

only a small amount of the actual disease and suffering which are superinduced by this mode of treatment; for we may justly attribute to this source the numerous cases of impaired constitutions, and the endless train of anomalous symptoms which are constantly met with in those families who have long employed old school physicians.

Let us suppose a case of allopathic treatment. The patient has a bilious fever, and an active mercurial purgative is prescribed to evacuate the *prima vie*. But the fever continues to progress, and tenderness of the abdomen is superadded since the operation of the cathartic. Small doses of calomel and Dover's powder are now prescribed for the purpose of inducing the alterative (poisonous) action of the mercury, and these doses are repeated at short intervals until irritation of the salivary glands, the liver, the mucous membrane of the stomach and bowels, ulceration of the mouth, throat, and gums, and a general derangement system indicate that the body has been effectually poisoned by the drug. Still the fever pursues its course unchecked, with many serious drug symptoms superadded. Tortured and prostrated more by the doctor than by the natural disease, the unhappy invalid loses both his strength, his patience, and his courage, and feebly begs for relief to his sufferings. Now comes the grand placebo *Opium*, which benumbs the patient, and covers up temporarily his pains and his complaints under an artificial stupor. Still the malady is not arrested, but pursues its destructive course throughout every nerve and fibre of the torpid organism, aided in its deadly work by the impaired condition of the entire system, which has been caused by the narcotic. A few days pass by and the poisonous effects of the opium are manifested in the form of congestion of the brain, delirium, prostration of the nervous system, and a general suspension of the functions of nearly every organ of the body. A new and serious condition of things now exists, and the friends of the unfortunate victim of empyricism are coolly assured, that the *disease* has assumed a *typhoid* type! The dreadful drugging which has been employed—sufficient to reduce a healthy Hercules to the brink of the grave, is entirely overlooked, and all untoward symptoms are attributed to the natural malady! But the patient is fast sinking. His muttering delirium, his trembling nerves, his wan and sunken face, his foetid breath, his tympanitic abdomen, his rapid and feeble pulse, and other indications of extreme illness, require prompt attention, and he is put under full doses of quinine every hour or two as a tonic. The patient sinks hour by hour, while the poisonous effects of the quinine become developed in the form of deafness, ringing in the ears, and an aggravation of all the typhoid symptoms. As the victim sinks, the poisoner plies his trade, as his fancy, or the fashionable doctrine of the day may influence him; and the father, the wife, or the child expires, his body loaded with deadly poisons—a victim to an empirical mode of medication, which originated in the dark ages, and which is at present sustained by medical bigots similar in mental constitution to those who scoffed and rejected the discoveries of Harvey and Jenner.

If the homeopathic practitioner be followed to the sick-bed, no violent drug-symptoms which impair the entire energies of the system,