

understand and comprehend what homeopathy really is—that it is a science of medicine founded on the discovery of a law in nature, which teaches that like should be treated by like; that it is, in fact, not necessarily so much the absolute smallness of the dose of a remedy as the appropriateness of its selection and administration in conformity to the revealed law; that it is a scientific principle of giving medicines to the sick, that are known to have the power of causing in the healthy a diseased condition similar to that arising in the system of the patient from other causes. For example, tartarized antimony is a good remedy in inflammation of the lungs; yet, it is an indisputable fact, as proved by Majendi and other experimenters in physiology, that nothing induces congestion and inflammation of the lungs sooner than this remedy. The same poisonous substance, too, is most efficacious in certain forms of cholera, as observed by Dr. Billing. This ought not to surprise us, when we know that this is owing to the property it possesses of producing nausea, copious vomitings, burning heat in the stomach, colic, diarrhoea, syncope or fainting, small, quick pulse, cold skin, shortness of breath, cramps, prostration of strength, and death, as testified by numerous instances on record, without particularizing that of the unfortunate lady (Mrs. Ann Palmer) in whose body it has been found accumulated in large quantities. I might go almost all through the nosological catalogue, and furnish illustrations of the truth of the homeopathic principle; suffice it, however, for the present purpose, to adduce a few examples, only, of the many medicines capable of producing an affection similar to the cases they cure or relieve. A weak solution of lunar caustic, or nitrate of silver, will greatly relieve an inflamed eye, which, in strong solution, will violently irritate a sound one; this, though homeopathic in action, is one of the most popular applications at the various eye infirmaries. Alcohol, largely diluted, and externally applied, will relieve headache; when taken largely internally, will cause it, as too many practically

know. Aconite, which in large doses violently disturbs the circulation, when so disturbed by disease, will in small doses be found most tranquilizing. Belladonna, in full repeated doses, acts violently upon the throat; in small doses, under similar circumstances, speedily cures. The same plant, in large doses, will produce a scarlet rash, difficulty of swallowing, nausea, redness and swelling of the face, delirium, convulsions, and so forth; and, accordingly, has very properly become a popular remedy in some varieties of, epidemic scarlatina, and to a large extent it is preventative of that fearful and fatal scourge. Ipecacuanha, in large quantities, distresses and sickens the stomach—in small doses soothes and allays vomiting. The influence of this root in exciting fits of difficult breathing, resembling asthma, is beyond all doubt, as is also its great utility in the relief of this and other affections of the respiratory organs. Nuxvomica (and necessarily strychnine, with which, as well as cocculus indicus, publicans and sinners take the liberty of sophisticating divers sorts of nameless liquors) causes spasms, indigestion, bilious disorders, sickness, and retching, convulsions (tetanic), obstinate constipation, hemorrhoids, headache, giddiness, business on both sides of the road, as well as in the gutters, and the like; given in extremely minute quantities, it affords signal relief in almost all these ailments. Corrosive sublimate largely corrodes and ulcerates the intestinal mucous membrane; in a similar condition, from dysentery, proves curative.—Cantharides, in full repeated doses, causes urinary affections; in small repeated doses allays the like disordered states, to which those passages are liable. Copper, arsenic, mercury, are known to occasion violent headache, and other characteristic derangements, vomiting, diarrhoea, cutting, and burning pains in the abdomen, cramp-like pains in the legs, jaundice, convulsive movements, &c. Well, what then? interposed the captious disputant. Given: A poor unfortunate fellow-creature, suffering after this peculiar fashion, let him take a