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GLANDULAR THERAPEUTICS.*

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It did not require a wise or observant man to remark that history repeats itself; and that it does, even in therapeutics, will hardly be gainsaid or argued. That fads in all walks and callings of life are rampant, have been and always will be, is perhaps true beyond contraversion. That they are prone to occur in the actual practice of medicine may be seen from a perusal of the various medical periodicals at our hands. It is to be regretted, of course, that all fads, like land booms, cause a reaction; the more extensively used and pushed the fad has been, the further it is thrown into disuse and oblivion apparently by the reaction. Some, possessing more virtue than the rest, are revived after a short period of disuse or forced absence; others take cycles and generations to be repeated, and others never return to the scene of their useless existence. And who will deny that some of the most obnoxious and foolish of these fads may be again thrown upon us as a result of the reaction from barbarous ignorance and worse than empiricism, to the knowledge of the microscopic and macroscopic science of to-day. I shall, further on, give my reasons for making such a peculiar statement—a micro-organism daring, as it were, to raise its voice against the accumulated mass of evidence that has been produced from the careful study and experimental, as well as clinical, knowledge from the workers of all lands and times. I owe them an apology for daring to hint that they obtained their cue from the crude and barbaric practices of medicine men, of and previous to the dark ages. Perhaps, however, it was no cue obtained from ancient cult, but a germ life of thought, something that sprung *de novo* in the thought-secreting apparatus of some curious individual to which we must credit this reversion to a previous system. If so, we are in very great danger, for the cerebral cells of many are inventive enough to ring in on us many strange and

* Read before the Niagara District Medical Association.