

poreal frame, and which he personified as the "Archæus," or "Grand Regulator," whose throne was the stomach; Wepfer designating a like power as the "President of the nervous system;" and the bold Stahl attributing such an influence "Directly and entirely to the rational soul, diffused over the whole body." And while we still continue to pour in drug remedies as our sheet anchor in the treatment of disease, and the schools especially waive before us, perhaps not now so much as they did a few years ago, the endless and ever increasing drug formulæ of the pharmacopœia as the alpha and omega of resource in therapeutics, leaving us to find out for ourselves in practice, through years of most bitter, most destructive experience, the unreliability and danger of most drug remedies, a Metchnikoff now rises up and displays before our wondering eyes, as it were, the *vis medicatrix naturæ* actually personified, certain living cells in actual combat with disease germs; while other investigators teach us that there is generated in the body and found in the blood serum, a germicide more powerful than corrosive sublimate.

It is not my intention to make a tirade against drug remedies. Some of them are of undoubted value as subordinate remedies; although as Prof. Erb, of Heidelberg, says, of "chemical or internal remedies":—"Here we enter upon a very obscure field, which needs thorough cultivation. We know almost nothing of it; the little which therapeutic experience has taught us is neither securely established nor in any way scientifically or intelligibly founded." But I would like to deliver a vigorous tirade against the practice of the text-book makers and of the schools giving these remedies first place, usually, instead of the last, in the *materia medica*.

Many years ago I suggested, at more than one meeting of the Canadian Medical Association, that the profession in Canada take the initiative and appoint a committee with the view of inducing the profession elsewhere to join and cut out about nine-tenths of the pharmacopœia—and to separate the few grains of gold in it from the enormous amount of what is practically dross.