

faith alone. Moreover, this remedy would be much more pleasant and save the cost of expensive drugs.

Now, I will tell my readers how they can find the better way for themselves. I think this much better than to name it directly.

Ever since Paracelsus publicly burnt Galen's works there have been schools of medicine. At present there are two main camps, viz., the Homœopathic and the "Medicine of Experience." Now, as the word indicates, the former is based on the doctrine that drugs cure diseases which resemble in their symptoms and pathology the disorders which these drugs are capable of producing. We have been investigating the basis of the latter, so will not further refer to it.

In the preface to the ponderous volume, which you have kindly loaned me, of Pharmacology, Therapeutics and Materia Medica, by T. Lauder Brunton, M.D., etc., I find the following: "The essence of Homœopathy, as established by Hahnemann, lies on the infinitesimal dose and the universal application of the rule, *similia similibus curantur*. But the infinitesimal doses are so absurd that I believe they have been discarded by many homœopaths. To such men all that remains of Homœopathy is the universality of the rule *similia similibus curantur*, and the only difference between them and rational [mark the arrogance] practitioners lies in the fact that the latter regard the rule as only of partial application."

Now, there are two "jumping-off places" which I want pointed out, and thus settle the whole question between the two schools forever. I want to know where the homœopaths, in the domain of posology, crossed the Rubicon between activity and inertness, between "rationalism" and insanity; and secondly, the limits of the successful application of the rule *similia similibus curantur*. It is time to come down to something practical, as "calling names," etc., has proved a complete failure.

I assert most positively that the animal organism, at least in disease, affords the most delicate test of the presence of matter known to man. Chemistry, the microscope, the spectroscope, the condensed ray of light, are all crude in comparison, and every medical man can easily prove this fact for himself, thus:

Take a good tincture of belladonna (it should be

procured at a homœopathic pharmacy); take some alcohol and a vial from same place. Now, take one drop of the tincture of belladonna and add it to 99 drops of the alcohol, or in a one per cent. proportion, shake. For further dilution take a drop of this and alcohol as before, and so on *ad infinitum*. Now, suppose a case of acute idiopathic inflammation with the following symptoms: High fever, great pain at seat of inflammation, more especially if meningeal or cerebral, or this pain may only be reflex; intense headache with great intolerance of light and noise, dilated pupils, flushed face and throbbing carotids. Excepting the pyrexia of an intermittent, these symptoms will infallibly be relieved or cured by a single drop of the belladonna, no matter how often you may dilute it as described. The fever and headache will abate; the pulse, which was quick and tense-card like, will gradually become fuller and slower, and all this will occur within a surprisingly short time. The dose should be repeated every hour or two, omitting for a time, at least, all medicine, so soon as a favorable change takes place.

An ordinary congestive headache, so frequent in women with the above symptoms (the fever need not be so marked), will be relieved before the doctor can get a mile from the house. Vivid and exciting dreams and furious delirium are also amongst its indications in fevers and acute inflammations—dreams even in ordinary non-pyrexial cases.

Now, here is a chance for orthodox doctors to learn something of incalculable value in the treatment of a common condition, often of very serious import, and to know of those wonders so familiar to thousands, even hundreds of thousands, of others. Before me is a symposium on Belladonna, in which Professor Bartholow exhibits his ignorance as follows:

"Brain Affections, Hypnotic.—The indications for its use are prostration, low state of the arterial tension, languid intercranial circulation, a contracted pupil and insomnia. Much good may be expected from belladonna, but harm will be produced if there is much vascular excitement."

I can only pity the thousands of doctors and their patients who have been guided by this false light. The only explanation I can give for it is, that Dr. Bartholow has in his mind doses of from