

discovered science itself. To be consistent, they should deny the existence of gravitation, the power of chemical affinity, and all other phenomena whose essence of power they cannot render tangible to the rough touch of their clumsy senses.

The same class of reasoners denied, in more ancient times, the practicability of the earth revolving on its axis, and maintained their position by reasons satisfactory at least to themselves. They were then a numerous class, and not a few may still be found in the hedges and workshops of this age.

Theoretically homeopathy is quite independent of the dose, yet practically they are quite inseparable. Homeopathy is the embodiment of the natural law expressed by the aphorism "*Similia Similibus Curantur*," the dose which is infinitesimal in its proportions, is the result of the specific nature of the remedy used in any given form of disease, deduced from experience. It simply teaches the principle of giving a drug for the cure of disease, whose physiological action is similar to the symptoms or action of the disease itself.

The principles of homeopathy, we venture to premise, will not be considered impossible by any unprejudiced reasoner. This conceded, we have only the practicability of the dose to establish to settle the question of the feasibility of the homeopathic practice of medicine. It becomes a question of fact to be decided by experiment alone, and not by *a priori* reasoning. And in settling questions of fact whose testimony should be received as credible, those who deduce their conclusions from prior instruction, or those who have experimented and experienced.

To stifle all inquiry and render argument superfluous many of the opponents of homeopathy deny the possibility of the effects imputed to the dose; and being impossible, and involving the claims that a part is greater than the whole, must be absurd. Has any experiment ever proved the impossibility of the facts set forth by homeopaths? Does any ascertained truth impugn the doctrine of small doses? As no established fact in natural science contradicts, or experiment has disproved the effects imputed to the dose, the practicability must be determined by facts and experimentation alone.

The truth of the power of small doses is already sustained by a mass of evidence such as never supported any system of medicine before, and is daily increasing with the developments of the science. We can venture to say, that no physician of the old school who would examine the amount and nature of the evidence afforded, could excuse their neglect of a fair, faithful, and impartial examination.