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RHEUMATISM AND RHEUMATIC GOUT. WITH THEIR SPECIFIC TREATMENT BY KINO-COLOCYNTHINE.

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(Concluded)

Medical critics of the present day, appear to speak, with unwarranted ridicule of the sayings and hypotheses of their progenitors in science, especially where they have ventured to propound a theory for the elucidation of an obscure disease, or for the clearer apprehension of a phenomenon of causation, otherwise inexplicable.

When you consider that in certain subjects, especially as regards some important points in medical pathology, little, if any, progress has been made since their day; it will not appear strange that, now, in the case of many minds, the "coction and crisis" of Galen and Hippocrates have an uppermost seat and a ruling power. Men of prodigious mental calibre have flourished, and some of them have written elaborately and well on many medical subjects wrapped in obscurity anterior to their times, so that the conviction cannot well be resisted, and must be expressed; that the pathology of what is called the "Philosophic Period," (and especially of the schools of the "Aesclepiade" in that period) affords to the unbiassed mind evidences vastly more satisfactory, as to the causes and progress of constitutional diseases than anything that has since been promulgated.

You will have observed that in this paper I have advanced (rather boldly it may be) and avoured the doctrines of "humoralism," at least, so far as the constitutional diseases in question are concerned, (and I am willing to go further and include all constitutional maladies,) yet I must not neglect to confess that this theory has not appeared to meet the unqualified approval

of recent authors, who, however, betray a remarkable uneasiness in their equivocal position, and express themselves rather deplorably of the "depravity of the fluids."

The facilities for advancement in this branch of science, are, without doubt, more numerous now than in olden times and, by the exercise of energy, may be made to tell largely in its progress in the future, as the greatest of English poets has observed, in reference to methods and means for advancement,

"Our remedies oft in ourselves do lie,
Which we ascribe to heaven; the fated sky
Gives us free scope; only loth backward pull
Our slow designs, when we ourselves are dull."

If rheumatism and rheumatic gout, be the products of malassimilation, it is obvious, that any thing that will correct such conditions will afford the most rational method of cure. This object will be perfectly and more speedily attained by the kino-colocynthine than by any other known remedy. It is a discovery of Dr. Laville, of the Paris Faculty, after most painstaking, laborious and protracted investigation, extending over a goodly number of years, before completed and matured sufficiently to warrant its publication, and is prepared as follows:

Take of best yellow bark, best red bark—say equal parts—powder and mix, digest them with alcohol, in a warm place for a short time, strain and repeat the process three times, press the residue with very dilute S. O., and filter, add a slight excess of lime, treat with boiling alcohol, filter again, and evaporate in a water bath, to the consistence of a syrup—this will be the preparation of cinchona. To obtain the colocynthine, take—dried colocynth powder, macerate in warm water and express, filter and evaporate to a soft extract, add an excess of slaked lime in fine powder, and digest in alcohol, filter and distil, evaporate to the consistence of syrup.

Now, the kino-colocynthine liquid is made from these two substances, by combining them in certain proportions with Spanish wine, alcohol and distilled water; thus, take of the best Span-