

established; is the efficacy of medicinal substances reduced to a wonderful degree of minuteness or dilution. In his work on chronic diseases he gives us his mode of preparing his little doses. He tells us that one grain of the medicine is to be added to 100 grains of sugar of milk, and after just so many minutes devoted to rubbing and scraping it together, it constitutes the 1st dilution. Each grain of this powder contains the hundredth of a grain of the medicinal substance, mingled with the sugar of milk. Continue the process, and the 2nd dilution will be one ten thousandth; the 3rd dilution, one millionth; the 4th, one hundred millionth; and so on, to the 30th and even the 200th dilution. We are told that the 10th dilution is generally prescribed, but when great power is required, the 30th and up to the 200th dilution is recommended.

It has been computed by Sir James Simpson that one grain of arsenic, at the 30th dilution, would require material equal in bulk to 60 globes the size of this earth, to absorb it.

When liquids are to be used, the same process of dilution is to be observed, but it is ordered that the vial must have but two shakes. For Hahnemann's own words are: "A long experience and multiplied observations upon the sick, lead me within the last few years to prefer giving only two shakes to medicinal liquids, whereas I formerly used to give ten."

We are told that the *pediculus capitis*, is hunted down in his capillary forest and prescribed; it is well for the sensitive stomach of the patient, that the dose contained in the microscopic sugar-plum is so minute.

It may be asked, by what process of reasoning, can a sane mind be induced to believe that such doses possess any medicinal property whatever.

The third great doctrine of Hahnemann is, that "seven-eighths at least of all chronic diseases are produced by the existence in the system of that infectious disorder known in the language of science by the appellation of *Psora*, but to the less refined portion of the community by the unmentionable name of *Itch*. In his words:— "This *Psora* is the sole true and fundamental cause that produces all the other countless forms of disease, which under the names of debility, hysteria, insanity, idiocy, epilepsy, cancer, paralysis, deafness, asthma, loss of sense, pains of every kind, &c., &c., &c., appear in our pathology as so many peculiar, distinct, and independent diseases." He also informs us that it took him 12 years to make this "great discovery."

This is a startling discovery to say the least of it, to be made outside the walls of a lunatic asylum.

These are the three cardinal doctrines laid down by Hahnemann