

symptoms are produced in a dynamic disease, it is but rational to infer that the same local instincts are affected in both cases.

Medicines given, then, according to the law of *similia similitus curantur*, and capable, as above stated, of producing symptoms similar to the disease which it professes to cure, testify incontestably that the local instincts which produce a dynamic disease will be affected by the administration of the homœopathic medicine.

Homœopathy prompts the local instincts of abnormal organism to a return to their normal condition, in conformity with, not contrary to, the natural living laws of those organs. The highest medical intellects, who have been duly trained to think, reason, and examine, after having qualified themselves by their drinking deeply at the fountains of inorganic and organic chemistry, physiology, anatomy, and all the collateral branches to the practice of physic, have become disgusted with the old school system of that practice, and they now bear testimony in favor of the great success of homœopathy in the most acute as well as in chronic diseases. This the most carefully prepared statistics amply show. Homœopathy has its chairs, its journals, its clinics, its professors, who teach, and its public, who not only listen and believe, but rejoice in the marvellous potency of the pillule; it is a natural law, of necessity true, and it cannot be set aside, because the experience of those who fairly test the homœopathic principle is every day establishing it as a fact, and facts are stubborn things, which cannot be done away with except by a counterfact, and that requires to be brought forward; well sustained by credible evidence, not by an assertion without proof. Sir Benjamin again states "that there are numerous cases in which spontaneous recovery is out of the question, in which sometimes the life or death of the patient, and at other times the comfort or discomfort of his existence for a long time to come, depends upon the prompt application of judicious remedies. Now the question arises, what are those cases, and what is the judicious treatment in Sir Benjamin's school which he thus sets forth as the true scientific palladium of cure. I have to confess that I entered the practice of the profession more than a quarter of a century ago, and my old teacher, Dr. McIntosh, of Edinburgh, then held that *he* was the man who held the only judicious treatment in his palm. I went forth with zeal, imparted to me by our beloved preceptor, as it was imparted doubtless to my fellow-students, but I soon found that Dr. McIntosh's judicious treatment in those cases where spontaneous cures were out of the question became, in course of time, very injudicious treatment in consequence of the ever-varying nature of old school practice. I remember well in 1835, in a case of pneumonia which I treated when I had neglected to have my lancets with me, how I perspired with horrid fear lest some of my brethren would come to know that I had not bled my patient, but my patient recovered better without bleeding than many I had had of a similar nature before had done with bleeding, and from that day to this I have never bled in cases of pneumonia. I was called a quack about 18 years ago, in this city, for not bleeding a patient, by a medical friend, who would not now bleed a patient himself in a similar case. I have not bled in any case for the last 12 years, finding more success than when I did. Physiology now teaches that bleeding never *can* cure inflammation; as it is with bleeding so it is with other treatment, and as I was early accustomed to view the differences of treatment by different medical men in a large hospital in early life, I was forced to observe the results of their practice and my own, as it was developed in the study of the natural history of diseases, undeterred by the grandmother cry of quack, well knowing that there would be no advancement in mechanics or arts or science of any kind if these epithets, unsupported by reason, were considered of any weight. It was from my own experience in looking upon the old method of the practice of physic that I resolved, five or six years ago, to try to discover a principle of action somewhere, as

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