

members to hold any professional intercourse with those who adopt this system of Practising Medicine, and this act of authority is exercised against all Homœopaths, without ever having studied the subject as a branch of natural knowledge founded upon observed facts. By this means, many young men of an enquiring disposition are prevented from acknowledging their desire to become acquainted with Homœopathy, not a few of whom are Medical Students of McGill College.

The Royal College of Surgeons of England, however, finds that "it is not expedient to interfere in this matter," and it is to be hoped that McGill College will not only follow that example, but go beyond it in establishing a chair for the teaching of Homœopathy, as I have endeavoured to prove they should do.

14th Postulate. "Because Homœopathy will often cure diseased states which are considered incurable by ordinary practice."

I have already given evidence in this correspondence that this is a fact, and it would be useless to multiply cases.

"Anti-Humbug" in his first letter states that "Homœopathy" brings to his assistance 14 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 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."

It will be necessary for me to state to the public what this "eclectic practice of the present day" is of which "Anti-Humbug" seems to be a disciple.

The celebrated Broussais said with his biting irony, "the eclectics are always men of superior merit; they are never mistaken in the choice they make among the different sects, and to be on their list is to be infallible. This is, I hope, a fine dose of presumption. What do you think of it, gentlemen of the eclectic school? Could you succeed better if you wished, to prove that medicine is only a map of traditions, both true and false, of precepts both good and bad, of practices both useful and dangerous and consequently not worthy of a place in the rank of sciences? It appears to me, that to say we are eclectics, is to declare there is no sound doctrine, that all the Professors have erred in a great many particulars, and that "we" are the only ones among all physicians past and present who are never mistaken."

Can "Anti-Humbug" be an eclectic after that? Does eclecticism begin to "totter"? Not yet, says "Anti-Humbug"; "not while one grain of common sense remains existent in the community." I will admit that common sense is plentiful and powerful, but I deny that there is as much as "a grain" of it in the whole community. This is only a postulate given by "Anti-Humbug" to prevent his edifice from tumbling. I assert that there is not the millionth part of a grain in weight, or anything like it, in all the community. "Anti-Humbug" may be so fond of big doses, that he would prescribe a bigger dose than there is existing. If there is not a whole grain of common sense existent in the community, eclecticism must fall. Did "Anti-Humbug" ever see weighed in a pair of apothecaries' scales the 20th part of a scruple of "common sense." He never did, and never will, for however powerful common sense may be, it is an infinitesimal Homœopathic remedy which, according to "Anti-Humbug," should have no power, and could not therefore prevent his eclecticism from falling.

"Anti-Humbug's agreement was "that if my postulates were granted the truly eclectic system of the present day would tumble and totter to the ground." There being no proof that there is a grain of common sense in the community, and I apprehend there will be no difficulty in granting that my postulates have been sustained, I therefore call upon "Anti-Humbug" to permit his truly eclectic system, after its tottering, to tumble to the ground. And, moreover, it is the part of infinitesimal Homœopathic and powerful common sense to allow the thing to tumble.

This fully proven Homœopathic scientific system of practising physic should be hailed by McGill College and the Governors of the Montreal General Hospital as a great boon to the community, and a harbinger of better times to suffering humanity all over the world. Like all other systems built upon truth, and which have made their way against dominant interests, Homœopathy has outlived and will continue to outlive the sneer of the ignorant.—Homœopathy has its basis upon a rock, and can well afford to withstand the raging billows of persecution, enmity and insult, with which it has to contend. Homœopathy does not wish to find fault with the men who still cling to a worn out and dangerous system, it is merely desirous that the better system should be studied, and the worse one left behind.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
JOHN WANLESS, M.D.
Montreal, July 29, 1864.