

generative sphere, impaired sight and hearing, paralytic affections, neuralgia, hypochondria, and diminished powers of rationation.

It may be urged that homeopaths also make use of quinine in intermittent fevers. In cases where it is homeopathically indicated this is quite true; but when thus employed in accordance with our therapeutic law, it is never necessary to prescribe it in such quantities as to induce toxic effects, in order to insure cures. In such cases the specific affinity between the disordered tissues and the drug is so strongly pronounced that very minute doses produce curative responses.

Will the reader mark the contrast between the empirical employment of this substance in *all* causes of intermittent fevers by one school, and its occasional use by the other school for definite and specific groups of symptoms? By so doing, some idea may be formed of the comparative scientific bases upon which each mode of medication is founded.

OPIMUM.

It has been well remarked, that if our adversaries were deprived of opium and calomel, their "occupation would be gone." If their standard works on Theory and Practice be consulted, it will be found that in nineteen out of every twenty maladies treated by these gentlemen, one of these medicines is doomed indispensable.

With regard to opium, it may justly be ranked among the most pernicious and insidious of poisons. Exhilarating, soothing, and eminently pleasurable in its primary effects, it speedily attracts its victims with visions of celestial beauty, and with thoughts and ideas such as angels might envy, towards an abyss of unspeakable wretchedness and despair. Day by day the habitual opium-eater is obliged to augment his dose, until the quantity amounts to two or three drachms in twenty-four hours. The energies of the system are thus gradually impaired, until the opium-fiend rules triumphant, and the functions of life can only be accomplished under his influence.

That the constant and indiscriminate use of this drug by the old school, very frequently leads to its habitual indulgence, does not admit of doubt. Every day does the medical man come in contact with instances of this kind, and in every street may be seen *secret* indulgers, withered and sallow opium-eaters. The responsibility in these cases rests, for the most part, with our opponents.

The following is an excellent description of the habitual opium-eater by Dr. Oppenheim:—

"The habitual opium-eater is instantly recognized by his appearance. A total attenuation of body, a withered, yellow countenance, a lame gait, a bending of the spine, frequently to such a degree as to assume a circular form, and glassy, deep, sunken eyes, betray him at the first glance. The digestive organs are in the highest degree disturbed, the sufferer eats scarcely any thing, and has hardly one evacuation in a week; his mental and bodily powers are destroyed; he is