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ORIGINAL ARTICLES.

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SOME OF THE USES OF SULPHUROUS ACID.*

BY H. ARNOTT, M.D., LONDON.

The subject to which I invite your attention, very shortly, may be considered rather antiquated, but it sometimes pays as well to refresh our minds on old subjects as to investigate new ones. Do we not sometimes err in seeking too much for new instruments, rather than seeking to perfect ourselves in the use of those we have? For my own part, I am sure I have benefited more by learning new applications of old remedies than from all the fresh additions of this prolific therapeutic age. Who has not abandoned some old and tried remedy for some vaunted cure-all, only to find, after long and troublesome experience, that the old was better? This fault will probably continue with the profession until we adopt some concerted method of recording and comparing our results.

It has become quite common to hear men say that they have no faith in medicine. I am one of those who do believe in intelligent medication, and that when treatment fails it is often due to an imperfect understanding of the case.

I confess to the belief that if we have a clear conception of the danger to be apprehended from any given disease, we ought to be able to avert or lessen that danger by the aid of the remedial agencies at our command. Of course, if we attempt to treat the disease rather to avert the threatened danger, we must very frequently fail.

*Read at meeting of Canadian Medical Association, London.