

was introduced ten years ago in the *Lancet* with a sound of trumpets, is now found to be inert. Fashion and not science rules the roast, like tight stays, bad ventilation, no exercise and hoops. Homœopathy is neither a quack nostrum, nor the giving of a necessarily infinitesimal quantity of medicine; it has no relation to the tribe of Snooks, Holloway or Parr. Homœopathy gives us to understand that diseases in the sick are actually cured by those very medicines which are capable of producing similar symptoms in the healthy. The essence of quackery is secrecy, like the conduct of some old braggarts in the practice of medicine, whose principle in obtaining practice for themselves mainly consists in stabbing their fellow practitioners assassin-like in the dark, by innuendoes, shakes of the head, falsehood and ridicule. Homœopathy has no secrets to disclose; instead of this it courts inquiry, and entreats its opponents to investigate it, as Jenner and Hervey did before, when they were persecuted and condemned by the whole profession of physic of their day. Jenner was told that cow's horns would grow upon baby's heads if they were vaccinated. It would seem that a truth in science is sometimes looked upon like a truth in law—the greater the truth the greater the libel; so the greater the truth in science, especially if it touches on vested interests, the greater is the persecution it will meet with; but, like all truth, homœopathy raises its head, and will continue to do so, as an intelligible law of nature, capable of proof by ordinary evidence. It is a simple guide to the physician in the choice of the medicine to be given, applicable at all times, in all countries, and in all cases. It challenges investigation side by side with allopathy; invites a fair trial and no favor; defies refutation, and is willing to abide by the verdict which an intelligent and impartial public shall give, provided only that verdict be in accordance with the evidence produced, according to Blackstone's fundamental principle of law, viz:—"That as well the best method of trial as the best evidence upon that trial which the nature of the case affords, and no other shall be admitted." That trial has been made with homœopathy, and the experiment has proved to the highest intellectual and most impartial scientific men, that homœopathy is a fixed fact. And what does Sir Benjamin Brodie threaten the establishment of that fact with?—not, as of old (and that is an improvement in our time), with the prison and the pillory; but he threatens the professors of homœopathy with pains of *avoidance and non-consultation*. We have seen what an unsatisfactory state the practice of medicine which Sir Benjamin takes upon himself to call a science is in—its jumble of conflicting theories, without any principle but routine for its guidance, having effects injurious to the system, and called the art of poisoning by its very members. Homœopathy is a system which has an unerring law of nature for its guidance, coupled with a means of application beyond the possibility of doing harm—a system which has withstood the fiercest opposition, the most unblushing and continuous misrepresentation, the keenest ridicule, and the most violent aspersions at the hands of its detractors—a system which, notwithstanding these adverse circumstances, has grown and increased like the sturdy oak, whose boughs, rocked by the storm and scourged by the blast, only strikes its roots deeper into the ground, and gathers strength from the sweep of the hurricane, till it has taken a firm hold upon the minds of every class of the community—a system which at no distant date, will assuredly supersede any other hitherto practised, and which even now can utter to its antagonist the sure word of prophecy, "Thou must decrease, but I shall increase," and this for the simple reason that "magna est veritas et prævalebit"—great is the truth, and it shall prevail. What can the threat of an allopath in refusing a consultation with a homœopath amount to, even when asked? The sick patient will not lose anything because he is relieved from his dread of poison; the homœopathist cannot lose when the two principles are compared. Sir Ben-