

an advance in the attainment of genuine medical knowledge.

At the close of each session, they have adopted the plan of holding a commencement, at which they have an annual oration and valedictory; and all those who have been sufficiently successful to become passed candidates for the degree of Doctor of Medicine in the College, are rewarded with a diploma from this Institute also, provided they have complied with its rules and regulations in other respects.

We take pleasure in giving our readers a short extract from an annual oration, delivered at a commencement of this Society, believing that it will be perused with interest.—[Ed.]

The advent of Homeopathy was for the benefit of mankind, and the mission must be fulfilled. Already enough has been accomplished through its mission to warrant the most desirable expectations in the future. But what are the benefits already conferred, and what hopes have we with regard to the future? These are questions worthy of being answered. We may enumerate the benefits already realized as follows:

1. Homeopathy has revealed a law of cure that points out the accurate use of remedial agents. The discovery of this law has been the means of elevating the practice of medicine to the dignity of a science, and until the advent of homeopathy, the practice of medicine was made to rest upon no fixed principles, but upon a jargon of conflicting theories and opinions, and therefore it presented one continuous scene of changes, "like the scenic representation of dissolving views."—Bleeding, purging, vomiting, and sweating formed the four grand pillars of Allopathy. The heroes of the lancet could see nothing but vitiated blood permeating the vessels of their invalid patients, which must be abstracted in order that new blood might form to take its place. The heroes of the pills and electuaries conjured up foul mysteries at work in the *prima via* that must forcibly be dislodged by cathartics. The bile-struck theorist could see nothing but bilious difficulties, that the convulsive power of

*emesis* could expel from the system, while nothing but a purgatory of perspiration would satisfy that other class of theorists that maintained that disease must be made to escape by firing up the system to an evaporating pitch. All these central pillars of allopathy are ever surrounded by adjuvants of support to suit the particular predilection and meshwork of conjecture of each dignified theorist. Only a slight view of the evils that have befallen the human race in vainly attempting to give practical support to the various theories that have been invented in medicine, would suffice to convince a candid observer, that more have been maimed, more have been made to sacrifice robust constitutions, more have been compelled to dwell in the midst of sickly families, more have been shut out from the light and bustle of the day; nay, and yet more have been sent to the sepulchres of the dead, through the agency of the prostrating treatment I have named, than from the raging of pestilential diseases, the curses of famine, and the fortunes of war. The first use of Homeopathy is to save mankind from so lamentable a lot. She brought to light a method of treating the sick based upon an immutable law of nature, that superseded the necessity of resorting to the dangerous, or rather hazardous, violence that was uniformly appealed to for the purpose of extirpating disease. She has already accomplished a prominent feature of her mission. She has demonstrated that disease can be durably cured without violence, without the terrors of torture and deathlike prostration. She has done more by pointing out the direct method of cure. She has essentially abridged the duration of human suffering from the common ills of life, and by reason of this demonstration she has made her way into every department of society. She has demonstrated that any and every curable disease can be overcome without inflicting further suffering upon the patient. A very large proportion of the patronizing public have been, and still are, thoroughly satisfied with the demonstration, and like faithful missionaries in the cause of truth, through storms