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Momaopathic Messenger

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

Vol. J. No. 6.

MONTREAL, JUNE, 1896.

25cts. A YEAR.

Yomwopathic Messenger

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

Telephone 3837.

Ambulance 3020.

All matters of business and subscriptions to be sent to C. S. De Witt, care of Montreal Homocopathic Hospital, 44 McGill College Avenue.

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

SAMUEL HAHNEMANN.

Hahnemann was born at Meissen, Saxony, on April 11, 1755. His elementary studies were under the guidance of his parents, who, under the guise of amusement, laid the foundation early for more profound study. His father being opposed to his receiving a univer-Hahnemann's later sity education, studies were pursued under most discouraging conditions, but he was an instructor in the rudiments of the Greek language at the age of 12, and at 20 he was a thorough master of six languages— German, French, English, Italian, Latin and Greek-and was able to support himself at the university at Leipsic by giving instructions in some of them, and translating therefrom into the German. He subsequently became proficient in Arabic, Syriac, Chaldaic and Hebrew. His medical studies were pursued at the famous centers of learning in Europe. He was graduated in medicine with special honors at Erlangen in the year 1779. He was a member of various scientific societies in Leipsic and other cities, and was highly honored for his researches in chemistry. He was well versed even in those branches of science unconnected with medicine.

Although undergoing many hardships on account of his advanced views, he

did not fail of recognition, at the hands of government. While he was a young man he was made surgeon in chief at the hospital in Dresden, and later he was made superintendent of the insane asylum at Goergenthal, where he introduced the mild and humane methods of treating the insane, which prevail at this day. In 1812 he was admitted to the faculty of medicine in the University of Leipsic, where he lectured for many years. Some years ago a monument in his honor was placed in one of the public squares of Leipsic. In 1822 he was created hofrath, or councillor of state.

One of the greatest boons conferred upon mankind was the discovery by Hahnemann of an underlying principle of drug-action which adds certainty to the administration of medicine in disease. This was announced in 1796 in a paper entitled "A New Principle for Ascertaining the Remediat Powers of Medicinal Substances." He not only discovered a constant relationship between drugs and disease, leading to a more scientific use of medicine, but also with consummate skill pointed out errors and dangerous practices which prevailed in current methods. He has thus directly and indirectly been the means of an enormous saving of human life, entitling him to the gratitude of mankind and placing him in the forefront of medical reformers. This distinguished place in medicine is not only claimed by his adherents, but is frankly admitted by distinguished medical men not of his school of practice, as will be observed by the following quotations:

Sir John Forbes, physician in ordinary to the Queen, writes: "No careful ob-

server of his actions, or candid reader of his writings, can hesitate for a moment to admit that he was a very extraordinary man, one whose name will descend to posterity as the exclusive excogitator and founder of an original system of medicine, the remote, if not the immediate cause of more important fundamental changes in the practice of the healing art than have resulted from any promulgated since the days of Galen himself. He was undoubtedly a man of genius and a scholar; a man of indefatigable industry and dauntless energy." John Syre Bristowe, M.D., in an address in medicine before the British Medical Association, said: "That he had learning and ability and the power of reasoning, is abundantly clear. He saw through the the prevalent therapeutic absurdities and impostures of the day; he laughed to scorn the complicated and loathsome nostrums, which even at that time disgraced the pharmacopeias; and he exposed with no little skill the systems which then and theretofore prevailed."

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

EARLY ARABIAN HOSPITALS.

"I was reading in Arabic, the other day, an account of a stranger's hospital in Alexandria, maintained by the famous Saladin the hero of the Crusades on the Moslem side.) He was a fine fellow in some ways. In one particular this hospital differed from those with which we are familiar in America, for it had a provision whereby its physicians and nurses, were to visit, and care for, at their lodgings, those sick people who ould not for any reason come to the hospital. This is very similiar to a provision existing in Heidelberg, where the dvanced medical students are sent to isit patients whose cases have been reorted at the great hospitals there. The lifference in the Alexandrian hospital eing that regular physicians and nurses vere provided, while in the modern harity, students go and no nurses are

Hospitals are very old among the dohammedans, there is a clear record of their existence about 700 A.D. Anther thing that was most commendable, was the providing of life long at-

tendance for helpless people, such as the blind, palsied, etc. Of these charities the State sometimes paid the cost, sometimes it was the beneficence of a good ruler and very frequently, it was paid by donations made as religious gifts by pious Moslems."—Extract from a Leiden letter by Rev. Walter M. Patton, B.D.

REMINISCENT HOMEOPATHY.

ARTHUR FISHER, M.D., MONTREAL.

One of my earliest experiences in homeopathy was the following. An elderly gentleman, a druggist, came to me one evening and saying that his family physician (the late Dr. Campbell was out of town, he would like me to go with him and see one of his children. about whom he was apprehensive. On arriving I found the little patient breathing very hard to say the least, and in fact threatened with croup. I took out my pocket case, dissolved a few globules of medicine in a cupful of water and gave the child a teaspoonful, shortly afterwards the labored breathing ceased and she fell into a quiet steep. So great was the change, that the family became alarmed, fearing demise, I however quieted their fears, telling them to give. if necessary, on awakening, another teaspoonful of medicine. The father was so much surprised that he asked for the name of the medicine, and on being told that it was Belladonna remarked, that he had never seen any like that before, referring to the colorless dilution. I replied that it was a preparation I had brought from Germany. He went down to his place of business next day, related the occurrence, and said that they should have to get that medicine. when, on meeting Dr. Campbell, and informing him of the matter, the doctor said that it must have been homeopathy, and that homeopathy consisted in putting a drop of medicine into the Niagara river and taking out a tumblerful at Quebec. The father remarked that it could not have been anything of that kind that cured the child, but he never forgave me for having cured her by so heretical a method.

Being the pioneer of a new and unknown system of medicine, it will be easily understood that I had no easy road to travel, at first little being known, either in or out of the profession about homeopathy, I was accorded a severe ignoring, little being said about me, or my method of treatment, but, when later on, the treatment began to tell, and the patients to desert their old prescribers

and druggists, the cry of Diana of the Ephesians was raised, and I had all the rancor of interested and ignorant prejudice, arrayed against me. It is a notorious fact, that homeopathy first found it's way in England, among the aristocracy and the common people, the middle class, to which belonged the doctors and their friends, awakening to the truth much later, in the meantime, homocopathy began to exist in the country, and a few of the old school doctors were attracted to it's truth. I was invited to a meeting of the despised sect, which convened at London, Ont, in 1843-4 when we instituted a homeopathic medical society, of which I was elected the first president, and delivered a public address, explaining to the laity the advantages of the system, and wherein it differed from allopathy. This society or a successor to it now exists in full force in Ontario. My address on that occasion, may be considered the first overt act in favor of homeeopathy, in what is now the Dominion of Canada.

I shall now confine my attention to what I know of our progress in the Province of Quebec, formerly Lower Canada. The first inkling of it, was in the city of Quebec, where Dr. Fargue, a wonderfully intelligent, though very eccentric medical man, practiced our art in an extremely primitive way. Being a man of hereditary wealth, he could afford to act independently, he had traveled much, and if I am not mistaken, had become personally acquainted with Hahnemann. Be this as it may, he was thoroughly imbued with the truth of the doctrine, practicing in accordance, though secretly, this, not from any fear of consequence to his material interests, but to save trouble in explaining to an ignorant public. He enjoyed, when I knew him a high reputation, and an extensive practice. To show the esteem in which he was held in the highest quarters, I may mention, that when I was presented to the late Sir Wm. Lawrence, in St. Bartholomew's hospital, London, as a physician from Canada, he seized me by the lapels of the coat, and looking earnestly into my eyes said "do you know Dr. Fargue, is he dead or alive?" He then passed one of the highest panegvries on the doctor of whom I felt proud to be a fellow countryman, Dr. Fargue was in active practice between the years 1820 and 1835. think he was a pupil of the great Abernethy.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

The Messenger for one year, to five addresses for one dollar.

WORSE THAN THE DISEASE.

Many of the remedies prescribed by the physicians in the old days were more to be dreaded than the sufferings consequent on the disease. Rheumatic people were buried up to the neck in mud baths.

Consumptive patients had cows introduced into their rooms, the breath of these animals being regarded as a specific.

Gold and pearls were taken internally by the patients who could afford the remedy. Baxter relates how he nearly lost his life from swallowing a golden bullet.

John Wesley, in his "Primitive Physic." prescribes "six middling pills of cobwebs" for ague. "The balsam of bats" was a favorite remedy among court physicians.

A medical adviser of Queen Elizabeth used to prescribe a small young mouse, roasted, for a child afflicted with a nervous disorder.

Soap was more valued internally used than otherwise. It was prescribed by a great medical light who, it is said died after he had taken 200 pounds weight of soap.

Much virtue was ascribed ghastly things. A ring made of the hinge of a coffin was said to relieve cramps.

Ague was said to be infallibly cured if the sufferer wore in a bag around the neck chips from a gallows on which several persons had been hanged.

GOOD LUCK OMENS.

Never chase a black cat. If you do you'll drive away luck.

It's luck to put on your left shoe first. See the new moon and make a wish. You'll be sure to get it.

It's lucky to sneeze in the morning before arising.

To see a funeral in your dreams is a lucky omen.

Cross your fingers in your pocket when you see a cross-eyed person. It will keep you from losing your good luck.

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS is not much money, yet if every one who receives this paper would kindly remit that amount for a year's subscription, there would be no debtor side to the ledger.

HOSPITAL NOTES.

A very handsome group photo of the hospital nurses is one of Notman's recent productions.

Visitors to the city are invited to inspect the hospital, and will be welcomed any afternoon from 3 to 5.

The new operating room is now in use and exceeds expectations in its adaptability and appointments.

The Outdoor Department and Dispensary is now in working order and bids fair ere long to be crowded with patients.

Boxes of growing plants and hanging baskets would greatly improve the appearance of the verandahs and cheer the patients.

Another name has been added to the list of Montreal's homocopathic physicians. The lady is a graduate of the Boston University School of Medicine.

Small Bags, suitable for holding patients' toilet articles, with compartments for brush, comb, tooth brush, etc., are needed, and should be hung at the head of every ward bed.

The List of Training School lecturers published last month was incomplete, the name of Dr. A. R. Griffith, lecturer of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children, being unintentionally omitted.

Owing to the great demand for the MESSENGER the supply of back numbers has run out. Hereafter it will be impossible to supply back numbers except for months of April and May, of which a few copies can still be had.

Miss Ethel Kisbey, who so ably looked after the domestic economy of the hospital during the interregnum of the past two months, was the recipient of a very flattering letter of thanks and appreciation from the Woman's Auxiliary.

It may not be generally understood that the private rooms and operating room are open to physicians of any and all schools. Patients may occupy pri-

vate rooms and be attended to by their own physician to suit his and their convenience.

The Woman's Auxiliary will not hold its regular monthly meeting during the summer. A meeting will be held every Monday at 10.30 a.m. to look after hospital affairs and attend to urgent needs. Any member of the Auxiliary will be welcome to these meetings without further notice.

It has been suggested that the name of this paper be changed to "Montreal Homoopath," in order that there may be no confusing of names with the Toronto Grace Hospital paper which is also called "Homoopathic Messenger." Does this new name suit you or do you know of a better one?

One of the needs of the new laboratory is a good microscope. As a suitable instrument is beyond the reach of the funds at present, and will be for some time, an opportunity is afforded some kind friend to confer a lasting benefit on the hospital. If suitably engraved it would make a very suitable memorial gift.

From the "land of cotton" comes fifty cents, subscribed to the Messenger as a nucleus of a fund for the sending out of the paper to new districts; in short as a missionary fund for the spread of the truth and the light. This was accompanied by twelve subscriptions to the paper from various parts of Georgia. This kind of sympathy and help counts.

Miss Davis, the lady superintendent, entered upon her new duties the first of June. Miss Davis comes to the hospital after four years at the Montreal General Hospital, where she was esteemed, not only for her work's sake, but for herselt. The hospital and management are to be congratulated on having secured such an able head for the institution, whose interests require at this period the tact, skill, and experience so aptly conjoined in the new Lady Superintendent.

MOUNTAIN ECHOES.

"We are glad to note that Montreal possesses a Homocopathic Messenger. published monthly, in the interests of homocopathy in that city, and by the

\$77,50

Woman's Auxiliary of their hospital. We reject with the Montreal hospital in their seeds, and should any of their patients need Colorado's light air and high all taile, they will receive a warm welcome at our hospital, where they will have the care of experienced physicians and nurses."—Homoopathic Hospital Enroy, Denver, Colorado.

The above extract from our Denver contemporary is welcome evidence that Montreal homocopathy is becoming known abroad in the land. The Denver Homocopathic hospital, like Montreal's, is of recent origin, and is steadily growing in strength and favor. It is conveniently located at 2348 Champa street, and has a large staff of experienced physicians and surgeons. It you visit Denver drop in and see the hospital.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY, MONTREAL HOMEOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

TREASURER'S REPORT, for May, 1896.

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MARY E. BAYLIS.

Treas. pro tem.

DONATIONS IN MAY.

Verandah bench, S. R. Parsons, Esq.; black walnut hall stand, Mrs. E. Gould; receipted bill, Gazette, Richard White, Esq; maple syrup, jar fruit, Mrs. A. R. Griffith; magazines, Unknown; oranges for patients, pineapples for nurses, Mrs. S. M. Baylis; air douche pan, Mrs. Smith, Westmount; flowers, Mr. M. Leish, Outremont; cakes for nurses, flowers for patients, Mrs. Loynachan; ice cream, Mrs. Jas. Baylis; flowers, Mrs. Bell, Westmount; quilt and screen for children's ward, Zion Church, Mission Band; 1 doz. ginger ale, Mrs. H. M. Patton; magazines, Mrs. C. R. Curtis.

Omitted from last month's list: Fancy articles for sale, Mrs. T. Munn, Mrs. Robt. Holland, Miss Krause.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED DUR-ING MAY.

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PLEASANTRIES.

How dear to our hearts is

Cash on subscription,

When the generous subscriber

Presents it to view,

But the man who don't pay—

We refrain from description;

For perhaps gentle reader,

That man might be you.

INVALID FOOD (3.45)

LEMONADE—Rind of 1 and juice of 2 lemons, 1 tablespoonful sugar, 1 pint boiling water. Cut the yellow rind thinly, squeeze and strain the juice into a pitcher with the thin rind, add the sugar and water, stir and cover till cold. Then strain out the rind.

RICE MOULDED—One cupful of Carolina rice, flavoring rind of La lemon cut very thin, 3 cupsful of thin cream or milk, 2 large teaspoonful sugar. Put all into a stew pan or jar, and simmer till the liquid is absorbed and the rice soft. Pour into a damp mould till set. Turn out when cold and pour over if the following custard.

CUSTARD—Half a pint of milk, yolks of 3 eggs, 1 tablespoonful sugar, flavoring. Beat the yolks and sugar, then add milk and flavoring, stir over the fire till thickened. Do not let it boil, strain, and use when cold.

Dr. F. R. M., of St. Anne de la Perade, writes:—"I prescribed Wyeth's Malt Extract as a tonic in great feebleness produced by laborious accouchement, with excellent results, and Fean recommend it above all as a tonic to augment lacteal secretions."

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