

elaborating thought and obeying the impulse of the will? Does it not occur to you that all its sanative functions are performed in a silent, yet active and efficient manner? That morbid or disease producing influences are violent, agitating, and tumultuous, leaving disorder and derangement where before existed order and concord? Such being the condition of the human body in a physiological or healthy state, did it not occur to you that violence or violent means would be irrational in restoring harmony should disorder prevail? Could you trace any connection between a blister and healthy physiological action? Could you find any existing relation between an emetic, drastic cathartic, or bitter tonic, and the natural function of the digestive organs? Did you find anywhere in its teachings, instruction for, or even toleration of blood-letting?

We think you did not. In truth, we know you did not. All its teachings, studied impartially and guided by reason, would direct us to a more rational procedure than burning raw and inflamed surfaces to cure local inflammation, or giving drastic purgatives until a sufficient diseased action is produced in the stomach or bowels to attract disease from the chest or head—by instituting one disease in place of another (which is the doctrine of allopathy) nothing is gained. The organism is no nearer health when filled with mercury to cure a diseased liver, than when laboring under the primary disease—nor as near, for undisturbed, the recuperative power of the body would in time restore its diseased member; but of the mercurial disease never. The tendency of nine-tenths of disease is toward health. The only advantage of medical treatment is to assist nature or the "*vis medicatrix natura*," and bring about a state of health more speedily.

The possibility of healthy reaction is more uncertain and its proximity less direct after a full bleeding than before. We grant that relief is often experienced after local or general blood-letting, but if we examine more closely and wait for final results, we observe that the combatants (nature and disease) are only temporarily prostrated, and return with their impaired strength to a more deadly conflict.

Every physician of judgment and non-professional observer knows right well that health is not established when an eruptive or inflammatory disease of the skin is made to disappear under the action of ointment, lotions, and salves; but that the disease is apt to become more violent and unmanageable as it is changed to organs more vital.

We intend, when our time will permit to discuss in a few short articles, the variance in fact, essence, and principle, of the established laws of Physiology and the doctrines and practices of allopathic medicine.