

Hospital, 12½ per cent.; Charity Hospital, 8½ per cent.; Homœopathic Hospital, 6 per cent.

Statistics might be quoted to an almost endless extent showing that the mortality under homœopathic treatment is five to fifty per cent. less than under any other system of medicine. Those who are interested in this question will find further data in the little work by Dr. T. L. Bradford, of Philadelphia, recently published, entitled "The Logic of Figures," from which much of the foregoing is taken.—Medical Century.

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### THE ANTIQUITY OF HOSPITALS.

Many centuries before the Christian era there existed in India and Ceylon institutions which performed the functions of hospitals (Real. Encyclopædie, Eulenburg). They were built and maintained by the Buddhists. In the Scriptures there is a mention of what the Hebrews called Bethesda, but this was nothing more than a few rude huts in the neighborhood of a mineral spring supposed to have healing properties. According to Lecky (History of European Morals), the first hospital was founded by a Roman lady named Fabiola, about the fourth century, at Rome. Soon after another hospital was founded by St. Pammachus, and another by St. Basil at Cæsarea. During the Crusades, numerous hospitals arose in all parts of Europe. In Spiritu, built by Innocent III., was erected in 1204 at Rome. The first hospital in England was built by Lafranc, Archbishop of Canterbury, in 1080. The first hospital of any size, erected in America was the Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia, begun in 1751 by Dr. Bond and Benjamin Franklin.

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There is one rule that ought to be taught in every school (Health thinks), and by parents to their children, and that is—never lift a wire off the ground. When you see a wire hanging from a pole or a house, or in any position, it may be a telegraph wire, which is harmless, or it may be an electric live wire, which is always deadly, so the safest plan is to let it lie. So long as the wire is on the ground it is harmless, the moment it leaves the ground it is dangerous. You can pull the slack with your hand or foot any distance, so long as the end touches the ground, but the instant you lift it you become a part of the electric circuit and the current will run to the ground through your body.

### GRATITUDE.

"Thank God for the doctor," the layman cried,  
As he watcht him with bated breath,  
And saw the physician with skilful touch  
Save the one that he loved from death.  
"Thank God for the doctor," he humbly moaned,  
"Every hour of my life I owe  
To him who has saved us this life today;  
Saved the home from its grief and woe."  
There were honest tears in the layman's eyes  
As he held, in a vice-like grip,  
The doctor's hand that was thin and cold,  
And prest it with fervent lip.

What a lovely thing is this gratitude!  
How sweet the reward we gain!  
For the labor we do for the sick and weak;  
Our labor of hand and brain!  
What a wealth we have for our daily work  
For those who are sad and ill,  
How sweet to the ear is the grateful word—  
Until we present the bill!  
Oh, wise was the man who of Old Nick wrote;  
"When sick quite a monk he'd be,"  
But gaining his health—what a truth it was—  
That "devil a monk was he."  
—Geo. Thos Palmer, in Indian Med. Rec.

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### A UNIQUE HOSPITAL.

The only Chinese hospital with Chinese doctors, Chinese medicine, Chinese nurses, and Chinese patients is situated on the border of Chinatown, San Francisco. According to a United States contemporary, it is a large two-storeyed building, only recently erected. Up to the opening of this building, a Chinese, unless afflicted with leprosy, in which case he was sent to the pest-house, was not admitted to the public hospitals. A subscription was set on foot among the rich Chinese merchants and reached a total of \$30,000, and it is the income derived from this sum which supports the present Chinese hospital. There is a daily clinic held in the institution, which has forty beds, and there is a resident staff consisting of one white physician and surgeon. The Chinese department is in the charge of a Chinese doctor. As many as 400 cases were treated in a month, with only fifteen deaths.