CANADIAN

JOURNAL OF HOMEOPATHY.

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ALLOPATHIC AND HOMEOPATHIC MEDICATION CONTRASTED.

In order to form an accurate judgment respecting the comparative merits of different modes of medication, it is necessary, in making up the account, to take into consideration the remote as well as immediate effects of medicines upon the constitution. The old axium tuto, cito, et jucunde, has been most aptly applied to the cure of diseases so far as mere theory is concerned; but we regret to observe that neither the tuto, nor the cito, nor the jucunde, have, as a general rule, received due practical appreciation from the mass of the profession. In the present paper it will be our object to adduce from standard authorities of both schools a sufficient number of facts bearing upon our subject, to enable any impartial reader to form an intelligent opinion respecting the comparative efficiency and safety of the two methods.

We are induced to write a few paragraphs upon this subject in consequence of a great change in the tactics of our opponents within the past few years. Formerly the doctrines of our school were answered by sneers and ridicule, our doses were pronounced impotent, and our treatment abortive, and this course was continued for many years, but without staying for a single instant the onward progress of our school. Many volumes have been written upon the supposed absurdity of small doses, extensive mathematical calculations have been entered into with a view of computing the weight of imponderable atoms, and a vast amount of satire has been expended, in attempting to crush these little atoms out of existence, but all has been in vain! The little doses still continue to give evidence of their power, and the public instead of heeding the sucers and ridicule of our amiable opponents, fly to homeopathy as their only safeguard in illness. For more than forty years after the discoveries of Hahnemann, the entire allopathic profession resorted to ridicule as their chief weapon of opposition. Professing to

dred dollars for the object? It will be but casting our " bread upon

the waters," which will return again.

Let all be notified that the hospital is open for the reception of the sick. Please direct thither those who may need care, whether of your acquaintance or strangers. The hospital building is located at No. 18, Kinzie street, north side of the river. The Board of Physicians is fully organized, holding regular meetings at the Hospital Rooms, once a fortnight.—Chicago Homeopath.

YELLOW FEVER IN NEW ORLEANS.

BY DR. VAIL.

Hon. C. H. Sigourney—Dear Sir,—Your questions in regard to the treatment of yellow fever in New Orleans, I shall endeavor to answer.

The homeopathic practice has triumphed in the treatment of yellow fever in New Orleans, as it has every where in the South, where it has

been used in that disease.

In this city for the three years the yellow fever has prevailed here, our loss has been six per cent. We had in 1853 and 1854 five homeopathic physicians in full practice, this year we have four more, but they have not had much practice. The cases have been less numerous this year in consequence of a less number of unacclimated persons, but in character the disease has been more violent. A typhus constitution of the atmosphere prevailed all winter and spring, and into summer, and for a month after the yellow fever appeared to an extent never known before in New Orleans, and it held its ground with such tenacity, that yellow fever frequently ran into a typhus form if it continued beyond five or six days, and it usually terminated fatally under allopathic treatment. Under homeopathic treatment this seldom happened, as the fever was cured in three days, and sometimes in two or three was the outside with me, and typhus did not ensue unless by a relapse and then did not terminate fatally, in consequence of the great saving of the strength. Under homeopathic treatment our patients can stand one relapse, those of the allopaths seldom or never recover if they relapse.

The allopathic practice consisted of three methods :

1st. The Quinine, ten or forty grain doses, according to the hardihood of the doctor, given in the height of the fever or absence of it indiscriminately, whenever the doctor chanced to see the patient.

2nd. The sweating practice, putting the patient under from three to six blankets or quitts, closing the doors and windows, putting the feet frequently into hot water, and hot drinks. In this condition they were kept till they died, which took place some times in twenty-four hours. Some would continue six days and then die. If they recovered

they were not permitted to receive a change of linen or fresh air under nine days. The condition of the patient, as you may imagine, was filthy and distressing in the extreme; the heat increased ten fold beyond what the fever made it, breathing the impure and heated air behind the musquito bar, the sweat so profuse as to wet the mattress through. I have seen them at the end of six days dying, and the heat of skin greater than I should have supposed human flesh could be.

The third mode of practice consisted of a mixed course. Some of the blankets, &c., with blood-letting, cupping and leeching, and calomel, &c. This year the confidence of the Quinnie has fallen off, and they seem to be utterly at a loss what to do, and are making various experiments. In comparative results of the above allopathic modes of practice, the Quinnie was the most fatal, being about seventy per cent. I think the average of deaths about thirty to forty per cent, in private practice; in the Charity Hospital, by their own report, in 1853, it was sixty-six per cent. Contrast that with the Hospital at Rio in 1851 and 1852; under similar circumstances, they treated about the same number homeopathically, with a loss of six per cent. Homeopathy has been equally successful every where in the South, at Natchez, Havana, Barbadoes, and Rio Janeiro.

The potencies I use are the third, generally; some use higher. I believe the potence is not of importance, provided the remedy is given strictly homeopathic to the disease in all its changes.

Excuse bad writing and errors; I have written in haste, amid pressing professional business, not aiming at any thing but to give you the facts. Yours.

J. VAIL, M.D.

P. S .- Our treatment is strictly homeopathic, as we would treat any fever without regard to name, and let common sense prevail in the nursing department, free admission of air, light covering, &c. The first stage is fully recovered by Acon., which frequently subdues the fever in one or two days, and no other remedy is needed. Bryonia is next in value, scarcely second to Acon. in the second or nervous stage, which is attended with pain in all parts of the body, accompanied with soreness and slight fever, some times tenderness over the region of the Bell. is some times useful, if indicated by brain affection; Nux for neuralgic pains in spinal column extending across the abdomen or chest; Ars. is rarely called for; it is useful in black vomit and that state of the stomach which precedes the vemit; to wit, red tongue, burning at the stomach, great thirst and tenderness of the stomach, and great debility. Veratrum is some times useful in vomito. above are the usual remedies. If any special or unusual symptoms appear, they are to be met homeopathically. Many of the Southern physicians are in the habit of a routine practice of giving remedies in quick alternation; say Acon. and Bryon, in alternation of one or two hours, then Bell. and Ars. in the same way; but I do not think with advantage, but on the contrary, positive injury; the pure effects of Acon. being interrupted in the first instance, and Bell in the second, and besides no routine practice should be adopted, but each remedy prescribed strictly homeopathic to the disease, and one at a time. That is my

method, and my success will not suffer in comparison with any one. As to the use of water, I give it freely as the patient desires for drink, and sponge the forehead and face with cold water. Some of my brethren have, in some few instances, used a wet sheet, they say, with benefit; but I have never resorted to it. The homeopathic treatment is so triumphantly successful, when used with skill and judgment, that I have never resorted to any other, and I practice homeopathy pure and unmixed. I do not give castor oil or any allopathic contrivance whatever.—North Amer. Jour. Homeop.

VAIL.

DR. WILKINSON'S FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF HOMEOPATHY.

DR. WILKINSON, an eminent English Physician, and distinguished homeopathic writer, thus records his first impressions of homeopathy:—

Our eldest child, a baby then, was attacked in the night with a sudden bronchitis, attended with great wheezing and oppression. My wife and I sat in bed in sanitary conjugal quorum. I ordered Ipecacuanha Wine as an emetic, and I went down stairs and fetched it. There it stood by the bed-side, and the question was, who should give it? My wife said nothing, and I broke a short silence by observing that the medicine was there. She then said, "Well!" and another silence ensued. I too now said, "Well!" and again we were silent. At length she said, "What are you going to do?" I said, "What are you going to do?" She said that she was not going to give the child that medicine. I felt indignant in all my professional frame, and I told her that the ordering of medicine was the doctor's department, that it was the business of mothers and nurses to give it. She replied that I was not only doctor here, but also father and nurse, and that I must do it or it would not be done; and she added also, that she had no faith in that stuff; and furthermore, that she was glad now that I had seen at home what burdens were daily laid on parents and nurses when I went away from house to house, leaving such things to be transacted between my visits. I thought of the denunciation in the gospel against those who lay on grievous burdens, which themselves will not touch with one of their fingers; and I could not but admire her disobedience. But she did not stop here: but told me that for a long time (she had hinted this before) she had felt a repugnance to all my practice, and that this very occasion was sent, partly to oblige me to look into that new thing called homeopathy. The upshot of the matter was, that my wife gave a particle of Ipeeac, such as would pass through the eye of a needle to the child; after which the oppression of the breathing passed away. The circumstance made an impression on my mind, and I now record it, being sure as day, that humble and simple as it is, it will leave a mark upon the minds of mothers.

NEW METHODS OF REDUCING DISLOCATIONS.

BY B. J. POUNTAIN, M.D., OF DAVENPORT, IOWA

The first case was a dislocation of the left thigh outward,—a lady who had received the injury from being thrown from a wagon. On placing the patient ereci, the characteristic appearance was presented. The knee resting upon the lower third of the thigh, the great toe of the foot upon the instep of the opposite limb, and the trochanter major approximated to the crest of the fillium. A mattress was thrown upon the floor, and upon this the patient was placed upon her back. I then grasped the knee with my right hand, and the foot with my left: fixed the leg on the thigh, and carried the knee and the thigh over and upon the sound one, and then upwards as high as the umbilicus, keeping it constantly pressed down upon the body. I then carried the knee outward, bringing the heel inward and the foot over the opposite limb, at the same time making gentle oscillations of the thigh, when the head of the bone slipped suddenly into its socket. The force required was quite moderate, and the pain almost nothing.

The second case was a dislocation of the thigh inward, or upon the pubes. It was a man who had fallen from the second story of a house. The limb was a trifle shortened and the foot strongly everted, toes pointing outward. The prominence of the trochanter major was lessened, and the head of the bone could be felt upon the pubes. patient was placed upon the floor on a quilt. Being a man of strong muscular development he was placed under the influence of chloroform. When quite unconscious, the limb was taken by the foot and knee and rotated outwards, the leg flexed and carried over the opposite knee and rotated outwards, the leg flexed and carried over the opposite knee and thigh, the heel kept well up, and the knee pressed down. This motion was continued by carrying the thigh over the sound one as high as the upper part of the middle third, the foot kept firmly elevated. Then the limb was carried directly upwards by elevating the knee, while the foot was held firm and steady, at the same time making gentle oscillations by the knee, when the head of the bone suddenly dropped into its socket.

The method for opperating, for dislocations on the pubes is :-

Take the knee in one hand, and the foot in the other, rotate the whole limb outward, and flex the leg on the thigh by carrying the foot over the opposite knee. Then carry the limb, foot forwards, over the opposite thigh, at the same time twisting the heel upwards, and pressing the knee down. Carry the thigh in this way over the sound one as high as the upper part of its middle third, then elevate the limb by raising the knee while the foot is held firm, at the same time making gentle oscillations, when the head of the bone will slip suddenly into its socket.—N. Y. Jour. Medicine.

THE DANGERS OF CALOMEL.

When the best authorities of the Schools of Physic concur in the testimony, and the every day experience of the calomel taking world unequivocally demonstrate that there is both direct and indirect danger ever attending the employment of calomel as a medicine, why are the doctors so ready to prescribe it on almost every trivial occasion? Directly it is ever and anon attended with the most sad and lamentable results, and indirectly, there has been no agency so prolific—because without suspicion—in scattering broadcast throughout the land the seeds of debility and disease.

"I cannot," said the great Dr. Graham, "forbear regarding it as an instrument of mighty mischief, which, instead of conveying health and strength to the diseased and enervated system, is made to scatter widely the seeds of debility and disease of the worst kind, among per-

sons of every age and condition."

For a period-for the present, it may appear to relieve. Powerfully impressing the system it deceives its admirers into the mistaken belief that it is benefitting them. But too often, alas! it expends not all its force at once; a part of it becoming absorbed into the circulation, is deposited in the blood vessels, in the joints, and even in the more minute vessels of the lungs, and eventually proves a nucleus around which diseased action of incurable character too often eventually begins, the poor victim never dreaming that the long ago taken calomel had any agency in the work, when, really, had he never taken it, he might yet be in the enjoyment of vigorous health. Independent of the present direct evils liable to follow its administration, we assert-and we have proof which intelligent allopaths dare not deny-that such are the results ever liable to follow every dose of mercury taken as a medicine. If there were no remedy able to produce the real or fancied good effects of calomel there might possibly be some faint excuse for its employment by medical men. But when there are other and safer agents with which all the beneficial results ever claimed for the mercurials can be accomplished, those physicians that continue to employ it, should be, as they ere long will be-held accountable at the bar of the public.

A PROFITABLE BLUNDER.

There was a physician once, named Dr. Fordyce, a man of reputation, and one who, amid the turmoils of professional life, would wrench an hour from labor to taste the dews that blushed upon Anacreon's lips. Upon one occasion after taking what might not be with metaphysical certainty ascertained of glasses in 'numbers without number, number-less,' we might make a guess if we were not admonished by the diffi-

culty of doing so correctly, and the similitude might be made of our statements to those of ladies with the present fashion of wearing bonnets, telling things which are barefaced—, let it then be satisfactory to our readers to imagine the Dr. called in after dinner to see a lady, when it was with some degree of trouble be could see himself, being whole "seas over." Conscious of his situation, he commenced by feeling her pulse, and after many unsuccessful attempts to count the beats, he muttered, drunk by——. Next morning, recollecting the circumstance, he was greatly vexed, and just as he was thinking what explanation he would offer of his behaviour to the lady, a letter from her was put into his hands. "She too well knew," said the letter, "that he had discovered the unfortunate condition in which she was when he last visited her, and she entreated him to keep the matter secret, in the condition of the enclosed (a hundred pound note."

ADVICE FOR THE GIRLS.

A young lady may thing it interesting to be delicate and have white hands, and sit with them folded, and her person listlessly disposed dur ing the greater part of the day; but she will soon find that she crave only poor and watery diet, because she does not exert herself enough to require heat-producing food, such as ment and butter; she will soon become cold-blooded, albumen or tubercle will be thrown out either in her lungs or bones: the white tissues, as we say, will predominate all over the body, there will be no surplus of blood or life force, other obstructions of vital consequences to her existence will occur; her monthly periods will cease; her digestion will suffer, and so she will be inclined to think she is hopelessly diseased; she may begin to cough or to scrape her throat, the circulation is becoming too low to send the blood through the minute arteries and veins of her lungs, and tubercles will form : then she will become a subject for the consumption curer and his lies. No, no, my young friends, neither medicine nor " inhalation" will cure you-Up! out with the birds! clothe warmly your body and protect your feet; see the glorious sunrise and hear the morning song of praise to the great source of life .- Scalpel.

The influence of diet is various under different circumstances, and presents many peculiar points. A youth who is growing requires more than a mature man—the active more than the sedentary—and the healthy more than the invalid. Much, too, depends on the state of mind, and potent influences of the nervous system. The prosperous person, who sits down to table with a cheerful soul, disposed to please and be pleased with trifles, will bear more, will extract more nourishment from, than the harassed, auxious, or thoughtful man, whose mind is revolving matters of a distressing or exhausting nature. The diet adapted for billious temperament would be unfitted for the sanguine, the nervous and lymphatic, and vice versa.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

Is Homeopathy Practicable ?- This question is often asked by those who can see nothing about homeopathy but infinitesimals and inertness. Were we asked if homeopathic medicine would perform the direct task of emetics, cathartics, and sudorifies, &c., we should be compelled to answer that it is impracticable, and more, is quite impossible; but were we asked if homeopathy could fill the indications with certainty for which medicine is used, arrest the rapid course of acute disease, stay the effect of fearful epidemics, and give permanent relief to chronic affections, we could answer with a consciousness of truth in the affirmative. We would not ask that our own ipse dixit be taken as proof, but could point the enquirer to the accumulated and constantly augmenting evidence of a multitude of competent and scientific observers, extending over a space of half a century forming a mass of evidence that would make a question of fact doubly conclusive, and to patients and patrons, now numbered by millions, who will cheerfully add their grateful testimony to a truth that has been full of life and joy to them and theirs. The testimony is not vague and shadowy, but will be found, on examination, to be as exact and circumstantial as medical facts can be.

We can give no better evidence than unvarying results. The modus operandi of medicine in changing the functions of the organism from a morbid to a healthy condition, like many other phenomenon, is not obvious and cannot be explained; hence, we are compelled to be satisfied that a certain effect invariably results from a specific cause. Of the existence of matter we derive evidence from the accumulation of its atoms until they become cognizable to the senses, while, of the existence of motive power we can gain a knowledge of only from effects produced. Gravitation is an existing power known only by its effect. Chemical affinity is another illustration of the existence of power without tangible properties to render its existence evident to the senses.

The same class who deny the practicability of homeopathy have objected to every discovery in science, from the earliest times. This class is no modern impediment to the progress of science, but is as old as

discovered science itself. To be consistent, they should deny the existence of gravitation, the power of chemical affinity, and all other phenomena whose essence of power they cannot render tangible to the rough touch of their clumsy senses.

The same class of reasoners denied, in more ancient times, the practicability of the earth revolving on its axis, and maintained their position by reasons satisfactory at least to themselves. They were then a numerous class, and not a few may still be found in the hedges and workshops of this age.

Theoretically homeopathy is quite independent of the dose, yet practically they are quite inseparable. Homeopathy is the embodiment of the natural law expressed by the aphorism "Similia Similibus Curantur," the dose which is infinitessimal in its proportions, is the result of the specifical nature of the remedy used in any given form of disease, deduced from experience. It simply teaches the principle of giving a drug for the cure of disease, whose physiological action is similar to the symptoms or action of the disease itself.

The principles of homeopathy, we venture to premise, will not be considered impossible by any unprejudiced reasoner. This conceded, we have only the practicability of the dose to establish to settle the question of the feasibleness of the homeopathic practice of medicine. It becomes a question of fact to be decided by experiment alone, and not by a priori reasoning. And in settling questions of fact whose testimony should be received as credible, those who deduce their conclusions from prior instruction. or those who have experimented and experienced.

To stifle all inquiry and render argument superflous many of the opponents of homeopathy deny the possibility of the effects imputed to the dose; and being impossible, and involving the claims that a part is greater than the whole, must be absurd. Has any experiment ever proved the impossibility of the facts set forth by homeopathists? Does any ascertained truth impugn the doctrine of small doses? As no established fact in natural science contradicts, or experiment has disproved the effects imputed to the dose, the practicability must be determined by facts and experimentation alone.

The truth of the power of small doses is already sustained by a mass of evidence such as never supported any system of medicine before, and is daily increasing with the developments of the science. We can venture to say, that no physician of the old school who would examine the amount and nature of the evidence afforded, could excuse their neglect of a fair, faithful, and impartial examination.

THE Hamilton Banner and the Medical Colleges.—" With feelings of disgust," the Hamilton Banner, on the 11th of December, approached the "subject" of Medical Schools in the Western Province. Whether this disgust was caused from the cadaverous odor that would naturally arise from bodies so long defunct, or the association of the subject with pills, powders, and blisters, he does not inform us. We imagine, however, that it must be from some cause other than the last reason, as his chief lament appears to be that there is but one Medical College in Canada, and that in an "embryonic" state.

"Six months ago there were three Medical Schools in the Western Province, now there is only one deserving of the name." Two have passed through the sickening, decline, and pangs of mortality to a premature end. Atrophia famelicorum appears to have been the cause of their early demise, hastened, no doubt, by the remorse excited in an over sensitive conscience for their culpable conduct towards the "Medical Staff of Toronto University."

We are told that the wreck of one still perambulates the streets of Toronto, while the other has all gone "to smash" and the "sublime" "etherial" "metaphysical" and "transcendental" remains continue in the "Herculean task" of "indoctrinating" its "pupils in the secret laws of physiology, pathology, and therapeutics, and anatomy."

What a suggestive end of misdirected ambition. "All the medical men in Toronto, and a great many in the country," even the "tyros" have been implored in vain to give body to these etherial and trancendental remains of "Herculean" power, but they turn a deaf ear to all entreaties, and the "etherial" and "inflexible" "John" is doomed to wander his implacable course in the most heartless and uncompassioned manner.

In the face of all this, the "country" remains tranquil, and looks on with "shameful" and "disgraceful" indifference.

To remove this "shame and disgrace to the country," for attempting to exist without liberal government patronage to the "difficult and uncertain profession" of old school medicine, the Banner would recommend, not simply a leak from the treasury of the country, but a fountain that shall be ample to wash away, at one coup, the "stain" of parliament and the ignominy of an unappreciating public.

That old school medicine needs help, just as Peter did when sinking in the waves, is quite evident. That the voluntary system will no longer sustain the allopathic profession, no one will venture to deny. If the people will not yield their willing support to this "difficult and

uncertain profession," they must be cajoled by the press, or forced by legal enactment, to its aid.

The evil of which the Banner complains, has not its foundation in the voluntary principle, which, he is pleased to term a "mere chimera in any phase," but in those pernicious and mischievous medical cliques," to be found in all cities, and in the uncertain and contradictory principles of old school medicine.

We assert, without fear of successful contradiction, that, aside from the collateral branches of the practice of allopathic medicine, that there is not one solitary predicated axiom or principle, that has not been refuted and condemned by some portion of leading allopathic men. Continual strife, wrangling, and antagonism, have marked its history from the days of Hippocrates down to the disbanding of the medical staff of the Toronio University.

This "one common fountain, at which" the Banner is so anxious that "all may drink, that so many varied theories, views and interest would be diminished," has ever poured forth nothing more nor less than a succession of contradictions; of theory piled upon theory; of supposition bedaubed with congecture; a series of windy hypotheses and bed-ridden philosophy, following, or over riding each other like the waves of the sea,—begotten, born, and strangled,—looked at, condemned, and forgotten! Is it a wonder that "private professional chairs cannot be maintained by fees alone throughout the world?"

The fault lies not with the "country," nor can any stain attach itself to Parliament, but in the disgraceful wrangling of old school physicians and the vague, false, and contradictory doctrines they teach.

If there is one school yet in existence, it is quite enough to meet the requirements of the profession; and if all will but unite in its support, it may be well sustained. If they will not unite upon supporting this one now in embryo, what guarantee exists that they will unite in patronizing a government school. Hence it must fall to the fostering charge of one or the other cliques whose influence is most potent with the powers that be.

All human institutions should be based on the principle of universal rectitude, and when their patrons become recreant to the trust confided to them, then they should cease to have the support of the people, much less the aid of government, to maintain their exclusive pretensions and the success of their association, to which public and individual health becomes a secondary consideration.

To foster weak and infant institutions, the objects of which are good,

^{*} See Journal for September, 1856, page 126.

repeatedly been resorted to by our opponents to effect their unhallowed

purposes.

And what has been the result? Has the steady progress of our school from its origin down to the present moment ever once been interrupted? Even in those despotic countries where, through the machinations of selfish and malignant professional adversaries, penal laws have been enacted against our practitioners, has not its advancement ever been the same—steady, certain, and durable? Have not the blows of her assailants always recoiled against themselves with pernicious effect? Have not their weapons been of clay, and their

point of attack a rock of truth?

Let our hospitals and dispensaries in every portion of the civilized world answer. Let the two excellent homeopathic colleges in Philadelphia and Cleveland—the increasing army of intelligent homeopathic physicians throughout the world—the millions of laymen who rely exclusively upon our system for the cure of disease, and the thousands of splendid intellects which have openly acknowledged the truth and beauty of our doctrines re-echo the response. Finally, let us appeal to the glowing and happy faces, the robust bodies, and the vigorous constitution of the rising generation of homeopathists in proof of our position.

We have already observed that the doctrines of our school, have, until quite recently, been met by our opponents with sucers and ridicule. Our doses have been scoffed at, and each allopathic physician, or some infantine member of his family has eaten with impunity (if we may believe what is constantly asserted) the contents of some stray homeopathic medicine box! Almost every old school physician has a story of this kind to relate as a conclusive argument against homeopathy.

We congratulate the homeopathic pharmacies throughout the world, for the immense profits they must realize from this enormous sale of

medicines!

But unfortunately for the interests of our amiable brethren of the ancient school, these sneers, these affections of contempt, and these stale calumnies have not had the slightest influence in retarding the progress and prosperity of our school. Their interested motives have been so apparent, and the annimus which always governs them is so perfectly manifest, that the public receive all communications from such sources with entire distrust.

In view of these facts, a total change of tactics has recently been resorted to. Now, instead of ridiculing our doses, and consuming at a single sitting, the contents of innumerable homeopathic medicine boxes, our remedies are accused of being immensely active, and our doses, enormous. Instead of being the powerless atoms which have called

by legislative aid, consistent with public justice and individual rights, is no doubt highly commendable; but what must we think of the allopathic profession, coming forward in the strength of mature manhood, aided by age and experience, standing and popularity, and asking for exclusive privileges and government aid to be used for the support of a clique or association, who from the weakness incident to human nature or selfish motives, will deliberately sustain error sooner than admit the fallibility of their confrerie?

We would not be understood as wanting in appreciation of thorough medical education, but as deprecating as much as the most ardent advocate of superior medical attainments, the superficial and shallow pretensions of too many in the profession, and as advocating a higher standard of medical accomplishment than usually obtains on this continent.

We are, however, one of a large class who believe that professional knowledge—the best can be secured through private enterprise; and that it is an infringment of public justice for the Legislature of the Province to stand god-father to any system of medicine to the exclusion of all others, whose rights are quite as just, and whose principles are more rational.

We send the first number of the second vol., to all our former subscribers, to some of whom we could not furnish the first number of the first volume; hence, they are entitled to this to complete the year.

We also take the liberty of sending copies to many whose names have been handed us as persons interested in homeopathy and who would be willing to aid in its diffusion in the Province. Should they desire to subscribe, they will please remit the price of subscription (one dollar) to our address, and we will continue it for the year.

The enterprise of sustaining a periodical devoted to the interests of medical reform in so new a field, is a difficult one. And while we labor without direct remuneration for the time we devote, we trust the friends of the cause will not think us exacting too much in asking their aid in its support.

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forth the wittiessus of the allopathic fraternity for the last eighty years, they are now represented to be agents of destruction! acting only upon the excitable imaginations of patients, they are now declared by disinterested allopathy, to be deadly poisons, and that most of the ailments which have afflicted humanity for the past half century. have their origin in these terrible drugs! Now, whenever a case of consumption, apoplexy, paralysis, rheumatism, neuralgia, or other malady occurs in a homeopathic family, the cause is at once ascribed to the insidious influence of homeopathic infinitesimals! With a mendacity which would not do discredit to the father of lies, these absurdities are continually uttered by our adversaries with the hope of alarming timid females and of inflicting injury upon our cause! It is a common trick with these unprincipled men to seek out those who have recently lost friends under homeopathic treatment, and by such false allusions as we have noticed, to endeavor to shake their belief in the safety of homeopathic medication.

When we take into consideration the fact that it is a fundamental principle of allopathic medication, to induce as speedily as possible, the poisonous effects of drugs upon patients, these accusations will appear still more surprising. When we may witness at almost every step—daily and hourly some wretched victim of this monstrous drugging, and reflect that it is in accordance with the teachings of their standard writers, it may well excite our astonishment that such an unfortunate mode of attack should have been adopted against a rival

school. But to the facts.

ALLOPATHIC EMPLOYMENT OF MERCURY.

We presume it will be conceded that in nine-tenths of all diseases treated allopathically, mercury in some form, is the remedy employed. A reference to any standard work on theory and practice, will demonstrate the truth of this assertion. It is proper, therefore, to notice, in detail, the results intended to be produced by this powerful mineral when thus employed.

"The following," writes Pereira in his Elements of Materia Medica and Therapeutics, vol. 1, p. 594, "are the ill effects which have been ascribed to mercury, and which Dieterich regards as so many forms of

mercurial disease :"-

"1. Mercurial Fever.—(Febris-mercurialis.)—Under this name, Dieterich has included two febrile states. One of these (fibris-srethhear, f.salivosa) comes on a few days after the use of large doses of mercury, and is characterized by great restlessness, dryness of the mouth, headache, loss of appetite, nausea, hot and dry skin, quick, red gums, swollen torgue, &c.; it usually terminates in a critical discharge, (as profuse salivation, purging, or sweating.) or an eruption makes its appearance. The affection which Mr. Pearson denominated mercurial eredhism, is regarded by Dieterich as an adynamic mercurial fever. It is characterized by great depression of strength, a sense of anxiety about the præcordia, frequent sighing, trembling, partial, or universal, a small, quick pulse, sometimes vomiting, a pale contracted countenance, a sense

of coldness; but the tongue is seldom furred, nor are the vital or natural functions much disordered. When these symptoms are present, a sudden and violent exertion of the animal power will occasionally

prove fatal."

Excessive salivation .- I have already noticed mercurial salivation, as far as it is ever purposely induced for the cure of diseases. But it sometimes happens, either from the inordinate employment of mercury, or from some peculiarity in the constitution of the patient, that the mouth becomes violently affected :- the gums are tumified and ulcerated; the tongue is swollen to such an extent, that it hangs out of the mouth, incapacitating the patient from either eating or speaking; the salivary glans are enlarged, most painful, and inflamed (parotitis mercurialis,) and the saliva flows most copiously from the mouth. In one instance sixteen pounds are said to have been evacuated in twentyfour hours. In some cases the gums slough, the teeth loosen and drop out, and occasionally necrosis of the alveolar process takes place. During this time the system becomes extremely debilitated and emaciated; and if no intermission be given to the use of mercury, involuntary actions of the muscular system come on, and the patient ultimately dies of exhaustion. I have repeatedly seen inflammation and ulceration of the mouth, and profuse salivation, induced by a few grains of Calomel or some other mercurial." Other effects of mercury noticed by Pereira are :-

"3. Violent purging, attended with griping pains, and sometimes

bloody evacuations."

" 4. Excessive secretion of urine."

" 5. Profuse sweating."

"6. Several forms of skin diseases, both acute and chronic."

"7. Inflammation or congestion of the eye, fauces, and periosteum."
"8. Enlargement of the inguinal, axillary, and mesenteric glands; the parotid glands, the pancreas, the liver, and the testicles."

"9. Ulceration and sloughing of the mouth and throat."

"10. Various systems indicating a disordered condition of the the baneful influence of mercury; such as wandering pains, a tremulous condition of the muscular system, sometimes accompanied with stammering, and occasionally terminating in paralysis, epilepsy, or apoplexy. To these Dieterich adds asthma, amaurosis, and hypochondriasis.

" Of these, the best known is the shaking palsy."

"11. Cachexia.—This condition is characterized by disorder of the digestive organs, loss of appetite, wasting, incapability of much exertion, with increased secretion from all the organs, especially from the salivary glands."

Mr. Francis says mercurial cachexia is characterized "by irritable circulation, extreme pallor and emaciation, an acute and rapid hectic,

and an almost invariable termination in phthisis."

The above are only a few of the poisonous effects of mercury. In order that these effects may be produced, it is necessary that it should be given in allopathic doses; for it is contrary to all reason and to

known facts, that the minute doses of homeopathy possesses the physical power of producing upon the solids of the body these violent influences. This is demonstrated by the experiments of Christison and Buchner, who have repeatedly detected mercury in the blood, the bones, the brain, the synovial capsules, the pleura, the humors of the eye, the cellular tissue, the lungs, the liver, the perspiration, the saliva, the bile, the urine, &c.

Pereira in his Materia Medica, vol. 1, page 601, observes, that "the great value of mercurials is experienced when they are given as siolo-

gogues."

"Though no surgeon ascribes the curative action of mercury to the salivation, yet, without this effect the curative influence is not usually observed. So that when we fail to induce some affections of the mouth, we do not see the beneficial effects of mercury."

In other words, the system must be poisoned by the mineral, according to this standard allopathic author, in order that "any beneficial

effect can be produced by it."

When we consider that mercury, in some form, is the chief remedy of our opponents in nine-tenths of all the diseases they treat, and that it is their direct object to produce its poisonous effects upon the mouth salivary glands, liver, &c., &c., in these cases, it may well excite both surprise and indignation when they attempt to injure homeopathy by attributing toxical effects to the attenuations she employs!

Were we to quote the opinions of every reputable writer of the other school, respecting the use of this or any other drug, it would demonstrate the following important fact, viz.: that medicines must be pushed until their poisonous effects are manifested before a curative action can

be expected.

If any one doubts this fact, let him visit his sick friends, or the wards of a hospital, and behold the wretchedness purposely caused by mercury and other drugs. And yet these deliberate poisoners have the presumption to accuse and blame their rivals for producing toxical effects upon their patients! Let the reader carefully peruse the above legitimate symptoms arising from the allopathic employment of mercury, which their best writer on Materia Medica has given us, and, in connection with them, bear in mind the important fact announced by Pereira, and every other reputable authority of the old school, that "the great value of mercurials is experienced when they are given as sialogogues' to salivate ; and that " without this effect the curative influence is not usually observed." Let him again review these symptoms, in connection with the maladies of his friends who have been subjected to allopathic treatment, and then decide for himself which mode of medication is most injurious to the human system, which most predisposes to palsy, apoplexy, phthisis, and other diseases, the alloyathic, or the homeopathic. In the one case, it is the deliberate intention to poison the organism with the drug for the sake of its revulsive influence, in order that the forces of the economy may be diverted from the original seat of the disease, to the violent medicinal irritations which have been induced.

In the other instance, no revulsive effects are required, since the

imponderable vital forces which are deranged, and thus constitute the essence of maladies, are acted on by imponderable medicinal agents to effect cures. In the first instance, the process of medication is material, violent, and poisonous, and these effects are in entire accordance with their law of cure, contraria contrariis opponenda; while in the second instance, the process of medication is vital and dynamic, and therefore incapable of leaving behind toxical or poisonous influences.

We have seen among the poisonous physiological effects of mercury as described above, palsy and apoplexy. Is it not reasonable to conclude that many cases of this description are superinduced by its constant and injudicious employment in the hands of the Hippocratics?

In order that the toxical action of mercury may become manifest as speedily as possible, old school physicians are in the constant habit of combining it with opium, so that it shall be retained in the system until absorption takes place. This confirms the remark already advanced, respecting the production of poisonous symptoms when allopathically employed.

ARSENIC.

According to Wood and Bache's U. S. Dispensatory, page 19, "Arsenic has been exhibited in a great variety of diseases, the principal of which are scirrhus and cancer; anomalous ulcers; intermittent fever : chronic rheumatism : diseases of the bones ; frontal neuralgia : and different painful affections of the head, known under the names of hemicrania and periodical head-ache."

"In various chronic affections of the skin," says Pereira; Mat. Med. and Ther., vol. 1, page 547, "Arsenic is one of our most valuable

agents."

The same writer also commends it highly in "various chronic affections of the nervous system, like neuralgia, epilepsy, chorea, angina

pectoris, &c."

From the preceding quotations it will be observed that arsenic is a medicine in common use by the old school. In its administration for the cure of these common maladies, the usual allopathic rule holds good, of pushing it until its specific or poisonous effects are produced. The following quotations will substantiate our assertion.

"When commencing their exhibition, (the preparations of arsenic,) the dose should be small, and afterwards gradually increased, its operations being carefully watched. When the specific effects of the medicine are produced, it must be immediately laid aside. These are, a general disposition to adema (dropsical swellings,) especially of the face and eye-lids, a feeling of stiffness in these parts, itching of the skin, tenderness of the mouth, loss of appetite, and uneasiness of the stomach. The peculiar swelling produced is called adema arsenicalis."*

"Its effects are to be carefully watched, and whenever any unpleasant symptoms (as vomiting, griping, purging, swelling or redness of the eye-lids, dryness of the throat, ptyalism, head-ache, or tremors) make their appearance, it will, of course, be advisable to diminish the

dose, or suspend for a few days the use of the remedy. Indeed, when none of these symptoms occur, it is not proper to continue its use more than two weeks without intermitting its employment for a day or two, in order to guard against the occasional ill consequences resulting from the accumulation of the poison in the system."

Dr. Hunti regards arsenic as the most important remedy in most forms of cutaneous disease. One of the seven rules which he lays down

to be observed during its administration is the following:

"The minimum dose (i. e. a dose which, if given continuously, affects the conjunctiva in the slightest possible degree) should be persevered in with unremitting regularity for as many months after the disappearance of the disease as it had previously existed years. This is necessary to prevent a relapse."

We might readily fill a volume with quotations from reputable physicians of the other school, to prove that arsenic is not only a common allopathic remedy, but that is almost invariably prescribed with the

intention of producing its poisonous effects.

A glance at the last quotation shows us that it is often employed by our opponents not for days, or weeks, but for many months; and if during this course, the patient becomes somewhat poisoned by the mineral, it is gravely advised that the remedy be discontinued for a few days, in order to prevent fatal consequences.

In consideration of such facts, we beg to ask, who are the poisoners of poor humanity, allopathists or homeopathists? Which mode of medication is most likely to give rise to palsies, dropsics, epilepsies,

necroses, &c., that of the former or of the latter?

It is a very rare thing for a practitioner of the new school to give arsenic stronger than the third decimal attenuation, for the simple reason that, with larger doses, he is much less successful in effecting cures. From the nature of his therapeutic law, large doses cannot be employed without serious consequences. It is evident, therefore, if a patient were medicated daily, for months, with the mineral under consideration, that he would not receive into his system an ordinary allopathic dose.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

STATISTICS OF HOMEOPATHY IN BROOKLYN.

BY REUBEN C. MOFFATT, M.D., OF BROOKLYN.

PHYSICIANS.

Dr. Robert Roseman, previously of Hudson, N. Y., was the first resident Homeopathist in Brooklyn. He commenced its practice in 1839. Within about three months, he was joined by Dr. Baker. These gentlemen, each in his separate practice, by industry and noiseless

^{*} Pereira's Mat. Med. and Ther., vol. 1, p. 549. † London Lancet, Jan. 17, 1846.

attention to business, prepared the way for the very prosperous condition in which homeopathy now finds itself in this city. This impetus, happily, was well supported by Dr. P. P. Wells, who was the third in the series, and who took up his abode in 1843. By 1846 two more practitioners had settled here. Thus the progress was at first slow, but none the less sure; and in 1850, ten years' time, its advocates were but nine in number. From this date, however, another rate of progress is noted. In 1851, three new physicians came in; in 1852, four; and in 1853, '54, and '55, eight more each year. These forty, however, do not all remain; death, removals, and changes to other occupations, leave us twenty-nine, to which must be added six living in Williams-burgh, Bushwick and Green-Point, and we have thirty-five resident homeopathic physicians for Brooklyn.

PHARMACY.

In July of 1852 (when there were twelve physicians) a Homeopathy Pharmacy was opened by Mr. J. T. P. Smith, in one of the most public parts of the city. This has since not only supported itself, but has been enlarged to several times its original dimensions, besides being moved to a more conspicuous position.

DISPENSARY.

Following directly upon the manifest success of the pharmacy, in January, 1853, by the united efforts of some of the homeopathic laity, and the body of their physicians, was founded the Brooklyn Homeopathic Dispensary. It is legally incorporated ; located beside the pharmacy; and governed by a body of about twelve trustees, elected (in classes) from members who are constituted by a gratuitous subscription to the funds of the dispensary. Besides electing their own officers, and framing rules for the supervision and governance of the dispensary. these trustees appoint the attending physicians, additions to whose number (15) are made on the recommendation of those already serving. Such, in brief, is the form of the dispensary. It is effective, and the institution is prosperous as the subjoined figures show. Like all other public charities dependent upon private subscriptions for their support, it is embarrassed by insufficiency of means. To relieve this in part, application has been made to the city government for a share of the public monies annually appropriated to charitable uses of this sort. It is a gratifying index of public sentiment towards homeopathy, that the application has been favorably considered in committee; and that the award has been approved and recommended by them. It waits only its turn with other business, the action of the common council.

The Dispensary is free to all; open daily (except Sundays) from 12 to 1 o'clock, and attended by two physicians, whose time of service is the current month. The patients, of course, are those, for the most part, who are unable to pay; but it is noticeable, that the squalid and filthy poor, the manifestly improvident and thriftless, form a very small minority. For the greater part, they are cleanly, and intelligent

enough to appreciate the ad The following figures, taken growing appreciation of the	charit	the Di	spen	sary	Regis	stry	shov	v the
During 1853 (first year) pa	atients	entere	d on	the	Regis	try	were	304
in 1804 (second year) -	-	-	-	-	110	7-	1	464
In 1855, up to Novomber fl	rst, ten	month	IS	-	-	-	1	701
Total, in hardly three	years	-	-		-		-	1469

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY REPORTS.

NATCHEZ, March 10th, 1856.

DR. PETERS—Dear Sir,—I send you the reports for two years that the Mississippi State Hospital has been in our hands. Two cases of typhus fever were in articulo mortis when they came in; one dying in forty hours, the other in twenty-nine.

The report compares favorably with the former reports of the Hospital when under the old regime. Many of the worst cases we get are left by the boats passing up and down the river.

Your Friend,

F. A. W. DAVIS.

NATCHEZ, Miss., 1856.

WE have the State Hospital for another year, or only got it by one vote, in the City Council. The statute says it must be farmed out to the lowest bidder. Dr. Davis put in for \$2300, while Blackburn, (allopathic Doctor,) offered to take it for \$1500; but the select men of our school looked at the matter in a conscientious light, and thought that they had no right to subject the poor to a different practice from that which they used in their own families.

W. STEWART, M.D.

THE CHICAGO HOMEOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

It affords us great pleasure to state that the Chicago Homeopathie Hospital is placed upon a permanent basis. A sufficient amount has been pledged to preclude the idea of its failure. For its support thus far, great credit is due Drs. Shipman and Boardman, and their especial friends. But the days of their doubt, in reference to the continuance of this institution, are over, and its friends say, let it prosper and fully accomplish its mission to the distressed. For the suffering poor, for the stranger, for the benefit of any who may choose to occupy its wards and receive the aid of homeopathy, it must prosper. For the credit of the Garden City, flourishing in every other respect, and so proverbial for benevolence, it will prosper. Who gives one, two, three, five hun-