

# Canadian Journal of Homeopathy.

"Plus apud nos vera ratio valet, quam vulgi opinio."

Vol. I. HAMILTON, C. W., APRIL, 1856. No. 4.

For the Homeopathic Journal.

## WHAT IS HOMEOPATHY?

(Continued from p. 13.)

In our last No. we stated that the law of cure was the never-varying law of specifics, or similars. As proof of the truth of our position we enumerated several medicinal agents used and universally acknowledged by all medical men as acting in accordance with the same law, viz. — They will produce similar symptoms, if taken in the state of health, to those they are given in disease to cure. We might go on specifying until we included the entire *Materia Medica*, if necessary, but a few more examples will serve to elucidate the principle. Capsicum, Sulphate of Zinc, and other powerful stimulants, for example, will produce inflamed eyes; they are the remedies frequently applied to inflamed eyes with benefit. Does any one doubt that they will produce a similar inflammation when applied to the healthy eye? Experience teaches us that snow, or ice water, are the proper remedies for a frozen part, and heat or oil of turpentine for burns; Cantharides will produce vesication of the skin—experience has lately proved this to be one of the most reliable specifics for blisters resulting from frostbite. Ipecac will produce nausea and vomiting. Many of the standard authors of the old school laud it for its power to check nausea and vomiting in certain diseases. Mercury, that powerful agent for good or evil, furnishes another proof of the never-varying

law of similars. Its action upon the glandular system, producing ulceration of different parts of the healthy organism; its action upon the bowels, producing slimy, mucous, and bloody discharges when given in sufficient quantity to produce its specific effect. Mercury has been the most successful remedy in the treatment of those symptoms existing in disease. This is homeopathy. It will be seen that we rest entirely upon facts, ascertained and confirmed by experience. He who accepts and practises upon the principle of like cures like, accepts the law, and is in truth an homeopathist, whether he gives an infinitesimal or Herculean dose, for the size of the dose is necessarily no part of the law of cure; it is but one of the considerations growing out of it from necessity, and not from theory. From necessity, and not from theory, the homeopathist is led to administer small doses. He finds, in the first place, that larger doses often produce severe drug symptoms, which impede a regular curative action. Such was Hahnemann's experience. In the second place, smaller doses are more certain in their curative action.

In regard to doses one rule holds good among all judicious homeopathists, viz. — *To give a sufficient quantity of the drug to cure the disease with as little injury to the healthy part and to the general system as possible.* Our opponents, who reject homeopathic principles, by looking back over the recorded opinions of nearly all the older standard medical writers, will find that they were constantly hinting at or alluding to the truths manfully elaborated by Hahnemann in after times.

Powder, and contained one grain of powder of opium, a quantity not at all excessive for an adult, but quite sufficient to cause the death of so young an infant. The jury found a verdict of "Accidental death."—*Northampton Mercury*.

Fatal mistakes are of frequent occurrence in the practice of taking physic in large doses, which would be entirely obviated by the universal adoption of Homeopathy. Not a week, scarcely a day, passes, but cases are brought under our notice in the public press, of children more especially, being sacrificed to an early tomb, either by the carelessness of nurses, parents, or medical men. How many poor children are thus hurried into an untimely grave annually, must be fearful to contemplate, and for which there appears to be no help but through the adoption of Homeopathic medicine.

Such "Accidents" as those we record on this occasion could never happen, were the public at once to relinquish their patronage of "dosing" with deleterious drugs. For those occurring in the practice of medical men by the substitution of one person's "physic" for another's, there are some who will find a ready excuse, in the remark which we heard lately, viz., "The Doctor is not culpable, because the medicine was intended for the mother, and not therefore for the child."

We say, on the contrary, that the medical man, whoever he may be, whether he be the Queen's physician or the village apothecary, who administers a poisonous drug in such quantities that the limit to its fatal action is barely dependent on the age of the patient, is a dangerous practitioner. That which will, when given to a child, *destroy its life*, must be proportionately deleterious to an adult, but poisonous in a degree not sufficient to cause death. In the case headed "Melancholy Mistake," which occurred in Northampton on the 20th of last month, the powder is said to have been an "opiate" intended for the mother; it would only, therefore, *partially have killed her*; but given to the child, whose nervous system was not sufficient to re-

sist its poisonous effects, it *killed effectually*.

Now, if a man were to use a weapon, and inflict with this an injury on another man, be he a patient or not, which would *half kill him*, or at least render him *senseless*, (the object for which opiates are given,) the law would take cognizance of the fact—the "assassin" would be punished. If the blow *intended for one, by mistake fell upon another* and killed that one, surely the sin of manslaughter would lie at the door of the party who wielded such deadly weapons; yet in the case before us, a verdict of "Accidental death" is returned; legally no doubt, the administration of an opiate being recognized by the law to be right. To our way of thinking, the man who thus administers drugs in dangerous doses *unnecessarily*, the effect of such drugs proving fatal, is *guilty of manslaughter*.

If the medical man in question does not yet know how to cure diseases without administering poisonous drugs in dangerous doses, we say he ought to know; and he who refuses to investigate a system of medicine which dispenses with large doses; and which, as is proved by the daily practice of Homeopaths for the last fifty years, and now by more than *five thousand* medical men in Europe and America, is **MORE EFFECTUAL** than large doses in the cure of disease, and without injury or risk to the constitution—they who scorn such knowledge are *verily guilty*, and will have a sad account to render of their *wilful* ignorance.—*Ed.*

From the Scottish Press.

#### The Homeopathic System and the Eastern Hospitals.

A deputation, consisting of the following noblemen and gentlemen, had an interview with Lord Pannure, at his private residence in Belgrave Square, on Thursday, to present to his lordship a memorial praying that a civil hospital at Smyrna or elsewhere, in the neighborhood of the theatre of war, might be appropriated for the treatment of our soldiers and sailors, according to the

Homeopathic system:—The Earl of Essex, Lord Lovaine, M. P., General Sir John Doveton, K. C. B., Admiral Gambier, Colonel Wyndham, Colonel Taylor, R. A., and Captain Fishbourne, R.N.—The deputation was introduced by Lord Robert Grosvenor. The memorial set forth the success which had attended the treatment of disease by Homeopathic practitioners, the public recognition of the system in many States in Europe and America, where Professorships are attached to the Universities, the number of officers and men now serving in the East who had confidence in no other curative method. The memorial, which had been circulated only for a short time amongst the higher and more influential classes, was signed by the Archbishop of Dublin, the Dukes of Beaufort and Wellington, the Marquis of Abercon, and eighteen other members of the House of Lords, forty-nine Peers' sons, Baronets, and members of Parliament, seventeen Generals, thirty-three field and forty-three other officers of the army, two Admirals, fifteen Captains, R. N., sixty-five Clergy and Ministers, forty-five Justices of the Peace, Barristers, and Solicitors, and by 314 Bankers, Merchants, and others. A memorial of a similar nature was also presented, the result of a public meeting in Manchester, signed by several of the largest and most wealthy Manufacturers, Clergy and Gentry of the place. Lord Panmure listened with great attention to the statements contained in the documents, as well as some remarkable circumstances related by the members of the deputation, and informed them that he considered the memorial as one deserving every attention, that the subject presented numerous difficulties, but that he would take the whole matter into his consideration, and make known to them his determination as soon as he was able.

---

#### REVULSIVES.

The usefulness of revulsives must be denied. There is not a disease of any duration against which Allopathy does not employ a certain number of revul-

sives. It is the established mode of proceeding which allows no exception; and he who dies without a blister does not die according to the rules of art. In more tenacious and prolonged affections they add the whole apparatus of setons, moxas, cauteries, &c. They martyrize the patient in the most atrocious manner.

The multitudes who die under the action of this medical regimen do not complain, and the small number who think they have been benefitted by it, or who survive their sufferings, serve to perpetuate this substitutive method, so blind and brutal.

The unseasonable employment of revulsives, or their excessive use, excites fever, and solicits a continued reaction, under the influence of which the economy is enfeebled and exhausted, and must finally succumb. These results are very marked in all typhoid affections, and are to be dreaded in that species of disease where the blood has, from the beginning, a great tendency to alteration, and when the reaction is readily followed by gangrene.

---

#### FEVERS:

#### THEIR IRRATIONAL TREATMENT—THEIR RATIONAL TREATMENT.

The author of the following paper, deeply impressed with the duty devolving upon him, to communicate to others, in the most easily intelligible form, the knowledge which from experience and observation he has acquired of the injuriousness of the ordinary treatment of acute diseases, including *fevers*, and the advantage to life and health of the modern treatment of such diseases, has determined thus to give expression to his convictions. Any allusion he may make to the old school practice, is not so much intended for *men* as for that *effete system* to which so many cling with tenacious obstinacy, to the detriment of the patient, and the loss of honor and respect to themselves. The time is not far distant, when the public will have become alive to its own welfare, and the people sufficiently informed to enable them to judge of the various modes of medical

practice, and to choose not so much the *man* as the *system* he adopts.

It is still too much the custom to place reliance on the man, more than on the means. It is only required that Dr. So and So be of a certain age and experience, that he hold a certain position in society, is of genteel birth, of gentlemanly deportment, of sound (?) orthodox political and religious views; and if, in addition to these popular qualifications for patronage, he have the good fortune to hold an appointment at a public infirmary, and have displayed a little literary talent as a contributor to a well-known "Quarterly," or have written a book, he at once commands a preference for patronage, and without question or consideration, he has committed to his care the bodies of the public. No matter what his mode of practice is, if orthodox, nor what the results; if he bleeds, blisters, or leeches, it must be right; if he order setons, issues, acupuncture, shaving of heads, or even amputation, do not question the righteousness of the advice—the doctor, if he is "of standing," cannot err. If he bleed you till you cannot stand, bear it patiently. If he blister you till you cannot lie, do not complain—it is all for your good. "Active diseases require active remedies." You may as well die under the *tortures* of kindness as die a natural death from disease. Although the pains may be more severe which the doctor inflicts, than those which result from the morbid changes in diseased states, it is all right, ask no questions!!! If you, in spite of the active measures employed, become convalescent, and you have to pour tonics down your throat, while their bitterness causes you to dread meeting a mirror, in which you can behold your contorted features during the gulp which you do all you can to limit to one, do not murmur; for the doctor says, "though it is bitter, it is very strengthening." If, after this "tonic," you find your nervous system so shattered, that you with difficulty write a letter, owing to the unsteadiness of your hand, do not complain. Should your teeth fall out, and your breath become

so offensive that you fear that the one whom you love, the partner of your bosom, will detect your savour, it's all right. The dentist *must* live, and this he could not do were it not for the doctors and mercury.

If, on the other hand, you are about to leave your earthly tenement, after all that is done for you, you may die in peace, if you can; indeed, under the orthodox opiate, you may be spared from any anxieties about your precious hereafter. Thoughts will not trouble you, for the good, kind doctor will give you a little "composing draught" or an opiate in the shape of Morphia; and, for the time at least, you will appear to your friends to be "*very quiet*." Should you, from the reaction of the Morphia, be so disturbed in your mind that your features express an anxiety which terrifies your friends; and if you become unmanageable, a strait waistcoat will at least prevent you from doing any harm until the doctor comes, who will again order you something to compose you.— If in this state you depart, your sorrowing widow, your grieving parent, or your bereaved children may be consoled by the thought, that "*everything has been done which could be done*;" and to relieve "our medical man" of the responsibility, "we had the first advice; for Doctor So-and-so, whom we called in, *approved of everything which was done*."

And thus, and thus, our fellow mortals die. Die! did I say? Rather let me say killed daily.

That the foregoing is not an exaggerated picture, too many, alas! are aware. The writer of these lines has too often witnessed the direful effects of mismanagement of fevers particularly, under old physic. Too frequently has he had to lament over the dying patient, whose system has been rendered so frail by the drugging of allopathy. His blood has often felt chilled and heated alternately, on receiving a description of the previous treatment; and it was at the bedside of one such case that he resolved on making known to as many of his fellow men as possible the *danger* and the *wickedness* of "old physic."

To "torture" a fellow creature with blisters, already suffering enough, one would think is unpardonable; bespeaking, as it does, the lamentable fact, that the blister is had resource to *because no medical means have been found in the old school more effectual.* The theory of "counter irritation," which is called in to explain the beneficial action of the "blister," is hollow and deceitful; because the blister has produced a *greater* suffering than the natural disease, does not prove that the diseased state is cured thereby. Hence we find that one blister after another follows in succession, as each repeated evidence is given of suffering. If the frequency of application keep not pace with the recurrence of pain, they are applied oftener; the blistering is made perpetual; and thus the poor victim is doomed by orthodox medical practice to suffering. This is step No. 1. Now of the bowels—those poor unoffending viscera, which have to endure so much to please the ignorant theorist, who supposes that disease can be *purged* out of the patient. Is there constipation, owing to the life power being for the time directed to the chest, in meeting and opposing the disturbances in that region where the blisters are doing their deadly work? "Hem! open the bowels," says the Doctor. Forthwith the patient is made to swallow pills and draught; the repeated disturbances to which the poor, weak patient is subjected in the process of purging adds to his debility; the patient is purged—he is weakened—but is the diseased state altered? By no means—the patient is worse for the treatment. The vitality directed to the bowels, to meet the *artificial diseased state* "purging," the patient's head "wanders." The doctor visits—leeches are ordered to the temples—the patient *submits* like a dutiful creature, the leeches suck his "*life's blood*," but to no beneficial purpose beyond a temporary relief—he is all the worse.

Is this all? No! For the bowels having been *artificially* purged, the peristaltic action becoming excessive, the purging continues. What now is to be

done? There is some fear that the purging will weaken him too considerably. "We must check this," says the doctor, and for this opium and chalk are given. The bowels are checked in their action, and what now happens? The head of the patient gets worse, and symptoms of "coma" set in—the patient dreams frightfully, And if the pulse, after re-action, be found too quick, straightway a lance is thrust into a vein of the arm, and the man spills *life* while he spills his fellow creature's *blood*.

Is this all? Not yet all!!! The patient, having been deceived by the blisters on his chest, manifests signs of serious implication of the lungs, one or both. What is to be done now? He has lost blood enough already, he cannot spare more—"Tartar Emetic" is administered. The cough and difficulty of breathing increases in spite of this treatment, for the blisters having concealed the earlier manifestation of disease in the lungs, by suppressing the pain, the disease has gone unchecked, and the patient gets no sleep for the troublesome cough. Now, however, "Morphia" is brought into requisition, and a pill at night quiets the poor victim for a few hours more. Next morning the doctor visits; "how is the patient? has he slept?" The nurse replies, "He had a tolerably quiet night, doctor, but he is very low this morning." What is now to be done? thinks the doctor to himself; "I think all we can do is to order some fever mixture, a pill at night to compose him, and some beef tea and port wine which may strengthen him." Poor fellow! he has no power to digest food, but food is given; it is no sooner taken than it is vomited. The diarrhœa recurs, opium and starch are injected into the bowels, *per rectum*, and again the "ports are blocked."\* The patient gets weaker and weaker, he lingers from day to day, he emaciates, he lies a sad picture of distressed humanity. His head shaved, his chest denuded of

\* A late physician, in instructing his pupils in the art of treating their patients, used to say, "First open ports, gentlemen!" meaning by that, Purge the bowels.

skin, his temples punctured, his back sore, his mind destroyed—he mutters! he sinks!! he dies!!!

The deadly work is done, he is dead! but in these days when inquiry is abroad and doubts expressed as to whether the patient died “of the disease or of the doctor,” the sorrowing friends seek very properly to be satisfied of the cause of death, and their harrowed feelings are battled with, in a submission of the body to a *post mortem* examination. With all due ceremony, the family surgeon and the consulting physician seek for the result of their deadly work, and what do they find? “1. Congestion of the brain and its coverings. 2. Disease of the lungs. 3. Effusion in the chest. 4. Adhesion of the pleura. 5. Disease of the liver. 6. Ulceration of the bowels. 7. Atrophy of the tissues, &c., &c., &c.”—The friends are acquainted formally with the result, and what is this? They are told that there is sufficient to account for death; the patient had a complication of diseases;” and, as though a parallel were sought between the woman out of whom were cast seven devils, “the patient,” say the doctors, “died of SEVEN diseases!!!!!!!”

Which killed the patient—the *disease* or the irrational treatment?—*Northampton Record (Eng.)*

## Journal of Homeopathy.

### A WORD PERSONAL.

Our readers will please notice that the *Journal* is now published at Hamilton and London, instead of St. Catharines and London, as heretofore. The change is rendered necessary from our removal to Hamilton, where we intend our permanent residence shall be for the future.

We have been induced to make this change with reluctance. But failing health warns us that we must seek a retreat from the exposure incident to a

practice in the country. Although we have received a liberal patronage from our former town, as well as our rural, friends, yet that was no relief after continued exposure to the storm and wet. A physician, to endure a country ride, should receive the most severe physical training from his youth up, or he will find a few years will make him a wreck of what he otherwise would be.

We would return our friends, who have been pleased to express to us their regrets and regards, our most sincere thanks for their frequent marks of kindness and sympathy. “I came amongst you a stranger and you took me in.”

And I hope and feel that in my successors you will find physicians that are competent to all of your exigencies. Try them and sustain them against the attacks of our opponents, and our word for it, you will soon forget that I was ever with you.

W. A. G.

Do Allopathic Physicians understand what they oppose when they war against Homeopathy?

This question has frequently occurred to us while hearing the disciples of Galen denounce the principles of homeopathy. We are disposed to believe, in fact we are assured, they know nothing about it, except that it is a rival system of medicine, and being a rival, they feel it their incumbent duty to assail and oppose it, right or wrong. We are disposed to think so, because it is the very thing they are looking for, but will not take the time or trouble to examine, because perhaps it does not come through the channel from whence they are wont to receive their medical instruction.

Old physic is looking for specifics; and when one is found they proclaim the fact far and wide, or hide it under the guise

of "patent medicine." They do not appear to be aware, nor will any amount of reiteration of the fact, apparently, arouse them to the knowledge, that homeopathy is a system of specifics, that it has a specific for almost every ailment, ache, or pain that flesh is heir to, that every form of disease has a similar in some known drug.

Could they become convinced of this, (and they have only to test for themselves to ascertain whether this be true,) they would find a certainty in the action of drugs they never before were accustomed to.

Eschew if they please the infinitesimal doses which appear to be the greatest stumbling block; adhere to heroic doses if you can, but take the principle of giving your remedies in accordance with the law *similia*, as elucidated in the works of Hahnemann, and then say if there is not truth in it; and they will find that store of specifics for which you have so long sought in vain.

But to return to our subject, the object at which their shafts are most frequently hurled is the small dose—the little pills; so small an amount of medicine can be of no effect, say they.

Mere assertion is no proof. And to prove to us that we are deluded, or to satisfy themselves that we have reason for our faith, observe the rule by which all homeopaths are guided in the selection of their remedies; give them in any dose they please, and note the effect carefully. If they find their patient worse from the remedy, let them observe if it is not the specific action of the drug. If so, diminish the quantity until you find no aggravation of the morbid symptoms; and note how long they will be in coming to the conclusion that it is not the

quantity of medicine, but the kind, that produces desired effects.

Every morbid effect has a specific cause. The human system is made up from a combination of organs, each having its specific function, selecting its specific aliment, and is acted on by specific influences. The liver secretes the bile, the stomach gastric juice, &c.—Neither can be made to perform the office of the other,

We also find certain organs of the body affected in a specific manner by a single drug; its effects may be spent upon a single organ or a number of organs, but the effect is specific—it is such as no other substances will exactly produce. Colocynth and castor oil will each produce catharsis, but no one believes their action is precisely the same on the alimentary canal. Tartar emetic and ipecac produce emesis, but their action is dissimilar, as is well known by every tyro in medicine. Hahnemann claims to have discovered the specific action of drugs in health, and the fact of their ability to cure disease when the symptoms, physiological and pathological, are similar to those of the effect of the drug.

They certainly cannot oppose our using drugs in any dose, for that would destroy their darling allopathy as with the besom of destruction. They cannot object to specific remedies, for they are searching daily for them. They cannot oppose the law "*similia similibus curantur*," for they have not attempted a practical test of its pretensions.

Hence it would appear they know not what they do; and cling with tenacity to early association of opinions, and repudiate the pressing evidence that meets their ears on every side, deciding *a priori* that no good can "come out of Nazareth."

✍ All letters and exchanges for the Subscriber may hereafter be sent to HAMILTON, C.W., instead of St. Catharines, as heretofore.

W. A. GREENLEAF.

Subscribers at St. Catharines will receive the *Journal* in future by mail.

✍ The Second Annual Meeting of the Homeopathic Medical Society of Canada will be held in the city of Toronto, on the third Tuesday (28th) of May prox. We hope to see every Homeopathic physician in Canada present, as well as so many of our friends from a distance as can make it convenient to be there.

ARTHUR FISHER, M.D., Pres.

W. A. GREENLEAF, M.D., Sec.

✍ The American Institute of Homeopathy meets in the city of Washington, on the first Wednesday in June, at 10 o'clock, A.M.

C. H. SKIFF, M.D., New Haven, Ct. Pres.

J. P. DAKE, Pittsburgh, Pa. Sec.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

THROOPSVILLE, N.Y., March 11, 1856.  
Editors of the Journal.

HAIL to the *Canadian Journal of Homeopathy*!—worthy of a welcome from all the friends of Homeopathy, as a valuable auxiliary to the cause we plead.

Evinceing, at once, the spirit and energy of our Canadian brothers, and their determination not to be behind their neighbors in their efforts to promote the interests of our noble science.

We meet you with a hearty greeting, and wish you abundant success. It is just the thing that is needed. Wherever any science obtains, there seems to be an imperative demand for the publication of a journal devoted to its interest—to serve as an exponent of its principles and truths—to promote popular instruction, and last, but not least, for the exposition of all errors that may be prac-

tised in connection with it by unprincipled men, for selfish ends.

That the principles of "similia," &c., is true, has been abundantly verified by facts and experiments which cannot be gainsayed. The unprecedented success of Homeopathy, against the most bitter and determined opposition, since its first inception by the sage of Meissen, a period of about sixty-five years, is proof positive that we have little to fear from its opponents in future. We have more to fear from its seeming friends, quacks and empirics, than from avowed enemies.

Resting secure in the known strength of their citadel, the friends of Homeopathy have permitted the traitor to do his work unnoticed and unmolested in their midst, till they have but to look up and behold homeopathic quackery riding rampant over the credulity of the people.

New York has the honor of claiming two of these worthies as her sons. But one of them (F. Humphreys, M.D., of specific notoriety) answered for his perfidy by being expelled from the New York State Medical Society at its last meeting.

The other (Dioclesian Lewis, A.M. M.D.) is now perigrinating your Province, puffing himself and his wonderful powers. I am glad you noticed him in your last No. Your Goderich correspondent has not overdone his task in the least. I can vouch for the truthfulness of what he writes concerning him, have been connected with him for nearly three months, in the capacity of agent, I am perhaps as well acquainted with his course as any other person.

Suffice for the present to say that it is such as should receive the unmitigated censure of all honest men. In my next I will notice more particularly his *professions, practices, and principles*.—Yours for the right,  
WM. M. PRATT.

WILLIAM A. GREENLEAF, M.D.,

HOMEOPATHIST, having determined to make Hamilton his permanent residence, would offer his professional services to the public.

Office—Gore Street, former residence of Dr. Peterson. Consultation hours from 8 to 10, A.M., 2 to 4, and 6 to 8 P.M.

April 15, 1856.



**PATHOLOGY CONSIDERED IN ITS  
RELATIONS TO HOMEOPATHY.**

BY E. E. MARCY, M.D.

(Concluded from the March Number.)

THE pathology of the delirium arising from belladonna, opium, hyoscyamus, stramonium, nitrous oxide gas, chloroform, Indian hemp, and alcoholic liquors; and also of the delirium of *mania a potu*, epilepsy, hysteria, chronic renal affections, erysipelas, typhus fever, rheumatism, and even of traumatic delirium, is regarded by Dr. Todd as essentially the same; and the same remarks will apply with equal force to coma, with the exception of the traumatic variety.

It is quite evident then, that belladonna, opium, etc., operate specifically upon those parts of the cerebral structure which are known to be the seats of *mania a potu*, epilepsy, hysteria, mania, cerebral typhus, and other forms of delirium, and give rise, not only to the symptoms peculiar to these diseases, but also to morbid changes, not identical, as Dr. Todd supposes, but of a similar character, viz.—specific irritation, or congestion of the vessels of the affected parts. A comparison of the few belladonna symptoms which we have enumerated, and of the pathogenesis of opium, with the symptoms of the several maladies to which we have alluded, will demonstrate that these drugs are true homeopathic specifics in these affections. If we now take into consideration the fact that these different drugs, and these different maladies, all induce similar pathological conditions of the cerebral structure, we shall be satisfied that the practical application of our law of cure, so far at least as the indicated remedies are concerned, must be simple, clear, and in all curable cases, entirely successful.

THE argument which we have advanced with respect to the symptoms and pathology of belladonna, in connection with the symptoms and pathology of diseases, applies with equal truth to other specific drugs. Thus, the symptoms induced by arsenic, and the morbid changes to which it gives rise in Peyer's glands, in the follicles of Brunner, and other por-

tions of the intestinal canal, simulate, in a most striking manner, both the symptoms and pathology of abdominal typhus; the symptoms and morbid changes produced by mercury can scarcely be distinguished from those of syphilis; the symptoms and pathology of spongia, hepatic s. c., and bichromate of potash, are a complete similitude of the symptoms and pathological changes which occur in the different stages of croup. These examples might be multiplied to a great extent, but as a sufficient number has been adduced to illustrate our meaning, we shall content ourselves by deducing, from the facts before alluded to, the following conclusions:—

1. That every substance capable of producing abnormal changes in the human organism, whether morbid or toxic in its character, exercises a specific action peculiar to itself, developing a specific irritation, or inflammation, which may be very similar to, but never identical with any other inflammation.

For example, the seat of the delirium of belladonna, opium, stramonium, hyoscyamus, cannabis, indica, nitrous oxide gas, chloroform, ether, alcoholic liquors, as well as of epilepsy, hysteria, *mania a potu*, cerebral typhus, erysipelas, gout, chronic renal affections, and mania, is the same; and the symptoms accompanying these different varieties of delirium exceedingly similar, yet the kind of action in each of the instances cited is dissimilar. This is apparent, not only from the shades of difference in the symptomatic manifestations, but also from the different pathological changes observed in the ultimate organic degenerations of these different forms of the malady; the seat, symptoms, and general appearance of mercurial and syphilitic ulcerations of the mucous membrane of the throat are the same, but the kinds of action induced by the two poisons are distinct and specific: that of the one tending to the destruction of the tissue involved, and that of the other to a spontaneous restoration of the affected parts; the contagion of typhus produces in the intestinal canal ulcerations like those caused by arsenic; and in the brain, disordered appearances,

closely resembling those induced by belladonna and opium; but the natural tendency of the typhus action is towards the destruction of the vitality of the affected parts, while the tendency of the drug action, when not excessive, is towards a spontaneous restoration of the disordered structures.

Even if two substances should give rise to precisely the same symptoms and morbid changes, so far as the physician can discover, it by no means follows that the kinds of actions produced by these agents are identical; for death not unfrequently arises from affections of the brain and nervous system, where the most acute pathologists are unable to detect the slightest morbid change. In these instances the structures affected are so minute, and the pathological alterations so subtle as to baffle the skill of the anatomist, and elude the powers of the microscope.

2. We hold it to be a fundamental law of Homeopathy, that drugs, in order to prove curative, must produce direct topical impressions or actions upon diseased structures; and that the character of these impressions or actions should bear a close resemblance to that of the morbid ones we wish to cure.

A recognition of this law involves the necessity of a proper appreciation and classification of those symptoms which especially pertain to the morbid action upon which the disease principally depends, in contra-distinction to those phenomena which are more remote and sympathetic. Thus congestion of the vessels of that portion of the cerebral structure which gives origin to the optic nerves, induces, among other direct and legitimate symptoms, dilatation of the pupils, disordered vision, vertigo, headache, rush of blood to the eyes, delirium, lethargy, or sleeplessness. These are the direct symptoms which proceed legitimately from derangements of this portion of the brain, whether caused by morbid or toxic agents, and must therefore be looked upon as especially characteristic.

The symptoms which are more indirect, or sympathetic, are, general irrita-

bility of the nervous system, spasmodic movements, paroxysms of stiffness and immobility of the limbs, tremors, weariness, and uneasiness of the limbs, oppression of the chest, cramp-like pains in different parts of the body, and constant inclination to move about.

This last series of phenomena, although as strongly pronounced, when considered merely as symptoms, as those first enumerated, are by no means so characteristic of the pathological condition of the brain as the first series; for the former are uniform, distinct, and invariable, while the latter are somewhat dependent on constitutional and other accidental circumstances connected with the individual, and must therefore be looked upon as of only secondary importance.

So far, then, as the selection of a remedy is concerned, we deem a single characteristic symptom—one which we know arises from a drug-action similar, both locally and pathologically, to the morbid action—of more importance than a number of merely sympathetic symptoms. In the one case, the application of the remedy becomes reduced to the certainty of a demonstration; while, in the other instance, we cannot always reasonably entertain the same perfect assurance of success. Groups of sympathetic symptoms, apparently precisely similar, may arise from derangements of different tissues, from dissimilar causes, and from morbid actions entirely unlike; while the pathological symptoms (if we may be allowed the expression) can only proceed from disorders of particular parts of the economy, thus constituting groups *sui generis*. This important classification has already been obtained with a number of our medicines; and when the pathological effects of all our drugs, and the symptomatic phenomena arising from these changes, shall have become thoroughly understood, in connection with the pathology of diseases, the practice of our art will become reduced to almost mathematical precision.

3. A close correspondence of prominent drug-symptoms with those of disease, is *prima facie* evidence of pathological correspondence; and we may,

therefore, in a vast majority of instances, select remedies from visible symptoms alone, with the utmost certainty of success. At first view, this admission would seem to detract from the importance of our former positions; but this is not the fact, for we contend that whatever tends to confirm our provings of drugs, and render them uniform and positive, or to throw light upon any portion of our noble science, must be regarded as highly important.

4. The study of pathology, in connection with Homeopathy, must necessarily lead to a more accurate and reliable arrangement of both toxic and morbid symptoms, and thus eventually establish our whole system of theory and practice on an incontrovertible and self-evident basis.

One, among the many important results which would accrue from these investigations, would be the attraction into our ranks of a great number of medical men from the old school, who are at present groping about in the dusky mazes of eclecticism. This will be evident, when we contemplate the extraordinary changes of opinion which have recently occurred in the allopathic schools, respecting the nature of many diseases.—As an example, we may cite the facts that a majority of the most eminent allopathic practitioners now regard nearly all the forms of delirium as non-inflammatory affections, in which the antiphlogistic treatment is positively injurious.—This opinion is of recent date, and affords to the world an instructive commentary upon the mutability and uncertainty of the theory and practice of allopathy.—Until within the past ten or fifteen years, the lancet and the usual variety of antiphlogistics were deemed essential to the preservation of life, in a great majority of cases of this description. Now, this mode of treatment is denounced as murderous by many of the identical physicians who formerly employed the "heroic practice," and those excellent homeopathic specifics, belladonna, opium, stramonium, hyoscyamus, chloroform, ether, etc., (all of which produce delirium and coma when taken in health) are con-

fidently relied on by our amiable opponents. It is true, that they administer some of these medicines in a more crude and impure form, and in larger doses than necessary, and thus compromise to a certain extent the happiness of their patients, yet they do effect clumsy homeopathic cures with these drugs, as might reasonably be supposed from their pathogeneses, and from the morbid actions to which they give rise in the encephalon.

#### NATURAL HISTORY OF DRUGS.

THE more we investigate the general relations of our reputed drugs with the diseases to which man is subject, the more we are struck by the curious circumstance, that it is precisely in the districts where certain pathological affections prevail we meet, by some admirable arrangement of the Creator, an abundance of the substances which are most capable of curing them. This coincidence may only be the necessary result of climacteric, hygrometric, or telluric influences, which, acting simultaneously upon the plants, animals, and men of one and the same region, create in them certain elements of similitude, of which the *similia similibus* explains to us the consequences in the pathological order.

Let this coincidence be accounted for in any manner you please, what seems to me infutable is, that it exists. To cite a few examples—The *bitter sweet*, which is often successfully given for the effects of a temporary or prolonged stay in a cold and damp atmosphere, prefers damp and cool localities. The *wolf's bane*, on the contrary, which grows upon the mountain's top, corresponds, as is well known, to inflammatory fevers and acute phlegmasias, to which the inhabitants of mountainous regions are particularly exposed in consequence of the habitual vigor of their constitution and their habitual temperament. Whilst the *nux vomica*, which is so often given with success for dysentery and bilious affections, grows in the East Indies—the classic home of those kinds of affections.

We derive from the north-east of Europe, where the scrofula is indigeneous, the *wild pansy*, whose efficacy in this disease has been so often verified. Copaiva is perhaps the only remedy with which the *plica polonica* has ever been cured; and this drug is nowhere more abundant than in Poland. The *Cedron*, which is an admirable antidote against the poison of the crotalus and the coral snake, grows almost exclusively in regions inhabited by these dangerous reptiles, etc.

But should we conclude from these facts, which it would be easy for me to multiply to an infinite extent, that each of our drugs is exclusively adapted to the endemic maladies of the countries whence it is obtained, or at most to individuals whose constitution is identical with that which is generally possessed by the inhabitants of these countries? This question, however strange it may seem at first, is nevertheless of a high interest at present. Without undertaking to answer it for the present, I propose it as a subject of study for homeopathic physicians, who will undoubtedly agree with me, even without much thought or experience concerning the subject, that the natural history of drugs, if studied from the standing point that I have selected, will most probably furnish us useful and precious instruction.—*Testes Mat. Medica.*

#### PSEUDO-HOMEOPATHISTS.

BY PROF. J. P. DAKE.

WERE all or even the most troublesome of the obstacles in the way of our system those offered from without, its final victory would soon be won. The legions that have long been marshalled against reform—that have openly disputed every inch of ground with the pioneers of Homeopathy—are so confused among themselves, and so bewildered by the light reflected upon their benighted craft, from discoveries made in other departments of science and art, that their opposition henceforth can be little more than a farce. They will have business in attempting to reconcile their

lawless and superannuated systems with the wide and beautiful improvements of the age.

Nor will that Sisyphean task be done when time, grown old and gray, has laid him down to die. Homeopathy now suffers, and is destined yet to suffer, more from corruption among her professed votaries than from all other sources.

Her principles, so beautiful in themselves and so consistent when viewed in connexion with other acknowledged truths in science, have only to be studied well in order to be adopted fully.

There are many who, professing to practise homeopathy, often resort to the lancet, cups, leeches, emetics, cathartics, and large doses of mercury. Some pursue such a course to retain old patrons; some to convince the community that they are not bigoted, but understand and can practise both ways; some to indulge their indolence, finding it much easier to follow the old routine—bleed, physic, and puke—than to take symptoms and study out remedies; while, doubtless, most do it out of sheer necessity, having capacities too small for any mental achievement.

Nor is this the end of mixing. There are some *geniuses*, calling themselves homeopaths, who are so highly endowed with powers of discrimination as to set aside all natural laws in the arbitrary selection of their remedies—not confined to one system or school, they take the best from each, so that no disease or flying pain may hope to survive their charge.

*Eclectico-Homeopaths!*—wonderful men—able thus to give the world the strongest decoction of medical experience and learning. The want of consistency apparent in all such mongrel practice, while it increases the prejudices of the ignorant and disgusts the learned, can but expose our system to ridicule and final neglect. A community once thus imposed upon will be slow, very slow, in placing confidence in true homeopaths, who may in after years settle in their midst.

Better, far better, that another half century pass before the knowledge of our

healing art becomes universal, than that that art should, in five years, be known from the rising to the setting of the sun, and known in such a manner, as in five years more to insure its long sleep in the grave, where all the exploded humbugs of the past are sleeping. Great would be the gain to our cause, and great to suffering humanity, were such conceited practitioners yet more like angels' visits—few and far between.—*Phil. Hom. Jour.*

For the Homeopathic Journal.

#### THE SPECIFICS OF HOMEOPATHY.

ON glancing over the columns of a newspaper lately, my attention was arrested by an advertisement of a "Panacea" for Intermittent Fever, issued by some pseudo-homeopaths in a neighboring town; and I now purpose making a brief inquiry into the possibility of one medicine always curing the same disease, for that is the object of the so-called "Panacea."

It is evident that a disease, in order to be curable by one remedy, must be *essential*—that is, the disease must always present the same symptoms, and always return in the same form. Now, of all the diseases that afflict the human frame, Intermittent Fever is one which assumes an almost Protean variety of forms.

Some forms of fever consist almost wholly of coldness, others of heat; in one form the heat comes first, followed by chills, and these again by sweat; frequently the chills are followed by heat, and afterwards by sweat; in some cases the patient feels chilly, although the skin is hot to the touch; while in other cases the patient complains of heat, although the skin is cold to the touch; in some forms of fever there is a very long interval between the attacks; while in another form, much dreaded in the Southern States, the chill is closely followed by the heat, then sweat, which is almost immediately followed by another chill and heat, and so the circuit continues, frequently terminating in death, unless promptly arrested.

In addition to these leading features

of the disease, there are many other symptoms characteristic of each individual case; such as nausea, vomiting, diarrhœa, hunger, thirst, sleep, delirium, temper, and pains in various parts of the body, before, during, and after the chills, heat, and sweat.

In addition to all this, the symptoms appearing during the intermission require to be taken into account, especially if the paroxysm has not been well marked. Speaking of the treatment of this disease, Professor J. S. Douglas, whose excellent monograph on the subject entitles him to rank as good authority, says:—"Few, if any, diseases require a more careful study, in order to treat each individual case successfully, than Intermittent Fever. There are so many elements in different stages of the paroxysm, and in the apyrexia, that each case constitutes a considerable study of itself."

And again, Dr. Franz Hartmann, one of the most celebrated of Hahnemann's pupils, says:—"The treatment of Intermittent Fever is not as easy as it would seem at first sight; every case has to be examined independently of every other case, for this reason, that almost every case differs from the other, even in an epidemic intermittent."

Let us now see to what extent the old school has succeeded in discovering a specific for Intermittent Fever. As is well known, Cinchona or quinine is one of the triumvirate of allopathic specifics—mercury, iron, quinine. In all intermittent diseases, this is the grand "Panacea," and, indeed under the use of large and repeated doses, the type of an Intermittent Fever is altered, the disease is suppressed, or rather is changed into a continuous fever, less violent in appearance, but much more difficult to cure. But when this suppression has been effected, is the patient cured? For answer we turn to Hahnemann's eloquent description of the patient's state:—"It is true the paroxysms do not occur any more, as before, on regular days, and at regular hours, but behold his livid complexion, his bloated countenance, his languishing looks! "Behold how difficult it is for him to breathe, see his heavy and

distended abdomen, the swelling in his hypochondria; see how his stomach is depressed by everything he eats, how his appetite is diminished and his taste altered; how loose his bowels are, and how unnatural and contrary to what they should be; hard his sleep is, restless, unrefreshing and full of dreams! Behold him weak, out of humor, and prostrated, his sensibility morbidly excited, his intellectual faculties weakened; how much more does he suffer now than when he was a prey to his fever."

And this is the description of no mere theorist, but of one who had gained experience of the disease among the fever-stricken swamps of Hungary and Transylvania.

Foiled in their attempts to cure Intermittent Fever with quinine, and not provided with any law by which to ascertain the effects of drugs, modern allopathic physicians assert that "fever and ague can't be cured," and of course "what can't be cured, must be endured," and many physicians are fully acquainted with the deleterious effects of quinine.

Dr. Paine,\* in his Institutes of Medicine, says:—"Experience shows that, though bark and its alkaloids, in large doses, will often arrest Intermittent Fever suddenly, such doses are liable either to induce congestion, especially of the liver or of the mucous tissue of the stomach, or will aggravate and establish some co-existing congestion; and thus, while the patient is for the present relieved of the fever, *he is dismissed with some insidious local complaint, that not only renders him a permanent invalid, (resulting often in indurated enlargements,) but which local malady may, and often does, become, in process of time, the exciting cause of another attack of fever.*"

In respect to relapses, it is not unfrequent that, when intermittents are suddenly stopped by a large dose of quinine, the paroxysms return as soon as the patient begins to exercise much, or to take his ordinary food.

Such being the effects of one grand

\* Professor in the University of New York—(Allopathic.)

"Panacea" for Intermittent Fever, we now proceed to inquire into the method pursued by homeopathic physicians, and here we are at once met by the indispensable condition of all successful homeopathic practice—a rigid individualization of each particular case of disease. Sydenham justly observes:—"To draw a disease in gross is an easy matter. To describe it in its history, so as to escape the censure of the great Bacon, is far more difficult." To the homeopathic physician, the mere name of a disease never can indicate the treatment, for the specificity of a homeopathic medicine is not towards an entire species of diseases, but towards each individual case.

Guided by the noble Therapeutic law—"Similia similibus curanter"—the physician, after having taken a careful record of all the objective and subjective symptoms, proceeds to administer an appropriate remedy from the rich store bequeathed to him by Hahnemann.

The study of these remedies is difficult, but he is cheered and encouraged by the touching warning of the great Master—"When we have to do with an art whose end is the saving of human life, any neglect to make ourselves thoroughly masters of it becomes a crime."

T. N.

LONDON, G. W.

From the Philadelphia Journal.

#### THE HAHNEMANNIAN INSTITUTE.

[THIS Association, composed of young men connected with the Homeopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania, was organized for the purpose of cultivating the true principles of medical science, in accordance with the Hahnemann philosophy. It has been in operation several successive winters. It begins its session about the time the lectures in the College commence, and closes about the same time the exercises of the College close. During the entire session, the Society meets twice a week, and institutes a critical review of the studies that have been gone over in the mean time in the College, and the members discuss such other matters as will favor

an advance in the attainment of genuine medical knowledge.

At the close of each session, they have adopted the plan of holding a commencement, at which they have an annual oration and valedictory; and all those who have been sufficiently successful to become passed candidates for the degree of Doctor of Medicine in the College, are rewarded with a diploma from this Institute also, provided they have complied with its rules and regulations in other respects.

We take pleasure in giving our readers a short extract from an annual oration, delivered at a commencement of this Society, believing that it will be perused with interest.—[Ed.]

The advent of Homeopathy was for the benefit of mankind, and the mission must be fulfilled. Already enough has been accomplished through its mission to warrant the most desirable expectations in the future. But what are the benefits already conferred, and what hopes have we with regard to the future? These are questions worthy of being answered. We may enumerate the benefits already realized as follows:

1. Homeopathy has revealed a law of cure that points out the accurate use of remedial agents. The discovery of this law has been the means of elevating the practice of medicine to the dignity of a science, and until the advent of homeopathy, the practice of medicine was made to rest upon no fixed principles, but upon a jargon of conflicting theories and opinions, and therefore it presented one continuous scene of changes, "like the scenic representation of dissolving views."—Bleeding, purging, vomiting, and sweating formed the four grand pillars of Allopathy. The heroes of the lancet could see nothing but vitiated blood permeating the vessels of their invalid patients, which must be abstracted in order that new blood might form to take its place. The heroes of the pills and electuaries conjured up foul mysteries at work in the *prima via* that must forcibly be dislodged by cathartics. The bile-struck theorist could see nothing but bilious difficulties, that the convulsive power of

*emesis* could expel from the system, while nothing but a purgatory of perspiration would satisfy that other class of theorists that maintained that disease must be made to escape by firing up the system to an evaporating pitch. All these central pillars of allopathy are ever surrounded by adjuvants of support to suit the particular predilection and meshwork of conjecture of each dignified theorist. Only a slight view of the evils that have befallen the human race in vainly attempting to give practical support to the various theories that have been invented in medicine, would suffice to convince a candid observer, that more have been maimed, more have been made to sacrifice robust constitutions, more have been compelled to dwell in the midst of sickly families, more have been shut out from the light and bustle of the day; nay, and yet more have been sent to the sepulchres of the dead, through the agency of the prostrating treatment I have named, than from the raging of pestilential diseases, the curses of famine, and the fortunes of war. The first use of Homeopathy is to save mankind from so lamentable a lot. She brought to light a method of treating the sick based upon an immutable law of nature, that superseded the necessity of resorting to the dangerous, or rather hazardous, violence that was uniformly appealed to for the purpose of extirpating disease. She has already accomplished a prominent feature of her mission. She has demonstrated that disease can be durably cured without violence, without the terrors of torture and deathlike prostration. She has done more by pointing out the direct method of cure. She has essentially abridged the duration of human suffering from the common ills of life, and by reason of this demonstration she has made her way into every department of society. She has demonstrated that any and every curable disease can be overcome without inflicting further suffering upon the patient. A very large proportion of the patronizing public have been, and still are, thoroughly satisfied with the demonstration, and like faithful missionaries in the cause of truth, through storms

of persecution they rally under the banner of homeopathy.

But the immeasurable benefits arising from the advent of the new doctrines have been by no means confined to its advocates and patrons. Its influence has been seen and felt in all departments of society, and even by the honorable opponents of our cause. The growing inclination of the public to sustain homeopathy has been the cause of alarm throughout the domain of allopathy, and a wholesome restraint has been thrown around the allopathic practitioner. It is often remarked in common conversation that all physicians are more sparing in their use of drugs than formerly; that bleeding is more rarely countenanced; that cups, setons, and issues have comparatively fallen into disuse; that blisters and cauteries begin to be discarded in general practice. Whence all this change in the prevailing school of medicine? Is it not apparent that conviction has penetrated the allopathic ranks; that the so-called thorough treatment is fraught with mischievous consequences, that can only be remedied by abridging the dosing system? "Our doctor seldom bleeds, and he gives very little medicine," is the common remark of all allopathic patrons. And this is true.—But what has wrought the change? What has sent conviction home to the minds of our opponents, that drugs should be used more sparingly than ten, twenty, or thirty years ago? What has been the means of rearing up the school of young physio, so ready to trust the recuperative energies of nature, instead of pills, boluses, and other prostrating agents?—What has driven the cuppers and leechers into the necessity of seeking new modes of obtaining a livelihood? What has occasioned the famine among the retail apothecaries? But little sagacity is required to afford a satisfactory solution of these queries. The light of Homeopathy has disclosed the fact that immoderate dosing and drugging are unnecessary in the community, and the patronising public, wide awake upon the subject, refuse to submit to the practice, and the prevailing profession, even if

they attempt to disguise the result, are absolutely driven to discard that which its patrons will no longer tolerate. And thus it may be said in truth that the advent of Homeopathy has left its impression not only upon the whole face of the patronising community, but even upon that of the Allopathic profession itself; and if it accomplishes nothing more for a generation to come, its influence will descend to posterity as a blessing of the first magnitude. Were we to attempt to estimate the benefits that have already accrued from the advent of Homeopathy, we should be lost to find language to express it.

From the Homeopathic Record, Northampton, (Eng.)

#### THE DANGERS OF OLD PHYSIC.

"MELANCHOLY MISTAKE.—On Tuesday last, an Inquest was held before John Becke, Esq., at the Guildhall, on the body of Richard Warren Coe, a child of 15 months old, the son of Mr. Charles Skinner Coe, of Victoria Street. It appeared by the evidence of Mr. Coe that his wife had been some time ill, and was attended by Dr. Flewitt. On Sunday morning Mr. Flewitt called, and was requested by Mrs. Coe to send a powder for the child. In the evening Mrs. Coe sent two of her children for the medicine. Mr. Flewitt was not at home, but his servant finding a bottle and a powder addressed to Mrs. Coe, delivered them to the messengers. At night Mr. Coe went into his wife's room, and, unwrapping the powder, which he conceived to be for the child, from its outer paper, took it to the child and administered it. The child retched immediately, and Mr. Coe, surprised at the result, went and told his wife. The outer wrapper was examined, and the fatal mistake discovered—that the powder was an opiate, intended and labelled for Mrs. Coe. Mr. Flewitt and Mr. Ashdown were sent for immediately, who adopted every imaginable means for getting rid of the poison, and counteracting its effects, but in vain, and the poor child died about eight o'clock on Monday morning. The powder was what is called Dover's