

claim to our confidence, owing to the shortness of time allowed for a due investigation of their respective properties. But I confidently trust that the treatment hereupon recommended, will generally prove successful in the hands of an attentive and well discerning physician, in the persuasion that he should constantly endeavor to oppose and combat the complaint, "by economizing, supporting and restoring," as much as possible, the impaired or deranged state of the nervous system, which, constituting in itself the individual as a living being, demands the first and the chief, though not the exclusive attention of the practitioner. But he should well remember, in his invocation, always to look first at the causes, more than at the symptoms of the disease, and then to treat it according to its true nature and exact pathology, and not according to its nominal location or nosological nomenclature, which consists in mere appellative and arbitrary distinctions, admitted, by systematic writers, for the shake of calling every disease by a name.

CONCLUSION.—The causes alluded to in this dissertation, and the curative plan of the complaint which is, therein, the subject of investigation, may lead, not indeed to the discovery of any new method of treating it, but only to a more judicious adherence to those which are already known; and I hope that its contents, which I now humbly submit, as a due tribute of respect and gratitude, to the impartial criticism of the public, will be understood as I wish they could, and intended they should be.