

will submit to the medical inquisition, and swallow down enough poison to make half a dozen well ones sick, and perhaps terminate fatally, did not the system, true to its own welfare, reject the inharmonious intruder.

While Homeopathy was like the infant in the cradle, and unpopular, her ranks were not intruded upon by ignorant pretenders; but now that it is becoming popular, it has more to fear from its professed friends than from its enemies, who embrace it, not because they understand it, but have an eye to the "loaves and fishes."

There are a kind of Eclectics who, without principle or reason to guide them, worship at the shrine of St. Custom, ostensibly professing to be the moving cause of some great medical reform; but in reality borne up by the ever changeable current of popular ignorance and superstition, which heretofore has been and is now, but shall not always be, the great antagonist to the progress of medical science.

Just take a case (treated by some of our late importations, who pretend to base their practice on the system of Homeopathy,) as related by a patient who had lost the sight of one of his eyes by the treatment. He said to me, I was treated by one of your kind of Doctors: I had common inflammation of the eyes, and by the application of some remedy I was blinded in a few minutes, and made to suffer inexpressible torments for hours and days. Weeks have passed, and I am still blind in that eye, and I should have been a blind man altogether if I had allowed the same application to be made to the other eye, which they wished to do; and while sitting in darkness I heard the remark made, that I could not now go round,—that he had assured me that he had *cooked* one of my eyes. This, by the way, is the latest method of cooking we have heard of, in a civilized country. Had they not better advertise themselves as cooks, and go to the Fee-gee Islands, or some other country where the inhabitants practise cannibalism, and introduce their new method of cooking human flesh.

What Homeopathist can read the above statements, with the knowledge that these

parties are now in our midst, advertising largely, (though they truly state that they do not confine themselves exclusively to Homeopathy,) and see the noble system which he has adopted tortured into such a shape and made as it were responsible for such malpractice, without raising a warning voice against such a system of quackery.

Such pretended friends are more to be dreaded than open enemies. They have a tendency to bring disrepute on the system, and drive those who are seeking relief from the old practice, back to "wallowing in the mire" of Allopathy, and to come to the conclusion that they had better "bear the ills they have, than flee to those they know not of."

Pure Homeopathy makes living advertisements which are a credit to the system; but the toleration in its ranks of any thing like this, will make Homeopathy a by-word and a reproach in community. A shade will come over its principles, and instead of being a benefactor to the race, it will become, like many of the systems of the past, the means of deceiving its votaries.

While we should welcome to our ranks, and extend the right hand of fellowship to all honest, upright, intelligent practitioners, we should at the same time, to maintain our own respectability, and the welfare of the public, denounce all floating excrescences, ignorant and unprincipled pretenders who would presume to worship at its shrine: who, while they promise you health, are themselves the servants of corruption.

Yours, M. D.

Hamilton, March 10, 1856.

P. S.—Since writing the above, we learn through the columns of the "Banner," that its Editor has been favored at least with a sight of the last "Elephant," in a medical point of view, said to be an ingenious apparatus to facilitate the introduction of refined particles of dust into the lungs, by the process of inhalation. He informs us that it consists, in part, of a wheel so constructed as to reduce the particles of matter to such a state of fineness that they may be introduced into the lungs by inhalation. It appears to be a kind of