

nion that the evidence was as clear as noon-day, and was conclusive of the legal liability of the Defendant.

It will be seen by the two foregoing Law Reports, that the College has commenced prosecutions for the practice of medicine contrary to the provisions of the Act of Parliament; and the case of the College *vs.* Hooker, may be taken as a precedent for future actions. Other actions will speedily follow in this city; and if we could be assured that the practice of the empirics was such as could conduce to the substantial benefit of the parties who place themselves under it, we would regret seeing any such prosecutions attempted. From what we know, and from what we have seen, we are compelled to conclude that the sooner the public is protected the better. On such grounds, we therefore regret the non-conviction of Mr. Bowman, a druggist of this city. If the evidence against Hooker was conclusive of his having violated the statute, the evidence against Bowman, being of precisely the same character, was equally conclusive, and should have been attended with the same result. Mr. Bowman is a licensed Apothecary, Chemist and Druggist, for the Province of Lower Canada, and by such license is empowered to vend drugs and medicines, and to prepare physicians' prescriptions; the fact of his holding the licence being a guarantee of his capability of fully discharging the latter, and by far the most important, duty. But beyond these respects, his duty and his powers cease. The question now arises, what constitutes the "practice of physic, surgery, or midwifery," in the meaning of the Act? Is it the mere selling of what are called Sir Astley Cooper's pills, or Brandreth's pills? No; far from it. This is the apothecary's legitimate province, if there are to be found fools willing to act upon their own opinion, and swallow the one or the other. What we consider to be the "practice of physic, surgery, or midwifery," according to the Act, consists in the application of remedial agents to the alleviation of disease manifesting itself by peculiar symptoms; and for this the apothecary is no more properly qualified or educated than is any ordinary merchant in his counting house, who deals in epsom salts, glauher salts, or castor oil. The one who deals in wholesale might claim a privilege, on such grounds, equal with those who deal in retail; and physicians may be manufactured, without difficulty, ignorant of anatomy, physiology, and therapeutics, by a license, which, according to the decision in Mr. Bowman's case, places them on a full level with the regularly-educated physicians of the country, who, under like circumstances, can do no more. Irrespective of the blunder which Mr. Bowman committed in regard to the disease of his supposed Cholera patient, he has most manifestly infringed both the spirit and letter of the Act; and if, by a singular perversion of judgment on the part of the Court, which did not understand what the practice of medicine meant, he has been permitted to escape the infliction of what we certainly conceive would have been a just punishment, we hope he will become more wise, prudent, and cautious for the future, and restrict himself to the exercise of those duties which are legitimately his province.

While upon this subject, we would earnestly recom-

mend to our country friends, in whose neighbourhood parties are practising illegally, to advise Dr. David, the Secretary of the College, in post-paid letters, of their whereabouts. The College is resolved to put down empiricism; but it must know when and where to act.

*Homœopathy and Cholera.*—It was our intention to have offered some remarks on the Homœopathic treatment of Cholera, in this city, and upon the very subject which has been so adroitly handled by the editor of the *New York Annalist*. In lieu of any observations of our own, we quote those of our able contemporary. We would only remark, that the exhibition of camphor in the drop doses of the ordinary tincture, as practised by the Homœopathists of this city, is a practical refutation of one of Hahnemann's most important dogmas, the increased and increasing potency of medicines from their high dilutions or attenuations. There is something good in Nazareth still, when the bitterest opponents of our practice do not scruple to resort to it, when they find their own infinitesimal efforts abortive.

Since the appearance of Cholera in this city, our homœopathic friends have laudably endeavored to do their part in enlightening the community in regard to its prevention and cure. Hence we have had through the daily papers, various private and official documents on the subject. We have for some time been aware, that in this country at least, true homœopathy no longer existed except in name; but we were not quite prepared for so frank an acknowledgement of the fact as has been made in the documents referred to. Thus we are told in the communication from the committee appointed by the "Homœopathic Physicians' Society of New York," that the proper remedies for cholera are *Cuprum Metallicum* or *Veratrum* in the first stage, and if the patient becomes bad the *Spirits of Camphor* must be resorted to. Yes, the veritable "*Spirits of Camphor*," not the 30th dilution, nor the 61st trituration, but *spirits* of camphor, and that in doses of three drops repeated every few minutes if the symptoms are urgent. The committee making this report is composed of six or eight of the most prominent homœopathists of this city. Their names may be found in the daily *New York Tribune* for the 5th inst. Notwithstanding the boasted certainty and specific nature of homœopathic remedies, there seems still to be some differences of opinion in regard to the true homœopathic remedy for the cholera. Hence, in the *Tribune* for June 8th, we find a communication from Charles J. Hempel, who, though a member of the New York Homœopathic Physicians' Society, yet takes the liberty to differ from the report of the said committee. He regards the cuprum, the veratrum, and the camphor, only as palliatives, while the aconitum napellus furnishes the only true cholera specific. The following are his directions for its use, viz.:

"As soon as the diarrhœa sets in, with or without cramps in the stomach and bowels, with or without vomiting, coldness of the extremities, &c., dissolve 5 drops of the *tincture of Aconite* in 10 table-spoonfuls of clear Croton water, and take two tea-spoonfuls every half hour, until an improvement sets in; then continue every two hours until you feel entirely well. Eat very little, and only light food, gruels, weak tea and toast, &c.

If the diarrhœa should be very bad, attended with or without cramps in the bowels, spasms in the extremities, vomiting, or if the paroxysms should set in immediately with great force, dissolve 10 drops of the *tincture of Aconite* in ten table-spoonfuls of water, and give the patient 2 tea-spoonfuls every five minutes until the pulse improves, the extremities become warm, and a moisture is perceived on the skin; then continue every 20 minutes until the improvement is strikingly manifest, and finally continue every two hours until the patient is entirely recovered."

There it is, real, genuine, *Crude Tincture of Aconite*, in doses amounting to nearly one drop every five minutes, or ten drops every hour. There is no *dilution* no *trituration* about it; for he tells us that he uses the *tincture* prepared after Pereira's formula. And in regard to the dose, it should certainly satisfy any allopathists in the country. Pereira himself directs only *five drops three times a day*.