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MEDICAL CRITICISM.

No. 10.

MARCH 17, 1883.

2ND SERIES.

A Weekly Sheet, by DAVID EDWARDS, published on Saturday, and sold at Patterson & Co.'s No. 4 Adelaide Street West, Toronto.

PRICE, \$1.50—Copies of any single number can be had, in quantities, at 15c. per dozen.

MANSLAUGHTER.

We perceive that ninety-seven persons are, by the report on the Hospitals of Ontario for 1882, stated to have died of diphtheria in those Hospitals alone, during the year. In view of the fact (published in No. 8, of this journal) that diphtheria has in every case, been conquered by the use of sulphur, we see no reason why the Doctors who have been responsible for the death of these ninety seven persons should not be indicted for manslaughter. If they should be so indicted, of course any number of doctors would swear that the treatment these martyrs received was perfectly orthodox; the twelve gentlemen who are supposed to constitute the palladium of our liberties would sagely deliver their verdict accordingly. The parsons would say "Died by the visitation of God;" the indifferent people would say "Amen." The Committee of public safety will say "slaughtered by combined ignorance and stupidity."

PARLIAMENTARY.

The nine doctors who, during the past session of the Ontarian Legislature, did garrison-duty for the profession at large, will we trust, ere another session has commenced, have received their marching orders; albeit they have executed a bit of *stitching* now and then, we do not think the nine would make one tailor; neither in our opinion, will a stitch in time save the nine. The detective officer whom, *in the interest of the community at large*, they so considerably employ, may be expected to bring up the rear of the nine, in their retreat from the Hall of the Assembly.

A SYLLOGISM.

It is detrimental to the well-being of the community that persons should represent them in Parliament whose individual interest conflicts with their own; the individual interest of an Allopathic physician is prejudicial to the welfare of the community; therefore it is detrimental to the community to be represented in Parliament by an Allopathic physician.

"PHYSICIAN, HEAL THYSELF."

One of the mysteries attaching to the medical profession is that its members, when sick, cannot cure themselves; neither can they apparently keep their own children alive; we know a case of a medical man who is dangerously ill from congestion of the lungs; he is attended by another; neither of them (presumably) are aware that electricity would bring immediate relief; the profession is supposed to possess a monopoly of knowledge, and "mourners," as a consequence, still "go about the streets."

THE ICE-BOATS.

When a man finds that he has been suddenly stricken down, and rendered insensible through a blow from an ice-boat, and on recovering consciousness, discovers that one of his legs has been broken in two places, *he* at least is likely to be of opinion that it is time such boats were required to be provided with a whistle, and that in the event of accident occurring through neglect to use it, the offence should be rendered penal.

"WHICH ARE THE APES, AND WHICH ARE THE PEACOCKS?"

Some such enquiry as the above, is said to have been made by certain children, when visiting a travelling menagerie; to which the accommodating showman is said to have replied—"Whichever you please, my little dears, you pay your money, and you take your *choice*." That august body, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, (and similar Colleges throughout the globe) would appear to be no less accommodating than the showman of the menagerie, inasmuch as the medical apes and peacocks whom they license to practise, differ from each other in their principles as widely as do the specimens of natural history; the daily slaughter of the innocents is a necessary consequence.

CHLOROFORM.

We know a physician of this city, who was administering chloroform to a patient, prior to an intended operation; the physician was surrounded by students at the time, and was dilating on the treatment of the case, when he appears to have thought it worth while to look at the patient; he discovered, on looking at the sufferer, that his aid was no longer needed, and was content with the remark that "such things will happen; send for another."

INFLAMMATION OF THE BOWELS.

When inflammation of the bowels arises from any obstruction therein, such obstruction can be easily removed by the aid of a syringe; strange to say castor oil, and Castile soap, beaten up in warm water, can be successfully applied without the aid of a physician. A syringe can be obtained at any druggist's.

THREE DAYS IN BED, AND WHAT CAME OF IT.

A gentleman who has seen more than sixty summers, sought, and we may presume obtained "the best advice" for his malady; the advice was that he should keep his bed for three days, after the expiration of which, that priest of nature styled his physician, undertook to visit him again; medicine was of course administered during these three days, and it would be a matter of some interest to ascertain the nature of it; for when the doctor called according to promise, his patient enquired as to the nature of his disorder; the doctor, with some hesitation remarked that had his patient been a young man, he should have pronounced it to have been *measles*, but under existing circumstances he did not know the nature of it. If his patient had died during those three days, the doctor perhaps would have resorted to a *pos' mortem* in order to register the cause of death, and *perhaps he wouldn't*.

OPENING LECTURE, BELLEVUE COLLEGE, NEW YORK.

The President of the above-named College, in delivering his opening address, some time ago, when a friend of the writer was present, described to the students the result of an experiment which the physicians of the College had made, in rela-

tion to their typhoid fever cases ; twelve of these were placed in tents on an island, and fed with light nutritious diet ; they had no medicine, but they recovered, *notwithstanding this latter circumstance* ; twelve others (unhappily for them) were left in the hospital, wherein they necessarily had "the best advice," and medicine to boot ; the President drew a professional veil over the results of the hospital treatment, by expressing his regret that they "were not so favourable as was the treatment on the island." In the event of the Editor being overtaken by typhoid fever, it is probable he may say—"Please take me to the island?"

"MANGER" V. "HOSPITAL."

A dog when he occupies a manger, albeit he is utterly incapable of utilizing the contents of the manger in any other way than by *sitting on them*, and of course barks at all intruders, appears to us suitably to represent those medical practitioners who habitually *sit on* the hapless patients in the hospitals, and *bark* at every Hydro-path, Homœopath, Physio-medical practitioner, Eclectic, Magnetist, and Electrician, who approaches them, although every one of those could heal in cases where the Allopaths both torture and kill ; we think therefore that our so-styled Hospitals would be more correctly designated "Mangers."

SIMPLE REMEDIES.

DYSPEPSIA AND HEARTBURN—can be instantly relieved by taking *half* a teaspoonful of common table salt, dissolved in a little cold water. It taken every morning before breakfast, increasing the quantity gradually to a *teaspoonful* of salt, and a tumbler of water, it will in a few days cure any case of dyspepsia, if at the same time due attention be paid to diet.

CONSTIPATION—can likewise be overcome by the same means.

SORE THROAT—will yield to it, if applied as a gargle ; it may be used as often as desired, and if a little be swallowed each time, it will have a beneficial effect in cleansing the throat, and in allaying irritation.

AN EMETIC.—One to four teaspoonfuls in half a pint to a pint of tepid water, will act as an emetic.

POISONING.—In cases of poisoning, as salt is at hand in most houses, it will be well to bear this in mind.

STINGS AND BITES OF INSECTS.—The irritation arising from stings, &c., can be allayed by the outward application of salt and water.

HÆMORRHAGE.—The above-named remedy acts as an astringent, and will be found serviceable in cases of tooth-extraction, &c.

ULCERATION (superficial).—As salt possesses both cleansing and healing properties, it will be found, when applied as above, to be an excellent remedy in cases of ulceration.

TASTE AND TRY.

In continuance of our "taste and try" series of remedies, is that subjoined. Arsenicum is one of the best remedies in Diarrhœa, particularly when the evacuations are watery, accompanied by internal heat, thirst, and a feeling of great weakness. Such Diarrhœas are very common in Summer, after eating fruit, or from being suddenly chilled after having been very warm. Take 10 drops in a mouthful of fresh water at one dose. Should the Diarrhœa be checked, take no more, keep quiet and only eat boiled rice, bread and butter, with milk and water for 24 hours, after which gradually return to the usual diet. Should the Diarrhœa return, put 12 to 15 drops into a tumbler of fresh water, and take a mouthful every time the bowels move, keeping as quiet as possible, and observing the above-mentioned diet. Should the Diar-

rhœa still prove obstinate, or should there be danger of Cholera, put 12 to 15 drops of Arsenicum into one tumbler of fresh water, and as many of Veratrum into another, and take a mouthful every half hour from the tumblers in alternation till the Diarrhœa stops, then gradually lengthen the intervals between each dose.

There is one kind of Influenza, characterized by profuse watery discharge from the head, corroding the nostrils, and accompanied by burning in the eyes, for which Arsenicum is the specific remedy.


APOPLEXY.

Treated Homœopathically.

A homœopathic practitioner would be guided as to the means he would employ in the case of apoplexy, by the following considerations—whether the disease were traceable to plethora, debility, suppression of discharges, repelled eruptions, injuries, narcotic poisons, noxious vapors, or to mental emotions. When the face is flushed, eyes suffused with blood, with a dull, heavy headache, and roaring in the ears—*Belladonna*. When the pain in the head is severe, full pulse, and numbness of the limbs, or an occasional twitching—*Aconite*, *Nux-Vomica*. When the patient lies, as if in a profound sleep; face of natural appearance, pulse slow, and not increased in volume—*Opium*.* When caused by a blow or a fall—*Arnica*. When caused by suppressed discharges through cold; first *Pulsatilla* and *Sulphur*; then *Opium*, or *Kalladonna*. When caused by repelled eruptions—*Sulphur Ipecac.* When caused by debilitating losses—*Cinchona*. When caused by anger—*Nux-Vomica Ignatia*. When caused by fright—*Ignatia*, *Pulsatilla*, *Artemisia*. When caused by excessive joy—*Opium*, *Coffea*. When caused by narcotic poison, or the inhalation of noxious vapours,—*vide* list of remedies in any homœopathic work.

ADMINISTRATION.—To remove premonitory symptoms, give the drug indicated once or twice a day. If the symptoms appear urgent, the medicine may be repeated every three or four hours; during an attack the remedies should be repeated every three hours, until a favorable change takes place. Great benefit is obtained from cold applications to the head, and stimulating ones to the extremities, *when the disease is accompanied with plethora*.

* I had the satisfaction within the last fortnight of bringing an aged and highly esteemed lady out of an apoplectic state, with a single dose of *Opium*. She had lain in a profound sleep for forty-eight hours, from which it was impossible to arouse her; her pulse was nearly natural, (rather slow), and the extremities were cold. The drug was administered as follows: Two drops of *Tinct. Opium*, (Laudanum), were mixed in a tumbler, two thirds filled with cold water, and a teaspoonful given, which in less than fifteen minutes had the desired effect, to the great delight of her friends, who were watching her with the most intense anxiety.—M. Freligh, M. D.

 In the event of any irregularity occurring in the delivery of this publication, the Editor requests that he may be addressed respecting it.

“PULPIT CRITICISM,” by the same author, sold at PATTERSON & Co.’s, 4 Adelaide Street West. Price \$1.50 per annum.