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# MONTREAL Homœopathic Record

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

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MONTREAL, JULY, 1897.

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## Montreal Homœopathic Record

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

## SOME REASONS FOR A BELIEF IN HOMŒOPATHY.

INTERESTING COMPARISONS BY DOCTOR  
W. S. MILLS.

At the meeting of the Fifth International Congress, held at London, August 5-8, 1896, Dr. W. S. Mills, of Stamford, Conn., presented a paper entitled, "Some Reasons for a Belief in Homœopathy, Including Comparative Statistics," from which the following figures are taken. These figures are the latest comparative statistics we have seen, and were obtained from the official reports. Here are some of them condensed from Dr. Mills' paper.

In Philadelphia the hospital corresponding most nearly in the character of work to the Hahnemann, is the Pennsylvania. In 1894, there were treated at the Pennsylvania Hospital, 2,553 patients with a mortality of 10.49 per cent. During the year ending March 31, 1895, there were treated at the Hahnemann Hospital 1,851 patients with a mortality of 5.29 per cent, or for the same number treated, the Allopaths lost 198 to our 100.

At the Western Pennsylvania Hospital Pittsburg (Allopathic), in the year ending September 30, 1895, there were

treated 2,305 patients with a mortality of 8.98 per cent. At the Pittsburg Homœopathic Hospital, during the year ending March 31, 1895, there were treated 1,405 patients with a mortality of 6.37 per cent; or for the same number treated, the Allopaths lost 141 to our 100.

The total number of patients treated in the Cook County (Chicago) Hospital for five years ending January 1, 1894, was 43,598, of which 28,221 were assigned to and treated by the Allopaths with a mortality of 11.87 per cent, and 6,968 assigned to and treated by the Homœopaths with a mortality of nine per cent, or for the same number treated, the Allopaths lost 132 to our 100. Here all patients being taken in numerical order and treated in the same institution, it cannot be charged that the comparison is unfair.

The largest Homœopathic Hospital in the world is the Metropolitan Hospital on Blackwell's Island (formerly Ward's Island Hospital, N. Y.) The Allopathic Hospital corresponding most nearly to this is the City Hospital (formerly Charity Hospital) also on Blackwell's Island. "Patients are sent to these two hospitals from the department distributing office, pro rata, according to the number of vacancies in each, and irrespective of the disease to be treated.

According to the last published report of the Department of Public Charities—1892—the Allopaths treated that year 8,430 cases with a mortality of 7.35 per cent; the Homœopaths 5,060 with a mortality of 5.36 per cent, or for the same number treated the Allopaths lost 137 to our 100.

The Massachusetts General Hospital, in 1894, treated 4,605 patients with a mortality of 9.83 per cent, while the Massachusetts Homoeopathic Hospital, during the same year, treated 1,191 patients with a mortality of 4.19 per cent, or for the same number treated, they lost 234 to our 100.

Johns Hopkins Hospital (Baltimore) Allopathic, in 1894, treated 3,018 patients with a mortality of 6.52 per cent. At the Maryland Homoeopathic Hospital, there were treated 356 patients with a mortality of 3.37 per cent, or for the same number treated, they lost 193 to our 100.

In private practice Dr. Mills gives a collection of 8,000 cases of diphtheria in Chicago, (Dr. R. N. Tooker's figures) treated with antitoxin. Mortality, 22 percent. In same city 515 cases treated homoeopathically. Mortality, 7.3 per cent. Difference in favor of Homoeopathy over antitoxin, 14.7.

In an epidemic of typhoid fever at Stamford, Conn., in 1895, the mortality under old school treatment was 7.74 per cent., while under homoeopathic treatment it was 4.09 per cent.

At New Haven, Conn., from 1891-5, the mortality in scarlet fever, was 9.90 percent, under old school treatment and 4.30 under homoeopathic treatment.

In diphtheria the old school mortality was 35.45 per cent.; homoeopathic, 21.23 per cent.

In typhoid fever the old school mortality was 25.98; homoeopathic treatment, 20 per cent.

In measles the old school mortality was 17.83 per cent.; homoeopathic 1.88. A difference in this disease of 15.95 per cent, in favor of homoeopathy.

We have reported hospital records: Allopathic, 50,405 patients with a mortality of 10.32 per cent; Homoeopathic, 19,439 patients with a mortality of 6.97 per cent. In other words, for the same number of patients treated they lost 149 to our 100.

These figures show that with all its progress the "old," "scientific" or "allopathic" school, still lags woefully behind the homoeopathic in curing the ills of humanity.

Fish-bones can sometimes be expelled from the throat by giving from four to six ounces of milk, and forty minutes later an emetic of zinc sulphate. The vomit of coagulated milk carries the bone before it.

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## WOMAN'S AUXILIARY, MONTREAL HOMOEOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

Treasurer's Report, for June 1897.

Dr.	
To cash on hand, June 1st	\$153 38
" amount received from subscriptions	56 75
" " " " patients	114 00
" " " " dispensary	7 23
Total	\$331 36

Cr.	
By amount paid for wages	\$ 96 00
" " " " food	70
" " " " furnishings	31 83
" " " " repairs	19 55
" " " " gas	23 14
Total	\$171 22
" cash on hand, June 28th	160 14
Total	\$331 36

MARY VAN HORNE,  
Treas. W.A.M.H.H.

## DONATIONS DURING JUNE.

Rhubarb and sugar, the Misses Dow; blossoms for patients, Miss Marie Robertson; pair of slippers, Miss Ames; Books, Mrs. Buzzell; ice cream and cake for nurses, Dr. Scott Nichol; cake and preserved fruit, Mrs. A. R. Griffith; flowers, Y.W.C.T.U., Westmount; pans etc., Mrs. R. G. Reid; fresh eggs, Mrs. E. T. Woodley; cake, Boys' Anti-Tobacco Club, Westmount; chemises and nightdresses from Industrial Rooms, no name; collection of sundries, Madame Albert Hébert; flowers and cards, Westmount Band of Hope; flowers, Mrs. Leith, Outremont; oranges, Mrs. S. M. Baylis; strawberries, Mrs. W. E. Phillips; magazines, Mrs. Dinning, Lachine; Mrs. Gault; Mrs. Leitch; Mrs. R. G. Reid; Mrs. Sutherland Taylor; empty vials, Mrs. Sheffield, Miss Ames; Anon.; Mrs. R. G. Reid; Mrs. Ames; Mrs. J. K. Reid; Madame Albert Hébert; old linen, Miss M. Brush; Mrs. Ames; Madame Albert Hébert.

Special thanks are due to Mrs. Alexander Thomson, of Hamilton, Ont., for a Jubilee gift of a wrapper. Gifts from friends so remote, have a special significance and are highly prized.

Messrs. Charles Gurd & Co., have very kindly sent a generous donation of four dozen of ginger ale, and one dozen siphons of soda water. This is a particularly acceptable gift in times of high thermometer registerings.

## HOSPITAL WANTS.

Palm-leaf fans. Old linen. Empty vials.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF  
HOMŒOPATHY.

IT MET IN BUFFALO—CANADA AND MONTREAL REPRESENTED—DR. LAURA MULLER ELECTED A MEMBER.

The American Institute of Homœopathy met in Buffalo June 23-30. Several hundred physicians were in attendance, and meetings of unusual interest were held. The medical papers read were of a highly scientific nature, and were discussed by some of the most distinguished men of our school. The surgical side of Homœopathy was given considerable prominence, and the pleasing fact was developed that our surgeons are becoming more and more conservative, although quite capable and ready to resort to radical measures whenever found necessary. Very interesting and instructive discussions were held relative to diseases of women and children. Some of the greatest specialists of the country, irrespective of schools, were present, and gave to the younger members the benefit of their varied and extended experience. Failures and successes were equally related, and many interesting medical facts developed.

The erection of the magnificent monument to Hahnemann, in the city of Washington, was discussed. Several thousand dollars were subscribed to the rapidly increasing fund, and the committee expect soon to complete the work. The monument is to cost \$75,000, and will be one of the finest works of art in the country, and a lasting memorial to the founder of Homœopathy.

The city of Buffalo entertained the delegates in royal style, and the consideration given the proceedings by the daily papers showed clearly the popularity of Homœopathy not only in the Queen city of the lakes but throughout the United States.

It was pleasing to note the presence of a number of Canadians, and it is to be hoped the members of our school throughout Canada will unite with the Association and gain the support such a large society can give to Homœopathy in this country.

Dr. Laura Muller, of this city, was unanimously elected a member of the Institute. Indeed one of the features of the Buffalo meeting was the presence of a large number of bright and entertaining women physicians.

Next year's meeting will be at Omaha.

A. R. GRIFFITH, M. D.

## THE FEAR OF DEATH.

Familiarity with death is apt to alter one's earlier conceptions of it. Two ideas are very generally accepted which experience shows to be false. One is that the dying usually fear death; and the other, that the act of dying is accompanied by pain. It is well known to all physicians, that when death is near, its terrors do not seem to be felt by the patient. Unless the imagination is stimulated by the frightful portrayal of the supposed "pangs of death," or of the sufferings which some believe the soul must endure after dissolution, it is rare indeed that the last days or hours of life are passed in dread. Oliver Wendell Holmes has recorded his protest against the custom of telling a person who does not actually ask to know, that he cannot recover. As that loving observer of mankind asserts, that people almost always come to understand that recovery is impossible; it is rarely needful to tell anyone that this is the case. When nature gives the warning, death appears to be as little feared as sleep. Most sick persons are very, very tired; sleep—long quiet sleep—is what they want. I have never seen many people die. I have never seen one who seemed to fear death, except when it was, or seemed to be, rather far away. Even those who are constantly haunted, while strong and well, with a dread of the end of life, forget their fear when that end is at hand. As for the act of dying—the final passage from life to death—it is absolutely without evidence that the oft-repeated assertions of its painfulness are made. Most people are unconscious for some hours before they die; and in the rare cases where consciousness is retained unimpaired until a few minutes before the end, the last sensation must be of perfect calm and rest. It is worse than cruel to add to the natural dread of death which oppresses us in health the dread of dying.—Dr. Roosevelt, in *Scribner's Magazine*.

That a simple test for digestibility, by which one can determine easily if a solid food is one which is proper to give to a sick person, is to drop a small piece of it into cold water. If it soaks up the water rapidly the food is moderately digestible. This test was given to a nurses' class.

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## HOSPITAL NOTES.

**Readers** of the *Record* are always glad to hear of the movements of the graduated nurses.

\* \* \*

**Miss Egans'** professional duties in the city have prevented her taking her summer vacation as yet, but she expects to get away soon.

\* \* \*

**Miss Adams** is enjoying a rest at Metis.

\* \* \*

**Miss Grant** is going through a special course at the Montreal Maternity.

\* \* \*

**Miss Pangborn** is at her home in Rockland for the summer, and Miss Strachan is visiting her there. Both of these ladies are intending to return to the city in September to engage in private nursing.

\* \* \*

**At the June Meeting** of the Committee of Management it was decided to adjourn the regular meetings till September. In the meantime the President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary to form an executive to deal with any emergency that may arise.

\* \* \*

**Dr. H. M. Patton**, Medical Superintendent, is spending the month of July at Metis.

\* \* \*

**Dr. A. R. Griffith**, who attended the meeting of the American Institute of Homœopathy at Buffalo, reports a most enjoyable and pleasant meeting.

\* \* \*

**Dr. W. McHarrie**, Assistant Medical Superintendent, is in charge at the Hospital during Dr. Patton's absence.

\* \* \*

**Dr. Grafton**, Pathologist to the Hospital, is very much in need of some additional instruments. A donation of \$50 to meet the doctor's requirements would be highly appreciated.

## SICK ROOMS IN SUMMER.

Can be kept cool, comfortable and free from odor by the following simple and practical method:

Prepare a mixture of "Platt's Chlorides" and water (one part to ten) in a bowl suitable for moistening a towel or sheet, frequently wafted about the room

and then hung up, will maintain a constant cooling and deodorizing action by liquid evaporation and chemical absorption.

## BED WETTING.

## ITS CAUSES AND TREATMENT.

One of the most annoying and distressing complaints of childhood is incontinence of urine, or, more commonly, bed-wetting. Mothers are frequently worried to discover the cause and then to cure this difficulty. Children most affected are between the ages of four and fourteen. It is more troublesome in winter than in summer. Those of a nervous temperament are the greatest sufferers. Sometimes urine is passed while absolutely unconscious or the child dreams of the act and awakes to find itself wet. The cause of the trouble is not always in the bladder itself. Worms may produce a reflex irritation or the child may drink too large a quantity of fluids in the evening, or his diet may cause too acid a condition of the urine. There may be a stone in the bladder, or a congenital malformation of the organs may require an operation before relief can be obtained.

Bed-wetting will, however, generally yield promptly to Homœopathic treatment. Relapses may occur, so that this case should be kept under observation for a long time. There may be a constitutional difficulty dating back to parents or grandparents, and this will require one of the deep acting remedies like calc. carb. 6x, or sulphur 30x, given two or three times daily. If the urine be high colored and strong smelling benzoic acid 6x will often relieve. When the bladder is at fault, causticum 6x, or gelsemium 3x, is the remedy. Pulsatilla 3x will relieve many cases in little girls.

Never resort to corporal punishment. It is cruel and the fear of it will increase the trouble. The child should sleep on a hard mattress with light clothing. He should not be allowed to sleep on his back. Sponging the lower part of the back with hot water at bedtime is recommended. Tea, coffee, all sharp or sour articles of food, are prohibited, meat only in moderate quantities. Drinks should consist of water, milk or cocoa. The child should empty the bladder at bedtime. The bowels should be kept regular. The patient requires plenty of fresh air, and a cold bath in the morning, drying quickly, may prove of benefit.

A. R. GRIFFITH, M. D.



## THE DIFFERENCE.

The *Medical News* says that a considerable part of domestic medicine is evidently of demoniacal origin—in more senses than one—few will care to deny. The striking prominence among "household remedies" of horribly bitter and nauseous "yarb teas," of cherry bark, of quassia, of asafetida, the recommendation of such remedies as roasted mouse eaten whole, snake broth, drinking urine, hot blood, etc., etc., the confidence imposed in violent purgatives and emetics, are obvious survivals of the magician's principle of administering nauseous messes of every description in the hope of disgusting and driving out the evil spirit that causes the disease. Their whole medicinal value lies in their offensiveness. Such common practices as the charming away of warts, wearing of iron rings, and the carrying of potatoes or chestnuts in the pocket to "draw out" rheumatism, are also of unmistakable character, and dozens of others might be mentioned.

But is all this any more "demoniacal" or silly than ramming mercury into a sick man until his teeth fall out and his bones rot, or filling him with quinine until his head swims and his hearing is lost, or injecting into him the virus of consumption, or of diphtheria diluted with horse serum, or of cholera, or hydrophobia, or "animal extracts?" If compelled to choose between the two we would take the harmless "yarb teas" as medicine in preference to disease virus. But the wise man takes neither. Homœopathy is good enough for him.

## TWELVE RULES FOR INSOMNIA.

ALL EASILY FOLLOWED.

1. Rise in good time in the morning.
2. Take moderate exercise (without fatigue), and be as much in the open air as possible during the day.
3. Avoid heavy meals, rich dishes, strong tea or coffee and alcoholic drinks, especially toward night.

4. Eat only plain, well-cooked food; a small proportion of meat, with abundance of vegetables, fruit (ripe or stewed), whole meal bread, etc., and drink water or lemonade (made from fresh fruit) at dinner.

5. Go to rest in good time, for over-tired nerves and eyes are a frequent cause of sleeplessness.

6. Have no light in the bedroom, which should be as quiet and dark as possible.

7. The bedroom must be well ventilated. This can easily be done by opening the top sash of the window an inch or more, so as to allow the escape of impure air, while fresh air enters between the two glasses at the center of the window. A light curtain over the window will prevent all draught to the sleeper.

8. The clothing should be entirely woolen; no heavy cotton coverlid, but an eiderdown quilt must be used, and the warmth must be sufficient, but on no account excessive, carefully regulating the amount of blankets according to the temperature.

9. No heavy meal must be taken within two hours of retiring, but a cup of warm milk, soup or light farinaceous food (with milk) should be drunk the last thing before going to sleep.

10. Where sleeplessness is chronic a thorough toweling (first with a wet towel, then with a dry one, using tepid or cold water) will set the action of the skin and the circulation right, and so relieve the overcharged blood vessels of the brain. A soft hot water bottle to the feet will sometimes have the same effect; the feet must not, on any account, be allowed to remain cold.

11. All exciting subjects should be avoided as much as possible.

12. Keep a clear conscience and don't worry, even though "nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep," should refuse at first to be wooed, for it takes time, as well as patience, not only to eradicate a mischievous habit, but to form a good one.

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