

For the Canadian Journal of Homeopathy.

ON a fine afternoon, late in the autumn of 184—, there chanced to meet on the levee of one of the flourishing little cities, situated on the eastern bank of the great "Father of Waters," a clergyman and an eminent allopathic physician. The former, when on a visit at the East, some few years previously, had been converted to homeopathy. Being acquaintances, and knowing each other's opinion of the rival schools of medicine, the new system soon became the subject of conversation, and the following dialogue ensued.

*Doctor.*—Well, Mr. Barron, how do you get along in homeopathy now days?

*Mr. B.*—Very well, indeed, sir. The sugar pills seem to answer the purpose admirably. We have been able to cure with them all our diseases, thus far, since we adopted it; and, as you are aware, we have not been obliged to trouble you as we did formerly.

*Dr.*—Very true, so far as the last is concerned, at least; but I cannot believe that those very minute doses of medicine have any effect whatever upon actual disease; but that nature performs the cure assisted, perhaps, by regimen.

*Mr. B.*—Yes; but may not a cure follow their administration, nevertheless, and you not be able to comprehend or believe it, simply, because you have not taken a correct view of the case? May you not have suffered yourself to be too much influenced by education and association, and, consequently, judge erroneously? Such things have occurred to others, and it may have been so with you?

*Dr.*—Not very much, I think, if at all. But I cannot conceive how such very minute quantities of any medicine can produce the effect homeopathic physicians ascribe to them in curing diseases. It does not seem common sense.

*Mr. B.*—Though I do not claim to be competent myself to say *how* that effect is produced, or to discuss medical questions with you; yet as my opinion has been formed entirely from my own immediate observation and experience, I must say that the *fact* of a remedial effect *being produced* by them, is, to my mind, perfectly clear and satisfactory.

*Dr.*—I must confess I do not understand how it can be. It certainly does not correspond with medical facts long since established; neither does it seem reasonable to me.

*Mr. B.*—Well, Doctor, may not that arise from the fact that you are so thoroughly imbued with the opinions and doctrines of the so-called "old school," that you have never allowed yourself to *think* even