

science of medicine was founded on conjecture, and improved by murder." Dr. Coombe, on reviewing the present state of medical practice, says "In fact, medicine, so often practised by men of undoubted respectability, is made so much of a mystery, and is so nearly allied, if not identified, with quackery, that it would puzzle many a rational on-looker to tell which is the one and which is the other;" while Dr., now Sir John Forbes, one of her Majesty's court physicians, and a gentleman of European celebrity, does not hesitate to say, "That things have arrived at such a pitch that they cannot be worse; they must either end or mend." With individual practitioners belonging to the old school, every one is more loud than his neighbour (if possible) in proclaiming that orthodoxy is his province, while heterodoxy is his neighbour's, and it is generally the smallest who stretch their neck the most for pre-eminence in this respect, and while each one in his arrogance lays hold of the name of science, he performs acts most unworthy of it. I have known one of those kind of practitioners when called to see, *en passant*, a dying patient of another practitioner, step forward and give opium to soothe the way to death, when the same kind of medicine had been given for the same purpose not a quarter of an hour before. Now that is the science and these are the practitioners of it, whom Sir Benjamin Brodie would wish to place as the rulers of the healing art in the world. No wonder that the great and First Napoleon, when discussing with his doctor regarding the practice of medicine, said, "Doctor, no physicing; we are a machine made to live, we are organized for that purpose, and such is our nature. Do not counteract the living principle; let it alone; leave it the liberty of defending itself; it will do better than your drugs." This sentiment of Napoleon is in accordance with the profoundest knowledge of living chemistry and the physiology of organs. The homœopathic law is the one chosen by the Creator of man for the cure of dynamic diseases; it is the only artificial remedial principle worthy of the name of Science; it is consistent with the local instincts of organs, in their wonderful living chemical and physiological functions.

Again, Sir B. Brodie remarks that it is the diagnosis of disease, which is of so much importance. No doubt it is if the cure depends upon particular remedies being given to individual cases—but how far short we come here as the practitioners of a science. Dr. A. will diagnose almost every case in which he is consulted as diseased liver—hence the everlasting blue pill and black draught, "to put right the portal system," without stating how. Dr. B. will diagnose almost every case as diseased heart—hence digitalis and antagonistic prescriptions ad nauseum, &c. Dr. C. will diagnose remittent fever for worms and bronchitis, abscess in the groin for hernia, &c.; and to confirm his statement, will assert that he is the highest man in the city, who has (untruly) any "amount of similar cases under treatment, all round." These diseases would be inverted by each practitioner, if the one superseded the other, and the last man in attendance almost always pronounces his predecessor the *administrator of poison*, and tosses any delinquent medicine observed out of the first window with holy horror, as poison. No wonder that people have become disgusted with allopathy; the practitioners of it destroy themselves unintentionally. The medicines in the allopathic prescriptions, which are found to be most useful in the curing of diseases, will be found by those who take the trouble to examine them, to be homœopathic to the disease which they cure because nature herself cures disease by another disease, which is similar and not contrary to the original one. Purgatives, diaphoretics, diuretics, expectorants, blisters, &c., are ever the ready remedies in the old school, whatever be the diagnosis. Now, I challenge Sir Benjamin, or any other of his school on this side the Atlantic, to produce testimony how they know that they assist nature, when administering their drugs, which have ever been varying since I entered the profession—the latest orthodox drug displacing the first, for no other reason than that the one just set aside, and which

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