

have otherwise procured. Hydropathy is now as well known over the continent of Europe as the miracles of HOHENLOHE, or the magic of MESMER.

The increasing fame of the cold-water sorcerer, soon changed the aspect of tranquil Graefenberg. The farm and its silent huts rang with the tramp of visitors and invalids, who came in crowds to see, wonder, or to be cured of all manner of complaints. People who had been given up in despair by the physician, and for whom medicine had exhausted all its resources in vain, presented themselves at Graefenberg, as the last resource; and, according to the flattering record of PRIESSNITZ' achievements, few of the multitude were disappointed. The regular organization of an establishment for the purpose of receiving inmates appears to have been commenced in 1829. In that year the professor of *Teau froide* had 45 patients—in the following year 54—then progressively each year 62, 118, 206, 256, 342, 469, 570, 800, 1,400 until in 1840 his numbers amounted to 1,576. Of these a large majority were from Prussia Austria, Hungary, and Poland, and only two from England. In 1841 he reckoned amongst his patients an archduchess 10 princes and princesses, at least 100 counts and barons, military men of all grades, several medical men, and about 500 professors and advocates.

It will naturally be asked, what is the nature of the cure which has drawn so much attention upon an obscure peasant, and which, in this scientific age, and in defiance of the derision of sceptics, and the systematic resistance of medical philosophers, has given so much *eclat* to his name? Now, we take it that, while nothing can be simpler than the elements employed in this curative process, nothing can be more difficult than to answer the plain question, How is the cure effected? VINCENT PRIESSNITZ could not tell you himself. He has no written theory, no established formulae, no settled principle, he trusts entirely to his own sagacity in each particular case. No two cases are treated exactly in the same way; but each according to its own diagnosis, to constitution, age, and all other circumstances that specially enter into it. Water, air, and exercise comprise the entire means resorted to; but it is in the use, application, and variation of them that the cure itself, and the merits of its remarkable professor, solely consist.

Of all men in all ages of the world who have exposed themselves to the suspicion of quackery, it is but common justice to this Silesian peasant to admit frankly that he is the least of a quack of them all. He openly declares that he knows nothing of medicine but its name. He is utterly ignorant of anatomy—he does not attempt to build up any theory whatever founded on any mysterious assumptions of any kind—he never tests the state of a patient's health by the pulse or the tongue, for he knows nothing of either—he does not oppose any existing system—he does not preach up any novelty—he merely resorts to the means so prodigally afforded by nature, air, water, and food—he insists upon temperance and exercise—and he employs these remedial resources just as the particular case seems to demand. How he employs them the whole world may see and judge for itself. "It is useless," says Dr. Engel of Vienna, to ask him the theory or the principles of his treatment; however active and energetic may be our ideas, he cannot express them; it is only by closely observing his actions,

that you can form any idea of the manner in which he follows the laws of physic and physiology, the names of which sciences are unknown to him."

It appears that every form of disease has been cured at Graefenberg; even gout, that have hitherto defied the powers of medicines, has yielded to water. Of course, we state these things on the vouches of other; the reader must not suppose that we give them upon our own authority, or that we desire to stand sponsor for their correctness. Upon this as upon similar occasions, we merely assert the necessity of investigation. But there could be no investigation if we were to cover such matters with obloquy and distrust at the start. Harvey was assailed in all quarters when he announced the circulation of the blood. For the honour of science let us never fall into errors of that kind again.

Amongst the numerous invalids at Graefenberg last year was Mr Claridge. The book before us is the result of his complete restoration to health, and is given to the world as a grateful reminiscence of the circumstance.

GOOD NEWS FOR THE TEMPERANCE PEOPLE.—We extract the following from the *N. Y. Journal of Commerce*:—*Whiskey*.—A most remarkable reduction has taken place in the demand for this article during the past twelve months. The demand was much reduced a year ago; but now it is not half what it was then. The distillers four or five years since, were running their works night and day, and consuming rye and corn in immense quantities; at one time four thousand five hundred bushels daily. Now the consumption is less than two thousand bushels daily, and is rapidly diminishing. There is on hand here a stock, and such is the decreased demand, that there is no diminution of stock, notwithstanding the great diminution of supply. *The distillers appear to be as much pleased with the change, as their fellow-citizens generally.* They are now reducing their work as fast as possible, so that for the next crop of coarse grain we presume the demand in this market from the distillers will not exceed one fourth of what it was the highest point. The falling off cannot be less than a million of bushels for the year. This change cannot but have some effect on the market. Yet on the other hand, the men who for years back have been guzzling whiskey and leaving their families half starved, will now eat bread and meat, and keep their families well fed. In a multitude of families this happy change has already taken place. The nation will not be made poor by the revolution, but rich; business will not be stagnated, but stimulated by it. No man is vicious and wasteful without causing some mischief to society, and no man is industrious and virtuous without adding something to the common aggregate of general wealth and happiness. Society does not truly thrive upon the vices and dissipation of its members, but upon their morality and general good habits. Vice will be made a mother of trade as every thing else is; but those who makes money by it, are likely to contract its pollution, and to sink with those whom they pamper or rob. Virtue makes the man who practises it vigorous and comfortable, and generally gives him some property. As the wealth of a nation is the aggregate of its individual wealth, so the business of a whole people is measured by the aggregate of its industry. The loss of the whiskey business, therefore, will be a gain to the general business and wealth of the country.