Dr. Tessier is not at liberty to make any alteration in the dietary of his patients; they are all submitted as yet to the same rules as those in the allopathic wards. He hopes that in the course of some time he will be in a position to obtain from the General Board of Administration the necessary changes in that respect."—*Homœopathic Times*, vol. i. p. 727.

The evidence that Dr. Routh has seen these papers is *circumstantial*, but nevertheless convincing. It is this: it happened that an interruption took place in

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the publication of the series of weekly papers; it also happened that a report of Dietl's treatment of pneumonia was given in the very place which would have been occupied by the missing paper, had it appeared. Now, Dr. Routh quotes this report of Dietl (p. 55). Having seen that paper, and being an habitual reader of the *Homœopathic Times*, as we see. in several places in his book, it would be singular that he should have overlooked a series of papers full of statistical details, and bearing most fully upon the subject of his inquiry. This fact is, however, to be noted, for it will be of some interest to us to inquire how these papers have been overlooked in Dr. Routh's statistical inquiry respecting pneumonia, as, independently of the small intrinsic value they possess, some questions are introduced and discussed, which I feel bound to say that, had they been met in a like spirit by Dr. Routh, and fully investigated, his book, instead of being totally sterile as regards the production of good and wholesome results, might have had no small influence upon the fate of the present medical controversy in the British Isles.

We have thus seen that the homœopathic dietary differs from the allopathic in this particular, that we are bound to avoid the use of substances, in the treatment of *chronic* disease, which might annul the action of our delicate preparations. The same rule holds good in *acute* disease likewise, but there is this important difference: that if in acute disease we follow Hahnemann's directions, to be guided by the patient's cravings for food or for drinks, we shall be at variance with allopathic dietaries only upon two points. In the first, when allopathists, through fear of increasing fever when present, or of reproducing it after its disappearance, imperatively *forbid* the use of all kinds of animal food, and insist upon the patient being *kept low*. We differ *in toto* from this principle. We may in many cases forbid the use of animal food, and even of its least nourishing form, light broths, because we know or suppose that it would hurt the patient, but not for the purpose of keeping him low. It may be a matter of necessity to forbid solids, and especially meat, but it is not done as a means of cure; consequently it is only resorted to as a temporary measure, and is carried on to a much smaller extent than under allopathic treatment and discipline. The latter is frequently very severe, and often unnecessarily so. Even in chronic disease, we see numerous articles of diet forbidden by allopathists which we should allow, whereas our restrictions are limited to spirituous drinks and to spices, and other medicinal substances. Several other restrictions, namely, those relating to crude vegetables, pork, and other meats, relate not to the medicines or to the system of treatment, but have reference exclusively to the power the patient has of digesting them.

We now come to the second head of our inquiry, stated at the commencement of this paper: whether allopathists *believe* or not that the homœopathic dietary is so excellent as they choose to say, when they bring it up as an objection to our cures.

I declare that they do not believe in this excellence of the homœopathic dietary, and I moreover deliberately charge every allopathist, who now attributes the superiority of homœopathic results in hospital-practice to the dietary enjoined, with being *dishonest*. It is pre-eminently dishonest to say that the results presented by a system of practical medicine, vastly superior to all those obtained by any other means whatever, are due to the dietary observed as a part of that system, and not to the medicines employed. It is *dishonest* to say so, if it be not believed; and, if believed, it is dishonest—nay, it is *in the highest degree criminal*—not to adopt that dietary.

But what are the facts of the case? In the Infirmary at Glasgow, in the years 1846-47-48-49, the following sums were expended in the purchase of articles which, had the Infirmary been managed on homœopathic principles, would have figured for very small sums: In 1846, the sum expended in the purchase of wine, whiskey, brandy, gin, and London porter, amounted to £369 13*s.* 4*d.* (exclusive of £22 10*s.* for spirits of wine, and £70 13*s.* for tea, etc. etc.) The total number of patients for the year was 4554; the total expenditure £6914 16*s.* 3*d.* At this rate of expenditure, the sum spent in the purchase of wines, spirits, and porter would have maintained at least 250 additional patients. In 1847, the sum expended in the purchase of the same articles was £667 11*s.* 6*d.* (exclusive of £29 4*s.* for spirits of wine, and £90 18*s.* for tea, etc.); the total number of patients being 7607, and the total expenditure for the year £11,232 2*s.*, this sum would have maintained above 400 additional patients. In 1848, these articles cost £302 11*s.* 6*d.* (exclusive of £13 7*s.* for spirits of wine, and £72 7*s.* for tea); the total number of patients for the year being 2669, and the expenditure £6682 8*s.* 6*d.*, this sum would have maintained at least 120 additional patients. In 1849, the expenditure for wines, spirits, and porter was £202 14*s.* 6*d.* (exclusive of £17 3*s.* 6*d.* for

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spirits of wine, and £56 13*s.* for tea); the number of patients for the year being 2686, and the total expenditure being £5752 16*s.* 5*d.*, this sum would have maintained above 170 additional patients.

There is therefore no excuse upon the score of *economy*, seeing that were the homœopathic dietary adopted so great a portion of expenditure would be saved.

Is there any excuse on the ground of *ignorance* of the homœopathic results? There can be none, for Professor Henderson's "Inquiry into the Homœopathic Practice of Medicine" was published in 1845, and reviewed by Dr. Forbes in the number for January, 1846, of the *British and Foreign Medical Review*, in his well-known article on "Homœopathy, Allopathy, and Young Physic." If, therefore, ignorance of the results of homœopathic practice could be pleaded as an excuse in 1845 and previous years, it cannot be pleaded in 1846 and subsequent years.

This shows therefore that allopathists do not believe that the adoption of the homœopathic dietary would be of any advantage in hospital practice.

But so far from the homœopathic dietary being considered good, as regards the use of stimulants (wine, spirits, porter), the homœopathists using them *rarely*, or only in *small quantities*, I here declare that no physician or surgeon in the United Kingdom, professing the usual allopathic principles, would consent to take the charge of fever or surgical wards, if he were much restricted in the use of those articles (which figure for such large sums in the Glasgow Reports), and much less would he do so, if he were bound to follow the practice of homœopathists in this respect.

With this critical analysis of the preliminary part of Dr. Routh's work, I, strictly speaking, take leave of our author, the continuation of these papers being in point of fact as much an *Essay upon the Homœopathic Statistics in relation to the Allopathic*, as a criticism of Dr. Routh, and will appear under a different title. Dr. Routh's objections to our statistics will be noticed, his statements scrutinized, and his opinions discussed; but we shall proceed in such a manner as to avoid his desultory mode of conducting the inquiry, and whilst omitting to notice none of his objections or criticisms, we shall have to enter into various questions which are of vital importance to all those who seek for truth in medicine and into the development of facts and deductions, which will, I doubt not, be highly interesting and profitable to the readers of the *Homœopathic Times*.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, MAY 15TH, 1852.

WE give the report of the Festival in support of the Hahnemann Hospital.

The fact of these Annual Festivals in support of the Homœopathic Hospitals is itself a proof of the hold that homœopathy has taken, and of the progress it has made.

We may well bear the very natural opposition of those belonging to the so-called "Orthodox" medical sect, when we have such proofs of the vitality of our doctrine.

The admirable papers of Dr. Ozanne, in refutation of Dr. Routh's "Fallacies" cannot fail to satisfy the homœopathic public that even elaborate efforts to show that we are weak, only serve to exhibit our strength.

The assertion that some, at least, of our practitioners profess to be able to cure all cases of all diseases is no longer believed.

We have no immunity from death, one of the laws of Nature, either for ourselves, or for our patients, or for those we love.

Coleridge said that "Death" is the most solemn monosyllable in our language,—and so it is, for it signifies the passage from the Visible to the Invisible world—*here* one instant, *there* the next.

> "So passeth in the passing of an hour,
> Of mortal life the leaf, the bud, the flower."

The good, the wise, the gentle, the true-hearted, and the loving is removed, *departed*, separated from the living in the body—and we feel the awful blank in our every-day existence. We wake up as we lie down to our widowed bed; or the child misses the mother; or the mother the child. The sun of our life is in eclipse,—the moon looks sickly, the stars give a feeble glimmering; the song of the birds has no charm, and the outburst of vernal life in the merry month of May has no bloom for us.

On the 10th of May there was the triumph at Paris, the Festival of the sup-

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porters of the Hahnemann Hospital—and on that day how many were made mourners by the departure of the beloved.

We eat and drink; we marry and are merry, till *the flood comes and takes us away.* But it is not out of place,—it is never out of place—for those who have the hopes of the Christian to point to the World beyond the Grave.

We enter into no religious discussion—we simply state our full belief in the world to come, and in that Divine Revelation which gives us assurance thereof.

For once we may be indulged by our gentle readers with remarks of this tone, which we close by quoting in full the tender and exquisite dirge of Shirley.

"The glories of our blood and state
Are shadows not substantial things;
There is no armour against fate;
Death lays his icy hand on kings;
Sceptre and Crown
Must tumble down,
And in the dust be equal made
With the poor crooked scythe and spade.

Some men with swords may reap the field,
And plant fresh laurels where they kill;
But their strong nerves at last must yield;
They tame but one another still:
Early or late,
They stoop to fate,
And must give up their murmuring breath
When they, pale captives, creep to death.

The garlands wither on your brow,
Then boast no more your mighty deeds;
Upon Death's purple Altar now,
See where the Victor-Victim bleeds!
Your heads must come
To the cold tomb:—
Only the actions of the just
Smell sweet and blossom in the dust."

HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL.

THE anniversary of the establishment of this Hospital, in Bloomsbury-square, for the practice and extension of a knowledge of homœopathy, was celebrated by a very elegant dinner, at the London Tavern, on Monday last.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Wilton took the chair, in the absence of his brother, Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., who was unavoidably prevented from attending by his parliamentary duties, and was supported by Lieut.-General Sir C. Pasley, K.C.B.; Lieut.-General Sir T. Hawker; Sir John Kennaway, Bart.; Sir John Hall, Bart.; Brigadier-General G. Frith, H.E.I.C.S.; Mr. C. P. Leslie, M.P.; Mr. J. More Molyneux, Rev. C. Kennaway, Mr. W. Leaf, Mr. C. A. Monck, Mr. Pasley, and about 120 other friends of the charity.

On the removal of the cloth,

The noble CHAIRMAN, in proposing the first toast, "The Health of the Queen," said he was sure that it needed no observations from him to ensure its cordial reception; all must hope that her Majesty's life, either by the practice of allopathy or homœopathy, may be preserved for very many years yet to come. (Cheers.)

The health of His Royal Highness Prince Albert, Albert Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family having been drunk,

The CHAIRMAN gave the "Army and Navy," combining with it the name of Lieut.-General Sir Charles Pasley.

Lieut.-General Sir CHAS. PASLEY rose and returned thanks, and stated that, in his younger days, he had had some little love for the excitement of the tented field, and as a great deal had of late been said about the national defences, he might be allowed to express an opinion that the army would as ever be found most steadfast and ready in the performance of their duties, though he hardly conceived that the army was efficiently strong. He might also say for the navy, that the spirit which animated them in the days of Nelson still prevailed—though he did not think that most important branch of her Majesty's service was sufficiently strong either in ships, seamen, or marines. He considered the prevailing system of paying off the crews of ships when they came into port most pernicious, and that they ought to form and support a national standing navy, in the same way as they supported a national army. As it now was, they trained men to naval gunnery, and just as they were perfect turned them adrift to look for employment from France, Russia, America, or any other country that chose to avail itself of their services. A militia was a highly valuable body, but in the late war it was found that the privilege of volunteering into it injured enlistment for the army. He also thought that a volunteer force, altogether independent of the army, might prove valuable for national defence, and that its formation ought to be encouraged by the Government.

The CHAIRMAN said that the next toast which he had to propose was one which in that room would be sure to be cordially received—it being "Prosperity to the Hahnemann Hospital." (Loud cheers.) He was quite aware that, in order to do justice to the toast, he ought to have made himself acquainted with the position and statistics of the Hospital; but, unfortunately, only having been unexpectedly called upon to take the chair upon that festive occasion, he had not been enabled to do so. He would, therefore, ask their pardon for any shortcomings in his address. A great many years since, his attention was

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strongly called to the principles and practice of the homœopathic system, and he could assure them that experience of its results had only strengthened his conviction of the truth of the principles on which it was founded. (Cheers.) He thought he might speak with some authority on the subject, as he had formerly taken a great interest in the practice of surgery, and walked the hospitals of London and Manchester for ten years. (Cheers.) He found that the system was making great progress throughout the country, and an hon. friend of his informed him that, at Manchester, the Dispensary was already self-supporting, there having been last year between 4,000 and 5,000 patients —indeed, he almost regretted that the system was making so much progress in that town, in consequence of the injury it must do to the practitioners of the old system. (Cheers and laughter). He had had great opportunities of seeing the effects of the system amongst the higher classes; but what he most admired in the system was, that it was beneficial to the middle and lower classes. (Cheers.) Formerly, if the rich were afflicted with a disease that was obstinate or deemed incurable, they could go across the seas, to the south of France or the baths of Homburg, for the benefit of their health, but those who had to work for their living could not do so; but now, by the new system they might be relieved at their own homes and have all the advantages enjoyed by the rich. (Cheers.) In promoting a knowledge of homœopathy, as in everything else, much was to be done by individual exertion; and he wished he could stimulate the gentlemen present to greater exertion in favour of the Hospital. (Cheers.) The Hospital owed much to the exertions of a few gentlemen, and he hoped they would excuse him if he mentioned one gentleman, whose example he wished them to follow, he alluded to their friend, Dr. Epps. (Cheers) That gentleman had already procured subscriptions amounting to upwards of £300 for the Hospital, and had promised a donation of £100 annually until the amount he raised was £1,000. (Cheers.) He was sure he need not detain them longer in asking them to drink the toast he had proposed; but he could not sit down without informing them that the committee had received a letter from his Grace the Duke of Hamilton expressing his earnest sympathy with their views (cheers), and his regret that he could not attend that festival. He would not have said anything further in proposing the toast of the Hahnemann Hospital, had he not been aware that some persons objected to it, because there were two hospitals for the practice of homœopathy. Now, he could assure those persons that, though some differences had existed between them, the rivalry was most friendly, and that if they subscribed to either of those hospitals, they would be promoting the interests of the other by aiding in the extension of a knowledge of homœopathy. (Cheers.) He hoped that from day to day the feeling of rivalry or asperity between them would be ameliorated, and that a cordial union would take place between the two institutions; and he could assure them that, so far as he was concerned, no personal efforts should be spared to bring about so desirable a result. (Cheers.) He urged all present to forward the Institution to the utmost of their power, so as to give to the world an opportunity of testing the merits of the system (cheers); as the great object of every society of that description, of every philanthropic mind, must be to ameliorate the sufferings of mankind, no matter whether that was best to be effected by allopathy or homœopathy. He would not detain them longer, but again urging them to use their utmost exertions to support the Institution, he would propose to them, "Prosperity to the Hahnemann Hospital." (Cheers.)

Mr. C. P. LESLIE, M.P., had been intrusted with a toast which he had great pleasure in proposing, though he felt he could not do that justice to it he could wish. He was satisfied of the truth of the principles on which their Hospital was started, and of the value such an Institution must prove to society. In proposing the toast he was about to submit to them, he might mention a fact which the noble earl in the chair had omitted, viz., that the Duke of Hamilton had enclosed in his letter a donation of £10. (Cheers.) He felt assured that homœopathy must progress, though, like all great discoveries, it was for a time opposed; and he, therefore, had great pleasure in proposing to them the health of the Right Hon. the Earl of Wilton, the Chevalier Bunsen, the Earl of Shrewsbury, and the other patrons of the Hospital. (Cheers.)

The Earl of WILTON having briefly returned thanks,

Sir JOHN KENNAWAY rose to propose "Success to Homœopathy." He had, in the absence of their noble President (Lord Robert Grosvenor), a short time since, taken the chair at a meeting of the Society—certainly not of so festive a description as the one they were then enjoying; and when he did so, he expected that he might see some slight notice of their proceedings in the newspapers, but he never expected the result that followed; he did not expect to see their meeting made the subject of an article by the editor of a paper which was feared and respected both at home and abroad—*Punch*. (Hear, hear.) Of this he was quite sure, that homœopathy had withstood and would withstand any test that could be brought against it. (Cheers.) It had often been said that the best test of truth was ridicule; and having stood every other test, was, perhaps, the reason why the article in *Punch* was written, to see whether they could stand the last and greatest test. (Cheers.) Wherever the system had been tried, in whatever part of the country its practitioners had established themselves, homœopathy had made and was continuing to make great and sure progress; and in spite of ridicule, or any other test that could be brought against it, it would continue to do so. It used to be said *Magna est veritas et prævalebit*, but with this system it might be truly said, *Parvo est veritas et prævalebit.* (Cheers and laughter.) They might rely upon it that, within a few years, the truth of homœopathy would be generally acknowledged; and as there were always persons looking out for an opening by which their children might obtain a livelihood, he would advise them to bring up

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their sons to a knowledge of homœopathy, to be prepared for the time when there would be sure to be a great demand for its professors. (Cheers.) He would conclude by proposing his toast, "Success to Homœopathy." (Cheers.)

The toast having been duly honoured,

Dr. EPPS rose and said—My lords and gentlemen, the sentiment which I have to propose is one to which the heart of every one present must feel a response—it is "the Memory of Hahnemann." If anything has its pleasures it is memory. No mean poet has sung those pleasures, and his song is worthy of the subject. Memory is impression recorded on brain tissue, thence transferred to the mind's tablet, awakable at will, or at least by the appropriate associations of stimulus. To make memory durable requires either intensity or repetition of impression. Memories of certain things and objects are from this latter cause almost lifelong. Who does not at every period of his age remember with intense delight a mother's love? and why is that so impressed but from this, that the impressions made by her love were continual repetitions of affection from childhood's earliest dawn to manhood or womanhood's fullest development? Who does not like to be remembered? Even the lowest, because most degraded, delight in being remembered. What have men done to gain this memory? Men have sought

> "the bubble reputation
> E'en in the cannon's mouth."

To be remembered has cheered thousands in some of the most arduous undertakings; and though it may be the lot of few to have the honour of having their names before a nation's eye, and still fewer to have their memories recorded on a nation's heart, still such memories do exist, and where they do exist, the existence will be found identified with the conjunction of some great deed or some great truth with the names remembered. Hence it is, that though men in all ages have combined to raise the warrior to the highest dignities, and though in the present day titles, and peerages, and pensions are awarded to the successful appliers of physical force, and rarely if ever to the giants of moral and scientific power; yet, in spite of all the efforts to give perpetuity to the memory of the former, it will be found that the names that float uppermost on the stream of human thought are the men whom Time has strung on his beadroll—those who have conjoined themselves with a great truth. The great Napoleon acknowledged that, in a century hence, all that he would occupy would be about ten pages in the world's history. Even our Nelson will depend for the memory of his name more on the sentiment that he put forth on the day of his last battle, "England expects every man to do his duty," than on the battles which he won. Euclid, who discovered the laws of force and proportion, has a memory among mankind far more extensive than Alexander the Great, and the memory of Alexander the Great has most of its permanence dependent upon his occasional recognition of moral truth and virtue. Look at our Newton—the memory of him is tied to the law of gravitation. Look at Galileo—the memory of him is adjoined to the fact of the earth's motion. Look at Harvey—the memory of him is conjoined with the law which regulates the circulation of the blood. Look at Jenner—the memory of him is associated with the law of the vaccine as a protection against small-pox. Look at Davy—the memory of him is inseparably united with the discovery of the elements of the alkaline bodies. Look at Faraday—the memory of him will be for ever made to float in connection with the laws of magnetic power. So with all the great and illustrious. Is there any other name that is associated with a great truth? Is there any other name that is worthy of being remembered in connection with the discovery of a law of the Creator? There is one, and you will recognise it as one that holds a place in your memory—it is the "Memory of Hahnemann." This name is immortal. This name has connected with it a power of impression on the mind's tablet that will augment every day, every year, every century; this has, in its connection with the law *similia similibus curantur*, the power of conjoining itself with every sufferer from disease. On what millions of minds has already this name been engraved by use, experienced in connection with the law discovered on the removal of disease. How many millions have still to have the same recorded in connection with deliverance from sufferings. How many a working-man is to be restored to his toil and to usefulness to his family by the application of this law. Indeed, with the exception of him who

> "In those holy fields,
> Over whose acres walked those blessed feet,
> Which, eighteen hundred years ago, were nailed
> For our advantage on the bitter cross,"

I know no one of all the treaders on the earth's surface who can compare with Hahnemann. He suffered that others might be relieved from suffering; he experimented on himself that others might be saved by the experiments; he endured pains that others might be delivered from pain. Hahnemann, in relation to the diffusion of the law in reference to the action of medicines, could say, at the conclusion of a well-fought struggle, lasting from the age of thirty to eighty-eight years, a fight which he carried on unremittingly and with unflinching honesty of purpose, what the most profound logician of antiquity, the illustrious Paul, said in reference to the struggle in which he engaged in relation to the truth in reference to man's moral and future well-being, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith;" and similar to the great humility of the apostle of moral salvation, expressed in the glorious language, "By the grace of God I am what I am; and His grace which was was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God, which was with me," was the humble reply of the great apostle of physical deliverance (Hahnemann), who, on his death-bed, thus expressed himself, in reply to his wife, when she said, "Providence owes you a mitigation of your sufferings, since, in your life, you have alleviated the sufferings of so

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many, and yourself endured so much." "Me," replied the dying sage, "why, then, me? Each man here below works as God gives him strength, and meets with a greater or less reward at the judgment-seat of man, but he can claim no reward at the judgment-seat of God. God owes me nothing, but I owe God much, yea, all." The hon. gentleman having alluded to the fact of a daughter of Hahnemann being present at the meeting, and that the grandson of that learned person was the first pupil to enter their School of Homœopathy in Bloomsbury-square, concluded with proposing "The Memory of Hahnemann."

The toast having been drunk in solemn silence,

The Earl of WILTON apologized for being compelled to leave the meeting, and resign the chair to his friend Sir Charles Pasley; at the same time announcing that the subscriptions of the evening amounted to upwards of £1,000.

Sir Charles Pasley having taken the chair,

Dr. MADDEN rose and said—Gentlemen, it frequently happens that two opposite conditions are productive of similar results, and perhaps never more frequently than in speech-making; for when one has too much to say, he is just as likely to be unable to speak as when he has positively nothing to say at all. If, therefore, I fail in this, my present attempt, to fix the attention of my audience, I hope you will distinctly understand that it is from no lack of materials wherewith to occupy your time, but for the very abundance of my thoughts which so clamorously demand utterance, that my greatest difficulty will consist in reducing them to order and precision. It is, sir, most cheering to think, that we have now got a *native school of homœopathy;* and our hearts swell at the thoughts of the magnitude and importance of the task which the lecturers in that school must undertake, and our hopes beat high at the prospect of the good which they may become instrumental in effecting. Gentlemen, you who have anxiobsly watched the progress of our beloved Cause for many years past, and have seen her outriding the storms which have beat against her little bark—you who have often smiled at the furious but futile efforts of her opponents to put her down, must look with cheerful and hopeful eyes at the budding promises of our new school, and you must feel very desirous that it should make a good impression, and should succeed in all respects. Our present position, sir, is a very interesting and important one; a spirit of inquiry has gone forth, and old Dame Medicine cannot check it. The Esculapian cock has crowed most loudly during the past year, yet the Hahnemannian bantling has not been frightened away. It is an old and familiar saying, that a man seldom cries out unless you hurt him, and if so, let us pity the sorrows of that poor old man Allopathy, for he has really cried out so loudly and bitterly for some time past, that I much fear he has been somewhat roughly dealt with. It is very sad to think that philosophy, knowledge, science, art, wisdom, and wit will not rest content with what our fathers and grandfathers knew. It is a melancholy sight to watch the effects of steam and machinery, and the electric telegraph, and all those new-fangled things, and to think that what took many days to accomplish in our early childhood, can now be done in the twinkling of an eye. I say all this is very melancholy, because it shows such thorough disrespect on the part of the neophytes of the present day for the glorious and time-honoured ways of their seniors. And then, to think that not only people can travel without mail-coaches, and can send messages without special couriers, but that they should now presume to get cured of their diseases without blue pills and black draughts is really past endurance; and yet, when carefully examined, the objections brought against us resolve themselves into nothing more. They cannot deny that persons recover under our care, but they abuse and bully them for having the audacity to do so. They laugh at our medicines, and speak of do-nothing treatment, yet they will not give their own patients the benefit of such *far nientes.* They will unhesitatingly tell a patient that a cure in his case is impossible, and yet, if homœopathy rescue the victim, they will coolly tell him that there was really nothing the matter, and his recovery was just what was to be expected But, gentlemen, I must go to the school, and say something about it. It appears that we have not only learnt something new or valuable ourselves, but we desire to teach others also; and in proposing success to the School of Homœopathy, I would like to say a few words regarding some of the advantages which I hope may result from its establishment. In the first place, I trust it will tend to dissipate the contracted notions current among so many even of our friends respecting our glorious reform. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, I have often felt grieved to find how commonly our friends, and how constantly our enemies, indissolubly associate homœopathy with infinitesimal doses. No doubt, if you look into books of defence and controversy, you will find the disconnection of the two very broadly stated, but in common parlance even our friends persist in speaking of quite a homœopathic quantity of this, that, or the other, while our enemies stigmatize us with the name of *globulist.* (Laughter.) I hope, gentlemen, our lecturers will be very clear upon this point, and that they will rescue us from the imputation of being traitors to our Cause, if we presume to give an appreciable quantity of medicine. This may seem a trifle, but it really is far otherwise, for I have known allopathic prescriptions spoken of as quite homœopathic, because the dose was unusually small, and I have heard some in our profession, who are worthy of the highest respect, stigmatized as very suspicious colleagues because they do not limit their prescriptions to globules and diluted tinctures. (Cheers.) Again, I hope the school will let the profession see that we understand diagnosis, and are not in the habit of misnaming diseases and magnifying trifles for the sake of reaping spurious credit. Gentlemen, I can assure you that for once that I have to tell a patient that their former doctor thought too lightly of their ailments, I have twenty times to assure them of the non-existence of the enlarged livers, affec-

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tions of the spine, inflammations of the bowels, and other dreadful bugbears by which their allopathic attendants have been terrifying them. (Cheers and laughter.) Again, I hope our lecturers will encourage their students to attend more to the internal development of our science than to the outward spread of our practice. It is all very well to try and extend the knowledge of the advantages of homœopathy, but ir is truer and deeper wisdom to strive to add to these advantages, and thus render them more convincing and self-evident. Once more, I would have it pointed out to our students that, almost without exception, every advancing step which medical treatment has made within the last half century, has been an advance towards homœopathy (cheers); indeed, so much so, that some of the best and most approved methods of treatment in the present day owe their success more or less completely to their approximation to the law of similars. Of this approximation of old physic towards homœopathy I may give one instance out of many, which will be the more interesting, as it relers to no less a person than Sir B. Brodie. I have no doubt that most persons here present are aware that Sir Benjamin is celebrated for his treatment of affections of the joints and spine. Well, during thirty years of his practice, Sir Benjamin recommended bleeding, leeches, cupping, purging, salivation, blisters, setons, and cauterisms; but, in the last edition of his work in 1850, he tells us that "a more enlarged experience has satisfied him that, in the very great majority of instances, this painful and loathsome treatment is not only not useful but actually injurious, and that he has ceased to torment his patients, and is convinced that the change has been attended with the happiest results." (Cheers.) This is certainly a step in the right direction, but will be no small blessing to the community, if our School of Homœopathy shall teach young surgeons to adopt, from the very first, a mode of treatment more mild and still more effectual than that to which Sir Benjamin has brought himself through thirty years of bloodshed and torture, to those who left themselves to his tender mercies. A certain Mr. Alexander Somers, in a highflown rhapsody against the homœopathic delusion, delivered to the inhabitants of Manchester the other day, winds up with the following big and boastful words:—"Theories, if unsustained by reason and unsupported by facts, withered and passed away in the sunlight of truth, like the too luxuriant flowers of tropical climates, while the progress of science resembled the growth of an oak, which, though slow in arriving at maturity, bloomed fresh and beautiful above the mouldering relics of a thousand springs. Such a science was that of medicine, of all sciences the most beautiful and the most ancient. From small beginnings, it had through every age made constant progress, and would, for the benefit of the whole human race, without undergoing fundamental change, progress, with man's progression, to the end of time." Now, sir, a simile, to be a good one, must bear a little carrying out, and I should like Mr. Somers to tell me if this old oak has not become rather rotten at heart, seeing that Sir Benjamin Brodie and numerous other master-minds, who have cut deepest into the very heart of the science, have ended in abjuring the very plans of treatment which have for centuries held the highest place in the esteem of the profession. In one way, certainly, the science of medicine resembles the oak and other deciduous trees; there are very often buds of promise and young leaves, which look very like an approach to some grand improvement, but, alas! for disappointed hopes, in a very short time these new leaves become sere and yellow, and then fall down and leave the poor old trunk bare and exposed to the pitiless wintry blast. Gentlemen, homœopathy is ever green and ever growing, and it is my earnest hope that this young offshoot of ours—this new school of medicine—will prove a vigorous sucker and grow apace, and ere long peer with or overtop the many schools of medicine with which this large metropolis abounds. (Cheers.) I have great pleasure in proposing as a toast, "Success to the Homœopathic School." (Loud cheers.)

The toast was drnnk with great enthusiasm, and acknowledged by Drs. Dudgeon and Curie.

"The Medical Council and Staff," "The Metropolitan and Provincial Practitioners of Great Britain," and a variety of other appropriate toasts having been drunk, including the health of the chairman, the company separated shortly after eleven o'clock, the subscriptions of the evening amounting to £1,016.

Mr. Higgs officiated as toastmaster, and the musical arrangements combined the talents of Miss Williams, Mrs. Endersohn, Messrs. Ransford, W. Ransford, F. Bodda, Holmes, etc.

THE INFANT BEFORE BIRTH AFFECTED IN ITS FORMATION BY IMPRESSIONS MADE ON THE MOTHER.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—The following is an instance of the fact that the fœtus *in utero* may be sometimes considerably influenced by circumstances affecting the mother. A poor woman, whom I delivered yesterday, struck herself a severe blow on the wrist in the fourth month of her pregnancy. She suffered much pain from this accident, and her spirits were much depressed by it for several days. The infant she gave birth to is deficient in the left wrist and hand; the fore-arm terminates about an inch and a half below the elbow-joint, and at the end of the stump five small projections, about the size of pins' heads, represent the fingers. In other respects it is a well-formed and a very healthy child.

Your obedient servant,

Sudbury. JOHN C. LYNCH.

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"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—ST. BERNARD.

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Communications.

HAHNEMANN'S VIEWS ON COLD WATER AND MOVEMENTS.

Read by Dr. Roth at the Meeting of the Hahnemann Medical Society, the 6th of April, 1852.

I MUST ask your indulgence for the incompleteness of this paper, which I shall read to-day only because our colleague who promised for this evening a highly interesting paper has been obliged to absent himself. We reproach our professional brethren of the old school for condemning homœopathy without examination, and for not considering such an important or rather the most important branch of the healing art worth studying; but, unfortunately, the same reproach applies to the majority of homœopathic practitioners, with regard to the treatment by cold water and movements, notwithstanding they form an essential part of our active means, and even as such come often under the law of like cures like. These reasons induced me to translate the greater part of the following extracts from a little work published by Hahnemann in 1784, under the title of "Directions for curing radically old sores and indolent ulcers; with an Appendix, containing a more appropriate treatment of fistulas, caries, spina ventosa, cancer, white swelling and pulmonary consumption."

Besides these extracts I shall have to quote different passages from Hahnemann's works, in which he mentions cold water and movements, and which may suffice to induce us to study and to improve the present imperfect knowledge of the pathogenetic effects of cold water and movements; the more so, as our great master says—"In consequence of a tolerable experience in medical science, I and many of my colleagues have learned with certainty that the number of necessary remedies is very small, and that, for the most part, with a few drugs everything hitherto considered possible in medicine can be effected, if we know them exactly and if we use them suitably and as simply as possible, in order to know more surely their virtue; just as we dispense with an infinite number of cutting instruments in surgery, if we know how to use properly the few necessary knives. This choice of remedies and the mode of their application distinguish the true physician, who has bound himself to no system, who rejects nothing without examination, or accepts nothing on hearsay, but has the courage to think and to act for himself."*

The passages which I found in Hahnemann's work with regard to cold water and movements, can be arranged in three classes.

First, in such cases where he recommends cold water and movements for making the healthy body hardy.

Secondly, where he shows the pathogenetic effects of these means.

Thirdly, such in which these means are recommended in the cure of diseases, with regard to movements.

"From going barefoot, the feet lose their tendency to get corns, gout, and dropsy; climbing causes less liability to turn giddy. Gleaning corn in August, sheep-washing, crab-catching, tending the cattle in all kinds of weather in the open fields, as well when remaining motionless beside them, as when running after them over the hills, fetching wood from the distant forest in all weathers, the damp schoolroom, the fair that excites disgust at the excesses committed, the three hours' sermon in the cellar-like church—all these are excellent exercises and modes of hardening the body, which would be serviceable to a person in after-life, whatever position he might occupy." (Friend of Health, 238, in the "Lesser Writings of Samuel Hahnemann" translated by Dr. Dudgeon, published in 1792.)

"It is well known that the tailor's trade is not one of the healthiest of occupations. We find in these good folks, if they are diligent workmen, usually emaciated legs, knock-knees, a dragging of the left leg, round shoulders, the head bent forwards, drawn-in abdomen, and so forth; their complexion shows very plainly the unhealthiness of their occupation. Loss of appetite, piles, constipation, weakness of the body, itch, etc., are things quite common among them; and yet there are cases in

* [Our reader will notice that these remarks of Hahnemann were published twelve years before he published his discovery of the homœopathic law.—ED.]

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which this mode of life has been found favourable to health.

"A young man in England was born with the feet turned inwards. A surgeon whom his mother consulted pronounced the deformity incurable. When he grew up, he could only walk with difficulty upon the outer border of his feet and heels; he always knocked one foot against the other, and frequently fell; the muscles of his thighs and calves were extremely attenuated, and the turned-in feet were so deformed, that shoes of a particular shape and tie had to be made for him. The poor-house authorities bound him apprentice to a tailor, thinking that this was the only trade that his deformity permitted him to follow. In this work, where one usually sits on the shopboard, as is well known, with the legs crossed, he observed a gradual change in his limbs, which, without the slightest employment of external or internal remedies, continued to turn outwards. In the course of three years they attained their natural position, so that he could wear ordinary shoes; they were indeed directed more than usually outwards. The muscles of his legs grew stout, and his body was so well formed that he enlisted in the marines, and thenceforward remained in the service. Probably in this case a peculiar stiffness (rigidity) of the muscles that adduct the foot was the cause why the abductor muscles could not maintain the balance of power, and so allowed the foot to be drawn inwards. The strain upon the former, when the legs were crossed at his work, stretched and relaxed them more, and thus the abductor muscles of the leg and foot were enabled gradually to attain their natural opposing power; indeed the latter gained in this way an excess of power, and his feet were turned outwards more than usual. Joiners and cabinet-makers usually have the right shoulder higher than the left, because they exert the former most during their work. It might be tried whether individuals, whose left shoulder was the highest, would not become straight by following these trades."

In the article on the general principles of the strengthening cure we find the following passage:—"Strengthening diet, fresh air, movement, and recreation of the mind are data whose application and force everybody must acknowledge. Only such food as is convenient to the body, and no more than sufficient, permits a good digestion, and dispels the bad humours from the first channels. Movement produces hunger, increases digestion, carries away, better than all aperients, the abundance of *materia peccans*, through the apertures of the body; every movement of the limbs contributes to a stronger circulation of the blood, and perfects the assimilation of the chyle; no health without movement. *Movement* is the soul of all bodily health; by it the work of the animal machine is wound up. My patients must move themselves. In my so-called strengthening cure of chronic ulcers, which I justly consider as a general one, movement forms the principal part. Driving in easy and by degrees in jolting vehicles, and riding on horseback, serve the rich, and labour and walking the poor. But invariably the intensity of the movement must be considered; even in diseases of the legs, in weakly persons, walking is preferable to strong-arm labour. The movement must never be continued to fatigue, nor, on the contrary, must it be so slight as to allow one to be chilled; in general I increase the movement in proportion to the increase of strength, which is my standard."

Chlorosis.—"Movement is, next to food, the most necessary requisite of the animal organism; by it the work is wound up. We should not compel girls to sit at the work-table or at the toilet, to play at cards, to tiresome visits, to the idle work of reading books, and consequently make them like etiolated plants. Movement and fresh air alone are capable of driving all the humours of our body to their destined places; of forcing all secretory organs to secrete their peculiar humours, of strengthening the muscles, of giving the blood its highest redness, of attenuating the humours, so that they may penetrate the most subtile capillaries with ease, of invigorating the pulsations of the heart, of producing comfortable and good digestion, and, by conducing in the best way to rest, sleep, to the time of recreation, and production of new vital powers. How can an abundance of healthy female blood be originated, and its monthly excretion take place unobstructedly without movement and without the spirit of refreshing air.

"Swollen cervical glands are cured by the lucky hand of some wise woman or midwife, who must, each time that the moon is on the wane, in silence press thrice upon the swollen glands with her thumbs, in a crucial manner. Superstition places much confidence in this semi-magical remedy, which is sometimes actually of great service. Thus much is certain, that glandular swellings in middle-aged individuals of lymphatic constitutions, who have not much general scrofulous disposition, not unfrequently disappear rapidly by rubbing and moderate pressure; thereby are produced an increased circula-

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tion of the blood and a greater activity of the lymphatic vessels, and even an incipient inflammation, whereby the swelling is removed.

"As movement in general is to the whole machine of the human body, so is friction, principally with woollen cloths, for small parts. The vital force is roused, the circulation of the humours is thereby immensely increased and brought into order, the muscles are strengthened, the skin becomes more sensitive and susceptible of the impression of cold. By these frictions effects are produced, which we may try in vain to produce by other means; with the assistance of friction, the weakest person can make use of the coldest bath. In the cure of chronic diseases, in order to make a cure possible and practicable, the homœopathic physician, in his prescription of diet and mode of living, yields to circumstances; by this method he attains the aim of the cure more certainly, and therefore also more perfectly than by obstinately persisting in strict and, in many cases, impracticable prescriptions. No legislator should order a thing impossible to be done, or to be controlled, or which, if obeyed, produces even greater disadvantages.

"If there is strength, the labourer must continue his manual work, the tradesman his trade, the agriculturist, as far as possible, his field labour, the housewife her household work; only such work is to be forbidden which is injurious to health. Persons not ordinarily occupied with heavy labour but with light work, and leading a sedentary life, must be encouraged to walk in the open air, without entirely neglecting their previous occupations. The rich must also walk more than they usually do, and they may be allowed to dance moderately and properly; too frequent riding in a carriage or on horseback must be restricted. The student also must be induced to take exercise in the open air, and in bad weather to perform some manual labour at home. A pregnant woman had the itch on her hands, and suppressed it in the eighth month of her pregnancy. Three days later she was confined, the lochia disappeared, and she was affected with an inflammatory fever; for seven years since that time she had not been *enceinte*, and suffered from leucorhœa. Afterwards she sunk into poverty, and was obliged to walk a long distance barefoot; the consequence was that the itch reappeared, she also lost the leucorrhœa as well as the rest of the hysterical symptoms, became again *enceinte*, and was successfully confined."

AN ESSAY ON HOMŒOPATHIC STATISTICS;

Together with a Critical Analysis of Dr. Routh's Work, entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

X.

It is proposed, in the course of this essay, to inquire how far we can avail ourselves of the results, hitherto published, of the application in hospital practice of the system of Hahnemann, in order to form a correct estimation of its *relative* or *absolute* value as a system of therapeutics. It is proposed to take these results, whether published in a numerical form or otherwise, to submit them to a careful analysis, to compare them with the results of allopathic treatment, and, finally, as far as possible, to compare them with the results observed, where patients have been left during the whole or a part of their disease without medical treatment of any kind.

Were we satisfied with taking up these questions, and proceed towards their solution in the way that statistics are generally understood, it would be sufficient to classify the diseases which will form the subject of our inquiry under different heads, in such a manner as to ensure their being really entitled to the name applied to each of them; then to calculate averages or per centages, with the view of exhibiting, in a form alike simple and striking to the eye, the results obtained.

But it is obvious, that by this proceeding we should only obtain averages which, although undoubtedly the expression of truth, would, nevertheless, not be so exempt from error as to be the *fullest* expression of truth. Thus it might happen that although the superiority of the results obtained by the homœopathic system might be established beyond a doubt, nevertheless *the degree* of that superiority might not be exhibited so clearly as to give a correct estimate of its powers, *relative* or *absolute*, as a system of therapeutics.

Were it possible, therefore, to classify a series of observations into groups, the characters of each of which would be so clearly defined as to leave no room for doubt or error, and respecting each of which *some distinct proposition could be affirmed;* were this possible, we should at once attain a degree of precision far more satisfactory to the mind, and more fruitful, in a strictly scientific sense, than

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the most carefully-calculated averages could by any means give.

However difficult this task may be, we shall not be deterred from undertaking it, in reference to one portion, at least, of the field over which this inquiry will extend. However small the results attained may be, we shall, at all events, have the satisfaction to feel that, as in all scientific investigations a logically and carefully-conducted inquiry can never be totally fruitless, our efforts may not be altogether unavailing in directing the attention of inquirers to a source which, in the end, cannot fail to be productive of results far superior to those obtained by statistics, as generally understood.

One more remark upon this topic before quitting it and passing on to the statement of the division of the subjects of this essay. The remark is this: that this mode of conducting statistical inquiries by the framing of propositions, is not one applicable to every stage of the progress of a science such as medicine. It is only applicable when it is possible to frame propositions which *do not admit of exceptions*, or to which the exceptions are so rare that they may be justly looked upon as mere accidents, not capable of weakening the proposition. This is possible to a great extent under the homœopathic system of treatment. It is not possible under the allopathic; for here the exceptions to the propositions would, in most cases, be so frequent, that, to determine their exact value, it would be necessary to have recourse to the very system of averages which is here denounced as inferior in scientific worth.

It is not intended in this essay to follow Dr. Routh's plan. He commences his statistical "inquiries" with the *General Mortality of Hospitals*, and then proceeds to the *Mortality in Particular Diseases*. It is remarkable that he should have adopted this plan. In an inquiry into *matters of fact, consisting of observations or experiments*, it is logical to proceed by the analytical method, from the simple to the complex. Indeed no other method is possible. Where, on the other hand, the object is to teach that which is already known, the course followed is usually the reverse: it is then usual to proceed from generalities to particulars. This single circumstance would be enough to show that his object was not an inquiry. The object in view was a dogmatic, an authoritative condemnation of homœopathy.

If we would proceed in a course likely to be productive of good fruits, we must commence our inquiry with the study of simple groups of disease; and the effects of treatment being well known in these, we may, with advantage, proceed to inquire into the general mortality of hospitals.

Although vicious in its plan, and faulty in its execution, Dr. Routh's treatise will not be useless to us. Indeed it will be of the greatest service, for it is the production of a skilful, clever, and well-informed—although inaccurate—physician. Moreover, it is the work of an opponent—of one whose efforts have received the warmest eulogies on the part of the allopathic periodicals—of one who has done his utmost to deal a death-blow to homœopathy.

The fact that such a work has been produced, is not only significant that we have reached a new era in the development of our doctrines, but it is useful in a way—considering that our system is founded on truth, and need fear no antagonism, provided it be open and avowed—which I cannot illustrate in a better manner than by quoting the following words of Mr. Stuart Mill, in the preface to his "System of Logic."

"Truth.....is militant, and can only establish itself by means of conflict. The most opposite opinions can make a plausible show of evidence, while each has the statement of its own case; and it is only possible to ascertain which of them is in the right, after hearing and comparing what each can say against the other, and what the other can urge in its defence."

From the above remarks the reader will at once infer that we cannot follow Dr. Routh's arrangement of his subject. Instead, therefore, of commencing our inquiry with the "General Mortality of Hospitals," as he does, we shall at once pass on to his next heading, namely, the "Mortality in Particular Diseases." After a careful study of these, and having obtained data upon which we may rely, we may then with profit proceed to inquire into the general mortality of hospitals, whether homœopathic or allopathic.

Dr. Routh begins this portion of his work with the study of *pneumonia*; he next passes on to *pleuritis, peritonitis, encephalitis*, and *meningitis*, to *dysentery* and *fever*, and ends with *cholera*. There being no objection to this course, we shall simply follow it throughout this part of his work. As we go on, we shall consider, one by one, his objections to our statistics, together with those advanced by Dr. Balfour, in his "Report of the Homœopathic Treatment of Acute Diseases in Dr. Fleischmann's Hospital, Vienna, during the months of May, June, and July, 1846," inserted

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in the October number for that year of the *British and Foreign Medical Review*. The opinions of a certain Dr. Schulz, quoted by Dr. Routh, will also be brought forward and examined. As these gentlemen appear in the character not only of objectors to homœopathy, but likewise of eye-witnesses to homœopathic facts, it will be a part of our inquiry to enter into a careful scrutiny of their testimony. Moreover, it will become a legitimate and necessary part of our investigations to ascertain their *medical creed*. In ordinary circumstances such a step would not be called for; but in the present case, and as matters stand, we cannot, in our attempt to estimate the testimony of these gentlemen at its real value, avoid entering into the question. We shall therefore have to ascertain, as a necessary part of our inquiry, whether these gentlemen have any belief in medicine at all.

PNEUMONIA.

"This is, perhaps, the disease which, of all others, has made the most perverts to homœopathy. In the table given at length in the Appendix, the following cases are recorded:

"Under homœopathic treatment, male and female, cases 783; deaths 45, mortality 5.7 per cent., or 1 in 17.

"Under allopathic ditto, ditto, cases 1522; deaths 373, mortality 24.5 per cent., or 1 in 4."

"A result most favourable to homœopathic treatment. Unfortunately, however, it is not to be depended on, and much in this difference of mortality is to be explained by the relation to some of the causes before noticed, such as the *variety or type of the disease*, the *selection of cases*, the *comfort of the patient in the hospital*, the *age*, *sex*, etc., having particular reference to the mortality of pneumonia." (Routh, p. 47.)

In meeting these objections, there are different points to be ascertained. In the first place, to what extent may the variety or type of the disease influence the result? This difficulty is removed in this manner: the above 783 cases of pneumonia are collected from different sources, and in the course of several years. The latter fact is of itself a tolerable guarantee that they are not due to any peculiar *epidemical constitution*. It is the more convincing, seeing that the results are not subject to great variations with each year, but tolerably uniform throughout. As to the variety or type, so far as dependent upon *locality*, we shall meet the objection by comparing the homœopathic cases observed at Vienna with the allopathic observed in the same town, quoting our facts as regards the latter only from Drs. Routh and Balfour, and those observed at Paris with the statements to be found in the elaborate work on Pneumonia, by M. Grisolle, of Paris—a work which is, I may here observe, deservedly looked upon by all parties, on account of the completeness of the researches contained in it, and of the candour and impartiality which animate the writer, as a *standard work* upon the subject. The accusation of selection, the superior comforts of homœopathic patients, the question arising from their sex, age, etc., will all be fairly met in the proper time and place.

First. Dr. Routh's first objection to our statistics is given by him in the following words:—"Are the cases occurring in the homœopathic hospitals genuine instances of pneumonia?" (p. 47.) He then takes up the proportion of cases of pneumonia to all cases admitted into the General Hospital at Vienna, and finds it to be 2.1 per cent.; whereas during a period of years, it was 4.5 per cent. at Dr. Fleischmann's hospital. At the General Infirmary of Glasgow, the proportion of pneumonia cases admitted to admissions from all causes was only 1.1 per cent. These facts show, in the first place, if they be correct on all sides, that, first, at the homœopathic hospital at Vienna a larger proportion of pneumonia cases is taken in than either at the General Hospital at Vienna, or the Royal Infirmary at Glasgow. If this turns out to be the case with other serious diseases also, *which it is*, it will establish a presumption that the general mortality at the Vienna Homœopathic Hospital *ought to be greater* than either at the General Hospital at Vienna, or at the Royal Infirmary at Glasgow, which, however, *is not the case*; and second, that at Vienna, pneumonia is a more common disease than at Glasgow; the admissions from that disease being, at Vienna (allopathic), 2.1 per cent., at Glasgow 1.1 per cent., on all admissions.

The point contested here by Dr. Routh is the fact, that the cases put down as pneumonia cases in Dr. Fleischmann's tablets are *genuine* pneumonia cases. How shall we ascertain their true character? Nothing can be easier. It is clear, that if we ascertain the average per annum during a series of years, and take as our test for any particular year not exceeding the average, any testimony, the accuracy of which, *upon that particular point*, we cannot doubt, we at once gain direct and convincing evidence of the truth of the averages.

Now here are the facts: in the period of nine years, beginning with the 1st of Ja-

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nuary, 1835, and ending on the 31st December, 1843, there were admitted into Dr. Fleischmann's hospital at Vienna 300 cases of pneumonia, being on the average thirty-three per annum. In the subsequent years the number of admissions seems to have increased, as we should expect it to do, seeing the increased reputation of the hospital for curing dangerous diseases. In the five following years, 1844-45-46-47-48, there were 284 admissions, or fifty-six per annum. I have given, a little above, the title of Dr. Balfour's Report, as inserted in the *British and Foreign Medical Review*; it embraces a period of three months. The first case of pneumonia reported by Dr. Balfour was admitted on the 2nd of May, the last on the 24th of July, 1846; his Report on Pneumonia, therefore, as regards pneumonia-admissions, takes in a period of eighty-three days, or eleven weeks and six days, somewhat less than three months. Now it so happens that he reports during that time nineteen cases of pneumonia (one of which, however, *we* do not believe to be genuine); if we take this number and multiply it by four only, which would give a period of less than one year, but which we may put down as one year, the total for the year would be seventy-six, which is considerably above the average number of admissions for each year. The number in Dr. Fleischmann's tables for that year (1846) is sixty-four.

But if it be objected that perhaps there may be more cases of pneumonia admitted in the summer than in the winter months, I have my answer in the "Appendix to the Reports of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh for 1842." In Table 10 (p. 13), giving the admissions for each quarter of the year, we find that from October to March, the admissions of pneumonia cases amounted to twenty-eight; in the six summer months they amounted to thirteen only, less than half the number of the admissions for the winter months, if calculated on the same scale. Dr. Fleischmann's admissions, taking Dr. Balfour's Report as our basis, would amouut to 104 pneumonia admissions, the actual number in his tables being only sixty-four.

(*To be continued.*)

REVIEWERS REVIEWED.

By a Progressist.

(*Continued from page* 592.)

But to return to Dr. Routh's "Fallacies." The reviewer goes so far as to say that Mr. Brady's table of cholera cases is "a lie." We conclude, before Mr. Brady published his table of cholera cases treated at Huddersfield, he had sufficient opportunities of ascertaining the facts; that he was not influenced by interest, or that he had any purpose to answer by it calculated to promote his own advantage. We most ardently hope Mr. Brady will "*speak out.*" At the same time the reviewer states this table to be "a lie," on the testimony of Dr. Routh, he admits that Dr. Routh's book is "slovenly written," and that he has an incorrect style of composition; if he is slovenly and incorrect in one way, we may have every reason to expect that he may be slovenly in others, and if he is incorrect in composition, he may be incorrect in figures; but though the reviewer states that Dr. Routh has written a slovenly book, as that book is against homœopathy he has devoted sixteen pages of his number to it. The reviewer is well aware that the progress of science is not confined to the experience of one man, and therefore he opens his Quarterly that he may afford opportunities of enlarging the circle for the reception of truth. The vulgar mind may often be unable to discriminate between the creditable testimony of a man of experience and that of a designing man, who had some interest in calling on his readers for their implicit faith, consequently, it falls into one of the extremes of credulity or scepticism. When the king of Siam was told by a Dutch traveller that, in Holland, at certain seasons of the year, water becomes so solid that an elephant might walk over it, he replied. "I have believed many extraordinary things which you have told me, because I took you for a man of truth and veracity, but now I am convinced you lie." Had the king had a philosopher at his court who had attended to the properties of heat, and he had explained why the water became solid, the king would have judged in a different manner.

In forming an opinion on any subject, we are not to be influenced simply by our own experience. We must extend our views much further than this, and proceed upon the knowledge which we may derive from other sources. To say that this system or that system is incredible because it is opposed to individual experience, is merely to say, it is incredible because it is incredible. A very small portion of our knowledge is obtained through our own experience; the greatest part we get from other men. We must be influenced by the manner and by whom we receive it, and form our opinion as to its correctness as it may accord with facts with which we are already acquainted. Whatever may be

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the speculative views of other men, homœopathists place confidence in the experience of Hahnemann. He learned to "accumulate facts and discarded all theory." The certainty of a science depends upon the facility with which we trace effects to their true causes, and causes to their true effects. This was Hahnemann's view, when he asked himself the question, "Why does bark cure ague?" It was useless his applying to any medical reviewer—he could not gain the information from such a quarter. "At length he thought, 'A certain quantity of this inert-looking powder will make strong a man who is attacked with a certain sort of weakness, and arrest his periodical shivering and concomitant sufferings, will it make me stronger, I wonder, if I take it?' He began a course of it, and one evening, after having taken a quantity of it for several successive days, he was attacked with shiverings and other symptoms of intermittent fever, attended with much weakness and loss of appetite. He stopped his daily doses; his fever went away, and health returned. He tried it many times, and invariably with the same or similar results."

"Now Sir, observe, if you please, 'Fact the first.' *Cinchona* gives a healthy man an intermittent fever, and *Cinchona* cures intermittent fever in the sick. Do you think the mode of investigation adopted by Hahnemann was unphilosophical, incautious, untruthful? Then, Sir, that is homœopathy; and whenever you give *Quinine* to the weak, you go back to the very elements of the science and adopt that very system which you abuse. And there is not one of you all who does not in this manner every day imitate the very man whose discoveries you ignore while you employ them. You are, one and all of you, homœopathists, and you one and all practise homœopathy, *wherever you can*, and nothing but your ignorance of the properties of those medicines which the law has empowered you to distribute prevents you all from practising pure homœopathy in every instance where you are called in."*

"We are satisfied,"† says the reviewer, "that the profession of medicine will protect its noble art and science from debasement." There has been much difference of opinion among philosophers in regard to the place which medicine is entitled to hold among the sciences, for while one has maintained that it "rests upon an eternal basis, and has within it the power of rising to perfection," it has been distinctly asserted by another, that "almost the only resource of medicine is the art of conjecturing." The following apologue, says D'Alembert, "made by a physician, a man of wit and philosophy, represents very well the state of that science. 'Nature,' says he, 'is fighting with the disease; a blind man armed with a club, that is, the physician, comes to settle the difference. He first tries to make peace; when he cannot accomplish this, he lifts his club and strikes at random, if he strikes the disease, he kills the disease; if he strikes nature, he kills nature.'"

"Another eminent physician," says the same writer, renouncing a practice which he had exercised for thirty years, said, 'I am wearied of guessing.'"

Hahnemann thought for himself, accumulated his own facts, published his experience to the world, and lived through every species of opposition to see his system firmly established. He could calculate on the same phenomena, with the same confidence in which we proceed in other departments of science, without the complicated uncertainty of the old school. With what different feelings does the homœopathist contemplate in its commencement a case of dangerous internal disease, its probable progress and termination, and the effect which our remedies are likely to produce in arresting it, those best can tell who have most experienced them. The light of knowledge, through Hahnemann, which was only dimly perceived by the ancients, which was obscured by the clouds of error and prejudice, has appeared in all its purity and brightness, and whilst improvements of all kinds have been developed, the health of man has not been neglected. It is well worthy of notice, how surely in the order of Providence such men as are wanted are raised up.* By means of his (Hahnemann) experiments a new creation of facts have appeared—of facts, as much superior to mere speculations as things are to words. Such a man is a benefactor, not only to the present generation, but likewise to future ages. "He studied the severe philosophy of Bacon, and from it he learned to accumulate facts, and discard theories; he found the art of cure entangled in all kinds of hypotheses, of which each age saw many rise, become fashionable, and die, to give place to new ones. He found there was no basis of certainty for any theory or opinion, so he rejected the whole useless mass, and determined to have no theory at all."†

* A Letter addressed to Dr. Rose Cormack, by Rev. Thomas Everest, p. 18.
† British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review.

* Dr. Southey's Colloquies. † Rev. T. Everest.

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If we look into the habits of men of science, we find that their whole aim has been to combine, in the highest degree, a depth and extent of knowledge with delicacy and precision in the methods of experimental research. Many scientific persons, both before and after Bacon and Newton, pursued the method of experiment in all its precision. Cavendish, Priestly, Scheele, Davy, Liebig, Faraday, have all applied themselves with intense ardour to experiments. To theory they paid little attention; their writings are copious, distinct, and satisfactory, and principally narrations of facts. Hahnemann offers an extraordinary instance of the power of genius to conquer difficulties, and to create resources of his own. Born in a country town, without friends and without fortune, he seemed, by a disposition which may be called instinctive, to have pursued the course of discovery. He was brought up as a physician, and led by this circumstance to attend to some of the chemical qualities of substances employed in pharmacy; he instituted a train of investigations which gradually led to discoveries of the noblest kind. Amidst the labours of this occupation he found means of exalting and extending the most refined parts of chemistry. "His days were devoted to professional business, his nights to study and translations of books into German." Nothing could repress the ardour of his mind or damp the ardour of his genius; the whole of his life was a career of enterprise which ended in glory. It may be said of him, what perhaps can hardly be said of any other person, that whatever he has done has been perfect at the moment of its production; executed by the hands of a master, it needed no correction.

In general, the most common motives which induce men to study are the love of distinction, of glory, or the desire of power, and we have no right to object to motives of this kind; but it ought to be mentioned, in estimating the character of Hahnemann, that his great stimulus to exertion was evidently the love of truth and knowledge. He disliked notoriety, and he was, as it were, regardless of fame. His labours are recorded with dignity, without parade or apology, and it seemed as if in publication he was performing, not what was a duty to himself but what was a duty to the public. His life was devoted to science. Even to the last he retained all his energy and sagacity of intellect. Since the time of Newton (if I may be permitted to give an opinion), we have sustained no scientific loss so great as that of Hahnemann. Like his great predecessor, he died full of years and glory. His name will be an object of more veneration in future ages than at the present moment. Though it was comparatively unknown in the busy scenes of life, it will remain illustrious in the annals of science, which are as imperishable as that nature to which they belong, and it will be an immortal honour to his house, to his age, and to his country.

I have been led into this eulogium, not merely because it was fully deserved, but because the example of Hahnemann demonstrates what great effects may be produced by small means. How little is required to extend the empire of knowledge, when genius is assisted by industry.

It is unnecessary to pursue our paper to any greater extent; sufficient has, I trust, been said to prove to the public, if not to reviewers, that homœopathy may be of national as well as of individual advantage. It is far from my wish to endeavour to exalt homœopathy to a higher rank than it ought to occupy, or to attempt to raise it unfairly above other branches of useful knowledge, but I should be unjust to my subject were I not to state, that it is a science worthy of the deepest contemplation, and that it is capable of unfolding the most important truths. As the talented Chancellor of the Exchequer said to the House of Commons, so will we say to the profession and the reviewers, "I will sit down now, but the time will come when you will hear me."

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, MAY 22ND, 1852.

OUR thoughts are solemnized by an event that touches our feelings nearly; and while our heart is full of sympathy we utter the untutored language of an honest spirit.

We advocate homœopathy because we believe it to be true; we hold up Hahnemann to admiration because we believe he was a Genius—a Philanthropist—a *true man*.

We care not a jot for any man's *name*; if there be a true medical reformer, let us see the *fruits of his life*. What has he done? We care for *men*. Show us a Titan, and we acknowledge the Titanic energy.

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If any man wants the *first* or a *foremost* place in the ranks of our medical reformers, let him show us what *he has done.* If one is to take the first place in science, let him show us his scientific claims.

This matter of homœopathy is too serious a thing to be played with; it is not a toy to amuse one's inanities with. We *know* the vanity of human joys and affections and interests. The *tenth* wave has passed over us.

We want as advocates the tried and the afflicted; those who go heavily all the day long, from the sense of the mighty Cause that engrosses them. No work for any trifler is this.

Mr. Leaf has paid his thousands, perchance his tens of thousands, so we know the value of his adhesion; we know that he believes in homœopathy. What have you *done?* ask we all and each of our supporters, medical or non-medical.

We want honest men and leal. We want for our glorious Reform supporters who can abnegate self; who can rely on the conviction that they are honest; who live in the *inner life,* and striving to do their duty to God and to man, are satisfied to leave the issue to the Will of the Only Wise and Only Good.

This is not a time for party differences. Those who are not against us are for us; but we want true men in their true colours. Every man to his faith; to *the pure all things are pure.* Homœopathy is true or it is false. We must have no *masquing,* no make-believing, no allopathy in disguise.

Whatever be our short-comings, our failures, we have been honest; we have not called bitter sweet, nor sweet bitter: like John Knox, we care not for the face of any man; we throw the gauntlet down—we appeal to the British Nation. We stand on our office; we proclaim homœopathy as propounded by Hahnemann to be a law of Nature. We give and we take: an upright and honourable allopathist is of far greater value to us than any pseudo-homœopathist, any half-and-half professor of our medical faith. We honour Baillie, and Addison, and Alison, and Farre, and Billing. These are all allopathists. We hold in light esteem those who pretend to be with us, and are not of us.

Let every man *work* who professes to be with us. Let him go to bed early, and rise early. Let him not persuade himself that homœopathy is a plaything. We give, in conclusion, a few stanzas from an earnest poem.

TRUTH.

"Seek it late and seek it early,
With the fire and strength of youth,
Massive gates and porters surly
Bar the shrine of living truth.

Craft hath said, let no man enter,
Save the learn'd and chosen few:
Noble hearts, with fearless venture,
Dash the gloomy portal through!

All around—too deep for telling—
Smothered indignation lies,
Till a heart with anguish swelling
Bids a slumbering nation rise.

Fearless truth, their treason branding,
Laughs at Faction's puny ire;
And an honest understanding
Thinks aloud, while men conspire.

Let them tremble, lest a people,
Loving truth, their pride confound;
And from every tower and steeple
Reformation's tocsin sound.

Let them tremble, lest the nation
Trample down their Synod-rules;
Or in mind's last desperation
Turn their Colleges to Schools.

Onward then, though porters surly
Bar the shrine of living Truth,
Seek it late and seek it early,
With the fire and strength of youth;

'Mid the boyhood's dreams of greatness,
In the flow'r of manhood's prime,
'Mid the snows of age's lateness,
In the catacombs of time,—

'Mid the ice of frozen oceans;
Underneath the burning sun;
'Mid life's storms and wild commotions—
Toiling on till Truth is won."

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Reviews.

Account of the Reception of Vaccination when discovered by Dr. Jenner.

THIS pamphlet is issued by one who declares that he has "experienced the greatest benefit from homœopathy; having been relieved by it of a disease which there is every reason to believe must have proved fatal, and this without taking a single dose of what is called 'regular medicine.' It is not designed to prove *the truth of* homœopathy, but merely to show to sensible people that similar attacks to these made against the new system of medicine were formerly levelled at what are uow universally acknowledged to be *great truths.*"

"Dr. Squirrell earnestly and publicly supplicated his Majesty George the Third to suppress 'the destructive practice of vaccine inoculation throughout his dominions.' 'It ought,' observed Professor Monro, of Edinburgh, 'to be prohibited by Act of Parliament.' 'The College of Physicians have,' exclaimed Dr. Moseley, 'a duty to perform, and I trust this business will not escape them.' Others appealed to the people themselves. 'It would,' said Dr. Brown, 'undoubtedly be downright madness to imagine *they* will condescend to encourage it.' The *Anti-Vaccinarian Society* called upon the public 'to second their efforts in supporting the cause of humanity against cow-pox injuries,' and besought their aid to suppress 'the cruel despotic tyranny of forcing cow-pox misery on the innocent babes of the poor—a gross violation of religion, morality, law, and humanity.'

"Deaths from cow-pox inoculation were published in the mortality bills of London. 'I have,' alleged Dr Moseley, Physician to the Chelsea Hospital, 'seen children die of the cow-pox without losing the sense of torment even in the article of death.' Dr. Rowley, Physician to the St. Marylebone Infirmary, professed to publish true accounts of fifty-nine deaths from 'cruel vaccination;' and added, 'that when humanity reflects on these and' (to use his own words) 'a great heap of victims diseased for life, and likely to transmit to posterity, for ages, chronic diseases, it is enough to freeze the soul with horror.' And, 'it is,' he exclaims, 'the duty of honourable men in the medical profession to alarm mankind of the impending danger of vaccination.'

"He elsewhere eloquently declaims against 'affectionate parents being robbed of their serenity, and the minds of tender mothers being wrung with eternal suspense;' 'while a few projectors or visionists are pursuing their deleterious projects on human victims, and perpetrating a dangerous innovation which so many fatal facts illustrate.'

"Mr. Lipscomb urgently maintained, that cow-pox, 'the new scourge industriously dispersed to afflict the children of men, is sometimes fatal of itself, and that the diseases introduced or brought into action by it may be also sometimes fatal, and can never be completely guarded against.' One author had seen 'numerous instances' producing coughs, dyspnœa, hectic marasmus, tedious and difficult to eradicate, etc., result from cow-pox. 'Shocking reflection,' he adds, 'to a human mind, that a poison should thus be introduced into the human constitution without the plea of necessity, or the support of reason and experience.' 'Several children,' observes Dr. Moseley, 'have died from diseases bronght on by the cow-pox where no ulcerations had appeared, and others have lost their nails and ends of their fingers, several months after the inoculation.' 'My accounts from the country are,' he continues, 'full of dismal histories of ulcerated arms and mortifications.' 'Blindness,' it was averred, 'lameness, and deformity had been the result of employing the vaccine in innumerable instances, and its fatal venom had removed many an infant untimely from the world.' Nay, it was strenuously maintained and believed, that not only were various old maladies, peculiar to man, thus excited into action by the 'cow-pox poison,' but that different new diseases peculiar to the cow were sometimes communicated to the human constitution by vaccination. 'Various diseases,' writes Dr. Rowley, 'common to cattle, have appeared among the human species since the introduction of cow-pox; as cow-pox mange, cow-pox abscess, cow-pox ulcer, cow-pox gangrene, cow-pox mortification, and enormous hideous swellings of the face, resembling the countenance of an ox, with the eyes distorted, and eyelids forced out of their true situation; diseased joints, etc.' This was published in 1806, eight years after Dr. Jenner's first essay on vaccination appeared. During the year subsequent to the first public announcement of his discovery, Dr. Moseley suggested the possibility of the 'bestial humour' of cow-pox producing a 'brutal fever, exciting incongruous impressions on the brain;' and 'who knows,' says he, 'but that the human character may undergo strange mutations from quadrupedan sympathy, and that some modern Pasiphaë may rival the fables of old?' Some, after vaccination, were actually supposed to 'cough like cows,' and 'bellow like bulls.' And one anti-vaccinist ingeniously suggested, that if cow-pox were known to have existed in a family, this fact might Jebar the members of it from the chances of matrimony, 'for it would,' he remarks, 'be no letter of recommendation.'

"Nor were theological reasons, of course, wanting for calling in question the orthodoxy of vaccination, as of other new discoveries and practices. 'Small-pox,' argues Dr. Rowley, 'is a visitation from God, and originates in man; but the cow-pox is produced by presumptuous, impious man. The former heaven ordained; the latter is perhaps a daring and profane violation of our holy religion.' And he subsequently proposed, 'whether vaccination be agreeable to the will and ordinances of God, as a question worthy of the consideration of the contemplative and learned ministers of the Gospel of

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Jesus Christ; and whether it be impious and profane thus to wrest out of the hands of the Almighty the divine dispensations of Providence!' 'The projects of these vaccinators seem,' it was affirmed, 'to bid bold defiance to heaven itself, even to the will of God. 'Providence,' reasoned another author, 'never intended that the vaccine disease should affect the human race, else why had it not, before this time, visited the inhabitants of the globe? The law of God,' he continues, 'prohibits the practice; the law of man and the law of nature loudly exclaim against it.'

"In short, vaccination was opposed and denounced on a variety of grounds. It was alleged to be occasionally fatal in its consequences; to be liable to excite various diseased actions and predispositions; to produce diseases new to the human constitution; to be 'impious, unthinking, profane, and irrational;' to be an innovation neither 'established on the basis of reason, nor supported by the foundation of truth.' 'The vaccine,' exclaimed one enemy to cow pox inoculation, 'was the damnedst thing ever proposed; he wished the inventors were all hanged, and he would give his vote for its being done.' And strong pictures were held up to the public eye of the miseries it would infallibly lead to, in case of the recurrence of epidemic small-pox. 'In many families,' writes an author whom I have already quoted, 'there will be none to attend the sick; nurses will quit their patients for their own safety, and servants fly from their masters' houses to shun the pestilence. Then we shall experience a horrid scene of public and private calamity, brought on by a medical experiment, embraced without due consideration; extended by a rash transgression over the bounds of reason; and, after the fullest conviction of its inutility, obstinately continued, by the most degrading relapse of philosophy that ever disgraced the civilized world.'"

This is a very interesting statement, and we thank the worthy compiler for it. Such measure as Jenner met with, has Hahnemann also received. It is singular that Jenner made public his discovery of one homœopathic remedy but a very short time before Hahnemann declared the law for all homœopathic remedies.

With respect to vaccination, it is to be deeply regretted that the prejudices of some of the people have prevented its universal application. The bills of mortality show that small-pox has been lately prevalent; and small-pox might, by this time, have been numbered with the diseases that no longer infect the human race,—at all events, in all civilized countries.

The Moral Evidences of Homœopathy. By STEPHEN YELDHAM, M.R.C.S. London: Baillière. 1852.

Homœopathy; its Principle, Theory, and Practice. By MARMADUKE B. SAMPSON. London: Houlston & Co. 1852.

(From the Atlas.)

THE first of these works consists of two lectures delivered at the London Homœopathic Hospital by Mr. Yeldham, one of the surgeons of the Institution. One lecture was to demonstrate the extent to which the truth of homœopathy is supported by the life of Hahnemann; and the second was to prove that the new system of medicine is based upon a law of nature as indubitable as that of gravitation or any other established operation in the universe. Mr. Yeldham reasons as a well-instructed phrenologist, and shows that Hahnemann, from the various manifestations of his long career, must have possessed, in a powerful degree, all the faculties essential to the character of a discovery. With regard to the law also upon which his system was founded, and which is expressed in the axiom "Like cures like," its simplicity and universality are maintained by a lucid chain of argument. In allusion to the increasing recognition of homœopathy on the part of the public, it is finally remarked:—

"By this test, any discovery, whether it be a question of science or merely a mechanical invention, must stand or fall. When persons have once tasted the benefits of practical reform, whether in the arts or sciences, it would be as difficult to persuade them to return to the old ways, as in the first instance it might have been to persuade them to adopt the new. It is precisely the same with medicine, which although holding a loftier position than the mechanical arts, is not on that account the less a commodity for public consumption upon the effectiveness of which the public, as in other instances, must ultimately decide. But many will exclaim, 'The public is an incompetent judge.' I do not think so. The public, on the first introduction of a novelty, is inexperienced, and may for a time be deceived. But the deception does not last. In the long run, the public, especially in matters concerning its personal interest, is remarkably shrewd, and seldom fails to arrive at a sound verdict. Now it is a thing beyond dispute, that from the first announcement of homœopathy by its lion-hearted discoverer, it has continued to spread in an ever-increasing ratio, till at the present time its limits are the limits only of the habitable globe. In every country where modern civilization has penetrated, homœopathy has followed in its track. Where, a few years ago, its practitioners were numbered by units, they are now counted by hundreds; and yet the supply falls short of the demand. In my own experience I am repeatedly hearing of districts where the cry for homœopathic practitioners is loud and constant. Who are these clamourers after homœopathy? Is it those who are practically

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strangers to the system; who, having never tested its powers, are impelled only by an idle curiosity, which they have but to indulge to be undeceived? No; these, almost to a man, revile and oppose it. But it is those who are practically acquainted with it; who, having once experienced its gentle and beneficial effects, have a natural repugnance to return to a system whose cure is at times a calamity; those who, having tried it, have found that it does what it professes to do."

The second work is a third edition of Mr. Sampson's well-known exposition of the philosophy of homœopathy. The opening chapters give a picture of the guesswork of the ordinary or orthodox practice of medicine, and of its effects upon those who undergo it, which is wholly unanswerable, because derived entirely from the statements of those who are acknowledged as unquestionable authorities by every member of the profession. All faith being thus shaken in the existing methods of treatment, and the liveliest apprehension of its after-consequences having, in fact, been awakened, the author seeks to establish the scientific and logical character of the new system. This system consists entirely in acting in harmony with the symptoms of the patient. A vast amount of observation is quoted to show that the disturbed actions which indicate the presence of disease are simply efforts of the vital power to throw off the taint that has been contracted, and the question is, shall these be beaten down or assisted? The homœopathist, when he is called upon to deal with any given symptoms, administers a medicine that has the power of producing analogous symptoms. If this be pronounced irrational, he points to the fact that in those cases where the old practitioners possess what they consider to be specifics, they pursue a precisely similar course; that is to say, they employ mercury for diseases of the bones, sulphur for eruptions, ipecacuanha for vomiting, stimulants for delirium-tremens, and hot applications for burns. The homœopathist, therefore, merely pursues consistently, and in accordance, as he believes, with a general law, a course which the old practitioners adopt empirically. Hence it is impossible for the latter to condemn homœopathy without condemning themselves, since they are often homœopathists without knowing it. As regards the infinitesimal doses, Mr. Sampson points out that this question has nothing to do with the principle of the science, and that it is only confounded with it by the ignorant. Homœopathists administer medicines in a state of infinitesimal division because it has been found that in this way they act most potently. A fine body will penetrate where none other would. If it be ridiculous to say that a millionth part of a grain of medicine can produce a greater effect than the crude grain itself, then it must be equally ridiculous that an atom of sand should cause agony to the eye, when the pebble of which it is only a fragment might be applied to that organ without injury. These views and arguments are supported by abundant illustrations, which give an interest to the volume throughout, and cause it to leave an impression not easily to be effaced. It is also characterised by a calm and dignified tone that commands the respect of the reader, whatever may be the conclusions to which he finds himself led, and furnishes, at the same time, the best reproof for those who, without inquiring into the subject, commit themselves to the folly of treating it with levity.

"AN ESSAY UPON AN APOTHECARY.

"By the Author.

"'*He talks like an Apothecary*' (Old Proverb); because, this ingenious artist dealing so much in Nitre, Sulphur, and Mercury, his Constitution is rais'd to a Pitch extreamly volatile, that betrays itself in many irregular Flashes of Thought, and Starts of Expression. The Spirit rises too fast into the Head of his natural Limbeck, and so distils too plentifully from his mouth.

"The Academy *del Cimento* has made some Progress towards the Chymical Analysis of an Apothecary, and have deserv'd very well of the Learned World in that particular. For (as Dr. —— observes in his Travels) it is a Custom in Italy, to prevent the being over-run with them, and to save the Life of the Subject, to allow yearly so many Apothecaries to the several Academies in Italy to be Anatomiz'd, Distill'd, or the like, for the Improvement of natural Knowledge. There being no part of Mankind that affords a greater variety of uncommon Appearances than the Knights of the Pestle.

"We find in the Memoirs of the Learned Society aforesaid, an Operation upon two of them, whose Characters in Life had been very remarkable.

"They signaliz'd themselves by a brisk Humour of curing more Distempers than ever flew from the Box of Pandora, from the Plague to the Tooth Ach. They recover'd several Lords, etc., before they saw them; baffled a Thousand regular Physicians; and travers'd their Prescription; went thro' several Courses of Botany,

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without being perfect Masters of a Cold Salad; were Chymists meerly by their natural Fire, and Anatomists without being able to carve a Pudding; Scholars without Learning, and Doctors without Education.

"They dress'd all their Discourse in the Language of the Faculty.

"At meals they distributed their Wine with a little Lymphe, dissected a Widgeon, cohobated their Pease-porridge, and amalgamated a Custard. A Morsel of Beef was a bolus; a Grillade was scarify'd; Eating was Mastication and Deglutition; a Dish of Stakes was a Compound of many powerful Ingredients; and a Plate of Soup was a very exalted Preparation.

"In Dress, a Suit of Cloths was a System, a Loophole a Valve, and a Surtout an Integument. Cloth was a Texture of Fibres spread into a Drab or a Kersey; a small Rent in it was Cutaneous; a Thread was a Filement; and the Wastband the Peritoneum.

"The rest of their Conversation had much the same Tincture: After they were bagg'd of the Government, and dispatch'd as usual, they were convey'd to the Public Laboratory and made ready for the Operation.

"The first Part they began upon wes the Head; they found the Skull so very compact, to prevent the Understanding (which is the Spirit of the Brain) from flying off, that they broke three Instruments before they could break the Shell; the Kernal indeed was extreamly moderate, and did not afford them much to examine. The Vessels of the Cerebellum were short, but not mighty Pithy: The Medulla of them was a perfect Alkeli, and opened the Secret, why the Gentleman, when alive, talk'd so much of it, and had so small a seasoning of the true Acid in his Discourse.

"Having thus pass'd the Fortifications of the Head, and a small Avenue of Communication between that and the Tongue, he arriv'd at the Seat of his Soul (according to *Des Cartes*) in the *Glandula Pinealis*; it appear'd to have been only a small Bag of Vapour. In the North Side of the Head, he discover'd some Mercury, and in the South Region, a Quantity of Lead; the Biass lay apparantly on this side; and the Lead effectually disappointed all the little effects, and pent Motions of the Mercury in the opposite Quarter.

"After this Process by way of Anatomy, the next Step was to resolve it by a Chymical Analysis. To draw this into a narrower Compass, since it was a Caput Mortuum already, the little Brain was taken out with a Marrow-Spoon, and the two reigning Principles were found, on the Result, to be Phlegm and Terra Damnata, which last is a sort of Earth, fit for no purpose at all.

"There was neither Sulphur nor Salt in it. The Want of the Former left upon the Mind an *Itch* of being Impertinent; and the defect of Salt caus'd Corruption of Intellects, Salt being the principal Security against Corruption.

"For the rest I refer you to the Treatise publish'd on this Subject, and translated by that Renown'd Furbisher of Foreign Authors, Mr.—— for your own Edification, and the Benefit of the Bookseller.

"I consulted an able Lawyer why we have not an Establishment, like that describ'd above, in England; he answer'd, That Liberty and Property would never be secure, if the nation should be overstock'd with Inhabitants; that therefore Apothecaries were useful to check the Luxuriant Growth of Mankind: That we may not be crowded with too many Competitors, in Business, Wit, Learning, Trade, and the several Faculties, that they are proper sometimes to bleed the Body Politic, when it begins to be Feaverish, by carrying off a firey Whig, or a Tory; and now and then puts a troublesome Relation, a State-Minister, a Rival, etc. out of the way, by a judicious and a well-timed Dose, or the like critical Conveyance. That therefore he deserves much Encouragement; for the Multiplication of Apothecaries is the Downfal of above a hundred Times their Number.

"I thought his answer pretty just: And parted from my sage Instructor, as the Reader doubtless does from myself, with very great Satisfaction." 1723.

A PENDANT TO THE APOTHECARY.

(*From the English Treasury of Wit and Language*, by John Cotgrave, Gent., 1655.)

"Physicks hand
As apt is to destroy, as to preserve,
If heaven make not the medicine."

"I nere took physick yet, nor ever will,
I'l trust none that have Art, and leave to kill."

"Your Physitian is like to your Hawk,
The greater the fowl is that he kills, the greater
Is still both his reward and reputation."

THE PREDOMINATE COMPLECTIONS.

(THOMAS MAY, ESQ., 1667.)

"*Sanguine Complexion.*

There all together flie in companies,
Of different colours, shapes, and qualities,

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Bright Sanguine Dreams, that seem to cheer the night
With beautious shapes, and rosie wings as bright,
As in the morning, on those Flowers that grace,
In midst of Spring, the painted Flora's face.

"*Cholerick Complexion.*

There Dreams of Choler, in a flame-like hue,
Through th' Air, like little fiery meteors flue,
With swift and angry motion, to and fro,
As if they sought within that place, a foe.
Sometimes up to the Temples roof on high,
They soar, as if they meant to scale the skie;
Or some impossible atchievement sought,
T' allay the thirst of an aspiring thought.

"*Melancholick Complexion.*

But down below, with sad and heavy cheer,
On dead mens Tombs, and every Sepulcher,
The dusky Dreams of melancholy night,
With sable wings, like Bats, or Birds of night,
Fluttering in darkest corners, here and there,
But all alone, and still each other fear:
Courting dead skulls, and seeming to invite
The dismal ghosts, for company by night.

"*Flegmatick Complexion.*

There all along the Temples whited wall,
Phlegmatick lazie Dreams, not wing'd at all,
But slow like slimy Snails, about do crawl,
And evermore, are thence afraid to fall,
And so be drown'd, for on the floor below
They do suppose great pools of water flow."

[The word "complection," or "humour," was formerly used in the sense in which we now apply the word temperament.--ED.]

Correspondence.

PORTRAITS OF EMINENT HOMŒOPATHISTS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In the year 1832 the *Lancet* was in about the same position as you are now, a small weekly paper, purposing to enlarge its sheets, and become the Medical Oracle. Now it is retrogressing and yours is progressing; and as of late it has given portraits of eminent men in the profession, in imitation of the French periodicals, and as that work which it began has not been fully carried out, by omitting the Medical Reformers, or those of Young Physic, may I be allowed to suggest that your enlarged edition should accomplish this, and that your homœopathic public may be favoured with portraits of the Medical Luthers. This may appear as a bit of vanity of Young Physic, but it really is nothing more than a bit of justice to our English, Scotch, and Irish reformers, men who have made great sacrifices for the cause of truth and the public good.

Cheltenham, April 14, 1852. A CONVERT.

[We thank our correspondent for the suggestion, but we do not expect that the means will be furnished us to carry it out. Mr. Turner, of Manchester, had, we believe, some purpose of issuing well-done engravings of the Homœopathic Worthies of Britain. Lord Shrewsbury, Mr. Uwins, R.A., Mr. Leaf, the Rev. Mr. Everest, and the Hon. Mr. Moreton—not forgetting M. B. Sampson, Esq., the distinguished and philanthropic lay advocate who has written so lucidly and effectively in behalf of our doctrine—should be among the first, as they were among the earliest patrons of homœopathy in England. Drs. Quin, Belluomini, Uwins, Harris Dunsford, and C. Luther, and Mr. Kingdon, should be the first in the series of the medical men, as we believe they were first in the field, and there are existing portraits of these gentlemen. We will do it, if our correspondent will get us the funds for the engraver.—ED.]

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—I perceive in this day's *Homœopathic Times*, in answer to a correspondent, you state that you are not aware of any action having been brought by any homœopathic practitioner for defamation of character, etc. Will you please accept the accompanying *Monthly Journal of Homœopathy*, for April, 1850, by which you may derive some curious and interesting information.

I have the honour to remain, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
FRANCIS WARR.

[We are obliged to our correspondent for correcting the mistake we made; and thank him for the copy of the *Monthly Journal;* in which, and also in the first volume of the *Homœopathic Times*, the action of Dr. Ozanne against Dr. De Beauvoir De Lisle, is fully recorded. Dr. De Lisle was sentenced to pay £5 damages to the plaintiff, an *écu* (2*s.* 6*d.*) to the Queen, and costs. We believe this is the only action that has been brought in this country by a homœopathic practitioner for defamation of character.—ED.]

82, Old Broad Street, May 15, 1852.

LONDON: Printed by THOMAS HARRILD, of Albany Cottage, Sydenham, in the County of Kent, at his Printing Office, 1, and 1½, Dudley Court, in the Parish of St. Olave, Silver Street, in the City of London; and Published by HENRY RENSHAW, at the Office, 356 Strand, in the County of Middlesex.—*Saturday, May* 22, 1852.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 148. Vol. III. | SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1852. | Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

Communications.

HAHNEMANN'S VIEWS ON COLD WATER AND MOVEMENTS.

Read by Dr. Roth at the Meeting of the Hahnemann Medical Society, the 6th of April, 1852.

(*Continued from page* 615.)

"*Rules for the Prescription of Cold Water.*—If we had a panacea (universal remedy), it would be water. I cannot radically cure my patients affected with chronic ulcers without the cold bath. The cold itself appears to act not only as a strengthening and contracting, but also as an antiseptic remedy. The curative power of the cold cannot be used locally so well as by the application of the cold bath; a mode of application capable of the whole scale of the thermometer, without disadvantage and without expense. In the beginning I prescribe, on whatever part of the body the ulcer may be, a water of fifty degrees for a foot-bath up to the ankles, every evening at bedtime, for six minutes, the water to be kept continually in motion.

"This is the lowest degree of the strengthening bath, which is useful and not uncomfortable even to the weakest patient. I increase it from time to time, even when the ulcer is on the foot; thus I increase it in proportion to the augmentation of the strength and the improvement of the sore, and prescribe a full bath for fifteen minutes, gradually up to three times a day; in the morning before breakfast, two hours after dinner, and half an hour before bedtime. The temperature of the water is diminished to forty, thirty, and even twenty degrees, the lowest temperature.

"As we cannot have the same accuracy when using the bath in running water, we must, once for all, state that a uniformity of the temperature of the bath must be preserved by a continual motion of the water; for this purpose, it is necessary that the quantity of water be not too small, if the bath in the room is to have the advantages of the river bath.

"The temperature of the cold bath, and the increasing of the movement of the body, must be in proportion to the increase of the bodily strength. In such a bath-cure so many gradations of increase are applicable, that even the most weakly person is capable of attaining the highest degree without the least shock to his nerves, if the exact prescriptions of the physician are minutely obeyed by the patient. I have hitherto been unable to repress my astonishment at our greatest physicians being so negligent, when recommending the strengthening cure, as to give such indefinite prescriptions as they do for the cold bath.

"Use a half or a full bath in the morning, or also in the evening:" this is their whole prescription. The degrees of the cold, the exact duration of the bath, and the other indispensable rules are not at all mentioned. We need not be astonished at the injury so frequently produced by the cold bath on our health, when we think how bad a use can be made of cold water, in consequence of such a mutilated, negligent, and short prescription.

"*Abuse of Cold Water.*—Many enervated, sickly persons have immersed themselves for hours in snow water, in order to do honour to those great men (their doctors), by the heroic execution of their indefinite prescriptions; but they were taken out of the water fainting, rigid with spasms, or having caught such a violent cold that a putrid fever ensued, frequently even death. Is the beneficial steel to be reprobated because by it the child opened his veins? or is not rather the negligence of his guardians and of the legislators to be blamed? We can never be too punctual and circumstantial in the precision of the rules according to which powerful remedies are to be used, because, notwithstanding this, a negligent execution frequently happens. This want of precision in the prescription has made so many enemies to the cold-water treatment, that we find an immense number of persons who fear the cold bath as the extreme degree of medicinal destruction, and even more than death itself. But the rabble of obsequious physicians have increased to the highest degree, by their senseless application of the prescriptions of some modern Hippocrateses, the disgrace of the cold bath.

"The patient is often forced to enter the cold bath at once, and in most cases to remain therein for an hour. In order to moderate the pangs produced by the cold

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acting upon him, he feels that there is no other means than to sit motionless; in about a quarter of an hour, much strength being lost in order to bear the cold of such a quantity of water, the water surrounding him becomes tepid. He remains quietly sitting, in order, according to his idea, to restore himself in the now warm water, and to recover the strength which was dissipated for the production of the warmth. This warmed water acts now as a tepid bath, and takes away entirely a part of that strength which the endurance of the immoderate cold of the water in the beginning had left behind. Then he is enveloped in warm clothes, and in this state he is put into a warm bed, a treatment which increases the injury of this senseless application of the cold bath. Perspiration follows, and he loses by this torture of twelve hours at least twenty per cent. of the strength which he had in the beginning, without taking into consideration the subsequent spasms, cold, cough, diarrhœa, or rheumatism, which he patiently endures the following day, as the unavoidable inconveniences of his bath-remedy. It is only a pity that he could not endure this pleasant strengthening bath more than three or four times, otherwise it would have still been of great benefit to him. A very nice, but—which serves much to its recommendation—almost average prescription, powerful enough to enlarge considerably the burial-grounds of the most celebrated watering-places of Europe, and which I feel myself happy in having early abandoned.

"*Pathogenetic Effects of Cold Water.**—If we keep a healthy hand in cold water for some minutes, we experience in it a diminution of temperature; the veins become invisible; the fleshy parts become shrunken, their size is diminished; the skin is paler, duller; motion is more difficult. These are some of the primary effects of cold water on the healthy body. If we now withdraw the hand from the cold water and dry it, no long time will elapse before the opposite state ensues. The hand which has been immersed becomes warmer than the other; we notice considerable turgescence of the soft parts, the veins swell, the skin becomes redder, the movements more free and powerful than in the other; a kind of exalted vitality. This is the secondary or consecutive action of the cold water on the healthy body. This is, moreover, almost the greatest dose in which cold water can be employed, with a permanent good result, as a positive (curative) medicinal agent, in a state of pure debility analogous to its above-described primary effects on the healthy body. I repeat the "greatest dose;" for if the whole body should be exposed to the action of this agent, and if the cold of the water be very considerable, the duration of its application must at least be very much shortened, to a few seconds only, in order to reduce the dose sufficiently. But if the dose of this remedy be in all respects much increased above the normal amount, the morbid symptoms peculiar to the primary action of the cold water increase to a state of actual disease, which the weak part it was intended to cure by its means cannot or can scarcely remove again. If the dose be still further increased, if the water be very cold, if the surface exposed to the water be larger, and the duration of its application much longer than it ought to be for an ordinary curative dose of this agent, there then ensues numbness of the whole limb, cramp of the muscles, often even paralysis; and if the whole body have been immersed in this cold water for an hour or longer, death ensues, or at least the apparent death from freezing in healthy individuals, but much more speedily when it is applied to feeble individuals.

"I mentioned that my patients are induced to take the cold bath by degrees, and in proportion to their increased strength, consequently it happens that, for the most part, when the cure is finished, they are reluctant to abandon the cold treatment. I do not observe, as a consequence of my prescription, any cold; on the contrary, an increased, or at least uninterrupted exhalation; the strength of my patients increases from day to day; for I do not draw by the cold bath more warmth from the body than it is capable of restoring very soon by its own circulation. The impulse of the blood circulating through the body is increased by the contraction of the muscular fibres and vessels, invariably occasioned by the cold; as the force of a spiral spring augments, the more closely it is wound together, so all the organic functions acquire new life.

"In order to effect this strengthening and contracting of the fibres more uniformly, I insist, in whatever degree the bath may be taken, as a thing indispensable, that the water should be kept in continual motion round the body or the immersed limb, and the dimensions of the bath itself being as large as possible, in order to substitute the advantages which the running water-bath has over the room-bath.

"I do not like to use the river-bath before the cure is finished, when a little more or

* Lesser Writings of Hahnemann, translated by Dr. Dudgeon, p. 525.

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less cold and a negligent supervision is less likely to be injurious; besides, I confine all those to the room-bath who can obey the necessary directions, the more so, as all the advantages of the river-bath are obtained without the danger of its disadvantages.

"The water can be put in motion by the patient himself, when he is able to do so, or it may be done by others. The mode of changing the water in the cooling apparatus in the process of distillation answers very well for all bathing purposes. As much cold water flows down through a tube to the bottom of the bath, as water warmed by the heat of the body flows upwards through a channel, for the warm is lighter, rises to the surface, and hence overflows. But for the sake of poor people, I mention that a somewhat large bath and the movement therein will be sufficient. Poor patients wanting the necessary comforts, and not knowing how to determine exactly the degree of warmth, should act in the following manner. The kind of immersion and its duration are their only standard, according to which the bath is to be increased. The prescription is to immerse themselves in the water of a very deep well, at such and such a depth, so and so often, and for such and such a time, in winter, as well as in summer; from time to time, according to the state of their strength, all this is increased. In this way they can neglect nothing, because the prescription is so simple, and they have the same advantage from it as the rich, who can execute more exact and more precious prescriptions; the coldest water, which even rich people have in summer at their disposal, is but that from the wells, which are thirty and more feet deep, and have a temperature rarely under 52°, unless they are able to procure the luxury of increasing the cold of the bath by ice from ice-cellars; but the coldest water from the wells is sufficient for everybody, if the treatment is to be undergone during the summer, because less cold can be substituted by a more frequent and longer bath, as well as by the kind of immersion."

(*To be continued.*)

AN ESSAY ON HOMŒOPATHIC STATISTICS;

Together with a Critical Analysis of Dr. Routh's Work, entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

XI.

The examination of the number of cases of pneumonia admitted into Fleischmann's hospital, in relation to all admissions, led Dr. Routh to the following conclusion: "the review of these facts admits but of one of two inferences; the cases are either *picked out* or *selected*, or the *diagnosis is wrong*." This is, certainly, a most serious charge. It is one in which the fault imputed implies both *dishonesty* and *ignorance*. It is one, therefore, which ought to be supported by undeniable evidence, in default of which it ought to redound upon the accuser.

We have seen, however, that so far from the number of pneumonia cases being too great, and if we take Dr. Balfour's Report, published in the *British and Foreign Medical Review* for 1846, as the basis of our calculation, the number recorded in Dr. Fleischmann's tables for the year (assuming Dr. Balfour's report, the report of an adversary, to be correct) would be rather too small. This fact should of itself be proof sufficient that this system of accusing persons of dishonesty upon simple conjecture is deserving of the most marked censure.

But this is not the only instance in which such accusations are brought forward. I shall have, in the course of this and the following paper, to bring forward other instances of the same kind. In doing so my object will be twofold:—1, to meet the imputations and to refute them; 2, to show what we are to think of the accusers themselves. But to proceed.

"The above conclusions seem to point out that the principal reason of the homœopathic success is to be found in the incorrect diagnosis or selection of cases. Diseases are not called by their proper names. Thus in the Leipsic returns (1841-42) we have 7 cases of pleuritis *muscularis*; in 1840-1, 1 case of peritonitis muscularis, another of pleuritis muscularis (Stat-Klinik) again the same year, 3 cases of muscular peritonitis and muscular pleuritis, etc.; *in their cases of pneumonia, instances of pneumonia hypostatica are recorded.* This improper nomenclature, it is clear, as including diseases perfectly different *and in no way fatal*, must materially affect the cipher of mortality when a comparison is made for special diseases." (p. 47).

I have given the whole paragraph, as I have done in many other cases, not because it bears very closely upon the question at present under consideration, but in order to avoid the common accusation of giving "garbled extracts," the usual resource of those who are supporting a bad cause. In this case, as well as in all others, I have

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given either full paragraphs or sentences, or, at least, exactly as much as would give a fair and full statement of Dr. Routh's objections.

With the cases of pleuritis and peritonitis *muscularis* I have nothing to do at present. They will be considered under their respective headings. But I will proceed to inquire at once whether the inclusion of cases of *pneumonia hypostatica* in the homœopathic statistics of pneumonia is likely to lessen or not the per-centage of mortality in that disease. Were this the only object of my inquiry it might be answered in a few lines; but there is an additional one, which is this, namely, to ascertain whether Dr. Routh knows what he is talking about when he mentions pneumonia hypostatica as a *disease in no way fatal.*

In the investigation of this point I will avoid giving opinions of my own, and will adhere as much as possible to the plan hitherto followed in the course of this "analysis," although perhaps rather a tedious one for the reader, as it involves the necessity of frequently giving long extracts, namely, to quote the opinions of the authorities brought forward in the *very words* to be found in their works.

"There is a peculiar form of pneumonia to which the term *hypostatic* has been given by Piorry, and which is developed from the passive stasis which occurs in the most dependent parts of the lung, and to which the term *hypostatic pneumonia* has been assigned. It presents *the thorough stamp of asthenic inflammation.*" (Rokitansky, Path. Anat., Syd. Soc. ed., vol. iv. p. 85.)

"*Hypostatic pneumonia,* first pointed out by Piorry, chiefly befalls aged persons, and is characterised by the peculiarity of its development and diffusion, as also by the irregular and insidious nature of its course.... This *senile* pneumonia has been far more carefully investigated by Hourmann and Dechambre than by Piorry, so that, in pointing out the distinctive features of this form, I shall chiefly adhere to their description. The differences are mainly dependent upon the peculiarity of structure of the lungs in old age, for an acquaintance with which we are indebted to the aforesaid pathologists." (Hasse, Path. Anat., Syd. Soc. ed., p 220.) Hasse next describes its varieties, and, alluding to a form of hepatization which he has noticed, he says:—"I must, however, remark that the smooth hepatization above mentioned has occurred to me not only in the aged, but likewise in persons who have been long bedridden from some disease involving great prostration of nervous energy (as apoplexy, palsy, and the like), *and at length die* under symptoms *apparently* catarrhal, but perhaps really due to inflammatory irritation resulting from genuine hypostasis of blood in the lungs."

Louis, in his work on Typhoid Fever, devotes some pages to the consideration of the lesions of the lungs in persons who *have died* in consequence of that disease. But he has not studied these lesions so carefully as Messrs. Piorry, Haurmann, and Dechambre. One singular result, however, of his investigations is that these lesions were found in nearly the same proportion among those dying of acute diseases in general, as among those dying of typhoid fever. (Fièvre typhoide, tome i. p. 336.)

I mention this, in order to show that I am alive to an objection which may be made, namely, that Dr. Routh perhaps understands under the term *hypostatic pneumonia* the mere stagnation—the so-called *hypostasis* of the blood—which is met with in the dependent parts of the lungs in typhus and typhoid fevers. That a certain amount of dullness on percussion is frequently met with at the base of the lungs and in their posterior parts, in the course of these fevers, and that this dullness may be due to the stagnation of blood in these portions of the pulmonary tissues I readily grant; that this condition is generally curable, more particularly under homœopathic treatment, I also admit, but this *is not* hypostatic pneumonia.

"We must guard against confounding hypostatic peripneumony (a term synonymous of pneumonia) with that condition frequently encountered in the lungs of persons who die of typhus. There the lung is likewise of increased gravity, and mostly softened. On careful examination, however, it will be seen that these changes are the results of stagnation of, for the most part, diseased blood.... By careful ablution the stain cannot indeed be removed, but the substance may, in some measure, be restored to its natural state, whilst in the texture so altered *no vestige is ever seen of any inflammatory product.*" (Hasse, Path. Anat., p. 222.) The latter characteristic constitutes an essential distinction between the condition of the lungs dependent upon "subsidence" of the blood, which is "met with in all diseases wherein the primary or secondary cause of death is, as it is commonly said, in the brain, and its extent is proportionate to the duration of the agony—in plain English, proportionate to the duration of the death-*struggle* (ibid.)—and hypostatic pneumonia."

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Now it so happens that this pneumonia hypostatica, or asthenic pneumonia—chiefly met with in old people, and "developed from the passive stasis of the blood, which occurs in the most dependent parts of the lungs," and yet differing from this stasis, inasmuch as in the latter there are no vestiges of inflammatory products after ablution—is *one of the most dangerous forms of pneumonia that can be met with;* therefore homœopathists, in including cases of pneumonia hypostatica in their tables, only add to instead of diminishing their mortality in pneumonia.

Whilst examining the objections founded upon the presumed inaccuracy of the diagnosis, or the *possibility* of its being intentionally falsified, I think it is proper to notice the other instances given, in the course of Dr. Routh's remarks upon pneumonia, of the manner in which the returns might be so tampered with as to show results more favourable than those really obtained.

He says, that "the cipher of mortality may be diminished," in a manner "not likely to be detected, if the fatal cases are carried under a generally-admitted fatal complication; *phthisis*, for instance, or *œdema of the lungs*, of which disease twelve out of thirteen died in Fleischmann's hospital, between 1835 and 1843" (p. 50).

I cannot avoid pausing here for a moment, to express my admiration of the ingenuity displayed by our author in his discoveries respecting the means by which facts may be so distorted as to present a favourable appearance, whereas if exposed in their bare reality, their appearance would be the reverse of favourable. I confess that this extreme subtlety of intellect is itself suspicious; it reminds one of the skill of the adept in the art of using coloured water, and of persuading others that it is "a deadly poison." But it will bring upon itself its own chastisement; for he who is so lavish of suspicion with regard to others cannot expect that his own statements should pass current without a glance of suspicion being cast upon them.

In meeting these objections, it is not my intention at present to meet the charge of falsification of returns indirectly made against Dr. Fleischmann; it is not my intention, in this place, to defend the physician, than whom, if I may express the universal opinion of those who have been honoured with his acquaintance, none can be more straightforward and honest. This will be done more appropriately, when I shall have to notice the general character of the Report sent from Vienna to the *British and Foreign Medical Review*, by Dr. Balfour.

It is proposed in this place to meet these objections, together with all those advanced by Dr. Routh, with the *internal evidence* alone which they afford. And here I must remind the general reader that scientific facts, unlike facts in the political or social world, rest upon a species of evidence which I here style *internal*, the foundation of which is the uniformity of Nature in all her operations, these operations being governed by *general laws*.

With regard to the possibility asserted by Dr. Routh, of classing unsuccessful pneumonia cases as cases of phthisis, it requires but little acquaintance with medical facts to perceive that with two diseases such as these, which in general present such marked differences, not only in their symptoms but likewise in their march and duration, there is no possibility of any malpractice, such as that suggested, in an hospital in which there is a reasonable amount of government supervision, excepting in a very limited number of cases—too limited to affect materially the per centage of mortality. I do not think it necessary to dwell here at greater length upon the question, which is, I will allow, one of considerable interest. As a great deal is said upon it with reference to the complications of pneumonia in Dr. Routh's work, it will be necessary to go into it more fully. This will be the more desirable, as the suspicions expressed by the champion of allopathy naturally lead us to suspect that these circumstances, the complications of pneumonia, are made a loophole by which the allopathists are to escape out of a very unpleasant dilemma indeed.

Dr. Routh seems to think that thirteen cases of *œdema of the lungs*, admitted in the course of nine years into Dr. Fleischmann's hospital, is too large a number not to admit of the explanation he has given, namely, that unsuccessful pneumonia cases may be returned as cases of œdema, which is usually, or almost invariably fatal.

His objection is, no doubt, founded upon the fact that with us œdema of the lungs is not considered to be a frequent disease. This point, therefore, must be investigated. Regarding its frequency at the allopathic hospital at Vienna I have no means of judging, exeepting from the statements made by Rokitansky, in his work on Pathological Anatomy, already quoted. These statements we may take as an accurate expression of the facts, for Professor Rokitansky has for years had the direction of the post-mortem examinations at the Vienna General Hospital. We are told, for instance, in the preface to his second volume, that the dissections are all made

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under his directions, and records of all that is observed taken down at his dictation. We are also told that from four to six bodies are opened every day. But Rokitansky does not give any statement in *figures*. However, although we cannot get the necessary information in a direct manner, we may get it indirectly.

In the first place, what is meant by a frequent disease? Chomel says of pneumonia, that it is "in the first rank with reference to *frequency*, in our clinical records." (Dict. de Méd., tom. xxv. p. 160) This is as true in London as it is in Paris; for in the Registrar-General's Report of the deaths occurring in the metropolis during the eight years ending in December, 1847, pneumonia is the disease which, next to phthisis, presents the greatest mortality. Its frequency at Glasgow, in relation to admissions for other diseases, is not quite so great as the London mortality would lead us to expect; nevertheless, at Glasgow, pneumonia is one of the most frequent diseases to be met with in the General Hospital. But Dr. Routh tells us that the admissions at the Vienna General Hospital are exactly double those at Glasgow; therefore we may look upon pneumonia as being a *frequent disease* at Vienna as well as in London or Paris.

Now, if we turn to Rokitansky for evidence as to the frequency of pulmonary œdema, we find, in the section headed *œdema of the lungs*, this statement—"pulmonary œdema is a *very frequent* and extremely important disease" (vol. iv. p. 69).

Since pneumonia is admitted to be a frequent, and œdema of the lungs a very frequent disease, we should expect, if Dr. Routh's insinuation were founded, to find the proportion of admission of cases of pulmonary œdema into Fleischmann's hospital to be at least twenty-one per thousand, the proportion of pneumonia cases at the General Hospital.

But what are the facts? 6524 patients were admitted into Fleischmann's hospital in the course of nine years. In the same period of time, fourteen cases (not thirteen, as stated by Dr. Routh) of pulmonary œdema were admitted. These cases give a proportion of two per thousand of œdema at the Homœopathic, against twenty-one per thousand of inflammation of the lungs at the General Hospital! In other words, if Dr. Fleischmann had returned ten times as many cases of œdema as he has done, his return would still be in accordance with the usual frequency of œdema of the lungs at Vienna.

(To be continued.)

NARRATIVE OF THE INTRODUCTION OF HOMŒOPATHY INTO ENGLAND.

By F. J. Smith, Esq.

(Continued from page 604.)

Important as it is to obtain a correct impression as to the state of the medical mind of England with reference to homœopathy, on its introduction into this country, it is of far greater importance, if we would rightly estimate the force with which our science had to contend, in the early days of its English existence, to ascertain the state of the public mind in relation to this subject.

And it will be in vain to search for such evidence amid the records of our periodical literature, for society was, as yet, ignorant even of the existence of such a science as homœopathy: the press, therefore, had no feeling to evince or represent. And even now, when homœopathy reckons 100,000 converts in Great Britain, it can scarcely be said to have assumed a position of sufficient importance to call forth any general notice from the press, though of late years—to their honour be it recorded—the *Morning Post* has occasionally mentioned the subject, and always with respect; and some of the weekly newspapers have demanded for it a fair and impartial investigation. Nor must we omit to add, that that universal genius and ubiquitous being—*Punch*—has occasionally condescended to bestow upon homœopathy a passing, though by no means a flattering notice.

But although debarred, by the necessity of the case, from evidence of this conclusive character, we are not without the means of arriving at a tolerably correct estimate of the force we are concerned to ascertain. Taking the fact we have established, viz., the violent spirit of animosity towards homœopathy evinced by the profession, and certain acknowledged principles of human nature, as our guides, we need not be far out in our calculation. The subject is one of deep importance, and should we be led into a discussion of some length, we must beg the reader to bear with us, on account of its importance.

Now, the profession must have been actuated, in their hostility to homœopathy, by—either a desire to expose and extirpate error, or by a desire to suppress and exterminate the truth. They cannot be acquitted of most unphilosophical conduct in condemning without investigating the subject; but there is no occasion to assume that their motive was corrupt. And it matters not which of these hypotheses we take, either will bring us to this point—that they were

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interested in employing their influence with society to prevent the spread of homœopathy. We will therefore assume that they were laudably desirous of protecting society from the inroad of error. In estimating human conduct, however, while giving due prominency to primary motives, we must not omit such as are secondary; and in this latter class we cannot fail to recognise self-interest, since the spread of homœopathy must have endangered the occupation of allopathists. And it is not too much to take for granted, that what men were thus instigated to do by motives so powerful, they accomplished to the extent of their ability.

And this leads us to investigate into the facilities afforded to medical men to influence society. Now, the influence of the clergy—by which is meant ministers of religion in general—in social affairs is proverbial. If, then, we can show that there is an influence even greater than that of the clergy, we shall have gone far to prove that that influence must be coextensive with the limits of society. And we think we shall be able to demonstrate that such is the influence exercised by the medical profession.

Our proposition, then, is, that the influence of the medical profession, in social affairs, is greater than that of the clergy.

And our first argument is based on the admission, and oft-repeated lamentation, of the clergy themselves, that mankind are far more prone to be affected by what concerns the physical, than that which relates to the spiritual; that they will forthwith attend to some trifling—and, *à fortiori*, to any serious—derangement of their physical health; they will allow, unheeded, the spiritual health to decline, even to decay; and that while, in the ratio of declining physical health, is there usually a felt anxiety for medical direction; in the ratio of declining spiritual health is usually a manifested indifference to religious direction. Accordingly we find that there is hardly a family without its medical adviser, while there are very many without their spiritual counsellor.

If we inquire a little further into this subject, we shall discover that there is a bond of union between medical adviser and patient, which no other profession admits of being established; nor, indeed, scarcely any other circumstances in life. There is nothing we do with greater hesitation than impart our entire confidence to another; there is nothing which, when done, induces us to look with so much reliance on another as the fact that he possesses that confidence. But in the very necessity of things, the patient must make a confidante of his doctor; the doctor must be made acquainted with every disturbing cause, be it physical, mental, moral, or spiritual, otherwise he cannot prescribe. The medical men of every country therefore become, so to speak, a bank, in which the entire confidence of its people is deposited. They can no more help receiving, than the people can help making such deposits; but, nevertheless, they thereby acquire a hold on the affections, and an immense influence over the minds of the depositors.

Again, the prostration of the intellect is the source of enormous power in him before whom it is made. And a very near approximation to this state of things takes place between the patient and doctor. So far as relates to the generality of invalids, the medical man is the oracle of an occult science. The patient may have exhausted his brain with theory after theory as to the cause of his suffering, its mode of treatment, and its probable termination. The doctor enters, and the invalid is inspired with a mingled feeling of awe and faith; he resigns into his adviser's hands the province of thinking for him, and he reposes in him as one who possesses the keys of life and death. There is nothing approaching to either of the foregoing sources of influence—and they are amongst the most powerful by which human beings can be actuated—in the relation between the minister of religion and the *generality* of mankind.

But thus far we have regarded the subject of influence as springing from a motive of selfishness—a very general motive it is true, but not the only one, we are happy to believe, by which mortals—especially the fairer portion of them—are actuated. Gratitude is a noble sentiment, and enters largely into the considerations by which society is bound together. Let us, then, try the question at issue by this test. Mitigation of suffering, restoration to health, salvation from death, are usually ascribed by the patient to the doctor, and call forth, not from himself alone, but from every member of his family, the most intense emotions. And even if the doctor be regarded merely as the instrument of a higher power, the heart must be callous that feels not unbounded gratitude for the services rendered, accompanied as they usually are by the liveliest manifestations of solicitude. Now, the wisest of men has undoubtedly declared, that "he who converteth a sinner from the error of his ways, shall save a soul alive;" and beyond all question, when such an instance occurs, the gratitude should, and can scarcely fail to be greater than in those cases we have been considering. But does any one believe that such instances are

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anything like so common an occurrence as those which arise in medical practice? And it must be remembered that we are now concerned with *number*, and not with *intensity*. Tried, therefore, by the test of gratitude, the balance of influence appears to be in favour of the medical profession.

The clergy have certainly one great advantage, viz., that of the pulpit; but this has to do with the *subject*, not with the individual; and only so far as their position gives them access to the domestic circle has it a bearing on our argument; and in spite of this position, we have seen, "that while there is scarcely a family without its medical adviser, there are very many without their spiritual counsellor."

We would not willingly omit any consideration that has a bearing on the discussion; and therefore we freely concede that spiritual things are of far higher moment than things temporal. And we readily allow that it follows from this concession, that where people are really in earnest on the subject of—what is generally understood by the term—religion, the former must be preferred to the latter; that, consequently, the intercourse between the truly spiritual teacher, and the earnest, spiritually-minded disciple, is of a character so transcendently sublime, that between it and the association between medical man and patient there is nothing in common; and that, consequently, in such cases, the influence of the clergy must be paramount to all others. But that this is but a very small class of the community, we have the testimony of all ages for our authority.

On the whole, then, we conclude that the influence of the medical profession is more general than that of the clerical. But the influence of the clergy is, as we have seen, proverbial. We may therefore fairly conclude that the influence of medical men must be almost coextensive with the limits of society. Again, it has been demonstrated that medical men had, in 1827, the strongest motives for exerting such influence as they possessed, to prevent the spread of homœopathy; and it has just been shown that that influence was almost coextensive with the limits of society: hence it may fairly be concluded that homœopathy had to contend with an influence exerted to prevent its spread, almost coextensive with the limits of society.

As a corollary from the preceding investigation, we may look for the earliest converts to homœopathy from amongst those portions of society which were least under the influence of the medical profession. And beyond a doubt, that portion of society with which medical men possess the greatest influence is the middle class. From this class they emanate; with this class are their most intimate associations; amongst this class are their kinsmen after the flesh. On a par with the clergy in respect of general attainments, and elevated somewhat above the middle class by education, they possess, in common with their clerical brethren, the influence which arises from superiority in certain departments of literary knowledge. In maintaining the position of the medical profession, moreover, the middle classes, being associated by the ties of relationship, have a direct interest. The case is altogether different in the highest and lowest class of society; with both the connection of the medical man is for the most part limited by his professional duties. With the private views and feelings of the one he is not permitted to intermeddle; with those of the other he has no time to interfere. The higher classes, too, from their abundant leisure, their habit of travelling abroad, and their intimate acquaintance with modern languages, possess opportunities of informing themselves on subjects of novel character beyond that of any other class; and where their "class-feelings" are not concerned, are usually in advance, as they should be, of general society. We may therefore fairly conclude that those portions of the community which are the least under the influence of the medical profession are the highest and the lowest; and it is amongst these, as our corollary would teach us, that we are to look for the earliest converts to homœopathy. And here, as we shall presently see, are these converts to be found. Our corollary being thus vindicated, bears its testimony to the truth of our proposition, that the medical profession did its utmost to prevent the spread of homœopathy; nor should we perhaps be going too far, were we to assert that homœopathy commenced its career in England amidst the anathemas of the medical profession; and that, as it advanced, almost every house became a fortress arrayed against the system.

In a former part of this Narrative we have shown that homœopathy was introduced into England in the year 1827, and that its blessings were first made known in London, at Claremont, Esher, and Hampton. We then glanced at Dr. Quin's subsequent continental career. Returning to the main design of these papers, we exhibited the state of the medical mind of the country in relation to the Hahnemannic system, in the year 1827; and in this article we have demonstrated the state of public feeling, which supervened on the introduction of homœopathy.

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We propose now to lay before our readers a brief sketch of the progress of homœopathy in England since the spring of 1827. Dr. Quin was at that period the only physician in this country who practised according to the Hahnemannic system. The intolerance of the profession rendered caution absolutely necessary, and this attribute was displayed in an eminent degree by Dr. Quin. Employing the remedies only in non-dangerous cases at first, he never incurred the risk of bringing the system into discredit with his patients, or of affording his adversaries an opportunity of ascribing failure to this novel mode of practice, when it would have been due to the fatality of the disease. In other cases, where its efficacy could be contrasted with allopathic treatment, to the obvious conviction of the sufferer, he exhibited the remedial powers of homœopathy. Thus he continued to practise, gradually enlarging the sphere of his operations at home, and visiting annually the Continent, as we have seen, during the ex-London season, and in the course of these excursions, renewing his acquaintance with his old associates, forming new connections, and on two occasions confirming his faith, and enlarging his knowledge at the well-spring of homœopathy itself. In this way things continued till the autumn of 1830, when an event occurred calculated to excite the liveliest emotions amongst those who were interested in the progress of our great medical reform.

It may be thought by some, that we are passing too rapidly over a period so important as the first three years and six months of homœopathy in England. But it must be remembered that it is our province to deal with historical facts, not with thoughts, plans, or intentions. It is scarcely possible to doubt that he who had jeopardized so much, and had voluntarily incurred such odium for the Cause, should not have devoted much time to considerations of this nature. There was, however, no homœopathic public at this time to be addressed; we cannot, therefore, look for any printed records; and the poor being seen as gratuitous patients, we shall search in vain for any public dispensary.

The important event to which we have just alluded as having taken place in the autumn of 1830, was the return of the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury to this country, with two distinguished homœopathic physicians in their suite. The name of one was Dr. Francesco Romani; that of the other Dr. Taglianini. The former, a practitioner of Naples, was a very learned man, and possessed of a profound knowledge of his profession, but withal timid in the exercise of the medical art, which was probably due to constitutional causes. The latter was a native of Ascoli, in the March of Ancona; and it is no great disparagement to him to say that his attainments were not equal to those of his companion. It was to be expected that these distinguished guests would accompany the noble Earl and Countess to their ancestral hall of Alton Towers; nor was any disappointment felt in hearing that they were occupied there in disseminating a practical knowledge of homœopathy, by curing the sick and diseased of the surrounding neighbourhood. It was probably thought that a wider sphere of usefulness might have been found in the metropolis, but this, it was confidently expected, they would fill when the season commenced.

But, alas! for the idiosyncrasy of poor human nature, the courage that had braved the derision of Italian allopaths, fell prostrate before the inclemency of an English winter. Confining themselves almost entirely during that trying season, to the genial atmosphere of the inner-walls of Alton Towers; they availed themselves of the earliest opportunity the following spring to quit the shores of Great Britain, resolving never more to expose their southern susceptibilities to the ice and snow of our northern latitude.

The feeling of intense disappointment and regret to which the report of their return to Italy gave rise amongst the small body of English homœopaths, may readily be conceived, when it is remembered, that by this act two out of three practitioners of that medical system, in which this little band had learned to place the most implicit confidence—and in learning which they had ceased to place any reliance whatever in the medical doctrines in general use—had quitted this country for ever, leaving behind but one, respecting whom—whatever their opinion of his talents, and however content they might have been to repose in him implicitly before their expectations had been raised—they must have felt, that associated with other kindred minds, whose aid in consultation he might thus have commanded, that greatest of all earthly bessings—their health—would have been abundantly more secure. Nor was this, by any means, the sole ground of their despondency. Every true disciple of the illustrirous Hahnemann is a genuine philanthropist; and the English homœopath must have felt, when he heard of the departure of these physicians, that a mighty engine for extending that system, with which, as he conceives, the well-being

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of his country is bound up, had quitted our shores for ever. A rude shock was thus given to his noblest aspirations; and he may well be pardoned for not anticipating, amid the obloquy which then surrounded the doctrines of homœopathy, those glorious days which have since arisen upon the land of his birth.

The brief visit* of these Italian physicians is not, however, without its moral. The power to endure much they must have possessed, otherwise they could not have been homœopaths in the year 1830. But victory is seldom achieved save by those who are capable of "enduring *all things*"—men possessed of the nerves of a Hahnemann or a Wellington. In this great quality they appear to have been deficient: a little more, and their names would have been handed down to posterity in honourable association with that of Quin; as it is, England, at least, has no laurels for the brows of Romani and Taglianini.

(To be continued.)

STRAY NOTES.

By an Old Practitioner.

1. *The Terms Homœopathy and Allopathy.*

It is a very common complaint among those who have been converted to homœopathy after practising allopathy for a long time, that Hahnemann should have marked his doctrine by a separate, strange-sounding name. They assert, that by thus indirectly cutting off his followers from their former professional habits and generally from their professional friends and associates, and stigmatizing them in reality as a medical sect, he has seriously impeded the progress and open profession of his system among medical men of the ordinary school, and unnecessarily increased the difficulties with which those who wish to join his standard have to contend with on all sides.

Yet there is scarcely a point of his doctrine itself upon which he insisted, particularly in his latter years, so forcibly and so pertinaciously as upon the necessity of designating his system by a separate name. With his intuitive knowledge of human nature, and taught, besides, by bitter experience, he clearly foresaw that had he not severed his system, *toto cœlo*, from the old school, even by a new and odd-sounding term, ere long there would have sprung up all sorts of fanciful, arbitrary, mischievous, hybrid alliances between the two, which would have led to endless confusion, and the gradual destruction and absorption of his doctrine; that everybody, in fact, would have had an opportunity of fashioning his own cloak to hide, shelter, and disguise his ignorance, laziness, and presumption, and that the worst description of easy latitudinarianism would have usurped the place of close application, persevering industry, and all progress in the right direction.

Certainly, if one considers the extraordinary longing which a great number of converted allopaths, even now, evince to graft homœopathy upon allopathy, wherever they possibly can—if one bears in mind the almost irresistible power of early impressions, preconceived ideas, and long-standing habits—if one looks at the present state of homœopathic practice (at least, what passes current under that name), one cannot sufficiently admire Hahnemann's sagacity and wisdom, even in this particular; and instead of blaming him for inventing a new name for his doctrine, and thereby establishing for ever a broad gulf between his system and allopathy, those who value his doctrine in its purity ought to feel exceedingly grateful. More than once have I talked to him on the subject, and he invariably declared that his object in calling his system Homœopathy was the one which has just been mentioned; that he did not attach much importance to the name itself, no more indeed than he attached to his individual view of the *modus operandi* of homœopathic medicines and doses, and that any other name of a similar meaning might have been adopted. It is true the name Homœopathy does not express much of the doctrine itself, and perhaps a term like *Homœotherapia*, which is, grammatically, equally correct, would have embraced the subject more fully and significantly; but as the term homœopathy is now universally adopted, and we all know, or at least ought to know, what it stands for, it would be folly to attempt to alter it. As it is, we have, at least, a distinct standard from which to start, and round which to rally, and which in no manner whatever interferes with true progress and improvement.

Even less felicitous than in adopting the name of homœopathy has Hahnemann been in calling the ordinary medical practice Allopathy; although medical men of that school frequently resort to the ἀλλοιον in the treatment of diseases, yet this is far from being the leading feature of their proceedings: indeed, it would be difficult to say what is *the* leading or even *a* leading feature in their mode of treating disease;

* Six months only; vide Elogio di Lady Guandalina Talbot, Principessa Borghese, da Francesca Romani, p. 15. Napoli, 1840.

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for however scientific and philosophical allopathy *seems* to be in books and lecture-rooms, it sinks into the most variegated and unprincipled routine at the bedside of the patient. Allopaths have neither a law of nature to guide them, nor a well-defined broad principle, nor even generally-acknowledged rules for their proceedings, and it is this total absence of any principle of sufficient importance and universality which makes it difficult to designate the ordinary practice under a comprehensive term. The most significative term I could coin is VETULISM, from *vetula*, an old woman—old woman's practice; the correctness of which term I hope to prove in the next number.

INFINITESIMAL MIASMS.

(*Extracted from a Faggot of French Sticks*, vol. ii. p. 12.)

AND then completing my arrangements by placing before the table a comfortable arm-chair, like Robinson Crusoe, I looked around me with an inward satisfaction it would be difficult to describe; and I was standing very much in the attitude of a young artist, joyously admiring the painting he has concluded, when, with great velocity, there shot past my nose—to tell the truth, it actually hit it—an arrow of air about a foot long, but no thicker than a piece of packthread, that did not smell as it ought to do. "It is the breath of envy," said I to myself, "mortified at my happiness!" and, discarding the green-eyed monster from my thoughts, and again admiring my location, I bade it a short adieu, and descended into the street. At about six o'clock I returned to my apartment, and, like a young lover, was again admiring its clearness, when another little arrow, from an unpleasant quiver, flew by me. "It's all fancy," said I to myself, "it can't come from my kind landlady, nor from my chest of drawers. I'm two stories above the drains and two below the gutters of this world; Paris outside my window, and a passage outside my door; the thing," I did not exactly know what to call it, "is impossible."

I had a most amusing dinner. I had left it entirely to my landlady to decide what was good for me; and as I sat alone, sometimes I could scarcely help laughing aloud at her prescription, and from the end of a silver fork I was placing between my lips a small portion of one of the unknown ingredients, for the purpose of analysing its composition, when, as nearly as I could guess, about an inch and a half from me, there whizzed by another little arrow. In less than the twinkllng of an eye it had completely passed, and where it had come from, or where it had gone to, I was alike utterly ignorant. After dinner I rambled about the streets until it was time to go to my bed, which proved clean and comfortable. In the morning—quite contrary to my habit—I awoke with a slight headache, and I was lying on my back conscientiously recapitulating the nameless items of my dinner, when there rushed past the uppermost feature of my face, not an arrow but a javelin. During the day, on being half a dozen times similarly assailed, I became slightly dispirited for a few moments, until, rallying my forces,—I mean looking at my chest of drawers, secretaire, and other comforts that surrounded me, and muttering the words "home, *sweet* home!" I determined during the day not to notice the contemptible little demon that was assailing me, but at night to remove my bedding from its alcove to the floor near the window. I did so; but again awaking with rather a worse headache, I felt it was in vain to endeavour to hold out, and that I had, therefore, better at once sound a retreat. Accordingly, ringing my bell, I requested the *garçon* to ascertain whether Madame would be visible to me. In a few minutes she entered my room, with the same placid smile which had adorned her countenance when it last left me. What, she kindly inquired, could she do to serve me. It required the whole of my resolution, and, indeed, almost more than I possessed, to answer her friendly query by telling her, in broken sentences and in faltering accents, that the room was in every respect all I could desire, "But that....it....had ...at times... a very unpleasant smell." "Non, monsieur!" she replied, with great gentleness. I assured her it was the case. "Non, monsieur!!" she replied, with greater gentleness. "Madame," said I, "it has twice over given me a headache, from whieh," laying my right hand flat on my forehead, "I am suffering at this moment." "Non, monsieur!!!" she replied, so gently and so faintly, that I could hardly hear it. "But, madame," I added, "I have no desire to leave you. Would you be kind enough to allow me to remove to the apartment at the top of the house which I first saw, for which I should wish to pay the same as for this one?" "Certainement, monsieur!" she replied, gently bowing her head, and looking as placid, as kind, and as anxious to oblige me as ever, and, accordingly, in less than a quarter of an hour the migration was

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effected. From the above anecdote, trifling as it may sound, Mr. Chadwick and the Board of Health would, no doubt, be able to draw a most important moral. I leave them, however, two stories below me, to trace to its secret source a tiny cause, which, in a region high above cesspools and drains, had created a stratum of impure air, the past, the ever present, and the still future source and nourisher of fever,* which, had it been inodorous, I should most certainly have remained in.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, MAY 29TH, 1852.

THE whole world is now in a state of transition. The old empires of Japan and China are feeling the throbs of an unborn life; ancient Asia palpitates with the burden of the future; the depths of isolated Africa are penetrated by the subtle influence of coming Change; young and mighty America, the vigorous North and the glowing South alike, reverberates the prophetic intimation; and Europe, the Step-dame of Civilization, trembles to its centre.

Voices of the Future startle the magnetic minds which sympathise with the Invisible. It is in this state of things that a Medical Reform has been proposed that has shocked the occupants of Academical Chairs, and occasioned the angry growls of corporate Medical Bodies.

What change want they? They do not wish to feel any new life under their dry bones,—they are satisfied with things as they are. They will not see that the wonderful changes that have marked the progress of the Nations during the last half century must affect the profession of Medicine.

What need of earnest purpose—of vigorous resolution—of undaunted moral courage—of direct integrity—have they who profess to be the pioneers and champions of this Medical Reform! Such men as Fletcher of Edinburgh was, are those we want—energetic and downright men.

"From drugs intended to impart
Relief to sickness, care, and pain,
The doctor, with pernicious art,
Extracts a *poison* and a *bane*."

That is, misapplied drugs, given in gross quantity, act as poisons; used according to the law of Harmony, the law propounded by Hahnemann, they are *curative*.

Medicine is subject to mutations as well as kingdoms and empires; but though it has undergone innumerable changes, yet the humour of its professors is much the same.

"Many a truth is like a wolf—which we hold by the ears; afraid to let it escape, and yet scarcely able to retain it. It was a saying of the selfish Fontenelle, that if he held the most important truth, like a bird, in his hand, he would rather crush it than let it go forth. Lessing, the German, on the contrary, found such a delight in the investigation of truth, that he professed his readiness to make over all claim as its discoverer, provided he might still be allowed to pursue it. Nor can we wonder at his holy ardour, for to follow truth to its source is to stand at the footstool of God."

Hahnemann *did not crush the bird he held in his hand, but let it go forth;* and thence the enmity of sciolists to him.

If there is a *local* sympathy, to be without which is to want a faculty, and if, as is so forcibly expressed in the noble language of Dr. Johnson, "that man is little to be envied whose patriotism would not gain force upon the plain of Marathon, or whose piety would not grow warmer among the ruins of Iona," how much more to be deplored is the want of sympathy for the progress of an Immortal and Indestructible Truth; and how little indeed is that man to be envied who cannot sympathise with Howard during his mission of benevolence, with Gardiner during his mission of Christian love, and with Hahnemann during his of medical philanthropy.

Each of these men, in his degree, showed in his life and sacrifices and sufferings how well he understood philanthropy as defined by Cicero:—*Ad tuendos conservandosque homines hominem natum esse. Homines hominum causâ sunt genera ti, ut ipsi inter se alii aliis prodesse possint. Hominem naturæ obedientem, homini nocere non posse.* "For the de-

* Paris is infinitely less healthy than London. And it is probably owing to inferior sanitary arrangements, and especially to defective drainage, that while the comparative mortality of the population of London, exceeding two millions, is 2.5 per cent., the mortality of the population of Paris, rather less than one million, is 3.3 per cent. In other words, there die annually in clear bright Paris, about 7,000 persons more than, out of the same amount of population, die in smoky London.

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fence and preservation of men was man born; the very end of the being of men is that they should help one another as much as possible. The man who is true to nature cannot injure any of his fellow-beings."

Correspondence.

METROPOLITAN HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—The reports recently published in your columns of the festive meetings held by the supporters of the homœopathic hospitals in this metropolis, afford no inapt opportunity of considering the present position and future prospects of these Institutions, especially in their bearing upon the true interests of the great medical reform which now commands the attention of all classes of society. It has long been an undetermined question among the friends of homœopathy how far that science is benefited by the establishment of hospitals for its practice. For myself, I certainly was at first of opinion that, independently of the boon conferred upon the poor, a very great amount of benefit would ensue to the Cause, and the truth become more widely disseminated by the foundation of hospitals. But recent experience of the faulty principles upon which these establishments were founded, and the manner in which they are conducted, have induced me to change that opinion, and I now look upon the existing homœopathic hospitals as one cause of the little progress (little when compared with its mighty value) made by the science of homœopathy in this country. To render this clear, it is only necessary to glance at the history of these medical charities. The first of those now existing was established in Golden Square, under the title of "The London Homœopathic Hospital." The aim of its promoters was excellent; they sought, by the gradual introduction of homœopathic treatment amongst the poor of this great city, to procure well-authenticated statistics as to its efficacy in the cure of disease, while they would afford to old-school practitioners ocular demonstration of what they refused to acquire by reading, and upon the strength of which they would no doubt have been successful in their application to Government for a charter to form a college or school of homœopathy. Of course, no statistics could be of any value unless *true* homœopathy were practised; it was therefore essential that the medical men connected with it should not be mere experimentalists, but steady followers of the principles of the homœopathic law, and practising it according to the rules laid down and proved by Hahnemann, its great discoverer. To ensure this, as well as that its medical officers should be gentlemen, *sans reproche*, it would only have been necessary to have formed a council of half a dozen of the leading members of the medical profession, by whom the appointments should have been made. In place, however, of this rational mode, a fundamental rule was adopted, that the medical officers of the London Homœopathic Hospital should be selected *only* from the members of the British Homœopathic Society. Now the rules of this private society were not agreeable to many; the charge of several guineas annually was disagreeable to some, and for numerous reasons many highly-qualified members of the profession had not only seceded from this Society, but others would not, or could not, become members, and were consequently excluded from candidateship to an hospital hampered with such rules as those which govern the medical department of the London Homœopathic. To obviate the effects of this rule, and to endeavour to obtain statistics on a more extended basis, and to afford scope for talent and energy, *said* to exist, but which had hitherto been, as was supposed, oppressed and persecuted, a few gentlemen, themselves members of the British Homœopathic Society, urged by lay-friends, determined to try the experiment of establishing another hospital upon more comprehensive principles, and in April, 1850, the Hahnemann Hospital, in Bloomsbury Square, was founded. The promoters were determined that the utmost liberality should prevail; that no exclusiveness should militate against the success of the undertaking. They gave Scylla a wide berth, but, as a natural consequence, only to fall into Charybdis. The doors of the new hospital were thrown open to all medical practitioners desirous of joining it, and all who joined were to be on the footing of a perfect equality. No test of homœopathic fitness,* beyond the production of an allopathic diploma or degree, was adopted. No questions were asked. No breath against professional reputation, no whisper of unprofessional conduct was allowed [illegible] a candidate for admission—all were received with open arms, in the supposition that party interest should have no sway, and that merit alone would find its level; but, alas! Mr. Editor, your pages have too truthfully recorded the unhappy results. Thus we have in London, at present, two homœopathic hospitals, both, though from different causes, equally inefficient as far as the promulgation of the truth of the science is concerned;—the one, by an obstinate adherence to an exclusive rule, circumscribing its own usefulness, the other, by the inconsiderate adoption of a baneful principle, nullifying its own labours. The one crushing into insignificance the statistics it was formed to magnify, the other rendering its statistics useless, as flowing from an adulterated source. Could the funds of these two medical charities be thrown together, and one establishment be formed, under the guidance of a council of ten or twelve of the leading men of the country, I have no doubt, Sir, but that a great and permanent hospital, school, and college, worthy of Great Britain and homœopathy, would spring from the auspicious union; but the consent of the parties, so necessary in all alliances, is here wanting, and I much fear they must be left to struggle on through their present unhealthy existence as best they may. But there is no disease

* This remark of our correspondent applies equally to the other Hospital.—ED.

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without its remedy, and I have lately seen what appears to be one for this crying evil in your own columns. I allude to a letter from the Hon. Augustus Moreton, a gentleman well known as an excellent and scientific homœopathist, suggesting the formation of a children's hospital, under the guidance of a competent medical council and medical staff. It seems to me that the establishment of such a charity, in the manner prescribed, would at once afford the widest scope for the practice of the science and the attainment of satisfactory statistics, as well as the enormous amount of benefit to the poor *and to the country*, in evil prevented to the next generation. Surely, Sir, this scheme has not had the attention it deserves, and you could hardly do better for homœopathy, in my humble opinion, than press your readers to support the wide-spreading and genial philanthropy of its proposer. If my remarks should find a place in your columns, I shall do myself the pleasure to address you a few lines on the same subject at some future period.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

LIBRA.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

112, Gloucester Place.

SIR,—It is with great regret that we appear again before the homœopathic public. But two extraordinary papers printed and circulated among the subscribers to the Hahnemann Hospital, by order of the present Board of Management, leave us no option. The first of these papers purports to be a report of the last general meeting of subscribers. It commences by giving the annual report of the Board of Management. This report was not passed unanimously, the four seceding members being dissentient; so that, as far as regards any difference of opinion between these and the majority, it is an *ex-parte* statement. The statement made by the seceding members of the Board of Management of their reasons for retiring is *wholly suppressed;* but Lord Robert Grosvenor's speech, which was favourable to the majority, is given at length.

It is also stated, that it was moved by the Honourable A. H. M. Moreton, "that the formal appointment of clinical lecturers by the Board of Management be not approved." The resolution actually moved by him being, that the formal appointment of clinical lecturers by the Board of Management be not approved, *but that, in accordance with the written opinions of the majority of the Medical Council, clinical instruction and lectures be given by the physicians and surgeons of the Hospital, without title of any sort.* The first version making him apparently move a resolution against clinical lectures, while the resolution that was actually moved was, *that clinical instruction and lectures should be given.*

In the second paper we find the words "it has been asserted." Here follow the assertions. If these are intended to represent the statements of the retiring members of the Board of Management, we think that, in common fairness, they ought to have been the statements actually made,* or words substantially representing their meaning.

The remainder of the paper is chiefly taken up in justifying the *majority* of the Board of Management in advocating *compulsory* delivery of clinical lectures, from which the reader would naturally infer that the minority was opposed to compulsory clinical lectures. The fact, however, being, that the four seceding members of the Board were of opinion that it should be *compulsory* on the Medical Officersof the in-patients to give clinical lectures or instruction, but without any medical title or precedence. The question, however, of voluntary or compulsory lectures was never at any time before the Board of Management. The real question was, whether Dr. Curie should be appointed by the Board of Management lecturer on clinical medicine to the Hahnemann Hospital, there having been no recommendation from the Medical Council for that appointment.

One word more. In the Report of the Board of Management for the last year, it is stated that they "accepted the offers of Drs. Curie and Henriques to deliver clinical lectures." This is hardly consistent with the fact. These gentlemen offered themselves, in answer to a public advertisement, as candidates for the clinical lectureships; their offers to lecture as the appointed clinical lecturers to the Hospital were accepted. It was stated at the time by the minority, that if these gentlemen would lecture as simple medical officers, and not as *the appointed lecturers of the Hospital*, our opposition was at an end, for it was the title of *clinical lecturer to the Hospital* that was offensive to the other medical officers, as conferring a medical superiority. I have mentioned this, as the wording of the passage in the Report might mislead a casual reader into the idea that no medical men had been appointed to the office of clinical lecturers to the Hahnemann Hospital.

Although we have at present retired from all connection with the Hospital, we hope, with a view to its future success, that the new Board of Management will take advantage of the experience of the past, and, by strict impartiality in the management of its medical affairs, show its disposition to be advised by its Medical Council, and thus by degrees recover that public confidence which has been so unwisely tampered with, and for a time lost, and that they will in future abstain from circulating such partial and inaccurate documents at the expense of the funds of the charity.

We remain, your obedient servants,

A. H. MACDONALD MORETON.
W. GILL.
A. P. PHELPS.
F. J. SMITH.

* Vide report of the meeting of subscribers, as reported in the *Homœopathic Times*, April 17.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

HOMŒOPATHY IN SWEDEN.

By Dr. Liedbeck, of Stockholm.

(*Continued from page* 601.)

I give now a few cases of another of our colleagues, Dr. Mörth, who having been cured by me of an obstinate diarrhœa by a few globules of *Rhus* 3, and who, from having read the Organon, now recognises the superiority of the doctrine of Hahnemann. He writes to me thus: "I have commenced seriously the contemplation and study of Hahnemann's Organon, which I have had since your translation first appeared. The more I read and compare, the more I am delighted with the homœopathic explanation Hahnemann gives of cures performed in the olden times; nay, it is infinitely more satisfactory than the hypothetic blind-man's game of the old allopathic system. Homœopathy gives us something definite and decisive—an absolute natural law, indisputable and everlasting; and the time cannot be far distant when its great originator will be acknowledged as the Linnæus of medicine. I have succeeded beyond expectation in some cases I have treated according to the homœopathic indications, though not with such small doses as Hahnemann recommends. An immediate beneficial effect was produced in the case of a young lady, who suffered much from constipation and headaches, from one-eighth grain doses of *Extract of Opium*. I have also found, during the prevailing epidemic of scarlet fever, that the vaunted remedy of *Carbonate of Ammonia* was superseded and happily displaced by remedies chosen from individualising each case, according to the Hahnemannian prescript.

"I am still, however, in doubt about the theory of potency and of the small doses; but this is a matter of experience."

In practice Dr. Mörth has not yet in all cases thrown away the antiquated medicine à la Molière: "*Venam secare, ensuite purgare, repurgare, mixturare,*" etc. But if these opposite principles still keep place in his peaceful mind, perhaps in some measure from the old maxim, "*Volenti nulla injuria fit,*" his letters record several cures with the recognised direction of the cardinal rule of the Hahnemannian doctrine, *similia similibus curentur.*

I begin with his relation of a catarrhal affection, with which he was himself affected.

"After having taken a violent cold, on a damp night in the month of June last summer, through travelling against the wind, I commenced coughing, and felt at the same time a soreness in the throat, without any pain when swallowing. The principal symptoms were, severe cold in the head, with copious secretion of a thick matter, sometimes mixed with blood, and at times bleeding from the nose; the eyes were red and running, and my hearing very much impaired; hoarseness amounting almost to *dysphonia*, and a burning sensation in the posterior part of the throat. The cough was incessant and most violent, and the expectoration very abundant; the rattle from the lungs could be heard at a distance of several feet. The expectoration was sometimes thick, greenish, sometimes thin, but always mixed with a number of air-vesicles. My appetite was fair, but my bowels acted only every other day. Having tried in vain *Euphr.* and *Mercur. viv.*, as well as *Sulphur*, and as I was obliged to see my patients during the whole time, I expected serious consequences from this protracted illness. I was getting thinner, and felt weak and exhausted on the slightest effort. The violent effort of coughing at last produced such strains in the left groin, that I began to fear I should be ruptured. But this symptom gave me indication for *Nux Vom.* Now the scene changed at once. After the first day the cough began to diminish, and the pressure in the groin became so much better, that I was no longer obliged to press my hand on it when the cough came on. From that moment my recovery progressed; I was completely restored by the repetition of a few doses of *Nux Vom.*

"*Case* 2.—Miss G—, aged thirty-eight, has suffered during many years from gastralgia, and latterly her abdomen had become much expanded and enlarged, as if she was *enceinte*, probably in consequence of visceral obstruction and consequent intumescence (Sauvages, the *hyposarque* of Linnæus). Her face was pale and some-

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what sallow; the appetite in general good, though at times indifferent. The periods were regular; so also the evacuations of the bowels; the abdomen distended and hard, at times uneasy, and the size has neither decreased nor increased since I first measured her. She complains principally of difficulty in moving the body, and the stomach is somewhat tender to the touch. Indurations cannot be detected by manual examination. The urine, which is thick, is diminished in quantity; no thirst; pain when in a horizontal position; the lower extremities not swollen, but generally stiff after walking.

"*China* relieved here all the pain and tenderness, and though the stomach is still as much enlarged as before, in some measure from ascites, the patient is very satisfied in being without any of the suffering she endured before. She is still under my care.

"In a case of delirium tremens, with tremor of the hands, I have seen relief from *Digitalis Tinct.*, a few drops in four ounces of water, a teaspoonful for a dose every second day. The patient is now completely restored. What strikes me most in this case is that the patient has entirely lost his passion for strong liquors. Of *Ant. crudum* I have seen good results in a case of cephalalgia; so also of *Ignatia* in cases of cardialgia, complicated with a sinking feeling in the pit of the stomach. In two cases of amblyopia I have restored the sight only through the adherence to the homœopathic principle.

"*Case* 3.—A woman, married sixteen years, and the mother of six children, after having become aware of the unexpected but certain fact of her husband's infidelity to her, suffered from all the symptoms of unrequited love—crying, despair, pain in the epigastric region, restlessness, losing her appetite, and suddenly becoming thin, etc. I prescribed two grains of *Extract. Hyoscyam.*, with *Sacch. Lact.*, divided into fourteen parts, and told her to take one powder two or three times a day when she periodically became worse. She felt better immediately after the first powder, and her improvement gradually progressed every day. After some time she used to take only one or half a powder occasionally, when her symptoms, though in a less degree, reappeared. She was well before all the powders were finished, though the cause of her illness still continued.

"I will only, *en passant*, mention an observation I have made, which I translate in the following way: the action of a remedy, for the application of which there is full indication, is considerably assisted when it is at the same time externally applied. For instance, if we have to treat an ophthalmia, in which the patient complains of a sensation as if there were sand in his eyes, and also in other respects, *Nux Vom.* is indicated for internal use; he will feel immediate relief by a collyrium of from ten, twelve, to fifteen drops of the *Tincture of Nux Vom.*, in three or four ounces of water. I have in several cases ascertained this fact."

What has already been related proves sufficiently that there are more homœopathic physicians than one in Sweden. The list of names of those who have been or are still active in the cause of homœopathy, and which I give in the subjoined note,* will not be without interest, when once the history of the new medical reform is to be written. Besides, at the present moment, several allopathic physicians are in correspondence with me, having commenced inquiries and studies of the principles of our doctrine; amongst whom I may mention the celebrated Uncle Adam, the Eugene Sue of Sweden, his attention having more particularly been drawn to the subject since his wife, after having in vain tried the resources of the antiquated medicine for a uterine hemorrhage, was cured by a few globules of *Belladonna.*

We need not pause to inquire whether or no Dr. Hamberg is right in his allegation, that there is no homœopathic chemist in Sweden, for in fact there *are two*, both well conducted and honourably sustained. I do not contend for myself, but only for full liberty in dispensing my medicines, as well as in thought and action, according to my *conscience and understanding*, in harmony with my oath as physician, to which I will be true till death.

"Mr. Asker, proprietor of the apothecary's shop "Lion," in Norrköping, has, during the last autumn, of his own accord and out of professional interest, provided himself with an account of Dr. Grüner's preparation, containing medicines, mostly in the billionth, and several in much higher attenuations, either in globules or in tinctures. Besides, there is also a complete collection of the necessary, but generally more scarce animal medicines, viz., *Anthrax, Hydrophobicum, Lachesis trigonocephalus, Psoricum, Sepia*, etc. Of the *mother tinctures*, there are several in great quantities, viz., *Rhus, Arnica, Nux Vom.*,

* George Wahlenberg, M.D., Professor at Upsala, deceased; P. Liedbeck, M.D., Stockholm; C. Söderberg, M.D., Sigtuna, deceased; S. N. Selldén, M.D., Wexió; C. Bergman, M.D., Halmstad, deceased; D. Petersson, M.D., Calmar; F. Noréus, M.D., Norrköping; N. Mörth, M.D., Linköping; and C. U. Sondén, M.D., Stockholm (relapsed to allopathy.)

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Symphytum, etc. There are other remedies, either foreign to the Swedish Pharmacopœia, or out of common use, viz., *Euphrasia*, *Pulsatilla nigricans*, etc. Everything is well secured in glass bottles with stoppers; the whole laboratory is nicely fitted up, and is kept in a separate building, in which no drugs in the gross form are kept, and there are, besides, a very good balance, with scales of platina, with measure-tubes for 100 or 200 drops, etc.

"P. SCHIERMAN, M.D.
"L. P. HANSEEN, M.D.
"T. NOREUS, M.D., Homœopathic Practitioner.
"C. F. ASKER, Apothecary, Proprietor of the Apothecary's Shop "Lion," Norrköping.
"F. BERGSTRÖM, J. BARCK, Pharmaceutic Candidates.

"Norrköping, 26th April, 1852."

The following document has been kindly forwarded to me by our colleague in Calmar, and is signed by him in his capacity of town-physician.*

"I beg to state that there is a separate department in the apothecary's shop, in Calmar, for homœopathic medicines, partly prepared there according to the Pharmacopœia of Grüner, partly imported direct from Dresden.

"D. G. PETERSSON, M.D.

"Calmar, 26th April, 1852."

If love of truth is the test of the true philosopher, our Swedish allopathic brethren have proved themselves to be possessed of very unphilosophical minds. It may be that Sweden is behind in the new medical reform, as well as in many other improvements, viz., railroads, electric telegraphs, etc., resulting from the more inquiring and progressive spirit of our age; indeed, I think Sweden, next to the Celestial Empire, is the most stationary country in the world. But it remains for us to hope that the small phalanx of men now engaged in the question of liberty in thought and action in medical matters, will not fail to do their duty in a country which was once the foremost in the defence of the civil and religious liberty of mankind.

As I may not again soon have an occasion to appear in the columns of your valuable journal, I take the opportunity of making a few observations on a case of mine already recorded in the *Homœopathic Times*, March 2, 1850, p. 456. I there stated, in the case of Mrs. B—g, that *Arsen.* 3 did not yield any good effect in her *typhlitis*, but that *Ignatia* gave relief, and was curative. It occurred to me during the following year, in 1851, that as the patient used to sleep in a room papered with green colours, they might contain *Arsenicum*—in fact, by a chemical test this was found to be the case. The key to the riddle was now found. Mrs. B. used to be mostly affected during the winter season, and towards the spring, until the windows could be kept more open. I advised her to procure new *papering*, altogether free from *Arsenic*, and since she adopted my advice, the repeated attacks of *typhlitis* have ceased. The reason why *Arsenicum* did not give any relief is here perceived. *Ginseng*, on the contrary, cured her last attack much more strikingly and speedily than *Ignatia* previously used to do. There is also no remedy with such a special action on the cœcum as *Ginseng* (see *Noack and Trinks' Arzneimittelehre*, and *Allg. Zeitung für Homœopathie, Sympt.* 86, 89, 105, etc., but principally 121, 124, 125, 128, 129). I have also in typhus abdominalis, with affection of the cœcum, found in *Ginseng* 2 and 3, a specific remedy. I think, therefore, that this remedy deserves the more general attention of our continental colleagues; more perhaps on account of its pharmaco-dynamic character than from the few cases which have occurred in my practice, since my attention was first drawn to the subject in the above case.

* By town-physician is meant the medical officer appointed to perform post-mortem examinations, and to exercise many of the functions of a health officer.

HAHNEMANN'S VIEWS ON COLD WATER AND MOVEMENTS.

Read by Dr. Roth at the Meeting of the Hahnemann Medical Society, the 6th of April, 1852.

(*Continued from page* 629.)

"*Exercise and Bath.*—The weakness of the patient, sometimes also bad weather, make it indispensable to take moderate exercise before and after the cold bath; an incomparable remedy to keep up the circulation. The increased warmth of the blood produced by movement is then capable of more easily resisting the cold of the bath, and the muscular fibres and vessels contract more uniformly. Even by these means we have the advantage that the cold bath does not produce cold, and that we are enabled to increase the degree of the cold more quickly, than we could if the patient were obliged, unprepared and suddenly, to undergo the influence of the cold water. The exercise before the bath must be moderate, so as not to produce perspiration, because it would be very injurious to

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expose the body in this state to the cold of the bath. The exercise after the bath may be somewhat increased, but even then neither perspiration nor fatigue must follow it; under similar restrictions we may anticipate immense advantages, which cannot be obtained by any other means.

"If during the after-treatment, the bath is augmented to the full bath, and the cold as well as the duration of the bath are daily to be increased, I prescribe to my patients one or two glasses of wine and water. I have frequently had an opportunity of observing the manifestly good effect of this prescription, which will be easily understood by those who reflect upon it. I add to the rules of the application of cold water another very essential circumstance, exactly connected with the previously-described manipulations.

"From the first slight immersion to the coldest full bath, those parts of the patient which are in the water, as well as those adjacent, are rubbed with woollen cloths, and the strength of the friction is greatest when the patient is about to leave the bath. The friction can be done either by the patient or an attendant. Immediately after the bath, the same parts are rubbed for one or two minutes, either with dry cloths only, or with others impregnated with the vapours of spices and resins, and generally the friction after the bath is much stronger; then the parts are covered, and, according to the state of the strength, a walk from a quarter of an hour to an hour is prescribed.

"If we wish to increase the cold of the bath more speedily, the friction must also be used before the bath, on the parts to be immersed, which manipulation has advantages not to be procured by any other treatment. With the assistance of friction, the weakest person can make use of the coldest bath.

"The friction is to be extended to the parts surrounding the sores, which are the principal places to be strengthened, and where obstructions of the vessels are to be removed. Care must be taken that the friction be executed lightly and cautiously at first, and with proper regard to the scared places.

"My recommendation of the cold bath and suitable diet as the principal means of a strengthening cure of chronic ulcers is based on the most striking and numerous experiments, for which reason I claim in this respect unlimited confidence. A great advantage of this excellent remedy is, that even the poorest may readily make use of it without any circumstantial prescriptions, except those already mentioned; like the rich, they can walk before and after the bath, rub themselves, keep the water around the immersed part in constant motion, enjoy the fresh air, and for wine they can substitute good beer.

"*Curative Effects of Cold Water.*—During many years, when I was ignorant of any specific remedies for old chronic diseases, I frequently combated them successfully solely with cold washing, cold foot-baths, and also with immersion for one minute at a time in water of from fifty to sixty degrees Fahrenheit. One case, however, among many others, is so remarkable, that I cannot refrain from detailing it. A man, somewhat advanced in years, but still possessing considerable strength, had had for five years, from an unknown cause, a paralytic affection of his left arm. The movements he could perform with it were very weak and few, and the sensibility of it also was much diminished. On one occasion, when he was on a visit to a relative, and there was no one to fetch the fish for the supper, out of a frozen tank, he got up quietly, broke the ice, leant over it, and passed nearly an hour with both arms in the ice-cold-water, before he could get out the required number of fish. He brought them, to the great delight of his host, but immediately complained of pains in the affected arm, which in the course of a few hours inflamed. The following day, the pain and inflammation were gone, and his arm had acquired its healthy sensibility, and all its power of movement. The arm was cured and remained so.

"*Internal Strengthening Cure.*—All internal strengthening remedies, as well as the external treatment, must be increased by degrees, in proportion to the increase of the strength of the patient, which rule should be applied even to the daily portion of wine prescribed.

"In general I am unable to give, with respect to wine, a fixed and certain prescription. A man accustomed to wine can take a considerable quantity without injury, while the same amount would make a boy ill. To poor persons, who cannot forego the use of brandy, I do not forbid it, but I diminish its quantity. I have observed irreparable loss of strength in persons accustomed to wine and brandy, if I had forbidden these liquors; notwithstanding this practice, contrary to the rules, I still radically cured many persons. But when both these strong liquors, from having been taken to excess, were the sole cause of the corruption of the humours, and when this intemperance threatened the total ruin of their health, or had already affected it, then I pursued another course, if there was one. In the

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beginning I positively refused to cure their ulcers; if by my refusal they became the more desirous and resolved to do and to permit all to be done which I thought proper, then I pointed out to them the danger in which they were, either of remaining uncured, or even of soon dying miserably, if their manner of living was not entirely changed. I showed them the only course to be followed, and if they exhibited perfect firmness and resolution, I treated them in the following manner.

"I permitted the poor, accustomed to brandy alone, for several weeks to drink their usual quantity of this terrible liquor, on condition that they drank, after each small glass of brandy, a large tumbler of water. Afterwards I diminished by degrees the quantity of brandy, while I increased the cold water, till I attained the point at which they drank much water and little brandy. If they still continued to have full confidence in being cured, and to be obedient, notwithstanding my strictness, I then allowed them to follow the last course for a certain time, so that at least six months should pass under this general and thorough penance. If their health was in fact still capable of some improvement, it was by this treatment; nutritious food and exercise were good accessories, and finally, the strengthening remedy and a suitable treatment of the sore, completed for the most part the cure. Every one knows as well as myself that such patients are the most difficult to cure; therefore they will believe me when I assure them that many remain uncured. The tyranny of habit, poverty, and prejudice, with frequently irreparable dryness of the fibres and debility of the nerves, were often sufficiently potent to produce death.

"No treatment has been more effectual in curing wine-drunkards than the water-cure, the gradual change of their previous mode of living, exercise, exhilarating occupations, and wholesome food; finally, external and internal strengthening treatment, as well as the proper dressing of the ulcer.

"*Local Treatment.*—Cold water is the only means which I use in the inflamed swelling around the ulcer; the cold water prevents, without any additional means, the inflammation and swelling, and besides, if the sore is cleaned, keeps its humours in good order.

"If the old sore is on the leg, this part ought to be immersed in cold water daily, two or three times before the bandage is changed. The sore is covered with a slight bandage; the suffering part must not on any account be exempted from the cold bath, its greatest remedy.

"*Reopening of the Ulcers.*—Generally in all these cases, the strengthening treatment of the body is either neglected or not sufficiently increased, therefore we must use the cold bath twice instead of once a day, or thrice instead of twice; the temperature of the water should be increased several degrees. The patient ought to remain in the bath some minutes longer than before; he must be more deeply immersed; the friction ought to be extended over the whole body. He should wear woollen shirts, and if the friction had been done hitherto after the bath, it ought now to be done also before the bath, and in the water itself. The bodily exercise is to be increased a little; the meals must be rendered more nutritious, principally by meat and a little spice.

"If the patient is bandaged with a firm bandage, when suffering from chronic ulcers of the legs, he is prevented from taking exercise, which is most tedious for poor persons, who, when deprived of the use of their legs, have not the means of being driven in a carriage; and *strengthening the body without movement is not to be thought of.*

"*After-treatment.*—I generally endeavour to render the cure of my patients as agreeable to them as possible, because diseases are already sufficient evils in themselves. My principal aim is to make a simple and radical cure; and for those patients suffering from chronic ulcers in the feet, how light is the burden which is imposed upon them during the treatment. I endeavour to obtain this ease of cure chiefly by the simplicity of the prescribed rules and remedies; but then I exact the most implicit obedience, the more so, as this virtue is in the power of every one from whom I claim it. Without this we can do as little as to attempt to construct a watch with the most exactly-worked wheels, which are not properly put together.

"As I substitute for the infinite mingle-mangle and hodge-podge of contradictory prescriptions, and for the burden of debilitating, improper curative methods following each other, with the view of restoring the strength and health of the patient, a simple energetic treatment, universally applicable and easily carried out, so for their own good, I impress upon my patients, after their sores are healed, that they should persevere in this wholesome mode of living, and continue the internal and external strengthening cure only for a certain time, longer and shorter, as I may determine, according to the importance of the disease cured. I proceed as follows. The duration, the temperature, and the number of the cold baths I recommend to be continued for a

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certain time *i. e.* a fortnight, or from four to six weeks uninterruptedly, then they are diminished for a time, from about one to two months. For instance, I prescribe, instead of bathing thrice, for a time only twice, and finally, only once; instead of 35, 40, 45—50 to 55 degrees; instead of the full bath the shallow, and finally, the footbath; instead of the strong friction before, in, and after the bath, over the whole body, gentle friction by degrees only in and after the bath; finally, only in it over half the body, and only around the scared parts; the duration of twenty minutes decreased by degrees to ten and six minutes. These gradual changes are not at all inconvenient to the former patient; the body becomes progressively less accustomed to the high degree of the strengthening cure, and still preserves the firmness of its fibres."

[We have already remarked that these views of Hahnemann, which so remarkably indicate his decided preference for what has been called "simple treatment," in comparison of the drugging system, were published before he arrived at the happy inspiration of the homœopathic law. We will take an early opportunity to show what were his views on the subjects Dr. Roth has illustrated, from his earlier as well as his lesser writings, *after* he propounded homœopathy. —Ed.]

STRAY NOTES.

By an Old Practitioner.

(*Continued from page* 637.)

II. *Vitalism and Vetulism.*

These two terms perhaps read, look, and sound as well in juxtaposition, and convey at least as clear and distinct ideas, as the names homœopathy and allopathy. The word vitalism, of course, needs no explanation, its meaning in relation to our system is at once perceived by whosoever has rightly understood Hahnemann's doctrine. Of vetulism I said, in a previous article, that it appeared to me the most appropriate term by which to designate the ordinary mode of treating disease, and I promised to justify so uncomplimentary a title forthwith.

When we speak of medical art in the ordinary sense of the word, we simply mean the therapeutic branch of medicine; and speaking of therapeutics, we mean, in the same sense, almost exclusively, the application of those dynamic agents generally called medicines. It is, of course, essential that a medical man, before he makes use of medicines for the eure of disease, should know what the therapeutic properties of these agents are. In homœopathy the trial of the medicines on persons in health is the principle which reveals to the practitioner their therapeutic virtues; but allopathy has no such principle. It has endeavoured to find it in chemical investigation and has failed; it has scrutinized the smell, taste, form, colour, and the physical properties of medicinal substances, and has been disappointed; it has tried its medicines upon animals, and has tortured the poor creatures in vain; it has thought that certain plants and minerals would exhibit their medicinal properties according to their position in the modern system of botany and mineralogy, and has found itself mistaken. Finally, in depair, it has thrown itself into the arms of conjecture and empiricism. The latter, however (*usus in morbis*, the use or rather abuse in disease), is the sheet-anchor of the ordinary therapeutics: a medicine is given in a case of disease, *because it has produced, or is said to have produced, beneficial effects in similar cases.* Now this same sheet-anchor of the principal portion of the ordinary allopathic art is also the sheet-anchor in the ordinary "old woman's" practice. An "old woman" (*vetula*) recommends and gives her medicines exactly upon the same meagre principle as the allopath, *ab usu in morbis*; therefore, as far as principle is concerned (aye, and practice too), there is hardly a difference between allopathy and vetulism; and if there is, it is rather in favour of the "old woman" than of the allopath. For her "system" is as old as mankind itself; she generally gives simples, and does not mix half a dozen powerful medicines together; she thereby does infinitely less harm, and can follow the effects of such simples with much greater clearness and precision than the allopath can the effects of his mixtures. Moreover, she seldom or never bleeds, leeches, salivates, cuts, and burns, as the allopath does; and last, though not least, she never tries to deck out her simple experience in tawdry rags of subtle theory and clumsy speculation. I need not pursue the subject further, and shall only add, that taking these various facts into consideration, one arrives, through an easy *sorites*, at the inevitable and strictly syllogistic conclusion, not only that allopathy does not essentially differ from "old woman's" practice (vetulism), but also, what on the whole experience confirms, that it is safer to intrust the treatment of disease to a cautious "old woman" than to a drugging, drenching, bleeding, leeching, salivating, blistering, cutting, and burning allopath, with his raw and coarse notions of the therapeutic properties of medicines, and of the susceptibility of the organism in a state of disease.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5TH, 1852.

IF to the illustrious BACON we are indebted for the method of dissipating false philosophy, and of investigating and discovering the truths of Science, and to LUTHER we owe our freedom from the incrusted usages of hoar Antiquity, it is to HAHNEMANN that we must ascribe the praise of being at once the BACON and the LUTHER of Medicine. He first, in the large sense, applied the inductive method to Therapeutics; and he is the father of the Medical Reformation, as the first who resisted the authority of Centuries and of Names, and broke through the cobwebs of academical and traditional learning.

He opposed the spirit of mere dogmatic systems. He was an observer of Nature, and a collector of facts; and he rejected the hypothetical and gratuitous assumptions of medical theorists.

He cared not a jot for the chemical or alchemical, the mechanical or the mediæval barbarisms. He knew that the human body was not a stock nor a stone.

Dr. WILLIAM HUNTER, one of his contemporaries, was of his mind in respect to all delusive hypotheses; and, like HAHNEMANN, ridiculed the theorists who run themselves perpetually on the shallows. With respect to the stomach, that great physician and physiologist thus delivered himself to his wondering class. "Some physiologists, gentlemen, will have it that the stomach is a mill; others that it is a fermenting vat; others again, that it is a stew-pan; but, in my view of the matter, it is neither a mill, a fermenting vat, nor a stew-pan; but a stomach, gentlemen, a stomach."

So our HAHNEMANN rejects all theories concerning the *this* and the *that* of the human economy: his is a law of healing, whose object is the restoration of the equipoise of disturbed forces, the re-nutrition of parts that languish, the reparation of disordered functions, and the sustentation of the vital powers.

HAHNEMANN, therefore, like HIPPOCRATES, required that his patients should not be starved, but that the amount of aliment should be in just proportion to the demands for it. He knew better than to starve an old person or a child for instance. He starved none.

One of the great requirements is a digest, in one volume, of his medical aphorisms. His teaching is peculiarly aphoristical. Such a book, in *readable* English, would be invaluable to the Anglo-Saxon race. Who so fit to undertake it as CONSTANTINE HERING? Will he do it? We incite him to the task. It would be with him a labour of love, as he, certainly, was a favourite pupil of HAHNEMANN. We require a readable digest of the doctrines and practice of the Saxon Sage for the Saxon race.

ST. JAMES' (HOMŒOPATHIC) HOSPITAL, DONCASTER.

ON Wednesday, the 26th May, Dr. DUNN laid the foundation stone of St. James's Hospital, Doncaster, and made a brief and pointed address to the masons and others who had collected to witness the ceremony. The foundation stone was cut to receive a bottle containing a brief history of the rise and progress of the Hospital; a list of names of its early friends; a copy of the first circular issued; the 145th number of the *Homœopathic Times;* the *Doncaster Chronicle and Gazette; the Tourist's Guide to Doncaster and the Environs,* by G. V. T. Brook; and a "Great Exhibition Card." Dr. DUNN desiring, as far as possible, to discountenance the use of intoxicating drinks, asked the contractor, Mr. ELSWORTH, to provide a substantial supper for his workmen to celebrate the day.

The building is to be delivered to Dr. DUNN, complete, on the 1st of September next.

We have not found that any attention has been paid to the appeal made in behalf of Dr. DUNN and his enterprise, so merito-

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rious on his part, and which implies so much devotion to the Cause. We do not understand this indifference on the part of homœopathists, whether medical or non-medical, to the undertaking of one so deeply pledged to our Medical Reform.

There are three constituted Medical Homœopathic Societies in England; not one of these has come to Dr. DUNN's help. We consider the homœopathic public (*pace* our esteemed historian) not at a hundred thousand, but a million, including England, Ireland, and Scotland.

"*C'est l'union qui fait la force*, in union is strength." Our medical men have to learn this principle of power. We state distinctly, that it is the duty of every medical homœopathist to assist Dr. DUNN, by getting donations and subscriptions for his Hospital. He has taken the sole responsibility on himself, and will spend his last shilling to accomplish his object; and it is precisely because he is a man of that character and spirit (we wish we had many like him), that the rest of us should come to his rescue.

We cannot conceive a worse sign than a cold and selfish and self-seeking and miserable indifference on such a subject as this.

The Manchester Hospital is the work of many, and so is the London Homœopathic Hospital, and so is the Hahnemann Hospital, and so is the proposed homœopathic hospital at Edinburgh; but at Doncaster an individual, Dr. GEORGE DUNN, has initiated, *at his own risk*, such an Institution.

We believe that, out of his own connection and neighbourhood, up to this time, only *one* person has really tried to do anything for him. *This is too bad.*

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF ST. JAMES'S HOSPITAL.—On Wednesday, May 26, the foundation stone of St. James's Hospital was laid by its philanthropic projector, Dr Dunn. The building, as we announced several weeks back, is to be erected on the west side of the town, on the slip of land between Cleveland Street and St. Sepulchre Gate, and is principally designed for the treatment of accidents and acute diseases. The apartments will be lofty and spacious, and well warmed and ventilated, the fresh air being suitably tempered on its admission by being passed over pipes heated with hot water. There will be sufficient accommodation for a considerable number of beds, which will be introduced from time to time as circumstances may warrant. The principal apartments will be the casualty ward and the fever ward—besides which there will be the surgeon's and the matron's rooms, bath-room, kitchen, washhouse, pantry, etc. The bath-room will be an excellent feature in this Institution, inasmuch as it will comprise hot, cold, tepid, vapour, and shower baths, which will be open to the inhabitants generally at a very moderate price. There is, indeed, every reason to believe that this building altogether will be a model of its kind, and that it will in a great number of ways be highly advantageous to the town at large. It is needless for us to advert to the credit which so obviously and justly belongs to Dr. Dunn for the arduous and benevolent undertaking in which he has thus engaged, and we sincerely wish that his most sanguine views with regard to its usefulness may be fully realized. The Institution being one of a private character, it was determined that the laying of the foundation stone should be accomplished as quietly as possible. Accordingly, about two o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, Dr. Dunn and two or three friends repaired to the site of the building, which had been previously excavated in a suitable manner, and after the usual preparations he proceeded to lay the first stone. In doing this he addressed a few observations to those around. He began by invoking the blessing of Almighty God on the work then about to be commenced, as without such blessing nothing could prosper, and said he hoped that this Institution might produce all the benefits that he anticipated from it. He could assure them that in this undertaking he had had no interested motives, but had been actuated by a sincere desire to provide a building where accidents and acute diseases might be properly treated. Without the assistance of many kind friends, he could not have hoped to rear a building so well adapted to the purpose as that of which he was about to lay the foundation stone. First he must mention the name of his friend Mr. Fisher, of Westfield, who had kindly given him the land; next, the liberality of Earl Fitzwilliam, Viscount Milton, Sir Joseph Copley, Mr. W. B. Wrightson, Mr. Edmund Denison, Mr. Brown, Mr. Walker, Mr. Blagden, and several others of the resident and neighbouring gentry. He ought to mention that the building had been designed, much to his satisfaction, by Mr. Haughton, of this town, and he had no doubt it would prove a great ornament to that locality. He hoped and trusted the contractors and builders would do their best to carry out the design efficiently, and then the work would be a credit to them all. He knew it was customary on these occasions to provide intoxicating drink for the workmen employed, but he had preferred to put into the hands of the contractor a sufficient sum to provide them with a supper (hear, hear). With these observations he would now proceed to lay the first stone of St. James's Hospital. Dr. Dunn accordingly took the trowel from the contractor,

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and having spread the mortar "in a workmanlike manner," the stone was lowered to its bed, and the ceremony was completed. We ought to add that the contractor for the building is Mr. Elsworth, and it is to be completed in about four months.—*Doncaster Chronicle.*

Correspondence.

THE BARK OF THE ALNUS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—A patient, who has lately come under my care, tells me that a friend, once similarly affected, had been cured by a decoction of the *bark* of a tree, which I find is the Alnus, whether *A. glutinosa* or *incisa* I cannot exactly determine from the specimen sent to me.

The affection is an anomalous one of the skin, of some standing, sometimes, but by no means constantly, presenting appearances of purpura hæmorrhagica; there is generally an excited state of the system, which readily yields to *Belladonna*, this, however, does not *cure* the disease.

My object in writing is to inquire if any of your readers are acquainted with the properties of the Alnus (alder tree), and if these are yielded best by an aqueous or alcoholic infusion. If known to be safe, I would institute provings; but I do not wish to administer it upon the report of an unprofessional man, and he not a botanist, it being possible that he may not have selected the plant of which he had in reality taken, some years having elapsed.

I shall only further add, that I am familiar with the *external* use of the Alnus. When in allopathic practice, I was accustomed to prescribe an ointment made of the *leaves* as an useful application to excoriated nipples. It was brought under my notice by Messrs. Duncan and Flockhart, of Edinburgh. I should not have recourse to it *now* in similar circumstances. An answer from any one interested in the discovery and proving of new remedies will much oblige,

Sir, yours faithfully,
CHARLES RANSFORD.

22, Boothan, York, May 29, 1852.

LING'S EXERCISES.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In your journal of the 13th of March last, appeared a review of my work on the Swedish treatment, entitled "Medicina Mechanica;" but unfortunately the number containing it only came into my hands about the middle of April,—a circumstance that will account for my not replying thereto before. In this review certain grave charges are brought against my predecessor and instructor, Mr. De Betou, as well as myself; and he being then, as now, resident in Sweden, and my own share of the allegations depending on his testimony, I lost no time in forwarding a copy of the journal, with a request that he would give me such account of his education and experience in the science as would enable me to set your reviewer right on points, respecting which he has obviously been misinformed.

In the first place, it is stated in the review that Mr. De Betou "was not a pupil of the Swedish Institution." To this he replies as follows: "Ling was for many years my teacher. I frequented his lectures on the theory and practice of the treatment. I took notes therefrom; and it was during one summer, I think that of 1836, I received instruction from Professor Georgii himself in the hygienic or pedagogical department." Now, this not only refutes the former statement, but that which succeeds it; namely, that "he (Mr. De Betou) acquired the knowledge of Ling's method through his partnership with Mr. Ehrenhoff, etc."

As regards Professor Branting's formulæ having been supplied him by Mr. Ehrenhoff in "strict confidence," Mr. De Betou says, "they were lent me to copy by Mr. Ehrenhoff, and *never in confidence;* and they were publicly taught by Professor Branting, who was and is paid by Government" for the purpose. On my own part, I received the "formulæ" as a portion of the available matter with which to inform the profession and the public on the subject, and should have been ready enough to acknowledge to whom I was specially indebted for them, had I known, as I now do, the facts of the case. But after all, this disturbance about the "formulæ," together with remarks of a like nature, are surely unworthy of those who desire to spread a knowledge, so much needed in this country, of this valuable adjunct to the resources of medicine. It would have been a work of supererogation to enumerate all the authorities I consulted on the several divisions of my book; yet I believe I have done so in a fair and open manner, wherever such could by possibility be needed. To keep either "formulæ" or other kinds of information *secret* is certainly to degrade any branch of science connected with medicine. If either Professors Georgii or Branting deem themselves aggrieved by their domain being invaded by others, perhaps they will show good cause why they have permitted so many years to elapse without giving to the world some practical account of the science they practise and teach. I should have been too glad to have followed in their wake, but no alternative was left me. From whatever source your reviewer obtained his information, it is now clear, if Mr. De Betou's own statement is received—which in fairness it ought to be—that his faith in the few quarters where such could be elicited has been abused; whilst I can only add my readiness and earnest desire to afford every facility to a knowledge of the truth being arrived at.

Fearing that I may already have trespassed on your valuable space, I have therefore only to request that you will support the impartial character of your journal by inserting this letter, in justice to Mr. De Betou, if not to my own feeble efforts in the cause of medical science.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
J. W. F. BLUNDELL, M.D.

32, Finsbury Circus, May 27, 1852.

[The reviewer of Dr. Blundell's book of course

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put down as facts what he had received as such. Did Mr. De Betou go through a regular study, with long-continued dissections, of anatomy and physiology? Did he attend the Institution at Stockholm, with a view to *practise* the exercises of Ling?

We have been informed that most, if not all, of the cases recorded in Dr. Blundell's book were in fact the cases of persons who had been under Mr. De Betou's treatment.

We have no interest in the subject beyond a wish to do justice, and we willingly publish Dr. Blundell's letter. We think that Professors Branting and Georgii should long since have published a satisfactory statement of the doctrine and practice of Ling, with full instructions as to the mode of using these exercises. The publications of Drs. Roth and Blundell will probably spur them on to the accomplishment of the duty they owe to Ling and to themselves. —Ed]

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Sir,—Dr. Ozanne has written for the learned on Dr. Routh's "Fallacies," allow me to say a word to the unlearned on the same subject. A friend paid me a visit, fresh from London and the allopathic predictions that Dr. Routh had tricked homœopathy, and Dr. Ozanne had floored himself in trying to answer his "Fallacies!" As you may suppose, my friend was no homœopathist. I asked him if he had read the book or the answer. He said that he had seen neither; but the unanswerable argument in favour of Dr. Routh was, that many, and of those many some of the first allopathic doctors ("all honourable men!"), spoke in the highest terms of his book. I forthwith bought Dr. Routh's "Fallacies" (an unlucky choice the Doctor made of a title), and read it over with my friend, pointing out the Doctor's fallacies and contradictions at every page. It was an easy task, and filled my friend with astonishment, particularly when I proved to him that the globules had nothing to do with the truth of the homœopathic system, and that many homœopathic practitioners seldom, some never, used them at all; that Hahnemann found out homœopathy, or as the learned call it, "the law of *similia similibus curantur*," long before he made or used his globules; that only the violent action of the common doses of medicine, when given homœopathically, induced him to lower and lower each dose as he found it act too powerfully on the system, till at length he invented his globules; that Hahnemann was a celebrated chemist long before he was a homœopathist. My friend was so much struck and interested on learning these truths, that he observed it was a great pity that the medicine and system should be confounded together. He suggested that the globules used by homœopathists should be called "Hahnemann's medicines," and not homœopathic medicines. Mr. Editor, if you think my friend's suggestion a good one, pray recommend its introduction into the hospitals and homœopathic chemists' shops, so that, by introducing the globules as Hahnemann's medicines, they could no longer be used by the allopaths to blind the eyes of the unlearned readers of their "Fallacies." If Dr. Routh does not understand what homœopathy is, he had better not write about it. If he does understand that globules are not essential to the system, I can only add, he is "an honourable man, so are they all, all honourable men!"

I remain, yours truly,
H. C.

May 24th, 1852.

HOMŒOPATHY.

To the Editor of the Northampton Mercury.

Sir,—You have opened your columns to the discussion of a subject of the highest temporal interest to your fellow-men,—the resources available by them when suffering from bodily disease; a trial which few, if any, at all times escape. Among the many important "topics of the day," none having reference to this life only can possess higher claims to calm inquiry and earnest attention. As I occasionally visit patients in Northampton, I hope it will not be considered impertinent or intrusive if I request a hearing upon the matter now in dispute among you. I will offer my remarks as briefly as possible.

1. Homœopathy *is not quackery*. The essence of quackery is secrecy. The individual practising it pretends to the possession of some valuable remedy—a nostrum—which he sells for his own private gain, but which he will not disclose for the public good. Homœopathy has no secrets—no nostrum—it courts inquiry, it entreats medical men to investigate it. This is not quackery.

Homœopathy, in its present form, was discovered by a regular physician, and was first published in the leading medical journal of Europe (Hufeland's) in 1796. It has been studied and adopted by many (I believe at least 3,000) regularly educated and qualified practitioners, who urgently call upon their colleagues to follow their example. They offer every facility in the way of instruction, by hospitals and dispensaries, and by private information, which it is in their power to give. This is not quackery.

2. Homœopathy *is not a novelty*. The principle was admirably announced, though not fully adhered to, because its importance was not fully recognised, by the fathers of medicine, the writers of the works bearing the name of Hippocrates, written some three and twenty centuries ago. In the treatise "On the Places in Man," we read the following prescription for mania:—"Give the patient a draught made from the root of mandrake in a smaller dose than will induce mania," if taken in health. Again; "Per similia morbus fit et per similia adhibita ex morbo sanantur. Velut urina stillicidium idem facit si non sit, et si sit idem sedat. Et tussis eodem modo velut urinæ stillicidium ab iisdem fit et sedatur. Febris....

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aliquando quidem ab iisdem fit et sedatur, aliquando autem a contrariis." "It thus appears," observes the learned Dr. Francis Adams, in his translation of the works of Hippocrates, published by the Sydenham Society, "that the principles both of *allopathy* and *homœopathy* are recognised by the author of this treatise."

3. Homœopathy *is not an uncertainty.* In the letter signed "Faust," in your paper of May 8, it is remarked "that the two disciples of Hahnemann (A. M'P. and Mr. Pearce in their letters the week before, May 1) themselves differ on a most essential point, to wit, the proper meaning of the dogma "*similia similibus curantur.*" The one affirms that M.R.C.S. (the writer of the first letter on the subject) has well defined its meaning to be "that a medicine which will produce a disease will also cure *it.*" While the other (Mr. Pearce) maintains that in this definition a "blunder" has been committed, and that neither Hahnemann nor his followers ever meant any such thing. I should suppose that A. M'P. is a non-professional man; one, probably, who, having derived benefit from the new treatment, is anxious to promote its adoption, and I thank him for the tone of his letter; but it is certainly true that he admitted too much when he allowed M.R.C.S.'s definition to be correct. "A medicine which will produce a disease will cure *it*" cannot be a definition of homœopathy—it is the same curing the same—not like curing like. *Similia* is not *idem.* For the cure of mania, says the Hippocratic writer, give a draught of mandragora in a smaller dose than will cause mania. Here we have two cases of mania which resemble each other; the symptoms are similar, but the causes are different, and the cases are not absolutely identical. *Belladonna*, in like manner, when swallowed as a poison, produces a scarlet rash, a sore throat, fever, headache, etc., all which symptoms appear in scarlet fever. *Belladonna* not only generally cures, but often preserves from scarlet fever, as was first discovered by Hahnemann. It does not produce or cause scarlet fever, but it does produce symptoms similar to those of scarlet fever. There is no sufficient ground for the remark of Faust on this point. The principle is thus received and taught in every work on homœopathy. In fact, if any one rejects this principle of *similia*, it is clear that, in reality, he is no homœopathist. The meaning of the word is sufficient to decide this. But it was easier for Faust to point out the absurdity of the error inadvertently admitted by A. M'P. than of the truth as explained by Mr. Pearce.

4. Homœopathy is *a practical fact.* It is not a speculative theory to be reasoned upon in the closet, but a fact to be observed at the bedside; it is no metaphysical subtlety, to be logically shown by *a priori* reasoning to be absurd; it is no piece of presumption and impudence, to be put down "by authority," as the Council of our Royal College of Surgeons happily acknowledge; it is a fact to be examined, like the statement of any other fact, *upon evidence.* We are not called upon to sit down and imagine its possibility or its impossibility, but we are urgently pressed to observe whether it be true or not. Hundreds of credible witnesses tell us that all curable diseases are for the most part readily cured by the new method. This is asserted as a fact; is it true? This is the question. Try the medicines—why should you not? The interests of humanity require it. If they succeed, it is a great blessing; if they fail, publish the failures. This is the only fair and honest way to oppose homœopathy, and in no other way is it likely to be opposed with success.

5. Homœopathy, like all other methods of treating diseases, *must stand upon its comparative merits.* There is no absolute preservation from suffering in a sinful world, nor any deliverance from death. "There is no discharge in that war." And as all generations have died under the old method, so, should the new one prevail, all generations will continue to die under it. This consideration should render the disputants on both sides sober-minded. Medical men are engaged in an unequal contest; the great enemy will always conquer at last; but the question is a fair and a rational one, from which class of means do we actually obtain the greatest amount of relief from bodily suffering, and by which is the apparent approach of death most frequently warded off? This reduces the whole matter to what, in my opinion, is its proper shape—a practical question—what will do me most good when I am ill?

6. *The old method is unsatisfactory.* This is admitted by almost all medical authorities. It would occupy too much of your space were I to bring forward quotations in support of this statement. They might be had in abundance; but the fact is so notorious, that the differing of doctors has become a proverb. In short, there is no opposition of sentiment or of practice too great not to be frequently met with. The old medicine is in the condition that astronomy was in before Newton, and in a worse condition than chemistry was in before Dalton. Many valuable isolated facts known, but no law of nature discovered by which a host of conflicting conjectures might be dissipated, and facts reduced to an intelligible order.

7. Homœopathy *is simple and intelligible.* However absurd the rule may appear to some, it is practically a plain one, and becomes, to those who follow it, more easy and more satisfactory every day. It is not pretended that it can be carried out without serious labour. The law of gravity is abundantly plain and simple, but there are plenty of difficulties, notwithstanding, in working out by it the lunar inequalities.

8. Homœopathy *gains by comparison.* It is more successful than the old system. This comparison can be instituted in two ways—by the statistics of public institutions, and by those converts from the old practice who have tried it long enough to be able to compare with each other the results in their own hands of the two methods. As an illustration of the former mode of comparison, the following abstract, drawn from Dr. Routh's statistics in the "Fal-

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lacies of Homœopathy" (one of the two books recommended to your readers in the first letter in your paper by M.R.C.S.), is given by his reviewer, "by which the relative success of the new and the old modes of treatment can be seen at a glance.

Hom. Treatment.		*Allop. Treatment.*
Deaths per cent.		Deaths per cent.
Pneumonia 5.7	....	24.
Pleuritis .....3.	....	13.
Peritonitis ....4.	....	13.
Dysentery.....3.	....	22.
All diseases 4.4	....	8.5

I will ask for space for one additional fact only on this point. When, in 1836, the Asiatic cholera attacked, as an awful scourge, the city of Vienna, all the hospitals were filled up to receive cases indiscriminately, as they occurred; one was a homœopathic hospital, but under the inspection of two allopathic physicians. The authorized report, when the epidemic had done its work of death, was this:—Mortality in the Homœopathic Hospital, 33 per cent.; mortality in the Allopathic Hospital, 66 per cent. Two-thirds recovered in the one, and two-thirds died in the other. See "Austria and its Institutions," by Mr. W. R. Wilde, M.R.I.A.

The second mode of comparison rests in the bosom of each private practitioner. Thus much, however, may be stated, so far as I am at present informed, every practitioner who has, with sufficient care and perseverance, tried homœopathy has embraced it, and I have not yet heard of one who has deserted its ranks. For myself, I may be permitted to say that, after having practised the old method for many years with success, and having now devoted myself for some time to the new mode, while I at once acknowledge that the study is laborious, and not without its difficulties, I am persuaded that it is a change for the better, and I venture to engage that if my medical brethren will try such plants as the following, prepared as we use them, in the cases for which they are indicated by the law of *similia*, they will be greatly surprised and gratified by their beneficial effects. Aconitum Napellus, Bryonia Alba, Matricaria Chamomilla, Ipecacuanha, Atropa Belladonna, Arnica Montana, Pulsatilla Pratensis, Nux Vomica, etc., etc.

9. Homœopathy is *medical treatment*. It is not the do-nothing system which it is represented to be by opponents who thus only betray their ignorance. When fever and dysentery were desolating many parts of Ireland in 1847, one of the places which suffered most was Buntry, near Skibbereen, in the county of Cork. During ten weeks 192 cases were treated homœopathically at their own homes, amid all the wretchedness of famine; the mortality from fever was $1\frac{4}{5}$ per cent., and from dysentery 14 per cent. During the same period many were treated on the old method in the Bantry Union Hospital, with the advantages of proper ventilation, attendance, nourishment, etc., and from the report of Dr. Tuckey, the physician, the mortality from fever was $13\frac{1}{3}$ per cent., and from dysentery 36 per cent.

At the same time another Fever Hospital was opened for similar cases occurring among the emigrants from Ireland to this country, in which the medical man tells us he abstained from all interference, and remained passively watching the cases, ordering them free ventilation, cleanliness, and confinement to bed; water or milk and water being given as drinks. He congratulates himself upon the success attendant upon thus allowing the cases to take their natural course undisturbed by medicine; but the deaths from fever in this hospital were 10 per cent. It has been stated that the deaths from fever under the new treatment were $1\frac{4}{5}$ per cent., a sufficient proof that *that* treatment is doing something and gaining by it, while, by the same comparison, giving the large doses of the old medicines is doing something indeed, but losing by it. The figures are $13\frac{1}{3}$, $10\frac{4}{5}$.

10. I think your readers will agree that Mr. Faircloth's letter reflects discredit upon himself. He is much mistaken if he thinks he can shut us all up in the "genus" of quacks. He is also much mistaken if he thinks that his abstaining from continuing the controversy will summarily conclude the inquiry. He treads upon dangerous ground when he ventures to assign ill motives to the conduct of his neighbours. I know nothing of the case alluded to by himself and Mr. Pearce, but I may remark that while he denies that they met in consultation, which Mr. Pearce does not assert, but rather implies the contrary, he does *not* deny what Mr. Pearce did assert, and which is the only thing the public is interested about, namely, that the case was one of pneumonia, and in great danger. But I allude to Mr. Faircloth's letter only to deprecate the tone and spirit with which the subject is often assailed, and also, as I acknowledge with regret, sometimes defended. It is a subject of sufficient gravity and importance to demand that, during its investigation, prejudices and personal interests be laid aside. I must further observe, that I by no means undertake to defend all the efforts to explain and illustrate homœopathy made, as I think, very injudiciously by its advocates. Our business, in the first instance, is not to explain, but to test—to ascertain facts, and if they be true, whether we can explain them or not, it is our duty to let our patients have the benefit of them. The farmer does not refuse to reap his harvest until he can explain how the seed he, a few months before, put in the ground has become ready for his sickle; so, in a matter of at least equal importance, true wisdom would seem to suggest that we should be thankful if some improvement has at length been effected in an art which all confess to have been nearly stationary for thousands of years, and that we should gladly avail ourselves of it.

My letter is too long, or there are other interesting points which might be noticed.

With many thanks for your love of fair play in this matter,

I am, Mr. Editor, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM SHARP, F.R.S.,

Late Senior Surgeon of the Bradford General Infirmary.

Rugby, May 11, 1852.

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HOMŒOPATHY VERSUS ALLOPATHY; OR, "YOUNG PHYSIC" VERSUS OLD PHYSIC.

To the Editor of the Cheltenham Examiner.

SIR,—It has been asserted that the Cheltenham waters never have nor ever will induce, in a healthy person, either dyspepsia or indigestion, or any other disease analogous to it. I could easily produce several persons, in whom "analogous" diseases to those in which Cheltenham waters are useful were caused by the injudicious use of them. But to settle this point, I challenge any gainsayer to the proof of it personally, by placing himself under my care, to take the waters for three months; at the end of which time I will guarantee, premising that he be in good health when he commences them, that he will have a disease "analogous" to one of those for the cure of which the waters are administered.

I beg to say, that it was by repeatedly witnessing last summer this homœopathic property in the Cheltenham water which induced me to investigate the doctrine of homœopathy, and which led to my adoption of it, as a scientific mode of cure. I refer any one for information on this homœopathic property of saline waters to Doctors Mead and Rutty on Mineral Waters, wherein he will find instances of the internal use of them bringing on scorbutic symptoms, and many other mischiefs.

Homœopathists administer, as Hahnemann says, "one *simple* medicinal substance at a time," not *many* medicinal substances jumbled together in pills and mixtures, thus forming a hodge-podge compound, of whose effect on the system the allopaths know scarcely anything. Homœopathists, on the contrary, give "one known medicine at a time," whose effects upon the system they have previously ascertained by repeated experiments on the healthy man, and therefore they can calculate with certainty, both as regards its dose and effects. But the school of compounds can neither agree about the dose of their remedies nor the effects of them; look at their Materia Medicas and Pharmacopœias, published by the sanction of the *savans* of the colleges, and not one of them agree in their prescribed doses.

I cannot resist quoting the following fact, related by Dr. Hering, who whilst travelling in Germany saw an old gentleman who had suffered much under many doctors, who all treated him differently. He at last, however, determined to take no more medicine until he should find "three doctors who would all agree upon his case;" and for this purpose he was travelling, and had, when Dr. Hering saw him, consulted 477 physicians, who wrote for him 832 recipes, containing 1097 different remedies. He requested Dr. Hering to prescribe, but he declined it, and asked him if Hahnemann were not among the number whom he consulted. "With a smile, he turned to No. 301, name of disease O, remedy prescribed O. 'That was the wisest man of the lot,' said he, 'for he said that the name of the remedy did not concern me, but that the cure was the essential point.' 'But why,' I inquired, 'did you not allow him to treat you?' 'Because,' said he, 'he is but two, and I must have three who agree.'" Dr. Hering said, if he were willing to sacrifice some hundred francs in the experiment, he would find not *three* but *thirty-three* physicians who would agree in his case, to which he acceded. A description of his disease was then made out and sent to thirty-three homœopathic physicians. He shortly after wrote to Dr. Hering, saying, "I send you wine of the year 1822, because twenty-two physicians agree respecting my case. I thereby perceive that there is certainly such a thing in this world as twenty-two physicians who have fixed upon the same remedy." He took the remedy and got cured.

I now proceed to prove that homœopathists occasionally give "simple medicinal substances" which contain as many component ingredients as mineral waters, and in as sensible portions.

Take, for instance, the *Mother Tincture of Aconite*, which is made by mixing together equal parts of the *Extract of Aconite* and alcohol. In this preparation there is contained far more of the material substance than is to be found in the same quantity of mineral waters, and though called a simple substance, it nevertheless contains, upon analysis, many different ingredients. "M. Peschier found that *Aconite* contains an acid which forms an insoluble compound with baryta, a small quantity of waxy matter, phosphate, malate, and carbonate of lime."

I have formerly shown that we do sometimes administer medicine in appreciable doses, viz., mother tinctures. But as the allopathic school continually seize upon our doses as a theme for ridicule, it may not be amiss to bestow upon it a few more remarks, although it has been *unanswerably* answered, by appealing to the effects of their results in disease. I am not, however, astonished that this school, which is accustomed to administer in disease the most *gross* and *nauseous* compounds, cannot comprehend how a tiny globule can accomplish even more than their stereotyped half-pint mixture, and just because they can neither *see, measure, nor test* the acting agent in the globule, they at once reject the idea of its being possessed of any efficacy. Well, this may be bigotry and prejudice, but it certainly is not philosophy, as upon the same principle they must, *a priori*, reject the power and efficacy of electricity, galvanism, magnetism, attraction, gravitation, miasm, mind, air, wind, and a thousand other physical agents; for I defy them to prove the effects of these agents by either "the microscope, chemical tests, etc.," without which they think they can only be believed in "through the most superstitious faith." Now, how do we know the existence, power, and efficacy of any or all of these agents, but by their *results?* and to this homœopathists appeal as the convincing proof of the power of their tiny globules in the cure of diseases.

However painful to allopaths this subject may be, when the health of the public is concerned

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truth must be told. In one of the most violent and acute diseases—Asiatic cholera—it is found from statistics, that the allopathic school can only cure about *one-half* of their patients; whereas the *results* of the homœopathic treatment in Europe, in 1831, show a total of 2,753 *cured* out of 3,017 cases, being a mortality of only 8¾ per cent.! Again, in the homœopathic hospital at Vienna, the deaths in inflammation of the lungs are only about 6 per cent., while under the old system they are 23 per cent.! In pleurisy, under homœopathic treatment, the deaths were only 1¼ per cent., while under the old system they were 12½ per cent. In inflammation of the bowels, 4¾ per cent.; under old system 27½ per cent. In the devastating epidemic of dysentery which occurred at Bantry, in Ireland, in 1847, the deaths under homœopathic treatment were only 14 per cent., while under the old system they were 36 per cent. The Vicar of Bantry attests the efficacy of the homœopathic treatment in this epidemic.

Philosophers are not able to explain fully how the electric telegraph conveys our thoughts with the rapidity of lightning, nor are homœopathists capable of explaining to a certainty how globules, etc. cure; still the results in the one and the results in the other prove the fact of their action, and *experience* has attested and established it.

Formerly, it was the custom to administer *Cinchona Bark* by the ounce, but of late science has been brought to act upon it, and has extracted from the crude bark its active principle, *Quinine*, and now *one grain* of *Quinine* is found to be as efficacious as a whole spoonful of *Bark*, and why? Because it has gone through a process which has developed its real curative properties in an infinitesimal quantity! A similar instance may be found in *Morphia* extracted from *Opium*.

It is known that a man may swallow ounces of crude *Mercury* without much inconvenience; but when *one grain* is *triturated* with a little conserve of roses, behold the mighty transformation which takes place. Instead of now being the innoxious *Mercury*, it becomes the favourite and the universally-prescribed blue pill of the allopathic school.

Hahnemann commenced a glorious work, and was even permitted to bring it to considerable perfection, but surely he did not perfect it. There is a little for his successors to accomplish. Did the alchemists perfect chemistry? surely they left a little work for Davy and Faraday. Did Aristotle, Hippocrates, Galen, etc., perfect medicine? surely, they left something for Hahnemann to do. And so have we homœopathists something to do in perfecting homœopathy.

Homœopathy is not "a system without drugs," as it uses between 300 and 400 different drugs; *but it is not a drugging system.* It uses medicine to cure disease, but not *to swell a chemist's bill.* Nor are its cures performed by diet, as I am not one whit more particular now' as regards the rigid diet of my patients, than I was when I practised on the old system. On the contrary, I can now allow patients a far more nourishing diet than I formerly could. Homœopathy, Sir, having truth and science for its foundation, has progressed, and is continuing to progress every day, notwithstanding the combinations which have leagued themselves against it; and at the present moment it numbers among its professors and followers many of the most eminent physicians and philosophers of the day, both in Europe and England. Numbering such men as it does in its ranks, it may well be considered as presenting a formidable front, and the *Lancet* may well become half crazy, knowing that its craft is in danger.

Steam-engines did not put down stage-coaches at once, but they have now effectually accomplished it; and in fifty years hence, large pill-boxes, chemist's bottles, etc., will be lying in old-store lofts, or, perhaps, placed in a museum, as a curiosity to show our successors what *gross ideas* their forefathers had of medicine.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HUGH HASTINGS, M.D.

[We have considerably abridged this letter.—ED. H. T.]

MISCARRIAGE.

(*From the Practical Advantages of Homœopathy, by the late* HARRIS DUNSFORD, M.D.)

A MISCARRIAGE may generally be prevented by the remedies employed in homœopathic practice. When this distressing event therefore is apprehended, either from a previous occurrence, or from particular indications, precautionary measures should at once be taken to effect the desired object. This, by the usual practice, is often merely temporarily attained, but by homœopathic agents may in general be permanently secured. A lady, in the fourth month of pregnancy, was suddenly seized during the night with slight pain, attended with flooding to an alarming extent; the blood was of a dark colour. I administered *Crocus*, which arrested without altogether stopping the discharge; *Belladonna* restrained it still more, and in less than an hour entirely subdued it. It recurred, however, on the following night to a considerable extent, but was completely stopped by the same remedies. Three distinguished accoucheurs expressed their opinion that from so severe a hemorrhage miscarriage would result, but the lady went her full time, and gave birth to a healthy infant.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Rebiew of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

ON THE USE OF HIGH ATTENUATIONS IN HOMŒOPATHIC PRACTICE.

By Dr. C. Von Bönninghausen, of Munster, Westphalia.

The great medicinal virtue and curative efficacy of the high and highest attenuations, or, more correctly speaking, dynamizations of conscientiously-prepared homœopathic remedies have been so thoroughly and convincingly tried and proved by some of the most experienced and honourable practitioners, that one really cannot help feeling some surprise at the strange obstinacy with which so many professed homœopathists not only refuse to employ high attenuations in their practice, but even pronounce them *à priori* as totally inefficient, and endeavour to ridicule the notion that would ascribe to them the slightest medicinal action or virtue. And yet no one who has impartially put the question to the only reliable test, that of experience, will deny that the discovery of the high dynamizations is one of the most marvellous progresses of the homœopathic science, and that no other improvement in homœopathic technics can compete with it. The immortal Hahnemann, whose talent really looks sometimes like an inspiration from above, had, in the last years of his life, arrived at a profound conviction of the efficacy of high attenuations, and had accordingly for some time followed, in the preparation of his remedies and in his doses, a method different from that which he had recommended to the public in his former works; the modifications then introduced he intended to publish to the world in the last edition of his "Organon." This edition has, unfortunately, never appeared, although I know, from several letters of Hahnemann, to a certainty that he had completed the work, and that the MS. was ready for the printer, when death struck him. The world knows well by whose means the publication of that most important work has been prevented.

But from the same letters of the great master, with which he honoured and rejoiced me during a period of more than fourteen years, and of which the last was dictated scarce two months before his death, and signed with already trembling hand, I know pretty well what he thought of high dynamizations, and that he unreservedly approved of the notions and proceedings in this matter of myself and of my friends (Stapf and Grösss). It was, therefore, by no means a mere inconsiderate desire of innovation that prompted me first to call the attention of homœopathic practitioners to this important subject, in an article which appeared in the "New Archives for Homœopathic Medicine" (vol. i. No. ii. p. 36), and to which my friend Stapf appended some remarks relative to several cases of Grösss and his own, fully confirmatory of my views and experience.

I should think that homœopathists, at all events, those who profess to have long used with the greatest success our remedial agents, up to the 30th attenuation, have no right to reject *à priori* the higher attenuations. Assuredly no one will venture to affirm that a *material* medicinal substance continues still to be present in the 30th attenuation; the homœopathic practitioner knows that no perceptible difference can be discerned between the action of the 18th and the 24th, or between that of the 24th and the 30th attenuation, although *materially* the differences are great enough in all conscience. This fact alone should suffice to prove convincingly, or at all events raise a strong presumption, that the medicinal virtue of a remedial agent, though (if we may be permitted to use the expression) *in-dwelling* in the matter, is by no means *identical with* or *inherent in* that matter, and that this mysterious principle, which eludes the grasp of the chemist, must not be measured by the rule applied to ponderable substances, but is in its evolution and propagation rather akin to the imponderable principles (light, heat, electricity, magnetism). I have this very year commenced a series of comparative experiments on the influence on vegetation which matters, indifferent in themselves, may acquire by being strongly rubbed or shaken together with substances exercising a certain action upon vegetation; these experiments, which I intend to continue, even now already

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give the most positive and conclusive results, showing that vegetable life is highly susceptible of being acted upon by high attenuations. I intend shortly to publish my experiments on this subject, and the results to which they have led. I have a sanguine hope that these results may finally lead to the deduction of a new hitherto unknown law for animated nature, as startling as the "*similia similibus.*" All experiments of this kind, intelligently and accurately conducted, are questions asked of Nature, and to which "the honest inquirer" is sure to receive an answer; they are of infinitely higher value than all the "opinions" and theoretical views in the world; which, if the truth must be confessed, are worth mostly the one as much as the other—*i. e.* nothing.

Mindful of the motto of our great master, "Audete sapere," every homœopathist, sincerely desirous of furthering the progress of our subl me science, ought therefore at least to condescend to subject to the test of experiment the statements and suggestions of his professional brethren, instead of rejecting them *à priori*, and for no other reason than that they do not happen to accord with what he may be pleased to call "common sense," and of combating them with weapons such as the ultra-allopathists of former days used to wield against homœopathy, and which surely are not fair, and often even scarcely honourable or decent. We have never dreamt of exacting or demanding a blind faith in the truth and correctness of our statements and allegations; all we ask of our professional brethren is, that they will consent to put these statements and allegations to the only reliable test, that of experience; and we appeal to them, and request them, in the words of the immortal Hahnemann, to repeat our experiments, but to repeat them accurately, and exactly in the manner in which they are laid before you; and you will speedily discern with your own eyes whether our statements rest upon the basis of truth or upon that of error.

It must, however, also be admitted, that a correct and accurate repetition of homœopathic experiments is by no means without its difficulties, and yet these difficulties must be thoroughly overcome ere the results obtained can be considered trustworthy and conclusive. The homœopathic experimenter should possess a *thorough* knowledge of the homœopathic science, more *particularly* of the *Materia Medica, and should strictly and scrupulously adhere to the instructions of the great founder of the homœopathic doctrine.* The most important point is, of course, always the selection of the proper remedy; but it is almost of equal importance to guard carefully against inconsiderate repetition of the doses of the remedy administered, or hasty substitution of other agents instead, or rapid alternation between different medicinal substances. The higher dynamizations of homœopathic remedies require more particular caution in this respect, since experience has proved that they are slower and more continuous and lasting in their action than the lower attenuations, and that they can the least bear repetitions without appropriate intervening medicines. Accordingly, if a homœopathic practitioner is not in the position to select with exactitude the proper remedy, or does not deem himself possessed of moral strength sufficient to let him calmly await the action of the remedy administered, though some time should elapse before that action becomes manifest, let him not expect safe and reliable results from his experiments, nor ascribe his failure to the method or agent recommended by others, but frankly and honestly attribute it to the obstacles, subjective or objective, that have opposed the success of his experiment. But every homœopathic practitioner of any experience and practice will find plenty of cases where he may satisfy every requirement to a successful trial, and to such cases he may, without the slightest prejudice to his patients or to his reputation, at first limit his experiments.

As this is the first time that I have had the honour to address myself directly to my esteemed British colleagues, I must crave permission to offer a few explanatory remarks before I proceed to the narration of my cases.

I have made it an inviolable rule, in accordance with the example and precepts of Hahnemann, to keep a register of every case. Now, as my practice happens to be very extensive, it will be readily perceived that, as I can scarcely have time to note down minutely every fact, symptom, or indication, I am therefore obliged to confine myself to those symptoms and characteristic indications which bear more immediately upon the choice of the remedy, and which can only be acquired after a lengthened and constant study of the homœopathic Materia Medica Pura. My pathological descriptions and delineations are therefore always rather brief, yet, I trust, sufficiently clear and pointed, and affording all the indications requisite to explain the reason why the remedy administered was selected. Now, as I do not like to make any addition from memory, which is mostly treacherous, I hope no one will blame me

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for confining myself to a literal reproduction of the respective cases as they are extracted from my case-books. I add volume and page, simply for the reason that any one who may choose to call my statements in question, and who may feel inclined to honour me with a personal visit, may convince himself from the original case-book of the perfect correctness of my statement. My case-books already number eighty volumes quarto, and I have therefore, for the sake of reference, made an accurate alphabetical index to them, which enables me to put my hand readily upon any case which I may happen to search for. With respect to the long and minutely detailed description of cases, which occupy several pages, I cannot help remarking that they look but too frequently like some historical romance, based on fact in the main, but vastly embellished in the accessories. But in homœopathic practice, the selection of the proper remedy from amongst a group of medicines, seemingly equally indicated against the main features of these accessories, depends, in a great measure, upon the occasions and their proper estimation; it will, therefore, readily be granted that poetic additions to them, or reminiscences that smack but too often of the generalizing pathologies of the old school, can only tend to confuse and confound.

Having premised this much, by way of introduction, I will now proceed to give a few cases from my books, in compliance with the request of my excellent colleague and friend, Mr. Wilson, of London—a request to which I the more readily respond, as I am firmly convinced that it is from Great Britain principally that our noble science will spread and diffuse its blessings over a considerable portion of the civilized world. I am perfectly aware that the young doctrine has in Great Britain also had to pass, and will still have to pass, through many struggles and persecutions, particularly on the part of some of the Universities, which sounds rather odd, considering the boasted freedom of teaching. But I entertain no doubt of its ultimate triumph there, relying as I do on the all-conquering power of truth, and on the generous ardour of Englishmen to aid and advance everything good and useful. Germany has indeed been from old the cradle of most inventions, but they have all been somehow compelled to seek beyond its boundaries—and more particularly in England—a soil in which to develope themselves, to ripen, and to spread. Therefore, my dear British colleagues, I tender you, from the distance that separates us, the hand of a brother, and address once more to you the motto of our departed teacher and master—"Audete sapere!"

(*To be continued.*)

HAHNEMANN'S VIEWS OF THE ACTION OF HEAT AND COLD, AIR OR WATER, ON THE HUMAN BODY.

We have lately had presented to us by our very pains-taking contributor, Dr. Roth, Hahnemann's "Views on Cold Water and on Movements," before he arrived at the therapeutic law, *let likes be treated by likes*. We now give his views of the agency of heat and cold, *after* he had propounded homœopathy.

It will be seen that Hahnemann considered heat and cold, whether of air or water, in their agencies as merely hygienic, and not as exerting any medical or curative power, *per se*.

A person subject to ague, or marsh fever, in the fens of Essex, goes to Malvern, or to North Wales, or the Highlands of Scotland, and throws off the disorder. This is a result of a strictly hygienic precept. A person has been a slave to pleasure or business, to the senate, or the bar, or the merchant's office, or the honest clergyman's unceasing drudgery, and is broken down; he goes away, leaves his work, goes to bed early, rises early, attends to hygienic rules—and gets well. This is hygiene, not *medical* treatment.

These illustrations may assist our readers in arriving at Hahnemann's ultimate and well-considered views.

Physiology and hygiene should be made a necessary part of education. It is far more important to the welfare of the human race, in all its aspects, to study in this manner than to be engaged in the investigation of *roots* and *cosines*. We speak of the mass.

We take our quotation from Dr. Dudgeon's translation of Hahnemann's edition of the Organon, 1835. It is known that he left *complete* a new revision. His widow has thought proper to *burke* it: we once again call on her to publish it. Hahneman observes (Organon of Medicine, Dudgeon's translation, 1849), "in recent cases of frost-bitten limbs, frozen sour-crout is applied, or frictions of snow are used," to which he appends as a note the following remarks.

"It is on such examples of domestic practice that Mr. M. Lux founds his so-called mode of cure by *identicals* and *idem*, which he calls *Isopathy*, which some

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eccentric-minded persons have already adopted as the *ne plus ultra* of a healing art, without knowing how they can carry it out in practice.

"But if we examine these instances attentively, we find that they do not bear out these views.

"The purely physical powers differ in the nature of their action on the living organism, from those of a dynamic medicinal kind.

"Heat or cold of the air that surrounds us, or of the water, or of our food and drink, occasion (*as heat and cold*) *of themselves* no absolute injury to a healthy body; heat and cold are in their alternations essential to the maintenance of healthy life, consequently they are not of themselves medicine. Heat and cold, therefore, act as curative agents in affections of the body, not by virtue of their essential nature (not, therefore, as heat and cold *per se*, not as things hurtful in themselves, as are the drugs, *Rhubarb, China*, etc., even in the smallest doses), but *only* by virtue of their greater or smaller *quantity*, that is, according to their degrees of temperature, just as (to take an example from mere physical powers) a great weight of lead will bruise my hand painfully, not by virtue of its essential nature as lead, for a thin plate of lead would not bruise me, but in consequence of its quantity and massive weight.

"If, then, cold or heat be serviceable in bodily ailments like frost-bites or burns, they are so solely on account of their degree of temperature, just as they only inflict injury on the healthy body by their extreme degrees of temperature.

"Thus we find in these examples of successful domestic practice, that it is not the prolonged application of the degree of cold in which the limb was frozen that restores it *isopathically* (it would thereby be rendered quite lifeless and dead), but a degree of cold that only approximates to that (*homœopathy*), and which gradually rises to a comfortable temperature, as frozen sour-crout laid upon the frost-bitten hand, in the temperature of the room, soon melts, gradually growing warmer from 32° or 33° (Fahr.) to the temperature of the room, supposing that to be only 55°, and thus the limb is recovered by physical homœopathy. In like manner, a hand scalded with boiling water would not be *isopathically* cured by the application of boiling water, but only by a somewhat lower temperature, as, for example, by holding it in a vessel containing a fluid heated to 160°, which becomes every minute less hot, and finally descends to the temperature of the room, whereupon the scalded part is restored by *homœopathy*. Water in the act of freezing cannot *isopathically* draw out the frost from potatoes and apples, but this is effected by water only near the freezing-point.

"So, to give another example from physical action, the injury resulting from a blow on the forehead with a hard substance (a painful tumour) is soon diminished in pain and swelling by pressing on the spot for a considerable time with the ball of the thumb, strongly at first, and then gradually less forcibly, homœopathically, but not by an equally hard blow with an equally hard body, which would increase the evil isopathically.

"The examples of cures by isopathy given in the book alluded to—muscular contractions in human beings, and spinal paralysis in a dog, which had been caused by a chill, being rapidly cured by cold bathing—these events are falsely explained by isopathy. What are called sufferings from a chill, are only nominally connected with cold, and often arise, in the bodies of those predisposed to them, even from a draught of wind which was not at all cold. Moreover, the manifold effects of a cold bath on the living organism, in health and in disease, cannot be reduced to such a simple formula as to warrant the construction of a system of such pretensions! That serpents' bites, as is there stated, are most certainly cured by portions of the serpents, must remain a mere fable of a former age, until such an improbable assertion is authenticated by indubitable observation and experience, which it certainly never will be. That, in fine, the saliva of a mad dog given to a patient labouring under hydrophobia (in Russia), *is said* to have cured him—that "*is said*" would not seduce any conscientious physician to imitate such a hazardous experiment, to construct a so-called isopathic system, so dangerous, and so highly improbable in its extended application, as has been done (not by the modest author of the pamphlet entitled '*The Isopathy of Contagions:* Leipzic, Kollmann,' but) by its eccentric supporters, especially Dr. Gröss (v. *Allg. hom. Ztg.*, ii. p. 72), who vaunts this isopathy (*æqualia æqualibus*) as the only proper therapeutic rule, and sees nothing in the *similia similibus* but an indifferent substitute for it; ungratefully enough, as he is entirely indebted to the *similia similibus* for all his fame and fortune."—*Hahnemann's Organon*, pp. 100-103.

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AN ESSAY ON HOMŒOPATHIC STATISTICS;

Together with a Critical Analysis of Dr. Routh's Work, entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

(*Continued from page* 632.)

XII.

Another possible source of error in the diagnosis of pneumonia is thus stated: "Dr. Peacock, one of the gentlemen who kindly communicated to me his cases, has suggested to me that probably many of the cases called pneumonia are in reality cases of *capillary bronchitis*; the former being a mild disease, the latter one of very serious import. These diseases are rarely distinguished, and even by some good auscultators" (Routh, p. 56).

Although this source of error is not brought forward as an objection against homœopathic statistics, but merely as a sort of palliative of the decided inferiority of the allopathic statistics of pneumonia as compared with the homœopathic, I nevertheless think it necessary to enter at some length into the consideration of the facts, respecting which these statements are made, in order to ascertain how far they are founded. For it is obvious that, if the diagnosis of pneumonia were open, in general, and even in the hands of "good auscultators," to such serious sources of fallacy, as it is here affirmed that it is, it would be useless to proceed with our inquiry, as it would only lead us to uncertain or fallacious results. Fortunately, however, some of the assertions of Drs. Peacock and Routh are without foundation, or at least have not the value which they choose to assign to them. Therefore, we may still, with the majority of physicians ever since Laënnec's admirable discovery of auscultation as a means of diagnosing chest-disease, select pneumonia as the disease which, from its gravity, the regularity of its march, and the certainty with which it may be diagnosed, has deserved and deserves still to be looked upon as the touchstone by which every new system of therapeutics is to be tested.

We shall have to consider Dr. Peacock's statements as reported by Dr. Routh, under the following heads: 1. The differential diagnosis of pneumonia and capillary bronchitis. 2. Their relative gravity. 3. Their relative frequency. 4. The influence which an error in diagnosis might have upon the per-centage mortality of pneumonia.

1. *The differential diagnosis.*—It is here stated, upon the authority of Dr. Peacock, that "these diseases are rarely distinguished, and *even by some good auscultators.*"

There is evidently some misapprehension here, either of the signs of capillary bronchitis or of those of pneumonia. The words quoted above give us the clue to this misapprehension. I may at once anticipate upon what I shall have to say in the sequel, and state it to arise from the error under which both of these gentlemen appear to be labouring, namely, that the first stage of pneumonia is to be diagnosed by *auscultation alone.*

It is clear, in the first place, that the only form of bronchitis to which Dr. Routh alludes is that general capillary bronchitis, which, from the great dyspnœa attending it, has been also called *suffocative catarrh.* I know of no other form of bronchitis of which it could be said that it is a *very serious*, whereas, compared with it, pneumonia is a *mild* disease. If a disease which in allopathic hospitals gives a mortality of twenty-four per cent. can be called *mild*, that form of bronchitis which, compared with it, deserves to be called *very severe*, can be no other than the *suffocative catarrh* or *suffocative bronchitis.*

Now, there are many features in both maladies which, independently of *auscultation*, establish a marked difference between them. The aspect of the countenance, the colour of the lips and of the skin generally, the urgency of the dyspnœa in the suffocative bronchitis, the state of the pulse, the character of the expectoration, when there is any, would alone, in the absence of the signs to be obtained by percussion and auscultation of the chest, give a tolerably correct idea of the nature of the complaint. But this is not all. The age of the patient would be of much assistance also, for capillary bronchitis of this degree of gravity is chiefly met with in children and adolescents. In them, it is true, it is frequently complicated with lobular* or partial pneumonia, but the degree of gravity of the attack does not arise from the presence of a few pneumonic nodules. The gravity of the disease arises from the

* I use the term *lobular pneumonia* in the sense in which it is used by Barthez and Rilliet, in their excellent work on the diseases of children. It is much to be regretted that the same signification is not attached by all authors to the term *lobular*, as applied to pneumonia. Thus Hasse's description (Path. Anat., p. 218), and his statement of the disease, as described by Cruveilhier and Douce, do not coincide with the description of it given by Dr. Craigie (Path. Anat., p. 989); neither do either of them coincide with the disease described under that name by Barthez and Rilliet.

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circumstance that the chief portion of the bronchial apparatus is clogged up with a peculiar secretion, which impedes both the egress and the ingress of the atmospherical air.

If, now, we attempt to ascertain what are the *characteristic* signs by means of which we may diagnose with certainty the presence of pneumonia, we find that the *appearance of the sputa* is one of the principal. Without the rusty or brownish-red, or the various intermediate shades of colour arising from the admixture of blood-globules in various proportions with the viscid, adhesive, semi-transparent substance of the sputa, no one can venture to diagnose with *certainty* the first stage of pneumonia. The auscultatory signs are scarcely sufficient to distinguish it from capillary bronchitis. But if, in the absence of expectoration, we might feel justified, under certain circumstances—which I doubt—to diagnose the first stage of pneumonia, we cannot do so when *there is* expectoration, and when that expectoration *is characteristic of bronchitis* and not of pneumonia.

These remarks are made with reference to Dr. Peacock's opinions regarding the differential diagnosis of these diseases, and more particularly with reference to some of the cases reported as pneumonia—cases in his treatise on the Influenza in 1847-48. Now, I believe one or two of these cases to be not pneumonia but bronchitis; or at least I do not feel at all satisfied that they are examples of partial pneumonia complicated with bronchitis.

It should not be forgotten that in the absence of the sputa characteristic of pneumonia, and indeed in the presence of those characterising bronchitis, the auscultatory signs should be of the most decided description, to allow us to diagnose the presence of pneumonia. Thus when, as in one or two of Dr. Peacock's cases, we meet with mucous, sub-crepitant, and sibilant rhonchi, mixed or following upon *crepitant* rattle—when we are not told whether they are audible during the inspiration alone—when, in addition to this, we meet with the general features of capillary bronchitis and sputa characteristic of the latter disease only, it seems to me that we are not justified in calling such a case pneumonia. It may be that the *crepitus* consists of numerous *bullæ*, closely packed together, of equal dimensions, very fine, and giving rise as they break to a sharp crackling sound; this may be, and yet it may not be pneumonia. Lately I have met with such a case, in which the expectoration was thin, serous, and slightly frothy. The sub-crepitant rhonchus was as similar as possible to the crepitus of pneumonia, being heard moreover only during the inspiratory movement, and yet there was no other feature of pneumonia.

In some of Dr. Peacock's cases there is noted some dullness of percussion. This again is not sufficient, unless well marked; for we know that in *serious* capillary bronchitis some parts of the chest are *unduly resonant*, thus causing other parts to appear by contrast insufficiently so. In this manner, a slight degree of dullness on percussion, together even with a slight bronchial resonance of the voice, or *souffle*, are not sufficient to denote hepatization of the lung with certainty, particularly if at the base; for in the serious forms of this disease, especially on the approach of death, a certain amount of passive stasis of the blood takes place in the dependent portions of the lungs; now this stasis may, as declared by Fournet (Auscultation et Phthisie, p. 293), give rise to "un peu de caractère bronchique, qui tient à un commencement de splénisation."

It may be objected that in certain cases we cannot avail ourselves of the characteristic sputa as a sign of pneumonia, because there are *no sputa*. It is true, that occasionally there are no sputa in pneumonia; but this is rare, and seldom occurs in any but in infants, cachectic or old people (the usual cause of the so-called *latent* pneumonia, in which there may be an absence not only of sputa but likewise of cough). In capillary bronchitis it is much more common to meet with cases in which there is no expectoration, or if any, only once or twice during the whole course of the disease.

Dr. Peacock reports such a case, calling it pneumonia. It is the case of W. Brooks (p. 160). The absence of expectoration is mentioned, together with a remark, which, if he reported the cases himself, does not tend to raise his character for acuteness of observation. This patient, a "porter at a coalshed," and probably a strong lad when taken ill, is reported, six days after the outset of the influenza, thus: "he *coughs severely*, but does *not expectorate, apparently from want of power*;" at the same time, "the respirations are easy and regular, twenty-four in the minute," the "pulse ninety-six, quiet and soft." It is evident that here the absence of expectoration cannot be ascribed to want of power, for the patient coughed "severely."

If now we turn our attention to the capillary bronchitis of young children, we find it more difficult to apply our test, for here there is usually no expectoration. It

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must be confessed that in early infancy it is scarcely possible to discriminate between simple acute suffocative bronchitis, and the same disease complicated with partial pneumonia. For if in certain cases we may meet with real *crepitus*, it is generally mixed with subcrepitant râles which modify it; for which reason and for those given above, we must remain in doubt. Add to which the fact, that with real partial pneumonia, the *rhonchus* heard may be subcrepitant.

The frequency, however, of lobular or partial pneumonia in young children, establishes in such cases a presumption that we have to deal with that disease, complicated with bronchitis.

To sum up what has been said, we may take it for granted, that if in infants we are not able to diagnose pneumonia with certainty, it is not so in adolescents or adults. Now it so happens that our statistics, at least those we intend to study, deal only with adolescents or adults; therefore we need not pursue the question further.

2. *Their relative gravity.*—In little children the gravity of the suffocative catarrh is exceedingly great. Barthez and Rilliet speak of it thus:—"When the inflammation has from the first invaded the whole extent of the bronchial apparatus, and that it is accompanied by a copious purulent or pseudo-membranous secretion, it is at all ages a very serious disease. *All our patients, as well as all those whose cases were recorded by Dr. Fauvel, have died*" (tome i. p. 46).

In persons past the period of infancy the danger is less great. Thus Dr. Peacock says:—"Of nineteen cases of capillary bronchitis, constituting the whole of those seen by me during two years in my hospital practice, eight proved fatal, or deducting seven, complicated with tuberculous disease of the lungs or with cardiac affections, four of which died, the disease proved fatal in four out of twelve uncomplicated cases. M. Fauvel informs us that of nineteen adults attacked with acute capillary bronchitis, ten died" (Peacock on Influenza, p. 50).

This difference in the gravity of the disease in childhood and in subsequent periods of life is deserving of attention, with reference to the mortality of pneumonia; for, as already stated in our statistics, the subjects dealt with are not children but grown-up persons.

I cannot dismiss this question of the gravity of capillary bronchitis without remarking that, under homœopathic treatment, it is in adults rarely fatal. Recently I have observed an epidemic of this disease, in which persons of all ages were affected; although three of these were advanced in years, and there were amongst the number some young children and infants, I have not met with a single death.* In fact, capillary bronchitis is not by any means so very serious as stated above, excepting, of course, that occurring in infancy. Indeed, generally, its extent is not great, and I believe, it is on the whole, especially under homœopathic treatment, far less serious than pneumonia.

That it is not always so very serious a disease as the statements of Dr. Peacock would lead us to suppose, I bring forward in proof some of his own cases. Out of twenty cases of epidemic catarrhal fever, consisting of cases of capillary bronchitis and of pneumonia, I select five of capillary bronchitis, which are not of so very severe a character as we should expect from these statements. Cases 1 and 2 are slight. Case 3 tolerably severe, but the age of the patient good. Case 7 not very severe. Case 8 slight. These cases confirm my remark, that in adults the gravity of the disease is not so great as stated, and therefore Dr. Peacock's patients would probably have fared far better under homœopathic treatment.

What is the homœopathic mortality in acute suffocative catarrh in infancy? The only published cases that I know of, are three cases recorded by Professor Henderson, in the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, for 1850 (p. 364). The patients were aged respectively twenty-one, thirteen, and four months. Two recovered, and one died. This is a more favourable result by far than that of Barthez and Rilliet, all whose patients died.

3. *Their relative frequency.*—Pneumonia is a frequent disease, but the acute suffocative catarrh of children is a very rare disease. The six cases recorded by Barthez and Rilliet, at the Hôpital des Enfants, Paris, were the only cases observed by them in a very large number of children.

I think it may be stated with truth, that, excepting when it occurs epidemically, capillary bronchitis, of a sufficient degree of gravity to render it capable of being mistaken for pneumonia, is decidedly a rare disease in grown-up persons.

4. *The influence which an error in diagnosis might have upon the per-centage mortality of pneumonia.*—We have seen

* Some weeks after the cessation of this epidemic, I lost a little patient with capillary bronchitis or pneumonia, complicated, I believe, with tuberculosis of the lungs.

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that it is difficult, in children, to distinguish between simple acute capillary bronchitis, and that form which is complicated with lobular pneumonia. But we have also seen that an error of this kind would not increase the mortality of pneumonia, for the disease would be classed as bronchitis, and should the patient die, the error might be corrected.

We have also seen, that, by attending not only to the signs derived from auscultation, but also to all the other symptoms, and more particularly to the character of the sputa, an error of diagnosis in the adolescent or the adult is almost impossible. Now, as our statistics comprise only persons passed the period of childhood, they cannot by any means be rendered fallacious by any error of diagnosis of this kind. We may, therefore, dismiss Dr. Peacock's "suggestion," and conclude that as the allopathic mortality of pneumonia is not increased in the adolescent or the adult, by comprising under this head cases of capillary bronchitis, we may fairly compare our tables of pneumonia with theirs.

Another suggestion is offered by Dr. Peacock, in these words: "Again, a very careful and minute observer may *often discover pneumonia one day, and because it might be absent on the morrow, another observer would have overlooked this, and called it bronchitis.* Statistically, such a case ought to be included in the returns of pneumonia. The minute observer may thus have many cases of pneumonia which have recovered; the other but few" (Routh, p. 56).

It will be proper to bear in mind Dr. Peacock's suggestion. Perhaps he, too, is "*a minute observer!*" I need not remark at any length upon this statement. It is obvious that such a suggestion could only emanate from one whose diagnosis of pneumonia is based upon the presence of a mere rhonchus. If it be coarse, the case is one of bronchitis; if fine, it is one of pneumonia! But more of this hereafter.

(*To be continued.*)

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12TH, 1852.

IT was the custom of the Greeks, when lamps were brought in at night, to exclaim, "Hail, friendly light!" Not so has the medical profession of Britain hailed the introduction of the Hahnemannian light in the midst of *their* night: they prefer to regard it as a pestilent innovation—they care not for the intellectual light of the Saxon Sage.

Take them as a class, they are satisfied with the knowledge of words and of technicalities—of the outside shows instead of the deeper realities of things. They have not learned the most difficult of all lessons —that *of unlearning.* None like to confess that their opinions are erroneous; and in proportion to the bigotry of the school in which men have been educated, is the sluggishness of their intellect with respect to any *new truth.* They have worked hard in their way, and what they have painfully acquired they cling to with an obstinate predilection. HARVEY and JENNER could find no physician turned of forty who would admit the circulation of the blood, and agree to adopt vaccination. There are only too many of these forty-year old gentlemen now opposed to homœopathy.

Oh, that they were wise, and would consider the immense opening for inquiry into the real art of healing that is proffered by homœopathy! It is not a thing for to-day, but for all time, so far as the inhabitants of this planet are concerned.

"Touch not," cry out these old-world worthies, "that noble system of medicine, which has been consecrated by several thousand years." They think the old coach better than any newer method of travelling.

The ordinary medical practice has been well defined by one of the allopathic body, the "guessing at Nature's intentions, and then endeavouring to substitute man's."

Those who practise in this way are guided by the opinions of their teachers and the transmitted lore of the schools. They think not for themselves. "There cannot," says LOCKE, "be a more dangerous thing to rely on than the opinion of others, nor more likely to mislead one; since there is much more falsehood and error among men than truth and knowledge; and if the opinions and persuasions of others, whom we think well of, be

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a ground of assent, men have reason to be heathen in Japan, Mahometans in Turkey, Papists in Spain, Protestants in England, and Lutherans in Sweden."

Were the whole profession to enter on a new career of medical inquiry, with minds free from prejudice and prepossession, how much would they unlearn of what they now so stubbornly cherish! The name of HAHNEMANN would then be uttered with respect and admiration in our Schools, Colleges, and Universities, and his doctrine and practice would at least be allowed fair play, and be submitted to an honest examination by actual experiment.

It is a melancholy fact that the ordinary medicine has plenty of *drugs*, but few *remedies*. It is afflicting enough to be ill; it is quite unnecessary that we should be poisoned by our physician. We do not undervalue this noble profession: we only wish to stimulate its members to an honest inquiry into the truth of our doctrine and practice. There is no more noble citizen of any country—no worthier inhabitant of this earth than the successful practitioner. "*Neque enim ullâ aliâ re homines propius ad deos accedunt, quam salutem hominibus dando.*—There is nothing wherein men approach nearer to blessed spirits, than in contributing to the health and well-being of their fellow-creatures." It is because we wish to increase the number of successful practitioners, that we press the subject of homœopathy on the attention of our allopathic brethren.

WE feel ourselves highly honoured in being the medium of BÖNNINGHAUSEN'S first direct communications to his British colleagues.

The submarine telegraph now connects England and France, and England and Ireland. The mind of man exerts an infinitely more subtle ageney. The Sage of Münster now speaks in the Anglo-Saxon tongue, through us as his interpreters, to all who speak the language of Earth's dominant race.

His papers will be reproduced wherever English is spoken; and though but a few of the present generation of his colleagues may adopt his views, the next may, if the experience of other experimenters is found to confirm his.

BÖNNINGHAUSEN and CONSTANTINE HERING are, assuredly, the most distinguished of the pupils of HAHNEMANN. They have done more, and have exercised a more independent action, have thought more, reasoned more, suggested more, advanced more, and proved more than any of the rest of their co-disciples.

Each of these truly illustrious men has, by unwearied discipline, achieved the conquest of mind over body. The discipline has been sustained during many years, and is now habitual; and many an excellent fruit of that powerful discipline has been added to the homœopathic stock.

We leave entirely open the question of dilution, attenuation, dynamization, call it what you will. It must be admitted, however, that the smallest dose, that will act effectually, is that which should be chosen for each particular case. This is a matter for repeated experimentation and of sustained experience.

It is but just, however, to BÖNNINGHAUSEN that his experiments should be repeated by others, and that too in his way, and according to his directions.

It is known that HAHNEMANN at one time drew the limit at the thirtieth dynamization, and seemed to discourage any trial of medicines beyond that limit. We are now authoritatively informed (see first column of VON BÖNNINGHAUSEN'S communication in our present number) by BÖNNINGHAUSEN that, during his latter years, he used himself preparations dynamized far beyond that point; and that he left us as a legacy the sum of his experience in the revised edition of the Organon, which was ready for the press before his death, but which has not been allowed to see the light—as yet.

Review.

Homœopathy and the Homœopathists. By J. STEVENSON BUSHNAN, M.D. London, John Churchill, Princes Street, Soho.

WE have not leisure, at present, to enter

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into a critical review of this singular production.

The first noticeable point is that the author, who is a Fellow of the College of Physicians of Edinburgh, and Physician to the Metropolitan Free Hospital, dedicates his book to the noble Dr. John Forbes,—an eclectic in medicine, if ever there was one.

Next, in his introduction, the author speaks of Dr. A. Wood's "Homœopathy Unmasked" as the only book on the subject with which he is acquainted. We call his attention to the "Confessions of a Homœopathist," where he will find strange matter, perilously handled, a spice of *diablerie*, and no end of malice.

"A faithful analysis of Hahnemann's doctrines," Dr. Bushnan maintains his abortion to be. He an exposer of quacks, and of the chief of quacks, Samuel Hahnemann!

His very first sentence is an insult to the Germans—the art of printing is something, and that the Germans claim; the liberty of thought is something, and that the Germans claim; the magnetic needle is something, and that the Germans claim; literature is something, and the Germans are the fifth of mankind, the Greeks, Romans, Italians, and English being their precedents.

Who more noble than the Germans in anatomy and physiology and pathology? Yet the author sneers at them. The truth is, *that people* have the elements of the highest inventive faculty. Dr. Bushnan knows this very well; and when it suits his purpose, he can be *Germano Germanior*. He can out-germanise Germany.

We have spoken respectfully of Dr. Routh, though he is being severely handled by Dr. Ozanne, who is a master in dialectics. Dr. Bushnan's book is simply discreditable to himself. We know him to be a scholar, and as such his scholarly *instinct* should have led him to a worthier course. We know that some time ago he wished to see homœopathic practice, and we presume with an honest purpose.

Dr. Bushnan knows very well—none better—that his volume is a mere *claptrap*. He knows very well that, as a scholar, he ought to be ashamed of it. We had augured better things of him.

Dr. Forbes, to whom he dedicates his volume, has not pronounced—*sub judice lis est*. That enlightened physician and honest man ventured to attend one of our homœopathic hospitals. He had not a FEAR on his pillow, like that which haunts Dr. Bushnan. He is a sturdy man. Let him pronounce against us, and we will listen with respect to him.

We wish our readers to read Dr. Bushnan's scandalous book—so little do we fear him; we promise him *a dressing*. He ought to be ashamed of himself, for he knows better—as nurses say of naughty little boys.

Correspondence.

THE MOVEMENT-CURE.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In consequence of a letter in your last number from Dr. Blundell, wherein he attempts to vindicate for his "predecessor and instructor" the title of a pupil at the Institution of Stockholm, and also to excuse himself for having made use of Professor Branting's formulæ and practical rules (occupying five or six pages of Dr. Blundell's book), without acknowledging the sources whence they were obtained, I beg to offer a few observations.

Whether Mr. De Betou acquired his knowledge of Ling's system from hearing a *few* lectures by Ling himself, or from his partnership with Mr. Ehrenhoff, or from my own instruction "in the pedagogic and hygienic department," or from these conjoint means of information, namely, a few lectures by Ling, a partnership with Mr. Ehrenhoff, and some instruction from myself, he has shown, by several successful cases published by Dr. Blundell, that he well applied the degree of knowledge he possessed. Had he been better informed on the subject, he would have been more able to advance the science in this country. The facts recorded in medical literature, which testify the great therapeutical power of frictions, corporeal exercises, and other mechanical appliances, Ling submitted to general laws, and he established a science containing a definite prescription for every movement of the human body, whether *voluntary* or *inducted*. To be a pupil of Ling, implies a knowledge how to act in accordance with these principles, theoretically as well as practically. Just as little can the mere listener to a Beethoven or a Haydn be fairly called the pupil of either of those masters, aa Mr. De Betou or anybody else can claim to be a disciple of Ling, by hearing merely, without having pondered, and studied, and practically applied under due superintendence, the science, such as it is, and still only taught at the Institution which Ling himself founded at Stockholm, where, as far as I know, Dr. Blundell's instructor neither studied nor attended any course of lectures. I believe that Mr. De Betou never attended any courses of anatomy and physiology in Sweden; what he did in England I cannot say.

As to Dr. Blundell's curious explanation respecting the publication of Professor Branting's formulæ—*undoubtedly not public property*—I confess I am utterly at a loss what to say The fact still remains that they appear in Dr.

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Blundell's book as the result of his own experience and observations. It is possible that, in the course of years, when Dr. Blundell is better enabled to understand and appreciate the long observation and the acute research contained in those formulæ, he will arrive at the conclusion that the original discoverer should be allowed the merit of the discovery.

As to the claims of those interested in the progress and true practice of the system to an authoritative work, I can only say that they have reason to look for such an exposition of Ling's doctrines and practice. I do not, however, deem it necessary to apologize for Professor Branting or myself. The actual daily investigations and experimentations we have each been engaged in making, since the decease of Ling, with a view to test the actions of the various movements, together with the urgent duties of lecturers, and the attendance on a numerous *clientelle*, have rendered it impossible for the present to set forth a complete treatise. Our performances, brief and unsatisfactory as they may be, at least contain what is not discoverable in the more ponderous works of recent publication in this country—a true and accurate representation of the science. The larger and more comprehensive treatise I hope to accomplish; but that must be a book of principles and practical rules, with some practical illustrations; for Ling's science, as a living and practical art, can be no more traced out, in all its practical bearings, in a book, than can be the science of sounds and harmonies.

Your obedient servant,

102, Piccadilly. A. GEORGII.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Permit me to suggest that you have, in your last number, condemned somewhat too hastily the conduct of the homœopathic body, for not giving their support to the funds of the hospital now erecting at Doncaster under the auspices of Dr. Dunn.

I confess to have felt that a faith so triumphant as that of Dr. Dunn's, self-sacrifice so remarkable, and personal effort so inexhaustible, called for my humble support. But with the conviction on my mind that a Homœopathic Hospital is not *necessarily* a great good, that it may, on the contrary, become, if not founded on right principles and rigidly conducted on the same, a very great evil, I felt it to be my duty to wait till you, Mr. Editor, or Dr. Dunn, in the columns of the *Homœopathic Times*, made known to us of the public, the principles on which the Doncaster Hospital is founded, and the guarantee provided against any departure from those principles.

When the establishment of hospitals came to be regarded in homœopathic circles as a thing no longer to be delayed, the *Homœopathic Times* distinguished itself by the zeal and ability with which it discussed the fundamental principles on which such institutions should be established. About this period two hospitals started into existence—the London Homœopathic, and the Hahnemann—the former representing one class of principles, the latter another. The *Homœopathic Times* approved of the principles on which the Hahnemann Hospital was founded, but has since had occasion to denounce with severity a departure from those principles on the part of the managers. The *Homœopathic Times* has, therefore, taught us two very important lessons—first, that hospitals should be based on certain principles; secondly, that some guarantee should be provided against a departure from those principles.

Now, Sir, no information on these vital points has yet been given, in respect of Dr. Dunn's Hospital, by the *Homœopathic Times;* and it would have been to show ourselves unworthy the labour you have bestowed on the education of the homœopathic mind, had we, until supplied with such evidence, forwarded our subscriptions to the Doncaster Hospital.

These observations apply likewise to the proposition made a short time since, by the Honourable A. H. Moreton, in reference to the establishment of a "Child's Hospital." A design more benevolent than this cannot well be conceived, nor one better calculated to exhibit the powers of homœopathy, which, in the treatment of adults, has almost invariably to contend not only with disease, but with a state of the system far more difficult to deal with than the disease itself, induced by the allopathic remedies taken for years.

But, Sir, before we of the public subscribe to this, or any other institution we must be made acquainted with the principles on which it is to be conducted, and must have some guarantee that those principles will not be departed from. Information of this kind we have a right to look for from your journal as the organ of public opinion; and until it is vouchsafed, I submit that we stand acquitted of indifference to the great cause of homœopathy. Should this information be supplied, and be unquestionably satisfactory, then will you have a right to denounce, with all the withering eloquence you can command, a heartless homœopathic public. But, Sir, I entertain a very different opinion as to the result. I have very little doubt that all those who refused to belong to either of the metropolitan hospitals on account of the disputings to which their formation gave rise, and all those who left the Hahnemann Hospital because of its departure from the principles on which it was founded—as incontestably demonstrated by Mr. Wilson*—will be too happy to find institutions of which they can approve, that they may be enabled to devote to the spread of homœopathy that annual amount which they are now retaining, but which they had resolved on dedicating to this glorious cause.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

F. J. SMITH.

74, Old Broad Street,
June 7th, 1852.

P.S.—On the eve of leaving England for some weeks, I have been too much occupied to collect and arrange any materials for my Narrative.

* A Letter to the Governors and Subscribers to the Hahnemann Hospital, by D. Wilson. Bailliere, 1852.

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To the Editor of the Northampton Mercury.

SIR,—To combat all the abuse of homœopathy by writers who evidently know nothing about the system they are attacking, would occupy too much of your space and my time without doing the slightest good. It is, however, rather curious that your correspondent, Common Sense, should, by way of proving the absurdity of the homœopathic principle, give us an illustration that supports it. He says, "With burns, unfortunate experience in my own family has taught me that *cooling* things are best, and not turpentine, etc. A mixture of lime-water and oil is so cooling and soothing, that I am sure no one who has ever tried it will ever use anything else." Now both lime-water and oil are extremely inflammable substances; they are both full of caloric or heat, and, consequently, the admission that your correspondent makes is an affirmation of Dr. Hahnemann's great principle *similia similibus*. Both your correspondents confound the *effect* of the application of certain substances with the substances themselves. A bottle of boiling water placed in a linen bag, and hung up in the sun, and kept constantly wet with the strongest spirits, will become cold sooner than by any other means. Here we have the heat of the sun and the heat of the spirits extracting the heat from the water; that it is the extreme degree of cold, produced by the more rapid evaporation of spirits than of any other fluid, that extracts the heat from the boiling water does not interfere with the principle *similia similibus*. As to Common Sense's remarks in reference to snow being the best application to frozen limbs, it reminds me of the Brahmin who, upon being shown the impurity of the Ganges water by some being placed in a microscope, exclaimed, "You mistake the matter; it is not your glass that shows the impurity of the sacred Ganges, but the purity of that sacred water which shows the impurity in your glass!" Everybody knows that to restore vitality to a frozen limb you must produce warmth in it. The question is, what is the best method of producing that warmth, and universal experience teaches us that it must be produced by the application of snow, and not by any warm substance. Your correspondent will not, I presume, affirm that friction with spirits or oil, or warm water would have the same beneficial effect as friction with snow. Really, Sir, it is melancholy to see *prejudice* carrying men to such an extent as to try to write down a system of which they evidently know nothing, by using arguments and illustrations which, not having well considered, only confirm the system they wish to crush.

But we will leave such writers to themselves, and, with your permission, I will state the opinions of those who have followed the *far more dignified* course of testing the truth of Dr. Hahnemann's great principle of the healing art *before* writing upon the subject. Dr. Henderson, Professor of Pathology in the University of Edinburgh, in a letter which he addressed to Dr. Forbes, in reply to an article of his in the *British and Foreign Medical Review*, and which letter is published, together with some more valuable papers by Dr. Russell, in his work entitled "Homœopathy in 1851," makes the following statement:—"'The members of the Homœopathic Society of Vienna have begun to subject the Materia Medica of Hahnemann to a rigid experimental scrutiny, and as their mode of proceeding is worthy of being followed as an example, I transcribe this short account of it, and its bearings on the credibility of Hahnemann. 'The members meet, and to each is given a portion of the medicine to be experimented with, without telling him what that medicine is. At home they take this medicine in various doses, and write down all the effects they have produced; they then meet again, and each reads over the symptoms it has produced on him. Thus there is obtained a series of testimonies from well-qualified and independent observers. They have found that the general result of Hahnemann's provings are perfectly accurate, and have expressed their admiration of his skill as an experimental and faithful describer of his experiments.' (Exposition de la Doctrine Médicale Homœopathique, 2nd edition, Paris, 1834.)" * Your correspondents who so ridicule the homœopathic principle, *similia similibus curantur* (like cures like), are not, I presume, aware that, although Dr. Hahnemann determined the method by which the principle might be carried out with practical effect, he does not lay claim to the merit of being the discoverer of it, but quotes it from the works of Dr. Stahl, an eminent physician of the old school, who practised at Hallè in 1694, and who thus writes:—"The rule admitted in medicine, to treat diseases by remedies contrary or opposite to the effects which they produce, is completely false and absurd. I am persuaded, on the contrary, that diseases yield to agents which produce a similar disorder (*similia similibus*)." This passage from Stahl is quoted by Dr. Hahnemann in his great work, "Organon." Here we find an eminent physician of the allopathic school, who was in 1687 physician to the Duke of Weimar, in 1694 was appointed to the professorship of medicine, anatomy, and chemistry, in the University of Halle, and in 1716 became physician to the King of Prussia, asserting the *absurdity* of the system of medicine so earnstly contended for by M.R.C.S., Faust, Common Sense, and many others, and asserting the soundness of the homœopathic principle, so ridiculed by these writers, upwards of eighty years before Hahnemann thought of them. I could bring forward much more in support of homœopathy, and I shall, with your permission, return to the subject again, because, I repeat it, the cause of homœopathy is the cause of humanity, but I must for the present conclude. Your correspondents will, I hope, pardon me for saying that true wisdom never indulges in abuse and ridicule of a science which attracted the attention of such men as Stahl and Hahnemann, and many other equally eminent men of later date; and although they may differ in opinion with them—and discussion is the best method of finding out truth—yet, in the language of Dr. Henderson, "the contest may be

* Russell's Homœopathy in 1851. London, 1852.

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conducted as it becometh gentlemen to contend, without rash imputation of unworthy motives—without appealing to the prejudices and passions of the ignorant—without wilful unfairness, and without discourtesy." (Russell's Homœopathy in 1851, p. 82.)

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A. M'P.

THE CLAIMS OF HOMŒOPATHY TO THE CONSIDERATION OF ITS OPPONENTS.

(To the Editor of the Medical Times and Gazette.)

SIR,—In requesting the favour of the insertion in your periodical of the following remarks, I rely upon that spirit of fair, open, and honest inquiry which has always characterised it, and which has gained for it the admiration of so many members of my profession.

When medical men are asked by the public what they think of homœopathy, their universal reply is, "Humbug!" and this, too, when they have never taken the pains to study its principles or observe its practice. Does not this imply that they are satisfied with the old system,—that it has in their opinion reached something like perfection, and is not, like other systems of old, susceptible of improvement? And yet, if we watch the bedside practice of these men, what is the result? Let any candid student, in quest of a rational system of physic, attend carefully to the practice of our great hospital physicians, and he cannot fail to be convinced, by their various and opposite methods of treating the same diseases, that they are inwardly conscious of the defective state of therapeutics, and of a sad want in this respect of something like a fixed, guiding principle. In proof of this I might adduce many cases; but let it suffice, that I have myself seen cases of pleurisy, pneumonia, and acute rheumatism, under the care of the most eminent physicians in London, treated by lemon-juice, which cases, by other eminent physicians, or by themselves at other times, would be treated by bleeding, cupping, calomel, opium, and tartar emetic. I have also seen all the cases in a clinical ward indiscriminately treated for weeks by a quack medicine called "Warburg's Tincture," the composition and properties of which were totally unknown to those prescribing it. I say, then, that when we see the leading men in our profession deserting the old and more generally received methods of treatment, for others which are new, or opposite, or unknown, it is fair to conclude, that they are either guilty of wanton cruelty to their patients, or, as I believe, that they are conscious of the defects of the present system of therapeutics, and anxious to discover a better. Adopting, then, the latter supposition, I shall proceed to show that they are bound to consider the system of homœopathy, and put it to the test of practice.

There are but two kinds of truths,—(*a*) those which may be discovered by *à priori* reasoning, which are implied in what we already know, are elicited by reasoning alone, and not by observation or testimony; and (*b*) those which ars commonly called "matters of fact," which, before they were discovered, were absolutely unknown, and not implied by anything we previously knew; these we could never possibly arrive at by the internal workings of our own mind; we gain them by observation, experiment, and testimony; and if the observations and experiments have been carefully conducted, and the testimony respectable, we assent to the truths. To the former class belong the truths of mathematics and metaphysics, which a man may reason out in his arm-chair. To the latter belong most of the truths in medicine, which can only be arrived at by experience and observation. These two classes of truths are well illustrated in the well-known and often-quoted words of Sir. J. Herschel :—"A clever man, shut up alone, and allowed unlimited time, might reason out for himself all the truths of mathematics, by proceeding from those simple notions of space and number, of which he cannot divest himself without ceasing to think; but he would never tell, by any effort of reasoning, what would become of a lump of sugar if immersed in water, or what impression would be produced in his eye by mixing the colours yellow and blue—results which can be learnt only by experience." Now, it requires no argument to prove that homœopathy belongs to the class which we call "matters of fact." No *à priori* reasoning, therefore, can possibly decide whether or not globules produce the effects attributed to them. A long series of experiments, carefully conducted by men of intelligence and good character, alone can decide this point; in short, in order to pronounce upon homœopathy, we must put it into practice. I am consequently at a loss to conceive what has become of the philosophy, the logic, and even the common honesty, of those members of our profession, who boldly pronounce upon a "matter of fact" without consenting to fulfil those conditions which are essential to the settlement of all such questions. In this particular the public are their superiors in intelligence. They well know, and feel, that there is no force or conclusiveness in the reasonings of a man upon a "matter of fact." Their plain question is, "Have you tried it?" or "Have you seen it tried?" and if the reply is "No," then all their subsequent arguments have not the slightest weight. To all this it may be objected that, upon precisely the same grounds, medical men are bound to try "Holloway's Pills," or, indeed, any and every other quack remedy. To this I would reply that, in the case of "Holloway's Pills," the conditions (viz. respectable testimony and carefully-conducted experiments) essential to the settlement of questions of "matter of fact" are wanting; whereas, in the case of homœopathy, we see a large hospital devoted to its practice, supported by some of the most logical, intelligent, and honest among the public, and superintended by medical men of eminence, intelligence, and respectability. *We have, then, in homœopathy, a question of a "matter of fact," with all the conditions necessary for its determination; and I say fearlessly, that the physician who re-*

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*fuses to apply himself to the subject, and put the system into practice, or watch the practice of others, is not a worthy member of his profession, because he omits a duty which he owes to himself, to the public, and to his Maker!**

I have been, and am still, strongly opposed to and prejudiced against homœopathy; but I see clearly, that I committed a great mistake in endeavouring to settle the matter off-hand, by *à priori* reasoning; and I would now approach the subject in the true spirit of Lord Bacon, who says: "All idols must be abjured and renounced, with a firm and solemn resolution, and the understanding must be completely freed and cleared of them, so that the access to the kingdom of man, which is founded on the sciences, may resemble that to the kingdom of heaven, where no admission is conceded, except to children."

Trusting you will oblige me by an early insertion of these remarks, I enclose my card, and remain, etc.

London. ALLOPATH.

[We publish this letter because it has been sent to us by a regular practitioner; but we do so with some scruple, as it is evident that the writer is not conversant with the subject. No one ever pretended that homœopathy is to be refuted by *à priori* reasoning; it has been refuted by direct experiment, as in the Paris hospitals many years ago, and by analysis of the dogmas on which it is based. Our correspondent appears to us peculiarly unfortunate in his illustration of the different kinds of method of investigation. Mathematics and metaphysics are, equally with medicine, founded on experience and experiment.

As to ordinary therapeutics, no one ever pretended that the subject is perfect. Medicine, like all sciences, is to be advanced by experiment and observation. We treat rheumatism now with a certain degree of success; there is no reason why we should not endeavour to find out a better method.

If medical men are so little conversant as is our correspondent with the true foundation of therapeutics, and with the true method of advancing the art of healing, we do not wonder that they find themselves beaten in argument by the homœopaths. "Allopath" is even apparently ignorant of the derivation of the signature he adopts; otherwise, we think, so close a reasoner would scarcely have employed it.—ED. *Medical Times and Gazette.*]

[We have extracted the paper of "Allopath," and the remarks of the Editor of the *Medical Times and Gazette*, from that journal. We trust that "Allopath" is only one of many of the allopathic body who see the necessity of a fair inquiry into the claims of homœopathy, in a spirit very different from that which Dr. Bushnan, the well-known Editor of the *Medical Times and Gazette*, has displayed in his book, "Homœopathy and the Homœopathists."

The Editor of the *Medical Times* calls his correspondent "Allopath" a close reasoner, but at the same time charges him with not being conversant with the subject on which he writes.

*[We have italicised this honest paragraph.—ED. H. T.]

We deny entirely that homœopathy was refuted by direct experiments in the hospitals of Paris; and we ask our adversary for his proofs. We refer the reader to the "Introduction to the Study of Homœopathy," by the Editors of the *British Journal of Homœopathy*, for the disproof. At this very moment, as that Editor very well knows, homœopathy is being practised with great success in one of the hospitals of Paris. We think he has heard of the name of Tessier, and that he is aware of the existence of the hospital of *St. Marguerite*, and that Tessier practises homœopathy there. As he has expressed a wish to see the practice of homœopathy, he may go over to Paris and see Tessier's practice, *sub rosâ*.

We beg to inform this erudite gentleman that there are some things in mathematics, and some in metaphysics, which are not founded on, but are altogether independent of experience and experiment. We should be glad of his *proof*, for instance, of any of the axioms of Euclid, or of any of those which are called "self-evident truths."

"I think, *therefore*, I am," was all that Descartes could give as a reason for believing in his own actual being. Dr. Johnson thought he refuted Berkeley by plunging his foot against a large stone, and saying, "*I know that is matter, for I feel it.*'

The wonderful discoveries that are now being made with respect to the imponderables—light electricity, magnetism, etc.—are showing *philosophers* that there is a mighty force in powers existing in nature, but not reduced under mechanical or chemical laws, as these are yet known.

Faraday laughed last year at the doctrine of magnetoid currents; this year he believes in them. Faraday laughs this year at homœopathy; next year he may believe in it.

Nobody indeed pretends that therapeutics is a perfect art—nor are we aware that any one pretends that any art or science known to man is *perfected* by him, or is perfect as he knows it. It is only the Creator who can say "be healed," and the sufferer is healed.

The body of man is prepared for dissolution under the operation of laws as certain as those by which it is built up. But man knows little or nothing of the laws of *increments* or *decrements*. We certainly expect to find no such knowledge exhibited by the Editor of the *Medical Times and Gazette*. We do not suspect he has had much practice in therapeutics. We are thankful to him, however, for publishing the letter of "Allopath;" and we wish he would undertake to publish our *statistics*.

Let him do what Dr. Forbes has done, attend the practice of one of our hospitals, openly as that honest man did; or secretly, if he pleases, at Vienna, or in Paris.

"There is nothing like leather," has been the rule of conduct of our opponents. They have supposed their readers would swallow anything, however tough.

We shall probably return to this subject.—ED. *Homœopathic Times.*]

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 151.] Vol. III.] SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 1852. [Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

Communications.

ON THE USE OF HIGH ATTENUATIONS IN HOMŒOPATHIC PRACTICE.

By Dr. C. Von Bönninghausen, of Munster, Westphalia.

(*Continued from page* 657.)

CASES.

1 (Vol. 78, page 116). W. Soh. W—, farmer, aged thirty-seven years, suffered since three or four months from stitches in the left side, which grow worse when the patient moves much about, works hard, or gets excited; rest produces a beneficial influence; palpitation of the heart, particularly on awakening. In the morning, cough, with putrid, yellowish expectoration, (formerly streaked black); oppressed respiration in a warm room. (*About eighteen months ago the patient got wet through in the fields,* which was the original cause of his illness; subsequently, last summer, he had a fever, after which he felt tolerably well for a few months.) Feels worse in the evening; feeling of uneasiness in the limbs in the evening. Cold makes him feel worse. Itching on the shoulder-blades and on the chest.

The patient can give no account of the allopathic preparations which he had taken previous to his applying to me.

March 10th, 1851.—1, *Rhus Toxicodendron*; 2, *Bryonia*; 3, *Rhus Toxicodendron*, 200 (*i. e.* of each remedy two globules, moistened with the 200th dynamization of the centesimal scale). One dose to be taken every fifth evening.

March 30th. Amelioration in all symptoms, but without complete removal of any. 1. *Calc. carb.* 2000 (Jen.); 2 to 4 § (*Sacch. Lact.*—the symbol § was the one which Hahnemann used to employ for this substance). One dose to be taken every fifth evening.

April 18th. Considerably better. 1 to 4 §. One dose every fifth evening.

May 8th. No further improvement. Anxiety and oppression when lying down after meals. Sleeplessness in the early part of the night. 1. *Lycopodium* 2000 (Jen.); 2 to 4 §. One dose every fifth evening.

May 30th. A few boils on the arms; in other respects quite well. 1 to 4 §. One dose every fifth evening.

Perfectly cured.

2 (vol. 78, page 120). L. G—, housekeeper, thirty-nine years of age, spinster, resident in Munster. Has been suffering for the last fifteen months from *gastric fever* (so called by the allopathic school), accompanied by copious perspirations (termed, also on that account, *sweating fever*). In the morning, at rising, vomiting of phlegm. All fat food disagrees with her. Obstinate constipation; is compelled to have recourse to pills to obtain alvine evacuations. Pains in the small of the back, both when walking about, and when sitting or lying. Heaviness in the forehead. Perspirations in bed in the middle of the night, and early in the morning; perspiration when sitting down, after the least exercise, most copious in the back, under the armpits, and about the sexual parts. No thirst. Sensation of lassitude early in the morning. Headache after meals. Melancholy disposition. She despairs of her recovery.

Since the commencement of her illness up to the time of her applying to me, the patient has been under allopathic treatment, and has been literally drenched with all sorts of medicine, which, however, have only had the effect to make her go on from bad to worse. The prescriptions showed a most liberal use more particularly of the following preparations. *Potio Riveri, Spir. Mindereri, Rheum, Spirit. Salis dulcis, Ammonium muriat., Acidum muriaticum, Senna, Colchicum autumnale, Kali aceticum,* and *Sulphur, Valeriana,* etc.

March 12, 1851. 1. *Sepia* 2000 (Jen.); 2 to 4 §. The powder to be dissolved in three teaspoonfuls of water; one teaspoonful to be taken every night.

March 29th. Considerably better in every respect. 1, *Sepia* 4000 (Jen.); 2 to 4 §. To be taken as before.

April 16th. Still some pain in the small of the back, and headache after any exertion; for the last four days, perspiration during sleep. 1, *Sulphur* 4000 (Jen.); 2 to 4 §. To be taken as before.

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May 5th. The fever which she had last year, at the beginning of her illness, returned yesterday, with thirst at night, and headache; she is, however, better to-day. 1, *Sepia* 6000; 2 to 4 §. To be taken as before.

Perfect recovery. She feels better than ever before in her life.

3 (vol. 78, page 126). B. B—, a boy, thirteen years of age, suffered since three months from an enormous swelling of the parotid gland, not accompanied, however, by severe pain. He has been hitherto under allopathic treatment, but has not derived the slightest benefit from it; has forgotten to bring the prescriptions with him.

March 15th, 1851. 1, *Sulphur* 2000; 2, *Psor.* 200; 3, *Sulphur* 2000; 4, § One powder to be taken every fifth evening.

April 5th. No change. Brought with him some of the allopathic prescriptions, showing that he had taken, among others, *Tart. stib.*, *Mercurius*, *Sulphur*, and *Camphor*. 1, *Calc.* 2000 (Jen.); 2 to 4 §. One powder to be taken every fifth evening.

April 28th. The swelling of the gland much reduced. 1 to 4 §. One powder to be taken every fifth evening.

May 17th. There remains hardly any swelling. 1, *Calc.* 3000; 2 to 4 §. One powder to be taken every fifth evening.

Perfectly cured.

4 (vol. 78, page 127). B. B—, a girl, sixteen years of age, resident in Munster; affected since three years with a running from the left ears of a fetid sanguino-purulent matter; the running is unattended with pain. Cutting pain in the forehead. Chronic inflammation of the eyes, though less severe than formerly. Diarrhœa, with protrusion of the rectum. Monthly period regular, but of too long duration; preceded by violent abdominal pains. (The mother had a protracted attack of nervous fever during her pregnancy with this child.)

The patient had been treated for some time by a homœopathic practitioner of this place, who is now deceased, but she had experienced only trifling benefit from the treatment, some slight amelioration having been effected in the diarrhœa and ophthalmia.

March 18th, 1851. 1, *Sulphur* 2000; 2, §; 3, *Sulphur* 2000; 4, §. To be taken, one powder every fifth evening.

April 13th. Considerable amelioration in all the symptoms. The running from the ear diminished, though not yet altogether removed. 1, *Calc.* 2000; 2 to 4 §. One powder to be taken every fifth day.

Perfectly cured.

5th (vol. 80, page 131). T. B—, spinster, thirty-five years of age; affected since several years with pains in the spleen resembling stitches, and spreading from the spleen to the left side of the chest; the pains are more severe in the evening, and after any exertion. Swelling of the feet, in the evening. Trembling of the limbs. Perspires readily and copiously, particularly at night, and when sitting down after any exertion. Fat food disagrees with her. Costiveness.

The patient had been in the hands of several allopathic physicians, who had given a great quantity of medicine, but without achieving any better result than making the patient go on from bad to worse. *Ferrum* and *Valerian* seemed to have been the favourite nostrums.

March 15th, 1851. 1, *Sepia* 200; 2, *Ignatia amara*, 200; 3, *Sepia* 200; 4, §. One powder to be taken every fifth evening.

April 21st. Considerable improvement, though not yet perfectly restored to health. Diarrhœa after partaking of oily substances. 1, *Sep.* 2000 (Jen.); 2 to 4 §. One powder to be taken every fifth evening.

Perfectly cured.

6 (vol. 80, page 138). H. L—, of H—, painter and glazier, twenty years of age; suffered since last summer from stitches in the right side of the chest, accompanied by traction in the limbs, and beating in the forehead, particularly over the left eye; the symptoms are worse during wet stormy weather, snow, hoar-frost, and in the evening when retiring to rest, and also when the patient takes a walk, or exerts himself in any other way. Cannot sleep before midnight, on account of a distressing cough, with spasms and difficult expectoration of saline mucus; after this expectoration, the patient feels his chest somewhat relieved. He can lie only on the left side (Phthisis tuberculosa!) Bread, soups, pancakes, pork and all fat food disagree with him. He feels very cold, and is always worse in the cold. Little thirst. His strength is completely gone; he can no longer work.

The patient had been for nine months under allopathic treatment, and had been made to cultivate an extensive acquaintance with the preparations of the Pharmacopœia. *Ammon. mur.* and *Tart. stib.* seemed to have been the principal favourites. His case had, however, grown worse and worse, until at length his physician left him to the curative virtues of copious draughts of tea of *Lichen Island.*, but with the same bad success.

March 16th, 1851. 1, *Kali carbon.* 200; 2, *Sulphur* 200; 3, *Kali carbon.* 200; 4, §. One powder to be taken every fifth evening.

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April 7th. Considerable improvement in all the symptoms, although not one of them has yet completely disappeared. The expectoration has lost its saline taste, and is now perfectly tasteless. In the evening, oppression of the chest, when sitting. 1, *Phosphorus* 2000; 2 to 4 §. One powder to be taken every fifth day.

April 30th. The *Phosphorus* has not made a favourable impression upon the system; the oppression of the chest in the evening is worse than before. 1, *Nux Vomica* 200; 2, *Kali carbon.* 2000; 4, §. One powder to be taken every fifth evening.

After these remedies the patient recovered his health completely. This is one of the serious cases witnessed by Dr. Dunham, of New York, during his stay here.

7 (vol. 78, page 137). H. H—, a boy, eight years of age, was affected at the age of six months with a fever (pectoral fever), and has been suffering ever since. Cough, with pain in the chest; the cough is dry in the evening, but in the morning it is accompanied by expectoration of a sweetish matter, tasting like milk, or like nuts. Strong appetite; eat as much as he may, the patient hardly ever feels satisfied. Perspiration as soon as he falls asleep. Brown urine in the morning. Great desire to drink milk. Constant rheum.

The patient had been hitherto under allopathic treatment, but without deriving any benefit from the same. The prescriptions could not be got.

March 18th, 1851. 1, *Sulphur* 200; 2, §; 3, *Calc. carb.* 200; 4, §. One powder to be taken every eighth day.

April 12th. Considerable improvement in all the symptoms, 4 §. One powder to be taken every eighth day.

No further remedy or treatment was required to restore the boy to perfect health, which he has continued to enjoy up to the present moment.

8 (vol. 78, page 142). B. H—, a student, twenty-four years of age resident at Munster; has been labouring for about a year under a peculiar kind of difficulty of breathing; he feels as if there were a valve in the throat, intercepting the breath; this grows worse in the evening in bed, when the patient often feels as if he were on the point of suffocation. Cough unattended with pain; scanty expectoration, brought up with difficulty. Sensation of lassitude in the chest. When drawing in the breath, the patient has a sensation as if his chest were too narrow. In the early part of the morning he feels better.

The patient has been under allopathi- treatment. The last remedy recommended by his physician was *Lichen Island.*, but he has not derived the slightest benefit from this or from any of the other medicines administered to him.

March 19th, 1851. 1, *Spongia* 200; 2, *Hep. sulph. calc.* 200; 3, *Spongia* 200, 4, §. One powder to be taken every eighth day.

April 16th. The sensation of the presence of a valve in the throat is completely gone. The difficulty of breathing is considerably less, and confined entirely to the morning. Cough when drawing a deep breath. Headache in the morning, Sensation of cold in the stomach. 1, *Phosphorus* 2000; 2 to 4 §. One powder to be taken every eighth day.

May 14th. Improvement in all the symptoms. 1, *Kali carb.* 2000; 2 to 4 §. One powder to be taken every eighth day.

June 18th. The *Kali carb.* seemed to have been badly chosen; perhaps its administration was premature. The patient feels very cold and chilly, particularly in the morning; the sensation of a valve in the throat has come back, and is more strongly felt now in the act of exhaling. Palpitation of the heart has come on. 1, *Spongia* 2000; 2 to 4 §. One powder to be taken every eighth day.

Perfect recovery took place after these remedies.

I beg to call the particular attention of my homœopathic colleagues to the consequence of the ill-advised administration of the *Kali* in this case, as in Case 6 of that of the *Phosphorus*. The injurious consequences of these two doses clearly prove the powerful action of high dynamizations upon the system.

(To be continued.)

THE HOMŒOPATHIC AND ALLOPATHIC PRACTICE IN ACUTE PNEUMONIA CONTRASTED.

By George Dunn, M.D.

On Thursday, March 13, at noon, I was requested to visit Miss S. L., aged eight years and eight months; of a lymphatic temperament, stout, robust frame, mild and amiable disposition. I found her in bed, breathing hurriedly and noisily, very feverish, pulse 130, coated tongue, offensive breath, and dry, hot skin. There was acute pain to the slightest touch under and around the right clavicle and upper third of the right side of the chest, increased by the movement of the body or of the right arm. On closer examination, the upper half of the right lung was found to be con-

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gested, and on percussion (which was painful) yielded a dull sound; the crepitant rhonchus, so constant in the first stage of pneumonia, could be distinctly heard without the aid of the stethoscope, which I had not at the time with me. These symptoms accurately pointed out the nature and seat of the complaint, which could be no other than a very severe and sudden attack of inflammation of the lung; there was no complication. On inquiry it was found that the patient had had rigors about five o'clock in the morning, which her elder sister, who slept in the same bed, attributed to play, and told her "not to shake the bed so;" this was clearly the onslaught of the disease, and reminds one more of the sudden attacks of soldiers and others exposed to the inclemency of the weather, than the usual modes of attack on those who are surrounded by every care and comfort. The respirations at this early period were from fifty to sixty in the minute; this symptom, with the noise and distress which it occasioned, was very alarming to all around, and no time was lost in applying the proper remedies. *Aconite* was immediately administered, and as I was going a short journey into the country, expecting to be absent about two hours, I desired the dose to be repeated every hour until I returned. This was faithfully attended to; and on my return, though the breathing was as noisy and hurried as before, yet the pain and uneasiness were a little abated, and *Aconite* was continued every two hours. At bedtime considerable relief was experienced, and though the patient got only about two hours' sleep, she was not restless, and early in the morning she was more quiet, the sputum was more easily expectorated; it was rusty, and later in the day tinged with blood. I saw the patient four times before five, p.m., on Friday, and the symptoms were already much less urgent. *Phosphorus* 3 had been substituted for the *Aconite* with marked benefit; after each dose her attendant noticed that on administering it the respirations fell ten in a few minutes. At five p.m., after my fourth visit, I had again occasion to see a patient in the country, and during my absence there was a slight spasm in the affected lung, for which, had I been present, a dose of *Hyoscyamus* would have been given; this very naturally alarmed her attendant, who sent for the medical man I had named, should any emergency arise; he not being at home, the nearest medical man was sent for, who did not either proceed to the sick-room to administer to the necessities of the case, or to allay the fears of her anxious attendant. The first gentleman sent for coming in, and at once proceeding to the bedside of the patient, the parley was stopped, and when they both appeared at the bedside the spasm was gone; and they told the attendant that though the case was one of doubt, there was nothing alarming in the patient's case. On my return I hastened to see the case, and met the medical gentlemen in the drawing-room, after they had seen the patient, and I said there can be no doubt about the disease, much as we may differ about the treatment, and they both agreed (or appeared to do so) that the disease was acute inflammation of the right lung; for which one gentleman told me he would deplete, and the other told me he would not. After this they took their departure, and I visited my patient, and finding no trace of spasm left, I again administered *Phosphorus*, and it was truly delightful to see how beneficially each dose told; the respirations, which had been sixty, falling to thirty at midnight. When I left my patient, I called on my way home at her grandfather's, who lives in the town, to say that I considered my patient out of danger, and this I could do most conscientiously and truthfully, seeing that the pulse had fallen to a hundred, and the respirations, from sixty, had fallen to thirty in as many hours. I was then aware that I had the disease under control, and the *Phosphorus* was ordered to be continued every four hours.

On Saturday morning the temperature of the atmosphere had fallen considerably; there was a sharp frost, and a keen north-east wind blowing. I found my patient easy, lying on the side affected; but the pulse had risen to 106, the respirations to forty in the minute; no pain. I had to approach quite close to the patient to count the respirations, which the day previous were readily heard on the landing, and even down to the drawing-room on a lower floor; expectoration scanty, and without tinge of blood. As the bowels had not acted since Wednesday evening, I administered an enema of gruel and castor oil, which was not long retained. I must here confess that I did this, not thinking it particularly requisite, but because such stress is laid upon purging by the generality of people, who seem to agree with Messrs. Morison, Holloway, and Co., that violent purging can cure all diseases that flesh is heir to; the enema had very little effect, and I intended after a while to administer a second.

The anxious parents arriving from a distance (having been summoned by the friends at my request) put a stop to my further progress, which, I will say, had been eminently satisfactory during the forty-six hours that I had attended; the pulse, from

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130, had fallen to 100; the respirations, from sixty, had fallen to thirty; but owing to a keen frost and a north-east wind, the latter had risen to forty, the former to 106, but this was unattended by distress. After an interview with the parents, and after I had introduced the mother to her daughter, I took my leave, promising to return in an hour; this, however, was not permitted me. A family consultation was held, the result of which was that my patient, though progressing rapidly towards cure, was taken out of my hands without my being summoned to hear the reasons for such a step.

I do not blame the parents, to whom, medically, I was a stranger, and for whom every allowance, under the painful circumstances, ought to be made. For what I here advance I have a competent witness to bear me out, one who had had inflammation of the lung, and had been cured by my treatment, and one who has had much experience in sickness and of medical men, and one also whose veracity will not be doubted.

Forty-six hours had I anxiously watched this truly terrific onslaught of disease, and amendment had followed every dose administered; I have nothing to regret, nothing to reproach myself with. Had I been favoured by Providence with a milder temperature and more genial weather, the progress would probably have been more rapid; but under every disadvantage in this respect, I will defy any candid man to say that under any treatment the progress would have been greater.

Let us now change the scene, and give a truthful diary of what was called "active treatment," and if the old school of medicine has nothing better to oppose to acute inflammation of the lung the sooner it ceases its operations the better; for it has been demonstrated by Dietl, who collected the statistics (these statistics are from his own practice) of three methods of cure, viz., blood-letting, *Tartar Emetic*, and diet only, that the latter was by far the most successful; for whilst the mortality was 20 per cent. by bleeding and *Tartar Emetic*, it was only 7 per cent. by the treatment by diet only. But to our case: the first dose of drugs that was administered was a *Calomel* powder, then immediately followed TWO LEECHES ON THE PIT OF THE STOMACH. This latter application, I confess, astonished me very much, because the inflammation was raging in the right lung, and not in the stomach; true it is there was tenderness to pressure on the whole precordial region, but in a general inflammatory state there would be tenderness to pressure nearly throughout the entire body, particularly when this inflammatory state arises from cold. These measures naturally irritated the patient very much, and both pulse and respirations rose, the former to 130, the latter to sixty in the minute. After four hours, the *Calomel* powder not acting, it was followed by a second; and in four hours more, no action being produced on the bowels by the two, a third was given, which succeeded in purging all good and bad matter from the stomach and bowels, and this concluded the first twelve hours' work, which we may as well review.

In the morning, at ten a.m., the patient's pulse was 106; respirations had risen to forty, owing to a cold north-east wind and keen frost; the expectoration was free from blood, and easily coughed up; the patient was quiet, easy, and free from pain, *lying on the side affected.* Twelve hours later a marked change had been effected by what was called (and as far as the bowels were concerned, most truly) "active treatment;" the pulse had risen to 130, the respirations to sixty in the minute; the patient prostrate, irritated, and much, very much worse in every respect. Two more leeches were ordered, and applied a little to the right side, but only one took; a dose of fever mixture, ordered to be taken every four hours. The patient passed a most restless night, weak, and complaining—not of pain in the lung, but from sheer fatigue of purgings, leechings, and nauseous drugs. Morning arrived, and with it the medical men (of whom I will say none could have been more attentive), when the treatment was continued. Another leech was applied, the mixture continued every four hours, and in the evening a blister was applied, and this, with much examining, and consequently disturbing the patient, closed the second day's proceedings. A marked change for the worse was again apparent, and the medical men, as well as the friends, despaired of her life; her strength was wasted by the varied means of depletion, whilst the disease had been allowed undisturbed possession of the lung, and the distress of the poor patient, weak, restless, and breathing sixty times in a minute, may be imagined, but cannot be described.

Monday and Tuesday the proceedings were little varied; only one purge was given, and one more blister applied. The weakness was too alarming even for the depleting school; all hope by such treatment was gone.

On Wednesday, chancing to meet one of the medical men, who verified the above account of the treatment, I told him plainly that such measures would kill the patient, and unless some specific treatment was applied to the lung, the only diseased

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part, the patient would soon die. I pointed out the means by which he might save his friend's child; I appealed to him in the most earnest manner; I entreated him to alter the treatment and save his patient—*there was yet time.* I offered him the remedy; I desired him to use it not as a suggestion of mine, but his own; I begged him to keep both the fame and the emolument; I showed him statistics of the large homœopathic hospitals, where the mortality from pneumonia is astonishingly low, about 3 per cent.; I told him of the uniform success of the treatment on the lower animals; I referred him to a gentleman in the town, whose son was on the point of death from double pneumonia, which case appeared in the *Homœopathic Times* last year; I also told him what disgrace would await him and his colleague, if, after taking my patient away *who was doing well,* they dosed her to death. He appeared impressed with the truth of what I advanced, acknowledged that the patient was beyond their means of cure (or at least so I understood), but I heard no more from him for several days.

A great change in the temperature coming on during the same afternoon that this conversation took place, and the drugs being discontinued, a little wine being substituted to bring back (vain hope!) the strength they had so needlessly wasted, a lull in this frightful storm took place; the patient became less distressed, she took more notice, the respirations fell to fifty, and during Friday night they reached their lowest point under the depleting method, which was forty-five, never to recede so low again. Providence was extremely kind to these gentlemen, and granted them two days of south-west wind and a mild temperature. Here was a golden opportunity, but how was it employed? in giving wine and barley water to woo back a portion of the strength so recklessly thrown away; and with Saturday's change in the temperature the respirations speedily rose to sixty and upwards; another mercurial purge, which acted four times, and a composing powder at bedtime, closed Saturday's treatment, and the patient was a wreck pitiable to behold.

Can we wonder at the colossal fortunes made by the Morisons, Holloways, Worsdells, and the great and increasing tribe of drastic drenchers, when we see two respectable medical men, of long standing in the town, employing a whole week, during which time there is a raging inflammation going on in one lung, in violently purging the bowels of a poor little girl who had taken little or no food for ten days, and who, moreover, was neither labouring under obstruction or even slight constipation.

Sunday. Just nine days after I had been superseded, a third blister ushered in the day's proceedings, and *Tartar Emetic,* with wine and barley-water, made up the treatment; the respirations rose above seventy; patient exhausted and less tractable.

Monday. Change of wind to westward; temperature mild, even warm; respirations reduced a little below sixty; more nourishment taken, less wine, but disease in the lung still untouched. Fever mixture every four hours, wine every two, and a composing dose at bedtime, which procured a quiet night, after which the medical men were astonished that there was no amendment; respirations (that true barometer in acute inflammation of the lung) sixty; patient weak and hectic; medicine and wine continued; a composing dose at bedtime. Another quiet night; respirations higher in the morning, above sixty; patient evidently sinking; mixture every four hours; a blister to the back, making the fourth; and all hope gone. The little patient struggles bravely against the combined attacks of disease and doctors, but is evidently sinking under such fearful odds.

Thursday. Allowed to have anything she asks for; ate roast beef, whilst a blister was gnawing at her back. But why pursue the painful details further: the *Prussic Acid,* the *Mercury* and *Chalk,* the *Rhubarb,* and other matters equally appropriate, may be left without comment. Let us await the end, which cannot be far off, to make a few remarks upon the different modes and the different results of the homœopathic and allopathic treatment of inflammatory attacks in general, of inflammation of the lungs in particular.

Friday morning. Great pain, restlessness, and irritability; sinking fast; a few brief hours, and all will be over.

Saturday, 29th. The poor little patient still lives, but the end is now very near. For fifteen days and nights has the fond mother watched with the greatest anxiety to witness some change in the little sufferer's condition, but has watched only to see life ebbing out. Oh, that medical men would ponder on the awful responsibility that devolves upon them in such cases, and study the better method of healing! If art can do no more than has been done in this case, better, far better, leave it entirely to Nature, because it has been clearly demonstrated that such cases get well under diet only; and I am firmly of opinion that, had this little patient been continued under the homœopathic treatment, which had already done so much for

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her, she would now have been convalescent. The little patient expired at a quarter past two on Sunday morning, and sank calmly to everlasting rest.

(*To be continued.*)

[We are sorry we are obliged to divide this paper—but we cannot, in general, afford more than five or six columns for any one article.—ED.]

AN ESSAY ON HOMŒOPATHIC STATISTICS;

Together with a Critical Analysis of Dr. Routh's Work, entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

BY JOHN OZANNE, M.D.

(*Continued from page* 662.)

XIII.

The complication of pneumonia.—"The majority of cases of pneumonia recorded by homœopaths," says Dr. Routh, "are *idiopathic* or *simple*, not *complicated* or *secondary*. The mortality in these varieties must necessarily be very different" (p. 50).

The statement that the complicated or secondary forms of pneumonia are more serious, and present a much larger mortality than the simple or idiopathic, is perfectly correct. Dr. Routh may be right also in stating that "the majority of cases" recorded by homœopaths are uncomplicated. I do not intend to contest either of these positions; but what I do intend to contest is the conclusion which he draws from his facts,—namely, that the superiority of the homœopathic results at Paris or Vienna, as compared with the allopathic in the same towns, is to be explained by the fact that in the London hospital practical complications are very frequent!

Were it my present purpose merely to answer the objections brought forward against homœopathic statistics by Dr. Routh, it would be sufficient to show that the patients admitted into the homœopathic wards of the Hôpital St. Marguerite of Paris, or into the Hospital of the Sisters of Charity of Vienna, are precisely the same as those admitted into the allopathic hospitals of either town. For under whatever variety of form a disease may manifest itself, whether this variety be due to causes in constant operation, or merely to epidemic or accidental influences, it is obvious that by taking a very large number of cases, collected in the course of several years, every variety and every complication of the disease must necessarily be included. No legitimate objection can be made upon this score to the statistics of the Vienna Homœopathic Hospital, for we have tables giving us a summary of *all* the cases treated in that Institution for many years past.

The cases of pneumonia treated at Paris by Dr. Tessier, and analysed by Dr. Routh, are neither so numerous, nor are they the result of so long a period of homœopathic practice. These cases, as published in Dr. Tessier's work on Pneumonia and Cholera, were collected in a period of somewhat less than three years. But if Dr. Tessier's cases are less numerous, and do not present a summary of the homœopathic treatment of pneumonia during many years, as Dr. Fleischmann's do, they have this advantage, that being fully recorded, we may make them the subject of a careful analysis. This will be done in the course of this essay.

It is, then, my intention to enter fully into the question of the complications of pneumonia, to endeavour to ascertain to what extent they influence the per-centage mortality of that disease, and, as an immediate result, to discover how far the homœopathic statistics are rendered more or less favourable by the number of complicated cases which they embrace. Although this course may appear at first sight to be both long and tedious, it will not, I feel convinced, be thought so upon further reflection. The question at issue is one of which the importance cannot be denied; nothing therefore could do it more real damage than a superficial or imperfect inquiry. Nothing short of the tedious but necessary process of testing the statistics by every objection which has been or can be possibly raised against them, can be deemed satisfactory by the thoughtful inquirer.

I may here anticipate upon the results of this inquiry so far as to state that, after various calculations, taking every one of Dr. Routh's objections as the basis of each of them, I have found homœopathy to be superior to allopathy in very nearly the same proportions stated in the series of papers published in the first volume of this periodical, in which the statistics of pneumonia were discussed.*

* The mortality under judicious allopathic treatment, as stated by Grisolle, was found to stand in relation to Tessier's in the proportion of 2.776 to 1.000, and in relation to Fleischmann's, as 2.714 is to 1.000. The close approximation of the figures, obtained by calculating the homœopathic mortality at Vienna and at Paris, is truly remarkable.

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Before we proceed one step further with our inquiry, it is necessary to understand clearly what is meant by the term *complication*, as applied to pneumonia.

With the strictest propriety we might say that *any other disease* co-existing with pneumonia is a complication of it, but it is evident that in practice such a definition would be found thoroughly useless as a guide to our prognosis; for if we took the term in such a wide sense, we might say that toothache, simple neuralgia, cataract, nasal catarrh, slight bronchitis, etc., are complications of pneumonia. They would be, it is true, real complications, but not of such a character as to guide us in forming our prognosis.

Our definition therefore will be, that a complication is that disease or morbid condition of the system which, either by its very nature or the circumstances under which it occurs, may influence the course of pneumonia, so as to lessen in a marked manner the chances of recovery. This definition is necessary; for in the sequel we shall find that the word *complication* is understood by allopathic physicians in a very vague sense, so vague indeed, that under this appellation morbid conditions, which can scarcely be said to be capable of influencing unfavourably the course of pneumonia, are comprised. It will therefore be a part of my task to consider what are and what are not *legitimate complications*.

By the side of this definition we shall also have to keep in view one very important circumstance, connected with the very nature of the remedial measures adopted by the allopathic school. This circumstance is, that whilst the injurious influence of the complications of pneumonia consists, for the most part, in a depression or exhaustion of the vital power, the chief remedial measures adopted by that school exhaust the vital power, by withdrawing a portion of the vital fluids. So that, either they are used and tend to depress still further the patient's strength, or they are not used, and then the disease gains ground, and finally proves fatal!

In his attack upon the homœopathic statistics of pneumonia, Dr. Routh places his chief reliance upon a series of cases not yet published, but the details of which were privately given to him. He speaks of these cases in the following words:—"In 140 cases occurring in the practice of Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock, furnished to me by the kindness of these gentlemen, fifty-five per cent. were complicated; Dr. Hughes obtained fifty-two per cent. The proportion of complicated to uncomplicated may be thus fairly assumed as equal" (p. 50).

The mortality was very great. "There were 140 cases, forty-three deaths—mortality, one in three, or thirty per cent." (p. 52).

In the absence of details of these cases, it is totally impossible to form a correct idea of their character. It is impossible, moreover, to feel sure that the complications would answer to our definition as given above. We may, however, obtain some tolerably satisfactory notion of them, by taking into consideration that the proportion of complications is very nearly that obtained by Dr. Hughes. Now, as all these gentlemen collected these cases in London, their complications must have been nearly alike; therefore, we may make some use of the analysis given by Dr. Hughes, in the "Guy's Hospital Reports," of his own cases, in order to ascertain the character of the complications in those of Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock. This will be done in the sequel. At present, I may dismiss this portion of the subject with the statement, that many of Dr. Hughes's complications do not correspond with our definition of what we are to understand by complications.

Since, then, we have no details of the symptoms in the 140 cases of Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock, we are compelled to take the various complications enumerated one by one, with the view of ascertaining whether they are of such a nature as to account for the wide difference in the results of treatment under the two medical systems, namely, a mortality of thirty per cent. under allopathic, against five or six per cent. under homœopathic treatment.

We are told that in these 140 cases the complications were, in order of frequency, as follows:—"Phthisis, severe bronchitis, Bright's disease of the kidney and dropsy, endocarditis and pericarditis, meningitis, erysipelas" (Routh, p. 53). We shall follow the same order in our inquiry.

I. *Phthisis.* In the consideration of phthisis as a complication of pneumonia, we shall have to solve the following questions.

1st. *Is phthisis a dangerous complication?*

The danger arising from this complication is chiefly dependent upon the *form* or the *stage* of the tubercular disease of the lungs.

A. *Limited tuberculosis in the earlier stage of its development.* I will quote upon this point the opinion of Louis, the greatest authority on the pathology of phthisis.

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"When pneumonia occurred at an advanced period of the disease, while the patients were still able to pursue their ordinary avocations, and while their strength and flesh had not as yet materially failed, it displayed itself with the series of symptoms ordinarily accompanying it, when developed in persons in perfect health. *But these symptoms were generally of slight severity, even when tuberculous cavities had already formed at the apices of the lungs.* . . . .

"The slight seriousness in pneumonia, arising in the course of phthisis, when the disease is unadvanced, has also been noticed by M. Andral. This observer mentions too (as I have myself sometimes seen) that it is not rare to meet with phthisical individuals who have experienced well-marked symptoms of pneumonia twelve or fifteen times in the course of their malady. And M. Grisolle, in his admirable treatise upon Pneumonia, concludes, from the facts before him, that that affection, when occurring in the course of phthisis, only accelerates the progress of the latter in a small number of cases; that limited, most commonly, to a small surface and to the neighbourhood of the tubercles, it is not accompanied with very severe symptoms; that it follows a regular course, of an average duration of from twelve to fifteen days, *is almost constantly followed by recovery, and does not appear to aggravate* the primary disease.

"No doubt the last-stated proposition ill accords with generally received opinion; it clashes directly with the statements of M. Andral, who, a few lines below the admission above cited, assures his readers that intercurrent pneumonia, too often neglected, or altogether escaping detection, causes the premature death of a great number of patients; and that in cases where it does not immediately entail their destruction, it is always detrimental, inasmuch as it promotes the development of new crops of tubercles, and hastens the period of their softening.

"Nevertheless I believe the proposition of M. Grisolle to be true, applied as it has been by him to intercurrent pneumonia, developed when the tuberculous disease is not far advanced; at least it is comformable to what I have myself observed" (Louis on Phthisis, Syd. Soc. ed., p. 274).

B. *In the advanced stages of phthisis*, pneumonia is more serious. "That arising in the closing periods of the disease is almost necessarily fatal" (Louis, p. 276).

But the question arises here, is this a pneumonia case complicating phthisis, or is it not phthisis complicated with pneumonia? undoubtedly the latter. It would be a manifest abuse of classification to class such a case as one of pneumonia.

It is a different thing in the early period of phthisis, complicating or complicated by pneumonia. Here, in most instances, the seat of the pneumonia is around the tubercular depositions; during the progress of the pneumonia, if the patient's chest have not been previously examined, the presence of the tubercles, although suspected, may perhaps not be recognised. If, as it happens in most cases under homœopathic treatment, the patient recovers, and if he be not repeatedly stethoscoped, after his recovery, the complication will not be discovered; but if he die under allopathic treatment, the case is put down as complicated, which is, of course, to account for its fatal result.

C. *Tubercular infiltration* of a whole lobe, or even of a whole lung, may exist and be the cause of pulmonary inflammation, giving rise to hepatization of the tissue of the lung. It gives rise to a form of phthisis which is tumultuous and acute, is accompanied with repeated attacks of pneumonia, and is attended with much pain and distress" (Rokitansky, loc. cit., p. 104).

A deposition of *miliary tubercles*, scattered throughout a large portion of one lung, may exist and be surrounded by patches of hepatized pulmonary tissue; such a form may be as speedily fatal as pneumonia itself.

II. *What influence does phthisis exercise upon the relative mortality of pneumonia, under homœopathic and allopathic treatment?* This question will be best answered under the following heads.

A. *What is the comparative frequency of phthisis in different climates or localities?*

If it could be shown that phthisis was more frequent in England than at Vienna, or at Paris, we might infer, from the difference of frequency, that statistics made up at the latter places might perhaps gain, though not in the degree stated by Dr. Routh, by the less frequent complication of pneumonia with phthisis. But it is not so, and it is a singular fact that climate has no perceptible influence upon the production of phthisis. The reports of the army surgeons, extending over a period of seven years, and gathered by Major Tulloch, gave the unexpected information that amongst the troops the mortality from phthisis was greatest in the West Indies, and least in Canada and Nova Scotia. That at the Mediterranean stations, the proportion is almost exactly the

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same as in Great Britain; being at Gibraltar as 1000 is to 8.2; to 6.7 at Malta; to 5.3 in the Ionian Islands; and to 6.6 in the United Kingdom. The same reports show the mortality amongst the Maltese inhabittants to be almost identical with what it is in Sweden, namely, at Malta, $5\frac{3}{8}$ to 1000 inhabitants; in Sweden, $5\frac{3}{5}$ to 1000 inhabitants. It it clear therefore that the proportion of cases of phthisis complicating pneumonia must be nearly alike in London, Paris, and Vienna. Hence the statistics at the two latter places are placed upon the same footing, with regard to this complication, as the London statistics.

B. *What is the influence of the form of the tubercular disease of the lung?*

We have seen that limited tuberculosis, in the early periods of its development, exercises little or no influence upon the result of the pneumonia; not so, however, with the *infiltrated* tubercle, or *scattered miliary* tubercles, when occupying a large portion of the pulmonary tissue. But these forms are rare. In Dr. Hughes's 54 cadaveric inspections, there was only one case of this kind. It was met with but once in the seventeen post-mortem examinations of persons who had died of pneumonia at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, in 1842. It is therefore evident that, being so rare, it can add but very little to the mortality of pneumonia.

C. *What is the influence of the allopathic and homœopathic treatment*, respectively, upon pneumonia complicated with tubercular disease of the lungs?

This is a vital question in our inquiry, but it will be best answered when, in the next paper, we calculate upon the bases given in Dr. Routh's book itself—the relative mortality in complicated pneumonia.

(*To be continued.*)

ELOGE OF HAHNEMANN.

By an Hahnemannian.

It matters not where Hahnemann was born, and where he died; it matters not that his widow had his body embalmed, but not the less kept back the revised edition of his works he had finished for the press. She is false to his memory if she does not publish his revised works.

In his life he was pleasant, useful, a benefactor to his species. In his customary mode of life he united the simplicity with the dignity of the philosopher. The chief expression of his countenance was an irrepressible benignity As Tacitus says of Agricola, "bonum virum facilè crederes, magnum libenter. In looking at him you would see at once he was a good man, and you would rapidly and willingly come to the conclusion he was a great one."

So far as his own glory was concerned, he lived out the full term of humanity. He was a man that made no fortune by his painful profession. In fact he died rather poor than otherwise.

He left a wife his literary executor, who withholds the last fruits of his mind. We must leave that to her conscience.

He left as *sons* Bönninghausen and Constantine Hering, and each of them has done justice to his memory.

He was of Napoleon's age—and to be Somebody in comparison with Napoleon is something. In the very year that the great Conqueror made his first magical campaign of Italy, Hahnemann published his Organon. The one went forth to vanquish Austrians, the other to vanquish diseases; which was the greater conqueror?

Our Hahnemann had enough to contend with—open enemies and false disciples. He lived in an age when to be a medical reformer was to be an infamy. Happy was our Hahnemann in his life, not less happy in his end.

The whole world was at his funeral. He left us his doctrine and example as a bequest. He that professes to be homœopathist, should be Hahnemannian.

No tears for him—no lilies scattered over his tomb—but the flowers that are typical of immortality—and are called *immortal*, as in the way of mockery.

That august face of Hahnemann, and that magnificent head, are still, we believe, to be seen by the grace of his widow, but his last revised writings are withheld by that widow. What are we to think of this?

If there be any place for the shades of the benefactors of their race—if, even as the civilized heathen believed, spirits are not extinguished with the last breath of this mortal life, our Hahnemann is in that Paradise of the Loving and of the Faithful.

Worthy of all praise and of all just rivalry is he!

His true wife and his real progeny are *what he did*; you find this stamped in his writings.

His face and his head have often been reproduced; but it is not brass, nor stone, nor marble, nor the painter's art, nor the engraver's, that can preserve to us the august Image of Hahnemann.

We again take up the language of the admirable Tacitus, and what he said of Agricola we say of Hahnemann.

"*Quidquid ex Hahnemanno amavimus*

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quidquid mirati sumus, manet mansurumque est in animis hominum, in æternitate temporum, famâ rerum. Nam multos veterum, velut inglorios et ignobiles, oblivio obruet, Hahnemannus, posteritati narratus et traditus, superstes erit. Hahnemann's memory will live for ever. Other physicians, great in a transitory reputation, will be forgotten, but Hahnemann will survive the wrecks of Time, and future generations will cherish the memory of the Sage, the Physician, and the Philanthropist."

THE HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19TH, 1852.

EARNESTNESS is a pearl of price; to be in downright earnest is to show that one is somebody. In this peddling, huckstering age, who are in earnest?

Louis Napoleon and the Czar? Who else are in earnest? It is a painful question. We hate tyranny and *Sclavism*, so we are no advocates for despots. But who else, except despots, are in earnest?

The gold of California and Australia, this wretched pelf, engrosses the thoughts of men.

The *Caucasus* of D'Israeli is thus brought into close affinity with the *Caucus* of the United States.

Touching the physical well-being of man, nothing has been propounded that approaches in importance to homœopathy. How has it been received? how is it prosecuted? what are the views, and the desires, and the objects of its upholders? Let them come forward and declare their faith.

If it be to extract as much as can be extracted from the public, in the way of remuneration, we despise the motive. How many true believers are in our ranks? We hope very many.

Men are in the habit of making strange distinctions between speech and action, but where truth is concerned there should be no distinction. The real upholders of homœopathy are not afraid of investigation, of a searching inquiry. The best of us are poor creatures, and we should be willing to make the best case out for others.

We are not, therefore, bigoted adherents of homœopathy. We don't say that Sir Benjamin Brodie knows nothing of the diseases of joints because he may, perhaps, now and then fret a simple wart on the cheek into an irritable sore, by the application of *Potassa fusa.*

We do not say that the same distinguished surgeon and Mr. Hodgson are not, in their way, excellent surgeons, because they see, in the first instance, soon after its occurrence, a fungoid disease of the breast; say nothing can be done; prescribe *hydriodate of potash*, and six months after recommend the removal of the disease by the knife.

These are the inconsistencies of surgeons and physicians.

But we do look for truth, and we expect fair play, as we are prepared to render it. We are no upholders of any party; we have abundantly shown that we are sufficiently *eclectic* in medicine. We have given the water treatment its due; we have acknowledged zoo-magnetism as a real power; we have argued that the true movement-cure is founded on just physiological principles.

Let those who maintain the doctrine and practice of Hahnemann be *in earnest.* That is all we require of them.

The fashion of this world soon passes away, but truth is for ever. We know right well that our own earnestness and directness of thought and langnage have offended not a few; but we stand on the ground of our integrity, and knowing that we are right, we believe we shall receive justice.

We are reproduced in the United States, but we have scant support from our colleagues at home.

If we did not create, we at least have the merit of having demonstrated that there is a homœopathic public. We thrive by that public—it is for them we labour. The Rector of Wickwar is not wrong in his judgment. He, we believe, appreciates

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us; so does Constantine Hering; so does Bönninghausen. Time is the umpire, and to Time we leave the arbitrement.

THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

It is known that this venerable body attempted to degrade Harvey; it refused its fellowship to Armstrong; and refused its license to Jenner.

New discoveries, for the improvement of the practice of physic, do not seem to come within the scope of this College. One of the most able physicians that ever adorned this metropolis is still without the fellowship of the College—the successor of Baillie—the skilled diagnostician and excellent pathologist, Dr. Farre, but two of his sons, who were educated at Cambridge, are fellows of that College. Each of these gentlemen would at once admit his inferiority to his father; but each of them is a fellow of the College of Physicians—and *the* Farre is not a fellow.

Let any one read good Baron's life of Jenner, and he will see how the originator of vaccination was treated by the College. The book is very interesting. Some of these medical biographies are very valuable, and this is one of them.

There are in Britain not a few of those practising homœopathy who are entitled to the fellowship of the College of Physicians, and whom they should feel a pride in numbering among their fellows. They prefer to *ignore* homœopathy, as they ignored the circulation of the blood, as taught by Harvey, and as they ignored vaccination, as propounded by Jenner, though he was a graduate of Oxford. It would be invidious to particularise the individuals in our body who are fairly entitled to the consideration of the College.

Where will all this end? necessarily in the overthrow of an effete and useless Institution. There are some good names on the list of the fellows of the College. But what is the standing of the majority? what is the College good for? what does it propose for the health of the lieges of the realm? But we give a specimen of the practice of one of the most admired of its members—the victim being the father of our Queen—who would himself have been king, had his life not been cut short by the heroic practice. The Duke of Kent had not his mortal life preserved by excessive bleeding. Was he killed by it? His brother, George IV., had also pneumonia the same year. He too was bled, but not largely, and probably ate freely and drank *maraschino*. Dr. Gregory, of Edinburgh, proposed to him to go the "whole hog" of the Sangrado system; but George the Magnificent laughed at him, and lived ten years longer. Would any allopath now treat pneumonia in this way?

"On Thursday se'nnight His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent took a long walk, with Captain Conroy, in the environs of Sidmouth, and returned to the cottage with his boots thoroughly soaked.

"Captain Conroy, on reaching home, urged the Duke to change his boots and stockings; but the suggestion was unheeded until he dressed for dinner, being attracted by the smiles of his infant Princess, with whom he sat for a considerable time in fond parental endearment. Before night, however, he felt a sensation of cold and hoarseness, when Dr. Wilson prescribed a dose composed of calomel and Dr. James's powder. This His Royal Highness, confiding in his strength, and from an aversion to medicine, declined taking, remarking that he had little doubt but a night's rest would carry off every uneasy symptom. The event proved the contrary. In the morning the symptoms of fever were increased, and *though* [BECAUSE?] His Royal Highness lost ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ounces of blood from the arms, and by cupping, he died on Sunday forenoon.

"Dr. Maton was summoned from London, unavailingly, in consultation. I well remember to have heard, at his house in Spring Gardens, that able physician and accomplished man talk over with my father the particulars of the Duke's case, and to have listened to Dr. Maton's bitter regret at its fatal issue. One of his remarks was, 'Perhaps all was done that could be done. Indeed, *that* is the view which *must now be taken;* but if I had been in attendance on him in the early stage of his disorder, I think I should have BLED HIM MORE FREELY [!] His stamina was so great, his constitution so unimpaired by excess, that he would have borne more depletion; at all events, I would have risked it. The result might have been the same, but I should have hazarded extreme depletion.'"—*Life of the Duke of Kent, by the Rev. Erskine Neale.*

THE MEDICAL TIMES AND GAZETTE AND "ALLOPATH."

We extract another letter from "Allopath" to the Editor of the *Medical Times and Gazette.* The correspondent is obviously honest, and should push his inquiries; and see the actual practice of homœopathy in London, Paris, or Vienna, each of which cities has homœopathic hospitals,—those in Vienna sanctioned by the Government.

We peremptorily deny the hardy assertion of the Editor, that the question has been settled by experience and observation—against homœopathy; we assert that it has been settled by experience and observation—in favour of homœopathy. Our assertion is worth quite as much as his.

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We ask him for his proofs that "the so-called facts of the homœopaths have been shown over and over again to be no facts; and that they have been convicted of statistical falsehoods *usque ad nauseam*." Till he produces his *proofs* he must lie under the imputation of making assertions at variance with truth and the facts.

In his review of Dr. Holland's "Chapters on Mental Physiology," the Editor of the *Medical Times and Gazette* writes:—

"Mesmerism and homœopathy are touched on frequently, in the course of his work, by Dr. Holland; and the sound sense displayed in discussing these subjects, and the philosophical tone of his remarks on them, cannot fail to undeceive some of those men of learning and position who have been beguiled into lending the weight of their name for the spread of the dogmata of these *pseudo*-sciences."

Let "Allopath" be comforted with the knowledge, that in proposing a fair inquiry into homœopathy, he recommends the investigation of a doctrine received by men of learning and position.

"SIR,—Your remarks appended to my communication of last week, on the subject of homœopathy, were certainly sufficiently severe, and also, as it seems to me, quite uncalled for. If I was unfortunate in my illustration of the different kinds of truths, so also was Sir J. Herschel, in the quotation which I gave, and so is Archbishop Whately equally unfortunate, since they both bear me out in my assertion, that the truths of mathematics and metaphysics may be elicited by *à priori* reasoning, and are not, equally with medicine, founded on experience and experimeet. I quite agree with you that "medicine is to be advanced by experiment and observation," and "that there is no reason why we should not find out a better method of treating rheumatism; and consequently you cannot, prior to and independent of experiment, affirm that this "better method" is not to be found in homœopathy. As to my ignorance of the foundation of therapeutics, I believe it to be founded on carefully-conducted experiments and observations; and that, being thus founded, homœopathy has a stronger claim upon our attention than those unknown nostrums which find their way into the wards of our hospitals. Lastly, as to my signature, I need hardly say that I am fully aware of its derivation, and I employed it simply because I am what is called an allopath. Why you should find fault with it I do not know. Requesting the favour of the insertion of these few lines (to which I think I am entitled, by way of self-defence),

"I am, etc.,

"London. "ALLOPATH.

"[The question has been settled by experience and observation. The so-called facts of the homœopaths have been shown over and over again to be no facts. They have been convicted of statistical falsehoods *usque ad nauseam*.—ED. *Medical Times and Gazette*.]

Correspondence.

ST. JAMES'S HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL, DONCASTER.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—A letter from your earnest and intelligent correspondent, Mr. F. J. Smith, in your last number, gives me an opportunity of stating, through the medium of your columns, that the management of the St. James's Hospital will be under my sole care, and for this very good reason, that there is not another homœopathic practitioner nearer than Sheffield, distant eighteen miles, Leeds twenty-eight, and York thirty. I shall, however, be too happy to avail myself of the assistance and co-operation of any homœopath, when I have the pleasure of having one for a colleague, and making him or them (if more than one) equal in every respect with myself, if he or they will take equal labour and equal risk. I shall take care (if doomed to toil alone) that while I live it is not perverted—but no man can say what may take place when the grave closes over him—and I shall do my best to prove, by the cases there treated, the immense superiority of the homœopathic treatment; and it cannot fail to furnish valuable statistics, as an immense number of patients will avail themselves of the consultations, which will be given daily. I cannot imagine what your correspondent means by saying that the establishment of a "homœopathic hospital is not necessarily a great good;" if founded on charity and good-will to men, and conducted entirely and strictly according to the Hahnemannian doctrine, it *must* prove a great good, and I trust we shall not be long ere we see one established in every town where there is a true brother of the faith. How an isolated homœopath, however, is to guarantee the management of such hospital after his short span is ended, I am at a loss to conjecture, and shall be glad if your correspondent can point out any means whereby such a desirable end may be obtained. My son Hahnemann (now only two years and a half old) I may not be spared to see dubbed doctor by a more enlightened faculty than that which lately refused Dr. A. Pope his degree, but I have a firm faith that his *name* will be no barrier to his success eighteen years hence, if he be spared, nor do I think that I shall toil and struggle much longer without one or more homœopathic colleagues; but I can assure your correspondent, to whom I feel deeply indebted for the interest which he takes in this matter, that while I live the St. James's Hospital shall be devoted to the spread of homœopathy, which I consider the greatest temporal blessing ever vouchsafed by a merciful Creator to suffering man, and which I will spare no labour or sacrifice to diffuse amongst my fellow-men.

I am Sir, your obedient servant,

GEORGE DUNN.

[We presume that by a deed of trust any

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hospital may be perpetuated for any specialty, and *à fortiori* for the practice of homœopathy, which is for the treatment of all curable disorders and diseases.—ED.]

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

(*Communicated.*)

ON the 7th inst., at 112, Gloucester Place, Portman Square, the Hon. A. H. Macdonald Moreton, in the chair, a meeting of gentlemen, interested in the extension of homœopathy, was held to consider what steps were best calculated to advance their object.

It was resolved, to effect the purpose they had at heart, to found a hospital for the treatment of children; and it was further resolved to take immediate measures for carrying this resolution into execution.

It was resolved that the hospital be conducted upon the principles laid down and practised by Samuel Hahnemann.

That case-books be kept at the hospital, in which shall be stated the fullest history and the existing symptoms of the patient on entering the hospital, the medicines given, the subsequent symptoms, and the subsequent medicines given, which books shall be, at all reasonable times, open to all subscribers.

That the medical officers of the hospital shall give clinical instruction or lectures, and afford every facility to medical practitioners and students, to become acquainted with the homœopathic system of practice.

That the medical officers shall publish periodically a collection of cases from their hospital practice, in illustration of results, be they favourable or otherwise.

That the hospital be managed by a committee of laymen, who recognise the Organon of Hahnemann as the only sound basis by which his system of medical practice can be tested.

That the payment of five shillings annually shall constitute a subscriber, but that donations be received to any amount.

That whenever the funds of the hospital shall admit of it, some provision shall be made for attending poor women in their confinements.

It is highly important that the principles upon which the medical practice is to be conducted should be strictly defined, to guard against a routine system of spurious practice, which is unfortunately too prevalent at present, and totally at variance with Hahnemann's precepts. The principles of Hahnemann were, to take down carefully all the symptoms of the patient, to compare them with the recorded symptoms of the medicines whose effects are known, and to select the medicine that shall appear to be most homœopathic to the most minute totality of the collected symptoms (objective and subjective) of the patient, or, in other words, to find a medicine that shall be, as nearly as possible, analogous, in its ascertained and recorded effects, to the symptoms of the complaint.

All the so-called specifics in the old system of medicine (which operate curatively) are, in fact, homœopathic to the diseases against which they are given successfully. Such as *Bark* against certain forms of intermittent fever, *Opium*, against delirium tremens, *Sulphur* in itch, *Camphor* for strangury from blisters, etc., etc.

What we have taken the liberty of calling the spurious routine system, is the selecting a medicine that shall relieve only one or two of the most prominent symptoms of the complaint, and then going on to another; giving one medicine for one symptom, another for another, without due examination. This requires far less labour, far less ability than the system propounded by the founder of homœopathy, and it is far less happy in its results to the patient.

With regard to the teaching the system of homœopathy to pupils; let them at least learn by the more laborious and more successful mode of practice.

It is with the view to ensure this laborious and difficult yet simple practice its full complement of study, that the case-books are to be rigorously and exactly kept, and open to inspection. The periodical publication of cases will, it is hoped, show the public that in the Child's Hospital some effort at least will be made to practise and teach homœopathy as propounded by its founder.

The sum of five shillings constituting a subscriber, it is expected that vast numbers, of limited means, will be stimulated to become contributors and participators in this noble undertaking.

It is trusted that a sufficient amount will be raised by an extended list of subscribers, and that many who know nothing about homœopathy will give the small amount of five shillings to an establishment where everything is so open and so public; that they may be fairly assured whether there may not be truth in a system that tells the fond mother that croup need no longer sound a death knell in her ear, but that it is a curable complaint; that scarlet fever is no longer a dangerous complaint; that bronchitis and inflammation of the lungs are deprived of more than half their terrors.

At least we trust that we may calculate that each mother, who believes that her child's life has been saved by homœopathy, will give five shillings to help to save the lives of her poorer fellow-creatures.

A list of lady patronesses and other philanthropic supporters will shortly be published. Meantime subscriptions, etc., will be received by Mr. Baillière, bookseller, 219, Regent Street, and by the following homœopathic chemists:—Mr. Headland, 15, Princes Street, Hanover Square; Mr. Leath, Vere Street, Oxford Street; Mr. Lane, Sloane Street; Mr. Storer, Foster Lane; Mr. Walker, Conduit Street.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

ON THE USE OF HIGH ATTENUATIONS IN HOMŒOPATHIC PRACTICE.

By Dr. C. Von Bönninghausen, of Munster, Westphalia.

(*Continued from page* 671.)

9 (Vol. 78, page 145). Sophia S—, an infant, six months old, was suddenly seized with an attack of quinsy, which speedily gained ground, threatening the life of the child. When I was called in, the case exhibited every sign of gravity and danger, which was the more serious, as two hours had already elapsed since it had taken this turn.

I found all the usual symptoms, such as heat and redness of the face, hoarseness, cough sounding like croup, rattling in the throat when the child falls asleep.

March 21, 1851. 1, *Acon.* 200; 2, *Hep. sulph. calc.* 200; 3, *Spongia* 200; 4, *Hep. sulph. calc.* 200. One powder to be taken every five hours.

After the second powder, the infant was already perfectly cured, and there was accordingly no need to administer 3 and 4. I mention this case here to show that high dynamizations are quite in their place in acute diseases. For several years I have invariably used, in croup and other acute diseases, the 200th attenuation, and this without ever failing once in my object.

10 (vol. 78, page 151). H. S—, goldsmith, aged thirty-four years; has since three years been affected with a severe cough, attended with retching, and often with vomiting, which gives some relief; the expectoration is scanty and insipid. The cough comes on every morning, immediately after the patient has partaken of food or drink; also after smoking, but most severely after drinking wine. He ascribes the origin of the cough to the sudden ingestion of very hot coffee. At a former period he had the itch, which was treated with *Sulphur* and *Soap*; and also gonorrhœa, which was suppressed by *Copaiva* and *Merc.* (the latter in doses of six grains).

I could not ascertain from the patient what medicines he had taken up to the time of his application to me. He could inform me only that *Oleum Crotonis* and *Pimpinella* were of the number, but that he had never derived the slightest benefit from any of the preparations prescribed for him.

March 22, 1851. 1, *Nux Vomica* 200; 2, *Ipecacuanha* 200; 3, *Nux Vomica* 200; 4, §. One powder to be taken every third evening.

April 14. Twenty-four hours after the administration of the first powder, a considerable improvement manifested itself, and continued up to the present time. The morbid symptoms now make their appearance only after drinking, and no longer after eating. The patient feels a kind of narrowing or contraction in the urethra when urinating. 1, *Ars.* 3000; 2 to 4, §. One powder to be taken every fifth evening.

Three weeks after he felt perfectly cured; and as I have neither seen him nor heard from him since, although he could come to me by rail in about an hour's time, I think I may assume that he continues to enjoy good health.

11. (vol. 78, page 153). A. C—, a boy, aged thirteen, has been affected since two years with tinea favosa, on the hairy scalp, and with herpes farin. (pityriasis), spread in small isolated spots all over the body. In other respects the boy is well.

In this case various ointments, oils, and soaps had been used, and also *Mercury*, but all without the desired effect.

March 23, 1851. 1, *Sulphur* 2000; 2, *Sulphur* 4000; 3, §. One powder to be taken every eighth day.

April 19. Considerable improvement. 1, *Sulphur* 6000; 2 to 4, §. One powder to be taken every eighth day.

May 26. Improvement, but less marked than the last time. 1, *Calc. carb.* 2000; 2 to 4, §. One powder to be taken every eighth day.

July 7. Further considerable improvement. Most of the spots are completely healed. 1, *Silicea* 4000; 2 to 4, §. One powder to be taken every eight days.

After this the eruption vanished completely. The skin assumed the natural healthy colour, and up to this day the boy continues in good health.

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12 (vol. 78, page 174). A. A—, an infant about twelve months old, son of a teacher; about six months ago reddish spots appeared about the ears, and afterwards on his face, hands, and arms. The allopathic medicines which were administered to the child only had the effect of causing the eruption to spread over the rest of the body. The way in which the eruption proceeds and runs its course is as follows. At first the skin gets red, and a little discharge makes its appearance; afterwards a yellow crust forms, with purulent matter underneath it; in the course of a few days the crust turns to a dark brown or blackish colour, and finally scales off, but is speedily replaced by another red spot, which then goes through the same course, and so on. The father, mother, and grandmother of the child had, in their time, suffered from similar eruptions.

I could not ascertain from the parents what were the allopathic medicines hitherto administered to the infant. They could only inform me that the poor little patient had been made to drink copiously of tea of *Viola tricolor* (Jacea).

March 29, 1851. 1, *Sulph.* 2000; 2, *Psor.* 2000; 3, *Sulph.* 4000; 4, §. One powder to be taken every fifth day.

April 26. Considerable improvement in all the symptoms. 1, *Calc. carb.* 2000; 2 to 4, §. One powder every fifth day.

After this the eruption disappeared altogether, and the child continues well up to this day.

13. (vol. 78, page 209). P. R—, a girl, aged eighteen years; has been subject since five years to epileptic attacks, which appeared formerly at longer intervals, but latterly they have become much more frequent, often five or six times in a day. During the attacks there is yellowness of the face, bluish colour around the eyes, and entire loss of consciousness; the attacks last at least five minutes; the menses come too soon and too strong; before and during the accession the patient suffers from spasms in the abdomen, sometimes also headache; anxiety at the appearance of the attacks; without pains or other sensations; black spots only under the eyes, with blue lips; much coldness; no thirst; she is better in the morning; oppressed in the warm room; formerly suffered much from ascarides; temper irritable; uneasy by strong motion, palpitation of the heart; without anxiety.

Although the allopath knows that such cases are incurable, she has, nevertheless, taken a variety of drugs.

April 8, 1851. 1, ♀ 2000; 2 to 4, §. A powder every third evening.

April 29. The attacks very much diminished, and only before and after the period; a few attacks; none in the interval; also better in other respects, and looks better. In the beginning of the menses, cramps in the abdomen. 1, *Cuprum met.* 2000; 2 to 4, §. Like the former, every third evening.

May 19. After some time strong epileptic attacks, during and before the menses, with much coldness and pains in the hips; she is very melancholy and irritable before the monthly indisposition. 1, *Calc. carb.* 200; 2 to 4, §. As before.

June 3. Has had no fresh attack. 1 to 4, §. As before.

June 23. A strong epileptic attack at the appearance of the menses, which were copious. 1, *Calc. carb.* 3000; 2 to 4, §. As before.

July 9. No attack the last fourteen days, although she was exposed at times to much mental excitement. 1 to 4, §. As before, every third evening.

July 24. Many strong attacks during the time of the monthly illness, with soreness and burning in the parts. I suspect masturbation. 1, *Phosphor.* 2000; 2 to 4, §. As the former.

September 18. She remained well until the last eight days, when she again suffered from an attack at the time of the monthly appearance. 1, *Nux Vomica* 200; 2 to 4, §; 3, *Natrum mur.* 2000. A powder every fifth evening.

October 25. Soon after (3, *Natrum mur.*) she had, at the time of the menses, a strong attack, but has remained free since that time.

Time will show if this be a cure, and permanent.

14. (vol. 78, page 217). C. S—, a girl, thirteen years of age, of a delicate constitution; was first attacked with diarrhœa, which had been checked by allopathic means; this was followed by a severe, hard, dry cough, which has continued more than four months; it is worse in the evening and in the fresh air; the child is very much reduced; pain in the chest when coughing, and strong perspiration in the evening while in bed. The child feels much better when in a warm room; stitches in the temples when coughing; aversion to fat and vegetables; had a humid eruption around the chin, and there are still to be seen a few red spots; humid eruptions on the head. The mother had, during pregnancy with this child, an eruption over the whole body.

The allopathic remedies produced no effect, amongst which were particularly *Ammon. muriat., Columbo, Opium, Rheum., Cascar.*, and *Spirit. Mindereri.* As the

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last resource, refuge was taken in homœopathy.

April 10, 1851. 1 to 3, *Hep. sulph. calc.*; 2, *Spongia*, of each 200; 4, §. A dose every fifth evening.

May 3. Something better; dry cough in the evening, particularly affected by tobacco-smoke. 1, *Petrol.* 200; 2 to 4, §. As the former.

May 26. Better in every respect. 1, *Petrol.* 2000; 2 to 4, §. After which perfect restoration to health.

15. (vol. 78, page 220). T. P—, an unmarried lady, aged fifty years; has suffered since youth from headache. Having consulted many physicians without receiving the least benefit, she submitted to her fate, and took no more medicine. She was advised by her friends to consult me; she called, but was incredulous in the highest degree. The headache before mentioned still exists; pressure on the top of the head, generally worse before noon, but often increasing towards evening, also during motion; worse in a warm room; vomiting of everything except animal food; shortness of breath in walking; sleep good; the menses, which have now ceased, were formerly scanty; much overpowering heat; violent and irritable temper, and during the headache much crying. She has been subject to fits of vomiting from her youth.

April 12, 1851. 1, *Nux Vomica* 1000; 2 to 4, §. Every fifth evening.

May 12. She remained free from headache until the end of the last week, to her great astonishment; it again appeared with violent shooting (not pressing) on the top of the head, accompanied with sour and bitter vomiting; eruption on the right eyebrow. 1, *Sepia* 200; 2 to 4, §. Of each powder, dissolved in water, during three consecutive evenings a spoonful; nothing the two following evenings.

May 29. She had a very severe attack, which lasted but one day; some headache; but in the morning, in bed, a creeping, crawling sensation in the hands. 1, *Sepia* 2000; 2 to 4, §. Like the former.

June 20. No headache, and is now quite well. 1, *Sepia* 4000; 2 to 4, §. Like the former.

Nothing more was necessary; all the sufferings she has had for so many years have entirely ceased. She has now full confidence in our mode of practice.

16. (vol. 78, page 225). C. W—, a girl, fourteen years of age, from the country. She is confined to bed, and has been in bad health for a year; she formerly suffered from an eruption on the top of the head, which has been suppressed allopathically by ointments; since that time constant headache, with sickness, worse in the evening, and when moving; pain in the hips, worse in the evening and during motion; sickness after every meal; chilliness; no perspiration while in bed; a desire for salt; an aversion to milk; great weakness, so that she can scarcely bear being out of bed for a few moments. She has been treated allopathically for a long time without the least benefit.

April 14, 1851. 1, *Sulphur* 2000; 2, *Sulphur* 4000; 3 and 4, §. A powder every fifth evening.

May 12. Considerably better. 1, *Sulphur* 6000; 2 to 4, §. Like the former.

This long-suffering young person is now in excellent health. *Sulphur*, in a high dynamization, was the only remedy used.

17. (vol. 78, page 230). N. L—, a boy, aged eight years, has been sickly for four years; but has become worse the last two months, from the effects of hooping-cough; violent cough, with sweetish expectoration, which is worse when beginning to move in the room, and after walking in the open air; much vomiting in the evening and at night, mostly mucus, but once lately, blood; aversion to fat; feels chilly; no thirst; frequent bleeding of the nose at night; very bashful and timid. He was attacked in the winter with the measles, after which he had hooping-cough.

He has for a long time been treated allopathically, and has taken a variety of drugs; latterly, much *Ferr. acet.* and *Ammon. muriat.*

April 17, 1851. 1 to 3, *Pulsatilla*; 2, *Sulphur*, of each 200; 4, §. A dose every fifth evening.

May 9. Considerably better; the boy is scarcely to be recognised. 1, *Sulphur* 2000; 2 to 4, §; 3, *Pulsatilla* 200.

These remedies were sufficient to remove all diseased symptoms, and his health is now better than it has ever been.

18. (vol. 78, page 275). H. H., aged twenty-two years; suffered for ten years from caries and enlargement of the bone of the whole right leg, with its toes; the leg is considerably swelled, which aches and burns; and from six holes there runs constantly a watery, sometimes bloody, and very ichorous discharge. During the winter the pain in the leg ceases, when he suffers from a severe cough. At the approach of spring the pains in the leg increase, and the cough ceases. He is compelled to walk with crutches. He has been under allopathic treatment ten years without receiving any benefit.

April 27, 1851. 1 to 3, *Silicea*; 2, *Hep. sulph. calc.*, of each 200; 4, §. A powder

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every fifth evening; and to cover the suppurating holes with tallow and lint.

May 25. Much improved. 1, *Hep. sulph. calc.* 2000; 2 to 4, §. To be taken like the former.

June 15. Continued improvement; suppuration continues. 1, *Silicea* 4000; 2 to 4, §. Like the former.

July 6. Great improvement, as expected; several holes closed; the pains have entirely ceased. He has put aside the crutches. 1 to 4, §. Like the former.

August 3. Continued improvement. 1, *Silicea* 6000; 2 to 4, §. As before.

August 31. Again considerable progress. He does not only go without crutches, but has walked to-day a distance of six miles, and will walk the same distance in the afternoon. 1 to 4, §. As before.

September 28. Much improved in health; but two holes still suppurate, particularly that of the great toe; all the others are closed, and the foot which was so much swollen has now assumed its usual size. 1 to 4, §. As the former.

October 19. Since eight days there seems to be a check in the improvement; there is still a hole which suppurates; the pain has entirely ceased; he takes much exercise throughout the day. 1, *Hep. sulph. calc.* 3000; 2 to 4, §. To use like the others.

Although the cure is not completed, yet we have no doubt that the result will be favourable. My object in communicating this case is to show that even in similar complaints the high potencies exert their action.

19. (vol. 78, page 279). H. B—, a young man, aged eighteen years, suffered since two years (after the death of his brother, who died from consumption, he had slept in his bed until the last moment) from shortness of breath, as if the chest were tightened by a bandage; expectorating in the morning some sweetish, putrid matter; great hunger, with a general decline; after a meal he is a little better for half an hour, otherwise he is worse from nine o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock in the evening, when he rests.

He has taken much medicine for two years, but I could not ascertain of what kind.

April 28. 1, *Phosphorus* 2000; 2 to 4, §. Each powder to be dissolved in three teaspoonfuls of water, and to take one the forthree evenings consecutively, and then to stop two evenings.

May 15. Was much better, however, and took coffee after the use of the four powders, and now he complains of shooting pains in the chest, and a sensation as if something had been torn away; worse in the morning and at noon; better after a meal. 1, *Nux Vomica* 2000; 2 to 4, §; 3, *Phosphorus* 4000. Like the former; after which he was entirely well.

20. I conclude with the cure of a bird. The professor of languages to my children called eight days ago to tell me that two of his canary birds had died, and the third was about to die, apparently of the same complaint. The bird ate constantly in the cage, but everything passed from him undigested. *Pulsatilla* 2000, cured him completely, to the great astonishment of the professor.

AN ESSAY ON HOMŒOPATHIC STATISTICS;

Together with a Critical Analysis of Dr. Routh's Work, entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

(*Continued from page* 678.)

XIV.

Before we proceed to consider the complication standing next in order of frequency, it will be proper to recapitulate the conclusions to which we have been led in our last paper, in reference to the influence of phthisis, as a complication of pneumonia, upon the value of the statistics of the latter disease.

It was found, by references to the best authorities in the allopathic school, that—

1st. If limited and not in an advanced stage, phthisis is not by any means a serious complication of pneumonia.

2nd. That so far from occurring in a more serious form when tubercles are present in the lungs, pneumonia seems to be less severe than that occurring in persons in perfect health, if the tubercular patients, of course, "are still able to pursue their ordinary avocations, and while their strength and flesh have not as yet materially failed" (Louis, loc. cit.)

3rd. That at a more advanced period of phthisis, the occurrence of pneumonia usually hastens the progress of the disease; but then the case is no longer one of pneumonia complicated with phthisis, but one of phthisis complicated with pneumonia: a distinction not of a speculative kind, but essentially practical, seeing that, in the former case, the presence of tubercles does not constitute the principal disease; whereas, in the latter, the case is one of fully-developed phthisis.

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4th. That the second proposition is not to be understood of two forms of phthisis mentioned in the last paper, namely, tubercular infiltration of a large portion of a lung, or extensive deposition of miliary tubercles—two forms of tuberculosis which may give rise to acute phthisis, and which, if pneumonia should supervene, may speedily end in death.

But that these two forms being very rare, their influence on the per-centage mortality of pneumonia is small.

5th. That, on the other hand, tubercular disease of the lungs being remarkably equal in its *general* distribution, in climates and localities differing from each other in the highest possible degree, the proportion of cases of pneumonia complicated with tubercular disease of the lungs must be tolerably equal in homœopathic or allopathic hospitals, whether our places of observation be London, Paris, Vienna, or Linz.

But whilst all these points were fully and carefully investigated in the last paper, the important question, what is the relative influence of the allopathic and homœopathic modes of treatment upon the course and termination of pneumonia complicated with phthisis, was left for future consideration, the space allowed by the Editor of the *Homœopathic Times* having been already exceeded.

For the complete solution of this question we have not as yet the necessary materials. Had Dr. Routh given us detailed observations of the cases of pneumonia complicated with phthisis, which, he says, were so numerous in the practice of Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock, instead of leaving us quite in the dark as to their real character, we might at the present moment be prepared to make a greater step in advance than we are now able to do. But if unable to obtain the solution of our question in a direct and complete manner, we shall obtain indirectly quite sufficient to show that the influence of this as well as of the subsequent complications upon the mortality of pneumonia has been greatly overrated.

Dr. Routh alludes, with reference to the number of complications met with in the practice of Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock, to the investigations of Dr. Hughes in regard of several points connected with the pathology and treatment of pneumonia. He tells us (page 50) that in the practice of the three first-named gentlemen, the proportion of complicated to uncomplicated cases was fifty-five per cent.; whereas "Dr. Hughes obtained fifty-two per cent." The close approximation of the two proportions, together with the fact that all the cases were observed by these gentlemen in the same town, justify us in taking the published results of Dr. Hughes, in order to ascertain how far we may rely upon the statements of Dr. Routh respecting the great frequency of phthisis, and its great influence in increasing the mortality of pneumonia.

The facts which will serve as our basis are contained in Dr. Hughes's paper in the "Guy's Hospital Reports" for October, 1848. In this paper, the "analysis of fifty-four cadaveric inspections of fatal pneumonia," consisting of the *larger number* of the cases of pneumonia which terminated fatally in the hospital during a period of four years, is given in a tabular form.

I do not take the facts embodied in previous papers of Dr. Hughes in the "Reports;" but by so doing, be it observed, I only pay a greater tribute of respect to the high scientific character of this observer, for he tells us himself that, "in the former paper, a large proportion of the cases were collected from the manuscript books of the hospital, and were recorded by *a great variety of observers*," whereas in this paper they were all collected by himself (loc. cit., p. 3).

In this paper, however, the object of which, moreover, is not to inquire into the relative number of complicated to uncomplicated cases, or of one kind of complication to another kind, we cannot be sure that we get the exact proportion of phthisis cases; for, from the following words, and from one or two other observations in the course of the paper, it would appear, that many other cases, in which pneumonia existed to a certain extent, and which, according to Dr. Peacock's observations (Routh, p. 56), ought to be included in the statistics of pneumonia, were not included in Dr. Hughes's *analysis*.

"Many more cases affected with *a certain amount or degree of pneumonia* have, of course, been inspected at the hospital during that time; and a few (but the author believes they must be indeed a very few) serious, extensive, and even fatal cases may have been inspected which he has not witnessed, and which, therefore, are not included in the table. He feels, however, assured that no case of a serious, much less of a fatal character, which he has himself seen, has been omitted; while, at the same time, he *acknowledges that many instances of a slight extent, or of a doubtful nature, have been passed over*, from the conviction that they may not be properly included among cases of 'fatal pneumonia'"

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(Hughes, loc. cit., p. 3). The reader should be informed that Dr. Hughes, when speaking of cases "of a slight extent, or of a doubtful nature," alludes not to the cases as observed during life, but as observed on dissection of the diseased parts, after death.

I have quoted these passages in order to show that, in taking Dr. Hughes's fifty-four cases as my standard of comparison, I am acting not only in *all fairness*, but that, from the fact that many cases of pneumonia of slight extent, or of doubtful character, when examined after death, have been omitted in Dr. Hughes's tables, I am actually taking as my standard a collection of cases in which the more serious forms of the disease are stated to exist in a larger proportion. Therefore, as regards the question at issue, we should expect to find, from this very circumstance, a larger proportion of cases of those forms of phthisis, which we have shown to be the most serious as complications of pneumonia. In other words, we should expect the number of such cases to be *greater*, than if the whole of the cases of pneumonia terminating fatally in the hospital during the four years had been included in the tables.

The question is of so much importance, that I give here a description of these cases, as entered in the tables.

Case 12. "Acute phthisis; grey hepatization existed in the upper lobe." These terms lead us to the belief that the whole of the disease was limited to one lobe. If not so, the case is not described in the same manner as other cases.

Case 13. "Acute phthisis; red hepatization, occurring at the base of a lung, tubercular and disorganized above." The whole disease is here limited to one lung.

Case 14. "Acute and gangrenous phthisis; a large gangrenous mass, succeeding to consolidation, existed in the base of the right lung, and some scattered patches of gangrene in the left lung; there were also a few tubercles." The complications were here of small importance; the real gravity of the case was due to the gangrenous character which the pneumonia assumed.

Case 21. "Acute phthisis; a tubercular cavity in the right upper lobe; firm, whitish consolidation in other parts." The complication here, a single cavity, is not of a serious character.

Case 30. "Gangrenous diseased heart, liver, and bronchi; phthisis; an old tubercular cavity with chronic tubercles, surrounded with gangrenous pneumonia of the upper lobe; other lung tubercular, with some pneumonic consolidation." In this case the tuberculosis is more extensive; most probably, if observed during life, this case would not have been classed by Dr. Hughes as one of pneumonia. However, the death was due less to the presence of tubercles, than to the gangrenous character of the pneumonia which supervened.

Case 52. (Already alluded to.) "Diffused tubercles; both lungs generally affected with acute pneumonia, almost airless and nearly consolidated, with miliary tubercles distributed throughout every part, and on the pleuræ."

Case 54. "Tubercles in apex; diseased kidneys; base of right lung solid, firm, red and fawn-coloured; sinking in water. Tubercles in the apex, left lung quite healthy, and without tubercles. There is one very striking feature in the cases reported by Dr. Hughes in this paper, it is the frequency of gangrene of the lung, as a termination of pneumonia. This, it must be remembered, if a complication at all, is one which springs from the imperfection of the mode of treatment adopted; it is not a *necessary* consequence of pneumonia, even in cases in which the inflammation of the tissue of the lung takes place around tubercular depositions on the cavities which are the consequences of the tubercular disease. Dr. Hughes accounts for this circumstance in these words: "The very large proportion of cases of gangrene of the lung (18 cases out of 54, exactly one-third) may be, the author believes, partially accounted for by the *generally low type of disease*, which existed over a considerable part of the time during which the cases were collected, and particularly over the period at which the late influenza was so remarkably prevalent" (loc. cit., p. 15).

This mode of accounting for the frequency of gangrene in these cases of pneumonia may satisfy an allopathist, but it certainly cannot satisfy the disciple of the new school, who is aware of the curative powers of the homœopathic remedies. Indeed, the fact itself, namely, the frequency of gangrene, is a proof of the want of power of allopathic measures to cure pneumonia in any but the simple uncomplicated cases. We might even raise the question whether, in complicated cases, the depleting and other depressing measures do not add to the mischief, with perfect propriety. But what we have to deal with at present is the frequency of tubercular disease of the lung, as a complication of pneumonia, and the extent to which this complication may influence the results of homœopathic treatment.

We find, as stated above, that the proportion of cases in which tubercular disease co-existed with pneumonia was 7

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to 54. If we take the mortality of Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock, as stated by Dr. Routh, namely, 30 per cent., as the basis of our calculation, and this is perfectly fair, seeing that the proportion of complicated cases, as observed by them and by Dr. Hughes, was nearly equal, we find that these 54 deaths represent 179 or 180 patients, the proportion of tubercular cases is therefore *one death with tubercular disease* to 25 cases under treatment, or three per cent.

If, instead of taking the London mortality of 30 per cent., we were to take that of Edinburgh, which is 24 per cent., or that of Glasgow, 27 per cent., say, on an average, 25 per cent., the proportion of deaths with tubercular disease would be only one to 30 cases under treatment, or 3.33 per cent. But we may, in order not to overstate our case, take the former number, four per cent.

Now, upon looking at the description given of these seven cases, we cannot but conclude that one only, or at the most two (Cases 52 and 30), would have terminated fatally, if under homœopathic treatment. Yet if both had died, it would only give a mortality from this cause of a little more than one per cent., and if we suppose that in a third case (Case 54, for instance) death had also taken place under homœopathic treatment, which, however, we cannot concede, the mortality would be still less than two per cent. from this cause. It is evident, therefore, that the influence of phthisis is greatly exaggerated.

II. *Severe Bronchitis.*—The next complication in order of frequency is bronchitis. That bronchitis is frequent as a complication no one can doubt, but its influence on the mortality of pneumonia cannot be great; certainly under good homœopathic treatment it could not give rise to a fatal issue in so many instances as tubercular disease, if extensive, would do. For there is this essential difference between the two, that the former is, except in very rare instances, curable; whereas the latter, if extensive or advanced, must necessarily cause the death of the pneumonic patient. It is probable, therefore, that the deaths arising in Fleischmann's Hospital from this complication of pneumonia are exceedingly rare. We may, then, put these down at somewhat less than those arising from tubercular disease; say one per cent. Thus both complications—the two at the head of the list—would give rise to a mortality of only three per cent!

(*To be continued.*)

THE HOMŒOPATHIC AND ALLOPATHIC PRACTICE IN ACUTE PNEUMONIA CONTRASTED.

By George Dunn, M.D.

(*Concluded from page* 629.)

After dropping a tear on this little child's grave, let us in all sincerity and truth pass in rapid review the principal points worthy of notice, and endeavour to profit by them for our future guidance. A very sudden attack of inflammation, in whatever part of the body it occurs, is sure to awaken the attention of the patient and friends; and as the attack is sudden, so must the treatment be prompt, or the patient either dies suddenly or some organic change takes place in the part of the body inflamed. But when any such change takes place by total neglect or ineffectual treatment, the victims often only escape sudden death to linger out a painful and weary existence. It will be advisable to state the different modes of treatment pursued by the old school of medicine, and that which has been found so sure and efficacious in the new or homœopathic, and then draw our conclusions as to the best.

I may here observe that I most firmly believe in the honour, the worthiness, and benevolence of the medical profession. I believe that most of its members are anxious to heal the patients that apply to them as speedily, as easily, and with as little inconvenience and expense as is compatible with efficiency; and this is as true of allopaths as homœopaths. I do not credit the tales of sordid avarice that are so frequently and so unscrupulously circulated about medical men. At the same time I am ready to admit that the medical body has unworthy members belonging to it; and to these and to all I would humbly but earnestly say, "Yours is an honourable and a mighty trust; to you the lives of parents, brothers, sisters, and dear children are readily and in the most unbounded confidence committed; take care not to abuse the high confidence reposed in you. You have the power, and I mistake your character very much, if you lack the will to serve honestly, to the best of your abilities, those confided to your care." We must also bear in mind that very great responsibility attaches to all the acts, as well as to the words, of a medical man. If his acts are reprehensible—if his words are characterised by levity and insincerity—if he merely visits his patient to send a pill or a potion, his mission is abused, and he only fulfils the worst parts of it. If he shrouds himself and his language in mystery—if he does not open his entire con-

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fidence to the patient, the latter cannot view him otherwise than as a necessary evil, and will be glad when he is able to dispense with his services. It is not thus that medical men ought to be viewed, nor are they, when they fulfil their mission aright. A patient, however poor, who confides his secrets to a medical man, reposes a confidence which ought never to be abused, and deserves to be treated with the utmost kindness and consideration. The twin evils, poverty and sickness, that such a patient labours under, it may not be in the power of the medical man to remove, but he may alleviate the pangs caused by them; and if he cannot do this even, he can pour words of sympathy and kindness into the wounds, and these never fail to have a soothing and happy effect; and when death cannot be baffled longer, a "word in season" may be spoken, which may touch a chord that will vibrate beyond this earthly dwelling.

The profession that can count among its members a Hahnemann, a Hope, and an Abercromby, and a long list of living worthies imbued with like feelings, may well feel proud. These are the beacons that ought to guide us on our path, which is frequently a rugged one; the lights we must be guided by, if we would attain that eminence which should be the ambition of all. I think I can discern a yet higher eminence for the medical profession than it has ever yet aspired to; but it is only perhaps a pleasing dream, and I need not name it here.

Having said that I give credit to medical men for truth and benevolence, for probity and a desire to use the best means to cure, I yet must confess that, knowing how defective their means are to combat acute inflammations—seeing that, when young and inexperienced, they bleed and purge, and when older and more experienced, they abstain from these often destructive and always harsh means—I say I must confess that I am grieved to see them shut their eyes to the great law of Nature revealed to them by the immortal Hahnemann. I know not by what means they are to be convinced of the truth and beauty of that law, but of this I feel persuaded, that their refusal to study that law will, sooner or later, bring upon them the contempt of the public, and go far to deprive them of that share of remuneration they would be entitled to, if they used the best method of cure. We do, however, bear in mind that it is the fate of all great reforms in science, as well as other subjects, to be ridiculed by the very men who ought to be the first to study and to test them. In regard to homœopathy, this is easy enough, as any man, not wilfully closing his eyes, may see at any moment; but if medical men persist in ignoring homœopathy, a day is not very distant when they will find themselves ignored by the public.

I have been led to these remarks from a sincere desire to see the members of the profession improve their position; for it cannot be doubted that the uncertainty of physic, as practised by a great majority of the profession in England, is rapidly sinking the character of medical men to the level of the druggist, or, still worse, to the patent-medicine vendor. Inflammations are treated generally by allopathic practitioners by bleedings, blisterings, purgings, vomitings, *Antimony*, and *Mercury:* and this is practised, more or less, with little variation, wherever the seat of the inflammation may be. Is it in the brain, to bleed, blister, and give *Calomel* and *Antimony* is common; is it in the throat, the same treatment is applied; is it in the lungs, we have seen how our little patient fared from day to day; and wherever the seat of the inflammation, the same destructive, often dangerous, and always weakening means are used. The uselessness of such means is attested by the selfsame practitioners, faithfully represented, as we must suppose, by the Editor of the *Medical Times*, who, in an abusive article against us poor homœopaths, made use of these remarkable words: "It must, however, be admitted that bleedings, blisterings, and purgings, used to allay acute inflammations, involving a tedious illness and a slow convalescence, contrast unfavourably with the no-treatment by homœopathy, *and a* CONSEQUENT SPEEDY RECOVERY."

We have seen that, whatever be the seat of the inflammation, some or all of these methods of depletion are made use of to allay it; but the plainest and simplest mind must be aware that, if a patient contracts a pleurisy, he can have no more blood in his body than he had an hour previous to the attack, and if the blood concentrated unduly on one organ can be made to leave that organ—in other words, if the equilibrium can be restored—there can be no occasion or excuse for reducing the whole quantity of blood in the body, thereby "*involving tedious illness and slow convalescence.*" Now, have we a remedy that will restore the equilibrium without depletion of any kind? Do *we* possess a prompt and specific remedy? I answer, without hesitation, we do; but it is not, as it is in allopathic practice, always the same

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remedy. In pleurisy, for example, we have *Aconite* or *Bryonia;* in the lung, though *Aconite* is useful to begin with, yet it would not do all that is needed, and here we use *Phosphorus* or *Bryonia* when the pleuræ are involved; in the brain, *Belladonna;* in the liver, *Mercury, Nux Vomica*, etc.

Here is a wide difference between the two treatments: in the one, depletion for all; in the other, remedies harmonic to each. The results are still more striking. Pleurisy I have known to be cured in twenty-four hours; double pneumonia in two or three days; and a cure by homœopathic remedies does not mean a long convalescence, and a host of tonics, bitter beer, wine, and a residence at the sea-side, but health, rosy health, in a comparatively short time.

If such be the results of the different treatments, if, after recovery from inflammatory diseases by the depleting or allopathic method, there is a slow convalescence, frequent relapses, and such expensive means of recovery, sometimes, alas! leading to habitual inebriation—whilst recovery by homœopathic remedies is speedy, and needing no such delusive and often seducing means—how long, it may be asked—start not, allopath (if any such read these pages), start not when I ask how long such dangerous and destructive means are to be allowed? The rack, the torture, the whip, the mild stocks even, have been swept away by a more philosophic and humane treatment of criminals. Are medical men to be longer allowed to be the only scourges of their race, when all other capital punishments are about to be abolished? Do I invoke the power of the legislature on *your* heads? Do I wish to imitate the Wakleys, old and young, who would gladly consign a benevolent man to Newgate? Do I wish the same measure to be meted out to *you* that the Toogoods, Inglises, and Co. would mete out to *us?* Far from it; but it is time that public opinion raised its voice against such useless, barbarous, and destructive measures. It is time that the public insist on your reasons for still goading them to death with your lancets, your blisters, your burnings, and your poisonous drugs. The public have insisted on a keen supervision of lunatic asylums, where the manacle, the dark cell, the galling chain, have given way to sympathy and kindness, light and air. Shall you be longer allowed to hold despotic sway over the liberty, the limbs, the lives of the people? You, forsooth, affect to be greatly shocked when your imitators, the Morisons, Coffins, and Co., drug an ignorant dupe to death. You kill in a similar manner, aye, and with like means, but you are authorized—you hold a diploma. No jealous Wakley can touch you; the diploma is your license, and you fear no tribunal.

Are all who practise the old method to be thus condemned? By no means: it is only the men who persist, like their prototype Sangrado, in still using the means that are known to be so destructive. Is the practice of Chambers, of Locock, of Clarke, and many learned and experienced physicians, deserving the censure I only wish to pass on the officious Sangrados and drug-dealers? Send a patient to such an one as these, and see with what care he avoids drugs in hopeless cases, and how homœopathically he treats epidemics, not only for the cure, but for prevention. Is he ignorant of the homœopathic law? It is only the Toogoods and Co. who abuse it, without knowing anything of it; and this class bring ridicule upon themselves, and not on us.

Can that practice be guided by *true* medical science, which allows each member to give a different guess as to the ailment, and a different remedy for its cure? Has God given to dogs and wild animals remedies for their ailments, and instinct when to use them and where to find them? and has He given to man, who wears His image, the animal, the vegetable, and the mineral kingdoms in vain? Has He endowed man with sense to read the stars, and denied him the powers of mind sufficient to select a remedy for his ailments? 'Twere blasphemy to think so. Nature's laws are simple, but never varying. They cannot be altered or twisted to suit our interests; and the immortal Hahnemann has discovered the law of healing as surely as Newton discovered the laws of attraction and gravitation. In true science all is certainty, uniformity, simplicity, and beauty; in pretended science, such as the old school of drugging, all is guess, doubt, and complication. Consult a hundred medical men of the old school, and each will make a different guess at the ailment, and each will certainly give a different remedy. Consult again a hundred homœopaths, and if they will study the case, they each arrive at the same remedy, without pretending to guess about the ailment at all. Which is more worthy the name of science?

I admit that the kindred sciences have advanced with rapid strides to perfection—anatomy, physiology (which, aided by the microscope, leaves little more to be known), chemistry, botany, etc.; but the homœopath avails himself of this increased knowledge as much if not more than the allo-

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path. Can the same advance be claimed for the practice of medicine? It can; but not for the old school, which has rather retrograded than advanced.

There is a fashion too in medicines, as well as in coats. I remember well when *Iodine* was first introduced; it was a rarity to see a prescription without it in some shape or other, and a great many were half-poisoned by its continued and inappropriate use. Now *Cod-liver Oil* is in fashion, and in many cases is very valuable, but its indiscriminate use is sure to end by its being discarded altogether. In short, there is nothing more uncertain and less amenable to rule than the modern allopathic practice of physic; contrasted with the homœopathic, it is as darkness opposed to light. The latter is a science, a law of Nature, a divine gift, which cannot be too highly praised or too highly prized; the former, a chance, always hurtful in some degree, even when it cures. The one is health-giving; the other life-destroying. It is time to desist. I had only intended to give a short history of this unfortunate case, and I have been *surprised* into writing a pamphlet. Let it pass, I could do no less; and if it awaken one of my colleagues to seek further information on this all-important subject, I shall be repaid for the pain I have undergone.

Let no man, however, practise homœopathy who looks more for emolument than the good of mankind; still less let him practise it, if he wishes to sail down life's stream in a pleasure-boat wafted by a gentle and fair breeze. He must be prepared to be buffeted about on the rough sea of life, looked upon more as a pirate than a regular trader. He must be prepared to see all laws of courtesy and honour set aside where he is concerned; nay more, his friends of yesterday will be his foes to-day; the man who would sit at his table and break bread with him to-day, to-morrow, hearing that he is a homœopath, is ready to break his head or his heart, and use every spiteful means to do him wrong. I have felt this acutely—I still feel it keenly; but I feel also that I possess something more valuable than the fragile friendship which can be broken by a difference of opinion. I possess a divine truth; and no pecuniary sacrifice, no loss of friendship, no contumely, no ridicule that may be heaped upon me can make me for one moment waver as to the course I shall continue to pursue. I certainly do prefer the open foe to the false friend: I prefer the rapier in my breast to the muck-fork in my back. On the platform, in the press, in a congress of medical men, I am ready to defend the law that I have studied, the practice that I follow. I have poured out my feelings on paper, *currente calamo*, whilst death hovered round the bed of my amiable patient. I will desist and say, *requiescat in pace!*

STRICTURES UPON JAHR'S MANUAL.

(*Communicated.*)

Having an entire morning free from interruptions, the writer determined, once for all, to examine thoroughly Jahr's Manual of Homœopathic Medicine, at least the second volume, long and most favourably known as the "Repertory;" it has been repeatedly noticed in the *British Journal of Homœopathy*. A very meritorious part of its pretensions consists in this having been, we believe, the first Manual, on its being translated into English, which enabled practitioners in this country to avail themselves of the remedial resources discovered and perfected by the immortal Hahnemann. For homœopathy could not be expected to take root in England, far less to produce fair flowers and fruit, until it had become duly naturalized to the soil and acclimated by a regular process.

This is the work so largely used by amateurs, who are guided by the index to the remedies most appropriate to each supposed malady, and they, as well as the professionals who have been fortunate enough in the present critical times to obtain a *diploma*, soon get by heart from its pages a small list of specifics—*exempli gratiâ*, *Aconite* for fever; *Arsenic* for colds; *Belladonna* for sore throat; *Bryonia* for pain of the side; *Nux* and *Opium* for constipation; down to *Zincum* and *Zingiber*, the final letters of the pharmacopœial alphabet.

Some sages there are, however, who not diving very deep below the surface, conclude that the labours of all provers and homœopathists together must result, and have resulted, in the discovery of a panacea, an universal remedy for diseases of whatever kind and degree; and this opinion is strongly fortified by the a b c arrangement, not alone of diseases or of symptoms, which prevails throughout the work, but of the remedies as well. Thus the too eager dilettante finding *Aconite* named first for *prosopalgia*, or pains of the face, exhibits that drug first, and if not soon successful in affording relief, he tries *Belladonna*, which stands next, and that failing, he proceeds to *Causticum* and *Colocynth.* But if his luck have lain

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chiefly with the first-mentioned remedy, he becomes (to coin a word) a confirmed mono-pharmacist. This view of Jahr, however absurd it may appear, was amusingly evinced in the columns of the *Homœopathic Times*, some months ago, in an effusion by a Brighton "Touchstone:"

> "*Hail! ever-precious Aconite,*
> *How shall we thy virtues write?*
> *If your bile's disordered quite,*
> *If your eyes can't bear the light,*
> *There is no cure like Aconite.*
> *Should you sleepless lie at night,*
> *Take a dose of Aconite.*"

And so on for an entire page. But the ground plan of Jahr's Repertory is anything but systematic; no literary or scientific martinet is he. Chapter I. treats of internal general affections; Chapter II. of the skin and external organs; Chapter III. of sleep; Chapter IV. of febrile affections; Chapter V. moral affections. It would have been natural, methinks, to have adopted the masterly anatomical order laid down by Hahnemann for the proving of remedies,* but he has not done so. However, while we notice this trivial blemish in the construction of his Manual, perhaps it is more than compensated in other details by a freedom and even occasional wildness, significative (in these latitudes at least) of one who has not been regularly educated in the trammels of the medical profession. Thus (page 409): "*Helminthiasis.*—For tape-worm or tænia, the treatment may commence in most cases by administering a single dose of *Sulph.* when the moon is waning, then a single dose of *Merc.* at the full moon following." It is but just to add, that Noack and Trinks, and certain other accredited writers, attach much importance to the various lunar periods. That anomalous portion of the letter-press entitled "Sections," is sufficiently puzzling to warrant the assertion that it is unmeaning and defective, and that it might be very advantageously re-cast in another form. Some of the practical observations ("clinical remarks") are objectionable, and the student should be upon his guard against them; far otherwise is the paragraph upon "Inflammations." "The best *antiphlogistic* that homœopathy possesses is undoubtedly *Aconite*, and in many cases of acute inflammation this medicine will subdue the disease; but it must not be supposed that it can be administered in all cases as an *infallible specific*, on the contrary, if *Aconitum* is to do good, it must be indicated by the totality of symptoms, as well as every other medicine. There are, in fact, many inflammatory diseases (and principally those in which the old school also forbids phlebotomy) in which the use of *Aconite* would only be a loss of time. But, on the other hand, the cases in which this medicine is almost indispensable are inflammation of the *serous membranes* with violent febrile heat, hard and quick pulse, etc."

Such instructions are highly valuable in the actual transition stage of a great medical reform, but being addressed chiefly to converts from the old school, who are supposed to be irrecoverably imbued with the "traditions of the elders," they are calculated to mislead others, and did mislead, in a notable instance still fresh in our recollection.

A lady, about sixty years of age, of a collected, serene disposition, was the subject of cancerous tumours and tubercles in the left mamma. On the 25th of November, 1851, the progress of this complaint appeared to be suddenly arrested; the pain, the discharge, the hemorrhage, ceased entirely; she fancied she had taken cold; she was confined to her bed; the bowels above the umbilicus exquisitely tender to the touch, and she hardly dared to breathe; abdomen somewhat tumified; tongue white; much thirst; pulse about 120; no sleep; great heat of body; bowels much confined; urine scanty; she had previously manifested œdema of both feet. *Aconite 3rd dilution, a dose every two hours.* This treatment was continued for two days, with some little relief to the extreme pain, but the bowels remained costive. The lady was not again visited by the writer until the 22nd of December, when there was much ascites, with excessive tenderness of abdomen, and increased œdema of knees and back. An intermitting pulse now pointed to *Digitalis*, and afterwards *Merc. sol.*, *Bryonia*, *Puls.*, *Sulph.*, and particularly *Aconite*, in different dilutions, were again and again exhibited, with scarcely any advantage, the natural evacuations, both liquid and solid, being almost entirely suspended for weeks together, with alarming exacerbations from time to time. At length, on the 5th February, *Nux Vom.* was given in the 6th dilution. On the 9th the patient was much more free from pain, and had passed water freely.

On the 17th the epigastrium was almost free from tenderness, the dropsy had much lessened, and the bowels, to the close of her career, which was prolonged between two and three months after this date, continued to act every day with surprising regularity.

* Vide Preface to the Materia Medica Pura, vol. i.

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The treatment of this case was directed against the peritoneal inflammation, which undoubtedly existed in a pretty acute form at first. *Aconite* caused no very marked benefit, although it may have limited the further progress of the inflammation. But a candid review of the circumstances of the case, and particularly of the importance which was then attached to the above passage in infallible Jahr, leads to the inference that had *Nux Vom.* been resorted to from the very first period of the invasion, much suffering would have been avoided, and the patient's days have been somewhat prolonged. Again, in numberless cases of pleurisy, *Bryonia* will be found to be better suited than Jahr's grand antiphlogistic.

Lest the writer should appear to be unaccountably hostile to that well-tried and most useful drug *Aconite*, let him rather endeavour to fix the odium of any spleen that may have been manifested in the course of these remarks upon the fact of the very extensive circulation of this Manual. "Opinions generally received," says Sir Joshua Reynolds, "and floating in the world, whether true or false, we naturally adopt and make our own: they may be considered as a kind of inheritance to which we succeed and are tenants for life, and which we leave to our posterity very near in the condition in which we received it, not much being in any man's power either to impair or improve it. The greatest part of these opinions, like current coin in its circulation, we are obliged to take without weighing or examining; but by this inevitable inattention many adulterated pieces are received, which, when we seriously estimate our wealth, we must throw away."

What this great artist has so truly and elegantly said of painting, is equally true and yet more important as regards the employment of medicines. In pneumonia, another highly inflammatory and phlebotomable disease, the greatest reliance may be placed upon *Aconite*, during the first stage, that of congestion or splenization; but Jahr is, we imagine, somewhat in the rear of the advance of our therapeutics, in urging upon his readers the claims of *Sulphur* to our confidence, in preference to *Phosphorus*. The following is the objectionable passage. "In cases in which the pneumonia has already reached the secood stage, the red hepatization, the principal medicine is *Sulph.*, administered in a dose of from 3 to 6 globules, dissolved in eight ounces of water, and of this solution, a spoonful is to be taken every three hours" (page 567). To the exclusive followers of Jahr, if such there be, we beg to commend an able article on Pneumonia, in No. xxxv. of the *British Journal of Homœopathy*. The writer says: "The adaptation of *Phosphorus* to pneumonia can be established both by the proving of the medicine and its extensive and most successful application; it is by the steady persevering use of this remedy, and of this alone, that Dr. Fleischmann has acquired such celebrity in the treatment of pneumonia. Up to the year 1844, he and his pupil, Dr. Reiss, of Linz, had treated in all 379 cases, and had lost only 19, or 1 in 20; the last 44 of Fleischmann, and 34 of Reiss, having all recovered. Dr. Fleischmann is frequently blamed for what is called routine practice; but we must recollect that pneumonia is a routine disease, running a definite course, depending, as we have shown, upon certain simple and constant structural changes, and we see no reason why there may not be a specific for all cases of simple pneumonia occurring in healthy persons. And for our own part, we greatly prefer an undeviating adherence to a remedy, which on the whole suits the disease, than a striving after something which seems to correspond to every little symptom of the individual case. We shall conclude our notice of *Phosphorus* by quoting Dr. Fleischmann's words.

"I used formerly to employ the ordinary remedies, *Aconite, Bryonia, Cannabis*, etc., in pneumonia, and that with considerable success, but each of those remedies is adapted only to particular cases, or rather to particular shapes of the disease. Thus it happened that, besides the difficulty I experienced in discovering the medicine adapted to the particular case, which is no easy matter, I was frequently left in a state of disagreeable uncertainty as to the remedy which had effected the cure. Now, however, I have attained much greater certainty, since for the last year and a half I have administered no other substance than *Phosphorus*, in every case of pneumonia, under what form soever it might present itself; and I think I may, with perfect confidence, pronounce it to be a true specific. I have seen the most violent cases of pneumonia, in every variety of constitution and season, come to a happy issue by the sole employment of this remedy; cases in which almost two-thirds of one lung were hepatized."

In the exanthema called measles, or rubeola, household terms, for which you will in vain search the index (*Morbill* or *Morbilli* is the uncouth and obsolete cognomen here bestowed upon it), there is no hint or most distant suspicion that *Aconite*

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may be considered its true specific. The experience, however, of Dr. Ozanne, of Dr. Madden, and of the writer, in several distinct and distant epidemics of measles, is entirely favourable to the great superiority of *Aconite* to *Pulsatilla*, *Belladonna*, *Bryonia*, or indeed to any other medicine enumerated in Jahr. It appears to maintain its superiority, in every stage of that highly inflammatory complaint.

The last chapter, on Poisons, is of deep and of almost penal interest to the practitioner, on account of the legal investigation which not unfrequently waits upon the ultimate issue. Liquid ammonia may be an excellent antidote to poisoning by prussic acid; but the writer ventures to suggest that in those few cases occurring in actual practice, where any remedy against this rapidly life-exhausting agent is capable of being applied, none will be found to be more ready at hand, or more efficacious, than the cold douche, applied at short intervals to the nape of the neck and the upper part of the dorsal vertebra. In conjunction with the late Dr. Hope, of St. George's Hospital, he instituted many years ago, extensive experiments upon the lower animals with the cold douche; and its great success in restoring animation, and a cessation of the convulsive opisthotonos, after respiration was wholly suspended, and even the pulsations of the heart—that *ultimo moriens* of the Mammalia—could scarcely be detected, seemed almost miraculous.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26TH, 1852.

THE rule of precedent and the authority of the past ages are not to be too strictly maintained; for they are in truth opposed to Nature. Nothing on the earth or under the earth remains always the same.

The some sixty thousand volumes that make up what is called English law should be reduced to one full-typed quarto volume, or at least to a dozen. An encyclopædia of medicine of a dozen volumes might be made to contain all that is worth retaining of the allopathic writings from Hippocrates to Hahnemann.

A writer of the last century (1744) observes: "Mankind may properly be divided into two classes—the credulous, who swallow everything without proof, and the more ignorant incredulous, who, having neither understanding to discern nor abilities to judge, shut their eyes against proof."

The mere substitution of the dogmatic decision or ephemeral opinion of a school or a college or a teacher for a principle or a truth, is the sure way of perpetuating error; and so we make, it may be, the folly of those, whose opinions we profess, the rule of our conduct and the gauge of our wisdom. Had this vicious rule been always acted on we should still have alchemy instead of chemistry; and in civic life we should never have emerged from barbarism.

In truth, medical practice has so often veered about, from the multitude of theories on which it has been based, that the uncertainty of medicine may have passed into a proverb, as well as that of law. "*Equidem beatos puto*," says PLINY, "*quibus deorum munere datum est, aut facere scribenda, aut legenda scribere; beatissimos verè quibus utrumque.* I hold those, to whom has been given the power, either to do things worthy of historical record, or to write things worthy of being read, to be happy; but those to be happiest to whom both these powers have been given." And this is the praise we claim for our HAHNEMANN. He did things worthy of being recorded (where are his *tomes* of carefully kept and admirably treated cases?), and he wrote things worthy of being read.

It is recorded of a king of the old world in the olden times, that he suppressed a book which treated of the virtues of plants, for fear it should be abused, and engender maladies. Many medical men of eminence, as has been shown by our historian, Mr. FREDERICK SMITH, have declared their utter disbelief in the efficacy of their drugs, and their belief in the certain mischief done by them; and therefore our allopathic brethren need not quarrel with the decision of the king.

What the English public requires is to be taught the general principles of physio-

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logy, and to be instructed in the laws of health and disease; then few would be found guilty of the absurd folly of turning their stomachs into apothecaries' shops. The barbarous jargon in which prescriptions are written should be made to give way for plain English; then people would know what they are taking, and in what measure.

Public opinion has been aptly compared to a river which digs its own bed. We think that public opinion is decidedly setting in, in favour of homœopathy. At all events, it demands a full and fair inquiry into the merits of our medical reform. It demands for us a patient hearing—and will enforce it; and it will secure for us what we ask,—"a clear stage and no favour."

As journalists we have endeavoured to stimulate the public in this direction, and we believe our endeavours have not been altogether fruitless. We fully believe that the success of the internal development of homœopathy, we mean its cultivation by medical men in the right direction, depends very much on the external development; that is, of the knowledge diffused among the public of what homœopathy really is. Let those to be practised on know what the practitioners ought to be, and they would endeavour to come up to the mark.

Correspondence.

THE HOMŒOPATHIC CONGRESS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—The meeting of the Homœopathic Congress was, I believe, fixed to take place in Edinburgh this year, mainly in consequence of the very strong demonstrations made against homœopathy by certain parties there; but the moral effect of the meeting will be in a great measure lost if it takes place, as at present fixed, in September, since at that time Edinburgh is half empty and the College closed. We shall, indeed, run some risk of being accused of waiting till our chief adversaries were absent, before we dared to show our faces there. September was chosen, under the idea that some of the London men would not be able to get away earlier; but we must recollect that the London season will, in all probability, be over unusually early this year, in fact, before the end of July; but even if it were not so, the absence of some three or four men would be of the two the lesser evil.

From these considerations, I would propose that the secretaries should ascertain whether the day of graduation will this year be the 31st of July, or the 2nd of August (the 1st being Sunday), and that if it is to be the 31st, that the Congress should be summoned for the 29th and 30th, and that invitations to the dinner of the 30th should be given to such of the expected graduates as are understood not to be hostile to homœopathy, and, as a matter of courtesy, to the different professors; the Congress to be the host of any who may accept the invitation. If the graduation is to take place on the 2nd of August, then the Congress should be summoned for the 30th and 31st of July.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

GEORGE FEARON.

Birmingham,
June 12, 1852.

Miscellaneous.

ON THE CHANGES PRODUCED IN THE PROPERTIES OF BODIES BY PULVERIZATION.

[M. Dorvault, a French allopath, has discovered that the properties of bodies are IN SOME RESPECTS changed by pulverization. Now that this fact is coming up from a legitimate quarter, we trust our allopathic friends will continue the investigation a little further. —ED. *North American Homœopathic Journal.*]

To the present time, pharmacologists have always considered pulverization as a mere change in the form of bodies—each particle of the divided body being regarded as a diminutive, without change of property, of the entire mass. While admitting that, in most cases, this is a mere expression of the fact, M. Dorvault believes that there is a greater number of substances than is suspected, in which the operation induces a modification of their chemical characters *and medicinal properties.* At present, he can only adduce two or three decided examples in justification of this opinion. Every one knows that sugar, on being powdered, loses a portion of its solubility and sweetening power. Is this referrible to an altered electrical condition of the sugar, as the phosphorescence which is developed during pulverization in the dark might lead us to suspect? Again, gum arabic, when powdered, possesses neither the same taste nor solubility as when entire; and pulverization so diminishes the solubility of arsenious acid, that while a kilogramme of water will dissolve forty grammes in the vitreous state, it will only dissolve fourteen of the powder. In the above examples, the modification is exhibited by diminution of solubility, but in other cases it may manifest itself in other directions.—*Brit. and For. Rev., April,* from *L'Union Médicale,* No. 150.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

STRAY NOTES.

By an Old Practitioner.

(*Continued from page* 646.)

III. *Is Allopathy a System?*

Science, in a philosophical sense, consists in carefully-ascertained data, and the laws, principles, and rules derived from them through cautious induction. Science becomes a *system* when these isolated laws, principles, and rules are intimately connected with, depend upon, and verify each other, and thus severally contribute, like the different parts of a healthy organism, to form a symmetrical whole. The most perfect form of a system is that which has, as a centre, some comprehensive law of nature, or some supreme principle from which all the other parts depend, and round which they harmoniously gravitate.

To this most perfect form of a system homœopathy has a right to lay claim. In the homœopathic system of therapeutics, as taught by Hahnemann, the law *similia similibus* is the great centre; the principle of trying the medicines on the healthy body emanates from and is vitally connected with it; the principle of homœopathic doses and their preparation is derived and cannot be legitimately separated from the former; so also that of giving only one medicine at a time. Again, the homœopathic regimen is the necessary consequence of the other principles. Thus in this beautifully-constructed system all the different parts are closely connected with, vitally depending upon, and so indispensably necessary to each other, that none could be taken away without essentially injuring the whole edifice.

Let us compare with this the so-called *allopathic system*. Where is the great central principle of allopathic therapeutics? Where are the laws, principles, and rules which are admitted as such by all, or which even deserve any such name? Echo answers, Where? It is true, the history of medicine tells us that attempts without number have been made, from time to time, to give to medicine the form of a system. But what has become of them? has any of them survived? No; they were simply hot-house plants, which wanted the essential conditions of a healthy continuance of life, and bore at their very birth the germs of early decay and death within themselves. And why? Simply because they were either speculative systems spun *à priori* from the framer's brain without any or sufficient experimental foundation, or because undue and hasty inferences were drawn from loosely-observed and imperfectly-authenticated facts. How different and truly philosophical the method which Hahnemann followed in the construction of his system! It was only after the most careful and discriminating collection of facts for many years, and only when he found that such facts always led to the same inference, and always found their complete explanation in that inference, that he finally enunciated the great fundamental law of his doctrine. Thus in the course of years, and always guided by the strict rules of scientific investigation, he at last produced his astonishingly complete system of therapeutics, the true spirit of which is fully understood, as yet, by only a small number of his professional followers, but will, let us hope, be fully appreciated by subsequent generations. In comparison with this structure, as solid and sure as laws of nature can make it, in what a pitiable light does that wretched allopathic farrago appear, which has hitherto been honoured with the noble name of a therapeutic *system*, whilst in reality it is nothing else but a compound of silly speculations and crude, unscientific routine, which not only can never be called (except, perhaps, ironically) a system, but which is even unworthy to be termed a science in the proper sense of the word. Therefore, instead of calling it the allopathic *system*, or any other name which implies order, unity, and method, call it the *ordinary therapeutics*, the *ordinary mode of treating* disease; not even allopathy in juxtaposition with homœopathy; and if you must have a concise and expressive term, call it vetulism.

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AN ESSAY ON HOMŒOPATHIC STATISTICS;

Together with a Critical Analysis of Dr. Routh's Work, entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

(*Continued from page* 689.)

XV.

III. *Bright's disease of the kidney* stands next in order, as a complication of pneumonia. The proportion of cases in which it occurred is, however, not stated. The omission of this statement is no exception to Dr. Routh's usual mode of proceeding in the course of his work. But as with us the object in view is a *bonâ fide* inquiry into the truth of the homœopathic statistics, it is necessary that we should have no quantity undetermined.

With *indeterminates* of any kind our mind is ill at ease, for we have no foundation of a sure kind upon which to base our judgments. In such a case, if we could not assign a value for the indeterminate, it would be but to abstain altogether from forming a judgment. Fortunately, however, although Dr. Routh has left us entirely in the dark upon this point, he has said enough to enable us, by means of collateral evidence, to clear up the obscurity which hangs about these cases of Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock, to such an extent as to show that their experience cannot be made the grounds of an objection against homœopathic statistics.

Dr. Routh, with the view of accounting for the enormous mortality of 51 per cent., in their complicated cases, tells us, that "the mortality in these cases appears to be greater among males, owing to the greater number of cases affected with Bright's disease among the former, a disease which, it will be remembered, is very rare in Vienna, and very common here" (p. 53).

In a preceding paper (*Homœopathic Times*, No. 144, p. 576) facts have been brought forward to prove, in direct contradiction of Dr. Routh's assertion, that Bright's disease of the kidney is less frequent in Great Britain than he states it to be at Vienna. For we have found that, whereas he states the latter to be present in at most 5 per cent. of the cases of persons examined after death at Vienna, he seems to look upon this proportion as far below that which is met with in Lombardy, other parts of Italy, and elsewhere. From facts taken from the Glasgow Infirmary and the Edinburgh Infirmary Reports, we have found the proportion of deaths from, *or with*, Bright's disease of the kidney to be, with reference to deaths from other causes, as 1 is to 66, in the former Institution, (and even if all the deaths classed under the headings *anasarca*, *ascites*, and *general dropsy—probably all due to other causes*—be added to those classed under the headings *renal dropsy* and *diseased kidney*, the proportion is only 1 death from kidney disease and from dropsy, due to various other causes, to 31 deaths from all causes!) and as 1 is to 44 in the latter.

We may therefore fairly conclude, that Bright's disease of the kidney, and its difference of frequency at Glasgow and at Vienna, cannot account for the more favourable results obtained in the homœopathic treatment of pneumonia at the latter place. Indeed, the fact that in Dr. Routh's appendix, pneumonia, treated allopathically, presents a ratio of mortality higher by 1 per cent. at Vienna than at Glasgow (the ratio of mortality being 27 per cent. at Glasgow, against 28 per cent. at the General Hospital, Vienna), is of itself sufficient to prove that the marked inferiority in the allopathic results cannot be in any way due to this complication. Let the reader also bear in mind that, while the allopathic mortality at Vienna was 28 per cent., the homœopathic was only 5 per cent.

Having stated these facts, we may next inquire whether Bright's disease of the kidney be not more frequent in London than in any of the places already mentioned. We shall find it to be so; and this fact must be carefully borne in mind when we shall have to state the results obtained at the London homœopathic hospitals—which results must not, for this very reason, be compared with any but the results of allopathic treatment as observed in London. It is as well, however, to state beforehand, that the influence of Bright's disease, even in London, has been greatly exaggerated in Dr. Routh's book.

As the basis of our calculation of the value to be assigned to Bright's disease, as one of the chief sources of the high ratio of mortality attending the allopathic treatment of pneumonia in London, we may take Dr. Hughes's paper in the Guy's Hospital Reports, already quoted.

In that paper, which embodies the principal facts observed in fifty-four cadaveric inspections of persons who had died of or with pneumonia, there are only six instances of kidney disease, namely, one-ninth of the whole. Three of these cases—

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described as follows, "kidneys large, soft, and cream-coloured," "renal anasarca, kidneys large and white," "mottled kidneys" (Cases 1, 2, and 17)—are evidently cases of Bright's disease. But the other three leave us in doubt; they are thus described: "diseased kidneys," "suppurating points in kidneys," "diseased kidneys" (Cases 48, 50, and 54). Although most probably not cases of Bright's *granular* kidney, we shall take them as if they were certainly such, in order not to understate the gravity of the complication.

Now, in calculating the influence of Bright's disease upon the ratio of mortality in pneumonia, we must not put it down as one-ninth, for it must be recollected that these deaths represent a number of cases under treatment, which must be three or four times as great, according as the mortality was 30 or 25 per cent. Now, as Dr. Hughes observed about the same proportion of complicated cases as Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock, we may assume his mortality to have been equal to theirs, that is, 30 per cent. or less. Thus the fifty-four cadaveric inspections of Dr. Hughes represent the deaths resulting from the treatment of between 179 and 180 patients at least.

Taking the exact number, which is 179·82, and dividing it by 6 (the number of cases of kidney disease), we obtain as our result one case of kidney disease to 29·83 pneumonia cases, or 3·35 per cent.

Supposing, therefore, that in London all the pneumonia cases complicated with kidney disease were to end in death, under homœopathic treatment (which we cannot allow, excepting for the sake of argument), the increased mortality from this source would only amount to 3⅓ per cent.

If we now return to Dr. Routh's statement, as quoted above, that the mortality in the complicated cases observed by Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock was greatest among males, *owing to the greater number of cases* affected with Bright's disease among males than among females, we are led to inquire into the relative numbers of either sex affected with this disease. In Dr. Hughes's cases all were males. In Table XIII, of Dr. Peacock's Appendix to the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary Reports for 1842, already quoted, the case stands thus: granular disease of the kidneys, total admissions, 48; males, 30; females, 18. Adding Dr. Hughes's six cases to these, we have a total of 54 cases; males, 36; females, 18—proportion of the latter to the total of cases, one-third, or 33⅓ per cent.

Now, if the difference in the frequency of Bright's disease, as regards the sex of the patients, be requisite to explain the difference in the results of complicated cases of pneumonia in the practice of Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock, in reference to sex, it is evident that the cause is totally disproportionate to the effect. For Dr. Routh tells us that in the complicated cases the mortality in males was 1 in 1·9; in females, 1 in 2—giving a more favourable result in the females only in the proportion of 1·19. It is clear that if a difference of 66⅔ per cent. in the frequency of Bright's disease, depending upon the sex of the patient, is to be made to explain a difference of a little less than 5 per cent. in the results, the explanation is not the real one. It points out in fact, in the most forcible manner, that the influence of Bright's disease must be very small.

Hitherto the proportion of Bright's disease of the kidney, at Glasgow and at Edinburgh, has only been taken by calculating the ratio of deaths from Bright's disease to the total deaths, from all causes. Let us now see in what proportion the admissions for this disease stand with regard to the admissions from all causes.

At the Glasgow Infirmary there were admitted in the general wards, in the years 1846-47-48-49, 9351 cases (exclusive of accidents and of some thousands of fever cases in the fever-hospital). During these four years, 127 patients affected with *renal dropsy* and *kidney disease* were also admitted; proportion of the latter to the former, 1 in 73·62 cases, or 1·35 per cent.

In the Edinburgh Infirmary, in 1842, there were admitted 2290 patients into the medical wards (exclusive of 1240 admitted during the same time into the surgical wards). Of these the number affected with Bright's disease was 48; proportion 1 in 47·70 cases, or 2·09 per cent.

The proportion of cases in which, after death, the kidneys were found diseased by Dr. Hughes, to total cases under treatment, we have calculated to be at most 3·35 per cent.

If we take it for granted that in all the cases of diseased kidney observed by Dr. Hughes the affection was Bright's disease (which is doubtful), the difference is only 1·34 per cent. in excess of the Edinburgh cases.

It is evident therefore that the greater frequency of Bright's disease in London cases is greatly exaggerated by Dr. Routh. It may, it is true, account for the difference in the results of the treatment of pneumonia observed at the two Scotch Infirmaries, when compared with that observed in London (27 per cent., Glasgow; 24 per

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cent., Edinburgh; 30 or 31 per cent., London); but it cannot in any way account for the marked difference between the allopathic and the homœopathic results as affirmed by Dr. Routh.

Endocarditis and Pericarditis. — The low place in the scale of frequency given to these complications, sufficiently attests their unimportance as a source of an increased per centage in the mortality of pneumonia.

We might therefore at once dismiss the subject; but in pursuance of our plan hitherto followed, we prefer leaving no quantity undetermined. So far therefore as materials can be found, we shall continue to adhere to it.

In the Appendix to the Report of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh for 1842, there is only one case of pericarditis, and none of endocarditis, in 2290 admissions into the medical wards. The proportion of admissions for organic disease of the heart is, however, high, being ninety-five for the year, or about four per cent. on admissions into the medical wards for all diseases.

In the Report of the Royal Infirmary of Glasgow, for 1846, there were admitted five cases of endocarditis and pericarditis into the general and fever wards; the total admissions for the year being 4554 patients, giving a proportion of these two forms of cardiac inflammation of a little more than one in a thousand admissions. Of these five patients one died. The admissions for pneumonia and pleuro-pneumonia in the same year were fifty-four; deaths seventeen. In the Reports of the three following years, the cases of endocarditis and pericarditis are not distinguished. I have not been able to procure the Report for 1850.

In 1851 there were admitted into the general and fever wards 3962 persons; of these, seven were affected with pericarditis and endocarditis — proportion, 1 in 566. Of these three died; the total deaths for the year amounted to 425 — proportion of deaths from pericarditis to total deaths, 1 in $141\frac{2}{3}$.

The same year there were admitted nine patients affected with *heart disease and dropsy;* of these three died — proportion of heart disease of all kinds to total admissions, 1 in $247\frac{10}{16}$. Deaths from heart disease, 6 — proportion to deaths from all causes, 1 in $70\frac{5}{6}$.

It is evident therefore that, in the first place, endocarditis and pericarditis cannot affect the mortality of pneumonia to any great extent; at the most 1 per cent. That, in the next place, organic heart disease, in general, being more frequent, may affect the mortality to the extent of between 1 and 2 per cent. *under allopathic treatment.*

In our next paper we shall see that from this cause the mortality of pneumonia, under homœopathic treatment, must be affected in a much smaller degree.

But this is not all. It seems probable that in allopathic institutions a degree of heart disease is taken into account, and looked upon as a serious complication, which under homœopathic treatment would be disregarded.

In his notice on the influenza of January and February, 1837, Dr. Clendinning reports the cases under treatment at the Marylebone Infirmary. These were 414 in number. Two-fifths were simple, and three-fifths complicated cases. These complications are valuable, as they give the proportion of heart disease in London. There were three cases of chronic disease of the heart, and one of pericarditis; being, together, in the proportion of less than 1 per cent. But the chief reason for alluding to this notice is to show what is understood by complication with heart disease.

In the "morbid appearances" observed in the Marylebone Infirmary in the winter of 1836-37, it is remarked, with reference to disease of the heart:—

"It may be thought singular that disease of the heart should have occurred so often, much oftener than phthisis, being eighteen times out of twenty-two (in the deaths, of course); and I should probably, some twelve months or more since, have been struck myself by such a statement.

But it is undoubtedly true, that disease of the heart *frequently escapes the observer who trusts to his eye as a means of admeasurement, when, as often happens, there is no pericarditis, nor any valvular disease; and when hypertrophy, if existing, is distributed pretty equally over the organs, there is a great chance of its escaping notice, unless very considerable;* more especially if the inspector have defective information respecting the health of the deceased. To guard against error from this quarter, I have for some time weighed every subject inspected on account of disease of the heart, entire in the first instance, and then, after careful examination of the pectoral viscera, weighed the heart separately, after washing, and in this way have satisfied myself that, amongst the labouring classes at least, hypertrophy of that organ is a still more common and fatal disorder than many or most physicians believe" (Quoted from Dr. Clendinning's observations, in "Annals of Influenza," p. 358. London, 1852.)

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Is it not evident that with these views, and with a pair of delicate scales, it would be possible to account for every death not arising from *phthisis*, *bronchitis*, or *Bright's disease*, by the co-existence of hypertrophy of the heart with pneumonia?

ON INFLAMMATION.

(*Communicated.*)

The subject of inflammation has obtained no small amount of medical attention, probably owing to the universality of its nature, and the very short but rapid course it takes either for weal or woe.

When acute inflammation exists, it gives clear evidence of its existence; it is not likely to be mistaken, its signs are pretty certain, and by universal consent are readily made out. The treatment by non-homœopaths is also generally agreed upon, and how much soever they may differ among themselves in the treatment of other diseases, yet upon the subject of inflammation they are almost united. The rule laid down is nearly universally received among them, that so long as hardness in the pulse remains, blood may be drawn, aided by those remedies that lower the circulation; in a word, it is the non-stimulating plan.

It is much to be regretted that the term allopathy or homœopathy should ever be used by either party in taunt or ridicule; and when the terms do occur, I do not apply them in that spirit. The responsibilities of medical men are serious, too serious to be trifled with, and human life too sacred to be offered at the shrine of any medical sect or opinion; it is, therefore, no trifling matter in a disease like inflammation, so universal in its nature, and so fatal in its character, to adopt a treatment differing from that which, like the coin of the realm, has become current from a very early period to the present time; and nothing can justify departure from the rules laid down by allopathy, unless it can be shown and proved, incontestably proved, to friend and foe, that homœopathy loses a smaller per centage in acute diseases than any other mode of treatment yet known. It is not by a few isolated cases, treated by this or that system, that we can judge of its value; the only rock on which it can stand is its per centage of deaths.

Homœopathy has put forth this startling announcement, that in pneumonia, *i. e.*, inflammation of the lungs, allopathically treated, one in every four die; homœopathically treated, only one in every seventeen die. This announcement has never been met nor disproved; attempts have been made to fritter it away, but there it stands on public record, either true or false, there it is; if false, let its falsity be proved; if correct, nothing can justify, I repeat again, offering human life to the shrine of any medical sect or opinion. It is a sacred duty we owe to our fellow-men to adopt the best means in our power to prolong life, and if we are not acquainted with the best means, we are culpable for our apathy and negligence.

Let us for a few minutes glance at the character of inflammation. Ask a person how he felt a week or so before the attack came on, and you get something like the following answer. "Why, sir, I felt for some time very poorly before I was taken ill, weak, and out of sorts, off my appetite, and no spirits to go about my work." Does not this show debility at the bottom of inflammation? is it not its general forerunner, and may not this deficiency of nervous power be one of the exciting causes of inflammation? What though the circulating stream be like a torrent, jerking and bounding; with the rapidity of the current the strength is running out too. There may be excitement, strong excitement of the arterial system, but it is not superabundance of strength. Try him; ask the patient to get up and walk about. Can he do so? Those who defend bleeding should be prepared to show that it is the best mode of dealing with inflammation. The mere fact of the universality of its employment does not suffice. That it has received the sanction of the highest authority does not satisfy; it proves nothing more than its general reception. The only impartial evidence that can be received is the per centage of deaths. Let us reverse the order, and suppose homœopathy lost one out of every four, and allopathy one out of every seventeen, the homœopaths would then be deserving of the calumny and reproach now heaped upon them, and loudly calling for the strong arm of the law to interfere. But allopathy has the tide in its favour, and so long it will succeed; whilst at the same time an opposite under current of public opinion is running strongly too, and the weaker must give way to the stronger whichever that may be.

But it may be asked, and a very proper question for inquiry too, what better treatment has homœopathy to offer? It replies, by a non-reducing system; by saving the vital fluid—"the blood is the life;" by husbanding whatever strength is left at our disposal; and by selecting a remedy which is capable in health of setting up a train of symptoms similar to what is found in inflammation. Compare the action of inflammation and *Aconite* together.

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Inflammation.	*Aconite.*
Quick, throbbing pulse.	Quick, throbbing pulse.
Oppressed breathing.	Oppressed breathing.
Acute pain.	Acute pain.
Moaning.	Plaintive cries.
Followed by alarming weakness.	Followed by alarming weakness.
Sinking of the pulse.	Sinking of the pulse.
Death.	Death.
Post-mortem appearances.	
Inflammatory patches.	Inflammatory patches.
Congestion of the venous system.	Congestion of the venous system.
etc. etc. etc.	etc. etc. etc.

Do they not correspond in a remarkable manner? and for this reason *Aconite* is homœopathic to acute inflammation, setting up a similar action. There are cases, however, of inflammation where *Aconite* is not the best remedy, and where a remedy bearing a greater resemblance to the kind of inflammation would be chosen. But of the power of *Aconite* over inflammation I will mention only one case out of a large number that could be given.

PLEURISY.

—Mrs. B. complained on the 19th January, 1846, of not feeling well the last four days, weary and languid, heats and chills, and upon rising this morning suffers from acute pain in the left side under the breast; cannot take a deep breath without much increase of pain; inspiration more hurried than expiration; pulse hard and accelerated; skin hot; tongue coated; and can only get relief by lying perfectly quiet on her back, without moving.

Prescription.—*Aconite* 3, eight drops in six onnces of water; one table-spoonful every hour, gradually lengthening the interval as the pain subsides.

21st. The patient sitting up in bed almost free from pain; can fetch a deep breath, and says she is almost well. This was her first trial of homœopathy, the patient remarking, "this must be a very valuable medicine." She subsequently took a little *Bryony*, and before the end of the week was quite well.

Five years previously I attended, allopathically (not then being acquainted with homœopathy), the same patient for a similar attack. She was bled, leeched, and blistered, and it was three weeks before the pain subsided, and she required to go out of town to regain her strength, which was not till the end of six weeks.

Of the power of *Aconite* over inflammation, cases could be furnished sufficient to fill a volume. Those of my medical brethren who have never witnessed its action are earnestly invited to do so; when properly administered, according to the homœopathic law, its soothing effects are beyond all praise. *Aconite* stands alone. I know of no medicine in the whole range of the Pharmacopœia possessing similar antiphlogistic powers; and I firmly believe if ninety-nine allopathic medical men were to use *Aconite* in the way Hahnemann has recommended it to be used, the whole ninety-nine, within a month, would become semi-homœpaths. Try it and reject afterwards, but don't reject before trying.

ACUTE INFLAMMATION OF THE EYE.

By Dr. Hastings, Cheltenham.

April 15th. Mr. C—, aged 40, has had inflammation of right eye for the last six days; the appearance of the eye is as follows; sclerotic and conjunctiva quite red; cornea dull; pupil contracted; great photophobia, so much so that he can only open the eye in the dark; continual watering of the eye; intolerable pain under the supra-orbital ridge; great pain on moving the eye; no sensation of sand in the eye; pain easier when walking about, but when lying down the pain under the supra-orbit is excruciating; both eyes agglutinated in the morning; exacerbation of all the symptoms about three o'clock a. m. General symptoms; pulse eighty; tongue white and flabby; skin dry and hard; bowels torpid; urine copious and natural; headache; tolerable appetite; no particular thirst; no sleep at night, for the last week; had an attack of inflammation in the same eye when a child; never had either syphilis or rheumatism; thought present attack caused by the prevailing east and north-east winds. Before I saw him he had taken repeated doses of *Blue Pill* and *Salts*, and had applied an astringent lotion of zinc, but derived no benefit. He is a strong, muscular and powerful man; neck short and face red; regular in all his habits, and temperate.

Prescription.—Two drops of *Aconite* 3, in six ounces of water, a dessert-spoonful every hour.

Eye to be frequently bathed with tepid water.

Evening, same day. Had taken six doses of medicine; only alteration, pulse lower.

Bell. 3, two globules, and to be repeated in two hours.

16th. Eye much worse; no sleep; great mental agitation; bowels not opened.

Evening. Bowels opened; eye no better.

Prescription.—Two drops of *Arsenicum*

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3, in six ounces of water, a dessert-spoonful every four hours.

17th. Only took two doses of the medicine, as he said that it made him worse; but I considered him better, and therefore ordered the *Ars.* to be continued. To have tea and broth.

Evening. Eye easier and less injected. Continue *Ars.*, and poultice to the eye.

18th. Better; slept many hours last night; this is the first rest he has had since the attack. Complains of a "ticking, pulsating pain above the eye," in the orbit; great watering of the eye. Continue *Ars.*, a dose every six hours.

19th. Bowels opened; had some sleep; in all other respects in the same state as before.

Prescription.—Two grains of *Mercury* 3, in six ounces of water, a dessert-spoonful every six hours.

20th. Had a tolerably good day yesterday, and slept well last night, until four o'clock a. m., when a most violent attack of the ticking and pulsating pain in the orbit came on, which lasted for about two hours; no apparent change in the eye. Continue medicine; a dose every four hours.

21st. Passed a tolerable night; slight pain in the orbit about five o'clock a.m.; can see a little; just able to discern objects as through a dense mist, but can only keep the eye open for a moment; eye appears less injected, and can move it without pain.

Continue *Merc.*, a dose every five hours; poultice, etc., to the eye; and I left *Bell.* 3, two globules to be taken at three o'clock a. m., to prevent pain in orbit.

22nd. Took *Bell.* as directed; had no pain in orbit; slept well; eye less injected, and considerably better sight, with diminution of photophobia. Continue medicine.

23rd. Improving. Continue medicine, at longer intervals.

24th. No change.

25th. Eye very much injected, and great intolerance of light. *Sulph.*, a dose every six hours.

26th. Pain in orbit returned at four o'clock a. m.; bowels not opened. *Nux Vom.* 3, two globules, to be taken at night. Omit *Sulph.*

27th. Bowels slightly opened during the night; no pain in orbit; eye greatly injected, and excessively sensitive to the light. Prescribed *Ars.*, a dose every six hours, and cold water applied to the eye.

28th. No change. *Bell.*, a dose every six hours.

29th. During the whole of this month either north-east or east winds prevailed, which, I have no doubt, operated most injuriously; but this morning the wind veered round to the south, accompanied by delightful rains and balmy breezes, and upon visiting my patient this morning, I was agreeably surprised to find the dark screen off the window, he being able to bear the full glare of light, and the eye considerably less injected.

For the last five days the eye had made no progress; but now, as it were, all at once, it became well, and whether to attribute this marvellous transition to the *Bell.* administered on the 28th, the change in the wind, or both combined, I cannot say, though I accept the latter.

May 3rd. During this interval the progress was rapid; every day the bloodshot character of the eye subsided, and the sight became stronger. The *Bell.* was continued three times a day, and he is now quite well.

RHEUMATISM.

G. M—, Esq., aged 50, a gentleman from the country, sent for me to visit him at the George Hotel. He told me that he had a most acute attack of rheumatic fever about two months ago, from the effects of which he had not yet recovered, and though he had had the continual attendance of a physician, he found himself getting worse every day, and now considered himself past cure. "But," said he, "I thought I would come and put myself under your care as a last resource."

I had attended this gentleman, allopathically, about twelve months previously. He was so much changed for the worse since I saw him, that I certainly should not have recognised him. His countenance had assumed a peculiar haggard appearance; cheeks sunken and flushed; malar bones projecting; eyes much bloodshot; anxious look; voice scarcely audible; tongue coated white; thirst; no appetite; cannot sleep at night; skin hard and hasky, with eruptions on several parts; bowels never moved without strong opening medicine; urine scanty and high coloured; can neither move his arms nor legs, nor get up from his chair without assistance, nor even turn his head round, he is such a martyr to rheumatism; reduced much in flesh; complains of severe pains all over him, but especially in the back, loins, and epigastrium; pulse eighty, small and weak. I could not ascertain the medicine which he had used, as he had not the prescription with him; but he said that "he had swallowed gallons of medicine, and was completely tired of it." I

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was glad to hear him express himself thus, and I replied, "Well, sir, you will not have to take any nasty medicine from me, as I must candidly tell you that I have completely given up the old system of medicine and embraced homœopathy." Of this he was not aware when he sent for me. Upon hearing this, his face brightened up, and he said, "I am glad to hear that, and though I know little of homœopathy, let me have anything rather than the old medicine." I rejoiced at this, as I had apprehended he would not allow me to treat him homœopathically. I then ordered him a nutritive diet—his former medical attendant had been keeping him on milk and water—and prescribed for him *Sulph.* 30, two globules.

Following day, much better; had slept tolerably well during the night, and had had a nice moisture on the skin; tongue rather cleaner, and rheumatism easier.

Prescription.—Two drops of *Tincture of Sulphur* 3, in an ounce of water, a teaspoonful night and morning.

Next day, still improving; bowels not opened; urine more abundant, and clear; rheumatic pains nearly gone; can rise up from his chair without aid; walk about, go up stairs and undress, and get into bed himself, things he has not been able to do for the last six weeks; appetite much improved, and his mind now quite cheerful; feeling convinced that he is going on better.

Two days afterward, on going in to see him, I met him at the outer door of the hotel, looking quite cheerful, and able to walk well. The rheumatic pains were almost gone; the bloodshot appearance of his eye much better; the cutaneous eruptions disappearing; the bowels regular; appetite good; and, in fact, to use his own expression, "he was as well as ever he was." He continued to progress most favourably, taking a dose of *Sulphur* every night, and in a few days from the last report he was so much better, that his cure seemed to him something very astonishing.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, JULY 3RD, 1852.

"THE dogmatist," says WATTS, "is sure of everything, and the sceptic believes nothing." Now, it is well known that the allopathic practitioners who are most dogmatic, are those who rush at consequences like the Malay at his victim—with a species of insane fury. The wiser of them, those who have been taught by reflection and experience, are sceptical about medicine: their supposed faith in the practice they use consists in their good works, and these good works consist in doing nothing, or as next to nothing, as they can contrive. To say that the orthodox are all evil-doers would be unjust, for many of them really persuade themselves they are doing the best in their power; and to say that the sceptics are all dishonest would be still more unjust, for they look at nature with a broader range than the others. The seeming acquiescence of the latter, and the often real acquiescence of the former in *received* opinions, is the real bane of medicine.

Science is progressive, and those who pretend to regard medicine as a science should hope and strive for its *progression.* The doctrine of HAHNEMANN offers the mode and the means of the progression. Why do the allopathists not inquire into its truth?

While the inquiry is pending, till what is now *heterodox* becomes *orthodox*, let us be tolerant to each other.

> "Embracing those whom Europe holds,
> The Doctor Catalogue unfolds
> About a hundred different sects:
> And due indulgence it should teach
> To every follower of each:
> If for a moment he reflects,
> The chances are against his own
> Just as one hundred are to one."

We do not admit this, however; for, believing that our medical sect has the advantage of the natural law of healing—*i. e.*, of a law of nature for our guidance—we invite all *other* sectarians to examine it.

Which of the medical sects restores most to health? He who can restore the sense of health to even one person who has lost it has not lived in vain. "Every recovery," says RICHTER, "is a *palingenesia*, and bringing back of our youth, making us love the earth, and those that

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are on it, with a new love." Happy man he who is honoured as the instrument of this *redintegration* of any human being.

We think allopathy at this time is like the caterpillar in its cocoon; and we long to see it bursting out into the vigorous life of homœopathy. "With patience and perseverance, the leaf of the mulberry-tree becomes satin," according to the Arabian proverb, and so we have patience with our allopathic *co-rivals*.

We are ephemerals, and in our weekly articles we are the shadows of a name. But yet in our *anonymousness* we may be allowed to exhort our homœopathic brethren. Comparing ourselves with the mighty Cause we advocate, the best of our body must plead guilty to the charge of defects and short-comings. All have to learn so long as they labour and live.

All men have diversities of gifts. What is naturally deficient in the intellectual organization may be compensated for, in no small degree, by industry. "Mother," said the Spartan boy, going to battle, "my sword is too short." "Add a step to it," was the Spartan mother's reply.

We want our medical allies, colleagues, brethren, who profess the same faith as we do, to *do their best*: and when they go to battle with the allopaths, *to add a step to their sword*—to exhibit undaunted energy, the best foot foremost—with heart and mind in the assault, and with indomitable resolution in defence of the right.

Review.

What is Homœopathy? By Wm. Sharp, F.R.S. Rugby: Cropley and Billington, 1852.

An Enquiry into the Truth of Homœopathy. By Wm. Sharp, F.R.S. London: Davy and Son. *Price Sixpence.*

We have a sincere respect for our excellent colleague, Mr. Sharp. We heard a man of science say of him that he was "running over with science." The Royal Society must think so too, for he is a fellow of that illustrious corporation; and yet with all his science, like Whately and Bunsen, and many others of that high order of intellect, he is persuaded of the truth and reality of homœopathy.

In addition to science and practical skill, the fitting conclusion to the character of a medical man, is to be a Christian gentleman, who knows and practises the obligation, of Divine sanction, to do unto others as he would himself be done by.

It is to us a matter of felicitation that such men as Henderson and Ransford and Sharp, distinguished allopaths in former times, should have acknowledged the truth and reality of homœopathy. Some of the most eminent of the Senate, of the Church, and of the Bar are among our staunch supporters. We have, in our number, men of the highest science, of the largest intellect, of the most undoubted piety. This being the case, we may well afford to laugh to scorn the ribaldry and the insensate folly of our gainsayers; but knowing what poor human nature is, it is more becoming to *pity* them.

There can be no doubt that our far-spreading Reform is beginning to make itself felt in the high places of the Medical Profession. Some treat it with a good-natured affectation of indifference; some profess to know nothing about it; while the mass of our opponents still revile it, and vituperate the homœopathic practitioners.

Science, knowledge, and practical skill, it must be confessed, distinguish some of our body. But it is not the less incumbent on each follower of Hahnemann, whether so gifted or not, of whatever degree or standing he may be, to *do his best* to promote and advance the cause he professes to have at heart.

It is well known that we do not think the best means have been yet taken to benefit the poor. All who know what dispensary practice is are well aware how slovenly that practice is, of whatever school the medical men may be: all who are aware how defective in point of resources, and so in point of real usefulness, our three British homœopathic hospitals are, know very well that anything like a real and substantive benefit to any great number of in-patients is out of the question.

It is, therefore, that the testimony of men who were formerly distinguished allopaths to the truth of homœopathy is so valuable.

In the first of the two papers we have cited, "What is homœopathy?" Mr. Sharp establishes the following propositions.

1. Homœopathy *is not a novelty.*
2. Homœopathy *is not quackery.*
3. Homœopathy *is not an uncertainty.*
4. Homœopathy *is not an infinitesimal dose.*

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5. Homœopathy *is not a "humbug."*

6. Homœopathy is a GENERAL FACT, *a principle, a law of nature.*

7. Homœopathy *is a practical fact.*

8. Homœopathy *stands upon its comparative merits.*

9. *The old method is unsatisfactory.*

10. Homœopathy *is simple and intelligible.*

11. Homœopathy *gains by comparison.*

12. Homœopathy *is medical treatment.*

13. Homœopathy *is a practical guide,*

14. Homœopathy *is a guide in the choice of the medicine, not merely of the dose.*

15. Homœopathy *aims at eradicating or permanently curing the disease.*

16. Homœopathy *economises the vital powers.*

17. Homœopathy *is gentle and agreeable.*

18. Homœopathy *administers one medicine at a time.*

19. The homœopathic physician *learns the properties of drugs by experiments on himself, not upon his patients.*

20. Homœopathy *is applicable to acute as well as to chronic disease.*

21. Homœopathy *is prepared for any new form of disease,* far better than the old method.

22. Homœopathy *carries into detail what all medicine is in the general.*

23. Homœopathy *relates only to the administration of remedies,* and detracts nothing from the value of the collateral branches of the science of medicine.

How, and how well Mr. Sharp has established these propositions, the homœopathic public should ascertain for themselves, by obtaining and reading his pamphlet.

The "Enquiry into the Truth of Homœopathy" is a reprint from the *British Journal of Homœopathy.* We refer our readers to this pamphlet also; both of them may be obtained from any homœopathic chemist or publisher, and we content ourselves at present, with extracting one case.

"CROUP.

"I have tried the new treatment in three cases of croup. One comparatively slight, because attended to immediately, though the difficulty of breathing and distress were very considerable, and the cough thoroughly characteristic. This was speedily cured by a few doses of *Aconite* and *Hepar Sulphuris.* The second was a more severe attack, and consequently resisted the treatment longer, but it also yielded during the night to *Aconite, Spongia,* and *Hepar Sulphuris.* My notes of the third case are as follow.

"Dec. 1, 1850; Sunday. This was as bad a case of croup as I ever saw recover. The patient, a little boy three-years and five months old, was very fat, and tall for his age; a fine child. He began, as usual, in the night (Saturday), but I was not sent for to see him till to-day at noon. His mother has given him *Antimonial Wine,* etc., and he has vomited several times, both before and after taking the *Antimony.* When I saw him his face was very hot and flushed, and, when he coughed, almost purple; his breathing very short, and the peculiar sound of croup accompanied both the breathing and the cough; his pulse above 180; occasionally he struggled violently for breath, as if he would be suffocated. I gave him *Tinct. Aconit.* 3, and *Tinct. Spongia* 5, in alternate doses every quarter of an hour.

"6 p. m. He has not yet been much relieved. Has taken six doses of each of the medicines. *Tinct. Hepar Sulph.* 5; I gave him half a drop. He seemed to breathe rather better after this, and in another quarter of an hour I repeated the dose. Fifteen minutes later I gave the *Aconite* again. His pulse was now 160; his fits of coughing not so frequent. For the night he had *Tinct. Aconit.* 2; *Tinct. Spongia* 3; *Tinct. Hepar Sulph.* 5; to take in turns, half an hour between each dose. As yet he was to have no food.

"Monday morning, 9 a. m. He continued very ill, and between twelve and one o'clock his parents thought he would die; but he then began to breathe better, and is now greatly recovered. His countenance looks natural; his breathing much slower and without noise; his cough has lost its croupy character, and is much less frequent, his pulse 140. He had begged for a little tea, and had taken it with a morsel of bread and butter, before I saw him. To continue the medicines at intervals of an hour.

"6 p. m. The most troublesome symptom during the day has been vomiting. The breathing and cough better; pulse 140. To discontinue the medicines, and to take *Tinct. Ipecac.* 3, a dose every two hours.

"Tuesday. He is much better to-day; and in a few days he was well."

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

Malvern, June, 185?.

DEAR SIR,—My last letter was directed from Cheltenham, this I direct from Malvern, where I am now sunning myself on the Herefordshire Beacon, and laughing most heartily at Dr. Bushnan, who has pretended to know all about homœopathy and the homœopathists; but I think he knows more about California, and would like to know more about its gold and diggings, than any other subject, scientific or literary. I know his writings well, and also a book, which he has reviewed in *his own Medical Times,* called "Cholera and its Cures," a compilation from the *Lancet* and *Medical Times,* etc. I find in page 17 of this book, a case of cholera reported as cured by the great Hippocrates with *Hellebore,* which caused vomiting, and

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the patient "regained his strength and recovered." I think this is a homœopathic remedy for cholera, but the Editor of the *Medical Times and Gazette* could not see it was. This same work concludes with the strongest recommendation of the "saline treatment," which causes copious evacuations, and is homœopathic to some of the symptoms of cholera, and a very good remedy. I wonder if Dr. Bushnan believes in this treatment, for it, too, seems to be homœopathic. But to go on: he writes, in conclusion, "remembering that the advocates of truth have too often to contend with the machinations of self-interest, prejudice, and ignorance..... The result too bears its own moral: the young aspirant to professional honours may hereby be forewarned of the jealousies and hostilities against which he may have to contend; and he may, moreover, discover beacons, which would warn him from the shoals and sunken rocks upon which his fair fame may otherwise be wrecked." Dr. Bushnan is no *young* aspirant, but an *old one*, and, therefore, he aspires to the royal kitchen, and dedicates his work to the physician to the household; he is lucky in this dedication, which is not infinitesimal, but is homœopathic to his symptoms. Excuse me, I can hardly be serious with the author's aspirations, knowing their meaning. I shall, however, take another line from "Cholera and its Cures," which are many, and in his own words tell Dr. Bushnan that "a fact of the most vital importance has, by misrepresentation, been confounded with falsehood, and many thousand lives, in consequence, been blindly sacrificed; and to test the value of this assertion to disengage truth from the chaos of calumnies into which it has been plunged—to arrest the hand of death, and disseminate life-giving knowledge, are acts worthy of an enlightened and beneficent Government." Government ought, therefore, to make an investigation into the merits of homœopathy, and order a ward in every hospital over which it has control, and appoint a homœopathic physician to take every other case, and thus investigate this *life-preserving* doctrine, and not leave it in the hands of such men as the Editors of the *Medical Times* and *Lancet*. I should, therefore, propose that the Government of this country be appealed to for a fair investigation of this important subject; and further, that the physicians by them appointed be properly remunerated for their knowledge, and for the trouble and difficulty they may have in carrying out this inquiry. The Editors of the *Medical Times* and the *Lancet* are not the persons with whom to leave this matter; party men must work, and do work for their party, otherwise they would be turned off. Those Editors write against mesmerism, and of this subject they know nothing yet; they write against everything but lancets, pills, and boluses.

From my heart, I wish homœopathy to be investigated, and I wish to see this "battle of the doctors" over, or with John Abernethy I shall say, "let all the patients live on sixpence a day and earn it."

I have the honour to be, your obedient servant,

A CONVERT.

P. S.—Travelling has prevented my being able to get subscriptions for the portraits of eminent homœopaths; indeed, down here such things are not required, as I see the medical reformers in this place as large as life in the windows. By the way, the water here has been so strong and so scarce before the last showers, that many of the hydropathic patients could not drink it; it tasted to me as if saturated with herbs, and one of my little boys said it was "nasty physic." I hope the hydropaths will not read this, as it may displease them.

[This must be a very rare occurrence, for we have always understood that the springs of Malvern were inexhaustible, and the water to be the purest spring-water in the country.—ED.]

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Numbers of the enlightened population of this country (to leave out other lands, where its progress has been even greater) are daily seeing the objections to the old system, and the advantages of the homœopathic. Such being undeniably the case, it is strange that any class of men should *blindly* refuse to inquire into the startling facts daily offering themselves, and still more strange that they should oppose and strive to put down with a strong hand a vastly spreading system, of which they know little or nothing. The following circumstances, which have just come under my attention, have determined me to trouble you with this communication, thinking them worth a place in your columns.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

London, June 9, 1852. SCRUTATOR.

ALLOPATHY *v.* HOMŒOPATHY.

A few days since I made a proposal to a city office, for the purpose of effecting an assurance on my life, filling in answers to their several questions fully and faithfully, among others, answering that requiring the name of my medical attendant, "William Batchelour, Esq., M.D., Finsbury Place South."

In reply, I received a letter requesting my attendance at the office, for the purpose of seeing the medical officer of the Society. I went accordingly, and, after waiting for a considerable time, was shown to his room, when the following conversation, *or examination*, took place; of course I only give it in substance, not *verbatim*.

He first asked me when I had a spitting of blood, which I had named in my proposal.

I answered, some time since, it might be two years, but that it was so slight as barely to be noticed, and had not been thought of until the question was asked, when, in my idea of fairness, I had named it.

He next asked if I was at present under medical treatment, or when I had been.

I answered, I was not at present, nor had I consulted my medical man for a considerable period, it might be about eighteen months.

He then asked me the name of my medical attendant.

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I answered, "Dr. Batchelour, of Finsbury Place."

He then said, "Oh, he is a homœopathist, is he not?"

"Yes."

He then said, "I fear, sir, it is no use going any further. Being under homœopathy and in delicate health, you will not do for (or suit) us."

I said, "Very well; there ends the matter."

He, however, rang the bell, and asked for the Medical Directory, to which he turned, and not finding the name of Dr. Batchelour, stated "*my evidence to be incomplete*," as there was nothing to show him to be a medical man at all.

I stated that I knew Dr. Batchelour to be a medical man of some standing (or something to that effect).

He said, "But is he not a homœopathist?"

I answered, "Yes; I have been under that system for some years."

He then found, on turning over the leaves of the Directory, a list of persons practising, but who had not sent in their degrees, or whose names could not be found on the books of the College of Surgeons; among these appeared Wm. Batchelour's name. He said, "Strange! and yet," turning to Dr. Batchelour's report on my health to another office, that declined me, "he signs, M.D., M.R.C.S."*

I then said, that I thought the officers should have made all that out before giving me the trouble to come there, and detaining me so long.

He said, "But your evidence is not complete."

I answered, "The question asked was the name and address of my medical attendant, which I gave fully; anything further about him was your business, not mine. I filled up that paper some days since, and you certainly have had time to make inquiries. I understood it was usual to send forms to be filled up by the referees before troubling the proposer."

He said, "What college does Dr. Batchelour take his degrees from?"

Answer. "I don't know; had it been stated to me, in the letter requesting my attendance, that you required the pedigree and every particular concerning my doctor, I might have been prepared with them."

He said, "We don't want his pedigree; we only want to know if he is really a medical man."

I asked, "Are you a medical man?"

He answered, "Yes."

I said, "Then, sir, do all your patients know whether or no you are really a medical man, and can they all tell at what college you took your degrees?"

He then said, "Well, sir, considering all things, I don't think it worth while troubling you any further."

I rose and took my hat, saying, "I don't think it is; at the same time I cannot but again say that I think you should have inquired into all this matter before bringing me here."

* I have since seen Dr. Batchelour, and his degrees are M.R.C.S.E., M.L.A.C.L.

DOMESTIC BOOKS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—What is the greatest enemy homœopathy has to fear? Is it a foreign or a bosom foe? In other words, allopath or homœopath?

In my humble opinion, it is not the allopath; as his most bitter and determined opposition only makes us gird on our panoply more firmly, and eventually strengthens our cause.

But I opine, that in our own camp and in our own ranks lurk the most deadly foes to homœopathy. I allude to the numerous "domestic" works on its principles and practice. My opinion is, and in this I am not singular, that unless a check is put upon these, and that soon, homœopathy, and all who profess it, will be brought into contempt. "What is the use," say the public, "to consult a homœopathic doctor? All that we have to do is to buy a twelve-shilling case of globules, so and so's "domestic"—and set to work ourselves." And so they do, and blunder away, playing at globules, laughing when they make a *hit*, and becoming frightened when they make a *miss*, and, consequently, send off for an allopath, believing that there is no efficacy in the globules; and for why? Because they did not administer the proper medicine. Many evils result from this, among which are the following—namely, the public are led to fancy homœopathy to be a very childish and simple thing; homœopathy suffers by their blundering prescribing, and hence homœopaths are ousted of their rights.

From what I am in the habit of seeing daily of these injurious proceedings, I am convinced that unless the publications of these "domestics" are curbed, homœopathy must be content to drag a slow and tardy march for the next fifty years, instead of becoming, as it is entitled as a *science* to do, the legitimate and universal medical practice.

Let works on the practice of homœopathy abound, by all means, but let them be written for the profession, and not for the parlour and the nursery-maid's use.

Why should homœopathy be so popularised? Is it a thing to be thus played with? By adopting a wiser plan, the profession, homœopathy, and the public will be benefited, more especially the latter, as a dangerous instrument will be taken out of their hands.

M.D.

June 25, 1852.

[We agree with our correspondent that playing at physic, though it may be a pleasant is hardly a safe pastime. We cannot prevent the publication of domestic books: the supply is generally a very correct criterion of the demand for any article. The plan is that medical men should (in such cases as make it necessary or expedient, as when families live at a distance from any homœopathic practitioner) recommend only the best of these domestic books—but discourage the abuse of them as much as they can. Our correspondent is well aware that there is no end of allopathic medical chests, with domestic books, guides, etc.

This is a free country, and free people will do

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as they please, after all. Our medical men should do, what they have not yet done, use their influence to get our respectable periodicals into large circulation, and to promote the sale of the healthier homœopathic literature.—ED.]

HOMŒOPATHIST *versus* ALLOPATHIST

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—Perhaps my subject, and the inexperience which must be evident in my treatment of it, will preclude the possibility of its appearance in your columns; nevertheless, what seems to me to be a duty towards those participators in our opinions who are in any way likely to be intimidated by the invectives so liberally poured forth by our antagonists—who, it must be confessed, are greatly to be pitied, considering the rapid increase of the popularity and adoption of our system—shall be performed.

I am personally acquainted with many unfortunate individuals who have rejected homœopathy when on the point of its adoption, because their medical friend (or, still worse, adviser) has terrified their imaginations with fearful stories of patients lost, or starved, or poisoned under its treatment; some asserting our medicines to be virulent poisons, others that they are no medicines at all, and midst these contradictory statements the terrified patient remains under the tender care of his licensed annihilator till, when all human aid is of no avail, a homœopathic physician is applied to, and in a few days or weeks the death of the unlucky patient adds, *of course*, one more decisive proof to the inefficacy of our devoted system.

There is another fashionable fallacy to which I would call the attention of the inexperienced. I have often heard the remark, "But, surely, medical men must have the best means of judging of the effects of this and every other medical system." And permit me to say, this holds true, if self-interest is the best pair of spectacles a man can wear to discern clearly the merits of a cause decidedly opposed to that instinct; but I will ask those who hold this opinion, whether the merits of law reform would receive a due appreciation from an attorney, or if a regulation of the church revenues (of which we have of late heard so much) would be wisely intrusted to a bishop. Now I think the simple deduction from this "rule of two" will be, that an allopathic practitioner is not the most fit person of all others to judge of the merits of our system. I would also observe, that my experience has invariably shown me that those professional members of the old system to whom their practice is of no pecuniary importance, or has retired from them or they from it, are never decidedly opposed to the doctrine or the disciples of the man who will at some future period be universally acknowledged as the medical benefactor of his race. Meanwhile, why cannot our persecutors follow the charitable counsel of Gamaliel? fully persuaded, as they are, that if our system is what they believe it to be—a pitiful deception, a mockery habited in the garb of science—it will, it *must* fall; it must decrease. The public mind, though it may not be, nor is it, well stored with medical *learning*, as are these worthy gentlemen, is still not so devoid of common sense and common perception as to be long deceived by a shadow, by a nothing wearing the *show* of reality. But if, as we know, it is far otherwise, let them remember that little indeed can envy, hatred, and malice do to retard the progress of a great truth; and let us ever remember that when reason fails, ridicule and calumny are the broken reeds resorted to; they are, as it were, the last death-struggles of an expiring cause, the last flickering of a decaying light, flaring with increased brilliancy immediately previous to its fatal extinction.

My advice is that we be neither importunate nor uncharitable towards those who will some day find it convenient to change their opinions. We can *afford* to be otherwise; we have on our side what none can take from us—*truth*. Let us then willingly and cheerfully leave to them the enjoyment of that ridicule and satire so freely bestowed on us, and in charity attribute the unhealthy susceptibility of their minds to the poisonous *effluvia* of their own laboratories, proving, by our own dignified reserve, that homœopathy is as beneficial to the moral as to the physical condition of mankind.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

A LAY HOMŒOPATH.

SMALL-POX AND VACCINATION.

(*From the Family Herald.*)

LITTLE more than fourscore years ago, a youth, yet in his teens, an apprentice to a surgeon near Bristol, heard a young woman, who had called on his master for advice, remark, on the subject of small-pox being mentioned, "I cannot take that disease, for I have had the cow-pox." This observation forcibly struck young Jenner, and was probably the first step in the path of induction which led to his rescuing from rural tradition a vague belief among the peasantry of Gloucestershire that a disease of the nipples of their cows, communicable to milkers, protected them ever afterwards from attacks of small-pox. About thirty years subsequent to this incident, and after much patient and precise observation and experimentation, amid discouragement from his friends and medical associates, and difficulties inherent in the inquiry itself, he published a thin unpretending quarto, in which he gave to the world his brilliant discovery, that immunity could be secured against one of the most loathsome and fatal diseases, and that by very simple means, if mankind were wise enough to adopt them—the defacing, maiming, blinding, and destroying small-pox could be extirpated from the face of the earth.

We of the present generation have little conception of the ravages of the small-pox down to the period when Jenner, in 1798, announced his discovery. For forty-years previously, notwithstanding the practice of inoculation, which had been tested during half a century, the deaths in

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London averaged two thousand yearly, when London contained not a third of its present numbers. In every fourteen who died from all causes, one fell a victim to small-pox. Three out of every four patients admitted to the London Asylum for the Indigent Blind the small-pox had made sightless. The total deaths throughout England from this scourge were estimated at forty-five thousand yearly. It once swept away in the Russian Empire two millions in a single year. He whose beneficent genius should stay this plague, may well take rank among the most illustrious benefactors of mankind.

More than half a century has passed away since Jenner, speaking of vaccination, declared that "the annihilation of small-pox, the most dreadful scourge of the human species, must be the final result of this practice." Yet the inexorable Registrar-General still numbers small-pox among the causes of mortality, and for the past few years his returns prove that this malady is spreading; that deaths from it have been more frequent; and there are indications that, unless vigorous preventive measures are taken, small-pox, with somewhat of its ancient rigour, may revisit us, to blind, disfigure, and destroy, and so punish us for neglecting the means of protection provided by the great Jenner. In 1842, 2715 persons died of small-pox; 4227 in 1847; and 6903 in 1848; nothwithstanding the operation of the Vaccination Act, which came in force in 1840. On inquiry at Somerset House, we learn no abstracts have been made of the mortality from small-pox in the intermediate years, nor since 1848; but those who find it necessary to inspect the Registrar-General's reports must have been struck with the frequent references by most of the district registrars to the prevalence of small-pox in their respective localities. In the very last quarterly report we are told, "Small-pox has prevailed very extensively; and the provision of gratuitous vaccination for the people by the legislature appears to be insufficient to stem its terrible progress."

How happens this in the very country of Jenner? From its first introduction vaccination has had to contend against ignorance, apathy, negligence, prejudice, and misrepresentation. An old and popular notion prevalent among the ignorant classes is, that small-pox is the expulsion of some morbid principle from the system, which can only be got rid of in this way. The objections to vaccination, founded on this notion, are now deprived of all force by the investigations of Mr. Ceely, of Aylesbury, who has demonstrated that small-pox and cow-pox are essentially the same disease. He introduced into the cow small-pox matter taken from man, and produced pustules which supplied lymph, and with this lymph he vaccinated children successfully. Cow-pox, then, is small-pox in a mild form; and granting, for argument's sake, that small-pox does remove morbid matter from the system, cow-pox will do it as effectually, without the risk of disfigurement or death. These objectors are to be argued with; but what are we to say to such perverse persons as the woman (who represents not a small class) who told the registrar of Nottingham that "she would rather lose half a dozen children by small-pox than fly in the face of Providence in having one vaccinated?"

Another class of objectors refrain from having their children vaccinated, believing that the process engenders scrofula and obstinate cutaneous diseases. They have observed, probably, eruptions manifest themselves *after* vaccination, and have been unable to perceive that this circumstance might occur, even had the patient not been vaccinated. What medical man is there who has not heard it urged that, because "neighbour Smith's child had scrofula after vaccination, she, as a mother, would take good care her child should not be vaccinated." Now, a smart attack of small-pox often developes scrofula, but cow-pox never. Moreover, cow-pox sometimes cures an obstinate cutaneous affection, although, as a general rule, it is undesirable in such a case that vaccination should be performed.

A good deal of distrust of vaccination has lately been excited by a wrong-headed physician, somewhat eminent as an observer and recorder of medical phenomena, but not gifted with the power of wielding statistical data, nor remarkably potent in the logical faculty. He has attempted to prove that vaccination is but feebly preventive, and urges the expediency of reverting to the practice of inoculation. From time to time, in consequence of his pertinacity in proclaiming his mistakes, paragraphs have been inserted in the papers calculated to throw discredit upon vaccination, and causing thereby much needless anxiety. The misapplied industry of this gentleman has done much mischief, in weakening the public faith in the only real preventive of small-pox; and surely he incurs no slight responsibility who, without sufficient grounds, unsettles the general reliance upon the protective powers of vaccination.

In addition to some information as to the circumstances under which vaccination should be performed, and how far re-vaccination is advisable, we hope in an early number to show that cow-pox is a defence as effective against an attack of small-pox as the occurrence of small-pox itself is a protection against a second attack of it.

THE RIGHT MOTIVES FOR PRACTISING MEDICINE.—"The legend which made the religionists of the olden time practise the healing art without price, and on which account they were supposed to be endowed with superior powers,—is it not true to this day? Honest, disinterested motives in the exercise of any profession, presuppose a clear, generous, open mind, which will also see clearer than other minds."—*Neidhard.*

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

ELEPHANTIASIS, OR ARABIAN LEPROSY.

(From Aretæus.)

The period at which Aretæus flourished is not exactly known; but the most probable conjecture is, that he lived in the era between Nero and Trajan. He is quoted by writers of the fourth century. He seems to have belonged to the medical sect of the Pneumatics, who acknowledged five elementary principles, or influences on the human health—heat, cold, moisture, dryness, and *spirit;* that is, the *spirit* of the Pneumatic sect, what has been called the *vis medicatrix Naturæ*—the *principle of life*—*vital power*—the *nervous force*—the *Archæus* or dominant principle of Stahl.

"Spiritus intus alit, totamque infusa per artus
Mens agitat molem, et magno se corpore miscet."
Æneid. vi. 267.

These elements, their conflicts and disorders, are variously assigned by Aretæus as causes of disease.

His graphic descriptions of disease are even now very interesting. We quote the latter part of his description of elephantiasis, for the sake of two cases he gives on report, the latter of which is a good illustration of a homœopathic cure.

"When the disease bursts forth from the internal parts, and appears on the extremities, scabby eruptions attack the ends of the fingers, the knees itch, and the patients, to ease themselves, are constantly scratching; the eruption sometimes involves the chin all round; the cheeks become red, with a slight protuberance; the eyes dull, of a brassy hue; the eyebrows prominent, thick, devoid of hair, scowling, forming a lump, from the interval between them being knit together; the complexion is livid or black; the skin of the forehead is violently drawn, so as to cover the eyes, as a lion does in his rage, and hence the disease is called Leontium, and it is like not merely to the lion and the elephant, but is

"gloomy as night in aspect;"

the nose is rugged, with black lumps; the lips are thick and prominent, the lower one livid; the teeth are not white, but have a blackish look; the ears are red, inclined to be black, and closed like those of the elephant, they seem larger than ordinary; there are ulcers in their bottom, which discharge an irritating sanious ichor; the body is wrinkled all over, full of deep clefts in the skin, which look like black furrows, and hence the disease obtains the name of Elephas; there are cracks in the soles and heels, as far as the middle of the toes. As the malady gets worse, the tubercles on the cheeks, chin, fingers, and knees become covered with fetid and incurable ulcers, fresh ones keep springing up in some places, while in others they are dying away; the different members, the nose, fingers, feet, and the whole of the hands, die and fall off while the patient still lives; and the malady does not consign him to death, and release him from an existence which is loathsome, and from his excruciating sufferings, before it severs him piecemeal, for existence is long dragged out, and again, he is in this respect like the elephant. When any recent pain attacks his limbs, it smites them heavily, wandering hither and thither; the appetite for food is not altogether extinguished, but the taste is vapid, neither eating nor drinking produces any pleasure, but they are disgusted with everything from their distress; there is atrophy; lassitude overcomes them, a feeling of weight in every limb, for even the small limbs give pain; the body is distressed with everything, and the man neither receives comfort from using or omitting the bath, whether he take food, fast, move about, or keep at rest, for the disease rules paramount everywhere. There is little sleep, and that little is worse than none, from the phantoms it presents; there is great difficulty of breathing, and a suffocation as if they were choked; and this is the way that many have turned the goal of life, and slept the never-to-be-wakened sleep of death.

"In such a state, who would not flee from these miserable wretches? who would not shun them? aye, should he be a son, a father, or e'en perchance his own born brother; for there is an alarm that the disease is infectious; and hence many have turned on the desert and mountain those who were dearest, some relieving their hunger for a long time, and others as little as possible, wishing them to perish.

"There is a reported case, that a man who had reached the desert, seeing a viper crawl out of the ground, was so driven by hunger and borne down by the disease, that, wishing to exchange one evil for another, he devoured the beast alive, and did not terminate his existence until all his limbs rotted and fell off. It is said, also, that another man saw a viper crawling into a cask of must, drinking his fill, and then disgorging and pouring forth his venom copiously into the liquid, that as soon as the animal was choked, the man drank greedily and profusely of the must, in hopes of being released from his life and suffering; when he had drunk to satiety

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he lay on the ground in a state of intoxication, like one dying; after he aroused himself from his drunken stupor, his hair first all came off, then the nails and fingers, and all parts in succession melted away. Since there was, however, still power in the vital forces, nature remodelled the man anew, as from his birth; she reared him fresh hair, new nails, clean flesh, and stript off his former skin, as the serpent doffs its old age, and the man was recalled, by the fresh sprouting up of life, as it were another being.

"Such is the reported case; in troth, one we cannot altogether rely upon, but still not to be utterly discredited; for to believe that evil can be subdued by evil, and that nature should raise up a man from the embers of life that remained, is not so incredible as to constitute a miracle."

AN ESSAY ON HOMŒOPATHIC STATISTICS;

Together with a Critical Analysis of Dr. Routh's Work, entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

(*Continued from page* 701.)

XVI.

V. *Meningitis.*—As this complication stands fifth in order of frequency, we naturally infer that it is rare in Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock's cases. That this must be so for London cases generally, we are led to believe, from the fact, that in Dr. Hughes's post-mortem examinations of fifty-four fatal cases, in which every kind of complication, however trivial it may be, is entered (I may point to Cases 18 and 40 in proof of what I here advance), no mention whatever is made of any appearance of meningitis, or of any other form of head-inflammation; we may therefore look upon this complication as possessing a very small share of influence upon the mortality in the cases of pneumonia recorded by these London observers.

But, in order to ascertain its frequency in other places, we may for a few moments fix our attention upon a series of facts observed by Grisolle at Paris, and noticed in his work on Pneumonia. The importance of the subject will be felt, if we consider that a part of our statistical information with regard to pneumonia is derived from observations of that disease treated homœopathically at Paris.

In 27 out of 304 pneumonia cases observed by Grisolle, and treated allopathically, delirium was one of the predominant phenomena. This gives a high proportion of cases with delirium, namely, 8·84 per cent.; of these one-fourth, or 2·205 per cent. recovered, leaving a mortality from this complication of 6·635 per cent. In addition to these cases there were five in which *mania*, and four in which *subsultus tendinum* were the complications, amounting together to 2·96 per cent., of these two, or 0·65 per cent., recovered; leaving a mortality of 2·31 per cent. from these two forms of disease. The total mortality from cerebral complications of all kinds being 8·945 in every 100 admissions, in round numbers, nearly 9 per cent.

We should expect the proportion of such cases to be very small in Dr. Fleischmann's Hospital at Vienna, for the chief cause of this complication is by Dr. Grisolle considered to be the abuse of alcoholic drinks. "L'abus des liqueurs alcooliques, l'habitude de l'ivrognerie, me parait devoir être regardée comme une des causes qui provoquent le plus souvent le délire dans le cours des inflammations pulmonaires" (p. 387). Now, as the Viennese are said to be a very temperate people (*vide* Wilde's Austria, *passim*), and as it is well known that brandy-drinking to excess is by no means rare among that class of the population of Paris which supplies the largest proportion of the inmates of hospitals, we may fairly conclude that although cases treated homœopathically at Paris are unfavourably circumstanced in respect of this complication (giving, under allopathic treatment, a mortality of nearly nine in every 100 cases), yet it cannot influence the homœopathic mortality at Vienna in nearly the same proportion of cases; therefore we may assign to it, as regards the Vienna homœopathic statistics, the same place that it occupies in Dr. Routh's statement of the cases of Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock.

It has already been said that complications generally have not the same influence upon the mortality of pneumonia under homœopathic treatment as they have upon this disease, if under allopathic medication; this will be proved by facts in the sequel. But in the present stage of our inquiry we cannot lose sight of this difference; for it is to be remembered, that the *delirium* prevailing in 11·51 per cent. of Grisolle's cases was not, in general, due to any inflammatory disease of the brain or of its membranes. Three-fourths of his patients affected with this complication died. In eight cases, traces of inflammation were found by Grisolle. In the other patients of whom post-mortem inspections were made, "no morbid condition, sufficiently serious to account for the disorder (of the nervous system, the delirium, etc.) observed

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during the course of the disease, could be discovered."*

We may therefore, without in the least trespassing beyond the limits of legitimate induction, conclude, or, for greater safety, we may for the present simply *suppose* that, under a properly-conducted course of homœopathic treatment those of these patients who presented after death no traces of inflammatory or other lesions would have recovered. This would at once reduce Grisolle's mortality by three-fourths. Thus from 8·84 per cent., the mortality would be reduced to 2·205 per cent.

That such a supposition is not a mere speculation, without due foundation in fact, we shall in the sequel find abundant cause to believe. Indeed, it is remarkable that by every test the difference between the mortality under either system is about in the above ratio. Why should this complication be an exception?

The reader is here requested to remark the distinction constantly kept in view, in the consideration of the complications of pneumonia, between those cases in which the disease, either from its nature (incurable organic disease, meningeal inflammation with serous, sero-purulent effusions, or other morbid products) or from its extent (as in tuberculosis of the lungs, in which a distinction is drawn between those cases in which the tubercular deposition occupies a large portion of the pulmonary tissue, and those in which only a small portion of this tissue is rendered unable to aid in the performance of the respiratory function), renders recovery either impossible in all cases, or possible only in a very small per centage of cases. We now come to the last complication—to the termination of that preliminary inquiry, without which it would have been impossible to proceed one step further in our essay; unless, indeed, we were satisfied with mere guesses as to the value of the indeterminate quantities, or with an arbitrary valuation of them—a process which might perhaps suit the taste of the mere advocate of a cause, but down to which the author of these papers would never condescend to bend for assistance in his laborious task.

VI. *Erysipelas.*—This is so rare a complication of pneumonia, that we have no facts before us by the aid of which we might determine its importance.

In Dr. Hughes's fifty-four fatal cases, there is only one mentioned as complicated with erysipelas. If this were the correct proportion, namely, one case to 180 or 200 admissions, it would give a mortality from this complication of less than two-thirds per cent. But with a single case in so large a series, we are led, with reason, to doubt whether this was not a mere coincidence rather than a result of the general laws, which, although unknown to us, we know, by their results, do govern disease.

Be this as it may, we can do without observations of this complication; for if we ascertain the relative mortality of erysipelas under the old and under the new modes of treatment, we shall be able to form correct conclusions respecting its influence upon the mortality of pneumonia under either system.

In the years 1847, 1848, and 1849* there were admitted into the Royal Infirmary of Glasgow 157 cases of erysipelas. Of these 19 died, one death in $8\frac{2}{19}$, or 12·10 per cent.

In the course of nine years (1835 to 1843) there were admitted into the homœopathic hospital of Vienna 177 cases of erysipelas of the face, which, together with four cases previously in the hospital, and deducting one case which remained in hospital at the close of this period, make up a total of 180 cases: of these two died. Besides these there were thiry-one cases of erysipelas of the foot. All the patients recovered. This gives an aggregate of 211 cases, with two deaths, less than one per cent., the allopathic mortality being 12·10 per cent.

In Dr. Hughes's cases one death arose from this complication, the erysipelas having become gangrenous. Supposing his fifty-four fatal cases to represent 180 admissions, and taking the homœopathic mortality from erysipelas at one-twelfth of the allopathic, this would give a mortality under the homœopathic treatment of pneumonia of one death in 2,160 cases from the complication of pneumonia with erysipelas.

Secondary Pneumonia.†—Dr. Routh tells

* As this is rather a free translation, I transcribe the original *verbatim*. "Chez tous les autres (à l'exception de 2, dont l'autopsie ne put être faite) on ne constata dans le cerveau ou les meninges aucune altération assez grave pour expliquer les troubles observés pendant la vie" (p. 391) It may be necessary to explain that there were twenty-seven cases in all, of these three-fourths died; one-fourth only recovered. Of the twenty or twenty-one who died, all, excepting two, were examined.

* In most of the preceding calculations, the series of four consecutive years (1846 to 1849) has been taken, because it is the only *unbroken* series I could obtain. In the present calculation, the reason for omitting 1846 is, that in that year the *erythemæ* cases are mixed up with the *erysipelas*—not because it forms any exception. The entry in the tables is as follows:—erysipela and erythema, total 42; cured, 36; relieved, etc., 3; died, 3; proportion of deaths to cures, 1 in 12.

† *Erratum.*—In the last paper, p. 669, col. 2, line 12, instead of "1·19," read "one-nineteenth."

This erratum is not to be regretted, as it gives us an opportunity of restating an argument, the point of which was through it entirely lost. Dr. Routh accounts for the difference in the mortality of males

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us that in the practice of Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock there were 17 cases of pneumonia, secondary "chiefly to fever," of these 10 died; mortality 58 per cent. (p. 53).

Much importance is here attached to secondary pneumonia, as unfavourably influencing the mortality of pneumonia, and perhaps rightly so; for it cannot be doubted that the slightest complication of, or the slightest acute disease preceding its development, must, with a method of treatment such as that of the old system, greatly tend to turn the balance against a favourable issue.

But, at the same time, we cannot help expressing our conviction that the influence of a previous disease upon the mortality of pneumonia has, like that of its complications, been greatly exaggerated.

Indeed, Dr. Routh has been very unfortunate in this case. He has overstated his argument in a manner which, were it not for the gravity of the questions under discussion, would require its fair meed of *ridicule*.

He tells us reproachfully that we are not accurate, perhaps not honest; for we do not include a sufficient number of secondary and complicated cases in our statistics of pneumonia! "The majority of cases of pneumonia recorded by homœopaths are *idiopathic* or *simple*, not *complicated* or *secondary*."

And "in the Glasgow Infirmary, out of 248 cases of pneumonia, 107 were complicated with fever, or 43 per cent." (page 50.)

In reply to this accusation, we declare that we record our cases *such as we meet them*; taking care, however, not to exaggerate the influence of complications.

and females in the complicated cases, 1 in 1·9 in the former against 1 in 2·0 in the latter, by the assertion that it is "owing to the greater number of cases affected with Bright's disease among the former." In our verification of this assertion we came to the conclusion that either thecause was disproportionate to the effect (to explain a difference of a little more than 5 per cent. in the results by a difference of 66·6 per cent. in the frequency of the disease), and hence not the true cause; or else that the influence of Bright's disease upon the per-centage mortality is much smaller than Dr. Routh makes it out.

Since the last paper was written we have carried out the analysis of this point (rather a knotty one, it must be allowed) to its ultimate consequences. The results are sufficiently interesting to make it worth the reader's pains to follow, one by one, each step of the reasoning.

This question may be viewed in two ways, thus giving rise to two hypotheses, the only two possible. Each will be taken in turn and fully analysed. *First hypothesis.*—It may be assumed that in the practice of Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock, both sexes were met with in the *usual proportions*, and that in each sex the proportion of cases of Bright's disease was exactly that which exists, not only in the cases in an hospital, but throughout the whole population of a town or district.

Upon this hypothesis the facts stand thus. In the cases of these three gentlemen there were 43 deaths; divided by 9, the proportion of kidney cases observed by Dr. Hughes in his 54 cadaveric inspections, these 43 death give 4·77 cases of kidney disease. The complicated cases, which comprise of course these 4·77 deaths, consist of males 39, deaths 21; females 23, deaths 11.

Our simplest mode of proceeding in order to attain the per centage in both sexes, exclusive of Bright's disease as a complication, will be to eliminate the value of Bright's disease in both sexes in succession.

4·77 cases of Bright's disease, being in the ratio in females of 33·3 to 66·6 in males, give for the former 1·59259 cases; for the latter, 3·18518.

The cases of Bright's disease being eliminated by deducting these numbers from the actual deaths met with by Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock, in their complicated cases, and the per-centage mortality on the total of complicated cases being calculated, we find that, excluding the mortality from Bright's disease, the per centage of deaths is in males 45·66; in females, 40·90; giving a difference of nearly 5 per cent. in favour of the female sex, the very reverse of what we should expect from the observations of Grisolle and Bruguet. This gentleman found the mortality in females nearly double that occurring in males. But this was in chief part due to the higher age of the females, most of whom were in fact old. This latter circumstance does not exist in Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock's cases, their female patients being younger than the average of Grisolle's. But Grisolle found, on the other hand, that with equal ages the mortality was somewhat greater in women than in men. Here, again, the discrepancy points out to the fact that this hypothesis cannot be the true one.

Second hypothesis.—It may be assumed that the proportion of females to males in Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock's cases does not represent that which exists in a whole population—whether of a town or of a district. That this is the case, the fact that their proportion of females is below the usual hospital average fully testifies.

In our *calculations* upon this hypothesis, it will therefore be necessary to ascertain the *ratio* in which one of the sexes, as met with in the cases of these gentlemen, stands to the others; next to divide the presumed number (4·77) of cases of kidney disease by the quantity found; and, finally, to divide this by the quantity found, as expressing the ratio of frequency of kidney disease in that sex, as compared with the other.

Let us first eliminate the value of kidney disease in the females. Deaths from complications, 21 males, 11 females; ratio of former to latter as 1·9090 is to 1. Dividing the presumed number of deaths from kidney disease, 4·77, by the above number, we obtain the result 2·5 to 1, expressing the ratio in which Bright's disease would stand in males to females, if its frequency were the same in both sexes. If now we divide the former number by 3, we obtain 0·833, the quantity expressing the number, taking Dr. Hughes as our basis, presumed to have been found in females. Taking the difference between this and the total of kidney cases for both sexes, we find the proportion to be in males 3·944.

Assuming the latter hypothesis to be the correct one, which I believe is the case, we should expect, on eliminating the mortality from Bright's disease, to find, if Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock's be correctly reported as regards this complication, a tolerably close correspondence between the mortality calculated in both sexes.

Now, what are the facts? The results so calculated give a mortality (excluding deaths from kidney complications) of 43·733 for males, and 44·204 for females; difference only 0·471 per cent.

Considering the favourable age of these females, we may put down this 0·471 per cent. as due to the influence of sex alone (as found by Grisolle).

But the principal conclusions to which we would point as gained by this analysis, is the fact that *Bright's disease of the kidney did not occur more frequently in Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock's cases than in Dr. Hughes's*; therefore, *our assumption of the facts observed by the latter as the basis of our calculation was perfectly right and proper.* And that, as an immediate deduction from this fact, the influence of this complication has been greatly exaggerated by Dr. Routh

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gerate the influence of complications, the more especially, as we find that these complications have *very little influence*, under our treatment, upon the results of the disease. (*Vide* the series of papers entitled "Homœopathy in Paris," *Homœopathic Times*, 1850.)

But let us return to the Glasgow Reports. In the four years 1846—49, there were admitted into the *General Wards* of the Royal Infirmary 122 cases of pneumonia and pleuro-pneumonia. During the same period of four years, sixty-eight cases were admitted into the *Fever Wards*, being, as Dr Routh tells us, secondary to or complicated with fever; proportion of the latter to the former 42·62 per cent., very near the proportion (43 per cent.) stated by Dr Routh for a different series of years. But what were the results of treatment?

In the General Hospital the cases could not be *all* of a very acute character, for we find that nineteen patients, or 15·57 per cent. of the whole cases admitted, were dismissed uncured, probably to die elsewhere!

In the Fever Hospital none were removed or discharged but as dead or recovered.

The reader may perhaps—considering the gravity of cases complicated with fever, or secondary to it, and that none of the cases were dismissed otherwise than dead or cured, and considering that "the majority of cases recorded by homœopaths" are neither secondary nor complicated, according to Dr. Routh—conjecture that the mortality was *much greater* in the Fever than in the General Hospital of Glasgow. Not in the least! These are the facts.

General Hospital.—Pneumonia admissions 122, dead 38; proportion of the latter 31·14 per cent.

Fever Hospital.—Pneumonia admissions 68, dead 24; proportion of the latter 35·29.

So that the deaths calculated upon the *admissions* are more frequent by nearly four per cent. in the Fever Hospital. So far Dr. Routh's assertion *seems* fairly supported. But this is not the *true* mortality.

It will be better shown by taking the following:

General Hospital.—Cured 65, dead 38; proportion of the latter to the former, 58·46 per cent.

Fever Hospital.—Cured 44, dead 24; proportion of the latter to the former 54·77 per cent.

So that in the Fever Hospital the deaths bear a smaller proportion by nearly four per cent to the cures than in the General Hospital!

The same results are shown by the following calculation.

General Hospital.—Admissions 122, cured 65; proportion of recoveries to admissions 53·27 per cent.

Fever Hospital.—Admitted 68, cured 44; proportion of recoveries to admissions 64·70. So that in the complicated or secondary cases, of those admitted, above 10 per cent. more recover than of those entered as uncomplicated.

Do not these facts prove, in the most forcible manner, that, although right in his statement that *complicated or secondary cases* are more serious than *simple cases*, Dr. Routh has greatly exaggerated the influence of the former upon the mortality of pneumonia?

(*To be continued.*)

SPECIMEN OF ALLOPATHIC PRACTICE.

THE following very interesting case shows that the allopathic treatment in its heroic forms is, indeed, a very terrible affair. Observe the immense amount of depletion. The bleedings, the cuppings, the blisterings, the shavings of the head, the setons, the leeches, constitute such an awful picture of allopathic misdoing, that we really have not heart to comment on the treatment. But the publication of such cases cannot fail to benefit our Cause, by contrasting the two modes of therapeutics.

Those who use such practice seem to be altogether unaware that what they call "depletion," and even some of our own body do not seem to be aware, that "starvation" can bring about the state of things described in the report of the *post-mortem* examination. We are satisfied that such cases as this ought to be published; and from time to time we mean to give such cases, to let our readers know what allopathic practice is. We are indebted to the "Chrono-Thermalist" for this extract, and for that in a late number about the DUKE OF KENT.

"The case of Elizabeth Wilson, second daughter of William Carus Wilson, Esq., born at Casterton Hall, near Kirkby-Lonsdale, Westmoreland, on 22nd June, 1800.

"She was strong and healthy till frightened at church, 9th December, 1818; bled, 16th December, 1818, then took her bed, and there remained for eleven years, subjected to the treatment detailed below; during which time she was never able to take any breakfast; her dinner consisted of a little fish, or something else of a light nature; but frequently she

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never tasted anything till the afternoon, and then only a little tea. Her nights were uniformly restless and sleepless. The throbbing and noise in her head were incessant, and the palpitations at her heart almost equally so. Sometimes distracted with pain in her teeth, and very often the whole of her mouth and throat was ulcerated or inflamed in the most excruciating manner, rendering her unable to speak or to eat" (p. 68).

No. of Page in Memoir.	Date.	State of Health, Symptoms, etc.	Medical or Surgical Treatment.	Remarks.
	1818			Kirkby-Lonsdale is 1½ mile
64	Dec. 9	Frightened at church.		from Castertons, hence it
73	,, 15	Walked to Kirkby and was bled.	Bled, first time.	must be manifest that if very ill and weak on the 15th, she could not have walked three miles.
65	,, 16	Soreness at chest and headache.	Took her bed.	We must not omit noticing she was well till bled.
	,, 22	In great danger.		
	1819			"During the years 1819 and
74	Jan. 22	Giddiness & trembling.	Cupped.	1820 her room was com-
	,, 30		Seton in back of neck.	pletely dark, she was un-
77	Feb. 2	Suffered by faintings.	Bled in the arm.	able to bear the light" (p. 110).
82	,, 9	Very low.		
87	,, 10		Bled in the arm.	
	,, 11		Cupped.	"Yet felt the symptoms
	,, 12		Bled.	coming on again," viz.,
88	,, 13	Became worse.	Bled again.	continual throbbing pain
91	Aug. 27	In a state of stupor, with convulsions.		in the head.
	1820			The memoir gives but a
93	Mar. 6	Dreadful pain in head.	Bled.	brief account of her phy-
100	Nov. 4	Ditto ditto.	Bled.	sical state of this year
	1821			and the following.
106	Jan. 20		Cupped.	
	1822			
185	Feb. 27	Fever very high.	Bled.	
	Mar. 1	Mouth ulcerated.		Query, whether by mercury.
	,, 4	Very ill.	Bled.	
	,, 14	Continued ditto.	Cupped.	
	,, 16	In great danger.	Bled.	
186	June 3	Very poorly.	Head shaved & cupped back of neck.	
187	July 17	Seized with feverish attack.		
189	Dec. 14	Poorly.		"First began to be ill four
	1823			years ago."
195	Feb. 22	Very, very low.	Cupped.	
196	June 6	Violent fever and inflammation.	Bled.	"Seized suddenly very ill."
	,, 7	Ditto.	Cupped and bled.	
197	,, 10	Very bad in head.	Bled again.	"Rather relieved, but sick after everything."
200	Oct. 1	Violent spasms.		
201	Dec. 15	Very poorly.	Bled.	
	1824			
205	Jan. 25	Very poorly.	Head shaved & a blister.	
	Feb. 10	Ditto.	Bled.	
	,, 20	Very ill indeed.	Bled again.	
206	,, 22	Very ill in her head.	Cupped.	"Rather relieved."
	,, 25	Head as if all the skin was off inwardly.	Head shaved and blistered.	
208	May 29	Seized very ill.	Cupped and soon after bled.	"In a most suffering state."
	,, 30			"Not one moment's ease."
	June 30	Weak and low.		
209	Oct. 25	Seized very ill.	Bled and cupped.	
	,, 26	Still very ill.	Blister on head.	"In great suffering."
	,, 27	Worse.	Bled again.	"Rather relieved."
	1825			
213	June 10	Suffered very much.	Head shaved.	
	,, 14	Very poorly.	Bled.	
	,, 20	Suddenly very ill.	Bled.	

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No. of Page in Memoir.	Date.	State of Health, Symptoms, etc.	Medical or Surgical Treatment.	Remarks.
162	June 21	Very ill (morning),	Bled.	"Insensible, cold as a stone,
	,, 21	No better (evening),	Cupped on temple.	rather better after bleeding; but delirium and restlessness soon came on."
	,, 22	Still very ill.	Cupped on other temple, and head shaved and blistered.	
163	25 or 26	Same symptoms,	Same remedies.	"Dreadful vomiting & fainting, and strongly convulsed."
214	Nov. 5	Head heavy.	Bled.	
	1826			
220	Jan. 22	Pain in head.	Opium and a blister.	"Most distressing nights."
221	Mar. 3	Taken very ill.	Bled.	"Fainted sadly."
	,, 15	Ditto.	Head shaved and blister put on.	
	,, 16	Very feverish.		
166	June 24	Very ill.	Bled.	
	1827			
169	Apr. 21	Pain in side and fever.		
230				
231	May 30	Constant headache.	Head shaved.	
	June 1	Ditto.	Cupped.	
	Aug. 31	Sore mouth and throat.	Blistered.	
232	Sept. 11	Ditto & ditto.	Another blister.	
	,, 14	Feverish.		
233	Oct. 15	Seized suddenly ill.	Bled and a blister.	
	,, 16	No better.	Bled again.	
	,, 20	Suddenly worse.	Bled a third time.	"This relieved her head."
	,, 24	Very feverish.		"Fainted three times, very, very ill."
	1828			Much in the same state during the whole of the year: very low, with fever and pain in head.
240	July 11	Pain in head.	Bled.	
	1829			
245	Jan. 14	Very feverish.		
	,, 17	Whitlow on finger.		
	,, 28	Toothache.		
246	Feb. 3	Face and toothache.	Leeches for toothache.	
	,, 7	Toothache.	Blister.	
247	Mar. 13	Fever and thirst.		
	June 4	Seized suddenly ill.	Bled.	
	,, 5	Very ill.	Leeches.	"Shattered frame, suffering acutely."
	,, 8	Very ill.	Bled.	
176	Dec. 26	Harassed & weakened by constant vomiting.		
	,, 27	Sudden stupor came on.	Bled in the arm.	"She then came to herself."
	1830			
	Jan. 2	Delirium came on.		
	,, 6	Fell asleep—died.		

"*Appearances forty-six hours after death, from post-mortem examination. The Head.*—On removing the skull-cap, the substance of the bones was found to be very irregular. The natural depression and prominences were peculiarly strongly marked. The dura mater was more adherent in the course of the longitudinal sinus than usual, and the vessels on the surface were highly injected with blood; those over the anterior portion of the hemispheres of the brain evidencing recent inflammation, and those on the posterior part very great congestion. The second membrane of the brain, the tunica arachnoidea, was opaque in patches—also said to evidence recent inflammation—and gelatine was effused under it. Indeed, under the membrane a considerable quantity of serum was effused. The ventricles of the brain presented nothing unusual. The substance of the *brain was much loaded with blood.* Upon removing the brain, the base of the skull presented the same strongly-marked character of its usual depressions and prominences as the skull-cap; indeed in some parts the prominences appeared like masses of adventitious bone—like so many points of unusual ossification. The petrous portions of the temporal bones in which the organ of hearing is developed, deviated considerably from the usual structure; inasmuch as they were remarkably attenuated and cellular, and easily fractured.

"*The Chest.*—Nothing remarkable but the heart, which was not more than half the usual size; its structure, however, was proportionate.

"*The Abdomen.*—Nothing remarkable presented itself here, beyond its contents partaking of the *general emaciation.*"*

*The foregoing case is taken from a work entitled "Memoir of a Beloved and Long-afflicted Sister." By William Carus Wilson, M.A., rector of Whittington. 8vo, second edition. Seeley. London: 1842.

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VIEW OF PROFESSIONAL LIBERALITY AT THE MIDDLE OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

ALTERED FROM A PAPER OF HAHNEMANN'S, "MUTATIS MUTANDIS," FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1801.*

(Communicated.)

WE do not here refer to that low, envious, trading spirit, for which the pressure of want is often the best excuse that can be made. We speak of the professional jealousy of medical men, sufficiently patent in the empire of Queen Victoria, which partakes of the character of the Arab, his hand against every man, and every man's hand against him. This insane jealousy has a most baneful influence on the noblest pursuit of man—the art of restoring health.

If this or that method of healing, this or that remedy, did not originate with this or that school, with this or that teacher—*war to the knife*, in the true PALAFOX style. *It did not originate with themselves*, and hence the hostility of puny sciolists.

The doctrine of HAHNEMANN was brought first before the profession in England in October, 1826, at a meeting of the MEDICAL SOCIETY, in Bolt Court, nearly twenty-six years ago, and is yet unrecognised by the bulk of our medical men. Permission has been refused to a homœopathic physician to examine the documents in proof of this fact. If HAHNEMANN had known England, he would not have complained of German intolerance.

An egotistical professional jealousy manifestly hinders the progress of true medicine, which is yet only in the bud. Surely England, the practical, should be able to bring this bud to blossom, and to fruit.

How spitefully was Harvey assailed when he taught the true doctrine, now recognised, of the "circulation of the blood!" How scandalously was Lady Mary Wortley Montague attacked when she imported from Turkey the practice of *inoculation*, to render more safe and mild, and to prevent future attacks of, small-pox!

Because she was the instrument of saving myriads of lives, she was charged with having a son by the Grand Turk!

How was Jenner treated? the man who introduced vaccination.

Gloomy enough are the prospects of the development of true medicine even now; for the worst feature is, that professional jealousy is as rife *within* the small band of medical reformers as among those *without the camp.*

* Hahnemann's Lesser Writings. Dudgeon's Translation. Wm. Headland, publisher.

There should be no *sectarian name*; there should be no *sectarian animosity*; for thereby the explosive spirit is roused to a fierce volcanic flame. We demand a calm, sober, and scientific investigation. Truth and a love for mankind beseem true medical reformers. Where all are minnows, in comparison with HAHNEMANN, why should there be such rivalry for the TRITONSHIP? Would it not be better for each of our body to say to each of the allopathic body, "Dear colleague, let us together investigate and observe the phenomena of disease, and the means of the different schools now in use for the treatment of such disease, and let us unite in laying before the world the results of our observations and of our experience?"

The spirit that is now in England, in the profession of medicine, is distinctly adverse and hostile to the investigation of therapeutical truth *for its own sake, and on its own merits.* This is not as it should be. How is the *plague-spot* to be removed?

The mutual detractions of medical men can have no other result than the depreciation and hindrance of their art, which is, in itself and in the best hands, obscure enough.

The homœopathists, following HAHNEMANN, show a mode of treating disease that directs us *almost unmistakably* to the appropriate remedy for every case—that points out to us how to discover, from the positive nature of medicinal agents, the diseases for which they are suitable. But because this method differs so much from that in ordinary use, because it is so simple, though difficult in the *mastery* of it, so unartificial and so free from the jargon of the schools, it makes little impression on the allopathic medical men, it is not studied by them, and they seek to *quietly shelve it.* We tell them, for their pains, they may as well attempt to transplant Paris to Salisbury Plain.

Here and there, this writer and that has claimed credit for recommending *Belladonna* as a *prophylactic* for *scarlet fever*; and no mention of HAHNEMANN, who proposed it more than half a century ago! *Aconite*, *Arnica*, *Calendula*, and other homœopathic remedies are coming into use among the allopaths; but they never mention the source from which they adopted them. So much for the liberality of our *sophists.*

Here are striking features of the professional liberality among the physicians of our time! Here is a fine specimen of a zealous endeavour to clear up the truth, of warm interest in promoting the welfare of mankind!

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"The furtherance of every means, be it ever so small, that can save human life, and bring health and security to any family, should be a sacred object to the true physician. Away, then, with all grovelling passions at the altar of this sublime faith, whose priests we are.

"We all strive after a holy object, or should do so, but it is not of easy attainment. It is only by joining hand-in-hand, only by a brotherly union of our powers, only by a mutual intercommunication, and a dispassionate development of our knowledge, one to another, of our views, discoveries, inventions, and observations, that this high aim can be obtained—*the perfecting of the medical art.*"

Physicians and surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland, be brothers—be fair, be just. We have quoted to you some of the words of the MASTER, how do you receive them? how do you act one to another? do you compare notes? does the allopath say to the homœopath I have seen lately fifty cases of this or that epidemic, my results have not been favourable? Does the homœopathic practitioner answer him fairly or candidly? Is there any communication between these rivals of different sects? Ought there to be any rivalry, excepting as to who shall benefit the greatest given number of patients?

Our readers are well aware how the very reformers are divided—how this or that person proclaims the merit of this or that chieftain; as if a Medical Reform for mankind was to be made a thing of partisanship! fie! fie! fie! They also know how very unscrupulously our adversaries deal with us, and say we kill those they cannot cure.

A Countess dies—the allopathic journals proclaim she is killed by homœopathy; her body is examined, and it is found she has an incurable lesion of the brain; these very journals publish the *post-mortem* examination, but do not say the case was incurable, and *therefore* homœopathy could have had nothing to do with the death.

A child has *tubular pneumonia* during the progress of whooping-cough, the allopaths have the treatment of the pneumonia from the very first day, attend him during eight days; the patient succumbs, and the death is said to be due exclusively to the homœopathic practitioner who attended him for the whooping-cough.

A man dies of renal disease, after having been sounded by a homœopathic surgeon for calculus; there is no evidence that any false passage was made, though there was a *post-mortem* examination, and yet these allopaths assume that a renal disease of long duration was brought on by the sound of the homœopathic practitioner.

A man of very advanced age dies of apoplexy, having been attended by a homœopathist, it was he killed the patient. Another dies of Asiatic cholera; it is proved that the homœopathic attendant was soon discharged, and an allopath attended the patient the greater portion of the time—an attempt is made to crush the homœopathic practitioner.

Are such injurious charges to be justified? Cannot homœopaths agree among themselves? and cannot allopath and homœopath meet on a neutral ground to discuss the merits of their different systems?

To give and to take—to bear and to forbear—are very important lessons. Why cannot they be learned? We appeal to those who have common sense and common humanity. To expect reasoning from the unreasonable is the most unreasonable of all things, and so we address our remarks to those that have understanding.

This is a nation remarkable for practical sense, and the people in the article of their health will overrule and master the class-interests that oppress them.

Let our people be once convinced that homœopathy cures more than allopathy, that the cure takes a much less time, and is far more permanent, and in proportion as they learn the value of life, of health, and of time, they will avail themselves of homœopathy.

There is a Homœopathic Hospital at Manchester; another will soon be opened at Doncaster, under the auspices and at the personal risk of Dr. Dunn, who ought to be liberally supported; there are already two in London, and soon there will be a third—the Homœopathic Hospital for the Diseases of Children.

These hospitals show that homœopathy has *taken root* in England. Edinburgh and Glasgow, in Scotland, and Dublin, in Ireland, are still without their hospitals. Why should this be so?

If the medical men were liberal towards each other, the homœopathic public would be abundantly liberal to all the public charities for the relief of the poor by homœopathic practice.

THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, JULY 10TH, 1852.

THE progress of science is confirming, day after day, the homœopathic doctrine. As

science becomes popularised, the public mind must become more and more familiar with the claims of homœopathy.

The following passage from the *Leader* of June 26, is one of the many instances we might quote.

"When iron is in mass, it has but a slight tendency to become oxidized; but the same mass of iron, if *minutely divided*, cannot be brought into contact even with atmospheric air at a low temperature without becoming red hot, and at the same time becoming converted into an oxide. Cobalt, nickel, and uranium possess the same qualities (Mulder). What is the explanation of this curious fact—which, by the way, is at the service of homœopathists as an argument for triturated medicines? Not that the particles of iron acquire a new force by division, but that these molecules, when accumulated into a mass, are prevented from acting in *that* direction, and their force is what we call 'latent.'"

We know very well that certain substances, inert in their crude forms, become energised, and acquire medicinal force by trituration and repeated subdivisions. Whether this be *magnetic*, or the development, by friction or succussion, of *latent* properties, matters not—experience teaches us they act medicinally; and this is, after all, the true test of any real therapeutical method.

The Indians of South America have a root, the expressed juice of which acts immediately in curing inflammation of the eye. They have also an herb, the leaf or the seed of which is curative of diarrhœa and dysentery. This is experience. The yellow fever is at present raging in some parts of that continent, and the European practitioners give five-grain doses of *Calomel* every two hours. The vast majority of their patients die; and yet it has been authenticated that the homœopathic treatment of this fearful tropical disease has been eminently successful in the Brazilian empire. But the allopathic doctors shut their eyes and close their ears, and will neither see nor hear; they reject all the evidence that is offered them. There is, then, such a thing as *rejecting experience*.

The citadel of life, however, is a sacred thing, and should be defended with all the muniments in our power. Those, especially, whose office it is to minister to the ailing and to those oppressed with disease, are bound to inquire into every proposed method of diminishing the sum of physical suffering.

We inhabit a body of death—one doomed to dissolution—but it should be our aim to maintain it in health so long as we can. Furthermore, sound health of body is necessary to complete soundness of mind; and the virtuous and pious who enjoy comfortable health are happy, and their happiness is admitted by all thinking persons.

There is no reason, humanly speaking, that the following description of a dying person should be often seen, and yet that it is no uncommon thing appears from the fact that the wonderful observer SHAKESPEARE is the describer.

"It is too late; the life of all his blood
Is touched corruptibly; and his pure brain
(Which some suppose the soul's frail dwelling-house)
Doth, by the idle comments that it makes,
Foretell the ending of mortality."

In the same drama, a little further on—it is the description of the death of King John—the same marvellous poet says:

"O vanity of sickness! fierce extremes,
In their continuance, will not feel themselves.
Death, having preyed upon the outward parts,
Leaves them insensible: and his siege is now
Against the mind, the which he pricks and wounds
With many legions of strange fantasies;
Which, in their throng and press to that last hold,
Confound themselves."

The narcotised death-bed is surely not a thing to be desired or envied.

The EUTHANASIA of the heathen of old did not consist in this; let any one read the Phædo of PLATO, and see how SOCRATES departed.

We hold that Homœopathy holds out a fair prospect of eliminating what are called hereditary diseases, of gradually extinguishing them, and that it affords the best means yet known of preserving a healthy mind in a healthy body, and of increasing

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the mesh of human life. It is therefore a Reform that claims the attention of the sage, the statesman, and the philanthropist, as well as of the physician.

We confidently oppose this NEW PHYSIC to what has been so happily called VETULISM by the writer of "Stray Notes."

EXTRACTS FROM MR. SHARP'S ENQUIRY INTO THE TRUTH OF HOMŒOPATHY.*

We are indebted to Hahnemann, a German of the last generation, for powerfully and perseveringly calling our attention to the latter principle or general fact, namely, that "*likes are cured by likes*," or, in other words, that the true properties of drugs can be discovered only by experiments on the healthy body of man, and that whatever symptoms of disease are thus produced are the true guides to the use of the remedy; for that it must be given only in such natural diseases as are attended with symptoms like those produced by the drug in the healthy person.

This proposition has now been put forth in such a strong and urgent manner, as to demand an investigation by every medical man who is conscientiously desirous of doing all the good he can to his suffering fellow-creatures. It does not seem to have anything in itself which must necessarily excite disgust or opposition; it is no theory of disease; it does not pretend to explain the *modus operandi* of medicines; it professes to be a *fact* upon which a method of cure may be founded. But it comes to us associated with another professed fact, of a much more startling character; namely, that the properly-chosen remedy acts with sufficient power, in the cure of diseases, in inconceivably small doses. It is this second proposition which excites ridicule, affronts propriety, rouses indignation, and provokes rejection. The two statements are not necessarily connected—one might be true and the other false—but they actually come presented to our minds in such a state of union, that they must be investigated together, and in all probability must stand or fall together.

Conceiving it to be my duty to inquire into the truth or falsehood of these statements, I have done so, in all sincerity and diligence, for nearly two years. Having been satisfied by this inquiry of their value, it has appeared to be also my duty to embrace them practically, in the hope of being thereby enabled to afford additional relief to my patients. Having gone so far as this, it seems due to my former friends and associates to present to them the grounds of so serious a change. I beg therefore respectfully to lay before them the following cases, as a selection from those I have treated after the new manner, and which, along with many others, have induced me to persevere with this treatment.

* An Enquiry into the Truth of Homœopathy. By William Sharp, F.R.S., Fellow of the Royal Medico-Chirurgical Society, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, and late Senior Surgeon of the Bradford (Yorkshire) Infirmary. Second Edition. London: W. Davy and Son, Gilbert Street, Oxford Street.

PAROTITIS.

Every one knows that the first effect of *Mercury* is to act upon the salivary glands; if, therefore, there be any truth in the law of "similia," *Mercury* ought to be a cure for mumps. I have had a great many opportunities of putting the law in question to this test, and I can with truth affirm that in every instance the result has been satisfactory. I gave nothing but *Mercurius* in various dilutions, and in every case the cure was rapid and perfect. It must be remembered that not the slightest local application of any kind was permitted in any one of the cases. The pain was amazingly mitigated, and there was no metastasis or sympathetic affection of any sort. In my former practice I had come to the conclusion that a *Mercurial* plaster, containing a little *Hydriodate of Potash*, was the most successful treatment.

CYNANCHE.

Miss —, of a nervous temperament, suffered from headache and sore-throat yesterday; to-day has vomiting of mucus and bile, and diarrhœa; pain like a cord drawn round the body.

Tinct. Bell. 3.

Evening. The vomiting and purging ceased immediately. Now feverish, with headache and sore-throat.

Tinct. Aconit. 3.

2nd day. No fever; tongue clean and moist; has had no sleep on account of severe compressive pain on the top of the head.

Ignatia 12, three powders, containing two pellets each.

In the evening she reported that "the pressure was relieved after the first powder, and the pain very much less after the second; the third entirely removed it."

3rd. Has slept well; is down stairs. Well, except an ulcer remaining in the left tonsil, and weakness.

Having exerted herself too much, this was followed by a bad night and return of headache.

Merc. 5.

5th. Better, but complains of weakness and depression.

China 6.

I afterwards found that my patient was agitated by various mental anxieties, which

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interfered with the recovery of her strength, and she went from home a short time. She returned well.

Other cases of cynanche have yielded beautifully to *Belladonna*, and one or two to *Nux Vomica*, where that remedy seemed better adapted to the constitution.

Aug. 7th, 1851. Thos. Rogers, aged sixteen. Severe cynanche tonsillaris; right tonsil very large, apparently suppurating, and must burst. I felt a strong inclination to thrust a lancet into it. He has had quinsy before, when the abscess burst. He is quite unable to swallow.

Tinct. Hepar Sulph. 5.

8th. Can swallow rather better; abscess has not burst. Continue the medicine.

11th. Throat not so well; more painful.

Tinct. Bell. 1.

12th. Throat no better.

Lach. 6.

13th. Throat much better; swelling subsiding. Repeat *Lach.*

15th. Well.

INFLAMMATORY CONGESTION OF THE LUNGS.

In February, 1850, I attended J. R—, a servant, for a violent attack of inflammation of the lungs, and not feeling myself at that time sufficiently master of the homœopathic treatment of so dangerous a disease, I prescribed for her in accordance with my former experience. Three weeks elapsed before she became convalescent, and it required some time to be spent in the country before she could return to her employment.

In the evening of the 25th of October, I was sent for by her mistress, to see her again. She had continued well all the summer, but having been out the previous evening in the wet, she was taken ill again in the same manner as before. She was exceedingly hot; her face flushed; her breathing rapid and difficult; she complained of violent pain in the chest and head; had a short, hacking cough; and her pulse 140, full and hard. The nature of the case was sufficiently manifest. I ordered her to take *Tinct. Acon.* 3, *Tinct. Bell.* 3, in half-drop doses every half-hour, alternately.

The next morning I was highly gratified to find that the flushed face and pain in the head were gone; that the pain in the chest was very much less, the breathing greatly relieved, and the pulse 115. She complained now only of pain in the back.

Tinct. Acon. 3, *Tinct. Bryon.* 2, to be taken as before. She had no other medicine, and recovered in a few days.

PLEURO-PNEUMONIA.

March 23rd, 1851. Mrs. W—'s nephew, a thin, unhealthy-looking young man of about 18. Has been ill some days from checked perspiration. He now looks deathly pale, is shivering, has headache, and his pulse is too rapid to be counted.

Tinct. Nux Vom. 3.

24th. Headache gone; nature of the case now more evident. The pain in the side, dyspnœa, short, dry cough, and the stethoscope plainly indicating pleuritis, and the inflammation extending to the lungs. Pulse 120; urine high coloured and very acid; the tongue has a dry stripe along the centre, and is furred on the sides.

Tinct. Bryon. 3.

25th. Symptoms much the same.

Tinct. Acon. 2, *Tinct. Bryon.* 2, alternately.

In the evening. Respirations from 40 to 48 in the minute; pulse 120; cough frequent. Expectoration now coming on, of a pale pink (tinged with blood); pain very severe in the right side and across the diaphragm. No relief from the *Bryonia.*

Tinct. Acon. 3, *Tinct. Bell.* 3, alternately.

26th, 8 a.m. Somewhat relieved, has had a little sleep; pain less; pulse still 120, but softer; breathing still frequent and short.

Evening. Very little pain, except when moving; pulse 110; respirations 32; sputa not tinged; air enters the right lung better.

Tinct. Aconit. 2, *Tinct. Bell.* 2, alternately.

27th. Has had a restless night; complains of pains externally in the chest and abdomen, sore to the touch; breathing nearly 40 times in the minute; pulse 108; has perspired freely on the body and chest; cough troublesome; has not expectorated much; mouth and breath disagreeable; tongue moist; urine less high coloured.

Tinct. Rhus Tox. 3, half a drop every two hours.

Evening. Looks ill; lies only on his back; pulse and breathing the same; no expectoration; no pain, except on moving or coughing.

Tinct. Phosph. 2, every two hours.

28th. Has had a good night, after a bad fit of coughing in the evening, and a difficult motion; looks rather better; is free from pain; pulse 103; respiration not so frequent; urine still rather high coloured.

29th. Saw him asleep; pulse 100; respirations 40; cough not so troublesome; much depressed in spirits.

Phosphorus 6, nine pellets in four ounces of water, a tablespoonful every three hours.

30th. Has slept all night; no pain; pulse 68; tongue still furred and breath fœtid; respiration rapid.

Mercurius 6, twelve pellets in four ounces of water, as before.

31st. Better; no pain; pulse 64; breathing still short and imperfect. Repeat *Mercurius.*

April 1st. In the act of dressing when I saw him. Breathing still frequent; other symptoms as before.

Tinct. Bryon. 3.

2nd. Feels better; pulse 70; expectorates freely; breathing rather better.

3rd. Improving rapidly. Repeat *Bryonia.*

4th. Has had a violent attack of pain in the muscles of the thigh and leg, which were beginning to swell, this continued for some days. The pain and swelling subsided under the use of *Aconite* and *Sulphur*, and the cough, expectoration, and difficulty of breathing entirely disappeared. I have since examined his lungs, and they have regained their healthy condition. He has had no return of the symp-

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toms, and is now pursuing his avocation, which is a trying one for such a constitution.

It is evident that this young man very nearly died. Experienced homœopathists will see that the treatment might have been better; doubtless the *Phosphorus* ought to have been given in the first instance instead of the *Bryonia*. Had this plan been adopted, I have no doubt that the recovery would have commenced earlier; but with all its defects the treatment was ultimately successful, not only in affording palliative relief but in effecting a radical cure. I feel a moral certainty that had he been treated with bleeding and blistering, purgatives, salines, and antimonials, he would have died, if not immediately (which I believe would have been the case), at any rate from the chronic disease which by this method would have been left behind. The time seemed long during which my anxiety continued, but after all it did not extend to a fortnight, and it must not be forgotten that the disease had been allowed to gather strength for nearly a week before anything was done to check it. I feel justified by the result in considering this case as a striking proof of the efficacy of the new remedies in such an acute and highly dangerous disease as pneumonia is universally considered.

Correspondence.

HOMŒOPATHIC CONGRESS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In reference to Dr. Fearon's letter, which appeared in the last number of the *Homœopathic Times*, allow me to observe that the time for meeting was never formally fixed, although the end of July was proposed; that on a remonstrance being received from London, where the great bulk of homœopathic practitioners reside, that this would be an inconvenient time for them, whereas September would be an inconvenient time for nobody, it was considered that to insist upon the former period would be improper and discourteous in the highest degree. The only reason given by Dr. Fearon for preferring July to September is, that we should have thus an opportunity of publicly braving the Medical Faculty of the University. Now, as the energetic measures taken in reference to Dr. Pope's rejection have been followed by perfect success, and as it is now tacitly agreed that no more students are to be rejected on a similar ground, it seems to us, and we are sure the majority of our colleagues will agree with us, that it would be highly impolitic wantonly to irritate a body of men who have still the power of doing much mischief to the Cause we have espoused, and the best thing that can happen is that this false step should be forgotten by all parties, if it be not repeated. Nor can we think that it would be of any consequence to get some two or three students, who may be favourably inclined to homœopathy, to join in our convivialities. There seems to us no need of any excuse for fixing on Edinburgh as our place of meeting; independently of its general claims as a metropolis and university town, and as the most beautiful city in Europe—for which reasons we presume it was selected by the British Association as one of the first places to hold its meetings—it has special claims of interest to a very large number of homœopathic practitioners as the place of their medical studies, with which they have doubtless many pleasant associations, which it will be agreeable to revive; and for those who have not yet been here, there could not be found a more healthy or delightful sojourn during the brief annual holiday which every one should allow himself.

J. RUTHERFURD RUSSELL, } Secretaries.
D. WIELOBYCKI, }

[Edinburgh was the place chosen at the Annual Meeting last year for holding the Homœopathic Congress this year, and therefore we need say nothing in addition to what the secretaries, Drs. Russell and Wielobycki, have observed on this point. We also believe with them that September will suit the convenience of the London homœopathists much more than the present month; and that many more would go at the later than could go at the earlier period.—ED.]

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—In your number of June 12 I perceive an attempt made by Professor Georgii to extend the charges against which I appealed on behalf of myself and Mr. De Betou. I confess I am grieved to find that the whole tenour of M. Georgii's reply goes to show that, in the opinion of some people, Ling's system is to be esteemed as a medical *mystery* rather than as a valuable branch of medical *art*.

But I should be averse from these and like remarks did not Professor Georgii, pursuing as he evidently is an uncalled-for attack, seek to disparage my attempts in the eyes of my professional brethren, and with arguments which, I feel convinced, they will be loath either to appreciate or recognise. The unpleasant conviction is forced upon me, both from this and the circumstance that he is the only Swedish practitioner now resident in London, that he himself is more intimately acquainted with the kind of information furnished your reviewer than he is willing openly to support. With less good taste than I should have expected, Professor Georgii voluntarily comes forward to give his testimony *against* Mr. De Betou's already published declaration. The character of this testimony is self-evident. After admitting that Mr. De Betou "well applied the degree of knowledge he possessed," he throws doubts upon the statements of that gentleman, although he does not actually deny the facts, making use of the expressions "as far as I know," "I believe," etc. I take it, however, that between the present *doubts* of M. Georgii and the *lâches* of his memory in this particular, the remark contained in the review, that Mr. De Betou's system had "about the same relation to Ling's movements as the processes of Mr. Harrup, of Brighton, or those of Mr. Beveridge, of Edinburgh, or of divers others of that class of

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gymnosophists," falls to the ground. Being satisfied, therefore, that M. Georgii has rescued the character of my predecessor from the danger threatened, in a far more efficient manner than I could hope to have done, I have merely a few words to say on my own behalf.

The explanation given in my last note as to the source whence I derived Branting's "formulæ" I need not repeat—save that, had I known the fact, he should have had the full credit of them, especially as he has hitherto published so little either for the guidance or instruction of others. The remarks of M. Georgii on the latter head can scarcely be satisfactory to any one at all interested in the treatment. I leave it to the profession to say whether these formulæ, if worth anything at all, are not as much *public professional property* as any formulæ of the schools. M. Georgii says distinctly they are not. I regret, then, to perceive the Swedish authorities on this subject assuming a position derogatory to the genius and character of our profession, and am compelled so to consider it. Whatever Professor Georgii's future opinion of the professional *status* of myself or others in this branch of therapeutics may be, I shall not seek to inquire; but this I honestly declare, that if I am only to comprehend the mysteries of these jealous formulæ "in the course of years," I will not only decline the ordeal, but abandon them altogether, convinced that the labyrinth would only darken as I proceeded.

Furthermore, Professor Georgii tells us that Ling "established a science containing a definite prescription for every movement of the human body, whether voluntary or inducted;" and again, "that Ling's science, as a living and practical art, can be no more traced out, in all its practical bearings, in a book, than can be the science of sounds and harmonies." If this be so, I have always admitted it; what just ground, I ask, is there to call in question the qualities or capabilities of any practitioner who may use his own common sense in applying these movements? And this, despite that excessive refinement of a very rational and simple treatment sought to be established to the prejudice of its promoters in this country. The importance of the subject must again plead my apology for occupying your valuable space.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. F. BLUNDELL, M.D.

32, Finsbury Circus,
June 16, 1852.

[We regret that press of matter has prevented our publishing Dr. Blundell's letter sooner. We assure him that next to our interest in homœopathy, though *longo intervallo*, is our interest in such hygienic means as the water-treatment, the movement-cure, magnetism, etc.—ED.

Miscellaneous.

THIRST RELIEVED BY WHAT PROVOKES THIRST.—The late Anthony White, Esq., one of the worthy examiners of the London Royal College of Surgeons, was called to see an old bachelor dying of dropsy, and who complained of incessant thirst; he advised his patient to drink but little. He related to me the following anecdote of his own life. Being from home for a few days, sporting with some friends, he remarked—"On my return, I was overpowered with thirst, nothing quenched it, nothing that I drank in any way appeased it; it was insufferable. One of the sportsmen, better acquainted with the fatigues of the field, recommended my taking some hot spiced soup which was then ready; at once the distressing thirst was assuaged in a way I could not have believed." *Similia similibus curantur.*

[We are indebted to Dr. Clarke of Islington for this anecdote.—ED.]

WHALE-FISHING BY ELECTRICITY.—The *New Bedford* (U.S.) *Mercury* gives an account of some interesting experiments, illustrating the effect of electricity to facilitate the capture of the whale. The most prominent features of this new method are thus described: "Every whale at the moment of being struck by the harpoon is rendered powerless, as by a stroke of lightning, and therefore his subsequent escape or loss, except by sinking, is wholly impracticable; and the process of lancing and securing him is entirely unattended with danger. The arduous labour involved in a long chase in the capture of a whale is superseded, and consequently the inconvenience and danger of the boats losing sight of or becoming separated from the ship is avoided. One or two boats only would be required to be lowered at a time, and, therefore, a less number both of officers and seamen than heretofore employed would be ample for the purposes of the voyage. The electricity is conveyed to the body of the whale from an electro-galvanic battery contained in the boat, by means of metallic wire attached to the harpoon, and so arranged as to re-conduct the electric current from the whale through the sea to the machine. The machine itself is simple and compact in construction, enclosed in a strong chest weighing about 360lbs., and occupying a space in the boat of about three and a half feet long by two in width, and the same in height. It is capable of throwing into the body of the whale eight tremendous strokes of electricity in a second, paralysing in an instant the muscles of the whale, and depriving it of all power of motion, if not actually of life."—*The Age.*

[We should like to know if the electricity that victimises the whale has been *weighed*, or if its *amount* has been ascertained. If not, and we know that as yet there are no means for gauging this subtle agent, we demand why our opponents should sneer at the small doses of the homœopathists.

We know that medicinal forces reside in dilutions or subdivisions so minute as to defy the appreciation of the chemist or the mechanician; but so does the amount of electricity that stuns or kills the whale.—ED.]

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 155. Vol. III. SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1852. [Stamped 4d. Unstamped 3d.

Communications.

THE DOG-DAYS.—HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT FOR THE ILL EFFECTS OF EXCESSIVE HEAT.

(Communicated.)

Of the intensity of the heat we have lately had, the following are important illustrations:—

"Fire caused by the Rays of the Sun.—The weather on Sunday, July 4th, was intensely hot. The thermometer in the shade, towards the middle of the day, stood as high as blood-heat. About half-past twelve o'clock the rays of the sun became concentrated upon a small timber building, and the heat was so great that the premises immediately afterwards became ignited, when the flames shot forth in a great body."

"Multiplicity of Deaths from Coup de Soleil.—On Friday, July 2, Mr. G. S. Brent held an inquest at Harrow on a labourer, aged 40. On Tuesday deceased, while hay-making, staggered and fell. His fellow-labourers, upon raising him up, found him in the agonies of death, and he only survived four hours. Mr. Heulett made a *post-mortem* examination, and found that death resulted from a *coup de soleil*. Mr. Brent held a second inquest, at Notting-hill, upon a nursery-maid, aged fourteen. Deceased wheeled the children to Kensal-green, a distance of two miles. Upon returning home she complained of headache, and laid herself outside the bed, from which she fell to the floor, in four hours afterwards, a lifeless corpse, and quite black. Dr. Frost, who performed a *post-mortem* examination, gave it as his opinion that death resulted from a *coup de soleil*. The coroner remarked that the number of deaths that resulted from the same cause within the week was truly frightful. Mr. Wakley had held two inquests in similar cases. It therefore was really necessary that medical men should meet and decide upon some specific against such dreadful calamities. Dr. Frost suggested the throwing of water from a height upon the head of the sufferer, a treatment successfully adopted in India. Before the coroner concluded the second inquest information reached him that a cheesemonger, residing in Tottenham-court-road, while speaking to a lady, fell dead to the ground from a *coup de soleil*, and communications have reached London from several districts announcing numerous fatal catastrophes from the same cause."

It may not only be interesting but useful to those who use the homœopathic treatment for themselves and families, to have some advice how to proceed at this time, or hereafter, on the recurrence of such tropical heat.

During very hot weather, it is more refreshing and cooling to use tepid water for ablutions and baths than cold water; as in cold weather, where there is reaction, it is better to use cold water. This is a matter of experience, and harmonises with the general truth of the homœopathic law.

No persons should, except in cases of absolute necessity, expose themselves to the fierce solar heat during the hottest parts of the day. The clothing should be adapted to the season. Children should only go out for exercise during the cool of the morning and evening.

One of the many beautiful illustrations of the Divine goodness and tenderness for the human family, to be found in Holy Writ, is in the fact that in Palestine, where the nights and days are nearly equal, the temple-service, the morning and evening sacrifice, was at six a.m. and six p.m.

The medicines that have been recommended for the injurious effects of exposure to heat are, chiefly, *Aconite, Antimonium crudum, Belladonna, Bryony, Camphor, Carbo veg., Opium, Silicea, Thuja,* and *Zinc.*

The choice of the remedy will here, as in all other cases, depend on the symptoms of the sufferer.

Aconite, for the effects of a sun-stroke, especially if there should be dry heat of the skin, apprehension, and fear of death; giddiness, especially on rising; stupifying pain in the head; weight and fulness in the forehead and temples, with pressing outward, as if the contents of the skull were forcing themselves out; strokes and pulsations in the head; heat and redness in the face. This remedy, when there are the above and other *Aconite* symptoms, is especially indicated for haymakers or others, who have foolishly *slept* in the sun.

Antimonium crudum, for those who suffer *mal-aise* from the heat of the summer, even when not exposed to the direct influence of the sun; if fatigue is easily excited by the slightest exertion; if there is drowsiness, and disturbance of the stomach, with nausea or diarrhœa, or other signs

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of gastric derangement; when there is much perspiration, especially at night. This medicine, the symptoms indicating them, may be beneficially followed (if needful) by *Pulsatilla* and *Mercury*. The proper *Antimony* symptoms are aggravated by heat, and in the heat of the sun, which shows its applicability, when the symptoms indicate it, for those who suffer from heat. The writer of this paper is now in attendance on a child suffering from gastric fever, with great cerebral excitement; constant nausea, frequent vomiting, drowsiness, with delirium, irregular pulse, red and hot face, involuntary wetting the bed, were the principal symptoms. *Antimonium crudum* was given with great benefit. The other symptoms suitable, the medicine was given on account of the aggravation of the child's sufferings from the intense heat. In some cases of those suffering from *mal-aise*, fatigue, and lassitude, with nausea, *Antimonii sulphuretum rubrum*, the *Golden Antimony*, has been (experimentally) given with benefit. The child above mentioned, six years old, had been usually bathed with cold water, but cried out for warm water, and she was always refreshed by being sponged with tepid water. This is an instance of natural instinct in disease.

Belladonna is a medicine that may be very useful in the cases of those who suffer from the effects of heat of any kind, of a sun-stroke, etc.: headache, with fulness and expansive pressure in the forehead; heat of the forehead, sense of a band across it; the sufferings increased on any movement and by moral emotions; fear for *present* objects; cries and tears; aching pains in the eyes, extending to the head; the head hot, the rest of the body cool, cold feet; great agitation; delirium, frenzy, and rage; dartings into the head as from knives; pulsations in the head; throbbings in the head; bending the head backward, and so on.

Bryony is cognate to *Antimony* for these sufferings; *nausea, vomiting*, and *diarrhœa*; inability to digest milk, which immediately produces nausea and vomiting; anger easily provoked; *fear respecting the future.*—*Bryony* would be indicated especially when any of its proper symptoms are present, such as pains in the limbs, increased on movement, on touch, etc.

Camphor is recommended by Noack and Trinks for a sun-stroke; constrictive headache, especially at the back part of the head and above the root of the nose, with loss of consciousness or delirium, or with spasms that draw the head to one side.

Carbo vegetabilis, for the headache that follows the being *over-heated*; sensation of cramp-like tightness in the brain, as if the scalp was contracted; the constrictive pain accompanied by nausea; pressure and burning pain in the eyes; obstruction or running of the nose.

Opium, when there is lethargy with snoring; face red and puffed; excessive desire to sleep, with utter inability to sleep: sleeplessness, with anxiety and tossing; delirium, with frightful visions; head bewildered; loss of consciousness; slow, stertorous respiration; apoplexy seems threatened; great weight of the head; eyes half-closed; cloudiness of the sight; convulsive twitches of the face; retention of urine.

Silicea is sometimes indicated after *Antimony* and *Bryony*, when heat causes nausea and other signs of gastric disturbance.

Thuja, itching of the skin, especially in the evening and during the night; pimples; cutaneous sufferings mitigated by the touch. Heat in the evening, especially in the face; pain, as if a nail were driven in at the crown of the head; painful tenderness of the left side of the head. Heat in the face; digging pain in the face and cheek-bones.

Zincum, violent beatings in the whole body; jerks through the whole body during sleep; pricking and itching of the skin; itching *rash* in the bends of the knees and elbows. Small boils between the shoulder-blades, on the back, and in other parts of the body; frequent aching in the forehead; tearing pains in the temples, with stitches behind the ears.

These brief jottings are of course meant only for those who cannot immediately have the attendance of a homœopathic practitioner, in case of dangerous or severe sufferings from heat, and little more has been done than merely to point out the remedies, of which the three or four first-mentioned are the most important (inclusive, however, of *Opium*, under circumstances that indicate this drug).

For the *eczema solare*, heat-rash, a very weak lotion of *Arnica* has been recommended—five or six drops of the tincture to a pint of water; but it is best not to interfere with it, except there be constitutional symptoms, when the appropriate remedy should be chosen.

Muriatic Acid, it has been said, however, has a specific action for this affection, when it is so distressing as to require relief. The *Muriatic Acid* symptoms—stinging, itching, in various parts of the body, relieved by scratching; pricking over the whole body; vesicles on the skin. We give a case recorded by Dr. Neidhard.

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"Miss—, is afflicted with *eczema solare* every summer, by exposure to the sun. This affection is characterised by numerous red pimples on the forehead, but particularly on the cheeks, and around the mouth, with itching. The whole face is so red, at times, that she is induced to shun society. *Muriatic Acid* 18, one drop was given every other day, from June 25th, 1838, to July 9th, and from that period to September, 1838, *Muriatic Acid* 6, removed it completely."

HYDROPHOBIA.

THERE are well-authenticated cases of homœopathic cure of this terrible disease. We add another, from the *Times* of July 9, quoted from an American paper.

"CURE OF HYDROPHOBIA IN THE UNITED STATES.—The son of Mr. Waite, of Cincinnati, was recently seized with hydrophobia. We learn by the *Cincinnati Gazette*, that since then, by judicious treatment, he has entirely recovered, though a running wound is intended to be kept up where the lad was bitten, in order to prevent the possibility of a return of the symptoms. The vesicles which formed under the tongue rapidly disappeared under the administration of Lachesis, a medicine prepared from the virus of the lance-headed adder, which was given as an antidote to the poison, and the spasms were prevented by the use of Belladonna and other remedies."

Now, considering that "legitimate medicine," as the allopaths delight to designate their method of practice, can do *absolutely nothing* for the mitigation and cure of this terrible calamity, we put it to the common sense of Englishmen, if these very allopaths are not bound, in common honesty and humanity, to try the homœopathic remedies. If the dog-day heat continues, there will probably be cases of hydrophobia in England, as there have been in France. We subjoin, as it may be interesting to our readers, a paper by Hahnemann, written and published *before* he discovered the homœopathic law, as one of general applicability in the treatment of disease.

THE BITE OF MAD DOGS.

(*From the Friend of Health, by Samuel Hahnemann. Published at Frankfort-on-the-Main, in* 1792.)*

The disease that results from the bite of rabid animals, most frequently of mad dogs, is of such an extraordinary and terrible character, that we are struck with horror on beholding a patient affected by it, and the mere description of his sufferings causes us to shudder. Among a thousand persons affected by real hydrophobia, often not one is saved. The most vigorous constitution, the best physician, the most recondite remedies, and the most implicit obedience of the patient and his friends, are in most cases all of no avail; in the possession of perfect consciousness the unfortunate being is usually, amid the most fearful symptoms, hurried off in a few days to an untimely end.

The patient feels an accession of pain in the bitten part, which may either be perfectly healed or still an open wound, it becomes surrounded by a blue border; a creeping sensation proceeds from it up to the throat, which feels as if contracted. The patient has pain in the head and stomach, and sometimes bilious vomiting. His sleep is disturbed by frightful dreams, he becomes restless; the hands, feet, and tip of the nose grow cold, the features distorted. He thinks he sees fiery sparks dancing before his eyes. He feels neither hunger nor usually thirst; the tongue is moist, but covered with viscid mucus; stools and urine suppressed, or he passes them of natural colour, but with pain. The pulse is weak and jerking, but not inflammatory. He cannot bear the approach of any liquid without trembling all over, with wild, anxious, sad expression. In like manner he cannot bear anything glittering, bright or white, anything approached suddenly towards him, loud talking, a draught of air, etc. In the lucid intervals he speaks rationally, but in a more timid, rapid, and nervous manner than usual; a hacking cough, sometimes combined with hiccough, interrupts his speech. His face becomes always paler and more distorted; the anxiety that dominates over all his actions is expressed also by the cold clammy sweat on his face and hands; his eyes are tearful and the pupils dilated. He tosses convulsively about in his bed. He seeks to run away. At length he hides his face, becomes quieter, and expires.

The *post-mortem* examination exhibits usually nothing abnormal. The extreme tension and excessive irritability of the nervous system and the sense of self-preservation shown in the anxious dread of approaching dissolution, these are the sole characteristics of this fearful disease.

I shall not here enter into a description of the countless remedies that have been proposed for it; their enormous quantity is of itself to a certain extent a proof that no sure mode of cure is yet known, otherwise that would be adhered to. I shall merely endeavour to remove some erroneous notions prevalent on the subject, and thus, if possible, endeavour to render this disease of less frequent occurrence.

The *first* and most prejudicial of these is the great confidence reposed in certain remedies said to be infallible, among which I allude chiefly to internal remedies. Some persons are bitten by a dog supposed to be mad. They use with all speed the renowned specific, and none of them takes the hydrophobia; all recover from their wounds without any serious consequences following; and in all the

* The Lesser Writings of Samuel Hahnemann. Collected and translated by E. Dudgeon, M.D. London: W. Headland, 15, Prince's Street, Hanover Square.

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country round nothing is talked of but the wondrous curative virtues of, it may be, the may-worm electuary,* or whatever else these patients used. It follows, of course, that in similar cases occurring in this district nothing more will be done than to give the bitten individuals the may-worm electuary. One of these, however, dies of hydrophobia, but the vaunters of the nostrum can furnish reasons for its inutility in this case; at all events, this single unfortunate case is regarded as the exception, against the many successful ones. Should it happen a third time that some one or other in the neighbourhood is inoculated with the poison of a mad dog, so that in the course of nature he must be affected by the hydrophobia, the electuary is at once confidently administered to the unfortunate individual, and it is only by the sad termination of this case that the remedy falls into disrepute.

Had the first cases of reported success been more carefully investigated, it would have been found that these first patients had received no true virus of rabies into their wounds, and that consequently the electuary had no difficulty in curing, as there was nothing to cure. The subsequent unfortunate cases might then have been prevented, had not such implicit confidence been placed in this internal remedy, but the far more trustworthy external preventive remedies been employed.

But what are the best external preventive remedies, and how can we confidently pronounce on the madness of an animal? These questions shall be answered farther on.

Thus much is certain, that the commencement of the malady is at first merely local. The poisonous saliva of the animal lies at first inactive in the bitten wound. The wound heals, and not the slightest inconvenience is experienced, until, after a longer or shorter period, symptoms of irritation of the nervous system, and along with them the fatal hydrophobia, make their appearance. Could we at first extract the poisonous saliva from the wound as completely as we can a splinter or a bullet, it would be impossible that rabies could result from such a bite. But if it be already present, we know *no* remedy whereby it may be certainly cured. Hence all trusting to such specifics is unsafe and injurious, if we have not already frequently tested their efficacy on fully-developed hydrophobia.

The second error which may prove injurious, is the belief that a dog has communicated the poison by its bite if he die within a few days of rabies, and has not communicated it if he continue alive; consequently that a dog that soon dies with the symptoms of this disease, which fear magnifies excessively, was mad, but that one that recovers could not have been mad. In the former case (and who can deny it, as we know as yet so little of the maladies of the domestic animals?) it might have been quite a different disease that the dog had which inflicted the bites, and the remedies employed for these bites thus falsely acquire a reputation as specifics for hydrophobia. In the latter case, in spite of all the danger, none is apprehended; the only useful remedies for the parts infected by the virus are neglected, and the fatal disease is in all certainty allowed to break out.

We find in the records of medicine many instances* in which the severe bite of a dog that afterwards died with all the signs of rabies, infected some persons but not others, without the latter employing anything, and on the other hand, there are undeniable instances showing that dogs of whose bite persons have died of hydrophobia have remained alive.

To refer to but one case of the latter sort, I may mention that Martin Lister, in the 13th vol. of the *Philosophical Transactions*, relates the case of a robust young man, who, six weeks after being bitten, became affected by hydrophobia, of which he died fourteen days thereafter. At the same time, the same dog bit a little dog, which died the day following of rabies; but the large dog itself recovered, and was quite well eight weeks after it had been mad.

A similar instance of a rabid dog which recovered, some children, at the risk of their lives, diligently washing its wounds, is to be found in the 20th volume of this instructive collection, where we also meet with the cases of two young men, related by Dr. Kennedy, *who recovered from the hydrophobia without employing any means*. Had any of the renowned specifics been used in these cases, would not the cure have been infallibly ascribed to it? Can a medicine be extolled as infallible for this disease, or even as very useful, that has not cured at least ten cases of developed hydrophobia?—Where is there such a medicine?†

The third error is the delusion entertained even by physicians, that the virus of mad dogs can only cause infection when introduced into the wound caused by a bite, or some other open wound.

As a proof of the incorrectness of this, cases are not rare where mad dogs have merely licked the external skin, and yet have communicated the disease. Two boys, as we learn from De la Prime, in the 20th volume of the *Philosophical Transactions*, frequently cleaned with their hands the wounds of a dog that had been bitten by a mad dog; many months afterwards, *without ever having been wounded*, they both were attacked simultaneously by hydrophobia, which lasted a week, when the eldest recovered, and said timidly to his father, "I am well." The same happened to the other. They remained well three or four days, then again had violent attacks of hydrophobia for a

* A nostrum for the hydrophobia purchased at an extravagant price by the Prussian Government.

* Vaughan saw from twenty to thirty persons bitten by a mad dog, of whom only one among them, a boy, died of hydrophobia, the rest escaping unaffected.

† Unless it be perhaps the root of *Belladonna*. Might not a very strong extract of *Black Henbane*, prepared *without heat*, administered in sufficient quantity in the form of pills, be able to cure this disease? A number of *theoretic* reasons lead us to have strong hopes that it might. But the extract must be so strong that two grains of it are sufficient to cause in a healthy individual troublesome symptoms, stupefaction, etc.

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week, and thereafter recovered without relapsing. Likewise in the 23rd volume we find the history of two servants, who frequently inserted their fingers into the throat of a dog (that had been bitten by another rabid dog, and did not die for three weeks afterwards), in order to feel if there was anything the matter with it. Both were affected by hydrophobia without having been wounded; the stronger of the two recovered without using any medicine, but the younger died of hydrophobia on the third day.

I myself knew a boy whose face was licked by a dog that was going mad, and who died of hydrophobia.*

It is in general the safest plan to consider the bite of an unirritated dog as that of a mad dog, and to treat it accordingly. This is the surest way to guard against hydrophobia.

The wound should be immediately washed out with water in which a quantity of potash has been mixed, and this should be repeated frequently, and until the surgeon arrives, who should bring with him a piece of caustic potash, and touch the open wound therewith until a slough the thickness of the back of a knife is formed, whilst the moisture that exudes should be removed by blotting-paper. The pain is not very severe, the slough falls off in a few days, and the clean wound soon heals. If this is done first of all and very quickly, we may feel quite at ease, and do all in our power to comfort and console the patient,† and tranquillize his circulation. A moderate blood-letting in plethoric individuals, or a glass of wine given to persons of an opposite constitution, will suffice for this purpose. If this frightful disease can by any means be prevented, it is by such means; but *not by any internal medicine* hitherto known.

The part of the skin which, although not broken, may have been wetted by the saliva of a dog which has become suspicious from having bitten others, must be diligently rubbed with potash, and washed continually for an hour with a solution of the alkali. If a blister be afterwards applied to the spot, then all danger will be more than warded off.

No dog should be trusted that bites people unirritated, and has a gloomy wild expression. It is far better to kill too many of these often useless beasts, than to allow one actually rabid to roam at large; man's life is too precious, and should be held paramount to every other consideration. Merely to shut up for a few days dogs bitten by a mad one is always dangerous, as examples are not awanting where they only became mad several weeks after being bitten. They must either be killed, or be kept in safe custody for at least four weeks, before they are trusted; the former must absolutely be done in case the dog that inflicted the bite was very suspicious.

A dog may be suspected of commencing rabies when it ceases to be friendly, will scarcely wag its tail on being patted by those it likes best, appears very tired and lazy, is cross and dejected, dreads the light, and creeps into dark corners, where it lies down without sleeping. It never barks, not even when there is the greatest cause for it doing so; it merely growls at anything approaching it suddenly, and springs out at it. The eyes are dim, the tail and ears hang down. At this stage the bite commences to be dangerous.

This state lasts but half a day, or a whole day, and then the second stage of rabies breaks out. The animal no longer knows its own master, eats and drinks no more, becomes restless, growls with a hoarse whine, without ever barking, goes about threateningly with dependent head, red watery eyes, having a sad expression, and directed towards the ground. It involuntarily moves the lower jaw in a mumbling manner; its leaden-coloured tongue, dripping with saliva, hangs out of the mouth; the tail is stuck betwixt the legs; the hairs of the whole body stand out in a disorderly manner. It tries to run away, snaps at everything before it, and runs along, irrespective of the road, without apparent object, straight and crooked, at a quick, usually unsteady pace. Other dogs run away from it.

* Cœlius Aurelianus, Palmarius, Van Hilden, Callisen, Odhelius, Gruner, and Morando have recorded similar cases.

† A clergyman was affected by chronic hydrophobia merely from imagining that a dog that had bitten him was mad. He would have died had not a physician pointed out to him the erroneous nature of his idea. He soon recovered after the physician had succeeded in convincing him, and without taking any medicine.

AN ESSAY ON HOMŒOPATHIC STATISTICS;

Together with a Critical Analysis of Dr. Routh's Work, entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

(*Continued from page* 715.)

XVII.

Simple or Primary Pneumonia.—We have seen how much importance is attached by Dr. Routh to the complications of pneumonia, and how much he insists upon the necessity of carefully separating the *complicated* and *secondary* forms of this disease from the *simple* and *primary*, if we would obtain statistics, both trustworthy and useful. So far Dr. Routh is perfectly right; but where he is wrong is in ascribing too great an influence upon the mortality in pneumonia to the various complications which he enumerates.

His apparent object in so doing is twofold. He first casts a doubt upon the validity of homœopathic statistics, by attempting to show that simple primary pneumonia cases constitute a larger proportion of the cases recorded in the homœo-

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pathic than in the allopathic statistics. Thus he says, "another important fact in connection with these statistical returns is the following: the majority of cases of pneumonia recorded by homœopaths are idiopathic or simple, not complicated or secondary" (p. 50).

And, secondly, by attempting to show that in the allopathic returns—*e. g.*, those of Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock, whose complicated cases, as reported by Dr. Routh, amounted to 55 per cent. of the whole—whilst the mortality in the complicated and secondary forms together amounted to 53·1 per cent., it was only 3·2 per cent. in the simple and primary cases.

In the course of our analysis of the various statements made by Dr. Routh, with reference to the complications of pneumonia cases observed in London, we have found—by calculating the mortality per-centage likely to arise from each of the complications enumerated by him, taking as our basis observations made in London and elsewhere by allopathic physicians, whose opinions are of the greatest weight in medical science—that the influence of these complications has been greatly exaggerated by Dr. Routh.

From this demonstration the following corollary may be deduced. Since the influence of the complications on the mortality, in a given series of cases, has been exaggerated, the per-centage mortality in the simple or primary cases must have, by some corresponding process, been decreased.

Dr. Routh, in a spirit which we certainly shall take care to avoid, has been so unfortunate as to pen these lines:—"It is hence manifest that, by diminishing the number of complicated cases, the cipher of mortality may be diminished; a mode of stating a result not likely to be detected, if the fatal cases are carried under a generally-admitted fatal complication—phthisis, for instance, or œdema of the lungs, of which disease twelve out of thirteen died in Fleischmann's Hospital between 1835 and 1843" (pp. 50, 51).

This suggestion has already been fully commented upon in preceding parts of this essay. It would not, therefore, be again brought forward, were it not to show that allopathists are fully alive to the advantage of resorting to a mode of concealing their ill success, which they charitably impute to homœopathists.

There are, I am sorry to say, facts which prove that, paraphrased as follows—the alteration being italicised—this suggestion is fully applicable to the advocates of the old system:—

"It is hence manifest that, by *increasing* the number of complications,* the cipher of mortality *of the uncomplicated cases* may be diminished; a mode of stating a result not likely to be detected, if the fatal cases are carried under a generally-admitted fatal complication—phthisis, for instance, *or Bright's disease, the frequency and influence of both of which we have found to be so greatly exaggerated in Dr. Routh's treatise.*"

It is far, very far from being our purpose to lower a question of vital importance to society at large, such as this is, to the low level of discussions of mere personalities. Much rather would we divest it of all personal or party considerations or interests, and view it in a purely philosophical and philanthropical spirit. Such has been our effort throughout; but sometimes, as in the present case, when our adversaries have stepped beyond the bounds of legitimate discussion, it has been necessary to show them the evil tendency of their proceedings. That nothing could show it to them in a more vivid light than by turning occasionally their own arguments against themselves, every one will readily admit. Let us, therefore, all strive to deal with scientific questions with that calm spirit and singleness of purpose which can alone lead us to the truth. Is not the field of labour of each of us large enough, and are not the duties which we have to accomplish sufficiently arduous to claim all our energies of body and of mind, without allowing us time to scan invidiously or too suspiciously the course of others? Whether we follow the banner of *authority* in medicine, or follow that of *reform*, are we not—provided we proceed cautiously, and yet with faith that ours is the right path—are we not all labouring for the elucidation of truth and the ulterior welfare of our fellow-creatures?

We have seen that, by his method of classification, Dr. Routh has made it appear that in Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock's cases of pneumonia the majority were complicated, and that whilst the general mortality was 30 per cent., that occurring in the idiopathic or simple forms

* My attention to this process, and hence to the complications in Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock's cases, was first and most forcibly called by the fact that in his classification of Dr. Tessier's cases, treated homœopathically, Dr. Routh places the three deaths which occurred in the practice of that gentleman *among the complicated cases.* (*Vide* Routh's Appendix, p. 78). Had he not done so, the singular fact would have appeared, *that in the complicated cases treated homœopathically not one single death occurred.* This was really the case, and Dr. Routh's classification is wrong. These patients died, not of complications, but because they were brought into the hospital at a too advanced stage of the disease.

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was only 3·2 per cent.; the difference between these two results being ascribed by Dr. Routh to the number of complicated and of secondary cases, the mortality in which amounted to 53·1 per cent.

But having, from Dr. Routh's mode of classifying Dr. Tessier's (homœopathic) cases, seen reason to doubt the soundness of the basis of his classification, we have entered into a full analysis of his complications and into a careful appreciation of the value to be ascribed to each, in calculating the per centage of mortality. We have thus found that the influence of the complications has been considerably exaggerated.

In endeavouring to ascertain the per-centage mortality in *simple* or *primary* cases, as the heading of this section requires us to do, we might obtain the desired result by eliminating the first quantity, namely, the value assigned to the complication, and thus reach our conclusion with but little time or trouble. But sound conclusions in science are never to be obtained without the expense of both time and trouble; therefore we think it better to ascertain this per centage by another method—a more direct method—and by means of a new set of facts. The advantage to be gained by this will be twofold. In the first place, the results will either affirm or condemn our previous conclusions; in the next place, the results obtained will be possessed of a value not relative, but absolute, and will hence be available for a subsequent stage of our inquiry.

We have often alluded to the statistics of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, deservedly commended by Dr. Routh. But they cannot be of any use to us at present; for beyond the distribution of the cases into the *general* and into the *fever* wards, which Dr. Routh tells us indicates that the latter were *complicated with* or *secondary to fever*, we are not told the number or the nature of the complications.

Allusion has also frequently been made to the Appendix to the *Reports of the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary*, by Dr. T. B. Peacock. In this Appendix the results obtained are admirably arranged in a series of tables, exhibiting them under various forms. Unfortunately, I have only been able to procure the Reports for 1842. It so happens also, that in that year the mortality was not in accordance with the usual average. It was as follows: admissions (exclusive of a case of gangrene of the lungs) 42; deaths 16; ratio of the latter to the former, 38 per cent.

This mortality, somewhat higher than the average observed at that Institution, which is, according to the editors of the "Introduction to the Study of Homœopathy," who quote from the Reports of the Edinburgh Infirmary from July, 1839, to October, 80 to 222 admissions, or 36 per cent., differs too little (by only 2 per cent.) from it to invalidate the conclusions to be drawn from the year 1842.

But if this difference is to be considered in its effects, we may at once declare that it can only affect our conclusions by *adding to* instead of *taking from* the number of complications observed. Now, the reader is by this time too well schooled by Dr. Routh's teaching, to doubt that if the mortality be high, it is *of course due to the number of complications!* But what are the facts?

There were 42 admissions (*exclusive of the case of gangrene*); there were 16 deaths. These deaths are accounted for in Table XIX. (p. 21), in which "the cause of death" in those cases "in which examination of the body took place" is given. Of these 16 deaths, 5 were *due to complications*, stated as follows: *pneumonia with miliary tubercles in the lungs*, 1; *with tubercle in the mesenteric glands*, 1; *with pericarditis*, 1; *with organic disease of the stomach*, 1: 4 in all. Deaths from *simple pneumonia*, 12: 4 deaths from complications to 12 without, and yet a mortality of 38 per cent.!

But let us calculate the per-centage mortality of the uncomplicated. To do so will be an easy task.

Pneumonia admissions 42, deaths 16 (excluding from the number of admissions and of deaths the case of gangrene of the lungs). If we eliminate the four deaths, which, as already stated, were the consequences of complications with tubercles in the lungs and in the mesenteric glands, with pericarditis, and with organic disease of the stomach, we obtain a residue of 38 uncomplicated cases, 12 of which terminated in death; giving a mortality of rather less than 1 in 3, or 31·57 per cent.

As already stated, the mortality in 1842 was rather higher than that observed during the twenty-seven previous months. In the Report of the Edinburgh Infirmary, embracing the period from July 1, 1839, to October 1, 1841, prepared by Professor Reid, there are recorded 222 cases of pneumonia, 80 of which ended in death. From October 1, 1841, to October 1, 1842, there were 42 admissions, and 16 deaths. Mortality in the former period 36·03 per cent.; in the latter 38·09: difference 2·06. The latter period, the only one for which we

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could obtain the Report, may therefore fairly be taken, in order to ascertain the proportion of deaths in uncomplicated cases.

If we assumed Dr. Routh's views regarding the statistics of pneumonia, namely, that all the deaths excepting 3·2 per cent. are due to complications, to be correct, we should expect to find in the Report for 1842 a much larger proportion of complicated cases. For that reason it is not to be regretted that we have only the Report which gives the higher mortality, as it shows in a very forcible manner how much the influence of complications has been exaggerated by the antagonists of homœopathy. It shows also how little reliance can be placed upon the other value, that given to simple and primary pneumonia. The value obtained at Edinburgh (31·57 per cent.) is nearly ten times as great as that (3·2 per cent.) declared by Dr. Routh to be the value found in London.

Let us now ascertain the mortality in uncomplicated cases in Dr. Hughes's practice. To do so is not so simple a task as the reader might expect, for Dr. Hughes's papers were not written with the view of giving the statistics of pneumonia in general, or of any of its forms; however, with a little attention, we can attain the end in view without much difficulty. The facts upon which our calculations shall be based are the following.

In a *note*, at the foot of page 12, we find these words:—"Since writing the above I have, by collating the cases in my note-book, been enabled to calculate the ratio of mortality of dextral, sinistral, and double pneumonia, so far as it can be estimated from only 24 fatal cases observed during life, and examined after death. The result is, in some respects, opposed to the conclusion which would, at first sight, appear to be deducible from the numbers stated above, and is as follows:—

	Per cent.
Pneumonia of right side, fatal in the ratio of	27
,, left side ,,	10
Double pneumonia ,,	37

"In respect to the acknowledgedly high rate of mortality, it should be recollected that they were hospital cases, and that *in five instances* the disease was *complicated with phthisis*, and *in seven others with empyema, aneurism, hæmaturia, epilepsy, delirium tremens, pericarditis*, and *emphysema respectively*."

We thus have two points ascertained: 1st, the number of complications in the number of living patients represented by these 24 deaths; 2nd, the ratio of mortality, according as the pneumonia is single and sinistral, or dextral, or else double. But we require a third point, namely, 3rd, the number of cases in which each of these forms was observed.

This third point is given in the preceding page. In a table, the number of cases of dextral, sinistral, and double pneumonia observed in 100 cases is given thus: the column is headed "living cases in former paper." The side affected with pneumonia—of the right side alone the cases were 52; of the left, 29; both sides were affected in 19; the side not mentioned, 1. Total, 101. As the last case is in every respect null and void, being in fact a case not properly observed, it should be eliminated. We thus have a series of 100 cases with the ratio of frequency of double and of single pneumonia, whether sinistral or dextral, obtained by *observation*; the ratio of mortality of each form was obtained by *observation also*. If we *calculate* the mortality upon this basis, *i. e.*, the *observed facts*, we shall obtain the number of living cases which the 24 deaths represent. To ascertain, subsequently, the mortality of the uncomplicated cases, after excluding the complications, as enumerated by Dr. Hughes, will be an easy task.

The Side affected with Pneumonia.	Number of Cases observed.	Observed Ratio of Mortality per cent.	Calculated Mortality per cent.
Right side alone	52	27	14·04
Left ,, ,,	29	10	2 90
Both sides	19	37	7·03
	100		23·97

This gives us a mortality of nearly 24 per cent. in Dr. Hughes's cases.

But it may be objected that 23·97 cannot be made to represent 24 deaths, there being a difference of 13 thousandths. In order to be accurate, we shall therefore not take 100 cases with 23·97 deaths, but we shall take the 24 deaths, which at the same ratio we find to represent 100·125 living. The difference is very small, and might have been neglected. But our business is not to deal with *approximations*, but as far as possible with exact quantities. Here the necessity for accuracy is all the greater, since we are dealing not with hypothetical or imaginary quantities, but with calculations based upon facts also observed by a very accurate physician.

(*To be continued.*)

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, JULY 17TH, 1852.

THE CASE OF MR. PASCOE.

THE HOME SECRETARY has declared the sentence of transportation is to be carried out, and that Mr. PASCOE is to be banished as a felon.

The following extracts from the *Times* were lately given in the columns of the *Medical Times and Gazette.*

"Mr. Crowder rose to ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether he had received any applications in favour of William Hamblyn Pascoe, a medical practitioner, sentenced to ten years' transportation at the last Cornwall assizes, for administering savine with intent to procure abortion; and whether he was aware that the opinion of the only medical witness for the prosecution, that no medical man of competent skill would use savine unless his object were abortion, had been shown to be erroneous by a large body of the Medical Profession, and had been admitted by the witness himself, since the trial, to have been expressed in ignorance of the fact that savine was in use in the profession for legitimate purposes; and whether it was the intention of Her Majesty's Government to advise a pardon, or any mitigation of the sentence.

"Mr. Walpole replied, that several applications had been received by him with respect to the case of Mr. Pascoe, and that the greatest attention had been paid to them, in consequence of the respectability of the quarters whence they came. It was quite true, that the only competent medical witness on the trial had since expressed his ignorance of the fact at the time that savine was used for legitimate purposes, but the hon. and learned gentleman would draw a very wrong inference from that fact if he imagined the circumstances were not sufficient to support the verdict of the jury (hear, hear); and as the case had made a great stir among the Medical Profession, he might as well state that, after the most careful and minute investigation, he had no hesitation in his own mind that this person was really guilty of the charge; for he examined the woman three or four times—he gave her large doses of savine for nineteen consecutive days—he took her to his own house, where the child was born—he conveyed the body in a bundle at dusk to the sexton; and it was buried at night. (Hear.) Under these circumstances, he was not prepared to say the intention of the Government was to advise Her Majesty to mitigate the sentence. (Hear.) He might add, that these were cases of great anxiety to any one who filled the office in which he was placed. (Cheers.) He had given this particular case the greatest attention, and he hoped the House would bear with him, and not press such questions upon him. (Cheers.)"

The evidence of the *malus animus* against Mr. PASCOE is altogether unsatisfactory. In fact, the clear inference to be drawn from the whole evidence is that he gave savine, not knowing that the woman was *enceinte.*

But the medical testimony clearly shows the uncertainty of allopathic practice. Savine is the Βράθυ of DIOSCORIDES, who flourished in the first century of the Christian era, and its use in medicine is therefore of great antiquity; and in different ages very different medical properties have been assigned to it, and consequently it has been used (allopathically) in various disorders.

Mr. PASCOE believed the patient suffered from disorder of the heart and liver, and in one of his student-day books of medical authority (he became a licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries in 1823) he had seen savine recommended in such cases—so he gave it.

"Savine is a powerful stimulant," says one of the allopathic authorities (Dr. ANTHONY TODD THOMPSON), "possessing diaphoretic, emmenagogue, and anthelmintic properties. It has certainly a considerable effect on the uterine system; but on account of its stimulating properties, is suited to those cases of amenorrhœa only which are *unattended by fever*, and in which the circulation is languid. In plethoric habits its use should be preceded by *repeated bleedings* (HOME, Clinical Experiments, p. 387), and at all times its internal exhibition requires caution. It has been given in gout, and in worm cases also. The dose of the powdered leaves is from grs. v. to grs. xv., administered two or three times a day."

Mr. MOORMAN (M.R.C.S. Eng. 1829, L.S.A. 1828) gave an opinion at the trial that "Mr. PASCOE, if a man of competent skill, must have known this prescription would only answer the purpose of procuring abortion." We have shown, on Dr. TODD THOMPSON's authority, that savine has been used in various disorders. It

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must be remembered that he was one of the three greatest pharmaceutical authorities of Great Britain. Mr. PASCOE sees a patient with certain symptoms as detailed by herself; he consults a book formerly of great authority, prescribes savine for her in moderate doses (according to the measure of the allopathic school), and abortion taking place, he is condemned as a felon, and sentenced to transportation.

The only competent medical witness on the trial, "according to Mr. WALPOLE, had since expressed his ignorance of the fact at the time that savine was used for legitimate purposes." But that medical witness decided jury and judge.

"Take away this opinion, and what becomes of the circumstantial evidence? Leave out all about the savine, and put the rest of the evidence together. A young woman goes to a surgeon, and asks for advice; the surgeon gives a medicine which, according to the hypothesis, is innocent. The patient gets no better, returns to the surgeon, begs his servant to let her remain in the house, is there confined of a dead child, which the surgeon, unfortunately for himself, has buried by the parish sexton. As we said before, take away the savine, and nothing remains on which even a charge can be founded. Was Mr. Pascoe to blame because he allowed this young person to remain in his house? Was he to blame because the body was buried in public by the sexton and not in secret by himself? Yes, he was to blame, certainly, for indiscretion, but not to be condemned for guilt. No; it was felt by the judge that these circumstances proved nothing, and that without the evidence that savine would be administered only for a felonious purpose no jury could have convicted.

"Mr. Walpole did not state the facts of the case correctly. Mr. Pascoe first administered savine in moderate, not in large doses; the patient then discontinued the medicine, and, several days afterwards, went to Mr. Pascoe's house. She was not taken there by Mr. Pascoe, as asserted. While in the house, according to the woman's own statement, she never told Mr. Pascoe that anything more was the matter with her than 'disease of the heart and liver.' Mr. Pascoe examined her—that is, her heart; it nowhere appears that he examined her in reference to her pregnancy. She took only salts; and, although, according to Mr. Walpole's mode of putting the case, the woman was taken to the house in order that abortion might be produced, it is certain that, while there, no means whatever to effect this purpose were used; and the indictment was not for any action at this period, but for using savine some weeks before.

"To read Mr. Walpole's statement, one would think that Mr. Pascoe took her to his house, examined her repeatedly, and gave her large doses of savine.

"We should be quite satisfied if the case were put to the judge in these words:—The administration of savine being in most cases legitimate and good practice, were the other circumstances of the case sufficient to prove that, in this instance, it was given *malâ fide?* If Judge Erle will say that they were, we will submit to the decision. If he will not, Mr. Pascoe ought not to be transported. Nothing more will be said in the House of Commons, and our hopes are therefore but small. But we will not surrender the matter without a last attempt to gain another hearing.

"Mr. Pascoe is a licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries. We are convinced that in no better way could the Society show its zeal for the interests of those connected with it, than by examining into the merits of the case, and by obtaining from Mr. Walpole, even now, a reconsideration of the sentence. Let any member of the Court place himself in Mr. Pascoe's position, and then let him ask himself whether he would not feel that all his brother medical men were bound by the highest obligations of Christian morality to afford him help in a conjuncture so terrible."—*Medical Times and Gazette.*

We not only feel sympathy for poor Mr. PASCOE, but we wish our readers to observe the vacillation and discrepancy of allopathic practitioners on this subject of the medical properties of their own drugs, and also to notice the *see-saw* mode of practice. Savine is *stimulating*, therefore in the case of plethoric persons its use is to be preceded by repeated bleedings.

We sincerely hope the generous part taken by Mr. HINGSTON, of Liskeard, Mr. HARRIS, of Redruth, by the Ethical Society of Manchester, and by the Editor of the *Medical Times and Gazette*, may be rewarded by Mr. WALPOLE'S favourable reconsideration of Mr. PASCOE'S case.

WHAT IS HOMŒOPATHY?

BY WM. SHARP, F.R.S.

WE propose to give some extracts from this paper, because we think the testimony of a man of acknowledged science and character, who was formerly a distinguished allopathic practitioner, is of great advantage to our Cause. Mr. SHARP is not only a scientific and a practical man, but he is also a cautious one. He is well acquainted with the inductive philosophy, is a conscientious and pains-taking experimenter, and would be satisfied with nothing less than complete conviction on any subject of his investigation, before he declared his opinions.

"Among the many important topics of the

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day,' none, having reference to this life only, can possess higher claims to calm inquiry and earnest attention than the various resources which are available to mankind, when suffering from bodily disease—a trial which few, if any, at all times escape.

"In the present age of discovery and invention it would be remarkable if, while all around are sailing onward, the physician alone was becalmed; while every branch of art and science is progressively and rapidly improving, the resources of medicine remained stationary. But this has not happened; the onward wave has reached the surgeon's barque, and he also is afloat upon the mighty waters of natural science.

"There are indeed many who would stoutly stand upon the 'old paths,' but in this case we have no inspired prophets and apostles, as happily we have in an affair of higher moment, upon whom to rest as upon a firm foundation. The opinions of mere men, however venerable by age, are but a sandy base. The people of the present times are—

'Nullius addicti jurare in verba magistri.'

Nature's laws and nature's facts alone are able to stand the rigid scrutiny to which the sentiments of men, in physical science, are now so unreservedly exposed.

"Some men's minds, under such an apparently unsettled and disorderly state of things, will become sceptical and faithless. This arises from indolence; they will not give themselves the necessary trouble to investigate, and thus they throw truth and falsehood overboard together, and vainly try to rest upon a negative. But to the more active and industrious mind the same condition is stimulative to exertion. Truth is sought after with earnestness, and when found, is embraced with satisfaction and delight.

"Among the medical inquiries of the day, homœopathy, in the judgment of many, is the most important which has yet appeared, while in the opinion of many more it is 'the biggest humbug that ever was!' It is proposed to consider, in a few words, what homœopathy is not, and what it really is."

In his first proposition, *Homœopathy is not a novelty*, Mr. SHARP quotes from HIPPOCRATES. The Roman historian, SUETONIUS, in his account of the Emperor AUGUSTUS, gives a like testimony. Many passages might be quoted, not only from SHAKESPEARE, but from all *first-class* poets, in recognition of our law. Mr. SHARP gives the following passage from the Second Part of SHAKESPEARE's Henry IV.

"In poison there is physick; and these news
Having been well, that would have made me sick,
Being sick, have in some measure made me well."

The fact is, that the homœopathic law being a law of NATURE, all true thinkers, however unconsciously, must, in some way or other, have borne testimony to it.

Mr. SHARP's second proposition is, that *Homœopathy is not quackery*. He says:

"The essence of quackery is secrecy. The individual practising it pretends to the possession of some valuable remedy—a nostrum—which he sells for his own private gain, but which he will not disclose for the public good. Homœopathy has no secrets—no nostrum—it courts inquiry, it entreats medical men to investigate it. This is not quackery.

"Homœopathy, in its present form, was discovered by a regular physician (Hahnemann), and was first published in the leading medical journal of Europe (Hufeland's), in 1796. It has been studied and adopted by several thousands of regularly educated and qualified practitioners, some of them professors in universities, and others, leading men in their profession, who urgently call upon their colleagues to follow their example. They offer every facility in the way of instruction, by hospitals and dispensaries, and by private information which it is in their power to give. This is not quackery.

"Homœopathy is no field for the St. John Longs and the Morisons—the patent medicine vendors. The unsettled, unsatisfactory, and unsuccessful course of the educated physician leads his patients to try quacks and quackery, whose means, it must be acknowledged, are very similar to his own, and sometimes more successful. Nothing would so effectually drive away all real charlatanry as the adoption by the profession of a recognised law of healing, and the carrying this out fully and fairly, so as to derive from it all the success which can in reason be looked for."

We come now to his third proposition—*Homœopathy is not an uncertainty*; and we here, too, give his statement *in extenso*.

"It is surprising how the opponents of homœopathy, and even some of its friends, bewilder both themselves and others, when they endeavour to explain what homœopathy is. The impression is thus produced that the new doctrine is nothing more than a wild theory, very vague, and very worthless. The most common mistake is thus stated:—'A medicine or a poison which will produce a disease will cure *it*.' 'If I am fatigued with a long walk I must take a short one!' This is the same curing the same—not *like curing like*. *Similis* is not *idem*. Greek scholars ought not to fall into such an error as to confound ὁμός with ὅμοιος; they may be reminded of the controversy between Athanasius and Arius, in the fourth century, and the difference between ὁμοούσιος and ὁμοιούσιος.

"Let me try to set this matter in a clear light. 'Give,' says Hippocrates, in a particular case of insanity, 'a draught from the root of mandrake, in a smaller dose than will induce mania,' that is, if taken in health. In both cases there is an alienation of mind, the symptoms are similar, but the causes are different, and the cases are not identical.

"The preparation of mercury called corrosive sublimate is one of the most violent poisons; two or three grains are sufficient to destroy life, as has happened when it has been given by mistake for calomel. The symptoms it produces are well known to be those of inflammation of

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the stomach and bowels, accompanied by diarrhœa with bloody stools;—in the words of Taylor,* symptoms 'like those of dysentery,—tenesmus and mucous discharges mixed with blood being very frequently observed.' In March, 1852, I saw J. C., a tall spare man about thirty, suffering from a severe attack of dysentery; his countenance much distressed; a great many stools for three days, consisting of blood and jelly-like mucus, with considerable pain in the abdomen, increased by pressure, and a quick pulse. I dissolved one grain of corrosive sublimate in half an ounce of water, put four drops of this solution into two drachms of dilute alcohol, and gave him six drops of this tincture in four ounces of water, directing him to take a dessert-spoonful every three hours till the symptoms abated. He had no other treatment, and in three days he was quite well. Here the symptoms of the dysentery were like those which this preparation of mercury produces, but they had not been occasioned by corrosive sublimate, *therefore* it was a proper remedy on the principle of *similia*,—that like cures like.

"Every one knows that the Spanish fly, cantharides, even when only applied externally in the form of a blister, very often acts injuriously upon the bladder, causing strangury and other painful symptoms connected with that organ. I hold in my hand a little book with the following title, 'Tutus Cantharidum in Medicinâ Usus Internus, per Joannem Groenevelt, M.D., e Coll. Med. Lond. Editio Secunda, 1703.' This book is full of interesting cases of strangury and other affections of the bladder very successfully treated by the internal use of cantharides. Here is a special case of homœopathy—of like curing like—or, in the words of the old translator of Hippocrates already quoted, 'Velut urinæ stillicidium idem facit *si non sit*, et *si sit* idem sedat.' The drug produces the complaint *if not there*, but *if it be there*, it cures it. For this method of treatment, the author tells us in his preface, *he was committed to Newgate*, on the warrant of the president of his own college—the Royal College of Physicians of London. 'Chartâ quadam manibus propriis signatâ, sigilloque firmatâ, me sceleratorum carceri (*Newgate* vulgo dicto), malæ praxeos, reum asseverantes tradiderunt!' This happened in 1694—just a century before Hahnemann. It is worthy of remark, before quitting Dr. Greenfield, that the dose of cantharides which he gave was such as to oblige him to give camphor along with it, as an antidote to correct the otherwise aggravating effect of the fly. The present method of reducing the dose, which we owe to Hahnemann, has enabled me to cure similar cases of diseased bladder without the addition of the camphor, and without fear of aggravating the symptoms.

"One instance more. Belladonna, when swallowed as a poison, produces a scarlet rash, a sore throat, fever, headache, etc., all which symptoms appear in scarlet fever. Belladonna, as was first discovered by Hahnemann, not only generally cures, but often preserves from scarlet fever. *Belladonna does not produce or cause scarlet fever, but it does produce symptoms similar to those of scarlet fever.* Whoever will carefully study these examples will no longer charge the doctrine of homœopathy with vagueness and uncertainty."

* Medical Jurisprudence. Article Corr. Subl.

With his fourth proposition we should be inclined to break a lance with him, but this is an *open question*, and *a matter of experience*. *Homœopathy is not an infinitesimal dose.* It is certain that HAHNEMANN, in the first instance, used the ordinary doses, and gradually reduced them, from finding that *such* doses of any medicine which were homœopathic to any case produced unnecessary and sometimes perilous *aggravations* of the disease. By gradual *reduction*, by cautious *induction*, by multiplied *experimentations*, and after an *experience* of many years, he arrived at his *infinitesimal* doses. It is certain that the *smallest* dose of the highest dilution, or dynamisation, call it what you will, that is capable of producing the curative effect is the *best*. This, however, we state, is entirely *a matter of experience*. We now let Mr. SHARP speak for himself.

"This is another popular mistake, diligently, though perhaps ignorantly, fostered by the opponents of homœopathy. Like curing like—*similia similibus curantur*—says nothing about the dose. All that is essential to the carrying out of this principle—all that the general fact or law of nature requires for its fulfilment is announced by Hippocrates: give the poison in a *smaller dose* as a remedy in the natural disease, than would be sufficient to produce similar symptoms in a healthy person. A smaller dose—how much smaller is a matter of experience. If twenty grains of ipecacuanha will make a healthy person sick, the twentieth part of a grain may be required to cure a similar sickness. If twenty grains of rhubarb will act as a purgative, one grain may cure a similar diarrhœa. If two grains of arsenic or corrosive sublimate might bring on fatal inflammation of the stomach or bowels, the thousandth or the ten-thousandth part of a grain may be sufficient to cure,—not that inflammation brought on by itself,—but a similar inflammation arising from other causes.

"It should not be forgotten that homœopathy, as a principle, was discovered by experiments made with ordinary doses, and he is a true homœopathist who may never prescribe any other. The nature and effects of the so-called infinitesimal doses are separate questions; those who make use of them find that they are (from whatever cause) efficacious and generally sufficient, but no man is pledged to use them exclusively, though many do, being satisfied from their experience that they are the safest and best mode of administering medicine. No one will deny that they are the pleasantest, and if success follow their use, why should they not be used? Because, it is said, they appear absurd, and their action cannot be explained.

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But if a fraction of a grain will cure a disease, is it not more absurd to give a poisonous dose? And who can explain the mode of action of the large dose any more than of the small one? If diseases disappear of themselves under suitable diet and regimen, or if the small doses afford all the aid required, why should patients be 'encumbered with assistance,' or their recovery be retarded or jeopardised by the unwieldy and often injurious interference of large doses of poisonous drugs? Why has it so often been said that 'the remedy proved worse than the disease?'

We propose, with the author's permission, to go through the remainder of this paper; and we again recommend to the *homœopathic public* the perusal of this essay, and of Mr. SHARP'S "Inquiry into the Truth of Homœopathy."*

Correspondence.

THE ANNUAL HOMŒOPATHIC CONGRESS.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—As the letter of the Secretaries of the Congress published by you, on the 10th, places me in an unfair position, I must request your insertion of a few lines in reply.

My reason for preferring July to September was not, as they assert, "only that we should have thus an opportunity of publicly braving the Medical Faculty of Edinburgh." I merely stated, what others who were present at last year's Congress can bear me out in, that Edinburgh was fixed upon (Leamington having been previously proposed), by way of reply to the attacks that had been made upon us there.

I certainly think that our meeting would have possessed a greater degree of moral weight and dignity by its taking place before the University is closed and the town half-empty, than it will now have. Nor would there have been necessarily any greater degree of "braving" in that case, since allopathy and allopaths are not likely to be much attacked at the Congress. The discussions at it are more likely to be occupied by some members finding fault with each other for giving too large or too small doses, too seldom or too frequently repeating them, and giving too high or too low dilutions.

I entirely dissent from your correspondents in believing that the Medical Faculty are a body of men who have still much power to injure our Cause. Doubtless they may be able to cause a little annoyance to some of the Edinburgh homœopathists, but they have now learnt, from the outcry raised on account of Dr. Pope's case, that in resorting to violent or unjust measures they would be only injuring themselves, not us, and have therefore wisely resolved to be quiet; nor could they be very easily roused into action again.

The danger we have to fear, and against which no remedy has yet been provided, is that individual professors may mark those students who become favourable to homœopathy, and contrive their rejection as if on account of ignorance. This could be quietly done without raising any stir.

To prove that the Medical Faculty in Edinburgh are as hostile as ever, we have only to call as witnesses Drs. Russell and Wielobycki; the former having found it necessary to write, not long since, to the papers complaining of the conduct of certain surgeons, and the latter having been meanly attacked in a journal conducted by four Professors, the attack being followed by the comical scene reported to have taken place between Professor Syme and Dr. Wielobycki, in which the Professor was left standing, as a modern imitation of Jupiter, enveloped in a shower not of gold, but of one-pound notes.

Wishing to avoid giving rise to any unpleasantness, I shall waive further observations, which the tone and matter of your correspondents' letter are calculated to suggest, and am,

Your obedient servant,

Birmingham, July 13, 1852. GEORGE FEARON, M.D.

QUEEN'S HOSPITAL BIRMINGHAM.

To the Editor of Aris's Birmingham Gazette.

SIR,—In your publication of the 7th, a correspondent signing himself "*Philomedici*," and who may be either a half-convert, or, as some suppose, an enemy in disguise, suggests that a ward in each hospital should be for two years placed under the care of a homœopathic physician, for the purpose of fully testing the system. The chief objection to such a proposition is that there is no mention made of sufficient accommodation being allowed for our own nurses and house-surgeon. We could not trust to the ordinary nurses of the hospital to administer the medicines in our absence, as their prejudices would be likely to interfere with the proper performance of that duty, while we should also require a house-surgeon who had some knowledge of homœopathy to be at hand, in case of emergencies arising during the night or at any other time.

Some months ago, when it was sought to establish an hospital for consumption here, the committee of the Queen's Hospital, by way of putting a stop to the project, put forth an advertisement, in which they stated that they had ample accommodation for receiving consumptive patients, but want of funds prevented them making use of the spare space. Now, what I would propose is, that they should place at the disposal of the homœopathists—and we would, if they desired, pay a reasonable rent for it—some of this spare space sufficient for the reception of at least fifty patients, and for not less than a year.

The medical officers of the hospital would of course be allowed to watch the treatment of the cases, and if it was considered necessary, only such patients should be received into those

* What is Homœopathy? By Wm. Sharp, F.R.S. "Inquiry into the Truth of Homœopathy," by the same author. William Headland, 15, Princes Street, Hanover Square.

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wards as came expressly for homœopathic treatment.

Whatever the result of the trial, the hospital would be the gainer by it, for if homœopathy was proved to be false, it would have obtained the character of being conducted in a fair and unbigoted spirit, while it would have at the same time the merit of being the first British allopathic hospital in which a practical and thorough trial of the system had been made. On the other hand, if the trial proved favourable to homœopathy, as I have every reason to believe it would, the greater part of the friends of homœopathy here would in future have a feeling of sympathy towards the Queen's Hospital, and would be under a moral obligation to support it; and as all acknowledge that they are a rapidly-increasing body, such a support would be very valuable to an institution not overburdened with funds, while it would have been easily obtained. The hospital, too, would afterwards have an historical interest attached to it, and its fame would extend wherever the keenly-contested struggle between the old and the new modes of practice was known. Then, as to its medical officers, the one or two—if there are indeed as many, for on that point I am very sceptical—who really believe homœopathy to be a delusion, would, we may naturally suppose, be delighted with so good an occasion of overthrowing it, while if it proved to be true, the whole of them would have an excellent means of studying it, and would be enabled to make use of it in their practice without that risk of damaging themselves which they would otherwise incur.*

As this is a question which concerns the public even more than it does the members of the medical profession, is it too much to ask of the Editors of the Birmingham papers that they should employ their pens in advocating a trial such as I have proposed? Hoping that you, Sir, will at any rate take the matter up,

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

GEORGE FEARON, M.D.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

DEAR SIR,—Last year I attended the Congress at London, and after Edinburgh had been proposed for the Congress of 1852, I suggested Dublin for the meeting in 1853, so that we should take the metropolis of England, of Scotland, and of Ireland in succession. In the month of May next, Dublin will contain an Industrial Exhibition, that is likely to mark the year 1853 with no less glory in the annals of industry than any that have preceded it. The organization for its execution is now complete; the project has passed from the region of vague rumour, and taken a form and substance that leaves no room for doubt.

Let us therefore have our meeting in 1853 in Dublin, and to it let us draw our continental reformers, Liedbeck, Bönninghausen, and others, and from their lips let us learn their medical experience. Perhaps we could induce Fleischmann, Tessier, and their colleagues to visit the Irish Crystal Palace and the Irish Homœopathic Congress of 1853. We should make our therapeutics generally known, and to that meeting we ought to invite Crampton, Cusack, March, Graves, and Stokes; men worthy of an invitation—men who could appreciate the philosophic teaching of Hahnemann.

Let us weep over the animosities of scattered discord in the camp of young physic, let the pure and holy elements of peace be with us; and when we meet at Edinburgh, in September, let it not be said that this leader or that leader is absent, and let not those men at this side and that side of young physic think or imagine that they are leaders—for we require no leaders; we shall press on with the law of cure of the great and good leader Hahnemann. Let a man worthy of the chair of that Congress be invited—let Henderson be there, and then who can be absent? Our meeting shall then be fully reported. Our editors shall not forget their duties, and as their articles are written for the public as well as for the profession, let them, in mercy's sake, keep back their spleen, and hide such utter worthlessness, that our impure state may not appear while bearing the banner of reform; and with the eloquence of St. Basil, and in the words of Pope, I shall transcribe those lines of the poet, that may lead us in our advance to the "Temple of Fame."

"As on the smooth expanse of crystal lakes
The sinking stone at first a circle makes,
The trembling surface, by the motion stirred,
Spreads in a second circle, then a third;
Wide and more wide the floating rings advance,
Fill all the watery plain, and to the margin dance."

I am, Sir,

THE PILOT THAT WEATHERED THE STORM.

RELIEF OF THIRST DURING THE PREVALENCE OF GREAT HEAT.

To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.

SIR,—My attention has been drawn to the case, *Thirst relieved, etc.*, among the miscellanies of your last number, which has put me in mind of a *preventive* to thirst, well known in the parched and drear walks of India, especially in military marchings, and which I have myself applied most successfully, not only in India but in Egypt likewise, and which also is within the reach of every traveller, namely, that of keeping constantly, while it lasts, one or two smooth pebbles, the size of beans, or a little less, in the mouth; this soon creates or excites *saliva*, which relieves the sufferer under thirst.

AN OLD INDIAN OFFICER ON THE SHELF.

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* Perhaps my former antagonist in your columns will use whatever influence he may possess as one of the physicians of the Queen's Hospital, in promoting this trial; it would be a graceful act on his part, and would be an evidence that at the time he attacked us so strongly, he really was under the delusion that homœopathy was a delusion.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.
Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

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Communications.

AN ESSAY ON HOMŒOPATHIC STATISTICS;

Together with a Critical Analysis of Dr. Routh's Work, entitled "The Fallacies of Homœopathy, and the Imperfect Statistical Inquiries on which the Results of that Practice are estimated."

By John Ozanne, M.D.

(*Continued from page* 732.)

XVIII.

Dr. Hughes's statement of the number of complications found in the "24 fatal cases observed during life and examined after death," is not worded with sufficient scientific precision to allow of its being made the basis of our calculations, in the present stage of our inquiry, without being first carefully scrutinized, and the different interpretations which may be put upon it fully weighed.

Simple as it appears when first read, this statement may be interpreted in three different ways. Let us take each of these interpretations in turn, and see to what result it would lead us, before we decide upon the superiority of its claims to our confidence. These different ways of explaining the statement give rise to the following hypotheses:—

First Hypothesis.—The 12 complications were not all fatal cases.

If so, we must take the *ratio* of mortality in complicated cases given to us by Dr. Routh, and calculate the number of deaths which must have occurred among the complicated cases. This number of deaths deducted from the total number (which is 24) will give the deaths occurring, according to this hypothesis, in the uncomplicated cases.

	Living Cases.	Calculated Number of Deaths.	Ratio of Mortality.
Complicated	12	6·12	51·00 per cent.
Simple.....	88·125*	17·88	20 16 per cent.
	100·125	24·00	

Second Hypothesis.—These 12 deaths from complications (if by that number of complications Dr. Hughes meant that they were all deaths) represent a larger number of complications observed in the living patients, among whom the 24, or total of deaths occurred. Taking Dr. Routh's ratio of mortality in complicated cases, we calculate the number of living patients these 12 deaths represent, we deduct this number from the total of living patients, and thus obtain the number of the uncomplicated cases among which the other 12 deaths occurred. Thus:—

	Deaths.	Living Cases.	Ratio of Mortality.
Complicated.	12	23·529	51 00 per cent.
Simple.....	12	76·596	15 53 per cent.
	24	100·125	

Third Hypothesis.—These 12 deaths comprised *all* the complications. On this hypothesis the results would be as follows:

	Deaths.	Living Cases.	Ratio of Mortality.
Complicated	12	12·000	100 00 per cent.
Simple	12	88·125	13·61 per cent.
	24	100·125	

The results, as exhibited in the above tables, are simply these. If we admit that, first, Dr. Hughes meant 12 complicated cases and not 12 deaths from complications, the ratio of mortality in the simple cases was 20·16 per cent.; second, if Dr. Hughes meant 12 deaths among complicated cases, the mortality in simple cases was 15·53 per cent.; third, if, lastly, he meant that the 12 cases he mentioned were deaths from complications, and at the same time the only complications observed, then his mortality in simple cases was in the ratio of 13·61 per cent. In other words, the mortality was respectively, according to these hypotheses, the only three possible, 20·16, 15·53, or 13·61 per cent., in simple pneumonia. Dr. Routh gives for simple pneumonia a ratio of mortality, in Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock's cases, of 3·2 per cent. The marked degree in which Dr. Routh's statements of the results of practice of these gentlemen differ from the results obtained at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary and by Dr. Hughes in London, as regards the ratio of mortality in simple or primary pneumonia, leads us to doubt, with perfect propriety,

* It has already been stated that Dr. Hughes's mortality, calculated at 23·97 per cent., gives for 24 deaths a number of *living cases* equivalent to 100 125.

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the accuracy of his classification of the cases of Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock. The fact that, with a general mortality of 30 per cent., whilst the general mortality at Edinburgh was 38 per cent., and in Dr. Hughes's cases 24 per cent. (calculated mortality)—the fact that, with a general mortality *intermediate* to these, Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock should have found a mortality in simple uncomplicated pneumonia of only 3·2 per cent. against 31·57 per cent. at Edinburgh, and 13·15 or 20 per cent. in Dr. Hughes's practice, is sufficiently anomalous to justify the suspicion that Dr. Routh has not correctly classified the observations of Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock.

It is obvious, from his mode of classifying Dr. Tessier's cases (under homœopathic treatment), whereby the three deaths are made to appear as the results of complications, whereas they were in reality due to the circumstance that the treatment was commenced too late,—it is obvious that Dr. Routh does not follow the same mode of classification which other observers follow; therefore we can have but little confidence in his statement of the small mortality in uncomplicated pneumonia.

It may be objected, however, that this explanation of the discrepancy between the results of treatment in Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock, as stated by Dr. Routh, and those obtained at Edinburgh by Dr. Hughes, cannot be fully satisfactory, for no classification can be so vicious as to give results so totally opposed to all that is observed elsewhere; and because, on the other hand, as the treatment of the cases of Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock must have been of the same kind as that adopted in the two other series of cases, compared with theirs, and cannot be supposed to have been more judiciously carried out. I readily grant that this objection is not without some weight, and that we cannot ascribe the full amount of the discrepancy in the observations to the vicious mode of classifying one of the series alone. There is another circumstance which may account for superior results in the latter series—the examination of the influence of *age* and of *sex* on the results of pneumonia, in our next section, will naturally lead us to it—I allude to the circumstance that the ages of the patients reported by Dr. Routh were unusually favourable.

Influence of Age.—Dr. Routh has, with perfect propriety, considered the influence, favourable or otherwise, exercised by the age of the patient upon the issue of pneumonia.

He has, moreover, given us a table from Grisolle's work on Pneumonia, in which the proportion of deaths is shown to increase as the age of the patient advances.

But Dr. Routh, like many a moralist, ever willing to caution us upon the rectitude of our ways, and ever prepared to read us a lesson upon supposed errors of conduct—to use no worse term—seldom, if ever, applies the moral to himself. This question of age, like all other questions respecting the influence of various circumstances upon the results of disease, is made to play its part.

As mentioned above, Dr. Routh has given us a table from Grisolle, in which the proportion of deaths per cent. is stated for each decennial period of life. This table can be of no use to us in examining Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock's cases, for it does not give the actual number observed for each age, and because in Drs. Taylor, Walshe, and Peacock's cases, although the ages are given in some sort, it is only in an imperfect manner; for only the numbers *above* or under forty years of age are mentioned.

Fortunately, there is a table in Grisolle (p. 520), taken from a large series of facts collected in a work by M. Leroux. This table is as follows:—

Ages.	Cases.	Deaths.
From 13 to 30 years	182	17
„ 30 „ 40 „	58	15
„ 40 „ 50 „	47	16
„ 50 „ 60 „	55	23
„ 60 „ 70 „	16	9
„ 70 „ 75 „	6	5
	364	85

The influence of age cannot be better shown than by comparing the last two periods with the first two. Or again, by taking the first three periods, for each of which it will be observed there is a mortality as near as possible to the average (15) of the three. Taking this number as the fixed point or standard of comparison, we find that for the same number of deaths there are under treatment, between forty and fifty years of age, 47 persons; between thirty and forty, 58 persons; between thirteen and thirty, 182 persons affected with pneumonia.

It is obvious, that if, in any series of cases, the number of cases between thirteen and thirty years of age should greatly preponderate over those above forty years of age, the per-centage mortality will be lessened in proportion.

Dr. Routh applies the fact to us in general terms, but strange to say, when he comes to the facts he does not show cause for its application—in truth, because he

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cannot do so. For instance, after stating the ages in Dr. Tessier's cases, he says, "here there is no room for complaint. The number under forty is correct—that above about twice as large as it should be." This mode of dismissing a series of cases, such as Dr. Tessier's, is characteristic of the manner in which facts are usually dealt with by Dr. Routh. Had Dr. Tessier's cases happened to be under the average age, they would have been called "*selections*," but being considerably above the average age, and hence very unfavourably situated, they are dismissed with this simple observation, "here there is no room for complaint!" Had Dr. Routh's aim in writing his book been at all above that of a mere partisan—had his sole purpose been the discovery or the elucidation of truth, he would have seen cause to study Dr. Tessier's cases more closely, and to give a fairer report of them. As he has not seen fit to do so, it will be our business to show how far Dr. Tessier's cases were unfavourably circumstanced as regards *age*.

To do so, we shall simply take the ages in Tessier's cases, and in Dr. Routh, also, Grisolle's ratio of mortality observed for each decennial period of life, and calculate what Tessier's mortality would have been if his cases had been under allopathic treatment.

Ages.	Mortality, one in	No. of Tessier's Cases.	Calculated Mortality.
13 to 30 ..	12·3 ..	10 ..	0·81
30 ,, 40 ..	5 4 ..	11 ..	2·03
40 ,, 50 ..	4·4 ..	6 ..	1·36
50 ,, 60 ..	3·6 ..	6 ..	1·66
60 ,, 70 ..	3·8 ..	4 ..	1·05
Above 70 ..	0·8* ..	2 ..	2·00
			8·91

In calculating this table upon Dr. Routh's basis, we have been guided by the wish to exhibit Dr. Tessier's results upon Dr. Routh's own statements, but *these are not correct;* therefore the result is not very accurate. We have also had to make a little change in Dr. Routh's statement. He reports Tessier's cases above sixty years of age to be six in number; in the other table, the proportions above sixty and above seventy are given separately. We have therefore given the *actual* numbers observed in each of these decennial periods, namely, four and two. Such as it is, and although very inaccurate, this table shows the relation in which the homœopathic practice atands to the allopathic, as regards their respective results. It shows a mortality, calculated upon Dr. Routh's data, of 8·91, against an actual mortality of 3 only. In other words, the homœopathic mortality was only one-third of what the allopathic would have been under like circumstances.

But here is the same calculation upon correct numbers. Grisolle gives the following proportions of deaths to cases under treatment as the result of his observations. It will be seen, on comparing this statement with the report given of it by Dr. Routh in his work, how little we can depend upon the accuracy of the facts in the treatise on the "Fallacies of Homœopathy" (Grisolle, p. 519; Routh, p. 49). In the following table the statements as found in Grisolle, and as reported by Dr. Routh, are placed in apposition.

Ages.	Proportion of Deaths to Admissions, as found by Dr. Grisolle.	The same as reported by Dr. Routh.
16 to 30..nearly 1 in 14	1 in 12·8 or	8·1 ℘ Ct.
30 ,, 40..rather less than 1 in 7..	,, 5·4 ,,	18·5 ,,
40 ,, 50..1 in 6	,, 4·4 ,,	22·7 ,,
50 ,, 60..1 in 5	,, 3 6 ,,	27·7 ,,
60 ,, 70..less than 1 in 6	,, 3·8 ,,	26·3 ,,
Above 70..8 in 10	,, 0 8 ,,	125·0 ,,

The report given by Dr. Routh of Grisolle's statements is so different from the original, that one might suspect that by some unaccountable mistake another table had been substituted for that in which the influence of age upon the mortality was exhibited. The singular mistake, however, in the last age in the table, by which a mortality of eight-tenths is transformed into one death in 0·8, or 125 per cent., that is, 125 deaths to every 100 cases under treatment, renders this supposition improbable. The fact is, that Dr. Routh has both committed a blunder, and given proof of gross carelessness. We can excuse a blunder, for who can say that he never makes mistakes—*humanum est errare!* But we cannot excuse carelessness in such a question as this.

It will be observed that Grisolle does not give the *exact* proportions. He has made the calculations with accuracy; and who would doubt Grisolle's accuracy? But in giving us the proportions we require, he tells us it is "*negligeant les petites fractions.*" Our object in this essay is not merely to give a general idea of the facts, but as minutely accurate a statement of them as their nature will allow, therefore we cannot neglect small fractions; it is for this reason that we give generally three decimal fractions; never less than two.

The general reader may, perhaps, not understand how we can bring within a

* This is an absurdity! "One death in 0·8 cases, or 125 deaths per cent.," is a statement which could only emanate from the pen of one who is fit to give lessons in statistics, or to pass judgment on homœopathists!

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sufficient degree of exactness, numbers qualified by such expressions as "less than," or "rather less than." But every person in the least acquainted with mathematics will perceive, at once, that we may, by a very simple process of *limitation*, so narrow the uncertain value as to render it almost insignificant, or ascertain the exact fraction by which it may be expressed. Thus it is obvious, that by the expression "rather less than one-seventh" Grisolle means to denote a value between one-seventh and two-fifteenths, or, in other words, a mortality intermediate to 1 in 7, and 1 in 7·5. Had he meant to denote a smaller proportion than the latter, he would have said "rather more than 1 in 8." We may therefore look upon the proportions 1 in 7 and 1 in 7·5 as the higher and lower *limits*; we are sure to find the real value—the value sought—somewhere between them both. With this explanation, the following table will be easily understood.

In this table, and in the two to be given afterwards, M. Tessier's cases will be classed according to ages; each period of life being placed in apposition to the corresponding period in the tables of MM. Grisolle, Leroux, and Chomel. The ratio of mortality found for each period by these observers will be stated; and the mortality which would have occurred in M. Tessier's practice, had his patients been treated allopathically, will be calculated for the number of his patients at each age.

Ages.	Proportions of Deaths to Admissions as given by Grisolle.	The same, but more exact.		No. of Tessier's Cases for each Age.	Calculated No. of Deaths.	
		Highest Limit.	Lowest Limit.		Highest Limit.	Lowest Limit.
16 to 30	1 in 14·50*			10	0·689	0·689
30 „ 40	less than 1 „ 7·00	1 in 7·00	7·50	12	1·714	1·600
40 „ 50	1 „ 6·00			7	1·166	1·166
50 „ 60	1 „ 5·00			7	1·400	1·400
60 „ 70	less than 1 „ 6·00	1 in 6·00	6·50	4	0·666	0·615
Above 70	8 „ 10·00			1	0·800	0·800
				41	6·435	6·270

The result obtained is that calculated for each age; in accordance with Grisolle's ratio of mortality, M. Tessier's cases would have presented a number of deaths somewhere between 6·435 and 6·270, instead of 3, the number of deaths met with under homœopathic treatment. The homœopathic mortality is, therefore, to the allopathic, as 3 is to 6·270 or 6·435.

(To be continued.)

* Grisolle says "à peine un quatorzième." But as he gives us the actual numbers, 116 cases, of which 8 terminated fatally, I have calculated the proportion as above.

SUGGESTIONS TO THE HOMŒOPATHIC SCHOOL.

(*From the American Journal of Homœopathy*, vol. vii. No. 1.)

We now enter upon the editorial labour of the seventh year of this Journal. The doctrine we have advocated has been approved by those of our colleagues whose judgment, learning, experience, and integrity not only command our respect, but also that of the people among whom they reside. In the main, our course has been commended by those competent to judge of the matter. Being thus encouraged it is our purpose to be more diligent, and make the *American Journal of Homœopathy* still more worthy the consideration of those who believe the immutable principles developed by the immortal Hahnemann. We announce at the very outset of this seventh volume, that we shall continue to the utmost of our ability to advocate homœopathy as taught by the great master, and show less favour than we have ever yet done to mongrelism, eclectism, and allopathy.

Hahnemannian homœopathy, which by the bye is the only homœopathy yet promulgated, although much is propagated in her name which is in fact but allopathy, has never disappointed our reasonable expectations, and we will answer for it, nor those of any other practitioner. We avow most distinctly that we shall not cease to advocate the "*small doses*," the attenuated drugs, from the 3rd to the 30th, and higher.

The evidence of the efficacy of these attenuations is too convincing to leave a doubt in our mind that they are the most safe and certain in the cure of diseases. Our colleagues will pardon us, we know, for we have avoided heretofore speaking of our own practice in the columns of this Journal, but for this once we will say, that for years past we have rarely employed drugs in the treatment of diseases in less than the 30th attenuations, and we do know that (we speak it for the honour of homœopathy) our success has exceeded that practice in our neighbourhood in which the

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mother-tinctures and low attenuations were relied on. We shall, of course, have occasion again and again to refer to the subject of doses, and will not extend our remarks in this article.

With the means at our command, we have had an eye to the practice of physicians of our school in this country, and we are happy in being able to state that genuine homœopathic practice is gradually working its way among practitioners, and as a consequence among the people. We are also able to state, that in numerous instances, where practitioners like a barber undertook to shave both sides, that is, practise homœopathy and allopathy as customers might designate, the practice itself was unsuccessful, and of course failed to secure the confidence of the people, and was treated by them with not only neglect but contempt.

We shall continue to urge the study of Hahnemann's Organon of homœopathic medicine—a work not yet thoroughly understood; and the same may be said of his work on Chronic Diseases.

We believe the period is at hand when it will be found politic, nay more, absolutely necessary, for a line of distinction to be drawn between those who practise in all cases pure homœopathy, and those who do not. In our humble opinion, it cannot be otherwise than pernicious for genuine homœopaths to mix themselves before the public with those who are not. We cannot reconcile it with discretion, nor with wisdom, nor with honesty, for those who, after mature reflection and experience, are thoroughly convinced that the doctrine and practice of Hahnemann are true, to give countenance in any way to mongrelism and eclectism, which are allopathic. Our course in this respect seems to us perfectly consistent with a true spirit of liberality. It deprives no man of his just rights. It places every man before the public in his real professional character. It should not cause any unholy feeling among practitioners personally. It leaves every man free to follow the convictious of his own mind, and advocate and practise what he believes to be true; and it protects the public from imposition. The sum of the whole matter is this; we think the period has arrived when pure homœopathists should be careful not to place themselves in such relations as will, to the public, indorse mongrels, eclectics, and allopaths as genuine homœopathic practitioners.

Now, if such practitioners are honest and wise, and sufficiently intelligent to be actuated by a love of truth in the science and art of medicine, they cannot object to these views, but on the contrary approve them. For if they hold the truth in medicine, genuine homœopaths do not, and therefore the latter are but an unprofitable incumbrance to the former; and *vice versa*. Hence a separation is desirable for both. We shall not apologize for this bold declaration of our views.

We see no necessity in this day for pure homœopathists to adopt a policy inconsistent with their principles; they have fixed principles upon which they can rely, and the only true policy for them is to strictly adhere to those principles in all circumstances. We contend that, to the present time, no one understands homœopathy as well as did Hahnemann, and probably for years to come his Organon and his Materia Medica Pura must be the acknowledged standards of the homœopathic school. He has given to the world a complete system, made up of principles that are immutable. The homœopathic school can and ought to claim that she is constituted by a complete science for the art of healing. Now what we contend for is, that in the *art* of healing there should be the most strict observance of those established laws of nature which constitute the science of medicine as promulgated by Hahnemann. In this way, and in this way only, can the art of healing be improved.

How is it possible for any one who doubts the principles which constitute the science of medicine, to habitually make those principles a guide in his practice? It may be possible, yet we think it rarely the case. We assert for a fact, capable of being established, as much so as its nature admits of, that the pure homœopathists are the only practitioners who are habitually guided by fixed principles in the treatment of diseases. They never rely upon experience apart from the law; if they do, they are out at sea without a rudder or a compass, and are carried about by every wind of doctrine. Thus it is with mongrels, and with eclectics, and with allopaths.

In one thing the allopathic school is consistent. It seeks to separate itself from the homœopathic, in its societies and associations. This to our mind is reasonable, and there should be no complaining of the course of that school in this respect. We look upon that school as honest in its purposes; for no one doubts but men sincerely sustain error. So it is with allopaths, and they believe it to be their duty to exclude homœopaths from their communion, who they think hold pernicious doctrines.

It is the custom of the times, and for aught we know always has been so, for those who agree in certain principles on any subject to associate together, and if any member habitually does anything inconsistent with the admitted principles by which the association is united, he voluntarily withdraws, or he is expelled, or he loses caste among his fellows. This course of conduct among men is so natural in every man's views and feelings, that it exists even in the loosened organizations of political parties. Therefore, so far as our own views and feelings govern us, we are for union of form, as it is already in fact, of pure homœopathists, in a way that shall, by precept and example, exhibit to the world that the science of medicine is complete, and that the art of medicine is not that uncertain guesswork that many now suppose. Our readers will now, we trust, understand our position, which is the same we have tried to hold from the commencement of this Journal.

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THE
HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

SATURDAY, JULY 24TH, 1852.

THERE has been no greater mischief in this world than an abuse of authority—the submission to mere names in matters of opinion. By that alone were the Covenanters of Scotland slain like beasts of prey, and the fires of Smithfield were kindled. Mere names should never be made the measure of facts. A truth must be decided on its own merits, not on the authority of those who maintain or gainsay it.

The law of England at this day is a deadweight from its *precedents*. The practice of medicine has, over-riding it like an incubus, the assumed authority of the schools. "The woods," says LOCKE, "are fitter to give rules than cities, where those that call themselves civil and rational go out of their way by the authority of example."

We deny that any corporate medical body has any right to decree peremptorily any mode of medical practice. The change in their own practice should teach them modesty. How any body of men should deem themselves authorized to assume such authority as to confine medical practice within their own limits is passing strange.

Hear what one of our English Bishops, Dr. HOADLY, says: "Authority is the greatest and most irreconcilable enemy to truth that this world ever furnished out. All the sophistry, all the colour of plausibility, all the cunning of the subtlest disputer in the world, may be laid open and turned to the advantage of that very truth which they designed to hide or to depress; but against authority there is no defence. It was authority which would have prevented all reformation where it is, and which has put a barrier against it wherever it is not."

Precisely so; it was a blind and arrogant authority that decided HARVEY was an intolerable quack, when he taught the circulation of the blood; that decreed the greatest of astronomers, KEPLER, to be a madman; that shut up another great astronomer in the prisons of the Inquisition, and there confined

"The starry Galileo and his woes;"

that heaped with the most base and unmanly reproach Lady MARY WORTLEY MONTAGUE for having introduced inoculation from Turkey; that declared JENNER to be a sort of incarnate fiend for having proposed vaccination as a *prophylactic* against small-pox; that now attempts to down-tread and extinguish the doctrine and practice of HAHNEMANN.

It is well: a blind and brutal intolerance always comes to the ground—is always quenched by experience and the influence of time.

We know how all reforms that have ever merited the gratitude of mankind have been received in the first instance. The truth of the matter is that men do not much over-like their benefactors—the necessity of acknowledging previous defect and shortcomings and failures is to the unenlightened a serious grievance. It is not enough that HUFELAND and others of his stamp—the first men of their day—acknowledged the transcendent merits of HAHNEMANN—the small sciolists of to-day sneer at him—call him quack, adventurer, medical theorist, and so forth.

But we his vowed followers and champions, how do we defend his cause? Is it to be done by a premature school, where there are lecturers with scant audience—by hospitals so small as to afford no statistics—by divisions among ourselves, and rivalry, and distinctions without a difference?

Where in England is the work absolutely done in defence of HAHNEMANN and his doctrines? Domestic books hardly answer that purpose. Where is the experience recorded of our pioneers? Are they asleep? are they on a journey? are they in a cataleptic condition?

We know right well that in our three years of existence we have done something to defend, to promote, to advance, and to establish homœopathy. We should have been able to do much more, had we been cordially supported by the bulk of our medical colleagues. But where is the support we have a right to

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calculate on? Where are the reports of hospitals and dispensaries? Where are the cases of individual practitioners?

This is not the way that a great battle is to be fought against a blind and arrogant authority, such as allopathy boasts of having in schools and colleges and universities.

There has, in this world, been many a Pharaoh who knew not Joseph.

There has been many a writer for the benefit of mankind, who may truly have said of himself, "when these fingers are cold and rigid—and when this bounding heart is still—and when this active brain is at rest—there will be some to grieve that it is so; but meanwhile the service of fingers and heart and brain is not acknowledged by those for whose benefit it is performed—at least not as it should be."

Let us all unite against the blind and brutal intolerance of allopathic authority. Let us all be prepared with a reason for the medical faith we profess.

Our adversaries are unscrupulous; they are determined to achieve our ruin, if they can, *per fas vel nefas*. Let us be determined to vanquish them in fair fight.

WHAT IS HOMŒOPATHY?*

We give the remainder of Mr. Sharp's paper, trusting, however, that our readers will obtain the pamphlet from the publisher, and distribute it largely.

5. Homœopathy is not a "*humbug*." Neither are those who profess it "knaves or fools, swindlers or donkeys." Were the matter a piece of deceit, it is not likely to have had the steady success which its opponents are constrained to acknowledge attends its practice. A short time, at any rate, would expose its fallacy. An ingenious and plausible advocate might make an *hypothesis* popular, but he could never obtain extensive belief in the statement of a supposed *fact* which every day's observation proved to be untrue. As to the hard names, they are no arguments, and therefore must remain unanswered, except by the observation that they generally betray a weak cause on the side of those who use them. Men conscious of integrity can afford to despise them. We are forbidden, and feel no inclination to return railing for railing; what we wish is that our medical brethren would study our science, and instead of abusing *us*, help us to improve *it*, for the benefit of our own and of future generations. When any one speaks disrespectfully of things of which he is ignorant, he may be very fitly rebuked, as Dr. Halley was by Sir Isaac Newton:—"I have studied these things—you have not."

* What is Homœopathy? By W. Sharp, F.R.S. London: W. Headland, Princes Street, Hanover Square.

6. Homœopathy is a General Fact,—*a principle,—a law of nature*. All nature is exquisitely arranged and governed by perfect laws,—the result of infinite wisdom and almighty power. The discovery of these general facts has marked epochs in the annals of mankind. What consequences have followed the discovery that a magnetised steel bar, when free to move horizontally, always turns one of its extremities towards the north pole of the earth? And what will follow from the further fact, so recently discovered by Œrsted, that when this bar is surrounded by a current of electricity, its direction is altered, at will, to the right hand or to the left, as is seen in the electric telegraph? Who attempts to *explain* or to *ridicule* these things? They are FACTS. Newton discovered that the force of gravity is in direct proportion to the mass of matter in the attracting bodies, and in inverse proportion to the square of their distances. Doubtless many other proportions are *possible*, but this is the one fixed upon by the wisdom of the Great God. Dalton discovered that the elements of matter, when combining chemically with each other, always do so in certain fixed proportions; for example, oxygen combines with hydrogen in the proportion of eight parts by weight to one. This is an interesring particular fact; but it becomes much more important when it is known to be a general fact that oxygen will combine in the same proportion of eight parts by weight with a fixed weight of every other element; as with six of carbon, sixteen of sulphur, fifteen of phosphorus, thirty-five of chlorine, twenty-seven of iron, thirty-one of copper, etc., and these likewise with each other in the same proportions in which they combine with oxygen; as thirty-five of chlorine with one of hydrogen, twenty-seven of iron, thirty-one of copper, etc., etc. Here is a law of nature, absolutely unalterable by us, and yet it is most evident that these proportions of combination *might* have been very different;—they are so arranged by infinite wisdom—we cannot explain why—*shall we ridicule the arrangement?* So we can imagine many laws of healing, but our business is to discover, if possible, the actual one. The evidence in favour of *similia similibus curantur* is already great, and is increasing daily. It claims to be received as a *general fact*, unless it can be set aside by good *evidence* to the contrary. Let it be borne in mind that ordinary medicine is without a rule, and even, as contended for by the present President of the Royal College of Physicians, "incapable" of receiving one. It is, consequently, in the condition of ships before the discovery of the mariner's compass. If then a rule be found, how great must be its value! It is not possible to overrate the value of a well-founded principle in any branch of science, for "principles built upon the unerring foundation of observations and experiments must necessarily stand good, till the dissolution of nature itself." (Emerson, in Newton's Principia, vol. iii. p. 86.)

7. Homœopathy *is a practical fact*. It is not a speculative theory to be reasoned upon in

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the closet, but a fact to be observed at the bedside; it is no metaphysical subject, to be logically shown by *à priori* reasoning to be absurd; it is no piece of presumption and impudence to be put down "by authority," as the Council of our Royal College of Surgeons happily acknowledges; it is a fact to be examined, like the statement of any other fact, *upon evidence*. We are not called upon to sit down and imagine its possibility or its impossibility, but we are urgently pressed to observe whether it be true or not. Hundreds of credible witnesses tell us that all curable diseases are, for the most part, readily cured by the new method. This is asserted as a fact. Is it true? This is the question. Try the medicines—why should you not? The interests of humanity require it. If they succeed, it is a great blessing; if they fail, publish the failures. This is the only fair and honest way to oppose homœopathy, and in no other way is it likely to be opposed with success.

8. Homœopathy *stands upon its comparative merits*. This must be the test of all methods of treating disease. There is no absolute preservation from suffering in a sinful world, nor any deliverance from death. "There is no discharge in that war." And as all generations have died under the old method, so, should the new one prevail, all generations will continue to die under it. This consideration should render disputants on both sides sober-minded. Medical men are engaged in an unequal contest—the great enemy will always conquer at last; but the question is a fair and a rational one, from which class of means do we actually obtain the greatest amount of relief from bodily suffering, and by which is the apparent approach of death most frequently warded off? This reduces the whole matter to what would seem to be its proper shape—a practical question—what will do me most good when I am ill?

9. *The old method is unsatisfactory*. This is admitted by almost all medical authorities. It is not necessary to bring forward quotations in support of this statement, they might be had in abundance; but the fact is so notorious, that the differing of doctors has become a proverb; in short, there is no opposition of sentiment or of practice too great not to be frequently met with. I well remember the reply made to me by an eminent and old practitioner when I was a pupil, who saw the distress I was in on perceiving the uncertain condition of medical knowledge, "If there be nothing true in medicine, there is in surgery, so you must give your mind to *that!*" The old medicine is in the condition that astronomy was in before Newton, and in a worse condition than chemistry was in before Dalton; many valuable isolated facts known, but no golden thread, no law of nature discovered, by which a host of conflicting conjectures might be dissipated, and facts reduced to an intelligible order.

10. Homœopathy *is simple and intelligible*. However absurd the rule may appear to some, it is, practically, a plain one, and becomes, to those who follow it, more easy and more satisfactory every day. It is not pretended that it can be carried out without serious labour. The law of gravity is abundantly plain and simple, but there are plenty of difficulties, notwithstanding, in working out the inequalities of the moon's motions.

11. Homœopathy *gains by comparison*. It is more successful than the old system. This comparison can be instituted in two ways—by the statistics of public institutions, and by those converts from the old practice who have tried it long enough to be able to compare with each other the results, in their own hands, of the two methods. As an illustration of the former mode of comparison, the following abstract drawn from Dr. Routh's statistics, (in the "Fallacies of Homœopathy") is given by his reviewer, "by which the relative success of the new and the old modes of treatment can be seen at a glance."

	Homœopathic Treatment. Deaths per cent.	Allopathic Treatment. Deaths per cent.
Pneumonia	5·7	24·
Pleuritis	3·	13·
Peritonitis	4·	13·
Dysentery	3·	22·
All Diseases	4·4	8·5

When, in 1836, the Asiatic cholera attacked, as an awful scourge, the city of Vienna, all the hospitals were fitted up to receive cases indiscriminately, as they occurred; one was a homœopathic hospital, but under the inspection of two allopathic physicians. The authorized report, when the epidemic had done its work of death, was this:—

Mortality in the Hom. Hospital.	*Mortality in the Allo. Hospital.*
Under 33 per cent.	66 per cent.

Two-thirds recovered in the one, and two-thirds died in the other. See the well-known book, "Austria and its Institutions," by Mr. W. R. Wilde, M.R.I.A.

The results of the treatment of Asiatic cholera in this country have been similarly successful. When it visited Liverpool, in 1849, it was of a virulent character. During the week ending on the 18th of August, the number of deaths amounted to 572. The total number of deaths in Liverpool from cholera, from May 20th to October 6th, was 5,098. The population of the town at that time was 360,000. The mortality by cholera was therefore about 1·4 per cent. of the entire population. The mortality out of the cases of cholera was 46 per cent. as reported by Dr. Duncan, the medical officer of health: the mortality among those treated homœopathically was 25 per cent.

Many other statistics might be added leading to the same conclusion. The second mode of comparison rests in the bosom of each private practitioner. Thus much, however, may be stated, so far as I am at present informed; every practitioner who has, with sufficient care and perseverance, studied homœopathy, has

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embraced it, and I have not yet heard of one who has deserted its ranks because he has been disappointed as to the efficacy and superiority of this mode of treatment. For myself, I may be permitted to say that, having practised the old method for many years with success, and having now devoted myself for some time to the new mode, while I at once acknowledge that the study is laborious, and not without its difficulties, I am persuaded that it is a change for the better, and I venture to engage that if my medical brethren will try such plants as the following, prepared as we now use them, in the cases for which they are indicated by the law of *similia*, they will be greatly surprised and gratified by their beneficial effects :—

Aconitum Napellus,	Atropa Belladonna,
Bryonia Alba,	Arnica Montana,
Matricaria Chamomilla,	Pulsatilla Pratensis,
Ipecacuanha,	Nux Vomica, etc. etc.

12. Homœopathy *is medical treatment.* It is not the do-nothing system which it is represented to be by opponents. who thus only betray their ignorance. When fever and dysentery were desolating many parts of Ireland in 1847, one of the places which suffered most was Bantry, near Skibbereen, in the county of Cork. During ten weeks one hundred and ninety-two cases were treated homœopathically by Mr. Kidd, at their own homes, amid all the wretchedness of famine; the mortality from fever was less than two per cent., and from dysentery fourteen per cent. During the same period many were treated on the old method in the Bantry Union Hospital, with the advantages of proper ventilation, attendance, nourishment, etc., and from the report of Dr. Tuckey, the physician, the mortality from fever was more than thirteen per cent., and from dysentery thirty-six per cent.

At the same time another Fever Hospital was opened for similar cases occurring among the emigrants from Ireland to this country, in which the medical man tells us he abstained from all interference, and remained passively watching the cases, ordering them free ventilation, cleanliness, and confinement to bed; water or milk and water being given as drinks. He congratulates himself upon the success attendant upon thus allowing the cases to take their natural course, undisturbed by medicine; the deaths from fever in this hospital were ten per cent. We have here, therefore, an opportunity of comparing together the results of the three methods—the ordinary system of medicine, no medicine at all, and the homœopathic medicine. The deaths from fever are thus reported:—under ordinary medicine, above thirteen per cent.; under no medicine at all, ten per cent.; under homœopathic medicine less than two per cent. A sufficient proof that *that* is doing something and gaining by it; while, by the same comparison, giving large doses of medicine is doing something indeed, but losing by it.

13. Homœopathy *is a practical guide.* It is not, like hydropathy, a single remedy to be applied in the treatment of every disease; it is a guide or rule to direct us in the use of all remedies. The medical practitioner who for years has felt and mourned over the bewildered condition of his professional knowledge, the contradictions of his theories, and the uncertainty of his facts, is the only person who can fully appreciate the value of any principle capable of affording him a light to guide his path. Few intelligent persons, however, can have failed to discover, from their intercourse with physicians, that ordinary medicine is in an unsettled and benighted condition. It has many valuable facts, it has many excellent remedies; but the facts are isolated, or connected only by false hypotheses, and the remedies are made use of in such a vague manner, and in such destructive doses, that the value of the one and the excellence of the other are either greatly impaired or converted into injuries.

14. Homœopathy *is a guide in the choice of the medicine, not of the dose.* The dose is, as yet, a question of experience. The law of *similia* is an admirable guide in the selection of an appropriate remedy in any case of disease; but the only information it affords in the choice of the dose is this, that it must be a *smaller* one than would be sufficient to produce similar symptoms in health. *How small* a dose this is must be ascertained by trial, until some general fact or law can happily be discovered which shall constitute a guide to the dose, as the law of *similia* does to the medicine. I venture to entertain a sanguine hope that this will be accomplished.

15. Homœopathy *aims at eradicating, or permanently curing the disease*, wherever this is possible, not merely at affording palliative relief. This constitutes another great feature of the new method, and again points out, in a striking manner, its superiority over the old mode. If the symptoms of an ailment are cured by the operation of the remedy upon the constitution, the cause of those symptoms, or the pathological condition, is, in all probability, permanently removed. In seeking to effect this, no other mischief is occasioned. How often has not this case occurred: a patient is suffering from cough, medicines called expectorants are prescribed. At the next visit the cough is somewhat relieved, but the expectorants have unfortunately produced nausea, and the appetite is gone; mineral acids are ordered to improve the tone of the stomach, and to restore appetite. At the following visit, the appetite is better, but the acid has irritated the mucous membrane of the bowels, and has produced diarrhœa; to check this, astringents must be given, which have occasioned, by the time of the next visit, a return or aggravation of the cough, and thus the round has to be recommenced. Who does not see that there is room for improvement in such a system? But the greatest of all difficulties of the old mode of treatment is this,—to decide the point whether depleting and lowering measures, antiphlogistics, as they are called, are indicated, or the opposite remedies, stimulants and tonics. The most eminent and experienced practitioners not unfrequently differ in their opinions upon this important point, even when humanly speaking, the life of the patient hangs

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upon the decision. Now this acknowledged and grave difficulty is greatly mitigated, if not entirely removed, under the new method; the group of symptoms has to be taken, and a similar group found, belonging to any remedy;—*that* is the remedy most likely to be useful, by whatever name it has been usual to designate it.

16. Homœopathy *economises the vital powers*. It does not, like bleeding, and purging, and salivating, and sweating, draw largely upon the remaining strength of the patient, already perhaps greatly reduced by his sufferings. Homœopathy lets well alone. Its medicines act only upon the diseased organ. If the head be sick, it does not add to this sickness a complaint in the intestines, which strong purgatives must do; if the lungs be inflamed, it does not also bring on an inflammation in the skin, which a blister does. The beneficial consequence of this method is conspicuous in the speedy return of the patient to his accustomed health and occupation. When the acute disease is removed, which it often is in an unusually short space of time, the patient is well; he has no tedious convalescence, requiring wine and bark.

17. Homœopathy *is gentle and agreeable*. If the new mode of treatment be found on trial to be *only as efficacious* as the old one, it ought to be preferred on account of its gentleness and pleasantness; how much more if it succeed *better*. The action of the medicines, in point of fact, is found to be such as to supersede the necessity for the severe measures and nauseous doses hitherto had recourse to. The medicines are tasteless, or nearly so, themselves, and they do not need the aid of such formidable adjuncts, as bleeding, and blistering, and setons, and issues, and cauterisations and moxas. Already, indeed, the beneficial influence of homœopathy in this respect upon general practice has been generally felt. In the year 1827, I attended the hospital in Paris which was in charge of Baron Larrey, Senior Surgeon to the Army of Napoleon. At every morning's visit, he had, among his numerous attendants, two "internes" or dressers, as they are called at the London hospitals, accoutred in this manner:—one carried a small chafing-dish with fire in it, the other a box, containing a number of actual cauteries (irons like small pokers) and a pair of bellows. As we passed from bed to bed, one or more of the suffering occupants was sure to be ordered the cautery, when one of the irons was immediately placed in the chafing-dish, the bellows were applied, and as soon as the instrument was brilliantly red hot, the Baron would take it in his hand, and deliberately draw two or three lines on the flesh of the patient, very like the marks with which most of us are familiar, made by the ordnance surveyors, on our houses and pavements, during their labours in all parts of the country. Now, surely, to see banished for ever not only such painful methods as this, but everything which approaches to it, must be a consummation to be wished for.

18. Homœopathy *administers one medicine at a time*. This is another great improvement. How was it possible ever to attain to a satisfactory knowledge of the powers and properties of any drug, so long as several were always combined together when given to a patient? In the days of Sydenham, the father of English medicine, sixty or eighty medicines were mixed together in the favourite prescriptions; this number has been greatly reduced since the time of Sydenham, but so long as only two medicines are given together, it is impossible to ascertain with accuracy the effects of either.

19. The homœopathic physician *learns the properties of drugs by experiments upon himself, not upon his patients*. That the contrary has been the plan hitherto adopted is notorious. How many poor people have been deterred from availing themselves of the aid of our hospitals, lest they should have "experiences" tried upon them!

The only certain way of learning the real effects of drugs upon man's health is to administer them experimentally to *healthy* persons. None have thought of this method, so far as appears, except the illustrious Haller and Hahnemann;—none have attempted to carry it out except Hahnemann and his disciples.

It is evident that the properties of medicinal substances must be ascertained by some kind of experiment; the question in dispute is this,—is it best to try these experiments upon sick persons or upon healthy ones? Shall the physician get his knowledge by experimenting *upon his patients or upon himself?* The practitioners of the old school pursue the former method, those of the new one the latter. What does the *patient* say?

20. Homœopathy *is applicable to acute as well as to chronic diseases*. When the discovery was first announced to the world by Hahnemann, he did not carry its application further than to chronic diseases,—to ailments continuing for a long time. And the impression is still general that such treatment may possibly avail where there is abundance of *time*, but what is to be done in cases of emergency? Acute disease with immediate danger,—how can you trust to homœopathy *then?* The answer to this grave question which manifold experience gives, as indeed may be partly gathered from the statistics of cholera and other acute diseases, given in the preceding pages, is this,—that it is able to grapple with the most dangerous and sudden attacks of disease *more successfully than any other known method of treatment*.

21. Homœopathy *is prepared for any new form of disease* far better than the old method. This fact was very strikingly exhibited on the appearance of Asiatic cholera in Europe. The various Colleges of Physicians were quite at a loss to know how to deal with the formidable stranger; and when called upon, in their respective countries, to issue advice and directions, nothing could be more painful than the visible inconsistencies and unsatisfactoriness of their multiform recommendations.

On the other hand, the homœopathic practitioners, whether in Russia or in Austria, in France or in England, found the true remedies without co-operation and without difficulty, and they proved wonderfully successful. Hahne-

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mann himself published a tract pointing out the proper treatment, from the description he had read of the disease before he had seen a case.

This point was with Sydenham a great source of perplexity. "This, at least," says he, "I am convinced of, viz., that epidemic diseases differ from one another like north and south, and that the remedy which would cure a patient at the beginning of a year will kill him perhaps at the close. Again, that when once by good fortune I have hit upon the true and proper line of practice that this or that fever requires, I can (with the assistance of the Almighty), by taking my aim in the same direction, generally succeed in my results. This lasts until the first form of epidemic becomes extinct, and until a fresh one sets in. *Then I am again in a quandary*, and am puzzled to think how I can give relief. . . . . It is more than I can do to avoid risking the lives of one or two of the first who apply to me as patients."* This is the confession of a man entitled, for his truthfulness and his genius, to the highest admiration. The difficulty, though not perhaps always so frankly acknowledged, has been always felt until now;—it is *not* a difficulty in homœopathy.

22. Homœopathy *carries into detail what all medicine is in the general.* Medicines are not food, but poisons;—not materials which of themselves can preserve or produce health. They are all naturally inimical to the human body, but when that body is in a state of disease, they are found, as a matter of experience, sometimes to assist in restoring it to health.

Medicine, *in the general*, is poison to the healthy frame of man, and a remedy to that frame when sick; this is admitted by all, and this is homœopathy in the general; why not then have homœopathy in detail? Why not first ascertain what symptoms each poison produces, when taken in health, and why not give it as a remedy for similar symptoms in natural disease? Medical men have been experimenting in the treatment of disease for many centuries, why not try *this* experiment? Our opponents admit in general what they ridicule and oppose when carried out in particulars.

23. Finally, homœopathy *relates only to the administration of remedies*, and detracts nothing from the value of the collateral branches of the science of medicine. It leaves anatomy, physiology, chemistry, etc., unaffected. The homœopathic physician ought to be as accomplished in this and other departments of knowledge as his fellow-practitioner of the old school; and he is more likely than the other to turn all such knowledge to the beneficial account of his patient.

24. This is a brief exposition of the leading features of homœopathy. They would admit of being much more copiously enlarged upon, but the aim has been to make a few points so clear that it may not be doubtful what we are contending for. We should be glad to be fairly met with facts and arguments, but in the place of these we have ridicule and abuse. In time, perhaps, the tables will turn, and then, no doubt, *Punch* will find it more easy to satirise the face contorted at the sight of the "black draught" about to be swallowed, or the barber's pole and bandage for bleeding, which he will very likely graphically illustrate as one of the last relics of *barber*-ism, than he has hitherto done any of the facts belonging to homœopathy.

But surely any proposal, such as is explained in the foregoing pages, even if there be but a chance that it may be instrumental in diminishing the sufferings of our fellow-men, deserves to be received with something more decorous than ridicule. "Those who reject it, or who cast it out of the way, as unworthy of inquiry, must do so on their own responsibility." If they decline "to search all things that may present even the shadow of a chance of bringing them more nearly acquainted with the laws which the Creator has instituted for the government of the world, and especially with those upon which He has caused the preservation of health to depend, let them recognise that it will be vain for them, in any after hour of hopelessness, when it may be too late to avert their own premature death, or the death of a relative or friend, to rely on the hackneyed consolation, that the calamity is to be regarded as a new instance of the inscrutable ways of Providence, and not as the penalty of having wilfully blinded themselves to any light beneficently set before them, the reception of which might have ensured their preservation."*

* Works of Sydenham, vol. i. p. 33, Sydenham Society's edition.

* Truths and their Reception, by M. B. Sampson, p. 87.

SHORT ABSTRACT OF A FEW OF THE CASES TREATED AT THE NEW YORK HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

Dr. Bolles.—Mrs. D., æt. 47. Chronic constipation, scybalæ, with pain and straining. *Nux* 6, *Sulph.* 30. Bowels regular while taking the medicine.

James C., æt. 3. Dry cough, more or less, all winter. *Phos.* 30. In a week, cough almost gone.

Mrs. C. Pain in back for seven months, scanty urine and dropsy of feet. *Colch.* 3, *Iod. Pot.* 1. Urine increased and dropsy disappeared in a week. *Ledum* 30. Pain in back ceased in a week more.

Miss Mary P. Salt rheum in face for more than a year. *Rhus* 30. Improvement in a week; almost well in two months.

Mrs. Mary P., æt. 44. Pain in stomach and dyspepsia for two years, with bloating of face. *Ars.* and *Cham.*, *Nux* 6, *Rhus* 24. Was perfectly well in two weeks, and remained so, at last accounts, three months after.

Hannah D., æt. 45. Painful diarrhœa for a week. *Phos.* 30, *Secale* 30. Ceased immediately on taking medicine.

Miss D. Suppression of menses for a year. *Kreos.* 30. Menses reappeared after three doses.

Bridget C. Permanent swelling and dropsy

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of feet, after being frozen. *Agar.* 3. Almost well in two weeks.

Mary M. Inflammation of breast for a week, with swelling of glands of armpit. *Bry.* 3, *Merc.* 3. Well in two weeks.

Catharine G., æt. 36. Chronic headache, with burning on top of head; dizziness, heat and redness of face. *Bell.* 30, *Carbo veg.* 30, relieved her from May 8 to August 28.

Mrs. B. Chronic rheumatism, of four years' standing. *Ledum* 30, and *Merc. viv.* 3, produced marked relief from July 3 to October 2.

Mrs. Catharine R. Chronic headache for years on left side of face and head, after salivation for cholera in 1832. *Nitr. ac.* 3, relieved from July 24 to December 11 and after.

Wm. D., æt. 15. Rheumatism for three days; had a similar attack two years ago, that, under allopathic treatment, confined him to the house for six weeks. Well in a week.

Patrick H., æt. 3½ years. Ill for five weeks with daily paroxysms of fever, at noon, consisting of heat followed by warm perspiration. *Acon.* 3, *Arsen.* 3. No fever after first day of taking the medicine.

Dr. Kirby.—John McE., æt. 44. Costiveness; without relief four, five, or seven days. *Nux* 30, without benefit—then *Opium* 3. Reported himself regular for four weeks, during which he used it.

Sarah J., æt. 22. Expectoration of blood and thick yellow phlegm, fever and night sweats, hacking cough. *Phos* 30. Was nearly well in three weeks.

Mary O., æt. 33. Burning in stomach, pain after eating, waterbrash and costiveness, pain in region of womb, with yellow leucorrhœa. *Nux* 30, and *Bell.* 30. Three weeks after, the majority of symptoms were removed.

Chester S., æt. 43. Dysentery, with ten or fifteen bloody passages per day. *Merc. viv.* 3. Nine days after, reported he had only a little soreness in lower bowel, with a passage from bowels only every two or three days.

John C. æt. 68. Dyspeptic for two years, bitter eructations and heartburn. *Arsen.* and *Nux.* In three weeks reported himself cured.

Dr. Stewart.—Catherine Jane V., æt. 10. St. Vitus's dance, for three years under old-school treatment. Treated unsuccessfully at this dispensary for four months, when left arm became partially paralysed. *Plumb. acet.* 1, with almost immediate relief; in three weeks was better than for three years, slight returns of the disease being readily relieved by same remedy, and remained well, according to last report, nine months after.

Josephine H., æt. 22. Profuse menstruation, lasting nine or ten days. *Sabina* 3. In three months, menstruation lasted only two or three days instead of eight or nine.

Alice S., æt. 13. Chronic eczema, or salt rheum of ears and face for eight years. *Merc. cor.* 3. Almost well in seven weeks.

Marcus S., brother of above, æt. 3. Same disease for one month; almost well in three weeks, under same treatment.

Mary M., æt. 7. Eight or ten pustules upon the eye; severe acute eczema or salt rheum of ears and nose; one pustule opened into anterior chamber of eye, with effusion of blood and matter into eye. *Ars.* 1, *Bell.* 1, *Baryta mur.* 1, *Tart. emet.* 1. In two months was much improved. In three months all active disease had subsided, but eyes were very dim from specks and scars. In five months there was only very slight dimness left. In six months eye perfectly clean and well, without any external application whatever.

Dr Curtis. — Barney McE., æt. 13. Catarrh of chest of two years' duration; cough from exercise, cold air, talking, laughing; morning paroxysms of cough which sometimes last an hour, but little expectoration. *Phos.* 3. In two weeks cough all gone, but some difficulty of breathing remaining.

Elizabeth W., æt. 32. Indolent varicose ulcers of both legs, much improved by *Lycopod.* 3.

Dr. Peters.—Mary A, æt. 43. Frequent and profuse menstruation, never goes over three weeks, often only two, and lasts at least eight days, profusely. *Sabina* 3. Next period not so profuse, and two days' shorter continuance. Three months after reported that menstruation lessened each period, and lasted only four days, and not so profusely.

Helena K., æt. 24. Catamenia suppressed for five months, with frequent diarrhœa. *Puls.* 3, *Verat.* 3. During next week had no diarrhœa; catamenia returned; afterwards had returns of diarrhœa, but remained regular.

John H. Constipation. *Nux* 3. Next week reported that bowels had been moved twice a day, which was quite unusual; week after, that bowels were much more regular than they had been for some time. Afterwards had bleeding piles. *Aloes* 3, in two weeks piles almost gone.

Eliza K., æt. 68. Costive for thirty years, and pain in side for six months. *Nux* and *Bryon.* without benefit; *Plumb. acet.* 3. A month after, reported that she had been better for a long time; pain in the side better; bowels more regular than for several years. Repeat *Plumb. acet.* In another month reported costiveness as still much better. An attack of drowsiness and return of costiveness relieved by *Opium* 3.

Eliza M., æt. 40. Chronic costiveness; without relief three and four days. *Plumb. acet.* Next week much better, and remained so for three weeks more.

Ann G., æt. 24. Diarrhœa for a month; latterly, dysentery with straining every ten or fifteen minutes, passing blood and slime. *Merc. cor.* 2, *Arsen.* 2. Next visit reported dysentery gone, but slight diarrhœa remaining.

Susan K., æt. 43. Liver complaint and jaundice for nine months; headache, sleeplessness, nausea, white stools, urine thick and dark like ox-gall. *Cuprum acet.* 1. In two weeks reported her passages as bilious, yellow and brown, for first time in nine months. In a month well.

Jane J., æt. 20. Obstinate constipation, often goes a week without relief. *Plumb. acet.* 1, without benefit. *Nux* 3. Next visit reported bowels regular, rather loose.

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Dr. Bartlett.—Michael F., æt. 50. Partial blindness for three years, dyspeptic, acid stomach, constipation. *Sulph.* 3, *Hepar sulph.* 1. In two months reported that constipation and acidity had been and were still relieved. *Bell.* every third morning. In a month more, reported that dyspepsia was relieved, and eyes also.

Laura W., æt. 14. Enlatgement and palpitation of heart; was thirteen weeks under treatment, improving all the time under *Spigelia* 1, and *Bry.* 3.

Isabella McC., æt. 35. Dyspepsia, with nausea and constipation. *Sulph.* and *Nux.* Cured in three weeks.

Mary McJ., æt. 50. Sick seven weeks; frequent desire to pass water, scanty discharge of urine, pain in back, acrid urine, smarting badly, mouth dry, thirst. *Canth.* 3, *Nux* 3. In a week was so greatly improved as to be almost well.

Margaret W., æt. 41. Neuralgia from carious teeth. *Mezereum* and *Spigelia*, with much relief.

Ann L. S., sick a year; distress after eating, vomiting of food, pain in stomach and bowels, frequent cold chills and paleness, followed by flushes of heat and great redness of face. In two weeks vomiting was cured, and pain in stomach relieved.

Dr. Fulgh.—Mary S., æt. 30. Pain in back and head, vomiting and constipation. *Nux* and *Ipec.* In two weeks much improved and bowels quite regular.

Jane K., æt. 50. Change of life, headache, chills, flushes of heat, etc. *Puls.* 3. Remained much better for three weeks. Slight returns, relieved by same remedy.

Hannah B., æt 28. Scrofulous swellings and ulcers for several years, suppressed menstruation. Under *Ferr.*, *Calc.*, *Silic.*, and *Iod.* was almost well in six months.

Hugh G., æt. 5. Dropsy of the belly after an attack of measles. *Arsen.* Almost well in fourteen days.

Dr. Allen.—Mary D. Dyspepsia from childhood, costiveness, etc. Under *Nux* and *Sulph.* Bowels became regular.

Mary D., æt. 25. Fever and ague from February to August 5, before she came under homœopathictreatment. *Nux* and *Arsen.* Improved the first week, was cured in the second week.

William B., æt. 64. Pain in the right side for two years, difficult breathing, cough, with thick white expectoration, and obstinate constipation. *Nux* 6, *Sulph.* 4, and *Plumb. acet.* Almost well in nine weeks.

Thomas B. Chronic discharge from ear. *Puls.* 6, *Merc.* 6, *Calc.*, *Sulph.*, *Silex*, and *Hepar.* Almost well in four weeks.

Mr. Reisig.—John M., æt. 14. Scrofulous ulcers and enlarged glands of neck. *Calc. car.* Almost well in three weeks.

Alfred S., æt. 3½. Rickets. *Calc. car.* Almost cured in ten months.

John M., æt. 8. Angular projection of spine; much relieved by *Calc.*, *China*, *Hepar*, *Rhus*, and *Asafœtida* in three months.

Sarah R., æt. 56. Dyspepsia, pain, vomiting, and constipation. *Nux.* Almost well in four months.

Ellen S, æt. 2. Dysentery for four days. *Merc. sol.* 2. Well in less than a week.

The cases from the records of the New York Homœopathic Dispensary reported above, are taken from a report of that Institution dated April 9th, 1852, and ordered by the trustees to be published. We shall make further extracts at a future time.—*American Journal of Homœopathy.*

THE MIDDLESEX ELECTION.

(*From the Medical Times and Gazette.*)

It is not our province to discuss politics, neither are these pages the arena in which to fight the battles of party. We cannot help going out of our way for once, however, to remind our readers, that on this day (Saturday) Lord Robert Grosvenor seeks the suffrages of the electors of the county of Middlesex. After the many insults this weak and vacillating nobleman has heaped upon our Profession, we hope and trust that no medical man will be found to record a vote in his favour. A day of reckoning comes, sooner or later, to every man; and the great patron of all quacks must find out that from Regular Medicine he has nothing to expect but the most contemptuous and determined hostility. It would be, indeed, a bitter reproach to all of us if it were found that the votes of medical men had returned the most determined, although impotent, enemy of their science into Parliament during a contested election. In all probability, the new Senate will contain no member of the Medical Profession; it is, therefore, imperative upon us that we do all that we can to keep out of Parliament a man who has flirted with every kind of quackery, and has taken to his arms the most rampant of them all—homœopathy.

[We submit for the gratification of our readers this amiable outpouring of the sentiments of our contemporary. Happily his aspirations for the defeat of Lord Robert Grosvenor have failed of success; and he will again have the opportunity of defending homœopathy as a senator. We heartily trust that the Noble Lord may have a vast array of supporters in the House of Commons, whenever the subject of our Medical Reform is brought before that august assembly. —Ed.]

FIRST REPORT OF THE YORK HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

One hundred and sixteen cases of disease have been treated at the Institution during the past twelve months, and it may be gratifying to believers in the superiority of the homœopathic practice to be informed, that the number of applicants for relief increases every week; but from the want of an efficient assistant, it is impossible to attend to all the requests for gratuitous attendance upon the poor at their own dwellings. So soon as the funds of the Institution may admit, its benefits shall be extended as widely as in other homœopathic dispensaries; in

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the mean time, the attention of honorary subscribers is directed to the recently adopted Rule, No. 5, by which arrangement a class of persons hitherto unprovided for will be able, without difficulty, to obtain professional attendance and medicines at their own houses.

Summary of Diseases prescribed for during the year ending May, 1852.

Name of Disease.	No. of Cases.
Abscess	2
Amaurosis	3
Amenorrhœa	3
Asthma	4
Bladder, Irritability of	1
Caries	1
Catarrh	3
Chorea	2
Cough	4
Convulsions	1
Crustea Lactea	4
Dyspepsia and Derangement of the Bowels	16
Erysipelas	2
Fever	1
Glauds, Swelling of	6
Gonorrhœa	1
Hæmoptysis	1
Headache	2
Hooping Cough	1
Heart, Palpitation and Affections of the	2
Hysteria	1
Hypochondriasis	1
Knee-joint, Disease of	2
Leucorrhœa	2
Lumbago	2
Neuralgia	4
Ophthalmia	6
Ophthalmia Tarsi	4
Pleurodynia	4
Pleuritis	2
Phthisis Pulmonalis	3
Psoriasis	1
Rheumatismus	8
Spinal Irritation	1
Scrofula	2
Tinea Capitis	4
Ulcers	4
Uterus, Irritability of	2
Whitlow	2
Worms	1
Total number	116
Of whom were discharged—Cured	57
Improved	22
Unaltered	9
Lost sight of, results unknown	5
Remaining under treatment	23
	116

The following cases will show the efficacy of homœopathic treatment.

OPHTHALMIA.

Charlotte R—, aged three years, recommended by Mrs. Clifford, admitted June 3rd, 1851; has had inflammation of the conjunctivæ for two months; the pain is very acute, she cannot bear the light, the eyelids adhere by the secretion of matter; she has also a papular eruption on the forehead, arms, and legs. Two globules of *Aconite* 3, were ordered to be given every morning, and the same of *Sulphur* 6, every night. In four days a marked improvement had taken place, and on the 5th of July she was discharged cured.

Eliza J—n, aged four years, admitted March 18th, 1852; has been the subject of ophthalmia since August, 1851, which appears to have been caused by the drying up of an eruption with external applications. She has been for many weeks under allopathic treatment, without benefit. The light affects her so painfully that she always keeps her eyes shut. Two globules of *Belladonna* were ordered to be taken twice in the day, and cold water compresses to be applied to the eyes. Within four days the relief afforded was so great, that she was able to keep her eyes open, and the improvement since that time has rapidly progressed.

Anne R—, aged one month, recommended by Mrs. Clifford, admitted Oct. 20th, 1851; has been affected with purulent ophthalmia since her birth. A solution of lunar caustic had been used without benefit. *Aconite*, *Pulsatilla*, *Calcarea carbon.*, and *Sulphur* were the only remedies used, and she rapidly recovered.

CHOREA.

Louisa S—, aged ten years, recommended by Mr. Browne, Blake-street, admitted Oct. 4th; of delicate constitution; has been affected with St. Vitus's dance for six months; the disease came on after an attack of small-pox; her legs and arms are in perpetual motion, with constant twitchings of the muscles of the face. *Cuprum*, in doses of three globules night and morning, cured her in three months.

RHEUMATISM AND AFFECTION OF THE HEART.

Joseph T—, aged nine years, recommended by Miss Cholmeley, Brandsby Hall, admitted March 9th, 1852; has been ill with acute rheumatism for two months; at present he sleeps badly; the muscles of the neck are rigid and painful, especially when in bed, so that he screams out: has some pain in the region of the heart, accompanied by palpitation. *Aconite*, *Belladonna*, and *Nux Vomica*, followed by *Calcarea*, were the only medicines used. He left the Dispensary in three weeks cured.

CHRONIC PLEURISY.

George C—, aged 34, recommended by W. R. Ward, Esq., admitted Nov. 6th, 1851; complains of pain in the region of the heart and under the right breast; has been ill for a month; coughs a little, with expectoration; cannot take a full inspiration without pain. He was treated with *Bryonia*, *Pulsatilla*, and *Phosphorus*. He reported himself cured at the expiration of twenty-two days.

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THE

HOMŒOPATHIC TIMES.

Review of British and Foreign Medical Science and Literature.

"RESPICE, ASPICE, PROSPICE."—St. Bernard.

No. 157. Vol. III. SATURDAY, JULY 31, 1852.

NORTHERN HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

(*From the Huddersfield Chronicle.*)

The third meeting of this Association was held at Dr. Ramsbotham's, in this town, on the 2nd inst., when there were present Drs. Drysdale, Liverpool; Irvine, Leeds; Craig, Leeds; Ransford, York; Ramsbotham and Cameron, Huddersfield; Wright, Halifax; Tuckey, Preston; Norton, Chester; and Atkin, Hull; Messrs. Phillips, Manchester; Scholefield, Bolton; Booth, Leeds; Holland, Rochdale; Moore, Liverpool; Brady, Huddersfield; and Smith, Sheffield. Visitors—Stirling Howard, Esq., and C. Dickson, Esq., Sheffield; Messrs. Turner, Manchester; and Haycock, Huddersfield. Mr. Phillips, the late president, having taken the chair, Dr. Ramsbotham was unanimously elected president, and took the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Applications from two gentlemen desirous of becoming members of the Association were read and referred to the next meeting.

The secretary presented an abstract of Dr. Craig's proving of *Cotyledon Umbilicus*.

Dr. Irvine made a communication on mesmerism, illustrated with experiments, for which the thanks of the Association were given by the president.

The next meeting was fixed to be held in Manchester, on the second week in January, and Mr. Phillips was appointed local secretary. The Association then adjourned.

At six o'clock nearly one hundred members and friends sat down to a most sumptuous dinner, provided with great liberality by Mr. and Mrs. Reid, of the Rose and Crown Hotel. The dinner was served up in the recently-erected Masonic Hall attached to the house, which was tastefully decorated with evergreens for the occasion. James Stansfeld, Esq., of Halifax, presided, and was supported on his right and left by the Rev. R. Collins, vicar of Kirkburton; the Rev. A. H. Frost, incumbent of Meltham Mills; the Rev. D. Meredith, incumbent of Elland; and the Rev. Mr. Hutchinson. The vice-chair was occupied by Dr. Ramsbotham, and, in addition to the gentlemen present at the morning meeting, we observed amongst the company, Messrs. Sydney Morehouse, Joseph Norton, Thomas Varley, W. Barker, E. Eastwood, Jos. Shaw, H. B. Taylor, S. Howell, John Whitacre, Charles Dixon, H. Huntriss, J. Labrey, R. Jackson, S. Routledge, J. Hannah, W. Moore, W. Hardy, and others. A party of amateur glee-singers, accompanied by Mr. J. Wood on the piano, were present, and contributed very agreeably to the pleasures of the evening.

On the cloth being withdrawn, and the dessert placed on the table,

The Chairman gave "the Queen," and "Prince Albert, and the Royal Family," which were drunk with the honours, followed by the National Anthem.

Dr. Ramsbotham then read a number of letters from clergymen and other gentlemen, expressive of their regret at being unable to be present, but wishing every success to homœopathy. The several communications having been read,

The Vice-Chairman again rose to give the toast, "The Memory of Hahnemann." He observed that he could, with great truth and sincerity, say that this was one of the happiest days of his life. If anybody had told him four or five years ago that within such a period he should have been seated at the bottom of a table surrounded by so many supporters and friends of homœopathy, he could not have believed it. (Hear.) He felt that this day was a day of great solemnity to those who, like himself, had launched themselves in the bark of homœopathy. It was the anniversary of the death of their great master, and he was sure they would feel that a festival was no inappropriate thing even on the anniversary of his death. (Hear, hear.) For if it was true that a good name was better than precious ointment, and the day of one's death than the day of one's birth, it was never more so than in the case of Dr. Hahnemann. He was quite convinced that from the time of Æsculapius or Hippocrates to the present, there had never shone such a light in medicine as the illustrious Hahnemann. What was medicine before his time? It was a mass, no doubt, of valuable facts and learning, but of misapplied knowledge. (Hear.) Great men had arisen—great discoveries had been made—but there had never been a law of healing—a universal law applicable to all cases, by which a man could be guided in his treatment of disease. (Hear.) They were accused by their opponents of casting behind their backs the facts and accumulated knowledge of ages. They did no such thing. They accepted everything that was valuable in the old school of medicine; they read their works and were taught in their schools, but what Hahnemann had done was to give them a law which enabled them to arrange these facts and accumulations of experience, so that they could find a remedy for all curable diseases. (Hear.) He was a sincere convert to the doctrine of Hahnemann,

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and by this doctrine he was determined to stand or fall. (Applause.) He should like to tell them what homœopathy was. It was not in itself a system of small doses, but was a law of nature discovered by Hahnemann, expressed in the words, *like cures like*. He found that medicines, which have been known for ages as *specifics*, have the power of producing symptoms similar to those of the diseases which they cure. Struck with this fact, he proceeded in a course of long-continued and painful experiments on his own person and on those of his family and friends, whom he could induce to take the drugs, to ascertain their effects or symptoms on healthy bodies. He then went on to try the medicines in natural diseases, the symptoms of which were like those produced by the drugs on healthy persons; he was successful in curing the diseases, but found that the ordinary dose in most cases caused painful aggravations before the cure was effected. This led him to reduce the dose, and hence arose that practice of infinitesimal doses which had been the stumbling-block of the profession. Homœopathists, therefore, believed that medicines cure diseases, not by disturbing the healthy parts of the body, but by acting simply on those that are suffering in a manner similar to the disease itself. Take as an illustration a case of vomiting. There were few of them who had arrived at the age of manhood but had experienced this affection, or taken emetics. The most common emetic was Ipecacuanha, Twenty grains were sufficient to make a man vomit, and if any number of people were to take it, they would all be more or less affected with sickness. The law of healing says that we must apply such remedies as produced similar effects to the disease itself, and, therefore, if a person was found suffering from sickness, not caused by the medicine, the remedy would be Ipecacuanha; but every one would see that if under such circumstances twenty grains were given, matters would be made much worse. Such would be the fact, and therefore they gave a smaller dose—but the quantity was a matter of experience. *The small dose* was not homœopathy, but it was the application of *like to like*. They were guided by the law laid down by Hahnemann, that *like cures like*—not as their opponents, the *Medical Times* and the *Lancet*, said—the *same to the same*—so that a drowning man must be drowned a little more, and a man who had been hung, hanged a little more. That was not homœopathy. (Hear.) Homœopathy gave *like to like*, but they must give it in minute doses, or they would make bad worse. The smallness of the dose was the consequence of the application of the law, but not the law itself. The quantity to be given was not settled, and whether one professional man gave decimal tinctures, and another centesimal tinctures, and a third globules, all were equally homœopathists. (Hear.) Unfortunately these infinitesmal doses had been laid hold of, and much ridicule and vituperation cast upon them by those who had not investigated the science. A Dr. Simmons had published a lecture delivered by him at the Chatham-street School of Medicine, Manchester, in which he stated that there had recently sprung up a dangerous and pernicious sect (homœopathists), whose object was not the advancement of science, but who sought to ignore the experience of the past. Now, he (Dr. Ramsbotham) had already told them that homœopathists did not reject the accumulated wisdom of ages; and as to the charge of being "the knaves, the pariahs, and the prostitutes of a noble profession," it was fully answered by the meeting which he saw before him. They were not knaves, etc; their characters had been before the world long prior to their conversion to homœopathy. Dr. Ramsbotham then read extracts from the works of Sydenham (the English Hippocrates), from Van Helmont, Silvius, and others, to show that the allopathists rejected much of the accumulated experience of ages In his "Processus Integri, or Practice of Physic," Sydenham said:—"Pleurisy consists of a preternatural fermentation of the blood extravasated; in which fermentation, the sharp particles do by their points or acrimony vellicate the membraceous parts, and being intimately fixed in the nervous fibres, they make a concussion therein, which because it is continued to the origination of the nerves, a sad sensation of pain does arise, which is various, dull, pungent, rending, throbbing, distending, corroding, etc., according to the nature of the part affected, quality of the spirits, and concurrent particles of the blood and humours." In regard to its treatment, Sydenham went on to say on the next page:—"Bleed on the affected side three or four times, and take away ten ounces of blood. The juice expressed out of *horse-dung*, with water drawn from *ox*, *calves*, *sheep*, or *hog's blood*, is commended as an excellent thing, because it imbibes the pleuritic acid." Helmont rejected bleeding "as an accursed remedy; because a pleurisy cured by bleeding often leaves a consumption behind it, and that they who use bleeding much do often fall into this disease: he commends powder of *stag's tail*, which may be drank to a drachm at a time, and also *goat's blood* taken liquid, and warm, or dried and given in powder to a drachm or more. Powder of *bull's tail* is also good, and of a *boar's tooth*. Or take *powder of goat's blood and of stag's tail, of each one scruple; red poppy water, an ounce and a half, mix for a dose Or take flowers of red poppies and of daisies, leaves of wild chicory, of each a handful; horse-dung, an ounce and a half, boiled in barley-water, a sufficient quantity*, strain and *sweeten with syrup of red poppies*, of which let the sick take a draught now and then." (Laughter.) What enlightened allopath would now acknowledge either the theory or the treatment he had read? Alterations and improvements in the practice of medicine had taken place from time to time. Why then, he asked, not go a step further, and investigate facts which they could not gainsay? why not test the science according to the law, and if they found it true, receive it thankfully, as he had done? Homœopathists were not afraid of exposure. Homœopathy was not quackery.

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Quackery hid itself in secret places. From the time he had become convinced of the soundness of the principles of Hahnemann, he had called upon his brethren to look into the subject for themselves. Homœopathy courted investigation, and they would be glad to introduce it into their hospitals and infirmaries—to walk side by side with their brethren of the old school, so that the poor might choose that in which they had the most confidence. (Hear.) But this was not permitted, and they were cast out and repudiated as brethren. If, however, the friends of homœopathy chose at any time to establish other institutions, he was sure that Dr. Wright, Dr. Cameron, Mr. Brady, and himself, would be most happy to devote their time to their management. Whether they did this or not, their brethren of the old school must either investigate homœopathy or allow it to be practised in their infirmaries, or otherwise confess that they dare not face the light. (Hear.) He could say that if the governors of the Huddersfield or Halifax Infirmaries would, by a vote, permit the practice of homœopathy in those institutions, they (the homœopathists) would so comport themselves that the other medical officers should at no time have any ground of complaint. But if they were not admitted, and the friends of homœopathy chose to establish separate institutions, upon the heads of their opponents be the blame. They had offered their services, and were prepared to work amicably alongside of their professional brethren of the old school, without interfering with their practice; but if these offers were rejected and rival institutions should rise up, and if in the course of time the existing institutions should languish for want of support, again, he said, upon the heads of their opponents be the blame. (Hear, hear.) He appealed to facts, which, though again and again denied, had never been disproved. They had been charged by Dr. Routh with picking and choosing their cases, and with cooking their statistics, but he appealed to the experience of those before him whether this charge was true. (Hear, hear.) The results of the practice of homœopathy in cases of Asiatic cholera, in Huddersfield, were well known. Their statistics had been denied, and an endeavour had been made to upset them; and here, perhaps, they would pardon him for digressing a little from his subject. Far be it from him to cast one single reflection on the memory of those who were passed from amongst them. It was a somewhat singular circumstance that their meeting should take place this day, when one, much esteemed, and standing extremely and, he doubted not, deservedly high in the estimation of his friends, had been carried to his last resting-place. He should be extremely sorry to be guilty of anything like reflecting on his memory, but truth was truth and must be spoken. He was there on the defensive in that which concerned him very nearly—the truth of the statistics which had been published in reference to the treatment of Asiatic cholera in this town. An endeavour had been made to upset those statistics, but no man had come forward with evidence to disprove a single fact. The application of homœopathy was extremely successful in those cases. He rejoiced in it, because he was persuaded that the same success would at all times attend the efforts of all who rightly applied the law of *similia similibus curantur*. Before sitting down he must say a few words about Hahnemann himself. It was nine years ago that day since Hahnemann, full of years and of honours, ceased to live. He died on the 2nd of July, 1843, in the 89th year of his age. Long before his great discovery, he was known as one of the most learned physicians of his age. It was in 1790, whilst translating Cullen's "Materia Medica," that the first ray of homœopathic light beamed into his mind. He then commenced that course of patient experiment which only ended with his life. In 1796 he communicated his discovery in a letter published in Hufeland's celebrated Journal. In 1806 he published his "Medicine founded on Experience," and in 1810 he gave to the world the first edition of his immortal work, the "Organon of the Healing Art.". In 1821 his "Materia Medica," in six volumes, was completed, and in 1830 his "Chronic Diseases," in five volumes. These works contained the provings of a great number of medicines on persons in health, and were an invaluable guide in the choice of remedies in natural disease. At the time of his death he left a great treasury of facts in manuscript, which he (Dr. Ramsbotham) trusted would one day in their integrity become the property of his disciples. The promulgation of his discovery brought down on Hahnemann a storm of untiring persecution. The apothecaries brought forward some obsolete law, by which physicians were not permitted in Germany to prepare their own medicines. It was impossible for Hahnemann to submit the delicate preparation of his medicines to his avowed enemies; he was, therefore, driven from city to city, until in 1820 he was invited by the enlightened sovereign of Anhalt-Coethen to accept an asylum in his dominions. Here he resided until he went to Paris in 1835, where he lived, sought and followed by the highest in rank and science, and received the full acknowledgment of his merits. The seven years he lived in Paris were passed in almost uninterrupted happiness. He left his disciples a science so near perfection, that it was a great source of satisfaction to them that not one of those who had adopted the system had been disappointed: and when he (Dr. Ramsbotham) looked at America, England, and the continent of Europe, and found that there were 3,000 homœopathic practitioners—gentlemen who had been educated in the same schools as their brethren, and received the same diplomas,—he could not but feel that the day of Hahnemann's death was better than his birth, and that the memory of his name was better than precious ointment. (Hear, hear.) Let them drink then, in solemn silence, to the memory of their great master, and be glad that such a light had been permitted by the Almighty to shine upon them. (Applause.)

The toast was drunk in silence, and after a glee,

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The Rev. R. COLLINS rose and said, he had been requested to propose a toast which he was sure would meet with the cordial approbation of all present. Homœopathy, he might observe, must stand or fall by facts, and he thought the facts so numerous and well attested, that it would be a very difficult thing to overturn them. These facts were accumulating daily, and in the full persuasion that in proportion as homœopathy was tested these facts would become more numerous, he rejoiced that they were there that day. There were three advantages which homœopathic medicine possessed. In the first place, it was a very pleasant kind of medicine, and never caused any wry faces; second, it was a very expeditious mode of treatment; and in the last place, it was an effectual mode of treatment. (Hear.) He believed it would go on prospering, and in conclusion he had great pleasure in proposing "Success to the Northern Homœopathic Association." (Applause.)

The toast was drunk with honours.

Dr. ATKIN acknowledged the toast, and said, that the reason why they had established this Association was simple and cogent. The practitioners of homœopathy were few and scattered, and they felt that their isolated position prevented them from enjoying that support of their colleagues, and of conversing and consulting with them on professional matters, which was desirable. The Institution had been established in the early part of the present year, and had been most successful. He thanked them for their presence that evening, indicating as it did the interest they felt in the movement, and he was sure that they would each return to their respective homes more determined than ever to make still further exertions towards advancing the science of homœopathy, and in that way the best interests of their patients. (Hear) He again thanked them in the name of his colleagues for the kind manner in which they had given this toast. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN, in calling upon the next speaker, said he trusted the time was not far distant when homœopathic practitioners would be permitted to practise in the infirmaries of Huddersfield and Halifax, or else in institutions of their own He trusted, in unison if it could be done, but if not in unison, then in institutions of their own. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. RANSFORD, of York, in proposing "Success to Homœopathic Hospitals and Dispensaries," said he could not boast of much experience in such institutions, but at the same time he felt it his duty, whenever one was erected in the city where he might be residing, to give it his hearty support. The Institution at York was in such an infant state that he could not refer to it as an illustration of success, but he might say that the result hitherto was most encouraging. (Hear, hear.) He was delighted to be surrounded by so many friends of homœopathy, and he was sure they would return home encouraged to pursue their practice with increased energy. He knew well the resources of allopathy, having practised it for many years, and had often trembled at the danger in which it involved him; but now he stood on better ground, and he would say that if their enemies could show them a still better path, they would immediately adopt it, as their object was simply to benefit their patients. Those alone knew the value of homœopathy who had tested it under trying circumstances, and for himself he must say that it had surpassed his most sanguine expectations. (Applause.) He had great pleasure in proposing the toast intrusted to him.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN then gave "The Health of the Chairman," which was received with cheers. In giving this toast he could not forbear mentioning one little fact that was interesting, but pre-eminently so to himself. It was to the brother of their most worthy chairman that he was indebted for the first ray of light which broke upon his mind in reference to this subject. He was travelling to London from Leeds some six years ago, when he met with Mr. Hatton Stansfeld. That gentleman kept him awake the whole night by relating fact upon fact, illustrative of the success of homœopathy, until the subject forced itself upon his mind, and made him think that there might be something in that which he had so long despised. From that time he gave the science his consideration, and became a convert. (Hear, hear.) He had great pleasure in proposing the health of their excellent chairman. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN, in responding to the toast, said he felt deeply his inadequacy to do justice to the great and important Cause they had met to advocate. He had felt some diffidence on this ground in acceding to the invitation to preside on this occasion; but, on the other hand, he should have been ungrateful to have refused, knowing the benefit which he, in common with many others, had derived from this system. (Hear, hear) There were two or three circumstances which, in the first instance, led him to think favourably of homœopathy. There was the indisputable evidence of facts which he could not gainsay, accompanied with the opportunity of seeing results produced which could not be produced by any other science. These things impelled him to inquiry, and having made that small progress, he could not read without being further convinced of its truth. (Hear.) The statistical details referred to had not been cooked —they were too numerous and too severely criticised to be cooked. (Hear, hear.) Without referring to Asiatic cholera, he would allude to the effects of homœopathic treatment in Ireland during the prevalence of the famine fever in that country. The relative proportion of deaths under the two modes of treatment was, homœopathy two, allopathy thirteen. It was said that homœopathy did nothing, and that the result was the effect of nature. The experiment had been tried on Irish emigrants, and the result gave the relative proportion as homœopathy two, no medicine and left to nature ten—(laughter)—a still more convincing proof to his mind of its efficiency. (Hear, hear.) He was fully persuaded that it was as much entitled to be called a science as any other branch of philosophy—a term to which he was bound to say

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the old system had no claim. There was a vast amount of facts and of valuable information collected in allopathy, but they were isolated and never could be connected with the system; there was no fact which, when established, necessarily led to another; whilst homœopathic medicine was really a science—every step was a step in advance, and added to the grand fabric which was rising, and which, in time, would envelope the whole science of medicine. (Hear, hear.) Last of all there was the result of personal experience. Three and a half years ago he was afflicted with the gout, when he was homœopathically, and successfully, treated, and he was thankful to say he had never since had the slightest return of the symptoms. (Hear, hear.) Prior to that period he had effected an insurance upon his life. Up to that time he had received regular notice when the premium upon his policy was due, but on that occasion he did not do so, and the time when he should have paid unfortunately passed by. The circumstance of having the gout, however, reminded him of it, and he immediately wrote to the head office, expressing his surprise that no communication had been made to him as usual, giving at the same time a statement of his health and stating his willingness to pay any fine which might be demanded. He accordingly underwent a medical examination, which being unsatisfactory, he went to the fountain-head, and was examined by two or three leading physicians in London—amongst others by Dr. Paris, the president of the Royal College of Physicians. That gentleman treated him in a very supercilious manner, laughed at his treatment, and the result was that the Society refused to re-insure him. (Expressions of disapprobation.) After, however, very great pressure, they consented to return him half the policy he had paid in. He had, therefore, very good cause for remembering his homœopathic treatment. He was grateful, however, to the bridge which had carried him over, and he could not but mark the conduct of those who had treated him in this way. He felt that the making known of facts would tend to the promotion and dissemination of a knowledge of that system which had freed so many from the narrow prejudices to which professional gentlemen of the old school were exposed. (Hear, hear.) He concluded by again expressing his approval of homœopathy, and by acknowledging the manner in which his health had been drunk.

Dr. NORTON briefly proposed "The Health of the Ladies," which was duly honoured.

Dr. F. R. LEES said they had done him the honour of appointing him to propose the last toast, and it was one in which he was sure all present would heartily join. They were better aware than himself of the obligations under which their common cause lay to their vice-chairman. (Hear, hear.) He had not only advocated homœopathy, but risked much public opprobrium in practising their principles. (Hear, hear.) With regard to his own views on this great question, he could only say that he concurred in the remarks previously made, that the foundation of the system was that of facts—and the broader their foundation of facts, the greater their triumph. They might sometimes be at a loss to account for facts—they might be in want of a theory, but whilst human theories were changing from day to day, the great facts of God would endure for ever. (Applause.) It had been said by one of the gentlemen present that homœopathy was one of the greatest blessings to humanity—and so it was. With what was Jenner's name associated but with homœopathy—the application of that which realized a similar disease to prevent its recurrence in a more virulent form? And what was the result?—the mitigation and almost annihilation of one of the greatest scourges to humanity. (Hear, hear.) They would not fail, as homœopathic practitioners became more numerous, to strike at the very fountain of disease, and promote the cause of human happiness. (Hear.) Hahnemann did not live to see the triumph of his discovery, but his shade should yet look down upon the successful progress of the truth with which his name was associated. (Hear, hear.) They might not live to see it, but their children would. (Applause.)

The toast was drunk with cheers.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN, in responding to the toast, said he wished he could express in burning words of eloquence, such as they had just listened to, his feelings on this occasion. He did feel that the triumph of this great, this noble, this blessed Cause was secure; he felt that another generation would wonder when they heard and read how their forefathers had been treated during illness. It was but a short time since that he stood alone in Huddersfield, the laughing-stock of the town. If in any company conversation flagged, they needed but to mention his name or introduce the subject of homœopathy to set it agoing again. Then, everybody had a tale to tell of this half-cracked individual. (Laughter.) He rejoiced that these days were gone, and that whatever his faults might be, upon this subject he was free from selfishness. He had been railed against and misrepresented by his medical brethren, but notwithstanding these things, he would offer them the right hand of fellowship, saying, "Come with us, and we will do you and your patients good." (Hear, hear.) This was not vain boasting, for they well knew the success of homœopathy in Huddersfield, Halifax, Leeds, Hull, and Sheffield. It had been planted in those places successfully, and he was confident it would everywhere prevail. (Hear.) He thanked them for the toast they had just drunk. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN, accompanied by several other gentlemen, then retired, the vice-chairman and a large portion of the company remaining to a later hour.

After the retirement of the chairman and other friends,

Dr. RAMSBOTHAM proposed the health of Mr. Moore, in connection with the lay supporters of homœopathy, to which Mr. Moore responded in an able speech, and before sitting down took occasion to propose the health of Mr. Brady, which was drunk with acclamation.

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Mr. BRADY briefly returned thanks.

The health of Dr. Cameron was next proposed, in his absence, by Mr. Phillips, and in the course of his address Mr. Phillips paid a handsome tribute to Dr. Cameron's scholarship and general abilities.

The company was afterwards addressed by Mr. Edmund Eastwood, Mr. C. Dixon, of Sheffield, and Mr. James Brook; after which the party soon separated, all highly gratified and evidently deeply interested by the proceedings of the evening.

[We have deemed it our duty to place on full record in our pages the GATHERING of the "Northern Homœopathic Medical Association," as one of the best proofs that our *Cause* advances apace.

Our provincial colleagues happily seem to be united, and not distracted by any dissensions. We cordially wish our energetic friends every success, and while we would suggest a caution to avoid, as a means of argument for our doctrine, everything obsolete that might savour of claptrap ridicule, so disingenuously employed by the allopaths, we think Dr. Ramsbotham very happily held up to public gaze some of the remedial means advocated by the great Sydenham, whom our self-styled "regulars" of the present day look upon as one of their most gifted orthodox pioneers. Sydenham's works have been recently translated, and largely circulated by the Sydenham Society, and are held in high repute as models worthy of imitation.—ED.]

Miscellaneous.

HOT SUMMERS.—The excessive heat which prevails at present gives some interest to the following account of remarkably hot summers:—"In 1132 the earth opened, and the rivers and springs disappeared, in Alsace. The Rhine was dried up. In 1152 the heat was so great that eggs were cooked in the sand. In 1160, at the battle of Bela, a great number of soldiers died from the heat. In 1276 and 1277, in France, an absolute failure of the crops of grass and oats occurred. In 1303 and 1304, the Seine, the Loire, the Rhine, and the Danube were passed over dry-footed. In 1393 and 1394 great numbers of animals fell dead, and the crops were scorched up. In 1440 the heat was excessive. In 1538, 1539, 1540, 1541, the rivers were almost entirely dried up. In 1556 there was a great drought over all Europe. In 1615 and 1616 the heat was overwhelming in France, Italy, and the Netherlands. In 1646 there were fifty-eight consecutive days of excessive heat. In 1678 excessive heat. The same was the case in the first three years of the eighteenth century. In 1718 it did not rain once from the month of April to the month of October. The crops were burnt up, the rivers were dried up, and the theatres were closed by decree of the Lieutenant of Police. The thermometer marked 36 degrees Réaumur (113 of Fahrenheit). In gardens which were watered fruit-trees flowered twice. In 1723 and 1724 the heat was extreme. In 1746, summer very hot and very dry, which absolutely calcined the crops. During several months no rain fell. In 1748, 1754, 1760, 1767, 1778, and 1788, the heat was excessive. In 1811, the year of the celebrated comet, the summer was very warm and the wine delicious, even at Suresnes. In 1818 the theatres remained closed for nearly a month, owing to the heat. The maximum heat was 35 degrees (110 75 Fahrenheit). In 1830, while fighting was going on on the 27th, 28th, and 29th of July, the thermometer marked 36 degrees Centigrade (97 75 Fahrenheit). In 1832, in the insurrection of the 5th and 6th of June, the thermometer marked 35 degrees Centigrade. In 1835 the Seine was almost dried up. In 1850, in the month of June, on the second appearance of the cholera, the thermometer marked 34 degrees Centigrade. The highest temperature which man can support for a certain time varies from 40 to 45 degrees (104 to 113 of Fahrenheit). Frequent accidents, however, occur at a less elevated temperature."—*Galignani's Messenger.*

CURE FOR WARTS.—A correspondent of the *Cottage Gardener* says:—"There is a very useful property belonging to the *Ranunculus arvens*, or common crowfoot, which I do not think is generally known, and which I should like to see recorded in our valuable publication. On breaking the stock of the growing plant in two, a drop of the milky juice will be observed to hang on the upper part of the stem; if this is allowed to drop on the wart, so that it be well saturated with the juice, in about three or four dressings the wart will die, and may be picked off with the fingers. It is the most certain remedy I ever saw, as I have seen people whose hands were covered with them cured in a few weeks. I have also removed them by the above means from the teats of cows, where they are also very troublesome, and prevent them standing quietly to be milked." A simpler method is to rub the wart with the inside of the common bean shell.

[The *Ranunculus bulbosus* and *Ranunculus sceleratus* have been *proved* as homœopathic remedies; and both have a powerful action on the skin. Besides these, the *Ranunculus acris*, the *Ranunculus flammula*, and *Ranunculus repens* have been tried experimentally. We know nothing of the domestic remedy for warts, as above quoted, but we give it—for as much as it may be worth.—ED.]

END OF VOL. III.

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