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All manuscripts, news items, etc., should be addressed to Dr. Arthur D. Patton, care of Hospital.

WHICH WAY?

A recent newspaper article on the death of Washington describes how he was deliberately murdered by being bled, no less than four times, then having calomel and tartar emetic administered, and Spanish fly blisters applied to his throat and legs, the whole process lasting from seven o'clock in the morning until ten o'clock at night, when the end came. This happened 96 years ago, and the above treatment was considered highly scientific, and was in common use by the profession of that and later periods, which many of the present day have vivid recollection of and are prepared to vouch for the thoroughness used in its application.

Such treatment would not be thought of at the present day, and to Hahnemann and homœopathy are due the credit of having wrought a radical change in the healing art, casting out empiricism and replacing the lancet scepter with that alpha of fever remedies, aconite. The change is graphically described by one of homœopathy's ablest physicians in the words "The click of the trigger lancet is heard no more, the blood bowl has vanished, the slimy leech has disappeared, the cup is broken, the seton is unheard of, the actual cautery is consigned to the lowest

depths of oblivion, the blister only rarely obtrudes its unwelcome presence, the patient—exhausted by disease—is not still further exhausted by the rude and crude and violent methods of fifty years ago."

Among the many benefits homœopathy has brought to mankind, this mitigating the evils of treatment of disease will ever recommend it to the suffering as well as to those kindly disposed towards their fellows. As announced by Hahnemann a century ago, homœopathy cures the patient in the speediest, safest, and easiest manner, as opposed to harsh measures, and setting the difference between power and violence in regard to the action of drugs in a new and clear light. That the system and the propositions it puts forth are true is clearly established even by its opponents, whose efforts in making their therapeutics conform to the law of similars are daily becoming more apparent, though they refuse to recognize the source of their inspiration.

Contrast the position of that masterpiece of Hahnemann's genius, the *Organon*, with that of the so-called standard works on therapeutics of allopathy, of say, ten years ago. To-day the *Organon* is one of the best selling medical books published, though the principles and teachings are the same as contained in the first edition of 1810, while the old school text book of ten years ago is regarded as a curio and its teachings alluded to with jocularly or incredulity. Men are keen in search of truth and knowledge, and no amount of sentiment will make them buy old books, did they not find their quest: nor