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THE GIFT OF PROPHECY.

On looking over the last edition (dated, by the way, 1893) of a "Book on the Physician Himself," by a Dr. Cathell of Baltimore, one cannot help being interested, amused, and instructed, (?) by the revised (?) section on homœopathy; evidently written by a man who had been financially hurt by competition with the system he reviles. One wonders what kind of a revision he would make of his work now, could he drop into Washington and gaze upon the \$75,000 memorial of the man he raves about. One of the choicest parts of the diatribe is this: "Even here in fair America, it has passed its zenith, its feast is almost over, and its MENE, MENE, TEKEL, is already on the wall, for it has almost ceased to be the topic of conversation in fashionable circles; the homœopathic book and case of numbered globules are also fast disappearing from the hands of the laity; its o called specifics are kept among the

patent medicines in every drug store; the system is no longer exciting amateurs, and, far above all, its wholesale desertion of its own principles is about to furnish another proof that no religious creed, no political doctrine, no medical ism or pathy can extend beyond a limited sphere or period, if it be opposed to the common-sense of mankind."

To rate the writer of the above as insincere, would perhaps be unfair and certainly discourteous, but one may safely make allowance for old age, bordering on second childhood, with its mentally obscured vision, and vistas of lost opportunities. These would-be pall-bearers at homœopathy's funeral have waited long and impatiently, till weary of waiting for a function that shows no signs of beginning, they have themselves assumed the chief role and so passed out of sight and mind; gone to join Oliver Wendell Holmes and prepare to celebrate the funeral function where they will not be hampered by lack of time. As to the furnishing another proof of homœopathy's rapidly approaching end, it might be well to look over some of the recent writings on the subject, notably the article by Dr. Geo. Peck in the Jubilee number of the North American Journal of Homœopathy. This is information up to the year 1901, eight or nine years after Dr. Cathell's funeral procession should have started.