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SAMUEL HAHNEMANN.

Hahnemann was born at Meissen, Saxony, on April 11, 1755. His elementary studies were under the guidance of his parents, who, under the guise of amusement, laid the foundation early for more profound study. His father being opposed to his receiving a university education, Hahnemann's later studies were pursued under most discouraging conditions, but he was an instructor in the rudiments of the Greek language at the age of 12, and at 20 he was a thorough master of six languages—German, French, English, Italian, Latin and Greek—and was able to support himself at the university at Leipsic by giving instructions in some of them, and translating therefrom into the German. He subsequently became proficient in Arabic, Syriac, Chaldaic and Hebrew. His medical studies were pursued at the famous centers of learning in Europe. He was graduated in medicine with special honors at Erlangen in the year 1779. He was a member of various scientific societies in Leipsic and other cities, and was highly honored for his researches in chemistry. He was well versed even in those branches of science unconnected with medicine.

Although undergoing many hardships on account of his advanced views, he

did not fail of recognition, at the hands of government. While he was a young man he was made surgeon in chief at the hospital in Dresden, and later he was made superintendent of the insane asylum at Goergenthal, where he introduced the mild and humane methods of treating the insane, which prevail at this day. In 1812 he was admitted to the faculty of medicine in the University of Leipsic, where he lectured for many years. Some years ago a monument in his honor was placed in one of the public squares of Leipsic. In 1822 he was created hofrath, or councillor of state.

One of the greatest boons conferred upon mankind was the discovery by Hahnemann of an underlying principle of drug-action which adds certainty to the administration of medicine in disease. This was announced in 1796 in a paper entitled "A New Principle for Ascertaining the Remedial Powers of Medicinal Substances." He not only discovered a constant relationship between drugs and disease, leading to a more scientific use of medicine, but also with consummate skill pointed out errors and dangerous practices which prevailed in current methods. He has thus directly and indirectly been the means of an enormous saving of human life, entitling him to the gratitude of mankind and placing him in the forefront of medical reformers. This distinguished place in medicine is not only claimed by his adherents, but is frankly admitted by distinguished medical men not of his school of practice, as will be observed by the following quotations:

Sir John Forbes, physician in ordinary to the Queen, writes: "No careful ob-