

even when supported by indisputable facts, is not a matter of so much importance as the facts themselves. And it is better if you are sure of your facts, to have an erroneous theory than none at all. The one I am going to propose is, I think, in accordance with physiological law, and I believe that it will strike your minds as being based on common sense, and as being sufficient to account for the observed phenomena. Briefly stated, it is as follows:

Organic beings possess the power of assimilating from the nutritious matters they absorb, the peculiar pabulum which each organ of the body demands for its development and sustenance. The brain, for instance, selects that part which it requires; the heart, the material necessary for its growth and preservation, and so on, with the liver, the lungs, the muscles, and the various other organs of the body. No mistake is ever committed; the brain never takes liver nutriment, nor the liver brain nutriment, but each selects that which it requires. There are, however, diseased conditions of the various organs in which this power is lost or impaired, and, as a consequence, disturbance of function, or even death itself, is the result.

Now, if we can obtain the peculiar matter that an organ of the body requires, and inject it directly into the blood, we do away with the performance of many vital processes which are accomplished only by the expenditure of a large amount of vital force.

Let us suppose a person suffering from an exhausted brain, the result of excessive brain work. Three hearty meals are eaten every day, but no matter how judiciously the food may be arranged, the condition continues. Now, if we inject into that person's blood a concentrated extract of the brain of a healthy animal, we supply at once the pabulum which the organ requires. Then, if under this treatment the morbid symptoms disappear, we are justified in concluding that we have successfully aided Nature in doing that which, unassisted, she could not accomplish.

All this is applicable, not only to the brain, but certainly to the heart, the generative system, the spinal cord, and, I believe, other organs of the body. I have repeatedly seen a feeble heart rendered strong, the blood corpuscles increased in

number, and the colour of the blood deepened by the use of cardine, and I have many times seen an exhausted sexual system restored to its normal power by the use of testine, cerebrine, and medulline.

Such is the system, and yet I am not quite sure that it is entirely new. I recollect reading nearly forty years ago, an account of some observations made by, I think, a German physician, relative to the treatment of diseases of the several organs of the body by a system of diet, consisting of the corresponding organs of healthy animals. Thus, liver disease was treated by beef's liver, heart disease by beef's heart, brain disease by beef's brain, and so on. My memory seems to be clear on the main point, but I have searched in vain for the paper to which I refer. The fact, however, that the various foods in question were cooked, and were taken into the stomach, constitutes a great difference with the system which I am now discussing, both physiologically and therapeutically, and the results do not admit of comparison. The germ of the idea, however, is the same, and I cheerfully yield to my unknown proto-observer whatever distinction may be claimed on the score of priority.

And while I have been conducting my observations, others have been at work in the same direction, but their investigations do not seem to have led to any very definite results, or to have been systematically carried out. Generally, they have been performed with the fresh juice of the organs, and, although at first sight this method would appear to be preferable to any other, experience shows that it is, as I have said, not unattended with danger, and I have certainly ascertained that extracts made with glycerine and pressure, extemporaneously, are absolutely without effect, either physiologically or therapeutically.

And now, gentlemen, I commend this whole subject to your serious attention. I shall leave a quantity of cerebrine with Dr. Leszinsky for distribution among you. I only ask that you will communicate to me the results of your observations.

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THE signs of the times indicate an early collapse, of the "gold-cure for drunkenness." One institution is already closed and more will surely follow.—*Ex.*