

Black, Dunsford, Curie, Karl Luther, Everest, Jahr and Van Bonninghausen.

*One-fiftieth part of a grain of aconitine is a dangerous dose, when administered to a healthy individual; and if the regular practitioner wished to administer the medicine with safety to his patient, he would decrease its power by attenuation, probably shaking it frequently while doing so. But according to Hahnemann there would be a regular increase of power with each attenuation and each additional shake. How, then, we ask, can homœopaths administer this medicine in millionth and decillionth parts of a grain, which produces dangerous symptoms when given in doses of one fiftieth part of a grain? Oh! says Dr. Dunsford, "the doses prescribed, are so minute that, if they should not cure, at least they cannot injure." "High attenuations," says Black, "do not always exercise an effect upon persons in health," "the difference of dilution is really very imperceptible, and the 30th succeeds as well as the 3rd."*

"Many," says Curie, who recommended high attenuations and few repetitions, have been obliged to have recourse to more powerful and more frequent doses."

"Rau, Kramer, Werber, Griessilich, Schroen, Elwert, Egidi, Muller, Trinks, Simpson, and many others, have successfully proved, that by the low dilutions they cured diseases which had suffered no change by the employment of the high ones."

To justify so palpable an attempt to bolster up a weak cause, by setting reason and common sense at defiance, it would devolve on the hahnemannist to prove, that up to the present, the world has been laboring under a wrong impression as to the nature of the idea which the term "contradiction," is intended to convey; that, instead of regarding the term it as representing the idea of an opposite to some statement already made, it should

be looked upon as representing an identity with that statement.

In one place Homœopathic writers, contrast the "large dose" of the profession and its "distressing effects," with the infinitesimal dose and its *insensible operation*; and in another, they descant most eloquently on the *vast development of power*, which takes place with every shake and at each attenuation of the remedy. In one and the same sentence, they state, that, "many who recommended high attenuations have been obliged to have recourse to more powerful doses;" that is, according to one view, the "more potent" dynamizations "*whose actions on the nerves are the most penetrating*," for the first attenuations, which, according to the same view must be considered less active, but which are stated above to be "more powerful." The greater for the lesser, and the lesser for the greater. The substitution is not to be regarded, however, as the terms appear to be synonymous in Hahnemannism.

(To be continued.)

ART. — *Terrestrial Magnetism; a Lecture delivered before the Mechanics' Institute at Toronto, Nov. 22, 1851, by Capt. J. H. LEFROY, R.A., F.R.S.*

How surely there is a fulness of time for each onward step of human knowledge before which, should it by chance be taken, it nevertheless leads to nothing. With how much justice, therefore, all true knowledge has been declared to be, in its degree, revelation, is a reflection which is often forced upon any one who endeavors to account for the astonishing instances the history of science presents, of abortive and barren discovery. Terrestrial magnetism adds one more to the many illustrations which may be found in that history, of the truth of a remark which a wise and thoughtful writer, (Sir Francis Palgrave,) puts into the mouth of the