

We derive from the north-east of Europe, where the scrofula is indigeneous, the *wild pansy*, whose efficacy in this disease has been so often verified. Copaiva is perhaps the only remedy with which the plica polonica has ever been cured; and this drug is nowhere more abundant than in Poland. The *Cedron*, which is an admirable antidote against the poison of the crotalus and the coral snake, grows almost exclusively in regions inhabited by these dangerous reptiles, etc.

But should we conclude from these facts, which it would be easy for me to multiply to an infinite extent, that each of our drugs is exclusively adapted to the endemic maladies of the countries whence it is obtained, or at most to individuals whose constitution is identical with that which is generally possessed by the inhabitants of these countries? This question, however strange it may seem at first, is nevertheless of a high interest at present. Without undertaking to answer it for the present, I propose it as a subject of study for homeopathic physicians, who will undoubtedly agree with me, even without much thought or experience concerning the subject, that the natural history of drugs, if studied from the standing point that I have selected, will most probably furnish us useful and precious instruction.—*Testes Mat. Medica.*

PSEUDO-HOMEOPATHISTS.

BY PROF. J. P. DAKE.

WERE all or even the most troublesome of the obstacles in the way of our system those offered from without, its final victory would soon be won. The legions that have long been marshalled against reform—that have openly disputed every inch of ground with the pioneers of Homeopathy—are so confused among themselves, and so bewildered by the light reflected upon their benighted craft, from discoveries made in other departments of science and art, that their opposition henceforth can be little more than a farce. They will have business in attempting to reconcile their

lawless and superannuated systems with the wide and beautiful improvements of the age.

Nor will that Sisyphean task be done when time, grown old and gray, has laid him down to die. Homeopathy now suffers, and is destined yet to suffer, more from corruption among her professed votaries than from all other sources.

Her principles, so beautiful in themselves and so consistent when viewed in connexion with other acknowledged truths in science, have only to be studied well in order to be adopted fully.

There are many who, professing to practise homeopathy, often resort to the lancet, cups, leeches, emetics, cathartics, and large doses of mercury. Some pursue such a course to retain old patrons; some to convince the community that they are not bigoted, but understand and can practise both ways; some to indulge their indolence, finding it much easier to follow the old routine—bleed, physic, and puke—than to take symptoms and study out remedies; while, doubtless, most do it out of sheer necessity, having capacities too small for any mental achievement.

Nor is this the end of mixing. There are some *geniuses*, calling themselves homeopathists, who are so highly endowed with powers of discrimination as to set aside all natural laws in the arbitrary selection of their remedies—not confined to one system or school, they take the best from each, so that no disease or flying pain may hope to survive their charge.

Eclectico-Homeopaths!—wonderful men—able thus to give the world the strongest decoction of medical experience and learning. The want of consistency apparent in all such mongrel practice, while it increases the prejudices of the ignorant and disgusts the learned, can but expose our system to ridicule and final neglect. A community once thus imposed upon will be slow, very slow, in placing confidence in true homeopathists, who may in after years settle in their midst.

Better, far better, that another half century pass before the knowledge of our