

dioscorea. But he is quite oblivious of the fact that though the diseases in both cases are called colic, the conditions present are diametrically opposed to each other. Now, homeopaths and eclectics might as well try to batter down Gibraltar by butting it, as to try to convert a regular schoolman, who has had this experience, to their way of thinking about colocynth and dioscorea, unless they can present some better arguments than they have hitherto been able to do. He has but one reason for his obstinacy, and wants nor needs any better—"I've tried 'em both, and they are no good."

A homeopath is called to a patient with colic due to an *overstimulated* Auerbach's plexus. He knows that colocynth in a minute dose will *sometimes* cure colic, and persists in its administration without benefit until his fear of dismissal from the case induces him to try dioscorea. His training and his faith in dynamization teach him erroneously that if dioscorea will cure at all, it will do so in the minute dose. He therefore gives it in the first or higher dilution, instead of from five to thirty drops as an eclectic would, and he meets with absolutely no results. In this instance, at least, his theory of dynamization fails him, but instead of realizing the fallacy of his theory, he is filled with disgust for eclectic therapeutics. If a *true* homeopath and honest, regular school therapeutics are, of course, entirely out of the question.

An eclectic knows that dioscorea *sometimes* cures colic, but when it fails because of a depressed Auerbach's plexus, he tries colocynth in the homeopathic dose with success, knowing little and caring less as to the reason why. But when a regular schoolman urges him to use morphia, and points out its beauties when introduced through a hypodermic needle, he laughs him to scorn; and, if pressed for his reason, exclaims: "What! make my patients drunk with morphia to cure cramp? I don't have to."

Is it not clear that narrowness of view dissipates energy and prevents progress in this instance?

While the facts just presented can easily be substantiated, the reasons adduced for their existence, as far as the writer is aware, are original with him, and as the use of colocynth in the minute dose and the use of dioscorea in any dose may not be familiar to some, it may be wise to illustrate the principle involved by as old and respectable a drug as ipecacuanha. The laity, as well as all three schools of medicine, have long been familiar with its power to produce emesis, in large doses. It was this power that induced Hahnemann to use it to cure vomiting in the minute dose. This use of it was made widely known to the regular profession twenty or more years ago, by Sidney Ringer, and has been adopted by both regulars and eclectics. *The U. S. Dispensatory*