

lateral branches, and partakes of the truths of these. Homœopathy serves to make physiology more clear, and gives a more profound appreciation of the germs of Pathological Anatomy, and should therefore have its disseminating power increased by all legitimate means.

Yours truly,

HOMŒOPATHY.

(ANTI-HUMBUG'S LETTER NO. I.)

To the Editor of the MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT.

SIR,—My attention has been called to a letter contained in your issue of 12th May last, under the signature "Homœopathy," laudating that system of practical medicine, and denouncing in equally vigorous terms what the *Homœopathists* are pleased to designate the *Allopathic* mode of treatment. The writer of this letter brings to his assistance no less than fourteen reasons in support of his position, but, logically speaking, they are not reasons but rather postulates, which, if granted, the truly eclectic practice of the present day would tumble and totter to the ground. But there is little chance of that taking place, so long as one grain of sound common sense remains existent in the community. It is true that every and any innovation upon tried usages will find its supporters for the time being, the new fangled notion but to be discarded in its turn with those which preceded it. Despite, however, of what Homœopathy, Hydropathy, Sympopathy, and all other pathy's may do, and however much the Professor of these "pathy's" may delude the public, and obtain willing dupes, there cannot be the least doubt that nothing but the desire of acquiring the means of living, by preying upon the imagination of their dupes, lies at the foundation of all these different "pathys." When Hahnemann started Homœopathy, he revelled in his infinitesimal doses, maintaining the doctrine, with "similia similibus curantur," that the energy of medicines increased with their dilution, and that a medicine attenuated to the decillionth degree was far more potent in its effect upon disease than an ordinary grain of the same medicine; and in fact that the more it was attenuated, the more active and vigorous it really became. The supreme absurdity of this doctrine became soon transparent, and, accordingly, the Homœopathists soon became split up into several sects—some of which still employ medicines in their infinitesimal doses, while others use them in the ordinary doses; thus sailing under false colors; while a third class adopt the medium course, on the principle, we supposed, of "in medio tutissimus ibis." Hahnemanism may indeed be said to be truly extinct at the present day; and it is my sincere belief that nothing maintains its present nominal existence than a deficiency of earning a livelihood by more honest and legitimate means. The self glorified manner in which your Homœopathic practitioners will reason with you, upon your extreme incapacity of perceiving what is so palpable to himself, viz., the value of medicines given in quantities so small that a drop of the St. Lawrence would prove energetic, may captivate as it has undoubtedly done, many minds, but those capable of serious reflection can certainly never become convinced by any such assertions. It requires a little more than the assertions of fifty years to do away with the accumulated experience of nearly two thousand years and yet the Homœopathists are not by any means too vain to proclaim that they are attempting it. To prevent this letter from extending to an undue length, I will reserve a few facts for "Homœopathy" to digest for my next, and in the meanwhile, will inform him that the text of it will be his fourth postulate, that the practice of Homœopathy has been, and can be amply proved to be attended with more recoveries in all kinds