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ALLOPATHIC AND HOMEOPATHIC MEDICATION CONTRASTED.

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(CONTINUED.)

QUININE.

Another very common remedy of the ancient school is quinine. In the treatment of intermittent fevers, this may be considered as the almost universal medicine. It is likewise very often employed during the debile stage of most acute diseases, and as a general tonic in all kinds of debility. When it is administered in intermittent fevers, it is deemed essential to push the doses until poisonous effects are produced, in the form of ringing in the ears, dilated pupils, impaired vision, deafness, and more or less congestion of the brain. Without these powerful effects, there is not sufficient *revulsive* influence upon the brain, nervous system, and other important organs to overwhelm temporarily the morbid influence, and thus suspend for a few days or weeks the natural manifestation of the malady,—chills, fever, sweat, &c.

Dr. Corbyn states, "that in the fever which prevailed in Calcutta, in 1833, he employed quinine in doses of gr. vii.—viii., every four hours, and that out of several hundred patients thus treated, not one escaped deafness, noises in the ears, tightness across the forehead, &c.: in fact, all the premonitory symptoms of poisoning by quinine."<sup>10</sup>

Another of the deleterious consequences of the allopathic employment of this drug, is enlargement and congestion of the liver, and congestion of the portal vessels. Examples of this kind are of very frequent occurrence in all fever and ague districts.

But in our estimation, the most mischievous influence of all consists in a permanent depression of the vital powers of the organism which results in a majority of cases from the full action of quinine. Among these permanently injurious impressions may be cited, weakness of the

\* Waring's Ther. page 438.