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Homœopathic Messenger

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF HOMŒOPATHY AND OF THE MONTREAL
HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

VOL. I. No. 1.

MONTREAL, APRIL, 1896.

25cts. A YEAR.

Homœopathic Messenger

— PUBLISHED MONTHLY —

By the Woman's Auxiliary of the Montreal
Homœopathic Hospital.

All matters of business and subscriptions to be sent
to C. S. De Witt, care of Montreal Homœopathic Hos-
pital, 44 McGill College Avenue.

All manuscripts, news items, etc., should be address-
ed to Dr. Arthur D. Patton, care of Hospital.

WHAT'S IN A NAME.

The recent death of Count Mattei, the eminent Italian homœopathist is universally regretted. He was known and beloved throughout his native land for his broad charity and helping loving-kindness towards the poor and afflicted, while his name and fame were known to the civilized world, especially in connection with his investigations into the causes of cancer and his wonderful success in dealing with that dread scourge of mankind.

The mention of Count Mattei's name brings to mind the assertion of the allopathic school, that homœopathy is the medicine of "fools, old women and children," and the utter lack of truth in such assertion. Dr. Lydston of Chicago, once said in a public lecture that the clientele of homœopathy was composed of "old grannies and idiots," not knowing (?) that nine-sixteenths of the taxes of Chicago, were at that time paid by these "old grannies and idiots." Nor did he hesitate to class Ex-President Harrison, Ex-Governor Flower, Chauncey Depew and a host of prominent Americans as "old grannies and idiots," to say nothing of such eminent personages as King Leopold of Belgium and the late Lord Beaconsfield.

The social standing of homœopathy is slightly better than that of the school of traditional medicine, as an article in a

recent *Homœopathic Recorder* evidences, citing as among the adherents of homœopathy in Europe, fifteen members of reigning dynasties; forty dukes, potentates and princes of houses not now reigning; twenty-one hundred and twenty counts, barons and baronets; six hundred and ninety-five German and foreign military officers, two hundred and five higher and lower civil officers, professors, etc., and twenty-five monasteries in Germany, Austria and in foreign parts. These figures are taken from the list of those having intercourse with Dr. Schwabe's central pharmacy at Leipsec, and go to show, that it is not altogether bad form, to be a believer in the system of "grannies and idiots".

The idiocy of reviling and mis-calling the adherents of a more enlightened system, by the followers of the system in vogue before the Christian era, is so apparent, that the question of the revilers' sanity should be considered. If instead of, so berating the fortunate ones who escape their purgings, salivations, and narcotics, they would set about to learn the reason of homœopathy's success, and were willing to believe the evidences of their own senses, they would be in a position to locate the "idiot" or "granny" but would scarcely care to do so. Sweeping assertions, of all kinds are dangerous playthings, of the boomerang order, and are generally indicative of receipt of injury by the makers thereof, either physically, or financially. This supposed injury added to the proverbial jealousy of success, which permeates the medical profession may in some measure explain the cause of the allopaths turpitude, though not justifying it.

REMINISCENT HOMŒOPATHY.

ARTHUR FISHER, M.D., MONTREAL.

In writing the history of Homœopathy in Canada, I shall hardly be considered egotistical in referring briefly to my personal career, which is intimately connected with that of Homœopathy, not only in Canada but in the world in general.

I was initiated into medicine in the year 1833; (it is hardly necessary to say allopathically) that was in the year, between the two fearful cholera epidemics, which decimated Montreal and Quebec. Those towns which had then a population of 30,000 each, losing 3000 apiece in 1832 and about the same number in 1834. Having been indentured (as was then customary) to Dr. James Douglas of Quebec in 1833, I was a first year's student in the summer of 1834, and was in the thick of the cholera epidemic, the panic-stricken people being only too glad of the help of anybody supposed to have even a minimum of medical knowledge. My patron, Dr. Douglas, lived in the Lower Town and had a most extensive practice among the shipping and in the coves, so it is easy to see that I did not lead an idle life. I am free to confess that he and I killed more patients than recovered in spite of our treatment. I may here incidentally mention the case of one patient in the stage of collapse, the doctor told me to take sixteen ounces of blood from him. I bandaged his arm and punctured the vein, when to my surprise the blood spurted out, for I thought him too far gone to bleed, but he died as the blood flowed as if his throat had been cut, he probably would have died anyway, but the treatment undoubtedly accelerated the end, as I have seen equally unpromising cases recover under a better form of treatment.

Even then, although I had never heard of homœopathy, I flatter myself I had an inquiring mind. It being my duty to compound and dispense the doctor's prescriptions; a very common routine one being a blue pill at bedtime and a black draught in the morning; I said to him one day "what do you give the blue pill for?" He replied "it is an alterative." Upon asking what that was, he said, "it is a medicine which causes a change of some sort in the system." (Gould in his medical dictionary says "It seems to be a necessary or convenient term covering our ignorance of the *modus operandi* of certain medicines, as mercury, iodine, etc.) I remarked that the pill must be a good thing, to which the doctor said

"of course it is." I then said "what do you give the black draught for?" He answered, "to work off the blue pill." I said "if it is a good thing what is the need of working it off?" He answered "you go and put up your medicines;" yet Dr. Douglas was a highly intelligent man, far above the average practitioner of the time. I may here remark that he was the ablest operating surgeon in what is now the Dominion, and had little faith in (so called) medicine.

Some years afterwards, on my return from Europe after a six years' absence, Dr. Douglas said to me, "so you have taken up homœopathy; well you might have done better;" admitting at the same time that he did not believe in his own physic. He remarked "when I was supposed to be dying Drs. Morrin, Fremont and Landry held a consultation over me. Dr. F. said one thing, Dr. L. said another, but Dr. M. said "we know nothing about it, let him alone and give him a chance," they did so, or "by gad! if they had physicked me I should have died." Of Dr. Morrin more hereafter.

As to my student career at McGill and Edinburgh being essentially allopathic, I shall only say that after graduating and taking the surgical diploma at the latter university, I went to Vienna to study diseases of the eye and morbid anatomy, which were then supposed to be better taught there than elsewhere. While there I was joined by two of my former fellow students, Drs. Drysdale and Russell (one of them, the son of the professor of surgery in Edinburgh). To my amazement they said they had come to study homœopathy, which I of course ridiculed, talking a great deal of nonsense. Dr. Drysdale told me I didn't know what I was talking about, and advised me to investigate before condemning it. He recommended my going to the homœopathic hospital (which I had not before heard of), and finally persuaded me to do so. To my surprise I found the names pneumonia, typhoid fever, etc., ticketed over the beds, and scouted the idea of the patients having those diseases, as no sane person would trust them to the "little pills" treatment.

Upon being told to satisfy myself by examination, observation, etc., of the correctness of the diagnosis. I picked out a case of pneumonia and confined my attention to it. I was at the time following a course of physical diagnosis under Prof. Scoda (of world-wide reputation) in the general hospital and consequently had a good chance to compare notes. To my surprise, I verified all the symptoms (objective and subjective

f pneumonia in the patient, whom I found decidedly better next day, and who finally recovered in a much shorter period than did Prof. Scoda's cases. I thought this very curious, but, "one swallow does not make a summer," so I went on investigating, the result satisfying me that the mortality rate of the homœopathic hospital, in general and particular diseases, was lower, and the time of convalescence shorter, than in the allopathic general hospital.

The allopathists claimed that their opponents falsified their statistics, but Prof. Dietel, one of the great authorities in allopathic medicine of the time, said: "I believe their statistics to be perfectly correct; *it is not that they cure their patients, but that we kill ours.* Following out this reasoning he began leaving his patients entirely to nature, foregoing all bleedings, blisterings and medications. He found that his patients recovered in greater numbers and in shorter time than did those of his colleagues or than his own had done under active treatment. The success under homœopathic treatment was still greater, though I am free to confess that the difference between it and the do-nothing-treatment was not as great as that between the latter and the active medication. Later statistics, however, show a great improvement in the results; homœopathy was then in its infancy.

Dr. Dudgeon, who was also one of my Edinburgh contemporaries, afterwards joined us and was converted to the belief in the truth and efficacy of homœopathy. He has now a large homœopathic practice in London, and is the author of several homœopathic works, on theory and practice of medicine, diseases of the eye, as well as his celebrated translations of Hahnemann's Organon, Lesser Writings, Materia Medica Pura, etc. He has been in active practice of homœopathy nearly 55 years.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

OPENING DAY.

The 24th and 25th of April have been chosen as Opening Day for the new wing, when it is hoped many will avail themselves of the opportunity to inspect the building, and encourage the ladies by patronizing the "five o'clock tea" and sale of fancy articles, by which they hope to augment the funds for running expenses.

Subscribe to the MESSENGER and send it to your friends, it is only twenty-five cents a year.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED DURING MARCH.

Mrs. Warriner	\$ 2 00
Mrs. H. Thomas	11 00
Miss Gillespie	2 00
Mrs. Jas. Hutton	10 00
Mrs. E. K. Greene	10 00
Mrs. Beasley.....	2 00
Mrs. Arnold	2 00
Mrs. Charles Alexander	2 00
Mr. H. W. Thomas.....	5 00
Miss Miller.....	2 00
Mrs. Gaunt	2 00
Mrs. George Holland	2 00
Mr. George A. Childs.....	5 00
Mrs. Chillas.....	1 00
Mr. J. H. Harte.....	2 00
Bishop Bond	1 00
Mrs. Sutherland Taylor.....	10 00
Mr. E. J. Barbeau	10 00
Miss Beaudreau	2 00
A Friend	1 00
Total.....	\$84 00

WHY TAKE THE RISK?

"In opening Mr. Greenshields said that he agreed with the counsel for the defence that the case was a most important one, but it was not only important by reason of the private interest involved, but that the public interest in it was paramount. The public were interested in the trial inasmuch as it might occur that through a mistake on the part of a druggist, the nearest and best relative or friend might meet death by partaking of a poisonous drug, given in error for some harmless medicine. Dr. England was not before this court asking for money compensation for himself for the death of his wife; but he was here in the public interest and because, as a professional man, he deemed it to the greatest public interest that greater care should be exercised in the dispensation of deleterious drugs than had prevailed in the past. For himself, he would scorn to avail himself of any money that might be awarded himself personally; the sum should be donated to the Western Hospital. He was not here to traffic in the blood of the slaughtered wife. As for the child that was a different matter. There were merely three important questions to be decided by the jury:

First—Was the tartar emetic supplied by Kerry, Watson & Co.?

Second—Was it taken by his wife?

Third—Did it cause her death?

It was proven beyond all question that the drug was supplied by Kerry, Watson & Co. in mistake for bismuth.

The jury awarded the plaintiff the sum of \$1000. The amount claimed was \$20,000. — *Montreal Herald.*

The above excerpt from a report of case of Dr. England vs. Kerry, Watson & Co. for the poisoning of his wife, pre-

sents the dangers of "rational medicine" in a forcible manner. It would be well if doctors of the "enlightened rational school" were compelled to sample their prescriptions, ere they got a chance to enrich the tombstone trust. It would seem as though cases of this kind, which are unfortunately too common, would cause people to question the presumed infallibility of this system, or rather want of system of medicine, and lead them to the adoption of the safer, surer and speedier system of homœopathy.

MONTREAL HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

ESTABLISHED 1894.

Corner of McGill College Avenue and Burnside Place.

SUPERINTENDENT.

Hugh M. Patton, M. D.

CONSULTING STAFF,

Geo. E. Logan, M.D., D. C. McLaren, M.D.
Arthur Fisher, M.D., Geo. Gale M.D.,

ATTENDING PHYSICIANS,

John Wanless, M. D.
W. G. Nichol, M. D.
A. R. Griffith, M. D.
A. D. Patton, M. D.
William McHarrie, M. D.

SURGEON,

Hugh M. Patton, M. D.

MEETINGS.

Montreal Homœopathic Association—
Annual meeting, 1st Monday in December.

Montreal Homœopathic Association—
Board of Directors meets 3rd Monday
in March, June, September and
November.

Montreal College of Homœopathic Phy-
sicians and Surgeons—meets 2nd
Wednesday in May, and the last Wed-
nesday in September.

Board of Governors, Montreal Homœo-
pathic Hospital—meets 2nd Thurs-
day in March, June, September,
November and December.

Committee of Management of Montreal
Homœopathic Hospital—meets 2nd
Monday of each month.

Medical Board of Montreal Homœo-
pathic Hospital—meets 1st Tuesday
of each month.

Woman's Auxiliary of Montreal Homœo-
pathic Hospital—meets 3rd Wednes-
day of each month.

Executive Committee of the Women's
Auxiliary—meets every Monday
morning at 11 o'clock.

All meetings are held in Board Room of
Hospital.

DONATIONS.

Geo. F. Phelps, order for fish, oys-
ters, etc., for month; Miss Moodie, mag-
azines; Mrs. Evans, magazines; Mrs.
S. M. Baylis, cake and fruit weekly;
Mrs. A. R. Griffith, cake for nurses;
Miss Moodie, 6 bottles calves' foot jelly;
Mrs. G. S. Wait, old linen and cotton;
Unknown, magazines; Geo. Sumner, 50
pkgs. toilet paper and 6 trays; Mrs. W.
E. Phillips, cream cakes, pies, buns,
candy, hyacinth for nurses; St. James
Methodist Church, 10 Easter lilies;
Mrs. Shipman, flowers; Miss Somer-
ville, old linen and cotton; Unknown,
magazines; Miss J. Dow, 9 men's night
shirts, 9 women's night dresses, 6 flannel
dresses, 2 flannel night shirts, 2
wrappers; Mrs. Griffith, cake and bottle
of raspberries for nurses; Mrs. N. B.
Corse, Woolen balls for children's ward;
L. M. N. home-made bread, bottle of rasp-
berries; Mrs. Von Rappard, 4 bunches
rhubarb, 3 lettuce, 3 lbs. grapes; Mrs.
J. T. Hagar, 2 doz. new laid eggs.

SPECIAL DONATIONS FOR PRIVATE WARD.

S. M. Baylis, 3 pieces of carpet; Mrs.
E. F. Ames, comfortable; Mrs. Jas.
Baylis, invalid table; C. J. Patton, hot
water bottle; Alaska Feather and Down
Co., 1 mattress, 1 pr. pillows, 1 down
cushion.

DOLLS' SHOW.

In connection with opening day fancy
sale, the "Dolls Show" must be visited.
The committee have secured through
their friends a number of unique and
interesting dolls. Several have contri-
buted old favorites, and dolls from South
America, India and North West Indians
will be on view. Some in national cos-
tumes, others with a history, will be
attractive, and children of to-day will
see the contrast between the old and
new fashions in dolls. Besides the ones
on exhibition there will be a number of

Dolls for sale, in all styles. Articles for sale are to be sent to Mrs. Von Rappard, Shuter street. Dolls for exhibition or sale to be sent to Miss M. E. Baylis, 55 McGill College avenue. Home made candy and cakes to be sent to the hospital on the day of the sale.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY, MONTREAL
HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

TREASURER'S REPORT, for March, 1896.

Dr.		
To cash on hand	\$209 60	
" subscriptions and donations.....	84 00	
" patients and services of nurses.....	133 50	
"azaar tickets	1 00	
Total	428 10	
Cr.		
By amt. paid in wages.....	\$131 28	
" " " for food supplies.....	72 92	
" " " med. and surg.	54 06	
" " " laundry.....	33 00	
" " " rent of rooms....	11 40	
" " " repairs	10 75	
" " " fee to Nat. C.....	2 00	315 41
Balance on hand April 1st. 1895.....		112 69

Mary Van Horne, Treas., W.A.M.H.H.

Bills unpaid April 1st. \$319 45

HOSPITAL NOTES.

Come and see the doll that grandma loved more than half a century ago.

* * *

Send in your change of address when you move, lest you fail to receive your next paper.

* * *

Bring the children to see the pretty nurse dolls, dressed in the uniform of the different hospitals.

* * *

Are you coming on Opening Day to see the prettiest and best appointed small hospital in Canada?

* * *

The dispensary has been moved into the new quarters and is again ready to receive the indigent sick.

* * *

Will any one receiving two copies of the MESSENGER kindly give the extra copy to a friend and ask him to subscribe.

* * *

Four of the new private wards have been handsomely furnished by generous friends and must be seen to be appreciated.

Is there not some one willing to equip one of the two ward kitchens, or who will send in \$25 for that purpose to the Furnishing Committee.

* * *

It is the intention to publish good receipts for sick-room cookery, by preserving the papers valuable hints to tempt a delicate appetite may be secured.

* * *

The hospital nurses have been out on private cases 15 days in January, 29 days in February, 36 days in March and 20 days in April, up to the fifteenth of the month.

* * *

Three of the new private rooms will be unfurnished on "opening day," as the Furnishing Committee will not incur that expense until other and more pressing wants are supplied.

* * *

The Medical Superintendent will be pleased to furnish any information about the handsome private wards, relating to choice, price and equipment. Prices range from \$12 to \$25 per week.

* * *

In this number appears the first installment of Dr. Fisher's reminiscences, which are of additional interest because of being written by one of the oldest homœopathic practitioners in America.

* * *

Have you tried the nickel-in-the-slot machine at the door of the hospital board room. You drop your money—not necessarily silver—and in due time you learn that a coal, or gas bill, or a grocer's account, has been paid.

* * *

Among the donations for April was an order from Mr. Geo. F. Phelps for the fish, oysters, lobsters, etc., used by the hospital during the month. Orders like this make glad the heart of the treasurer. Send them in friends.

INVALID COOKERY.

For an invalid using gruel often, the following quantity can be prepared and kept on ice, a little heated as it is needed.

One and a half teacups full of oatmeal, wash it two or three times in luke warm water pressing the oatmeal dry through a fine sieve, use one quart of water taking part of the quart for each washing. Then boil the oatmeal water 15 minutes stirring *constantly*. Salt, and add 1 quart

of hot milk. Boil five minutes. Butter the saucepan before boiling the oatmeal. When needed, heat a small quantity thinning it as desired with hot milk.

EGG NOG.

1 egg beaten well, to this add $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoonful sugar and beat well, and on it pour $\frac{1}{2}$ of a cup of milk. Lastly add $\frac{1}{2}$ wine glass of whiskey or sherry if a stimulant is ordered, or omit the alcohol and flavor with nutmeg or vanilla.

Eggs for invalids are more delicate if instead of boiling the usual 3 or 4 minutes they are placed in *boiling* water are lifted from the stove and allowed to stand 9 or 10 minutes before serving.

TOASTED NEST.

Prepare a piece of toast about three inches square, dip in hot water, add a little salt and butter if allowed.

Beat the white of an egg to a stiff froth, adding a little salt. Place the yolk of the egg on the toast, surround it with the beaten white, and bake in a quick oven for a few minutes.

MURDER.

BERLIN, April 15.—Professor Langerhaus, medical director of the Moabite hospital, announces: "My little son, who was enjoying perfect health, has been killed by an application of Beh-

ring's diphtheria serum." Personal investigation shows that the boy was inoculated to prevent his catching the disease from a servant. Though the greatest care was taken he died within two minutes. His father being among the best known physicians in this country, and his mother being Professor Gerhard's daughter, the announcement is regarded as a new war against Professor Virchow and other authorities who believe in Langerhaus.—*Montreal Witness*.

The above sacrifice on the altar of a "discovery" or "fad," by the high priests of "rational medicine" instances the great danger of following the *ignis-fatuus* beyond the dictates of prudence, and the lesson should be taken to heart by the anti-toxin fanatics.

In cases of consumptive tendencies, and in the later stages of the disease Wyeth's Liquid Malt Extract will be found to improve the appetite and promote the assimilation of carbonaceous food, supplying the waste of elementary matter, fortifying the system and enabling it to better resist the undermining effects of the disease. It also acts as a tonic in all cases of debility, and is a most valuable addition in the restorative treatment required in convalescence.

HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIANS' DIRECTORY.

JOHN WANLESS, M.D.
Physician and Surgeon
88 UNION AVENUE.
Telephone 4314.

HUGH MATHEWSON PATTON, M.D.
Physician and Surgeon
Surgeon to Montreal Homœopathic Hospital.
125 MANSFIELD STREET.
Telephone 3077.

ALEX. R. GRIFFITH, M.D.
Physician and Surgeon
Obstetrics and diseases of children.
535 WELLINGTON STREET
Telephone 544.

T. SCOTT NICHOL, M.D.
Physician and Surgeon
140 MANSFIELD STREET.
Telephone 3231.

W. G. NICHOL, M.D.
Physician - and - Surgeon
140 Mansfield Street.
Attending Physician Montreal
Homœopathic Hospital. Telephone 3231.

ARTHUR DOUGLAS PATTON, M.D.
Physician - and - Surgeon
Nervous Diseases and Diseases of the Skin.
384 St. Antoine St., cor. Fulford
Telephone 8494.

WM. McHARRIE, M.D.
Physician - and - Surgeon
50 PRINCE ARTHUR ST.
Attending Physician Montreal
Homœopathic Hospital. Telephone 6273.

EDWARD M. MORGAN, M.D.
Physician - and - Surgeon
Late of the Metropolitan Hospital, Blackwell
Island, N.Y. and New York Ophthalmic Hospital.
Ophthalmologist Montreal Homœopathic Hospital
Specialty: Diseases of eye, ear, nose and throat.
Telephone 5002. 235 GREENE AV.