

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

A

DIALOGUE

ON THE

Theory & Practice of Medicine,

BETWEEN AN

ALLOPATH AND A HOMŒOPATH,

TOGETHER WITH

REMARKS ON CLAIRVOYANCE,

AND

AN APPENDIX,

Containing a few Cases of Disease, treated Homœopathically.

BY HUGH HASTINGS, M.B.

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CHELTENHAM.

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CHARLES ANDREWS, 129, HIGH STREET.

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TO
H. S. MERCER, ESQ., M. R. C. S. Edin.
(FORMERLY SURGEON IN THE BENGAL ARMY, ETC.,)

"The Hearne," Charlton Kings.

Dear Sir,

*It affords me the most sincere pleasure to
DEDICATE this little work to you ; both on account of
the very great kindness which I have experienced from
you ; and also, from the unprejudiced and Philosophic
manner in which you view Homœopathy ; notwithstand-
ing your previous education as an Allopath, and your
extensive practice of it for many years.*

I have the honor, to be,

My dear Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant,

HUGH HASTINGS.

8, Cambray, Cheltenham.

April, 1854.

"The greatest blessings have been achieved by discussions, error suffers in the ordeal; truth never does; the dross is consumed in the fire; the gold comes out more brilliant, more precious, more pure."

Rev. Dr. CUMMING's *Apocalyptic Sketches*, p. 158.



CHELTENHAM:

E. LEONARD, PRINTER, BRITANNIA OFFICE, BATH STREET.

P R E F A C E .

THIS Dialogue was written for a Magazine—hence its popular style—but on submitting its perusal to some Friends, they advised me to publish it, by itself, as they considered it “well calculated to enlighten the public upon the principles of Homœopathy, and show wherein it differs from Allopathy, • and also, the untenableness of the principles and practice of the latter:”—a suggestion which I cordially embraced, as I write for the benefit of the *public*, and also for the impartial consideration of Allopathic Medical-men; being convinced that they practice Allopathy—not because the *generality* of them consider it a rational system, but just because their education has taught them so, and the mass of the public is accustomed to it. There are however, bigots in Politics, Religion, &c., and there are also bigots in medicine, who refuse to sanction anything, differing from established customs, notwithstanding its superiority to prevalent practises.

But, is this bigotry Philosophical? in these days of marvellous discoveries and startling phenomena, both in the animal and physical worlds, as exemplified by Mesmerism, Electro-Biology, &c., and the uniting of nation with nation, by that *unknown something*, which we call Electricity, which wafts our very thoughts on the fiery wings of its lightning's flash, from one country to another, and from Edinburgh to London, and *vice versa*, in a moment, and writes them down, as with a Sun-beam in legible letters. Surely the gentle passes of the Mesmerist inducing “balmy sleep” in his subject ought to destroy the prejudice for Laudanum and Morphia, Ether and Chloroform: and the agreeable tiny globule of the Homœopath, being all potent to quell the Fever in his patient, ought to destroy the prejudice for Leeches, Lancets and Cupping.

Entertaining such ideas as these, induced me, after being a bigot in Allopathy and practising it for years, to investigate the claims of Homœopathy, Mesmerism and Hydropathy; the results of which investigation the following Dialogue and my every-day practice will testify. Give me the range of selecting from these *three* methods of curing disease, whichever *process*

The present system of “Drug Medication.”

or *combined processes*, may be deemed requisite for the complaint, and the Pharmæcopeia of the College of Physicians, with all its Calomel, Mercury, &c. &c. may be burned for ought I care. Yes! away with drugs and all such compounds and let us have rational medicine and rational Doctors too!

A Medical-man, if he be a Philosopher—a *magister naturæ*—which he should be, ought not to be wedded to any one system of Therapeutics, but free to range *over* and *through* all nature, and to select whichever medicine or curative process may appear to him best calculated to cure his patient, whether that may be Mesmerism, Homœopathy, Hydropathy, or Allopathy, each or all combined; as it is only, when acting thus, that he is either worthy the name of a Philosopher or of public confidence. If a Medical-man confines himself to prescribing drugs, bleeding, blistering, &c., he is making himself a mere automaton, and converting a noble science into a species of mechanical routine.

When we consider the vast resources which are at his command; minerals, earths, vegetables, water, electricity, animal magnetism, all contributing their quota for his use in curing disease, we readily see why he should be an accomplished *eclectic*, skilled in the curative properties of each and all, and ready to administer, whichever he may consider most beneficial for his patient; irrespective of all medical dogmas and preconceived opinions.

I beg my readers to consider, that though in the following Dialogue, the nature of the subject rendered it necessary to both *quote and say* hard things of Allopaths; still *principles* and not *men* are attacked;—and that the most severe things which are said of both them and their principles, are quoted from men of their own school, so that their system is not only condemned *by me*, but *condemned out of their own mouths*.

And let them likewise also recollect that they are personally and unitedly, intimately interested in the discussion of this question, as it is one which comes alike home—to all,—the Physician and the patient,—in the hours of sickness and sorrow.

With these observations I now commit this Dialogue particularly to Allopathic Practitioners and their disciples, begging them to consider impartially the question of Homœopathy *versus* Allopathy as therein stated; hoping that it may tend to show what both systems are, and recommend the *one* that is most rational to their senses, notwithstanding that it has neither Antiquity to father it, nor Universities nor Colleges, *as yet*, in England to foster its disciples. *

* In America there are several Homœopathic Colleges.

A
D I A L O G U E
ON
MEDICINE.

IN the month of August, Cheltenham being "out of town," and those that remained enjoying tolerable health, and therefore requiring but little Esculapian attention, I determined to,

"Throw physic to the dogs,"

for a week or two, and take a little tour to recruit the wear and tear of mind and body, and thus prepare both, for the winter campaign, against "the grimly foe." For this purpose, I told "John" to pack up my Portmanteau, and order a Fly to convey me to-morrow morning to the Railway Station in time for the early train.

Morning came and with a palpitating heart I heard the rattle of the Fly and saw it draw up at No. 8, at the hour appointed. I descended the steps from the door with as fearful and nervous a heart as if I were going to rob or steal somebody or something; fearing every moment that some one might possibly come and say before I got clear away "please, Sir, Mr.—, is taken very ill and wants you to see him directly."

My fears, however, were groundless, and in a short time I was at the station, procured my ticket, saw my Portmanteau safely deposited, popped myself into a carriage and in a minute or two afterwards heard the shrill whistle of the Guard, at the sound of which the panting, puffing and perspiring steam-horse, gave two or three tremendous coughs to relieve itself of its pent up fury, uttered a scream and away we went. Feeling now quite certain that my contemplated tour would not be interrupted, I pulled up the blinds, put my head out of the window, inhaled the balmy breeze as it swept past and luxuriated in the beauties of the Landscape.

Our steam-horse gave a scream again, enough to awaken the dead, and presently our speed slackened and we came to a dead pause, and heard the Guard exclaim in a guttural and nasal twang "Glo'st—" as if his object was not to be intelligible instead of communicating intelligence.

On the platform I saw a Gentleman, whom I thought I had seen before, but could not, at the moment, recognize him. He disappeared to look after his luggage, but presently the door of my compartment flew open, and the Guard exclaimed "London here," and in walked the identical Gentleman, whose face I thought I ought to know. We mutually gazed at each other, and there seemed to be distinctly impressed on his countenance, "hang it, I think I have seen my travelling companion before," whilst I was making up my mind as to whether I ought to say outright, at once, I think, Sir, I have certainly had the pleasure of seeing you before, or breaking the ice to a colloquy by some such stupid observation as "fine day, Sir," &c.

But before I had made up my mind as to what the precise remark ought to be, by which I intended to get into a conversation with my companion, he broke the spell which seemed to bind our tongues and rivet our minds on each other by saying, "have I the pleasure of seeing Dr. HASTINGS?" My name is HASTINGS, replied I, but, Sir, you have the advantage of me; for although I feel that I ought to know you, I cannot for the life of me recollect who you are. "What!" said he, in perfect amazement. "don't recollect your old College

Chum James B——?" Good gracious, cried I, and with that, we greeted each other right heartily. We had studied together at College for three years, and had not seen each other since we entered

"the field against the grimly foe,
Arm'd with a mortar and a pestle,"

now eleven years ago. This short period had made a great change upon my Friend, he had become the Father of a family, and in his own person was very *embonpoint*. Had been in active practice, during this period and was now going to London for a few days on business.

Upon my inquiring as to how the world had used him since our separation, he very good naturedly related to me the following personal history. He said, "that almost immediately after he had passed the College of Surgeons' and Apothecaries' Hall, he got married to a Lady of considerable property, and at once purchased the practice which he now conducts;" "It was," said he, "a very respectable concern and for some years after my entering upon it very lucrative. But about six years ago a fellow came into the town, and began putting people asleep, by what he called Mesmerism, and when he had them in this condition, he stroked and chased away many of their pains. But the Clergy thought him possessed of some curious spirit, * and began to make allusions to him and his processes in their Sermons, the effects of which were that the public left off patro-

* At the present time I am attending a young Lady, who is subject to Hysterical and Cataleptic fits, and on visiting her yesterday, I found her left arm lying perfectly rigid and powerless on the table by the side of her bed. It had been in this position for about an hour. Upon attempting to lift it, it snapped down again on the table, as if forced by a spring. I then made a few Mesmeric passes over it, and in one minute, the *rigidity* of the muscles gave way, and she raised it, smiling with delight at being so soon and so pleasantly liberated.

Was there anything diabolic in my thus setting free this prisoned and paralytic arm? Or was there anything devilish in my knowing how to do it? Out upon such nonsense! Oh! that Medical-men would study more, mental Dynamics, and place less faith in drugs! Now, had I treated this arm Allopathically, I would have ordered it to be vigorously rubbed by a strong stimulating embrocation, mustard cataplasms to be applied &c, and thus by keeping on for two or three days, might have restored it to use. But look at the consequences! the arm would have been tender and painful for many days after, from the friction and mustard, whereas by my simple process, it is now in its natural state. Mesmerism is of God and we thank him for it!—See Appendix.

nising him and he had soon to cut his stick, and well for me and my family that he did, as I assure you Hugh, I got them to take very little medicine so long as he was in the town, as they did not at all relish my Pills and Mixtures, so long as they could be cured of their diseases, when asleep. This fellow annoyed me much, and I was racking my brains to find out some clue to his strange processes, so as to make them appear very hideous and thus frighten the people from going to him; when he suddenly decamped, not, however, I must candidly say, without leaving behind him, some monuments of his visit, in the shape of formerly paralytic men and women, whom I had exhausted the Pharmacopœia upon, and at last pronounced incurable, —now walking about the town without stick or crutch! Now, Hugh, when I met these poor creatures, however paradoxical it may sound, I liked to see them walking without their pains and crutches and I didn't like to see them, as you know, it reflected disgrace upon our Profession."

As this was evidently addressed to my feelings on the subject I took the liberty to interrupt my friend, and to observe, why did you not seek an interview with this Mesmeriser and get him to instruct you in his magical or natural processes? "O hang the fellow," said he, "I was not going to debase myself and my noble Profession, by having anything to do with such a Quack." But, said I, you say he cured paralytic persons notwithstanding, and "Quack," or no "Quack," it would have done you no harm to have learned to do the same. "Why! not that I know of," said he. But, excuse me, said I, for interrupting you; now please to go on in your exceedingly interesting narrative.

"Well," said he, "after this fellow's departure, I did a poor trade in drugs for some time; although I took care to be riding and driving about at all hours, to make it appear that I was very busy; though somehow or other the public seemed to be uncommonly well and to require little physic."

"By-and-by an Epidemic broke out and almost everybody became unwell, and I was again as busy as a

nailer morning noon and night. This Epidemic was of a very intractable and fatal character and made sad havoc in the town. Medicine seemed to have little power over it. Well, at this epoch in my history, the Vicar's Wife, who had been visiting in London, hearing of the destructive nature of the complaint, came home, and the next day she and a Gentleman, commenced visiting the poor persons who were ill. I of course thought that he was some Clergyman, who had come on a visit to the Vicarage, and thought no more of it, highly valuing, and praising to my wife, the Christian Philanthropy which made this excellent man brave all dangers of infection, and incessantly visit night and day the poor of the town who were stricken with the Epidemic."

"In the course of a short week from this, it was remarked, that the mortality had undergone a complete change; for from the breaking out of the Epidemic, the greatest mortality was among the poor, but now the scales were precisely reversed, as the chief mortality was among the rich. Upon making inquiry as to the cause of this, it was discovered that the Gentleman whom I had taken to be a Clergyman visiting at the Vicarage was a London Physician, whom the Vicar's Lady had brought with her from London, on hearing of the fatal nature of the Epidemic, to doctor the poor, and that he had been so successful in his mode of treatment, that very few deaths had occurred under his care, and that the Epidemic was rapidly subsiding among the poor.

"We then had a Meeting of all the Medical Men in the town to find out, if possible, how this person treated his patients, and also to learn who he was. We could not ascertain that he had ordered any medicine from any Druggist, but we found his name in the *Medical Directory*, as a recognized M.D. On inquiring of some of the poor folks whom he had cured if he gave them any medicine," they said that 'all he gave them was some little white things about the size of a pin's head; these he sometimes placed upon their tongues, and sometimes he dissolved them in water, but that take them how they might they had neither taste nor smell.'

"The mystery was now solved, and we afterwards discovered that the manner of this Homœopathist's introduction to our town, was as follows. During the Vicar's Wife's stay in London, she was taken ill, and her Friends advised her to allow them to send for their Medical-man, he came and gave her some pleasant medicine, and it is said, though I don't credit it, that he brought her safely through a severe case of illness by treating her Homœopathically; and hence the Vicar's Lady's patronage of him and his introduction to our town."

"After this destructive Epidemic had subsided, we still saw this Homœopathic Doctor at the Vicarage, and you may depend upon it we wished him far enough. But you may guess, Hugh, what our surprise was, when we heard that he had taken a large house in the town, and was going to commence practice, under the auspices of the Vicar and his Lady! In a short time we saw him fairly installed in his new house, and every morning, beheld numbers of poor people flocking in and out. We could not hear that he had much private practice and we hoped that ere long he would have to decamp, like his predecessor—the Mesmerist, but somehow or other he held on with mortifying pertinacity, and instead of his doctrines and practises being *preached against*, as the Mesmerist's were,—the Vicar in his sermons, occasionally referred to them, and actually went so far one day as to say, "that we were saved Homœopathically!" i. e. by Christ, implanting within us "a like affection," to that which actuated himself. This was too much for mortals to bear, so we had another meeting of the Medical-men in the town, at which we resolved to denounce publicly the attempts of the Vicar to make his sermons the medium of propagating medical heresies and advocating "Quackery." So we wrote a long letter to one of the local Newspapers, inveighing most vehemently and zealously against the jesuitism (for that is the word we used) of the Vicar's conduct and denouncing the doctrines of Homœopathy and its abettors in no measured strains."

"We thought, we had now given Homœopathy its *plais mortelle*, though we of course expected a reply

from the Vicar, and therefore waited anxiously the publication of the next Paper. But instead of the Vicar replying, the Dr. made a terrible onslaught on our system of *Bleeding, Blistering, Cauterising, Purging, Mercurialising and Drugging*, &c. &c. winding up with a reference to the inutility of them all in the recent Epidemic."

"This last was the most severe thrust of all, as it was patent to every one, that all our efforts against the Epidemic were nearly useless. We were now puzzled to know what to do, for although we did not admit it, the fact of the matter was, he evidently had the advantage of us and we saw that instead of our opposition doing him harm, it was just doing the contrary, and attracting public attention to both him and Homœopathy, and giving him an opportunity of saying hard things about our system which we could not well deny, so we thought the most judicious plan was to let him alone; hoping that ere long the inutility of his system would discover *itself* in acute cases. Well, for some time after this, things went on tolerably smoothly, and in my Professional visits I studiously avoided either referring to him or Homœopathy, and even when my opinion of his principles was requested,—which I must say was beginning to be more frequent than I relished even among my own patients—I generally dismissed it with some just flippant remarks as, "Quackery" "it's a humbug;" both he and his medicines are like a 'chip in porridge.' 'But Dr.' they would reply, 'if that be the case, how is it that he cured the Vicar's Lady and arrested the fatal progress of the recent Epidemic?'"

"Hang that Epidemic, thought I, I assure you Hugh it hangs like a night-mare upon my mind, and is for ever cast in my teeth, when I say anything adverse to Homœopathy."

But said I, seeing that he wished to evade telling me what reply he made to these observations and questions—what answer did you give to them? "Why," said he, "I candidly did not know what to say, as it was admitted by all that his remedies possessed a power over the Epidemic, which ours did not, so I would sometimes say Oh! he just happened to come at the

time when the disease was taking a turn for the better, and then made my exit, wishing both him and Homœopathy at Jericho."

"My troubles with this fellow and his mustard-seed globules were unfortunately, for me, only just commencing, as soon after his establishment in our town, Scarlet Fever of a very bad type broke out in two large and respectable families, which had been my patients ever since I commenced practice. A death had occurred in each family from it, and two children in one family and three in the other were still very ill, so one morning when making my usual visit, and ruminating in my mind how I was likely to find my little patients and what medicines to order them; as soon as I was in the house, the servant asked me to walk into the Drawing-room, 'as Missis wanted to see me.' Upon being shown in, the Lady says, 'Dr. I am sorry to say that my dear children don't seem any better this morning.' I am sorry to hear it Ma'am, replied I, 'and' said she, 'my Husband wished me before he went out this morning to ask you if you had any objections to meet Dr. ———, as the people say, his treatment is very successful in Scarlet Fever?' By jove, Hugh, this came upon me like a thunder-clap, as I never for one moment entertained the idea, that such old and as I had found them, staunch patients, would ever think of calling in the new Dr., so after drawing a deep breath, I faulteringly replied, Why, Madam, I don't see that there would be any use in calling Dr. ———, in, as I have no faith in either him or his remedies, besides Madam, our principles of practice are as opposite as the poles, so that I don't see what good could accrue from our meeting. If you and your Husband are anxious to have another opinion why not call in my friend Dr, S———, as we have done before?" 'Very well Dr. of course as you think there would be no use in meeting Dr. ———, bring your friend Dr. S———.'

"Dr. S———, came, but unfortunately two days after, one of the children died, and the other a most lovely and interesting girl about ten years old, was considered by both Dr. S———, and myself incurable."

"Nothing would now do, with either Mother or

Father, but that Dr.———must be called in, in spite of all our remonstrances, and telling them that such conduct would be sacrificing any chance which their Daughter might have of recovery. But never shall I forget, the frantic looks of Mrs. L——, as she sobbed and bathed in tears, said ‘Dr.——, you are a Father, and you therefore ought to know what parental affection is; besides we have already lost two of our darling children with this disease, and O God! are we to be robbed of her also, and deprived of the only chance of saving her,’—and with that she rushed out of the room, sobbing most deeply.”

“I confess this appeal made me relent, and I looked at Dr. S—— to see if I could ascertain what his feelings were on the subject, but there he sat perfectly unmoved, as much as to say, Oh! its only a bit of female weakness, bless you I have seen Indian-women worse than Mrs. L——, (the Doctor had been abroad in the army)—after the death of their children, and in a few hours after joining in the dance, with hearts as light as crickets, and I think women are much the same go where you may.”

“But whatever might be his feelings, it was evident that the appeal of Mrs. L—— had taken deep effect upon Mr. L——, for before either Dr. S—— or I, had uttered a word, after Mrs. L——’s departure,” he said, ‘Dr., I am resolved to call in Dr.——, so if you think well you can meet him, and if not he must come himself.’

“I now perceived the crisis was come and that any further parley was useless, so I thanked Mr. L——, but declined meeting Dr.——, and took my leave.”

“My feelings at this unexpected trial may be better conceived than explained, and I left the house with a heavy heart. I had attended Mrs. L——, in her confinements with the two children, (now dead) and also with her, whose dangerous state had produced this terrible trial, and as I walked into the street, from the door of my best friend, I felt very queer.” Dr. S—— says ‘hallo! old chap, what’s the matter, why you look as pale as if you had lost a limb.’ “I fear Dr.” faltered I, “I have lost what is almost as precious,

one of my very best patients." 'Ha! ha!' said he, never fear, cheer up old chap, I tell you boy, this is a most fortunate day for both you and me.' "How so?" cried I, 'Why,' said he, 'look here, they'll call in that Quack of a Homœopathist to cure this young Lady, which he of course, can't do, as she's too far gone, then it will be reported all over the town that she died in his hands, and thus show that his globules are of no use, and you'll be re-instated.' "But Dr.," said I, "what if he cures her? as I must say I had a higher opinion of globules than Dr. S——— seemed to possess—I thought of them and the Epidemic." 'Pooh! pooh!' said he, 'why man you talk like a fool, no medicine on earth can cure that child, much less such good-for-nothing minikin globules. But no more of this, I see, as they used to say in our mess, when a mate was down in the lip, you're *flumigastered* with this affair; so come and dine with me to-day, at half-past six o'clock, and I'll give you something to shake away these cobwebs."

"We were scarcely ten minutes gone, before Dr.——— saw our little patient, and diffused joy and gladness over all the house, by saying that though the case was a bad one and far gone; yet he hoped to restore her. But, what annoyed me most of all was, he ordered the nurse to throw out all our medicines—'nasty poisonous stuff,' as he called it; took off the blister from the throat himself and pitched it into the ——, when I heard this I heartily wished that I was pitching into his impudent corpus—ordered all mustard poultices to be removed, and in fact completely upset all Dr. S——— and my arrangements."

"This was but the prelude to a series of annoyances, as during my visits to my other patient, the next day, the salutation was, 'Dr., how is it that Dr.——— has been called in to see Miss L———?' which exceedingly annoyed me, and more than this, in three days after my dismissal or perhaps I should rather say inglorious retreat, from Mrs. L's—I was subjected to the same annoyance, at the other family's house where the Fever was, and had to make my retreat therefrom also, being supplanted by my Homœopathic antagonist, whose success with Miss L———, since his being called in,

induced them also to propose a consultation with him, which I again declined."

Here he made a pause, but as I was anxious to know how the Homœopathist succeeded with the Scarlet Fever, cases, I asked James, if the Patients died or recovered? "Died!" said he, "no; he cured both of them, and since this, all the town when they are ill are running after him and his globules. I tell you, Hugh, ever since this event, I have done a poor trade in medicine and the chymists are almost idle. Within the last month another Homœopathist has settled in our town, and if they go on as they are doing, not a soul, in W——c, will take either Pill or Mixture, as if they can be cured by such pleasant medicines as that of Homœopathy, it is not to be expected, they will take any of ours, which to say the least of it, is like gulping a "Black Draught," to quaffing a "Glass of sparkling Champagne."

I was exceedingly sorry to hear this sad narration from my old Chum; not that I regretted the progress of Homœopathy in his locality; but I lamented to see my dear friend, so prejudiced against a rational system of medicine, the progress of which was "taking the butter off his bread," to use a vulgar phrase, and I therefore, asked him, why it was that he did not examine into the doctrines of Homœopathy to see whether they were correct, or at all events preferable to those of Allopathy? * "I have done so," said he. Pray James, said I, what are the works you have studied? "Oh!" said he, "I have read Dr. ROUTH's *Fallacies of Homœopathy*. *The Confession of a Homœopathist*, and many other works."

I fear, replied I, your readings have been partial and like the handle of a jug, all on the one side. Have you, said I, ever read any of HAHNEMANN's works, his *Organon*. *Materia Medica Pura*. *Lesser Writings*. *Chronic Diseases*, &c.?

"No," said he, "nor do I intend, as it is all a piece of arrant Quackery from beginning to end."

But, said I, "Quackery," or no "Quackery," you

* The present Drugging system.

have just admitted that Homœopathists cure diseases.

"So do all Quacks," said he.

True, said I, but before I admit that Homœopathists are "Quacks," in the common acceptation of the term, I would require to be first informed of what their principles and practices consist, and then see them brought to the test of experience in disease.

Now, if I understand what the word "Quack" generally means, I take it to be a person who vends some secret nostrum, and "Quacks," that is, puffs it up before the public, as capable of curing this, that and the other diseases; keeping the public, all the time, ignorant as to *either its composition or the principles upon which it cures.*

But contrast this with Homœopathists. They have no secrets. They publish both their principles and modes of cure, and tell the public all about their remedies. Surely this therefore cannot be "Quackery?"

"Well, perhaps Hugh you are right, but I cannot fall in with these new fangled ideas."

My dear James, cried I, I expected better Philosophy from you than this. You are a Medical-man, your office is to practice the Science of medicine, and thus, if possible, cure your patients. But you are not obliged, so far as I know by any law in medicine, to administer, nothing but drugs, in crude and large doses to your patients, therefore if you can cure your patients by Mesmerism or by giving them medicine in infinitesimal doses, and can moreover cure them in a shorter time, than by administering drugs, you are still a Medical-man.

"Very true," says James, "but I cannot see how any one can call Homœopathy a Science, as its small doses appear to me perfectly ridiculous."

The scientific basis of Homœopathy is this, said I, Homœopaths administer medicine whose effects upon the healthy system have been fully ascertained by repeated experiments, and as their great teacher DR. HAHNEMANN, has fully established that the particular medicine whose actions upon persons in a state of health produce the greatest number of symptoms resembling those of the disease which it is intended to

cure, also possesses the power of suppressing in a radical and permanent manner, the totality of those morbid symptoms, "that is the disease which resembles those produced by the medicine in the healthy man," and therefore they administer a medicine whose Pathogenetic effects—that is those produced on the healthy man—resemble those of the disease and thus remove the disease. Hence their aphorism of cure is expressed by "*Similia Similibus Curantur*," or "likes are cured by likes." And hence also the word Homœopathy i. e. similar disease.

The Rev. Dr. CHALMERS says, "that Science is a record of phenomena grouped together according to certain points of resemblances, which have been suggested by an actual attention to the phenomena themselves."

If this then be a true definition of Science, do not the "points of resemblance," between the symptoms of a disease, and those known to have been produced upon the healthy man, by medicine, constitute Science?

"Certainly it does," said he.

Well, then let me show you its application in practice, and I shall be able to do this by referring to those cases of Scarlet Fever, which have given you so much annoyance.

First allow me to observe that the names given to diseases are very arbitrary, and convey but a faint idea of their nature, as it is almost impossible to find, e. g. any two cases of Scarlet Fever presenting the same phenomena, as these are influenced by the peculiar constitutions of the patients. Now this being the case, you will observe that to prescribe medicine for the name of a disease as Allopaths do, is very bungling work.

"Don't Homœopathists do the same?"

No, decidedly not, they care not one fig for the name of the disease, as regards their prescribing. They consider well the disease, as presented to them by its symptoms, those *outward* and *inward* sentinels which proclaim the approach and operations of the enemy e. g. as in Scarlet Fever, the Efflorescence on the Skin, the State of the Mind, and the condition of every

Organ in the Frame, and having ascertained this, they prescribe a medicine whose effects are *similar*.

"But it stikes me that this would only increase the disease."

So it would, were the medicine given in Allopathic, i. e. crude and large doses, but to prevent this, Homœopathists administer their medicines in infinitesimal doses.

"Ah, that to me is the greatest farce and absurdity. I might be disposed to credit all you have just said about the Science of Homœopathy, but to think that the decillionth of a grain of medicine can take any effect upon a disease is preposterous. No, no, never shall I believe that, give me a good tangible dose of medicine, something which I can see, weigh, and detect, and then I may be disposed to believe that it may be productive of good, when given Homœopathically, that is, if I rightly understand it, whose Pathogenetic—is that the word?" yes—"well, whose Pathogenetic symptoms correspond to those manifested in the disease. Am I right in my idea of Homœopathy?"

You are perfectly right and I am glad to see you so apt a scholar. Listen! you laugh at, and pooh! pooh! infinitesimal doses, but you seem to forget their curative effects, as manifested, you have just confessed yourself, in the recent Epidemic in your town, and in the Scarlet Fever.

"Truly! I indeed did not think of that."

My Dear James, cried I, I am not surprised at your incredulity in small doses. You have been taught and are in the habit of giving large doses of medicine to your patients, and therefore you conclude that small doses can do no good.—But by-the-bye here is London. How quickly we seem to have got along!

"Very.—Hugh, you have interested me exceedingly in Homœopathy. I wish we had another hundred miles to travel!"

Shall you be engaged this evening?

"No."

Well, then, suppose we continue our *tete a tete* at my Hotel this evening.

"Agreed, Six o'clock—do?"

Yes, good-bye for the present.

* * * * *

"Well, Hugh, ever since we parted this morning I have been thinking of scarcely any other thing, than Homœopathy, and although, I think, I know more about its law of cure "*Similia Similibus Curantur*" than I did before I conversed with you this morning, I confess it appears to me very strange, and I think I can show you its untenableness and absurdity. Suppose, that I were bitten by a mad-dog, according to Homœopathy, I ought to be cured by being bitten by another mad-dog! Now! dont you see the absurdity?"

I do perceive an absurdity in you supposing any such a thing, as what you speak of would be Isopathy, i. e. *same* disease, not Homœopathy, a "*similar* disease." Learn my good Sir, to distinguish between *sameness* and *similarity*, and this idea of yours about the absurdity of Homœopathy will vanish.

I am *similar* to you in many respects: yet we are not *identical*. Do you comprehend me?

"Yes, I do."

Well, then to cure you of the effects of the bite of a mad-dog, a Homœopathist would prescribe a medicine, capable of producing symptoms in the healthy man *similar*—not *identical*—to those produced by the bite of the dog.

"And are there medicines capable of producing such?"

Yes, many, the *provings* of which may be seen in the *Materia Medica Pura*, and *Chronic Diseases*.

"I see, I have misunderstood the law of "*Similia Similibus Curantur*," and am very glad, I have been set right."

Now, James, so long as you have referred again to the law of Homœopathy and "have been set right," regarding it, allow me to ask you, before we proceed to the subject of *small doses*, upon what law, do you administer medicine in disease?

"Eh!"

I ask, upon what law do you administer medicine in disease?

"Upon what law do I administer medicine in disease. Why, to be sure upon the———stay! let me see—

why ——— ‘law’ ——— I don’t exactly understand your question!”

It is certainly plain enough, said I, when you prescribe for a patient, what *law* or *principle* guides you in the selection of your remedies? Do you understand me now?

“I know what you mean, but ——— positively, I don’t seem to have ever thought of this—to himself, I’m posed that’s a fact.”

Well! well! never mind, don’t bother yourself about it. Perhaps what I have said will make you reflect upon the subject when you next prescribe for your patients.

“Hold! I have it, I prescribe from experience.”

“Experience!” good Sir, is no *law*, one man’s experience may differ from another, and hence there is no *certainty*. When every man acts upon his “experience,” a state of anarchy is created, yet, in admitting you prescribe from “experience,” you have said all that can be said for Allopathic prescriptions as being totally destitute of a *law* to guide them, every one prescribes what he fancies best, *

Prove this if you choose, by the following simple test. Call in any dozen Allopathic Doctors to prescribe for any given disease. Let them see the patient *separately* and *prescribe separately* also, and my name is not Hugh, if you find *two* of their prescriptions agree! No, each one will scribble down what he has considered beneficial in a similar case—this you see is his *experience*—forgetting altogether to take into consideration, the many points of difference there may be between this and similar cases. Is this, James,

* The following *fact* will illustrate the unscientific nature of prescribing from “*experience*!” It happened that three young persons, of nearly the same age, ill of Typhus Fever, were admitted into the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, the disease was of equal severity in each, and the stage of complaint the same in all. What was the treatment think you, pursued in these cases by the Fellows of the College? who were the Physicians to the Infirmary.

He in the top ward *bled his patient with Lancet and with Leeches*—He in the middle ward, *physicked his patient with Drastic purgatives*—He in the lower ward, gave *whiskey, wine and spirits*. I refer you to the *Statistic Book*, says DR. MACLEOD, who reports this fact for the result.

From this significant hint we may infer they all died. So much then for prescribing from “*experience*.”

Science? Nay, is it not bungling routine?

"I confess it seems like 'bungling routine.' But do you mean to say that any twelve Doctors would agree in their prescriptions, under similar circumstances?"

I do, try twelve Homœopathists, and you'll find a remarkable unity in their prescriptions, "as they have a law to guide them,"

The thing has been tested as follows:—

DR. HERING, whilst travelling in Germany, saw an old Gentleman who had been a long time ill, and had been under a great number of Doctors, every one of whom treated his case differently. He, at last, determined to take no more medicine, until he should find *three* Doctors who would agree upon his case, and for this purpose he was travelling, and consulting Doctors wherever he went. When Dr. H. saw him, he had consulted 477 Physicians, from whom he had received 832 recipes, which contained 1,097 different medicines!

He requested DR. HERING, to prescribe for him, but he declined it, and asked him if DR. HAHNEMANN was among the number of those whom he had consulted?

He then opened a ponderous volume, wherein he registered the name of every Doctor whom he consulted, the medicine ordered by him &c., and turned to No. 301, name of disease O. remedy prescribed O. and said "yes, I have, and he is the wisest man, in my opinion, of the lot," for he said, 'that the name of the remedy did not concern me; the cure was the essential point.' Dr. H. then, inquired if he took the medicine prescribed by DR. HAHNEMANN, "no," said he, "because he is but *one*, and I must have *three* who agree in their remedies before I take any medicine."

DR. HERING, said, that if he were willing to sacrifice some hundred francs, in the experiment, he might easily find not only *three*, but *thirty-three* Physicians who would agree, in both the nature of his case and the remedy. He consented, and by Dr. H's. instructions he wrote out a full and particular account of his case and transmitted a copy to *thirty-three* Homœopathic Physicians.

Shortly after he wrote to Dr. H. saying, "I send you wine of the year 1822, because *twenty-two* of the

Physicians to whom I wrote, agree in their prescribed remedy. I thereby perceive, there is such a thing as certainty, even in medicine." He took the remedy prescribed by them and was cured.

"This seems," says James, "marvellously strange!"

Not at all, as the Homœopathists had the law of "*Similia Similibus Curantur*" to guide them to the selection of their remedy, whereas the Allopaths had nothing but "experience" to direct them, and hence their disagreement in their prescriptions. *

"I must confess, this does seem something like reducing medicine to a Science," said James.

Yes, said I, had SIR A. COOPER, known this law, he never would have uttered such a condemnation of Allopathy, as the following:—"Medicine," says he, "was founded on *conjecture* and improved by Murder;" nor would DR. GREGORY have exclaimed, "that Medical Doctrines (Allopathic) were little better than stark staring absurdities," nor would DR. FORBES, editor of the *British, Foreign and Medical Review*, have said, "that the history of medicine, is but a history of perpetual changes in the opinions and practises of its professors; respecting the same subjects the nature and treatment of disease."

Nor is this all, as for want of this law, there are not two Authors on the practice of medicine who agree in either their ideas of *disease* or the *treatment* to be pursued. Take up any two authors, and read their remarks

* The following ludicrous *fact*, was communicated to me to-day, by a Lady patient. "A patient, in this town a day or two ago, was visited by two Surgeons, separately, the one recommended change of air, the other said the patient was on no account to go out. When their respective recipes, were sent to the druggists to be compounded, the Husband of the Lady, who informed me of this circumstance was in the Druggist's Shop, and the Druggist said to him, 'look here! here are two prescriptions, written by two Doctors for the *same patient*, and on the *same day*, but they are so completely opposite in their natures that I really don't know what to do, as it will never do for the patient to take both'" He however sent both medicines and thus allowed the patient to use his own discretion. When the patient received them he was fairly puzzled, but having a preference for one of his Doctors, he took his medicine and shelved the other.

I ought to state that these Surgeons were sent by two Gentlemen who were interested in this patient's case, and that neither of them knew that the other had visited the patient.

on the same disease, and their directions for treating it, and if you find them agree, I'll become an Allopath to-morrow! No! you cannot, nor will they even agree in the dose of medicine to be given, as the different Pharmacopœia don't even prescribe the same doses. Where, then, James, is either the Science of medicine or the certainty of prescribing!

"But, though this may be all true, we nevertheless can prescribe medicine scientifically, because we know the Pathological state of the disease."

"Pathology," James, or the state of the system, produced by disease, will never teach you to prescribe medicine "scientifically," as Pathology only shows the ravishes made by disease and drugs upon the system, and this knowledge can only be obtained *after death*, mind that, by *post-mortem* examinations, so that you see instead of prescribing for the *cause* of the disease you are prescribing for the *result*.

"If a patient dies," says M. REVEILLE-PARISE, "we open his body, rummage among the viscera, and scrutinize most narrowly all the organs and tissues, in the hopes of discovering lesions of some one sort or another; there is not a small Vessel, Membrane, Cavity or Follicle, which is not attentively examined, the colour; the weight, the thickness, the volume, the alterations—nothing escapes the eye of the studious anatomist * * * One thing only escapes his attention, that is, he is looking at merely organic effects, forgetting all the while, that he must mount higher up to discover their causes. These organic alterations are observed, perhaps, in the body of a person who has suffered deeply from mental distress and anxiety, these have been the energetic cause of his decay, but they cannot be discovered in the Laboratory or Amphitheatre.
* * * * *

Many a disease in the *Contre-coup*, so to speak of a strong moral emotion, the mischief may not be apparent at the time, but its germ will be nevertheless inevitably laid." *

The *Lancet* in a lugubrious article on the same

* "On moral Therapeutics."

subject, lamenting how little Pathology, Chemistry, &c. have advanced practical medicine, says, "that facts of far more importance will be arrived at by *empirical* observations than by any teaching alone of a purely rational Physiologic Pathology,"* and goes on to say that the practice of medicine has advanced very little indeed, of late years, notwithstanding all the efforts of the Anatomist's knife and microscope.

I might easily quote numerous other testimonies to show that Pathology, however, requisite for a medical man, will never make him practice scientifically.

"But, Hugh, Pathology teaches us that we may infer from certain symptoms, that a certain disease exists and therefore we prescribe for it.

"Prescribe for it!" It what? the disease? "Yes,"

Pray, James, will you please define to me what you mean by disease?

"I mean a morbid or abnormal state of the body."

That as I have just shown you is the result of the disease. Disease, James, is not an entity. It has, in the generality of cases, no more real and tangible existence, than thunder in the Physical atmosphere, and when you prescribe for the *name* of a disease, you are just acting with as great folly, as if you attempted to build up a fabric which the thunder had knocked into ruins; thereby thinking that this would prevent the lightning demolishing it again, and thus obviate the accumulation and discharge of any more "We, too says often," DR. COMBE, "attack the disease, as if we had to deal with an entity, and not with a state of a *living being*, who is suffering under it."

"This certainly is new light to me, on this subject, and I now see clearly that prescribing for *names* of disease, is pursuing a phantom, and that we ought to study, as you have told me," "the symptoms, those *outward* and *inward* sentinels which proclaim the approach of the enemy," i. e. the disease.

You are right, the symptoms, that is the pains and aches, &c. constitute disease, and if you remove them, you also remove the disease,

"But notwithstanding, that Allopathists do either prescribe from experience or from their knowledge of Pathology, they nevertheless cure disease," said James.

To believe this, would be conceding more to Allopaths than some of their most celebrated men consider their due. No one denies, but that patients recover under Allopaths, as well as Homœopaths; but the great distinction is, that under the former, nature cures the patient, or—but let Dr. FORBES, a great, and noble minded Allopath, speak on this subject.

He says, "that in a large proportion of the cases treated by Allopathic Physicians, the disease is cured *by nature and not by them.*"

"That in a lesser, but still not a small proportion, the disease is cured by nature, *in spite of them*, in other words, their interference opposing, instead of assisting the cure,"

Now attend to the learned Doctor's deductions, "consequently" says he, "in a considerable proportion of diseases, it would fare as well or better with patients, *in the actual condition of the medical art*"—you see the Dr. does not call it a Science—"if all remedies, at least all active remedies, *especially drugs*, were abandoned!

You will perceive, said I, that the Dr. attributes all cures under Allopathic treatment to nature rectifying herself; but not to drugs. Now as all disease is merely an abnormal action of nature, and as health consists entirely in the due and normal action of nature—Homœopaths, give medicines neither to assist nor to interfere with her normal actions, but to correct her *perverted actions*, which alone causes the disease, and having thus rectified this, nature assumes her due equilibrium and consequently health is the result.

"Well, Hugh, that certainly seems very rational."

I am glad you think so, so we will now leave this topic and go to the subject of disease and infinitesimal doses.

I observed this morning, that your incredulity in small doses originated in your being in the habit of prescribing drugs in crude and large doses and therefore you could not believe that infinitesimal doses could avail anything in the treatment of either acute or chronic diseases.

But my good Sir, you ought not to reject a proposition, on no other grounds than that of preconceived ideas or mere conjecture. For instance, because our Forefathers had no other ideas of transmitting messages than by the tardy method of Special Courier, we have no right to reject the Wheatstonian-proposition, that messages may now be conveyed by the infinitesimal and imponderable agency of the Electric Telegraph.

Or that, because former Physicians were accustomed to give cinchona in table-spoonful doses, the same ends cannot now be obtained by one grain of its active principle, Quinine. Before we reject any proposition we ought to submit it to the test of investigation, so as to wring from it a reply, and this is what Homœopathsists are continually requesting Allopathsists to do with their, to them, apparent—absurd and foolish doses. “Try it,” says HAHNEMANN, “but try it honestly.” Few who have thus tried it, have been disappointed in its results.

“But surely,” said James, “it is preposterous to think of subduing a case of Inflammation, by administering infinitesimal doses of medicine only, without having recourse to Bleeding, Calomel Purging, &c.?”

I reply, the thing has been done thousands of times and whilst we talk is very probably a’doing *now*. Here, James, your preconceived ideas of disease, and practice of medicine prejudice your mind, also.

You have been accustomed to consider the origin of disease as something *material*, and hence you have recourse to material agents to cure it, whereas all diseases—save those caused by accidents—are of an *immaterial* origin, and commence in the imponderable or vital parts of the system, for recollect, as I have said before, disease is merely an abnormal action of the vital powers.

Take for instance, the case of Inflammation to which you have referred. You judge there is Inflammation because, you find the pulse quick, the tongue dry, the skin hot, severe pains in the part most affected, thirst, &c. &c. But remember, not one of these symptoms may have been produced by a *material* agent, as a cold blast of air may have blown upon the heated body, and produced an impression on the vital forces of the system,

* See Appendix, Cases of Inflammation of the Eyes, Lungs, &c.

throwing them out of balance, and thus giving origin to all these symptoms called collectively Inflammation.

To remove these symptoms, Allopaths draw away pints of blood—why they cannot tell—give purgative medicines to expel, as they suppose, some morbid material agent; medicines to produce perspiration with a similar intention; forgetting entirely that they are levelling all their artillery at the *dead-men*, instead of the living army; in other words attacking *results*, instead of *causes*.

Now, why do you bleed in such cases?

“To draw off some of the inflamed blood.”

But, what causes the inflamed blood? Inflamed blood, as I have just shown, is not a *disease*, it is only a result.

“Yes, but when the system is relieved of a part of it, the Inflammation is less.”

But this does not remove the cause, nor does it render the remainder of the blood any the less inflamed. Besides after this, the Inflammation may return as violent as ever, as you have not yet removed the *cause*,^{*} What therefore are you to do?

“Why, of course, repeat the bleeding, until fainting ensues.”

So says Allopaths. But why draw away blood at all? Three hours before this Inflammation came on, the patient had not perhaps, one drop too much blood in him, nor had he, when the Inflammation was at its height one drop more or less. The blood was only thrown into a state of fever, by an infinitesimal dose of some morbid immaterial agent acting upon the vital forces, the removal of which would have quelled the perturbation in the blood. But to accomplish this,

* Mr. SKEY, in his Lectures “On the Prevalent Treatment of Disease,” delivered in the Theatre, of the Royal College of Surgeons, in July, 1853, says “You may abstract nine tenths of the blood circulating within the body, and the *cause* remains behind, and now operating on debilitated powers, whatever other cause the disease may be referred to, it cannot and ought not to be referred to the excess of quantity of blood itself, because it is notorious that Inflammation is of more frequent occurrence after hæmorrhage, or in constitutions debilitated by impure air food or nourishment.”

Allopaths, bleed ! bleed and bleed ! and physic ! physic ! physic ! until they have the blood in the body so reduced and consequently the vital powers brought to so low an ebb, that fainting comes on, and thus either checks the progress of the disease, or kills the patient, as it is just a toss up game, whether he rallies or sinks.

After these bleedings, when the patient does recover, you know how long a time, he goes about as pale as death and as weak as a kitten ; before his system can restore the same quantity of blood, of which it has been deprived, and indeed in the generality of cases, he is a poor decrepid, shattered mortal, as long as he lives.

If he dies, people say, "well! *Art* has done its all," but *Science*, certainly has had no hand in it, either one way or other.

"Well, it may be so," said James, "but what is to be done? Surely in all seriousness, you don't mean to say, that a Homœopathist could cure such a case without extracting blood, purging, &c.?"

James ! when I say I do, I never was more serious in all my life, I know what I am talking about—the life and death of a fellow mortal is too serious a subject for joke, and when I consider the manner in which Allopathists, *butcher* (excuse the word ; it is not one whit too severe) their patients through their stupid ignorance and prejudice, my indignation is so great, that I actually feel my blood in a state of Inflammation, at this very moment, and were I now to call in one of these *Lancet*-Doctors in all probability, after feeling my pulse, he would propose venesection,—whereas five minutes quiet *thought*—and a *thought* is neither a *Lancet*, nor Calomel,—will quell my Fever.

"But suppose a Homœopathist were called to a case of Apoplexy, would he not bleed the patient?"

That would depend entirely upon circumstances ; probably he might, but ten to one he would not, as he might prefer using Dr. JUNOD's "Hœmospasic boot," to drawing away blood.

"What, is that ? What a queer word !"

It is a large tin boot, in which the leg is placed and then the upper part of the boot is made air tight, by fastening it to the thigh ; an exhausting pump is then

fitted into the boot and the whole of the air in its interior extracted, the consequence is, a vacuum is produced, and as nature abhors a vacuum, the blood from the head, chest, bowels, &c. flows down into the leg and thus relieves the upper part of the body. The blood is kept there for a short time; and then by admitting air into the boot, it gradually gets again into the general system;—thus, you see, relieving the *head* without losing one drop of blood.

“What a capital invention! I never heard of this before. Have you ever used it?”

I have in a case of Apoplexy. *

“Would a Homœopathist refuse to give purgative medicine in such a case?”

Decidedly:—he might give a dose of castor oil, but if the public knew the real Physiology of digestion, and Homœopathists understood fully the practical application of the law of “*Similia Similibus Curantur*,” even castor oil, would not be requisite. †

The public sadly want enlightening on the Physiology of digestion, as the present recognized theory is totally false, which I will now endeavour to prove.

The prevalent idea on this subject is, that the food, after being converted into chyme in the stomach, passes into the first portion of the intestines called the duodenum, where it is separated into chyle and excrementitious matter, by the action of the biliary juices &c. The chyle, they say, is only taken up by the lacteals and converted into blood, whilst the other portion of the chyme i. e. the excrementitious passes on along the intestinal tube and is ejected.

Now however plausible this theory may appear, and however long it may have been believed in and acted upon, it is nevertheless totally false; because the chyme is not separated into the two above divisions in the duodenum, but is entirely taken up by the lacteals and conveyed into the blood, and the *fæces* or draughts are real and *bona-fide* secretions from the blood, the

* See Appendix, “Case of Apoplexy,” and also “Case of Concussion of the Brain.”

† For more on subject, see page 51 and 52.

same as urine, saliva, sweat, tears, bile, &c. This is our proposition and now for the proof.

Now were the fæces the excrementitious part of the food, how could the regular stools of patients in Fever, for instance be accounted for, as it frequently happens that they take no solid food for weeks but live as it were upon suction, yet they have their regular evacuations of perhaps well formed fæces? Again there are cases, in which no nutriment can be taken by the stomach, on account of nausea and sickness, and the patient under these circumstances is wholly supported for some time by injections of gruel, beef-tea, &c., and yet he has regular evacuations!

If then the fæces be the undigestible part of the food separated in the the duodenum, how does it come to pass that in the above cases, where no solid food is taken and wherein it probably never reaches that gut, as in the case of *lavements*, regular fæces are formed!

This cannot be explained according to the popular and general theory of digestion, but it can be very easily explained according to the natural economy of the system.

When liquids are taken such as beef-tea, &c. or when they are injected *per rectum*, the whole is taken up by the lacteal vessels, which open in myriads, on the inner surface of the intestines for that purpose, and is hence conveyed into the blood, from which urine, sweat, fæces, &c. are secreted and deposited in their respective receptacles i. e. the bladder, glands and bowels, there to remain until their *bulk* causes an irritation in these parts which produces contraction and hence their expulsion.

"But I recollect that when I read the *History of Josephus*," said James, "to have seen it recorded that, at the siege of Jerusalem, numbers of the Jews swallowed gold and after they had escaped their enemies they went to stool and found it among the fæces, now therefore, if all that we take into the stomach be absorbed into the blood, how is it that this gold was not dissolved by the gastric and biliary juices and carried into the blood?" I reply, that the juices are not fit for this purpose, and consequently the gold was passed along the alimentary canal, by the peristaltic motion of

the bowels *among* the *fæces*—mind that, *among* the *fæces*, but forming no part of them, just as currants and cherry-stones, &c. are passed every day by children *among* their *fæces*, but do not constitute a part of them.

Again if the *fæces* were the undigestible portion of the food, where does all this undigestible part of the food go, in those cases of Constipation, wherein the person has not a motion in the bowels more than once in a week or month, and yet continues to eat as hearty as possible? It is admitted that a man in ordinary health, ought to have a daily evacuation of about five ounces; consequently a person who has only one stool in a month, ought to have, according to this erroneous idea which we are now combating, a load of nearly nine pounds of *fæces* in his bowels at the end of the month! Well! however uncomfortable such a load might be; the bowels could bear with it for once, but the accumulation goes on every day, so that at the end of the second month, there would be about eighteen pounds of *fæces* in the bowels; at the end of the third, twenty-nine pounds, and so on until at the end of the twelfth-month, there would be upwards of one hundred pounds or rather better then seven stones weight of *fæces* in the bowels!—for be it observed an evacuation of five or six ounces once every five, six or fourteen days, tends but little to diminish the daily accumulation going on in the bowels, according to the present theory.

This of itself is sufficient to convince the greatest admirer of the present recognized theory of digestion of its erroneous nature and show him that it is untenable.

The fact of the matter is, that in such cases as these, there is never perhaps more than a pound or two of *fæces* lodged in the bowels at any one period, and indeed perhaps never more than the ordinary quantity, as there is a perverted action of *secretion* going on in the system, so that the usual amount of *fæces* is not secreted from the blood, and the consequence generally is, that additional secretions from the kidneys, skin, &c., are established to compensate for the deficient secretion of *fæces* from the *blood*, (but *mark, particularly* not to compensate for a *deficiency* of undigested food,)

as it is well known that persons of a constipated habit, have generally some of their other secretions augmented in order to carry off from the blood those constituents which ought to have formed fæces, had not abnormal action in the secreting vessels prevented it. The organs which are called upon to perform double duty in these cases are generally the kidneys and skin, it being a well known fact that in such cases there is an immense amount of urine passed, and the person is frequently perspiring copiously, so that the system is thus relieved of those parts of the food which would have been formed into fæces, if the bowels had acted naturally. But if these secretions do not take place, a most lamentable train of symptoms &c. occur, such as Head-aches, Dyspepsia, &c. with all their attendant horrors of peevishness, irritability, restless nights, cold feet, morbid appetite, &c. because the blood contains noxious principles, which were proper secretion going on, would be deposited in the form of fæces, urine, &c.

"This is certainly a new theory of digestion to me," said James, "but it nevertheless appears, a very rational one, and one that removes many of the puzzles which often perplexed me respecting the other theory, I mean those very circumstances which you have referred to, as showing the absurdity of the prevalent ideas on digestion."

"Have Homœopathists medicines capable of rectifying this abnormal action of the secretions, and thus making the blood deposit as fæces &c., those noxious principles which it contains?"

Yes, Homœopathists possess many remedies which counteract this perverted action of the secretions in a prompt and efficacious manner, and having accomplished this, nature herself causes the expulsions of whatever fæces there may be in the bowels. Of course you are aware that the grand source of Indigestion, Constipation &c., is an unnatural secretion of *bile*; sometimes there is too much secreted, and at other times there is too little; in either case there is derangement of the bowels and consequently of the whole system more or less. Now the object of Homœopathists, in such cases, is to correct this perverted action and make the *bile* take its

natural course, and having done this, the *bile*,—which is the Blue-Pill and Black-Draught, (speaking Allopathically) given to each creature by nature, for the stimulation of his or her bowels, performs the office of an evacuent, as ordained by God. You perceive, this is very different from your practice in such cases.

“Very indeed, we give purgatives to accomplish this?”

But my good Sir, by giving purgatives do you accomplish this?

“Decidedly, as by administering these medicines we stimulate the biliary ducts and peristaltic action of the bowels, and thus cause them to act.”

But, pray James, how does this correct the primary mischief? You know there may be too great a secretion of bile and there may be too little, and under either of these cases, would you administer purgatives? and if so, for what purpose?

“I cannot answer these questions, all I know is, that I have practised thus ever since I began practice, and I generally found it to succeed.”

Yes, as DR. FORBES says, “nature cured the patient but not you,” as your remedies in many of these cases were just keeping up, that state of *undue* secretion of bile, which nature was endeavouring to rid herself of, and besides this, you were lashing the poor stomach and bowels to make them disgorge what they really did not possess, that is, undigested fæces, and thereby making them expel what they ought to have *retained*, that is, the *nutriment*, which the patient may have just taken, thus reducing the patient to a state of complete debility, by forcing out of his system, that *food* and *serum* which ought to have made blood. You now see, I hope the injurious nature of purgatives, in exciting an unnatural drain from the system, which carries away those fluids which ought to have formed blood.

“I see perfectly your ideas, but I cannot comprehend how you could cure, some cases of diarrhæa and Constipation without purgative medicines?”

Perhaps not, but did you understand the effects of medicines on the healthy man, you would have no difficulty to comprehend this, as you would know that

a very small dose or two ; perhaps the decillionth of a grain of Dulcamara, Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, &c., or whatever medicine was Homœopathic to the disease, would be omnipotent to check the diarrhœa,* without reducing the strength of your patient by purgative medicine, or throwing him into a *feverish* state, by checking it, by Chalk mixture, Kino, Catechu and Laudanum. And did you fully understand the real nature of the digestive process and the action of Homœopathic medicine upon the system, you would also be able to comprehend how the trillionth or even the decillionth of a grain of *potentised* Homœopathic medicine, would effect more real benefit in cases of *Constipation* than all the Blue-Pills, Calomel and Salts and Senna in Christendom ; for in the majority of cases of Constipation, there is never a very large accumulation of *fæces* in the bowels to be expelled, the fault is, as I said before deficient secretion. Now correct this, and you at once remove, by one stroke, the irritation and perverted action in the system, so that natural secretion of bile, &c., takes place and consequently the secretions are passed off by nature herself, without either whip or spur,—in other words, purgative medicine. †

“Well! there seems to be a great deal of sound sense in what you say, but upon my honour, I cannot understand how either the millionth, much less the decillionth of a grain of medicine can do this, or how it can cure a case of Inflammation. This fairly puzzles me, Hugh.”

But surely James, you never mean to say that because you don't understand such a thing, you don't believe it? If this be your idea, I fear you believe very little, as I am satisfied that you don't understand one in a thousand of the phenomena, which are occurring in your own mind and body, and which surround you on every side. Tell me! O tell me! dear boy, if you can, what are *thoughts*? Whence come they? Whither go they? What are they? and pray tell! O do, incredulous James! how my indignation, two or three minutes ago, made my blood to boil in my veins, crimson my cheek,

* See cases of Diarrhœa, &c. in Appendix.

† See cases of Constipation, in Appendix.

parch my tongue, when I *thought* of Allopathic practises and how a few minutes of calm *thought* subdued all my feverish state, and produced a calm.

"I cannot tell you."

Neither tell I thee, by what power Homœopathic medicines subdue Inflammation; sufficient for me to know that when it is given according to the law of "*Similia Similibus Curantur*," it quells in a few hours, the majority of all Inflammations.

"But Hugh, you have amazingly interested me in all you have said of Homœopathy, and if you can really explain to me how infinitesimal doses cure disease, I shall feel much obliged.

I tell you, James, we are not bound to reject a *truth*, because we can neither understand nor explain it, and as the curative action of infinitesimal doses in disease, is an established *fact*, which the united testimony of hundreds; aye thousands of Physicians and patients are daily and hourly attesting, we must receive it, whether we can explain it or not; just as we are forced to admit that there are, such things, as Heat, Light, Electricity, Mesmerism, &c. &c. although we know little of their nature, and can only judge that there are such immaterial, infinitesimal agents, by their actions and results, as momentarily exemplified in the physical world.

Tell me, what is Electricity, Galvanism, Gravitation! What is it that makes a few Mesmeric passes, send people into a deep sleep! How does an insolent word, crimson the cheek and fill the bosom with indignation? Unless you can explain the action of these things, I must, according to your ideas, refuse to believe them, aye even deny the lightning's flash, the spark from the Galvanic battery, the rotation of the earth and planets, the patient asleep under Mesmeric influence, &c. because you can't tell me how these operations are produced. Further, I must even refuse to believe that there is a Contagion of Fever, of Small Pox, of Cholera of Malaria, &c., and even deny all credence in the grand doctrine of sympathy, and protest, in the face of the fact itself—that my heart don't palpitate, because you can't tell me what the agents are that preform, sustain and govern all these things. But notwithstanding this,

I believe that the *modus operandi* of infinitesimal doses, is perfectly explicable.

You recollect, I have just proved to you, that disease originates in the *immaterial* or vital part of the system, and that the symptoms which manifest disease, are merely the *results* of disturbed vital action.

Now Homœopathists, instead of attacking the *results* of disease, as Allopaths do, direct their attention to the primary cause, and administer remedies to rectify this disturbed vital force; knowing well that when the *cause* is removed the *effect* will cease; and to enable them to do this, in a *gentle* and *easy manner*, their medicines are robbed of all their *materiality*, and only their *immaterial* or dynamic properties retained, and are thus administered, so as just to act upon the real *immaterial* disease, immediately without having to undergo the process of digestion &c., which crude Allopathic doses have to do before they can reach the source of the complaint. *

* Whilst this sheet was passing through the press, I had occasion to go a long journey to see a patient, and having an hour to spend in London, (in which I could not get on by train,) I called upon a medical friend, (an Allopath) and our conversation naturally turned upon Homœopathy. He greatly ridiculed the idea of a "spiritual" influence in the Homœopathic tincture and globule and said that it was all a "chimera." I replied, pray Mr. B——, if you treat me to a glass of whiskey, what do you give me? "I give you a spirit" said he, very ingenuously. Just so, said I, you certainly don't give me the *barley*, i. e. the *material* from whence the spirit was distilled (that is thrown to the pigs) you give me the "*spirit*" of the barley. "Certainly" said he. Now pray, said I, what is this spirit? can you weigh it? can you tell me how much is in the water? for recollect *whiskey* is only *water* impregnated with spirit, "Nonsense," said he. It's no "nonsense" said I, there is a "spirit," in the water, although you can't tell how much, &c. as the effects of it, on the system, prove this. Now it is just so with the Homœopathic medicine, as there is a "spiritual," or curative agent in it, although you can't detect it, and must come to the conclusion that it does reside in it, by feeling its effects upon the system, just as with whiskey.

My friend, before my leaving, put into my hand a pamphlet, entitled *Homœopathy Unveiled*, I brought it with me and read it on my journey home, and must say that its perusal afforded me infinite amusement, as never, in all my life, did I read such a piece of flimsy composition, garbled quotations, ignorance of the Homœopathic Doctrines and *Petito Principii* to prop up, his unphilosophic attack on Homœopathy. Did I think it worth my while, I could tear the flimsy thing to atoms. To those who know nothing of Homœopathy, the little pamphlet, no doubt is considered a clever thing. But there are two sides to every question and did my friend only study the other side, I am convinced,

"Pray, by what processes do Homœopathists prepare their medicines to act thus ?

By *triturations* and *succussions*, which rob them of all their materiality and develope their medicinal powers.

"But how are *triturations* &c. performed !"

When HAHNEMANN ;—having become satisfied of the truth of his discovery, first attempted to apply it in practice, he administered such medicines as he thought proper to prescribe, in doses of the usual amount. This was obviously the course natural for him to take, but a little experience soon convinced him that the effects thus produced were too strong ; that there was a much greater susceptibility of the system to medicines administered in accordance with the symptoms than in opposition to them, or in disregard of them, and that it would consequently be necessary to lower the dose to an amount which, while it would eventually be followed by a perceptible improvement in the condition of the patient,—would produce in its first action no distressing or dangerous results. This step answered his expectations ; and proceeding gradually in his reductions as he found them warranted by experience, he was induced to resort to a mode of attenuating medicinal substances, which finally led him to results of the most surprising kind.

This process of attenuation, which has since been universally adopted in Homœopathic practice, consists as follows. With all mineral substances the process commences with trituration, by which they are reduced to a fine powder. One grain of this powder is put into a small porcelain mortar, with thirty-three grains of sugar of milk ; and after being mixed with a bone spatula, the mixture is pounded for a few minutes (six is the number used by HAHNEMANN and, for the sake of uniformity, that number is generally adopted ;) after which it is detached from the bottom and sides of

from knowing his mental calibre Homœopathy would soon "unveil," itself to his mind, as a rational and philosophic system of medicine, and "Homœopathy Unveiled" and its Author too, assume the "veil," which he ignorantly and presumptuously endeavours to tear off it. Homœopathy has no "veil," it only requires the impartial, unprejudiced eye to be applied to the telescope of truth to see it in its naked purity—I, for many years, wore the Allopathic "veil," but thank God, I, at last, tore it, and can now see clearly.

the mortar, and again pounded for six minutes more; thirty-three grains of the sugar of milk are then added, and the process is repeated as in the first instance; after which another quantity of thirty-three grains of sugar of milk is added, and the same course pursued; thus making the attenuation 1,100. In this manner the attenuation is carried to the one-millionth part of a grain; and when a greater attenuation is required, the powders are dissolved in a mixture of alcohol and water. Vegetable juices or extracts are reduced to the state of a concentrated alcoholic tincture, of which one drop is mixed with ninety-nine of alcohol, and then shaken; one drop of the dilution, thus effected, is next mixed with ninety-nine drops of alcohol, and again shaken; and the same process is repeated until the required degree of dilution is obtained. In general the dilution is carried to the decillionth part of a grain.

“Why is Sugar of Milk used?”

Because, it is not medicinal, as Homœopaths are particularly careful not to mix two medicinal substances, for fear of the one neutralizing the other.

“I see. Pray what quantity of the medicine does the third trituration contain?”

The one millionth of a grain.

“And how much does the ‘thirtieth’ contain?”

One decillionth.

“This certainly appears to be most extraordinary, as I cannot conceive it possible that the one decillionth of a grain of the original medicine can be obtained, after these thirty triturations.”

You are right. The thirtieth trituration does not contain even, one millionth of the original material medicine. But recollect, James, we can *annihilate* nothing. We can produce *changes* in substances and develop their latent powers, but we cannot *annihilate* them.

“Look nature through, 'tis revolution all,
Ali change! no death.”

THOMPSON.

For instance, glass is concrete matter, analyze it, and what does it resolve itself into? why *flint* and *alkali*. Where is now the glass? It was nothing but a state of existence of the flint and alkali, held together by an *immaterial* attraction. Extend the analysis further,

and we also find that both *flint* and *alkali*, when robbed of their binding principle become resolved into gaseous products. Where is now the *glass*, the *flint*, and the *alkali*? Are they destroyed? Nay, not one particle of them is lost, as the heat &c., applied to them in the process of analysing, has only dissolved the chemical affinities of the atoms, which respectively formed these substances, and their atomic particles being thus separated they have only just passed from one *state* of existence to another; each particle carrying with it, its especial attractive property, ready to unite with those of an equal property, and thus form substances

Now, in the process of trituration, the atomic molecules of which the medicine is composed, are separated to an *infinite* extent, and as each carries with it its attractive nature, it seizes upon atoms of a kindred nature, and thus thoroughly impregnates, even the "thirtieth trituration" with its influence;—in which, immaterial and infinitesimal property, be it observed, its whole medicinal efficacy resides.

You are aware that the delicate organization of the human system is such that, the diameter of air cells is only $\frac{1}{40}$ th, and that of the capillary vessels $\frac{1}{3,000}$ th, of an inch; and the secretory tubes of the kidneys are only about $\frac{1}{700}$ th, part of an inch in diameter, &c.

In a square inch of the skin there are 3,528 perspiratory glands. Now suppose we allow, that each of these coiled up little tubes, measures one quarter of an inch, we have then within a single square inch, a length of tube, equal to 882 inches or $73\frac{1}{2}$ feet or $24\frac{1}{2}$ yards. Nor is this all, the number of superficial square inches in a man of ordinary size, is about 10,500 and if we allow 2,800 pores at an average to each square inch, the number of pores on the surface of the body cannot be less than 30,000,000!

The corpuscles of blood in man, are only $3,300$ th of an inch in size. The membrane of the adipose vesicle does not exceed the $20,000$ th part of an inch in thickness, and each vesicle is a perfect little organ which does not exceed the 300 or 800 of a line in size!

Fibrous Tissue varies from the 5,000 to 10,000th part of an inch, in thickness. Cellular Tissue, the fibrous

elements of which are only about the 8000th part of an inch. Nerve tube, in man, varies from about the 1,625 to the 6,500 part of an inch in diameter. Muscular Fibre, in man, 400th part of an inch.

Now, as disease commences in the extreme molecule, Homœopathists reduce their remedies to a state of infinite division, as above stated so as at once to penetrate these minute parts; and besides, by thus potentising their remedies, they increase their curative powers amazingly, as be it observed, the most tremendous agents in nature are all lodged in the *extreme* atom.

The power that wheels this globe in its orbit at the rate of 68,000 miles per hour is an *invisible agent*. It is conjectured that it would take 4,000,000 particles of air to make a globule the size of the smallest grain of sand, and yet *Electricity* the most gigantic power in nature, which rends the Heavens with crashing thunder, and prostrates the proudest works of man, in an instant to the very dust, is 700,000 times finer than air, therefore in a quantity of Electricity the size of a *grain* of sand there are, according to this calculation, 2,300,000,000,000 particles, each possessed of a tremendous power. But notwithstanding this, persons such as Dr. ROUTH and yourself, who entertain such gross ideas about the efficacy of Homœopathic globules, will not grant that there is any power in them, just because you cannot see it, weigh it or measure it,—and Dr. R., in the depth of his stupidity sits down calmly, and begins to calculate how long it would take a person to consume a grain of sulphur, say of the twelfth dilution, prepared according to the Homœopathic formula, and because he finds that such a person would occupy many years in the experiment, he then concludes, there's an end to all efficacy in Homœopathic globules! Logic for ever! Now I might reply according to this logic; Dr.—as you seem so fond of figures, perhaps you will favor me with a statement of how long a person would be in separating into its component particles a grain of Electricity, placing one of its particles aside every hour, night and day! For fear the Dr. may not enter upon this, I will state that such a process would occupy a term of upwards of 300,000,000 years, in round num-

bers, therefore according to Dr. R's logic, there is no efficacy in Electricity! neither is there any such thing in existence! If the doctor's practice be no better than his logic, we fear he sometimes makes awkward blunders.

In truth it is but folly to waste ones time in reasoning with such men, as owing to the *gross* ideas which they entertain it is hard to convince them of the amazing subtilty of matter. Tell them, that SIR H. DAVEY, says "that the thickness of a soap bubble is only the 2,500,000, part of an inch, and that though thus attenuated it has all the properties of water as much as the Mediterranean;—tell them that an ounce of Gold, by wire-drawing, can be divided into 432,000,000,000, parts, and yet each part will still possess all the properties of gold;—tell them that a bit of copper wire weighing $\frac{1}{1,132}$ nd. *part of a grain*, arranged voltaically, with a platinum wire of about the same size, and a *drop* of Nitric Acid, will evolve a current of Galvanism, sufficient to cause the needle of the Galvanometer to whirl round the circle *three times*;—tell them, if a small tube, containing a solution of Cobalt, be heated at one end, a quantity of Electricity will pass through it, equal, in intensity to the charge of a Leyden Battery of 4,000, square inches, and yet be imperceptible to all but the Galvanometer;—tell them, that a cubic inch of air, if let loose 4,000 miles above the earth, will fill a space equal to Saturn's Orbit, which is about 1,780,000,000 miles;—tell them, that a spider's thread, measuring 4 miles long, weighs only one grain and is composed of 6,000 filaments:—that the chemical action of a grain of water upon 4 grains of zinc, will evolve Electricity, equal in quantity to, produce a thunder storm, and were this quantity of Electricity converted into a *spark*, it would extend 4,166 miles:—that when *one drop* of water, is resolved into its component parts of Oxygen and Hyrdogen, it, in this gaseous state, fills a space of 7,863 cubic inches, and that, as these two gases, are positive and negative Electricity, they thus contain Electricity sufficient to cause a most terrible thunder storm—that 4,000 gallon jars may be filled with Electricity and yet not weigh one decillionth of a grain more

than if they were completely empty !—and they'll only perhaps laugh at your folly and pity your credulity— notwithstanding these are facts, which the researches of a FARADAY, a DAVY, a DALTON, have established. If then these be facts, and *facts they are*, where then is the absurdity, in believing, that in a Homœopathic globule, there does reside a powerful curative agent, call it Electricity or what you may, produced by the friction or succussions used in preparing the medicine. Does not friction produce Electricity? Does not the friction of the winds on drops of water in the atmosphere, produce Electricity and consequently lightning and thunder? Does not friction, with a silk handkerchief on a rod of glass produce Electricity? Does not the friction of one piece of wood on another, produce fire? and what is fire, but Electricity! I might fill a volume with such instances, but if the above will not convince you of the power of imponderable agents, and the manner of their production, I must hand you over to the Infidelity of Materialism.

"I confess, this is, to me, a most satisfactory definition and solution of both the nature of disease and the action of infinitesimal doses, and I am beginning to think that the *material* notions which I have held of both disease and medicine are anything but philosophical. But receiving this doctrine, puzzles me to think how the large doses which I have given in disease, have done good, as I am certain they have in many cases. Can you explain this?"

Yes, very easily. In the process of digestion which large and crude doses of medicine must undergo before their medicinal influence can be exerted on the system, their atomic structure is dissolved, and if their medicinal property be Homœopathic to the disease, it either cures, relieves or aggravates it.

"Really, I had no idea, that there was such Philosophy in medicine. Must a medicine be Homœopathic to the disease before it can either 'cure, relieve or aggravate it'?"

Decidedly, as if it be not Homœopathic to the disease it has no effect upon it whatever, but may attack healthy parts of the system and thus do great injury.

"But, it appears, that even when it is Homœopathic it may do mischief and 'aggravate' as well as 'cure.'"

So it may, but this depends entirely upon the dose, as if it be too strong and repeated too frequently it will aggravate the symptoms; whereas if it be just sufficient to overcome the morbid action of the system, it will cure.

"Is it difficult to distinguish an *aggravation*, produced by the medicine, from that produced by the disease?"

It is, and none but one thoroughly skilled in the nature of the disease, and who knows well the action of medicine, can discriminate the one from the other.

"If this be the case, I fancy the *Domestic* practice of Homœopathy, must be a dangerous proceeding, as it must be impossible for non-medical persons to discriminate, between *morbid* and *medicinal* symptoms."

That is a vital remark. I believe, in my conscience, that the injury which these *Domestic Guides to the Practice of Homœopathy*, is committing upon the health of the public, is incalculable. The Homœopathic Public fancy that "if globules do no good, they can do no harm" (fearful mistake) and therefore whenever they get "out of sorts" they fly to their *Domestic Guides* &c. These books make the practice of Homœopathy appear a very simple plaything, and give directions, how to treat the most serious disease, in an easy off-hand style, something in the following:—"Dissolve two or four globules of the 12th, dilution (their authors seem to have a great fancy for this dilution) in six table-spoonfuls of water, and take one every three hours until *amelioration* or *change*." The medicine is taken and if there be an amelioration, all well and good; but if there be a "*change*" there's the puzzle. But, bless you, these learned books treat the thing readily, and tell their readers that if such and such symptoms appear, why just take so and so, every two or three hours, and thus they go on bungling and making "confusion worse confounded," until their poor dupes find themselves in that most uncomfortable position of neither being well, nor ill, suffering from a jumbled confusion of morbid and medicinal symptoms. I am satisfied from every day's experience, that thousands are quietly ruining

their healths by thus tampering with globules.

Now it is a point of the nicest discrimination to know, first, *the proper medicine*; secondly, *the dilution*; thirdly, *when to omit the dose*; fourthly, *when to repeat it*; fifthly, *when it is producing an aggravation*, and sixthly, *when it ought to be changed*; all of which, none but a person skilled in disease and its different phases; together with a most thorough knowledge of the *Materia Medica* can understand.

"You say, that you never mix medicines, but does this sort of practice, not amount to the same thing? It appears to me that the only difference is, that the Allopaths mix their medicines *before administering them*; whereas the Homœopaths order them to be mixed *in the body*."

You are right and you are wrong, however paradoxical this may sound. Right in your ideas that this practice is a kin to the Polypharmacy, or mixing of drugs of the old school; but entirely wrong in saying that Homœopaths "order their remedies to be mixed in the body," as no true Homœopathist does any such thing; none but dabblers and scribblers of *Domestic Guides*, recommend such injurious proceedings, and it strikes me that these Gentlemen will soon receive their *quietus*, as the whole body of real Philosophical Homœopathists, who practise and wish to see Homœopathy practised, as a Science, is rising in arms against them, as one of the most deadly plagues to the public health, and one of the greatest obstacles to the universal dissemination of Homœopathy.

"But, I really cannot think that the mixing of drugs is such a very bad thing, or attended with such results as you say, as it has been practised from time immemorial."

True if antiquity adds any sanction to such proceedings, then it has that to recommend it. But antiquity is a strange old Gentleman and has Fathered some queer things. But we need not waste time on this topic, as the argument of antiquity has no weight in the present question, nor in the present day.

But, how is it, that Polypharmacy happens to have antiquity to Father it? This question might be

answered in true Hibernian style by just asking another, e. g. how is it that uncivilized nations wear rough garments, eat bad food and travel at the rate of five miles an hour? Answer, because they don't know any better, and it is just because Physicians knew no better that Polypharmacy is so ancient, for had they known the law of "*Similia Similibus Curantur*," they never would have practised it, but being totally ignorant of this, and therefore of the real action of medicine upon the system, they mixed together a lot of different medicines hoping that if one missed, the other might hit;—forgetting altogether that when medicines were compounded, owing to their *elective affinities*, each ingredient assumed a new property, and thus formed a compound totally different to the nature of any one of its original component parts.

"Well, that is all true, but still such mixtures have cured."

No doubt, they have, but when they did, (by a lucky hit) there was either contained in the mixture, some medicine Homœopathic to the disease, or such a medicine was formed in the very act of composition. But you will perceive how exceedingly unscientific such a haphazard proceeding is, and I have no doubt, but that many such compounds, swallowed in good faith by the poor patient as being prescribed by his Doctor, who knew just about as much of its real nature, as he, have quietly and insidiously hastened his departure hence. Where five or six different medicines are compounded and shook together, I defy you,—aye, even FARADAY or LEIBIG to tell me their nature, and yet this is the every day practice of Allopaths, a game of "blind-man's buff," "hit or miss," "here it goes," and the stomach of the poor patient is made the Laboratory in which this compound is analyzed; and his already suffering frame, the subject upon which its effects are felt. How often, I ask you, have you heard the salutation, on your visit, to your patient, "O Doctor! that medicine you gave me, has tried me terribly," to which you can only reply "how?" as you had scarcely any idea of how it ought to act. You may have prescribed it with the intention of strengthening your patient, but lo! and behold, he tells

you "that it griped and purged him frequently." Candidly have such instances not occurred to you?

"Of course, they have, and to every other medical man,"

Under such circumstances, what did you do?

"Why, I either changed the medicine, or ordered some Port Wine or some other corrective."

Just so, thus truly meriting the censure of COWPER,

"A grave Physician gathering fees,
Punctually paid for lengthening out disease."

Now, did it never occur to you in doing this, that you were prescribing for a disease which your own medicine had created, and that you were perhaps only giving another medicine, which would affect some other part of the system in an injurious manner; thus leaving the real disease to proceed unchecked, and weakening the powers of nature, by establishing in the body other diseases?

"Why, I can't say that ever such ideas suggested themselves. When the disease took a change, I ordered what I considered a proper medicine for it."

Precisely so, thus really, allowing "nature," as Dr. FORBES, says, "to cure the disease in spite of you," or become so exhausted as to give up the ghost.

You no doubt know the opinions which many eminent Allopaths entertain of Polypharmacy?

"I can't say I do."

Well, I'll tell you, so you will see I am not the only Doctor that speaks against it.

PARACELSUS, says, "it is a desperate practice to compound such different ingredients in one prescription—it is only one particle of rubbish spoiled by another."

Dr. PARIS, says, "that the file of every Apothecary would furnish a volume of instances, where the ingredients of each prescription were fighting together in the dark."

"The union of several articles in one prescription," says Dr. COMBE, "by which we attempt by one stroke to remove several symptoms, tends still further to obscure the results and vitiate the conclusions which may be drawn; simplicity in prescribing is not sufficiently attended to"

I might quote numerous other testimonies to show the unscientific nature and dangerous consequences of compounding drugs, but the following fact will testify this more than a thousand opinions :—I have at present under my care an elderly Lady, who, for some considerable time, took, from a celebrated London Physician, the following horrid hodge-podge mixture.

* “Take of Lunar Caustic, 12 grains
Strychnia, $1\frac{1}{2}$ grains
Powderd Aloes, 12 grains
Extract of Aconite, 12 grains
Hydrocyanic or Prussic Acid, 6 miniums,

Mix and divide into 12 Pills, one of which is to be taken every *four hours*, with a Capaiva Capsule.”

Now let me make a few critical remarks upon the above compound, and first I would observe that if ever the adage “ignorance is bliss,” was true, it was so in this instance, as if the Lunar Caustic in this prescription had not been, to a great extent, neutralized by the other ingredients, it would either have *killed* the patient, or rendered her skin as blue as an indigo-bag.

A grain of Lunar Caustic “*to be taken every four hours*,” why, such a dose is almost enough to poison a horse ! But fortunately the chemical ignorance of the prescriber was just as great as his hardihood was presumptuous in ordering such a destructive dose, otherwise terrible consequences must have ensued to the patient.

In the first place, examine the chemical affinities of this prescription ; Hydrocyanic Acid is an *incompatible* with Lunar Caustic or Nitrate of Silver and, in fact, is a grand test for it ; and when so used, forms a Cyanide of Silver. † Again, Lunar Caustic is *incompatible* with

* For the information of the non-medical reader, I have translated this receipt into English.

† A Gentleman of acute discernment, to whom I read this, when in manuscript, said “that perhaps the intention of the Doctor was to form this Cyanide of Silver ? To which I replied, if so, why did he not at once order the Cyanide of Silver ? instead of going this awkward and uncertain way to procure it ; and besides how could he be certain that a Cyanide of Silver was produced ? Had there been no other ingredients in the prescription than the Lunar Caustic and Hydrocyanic Acid, then Cyanide of Silver would have been formed ; but when we find Aloes, Strychnia and Aconite blended and mixed together with them ; certainly, as to the results, gives, place to uncertainty.

Alkalines, but notwithstanding, here, it is ordered to be compounded with Strychnia, an Alkaline.

Hence, in all probability—for I don't presume to really know what different compounds may have been formed, owing to the *incompatible* nature of these ingredients and their elective affinities—a Cyanide of Silver, was formed instead of a Nitrate—and well for the Lady who was made the recipient of this deadly compound, that the awfully poisonous nature of the Pill, was somewhat changed in the very act of compounding. Had the writer of this receipt racked his brains to prescribe *four* of the most virulent poisons known, he could not have succeeded better, as here are jumbled together in one prescription, *Lunar Caustic, Strychnia, Aconite and Hydrocyanic Acid*, and, as if not even content with this, he ordered a Liniment (“for the spine and back,”) of Laudanum and Iodide of Potassa!! Happy! thrice happy! was it for this Lady that the combining atomic laws of nature, came to her rescue, and destroyed, to a certain extent, the effects of this horrible (I had almost said villainous) compound, as had this not been the case, the probability is that she would now have been, (if not in her grave) the subject of Epilepsy, Blue Skin, &c., from the effects of the Caustic and Strychnia. As it is, her case is bad enough,—and it is only one of those alas! too numerous of “drug medication”—as the whole abdominal viscera and mucous membrane, are in a complete state of disease and irritability, and the consequence is, she is now Dropsical!

Could the public be brought to see that one half of their diseases are thus produced by Doctors' compounds, we would soon see springing up over all the land “Drug Temperance Societies.”

Although in the above case the unscientific nature of the compound rendered it less innocuous; still in many other cases, the same ignorance of chemical laws, renders innocent ingredients, when thus compounded, positively poisonous. †

“I am glad,” said my Friend, “that you gave me this explanation as we public don't understand these things, and therefore we might have thought that you were criticising the Doctor's receipt unfairly, but now I see the real absurdity of the shocking compound.”

† Let the public then beware of these too often injurious prescriptions;

Besides, did Doctors know the effects which their compositions have upon the system, their intentions would be entirely obviated, by the drugs themselves being adulterated, as it is a notorious fact, that every drug in the market from the most simple to Quinine itself, is highly adulterated. *The Medical Times*, in commenting on this subject says, "that the adulteration of medicine seems to be carried on at present, in a systematic mode, sufficient to destroy all our best concerted plans of treatment," then it goes on giving a list of drugs, stating the substance with which they are adulterated.

The *Lancet*, that drug organ, in introducing an analysis of Laudanum, says that, "constant purity and uniformity of strength under the proper title of medicines are really conditions of paramount necessity. In the absence of these conditions Physicians and Surgeons prescribe in utter darkness, and the lives of their patients are placed in utter jeopardy." * * * * If we mistake not, our researches, in conjunction with the investigations of other practical chemists, will prove, that not only many sophistications are practised with respect to the manufacture and sale of drugs and Pharmacopeias are defaced by so many imperfections that they are inadequate guides to the profession and do not afford sufficient security to the public. *

Then it proceeds to give the analysis of *twenty-one* specimens of Laudanum, procured at different shops, no *two* of which specimens agree in either their *composition*; or *strength*! Yet this is the system of medicine whose, "*Pharmacopeias are defaced by many imperfections*," and whose drugs are "*sophisticated*," both in their "*manufacture and sale*," that this organ parades before the public as scientific medicine, and stigmatizes as "Quacks and Imposters," those who lift their voices against it, and prefer to practice one, whose Pharmacopeias contain no "*imperfections*," and whose drugs are neither "*sophisticated in their manufacture nor sale*."

written in Mysterious Characters, emblamatical, of both their action and nature.

* *Lancet*, January 15th, 1853.

After this, James, I leave you, and the *Lancet*, with the whole host of Allopaths, to reconcile these *damning* facts with scientific medicine, and the public to judge of the precious compounds which they swallow under the name of medicine!

It is bad enough to have our *food* and *drink* adulterated, but it is ten times worse to have the medicine of the sick man, poisoned by *composition* and sophisticated by adulteration.

"Well I grant all this, but what better are Homœopathists, as it is said, they use nothing but the most terrible poisons, as drugs."

"It is said," yes, James, but many things are "*said*," for which there is no foundation. Allopaths, at first "*said*," that Homœopathic medicines were "*inert and useless*," but, in a short time, they found this would not do, as notwithstanding their "*said to be*" "*inertness and uselessness*," they cured disease, so this assumption was untenable, and therefore they just flew to the opposite assumption and "*said*" "*that all Homœopathic medicine was poisonous*," thereby thinking that they would frighten the public from taking it. Of course all medicine is more or less of a poisonous nature; were it not so, it could not cure disease, as it must possess a power capable of changing the natural functions of the system, and hence its poisonous nature. But, James, I wonder where these reasoners, studied logic? Certainly neither in LOCK, nor in WHATELEY, as were they at all conversant with logic, they would see that by using such an argument, they are only putting into their opponents hands, a most terrible implement, calculated like the "*Infernal Machine*," to deal death and destruction to its inventor, for if the one decillionth of a grain of "*Lunar Caustic*" be poisonous, what must "*one grain of it every four hours*" be? why death itself! But my good Sir, so far from Homœopathists using nothing but *poisons*, the majority of their most active and useful remedies, are prepared from some of the most simple substances, flowers, &c. For instance, Carbo Vegetabilis; a most excellent medicine, is prepared from Charcoal—their Carbonica Calcarca from oyster shells—their Silicea, from flint—their Chamomilla, from Chamomile

flowers—their Pulsatilla, from the common and beautiful Anemone, &c. &c.

Still, Homœopaths, use many poisonous minerals and plants, in common with Allopaths; but with these important differences, namely, the Homœopathists, as I have previously pointed out to you, rob them of all their materiality, and only administer them in their spiritual or dynamic state, and even then in infinitesimal doses; whereas the Allopaths use them in their *crude* and *gross condition*, and in *large* and *frequent doses*. I now leave you to infer which is the most poisonous; trusting that you comprehend the difference between an Allopathic and Homœopathic prescription?

“Yes, I do, the one uses a single medicine, whose action has been tested on the healthy body, and is administered in a small dose, so as just to act upon the diseased part and no other; whereas the Allopaths, use medicines of whose effects upon the system they know scarcely anything, first from not having proved them, secondly from mixing them, and thirdly from their being all, it appears, extensively adulterated.”

You are perfectly right. A Homœopath, to use a familiar simile, uses a *rifle*, whose powers he has *tested*; whereas an Allopath, enters the field, against the disease, armed with his venerable *blunderbuss*, charged to the mouth with powder and shot, of whose strength he is comparatively ignorant, and says to his contemporary with his little *rifle*, “stand out of the way with that childish toy of yours and let me have a go at the enemy.” “My good Sir,” says the Homœopath, “that’s a terrible and destructive instrument of yours! Do you really know how destructive it is?” “Yes, I think I do. I have done brave work with this old *buss*, these many years, so I am not going to give it up for your little gun, ‘minie’ though it be. But this is no time for discussion when the enemy is in the field, so take care, here goes.”

“Good gracious!” says the Homœopath, pulling the blunderbuss from the Allopaths shoulder, “stop! stop Sir, do stop! are you aware that there are many parts of this body (man) healthy and well disposed?”

“Yes, I am.”

“Then why hurt them? as you are sure to do if you

send such a destructive charge among them. Why not use a rifle, and thus only hit those parts ill disposed?"

"Hang your rifles, I hate your new fangled things, so I'll do as I have always done." "Click, flash, bang and off the buss goes, the shot attacking friends and foes alike."

You will James, I hope, excuse this little sally, there are many ways of presenting truth, and ridicule is sometimes the most powerful argument. Besides you know it to be a fact that Allopaths, not only attack those parts of the body *diseased*, but also those in a *healthy* condition. Witness their prescriptions for Liver, &c. diseases, wherein instead of only attacking the Liver, they shiver, and shatter, with their large doses, every tooth in the head.

"These are facts, Hugh, which I cannot deny. But what would you have us to do? Would you recommend us to use only one medicine at a time?"

In the present state of your knowledge of medicine, I don't think, that would benefit you much. If you had first *proved* the medicine and knew its effects, you might do so; but, your *Materia Medica*, not containing the real *nature* and *properties* of one single remedy consisting entirely of a compilation of conjectures, as to the action of medicine; founded upon no other *proof* than that derived from seeing a few of their *primary* effects upon the sick-man, and from beholding the ravishes which they have made upon the system, as displayed by dissections after death; I cannot see that your prescribing *simples* would make your practice any more scientific. What you first want, is to gain a real knowledge of the remedies which you use, and then apply them according to that natural law of cure "*Similia Similibus Curantur*." and you will then be able to practice medicine scientifically, and soon discover that potentialised infinitesimal doses, are quite sufficient to cure diseases, when scientifically prescribed—for recollect small doses have nothing to do with the *law* of "*Similia Similibus Curantur*;" they are only a corollary necessarily springing from it.

Burn your *Materia Medica*, and either adopt that which the Homœopathists use, and which contains the

careful *provings* of about three hundred medicines, or begin and prove your medicines for yourselves, and compile a *Materia Medica*, of facts, like that of the Homœopaths, instead of one of wild theories and conjectures.

“What do you mean by ‘proving medicines?’ and how is it performed?”

I mean by proving medicines, testing their effects upon healthy men and women, as DR. HAHNEMANN and numerous others did; and the Homœopaths continue to do; and the manner in which this is performed, by the parties, who make these experiments, is by submitting themselves, during the time they are taking the medicines, to a suitable diet, avoiding every thing which would be likely to interfere with the action of the medicine, and continuing to take every morning, four or five globules of the *medicine to be proved*, until its effects are fully developed on the system. A number take repeated doses of the same medicine, and after experiencing its effects upon them, they write them down and compare them with those of the other experimenters, and then the medicine is again tested by others, and their symptoms compared with the former provings, and thus the proving is continued, until the whole effects of the medicine, upon every part of the body, mental and physical, are fully ascertained, and then these several symptoms are chronicled, and thus form the *Materia Medica* of the Homœopathists. Here, you see James, this is a *Materia Medica* of facts, as I said.

“This certainly does seem a most rational way of forming a *Materia Medica*,” said James.

I am amazed, said I, that the Allopaths have not resorted to this long ago, as many of their best men have recommended it, and positively reprobated their present *Materia Medica*.

“Who are they?”

Don’t you know?

“No, I don’t, as I always considered our *Materia Medica*, a very good one.”

Excuse me, when I say that a man who does not know the literature of his own profession, is scarcely in a position to criticise that of others.

"The fact of the matter is, I suppose I am like the generality of Medical-men, who go slap-dash into practice, after being qualified, and who commence the routine of visiting and prescribing, with an occasional look at the *Lancet*, &c; bothering their heads very little about the progress of Science, or caring to effect reforms in medicine, so long as the public are content with their present system."

Well, after this candid confession, I will tell you what your great leader and critic said on this subject, in the year 1846, DR. FORBES, in the *British and Foreign Medical Review*, recommends the Profession "to reconsider and study afresh the *physiological* and *curative effects of all our Therapeutic agents*, with the view to obtain more positive results than we now possess, and to endeavour to substitute for the monstrous system of Polypharmacy now universally prevalent, one that is at least, vastly more simple, more intelligible, more agreeable, and it may be hoped, one more rational, more scientific, more certain and more beneficial."

The scientific congress held at Strasburg in 1842, passed the following resolution:—"The medical section is unanimously of opinion, that experiments with medicines on healthy individuals, are, in the present state of Medical Science, of urgent necessity for Physiology and Therapeutics."

I might quote many such, but will only just cite the following to show that VOLTAIRE, who was no Medical-man, saw the absurdity of the present system, he said to a young man who was studying medicine, "What! Sir, are you studying a profession which puts medicine in their patient's stomachs of whose effects upon the healthy man they know nothing!"

"I thank you for this information, and I seem disposed to agree with all you say, regarding the law of "*Similia Similibus Curantur*," the necessity of a new *Materia Medica* of facts, instead of wild theories and conjectures, and the unscientific nature of Polypharmacy, so you will see you have not reasoned and argued with me in vain, as I find myself half a convert to Homœopathy, but really the idea of such small doses doing good does puzzle me terribly."

I confess they were to me, as they are to you, my chief stumbling-block, in embracing Homœopathy, but two or three doses of them on my own person, soon convinced me that they acted most salutarily.

“Hugh! is it possible that you practice Homœopathy?”

Why look so astonished my good fellow? Did you not suppose as much from my talking?

“I certainly did not, as had I thought, you were a Homœopathist, I don’t think I would have talked to you on the subject, as the very name was disgusting to me, I have been so annoyed with that fellow Dr.—— in our town.”

Homœopathy I do practice, because I find it a most excellent system of medicine, but I do not choose to be called a Homœopathist. I am a Medical-man, James, and those shibboleths of party I discard, as I consider it my duty to cure my patients irrespective of all *names* and *systems* of medicine, and therefore I study *eclecticism*, and practice—not only Homœopathy, but recommend Mesmerism and Hydropathy, because I consider that there’s good in them all; nor do I entirely discard Allopathy, as there are many things in it, which are rational and which tally with the Homœopathic law of cure.

In making this confession I know that I am laying myself open to a storm of abuse, from those who pride themselves in being what they call themselves “Pure Homœopathists,” and who not having a mind, either capable of acting or thinking for themselves, pin implicit *faith* in all the *dicta* and *dogmas* of HAHNEMANN, and would positively refuse to give a dose of castor oil to a patient, were it to save his life, just because he has not sanctioned it. These are the men, James, who bring upon Homœopathy so much ridicule by their absurd conduct, and to a very considerable extent prevent its more general diffusion, by giving up patients, rather than resort to anything which HAHNEMANN has forbid, and thus allow Allopaths to be called in and get the whole credit for curing the patients. * Is this the

* See Appendix, Case of Bronchitis and Scarlet Fever.

way to advance Homœopathy? Nay, is it not just the way to retard it? Recollect, these observations only apply to the administration of an occasional dose of Castor Oil, &c. *under peculiar circumstances.*

No man admires more than I, the brilliant genius and splendid talents and discoveries of HAHNEMANN, and I even go so far as to believe that could his system be *thoroughly* applied, no Castor Oil, as used at present would be required, but I verily believe that there is not a man living who is competent to prescribe the Homœopathic medicine *correctly*, according to its law, *in all and every complaint*, as it is a most difficult task to get, first, a faithful portraiture of the complaint from the patient, and secondly to find out the medicine Homœopathic to it. Could this be achieved, then Homœopathy would be, not only in its principles one of the perfect Sciences, just as truly as mathematics, but also perfect in its practice.

But this perfection will never be obtained, as it is contrary to our present nature to attain perfection in anything, we, however, thank God for the perfection which it has already attained, and only lament that our fallen nature is such that we cannot carry it out fully. This then being the case I do not think myself justified in relinquishing, such potent agents in disease, as Mesmerism and Hydropathy, with the occasional use of a dose of Castor Oil, and the application of some external means, and with these my resort to Allopathic measures ceases, as nothing could induce me to prescribe medicine on the Allopathic principle, and practice its other absurd precepts, for the obvious reasons, already given and those yet to come.

I am therefore truly glad, James, that you did not discover my principles, so long as you seem to have been prejudiced against them.

“You are a cunning chap, Hugh,—there you sat in the Railway carriage, imbibing every word I said, and nodding your head like a tea-shop’s mandarin, no doubt chuckling and laughing most heartily to yourself, as I narrated, how the Homœopath, was shouldering me out of my patients in W——c, but no matter, I think, I have lost nothing by it.”

I certainly was somewhat amused, but I assure you I was sorry to see you so prejudiced to such a superior and in every way excellent system of medicine; both on account of yourself and patients, and if what I have said to you has been the means of showing you some of the absurdities of Allopathy, and giving you a faint idea of Homœopathy, so as to make you desire to know more of it, I am truly delighted.

"You have indeed convinced me that Allopathy is most imperfect in both theory and practice, and have also convinced me that Homœopathy is much more preferable and rational, and by so doing, have placed me on the horns of a dilemma, and what to do I do not know."

My dear James, your course is as clear as noon-day, be cautious, don't act with precipitation. First satisfy your mind that Homœopathy is correct in principle and practice.

Procure the *Organon, or, True Art of Healing*, and study it well, then read the *Lesser Writings* of HAHNEMANN, with some other good works on the principles of Homœopathy, such as DR. SIMPSON'S, DR. EPP'S, or, *Introduction to the Study of Homœopathy*, by DR. DRYSDALE, and RUSSELL, &c, then study that Book of Facts the *Materia Medica Pura*, by HAHNEMANN, and I'll be bound to affirm, that you will soon

"Throw" (Allopathic) "physic to the dogs."

"The study of this system, seems to me a deep and intricate one, as it appears founded entirely upon Philosophy, not "conjecture," as SIR. A. COOPER, said of Allopathy, and I rather think it a serious thing for one to enter upon, as I certainly should not like to practice it unless I understood it thoroughly."

You are right, the practice of Homœopathy does require a vast application. But recollect that although it would require you to give up many of your ideas as to the *practice of medicine*, your knowledge of Anatomy, Chemistry, Botany, Physiology, remains in tact, as both Allopaths and Homœopaths agree on these, but differ most essentially on Therapeutics, in other words, on the proper plan of treating disease and the nature of the remedies to be employed; so that you would have to

divest your mind of every idea which you have hitherto entertained of the practice of medicine and submit to one entirely new.

"To do all this would be no joke, and besides, when I would embrace it, after all this mental discipline, get laughed at for my pains, and called "Quack" and other opprobrious names by my Medical Brethren, *Lancet*, &c., chemists and patients and friends, is enough to frighten one from attempting it."

I can speak from experience, that to a certainty all you have said and more, the loss of many of your patients, will be your lot, as the public does not like the idea of a man changing his principles, unless he can give a satisfactory reason.

Now Homœopathy is one of those scientific subjects upon which it is very difficult to enlighten the public, as you cannot make its principles plain to their comprehension. Hence if you adopt it, you must make up your mind to be scouted and ridiculed, by such drug organs as the *Lancet*, &c., but remember, if such a vital principle as Homœopathy be worth receiving, it is worth suffering for, and as this has been and will be the lot of all Reformers whether in Science, Politics or Theology, you cannot expect to be an exception to the general rule. But by-and-by your principles will develop themselves. Go on steadily having the *mens conscia recti*, to cheer you. Heed not the frowns of your enemies, nor the sarcasm of their tongues. Consider yourself above them in knowledge, which you really are; more noble than they in having the moral courage to investigate a subject of infinite importance to your fellow creatures, and after having satisfied your mind, that its principles were Philosophical, at the risk of your reputation and prospects, you nobly declared yourself a sceptic in drugs and embraced rational medicine. Act thus and ere long, by the superior results and the agreeable nature of your remedies in disease, the public will soon begin to see, that your struggles and sufferings were not of a *selfish*, but *Philanthropic* nature, and concerned *them chiefly*, and by-and-by you will attain a similar position to him, whom you considered your enemy—Dr.——, and have the cheering conso-

lation, like him, to rescue from the jaws of death and from the tortures of Allopathy many a loved and adored son and daughter, father and mother.

"I may perhaps agree with the truth of what you say, but don't you think it well for a man to act with caution in these days? besides, is it a positive fact that the result of Homœopathy are such in disease, as to warrant one's embracing it?"

Of course it is well to be cautious, but I don't know what you mean by "acting with caution in these days."

"Why I mean, could one not practice it *sub rosa*, until one saw its results?"

You may to a certain extent, but I don't admire this clandestine practice, as "if a principle be good," as BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, says, "go through with it," and as regards the "results of Homœopathy," in disease, you have the united testimony of thousands of properly qualified Physicians and Surgeons, all attesting its superiority to Allopathy, by every-day witnessing its results in disease. Besides the superiority of its "results" to those of Allopathy is even admitted by Allopaths themselves. For instance, from the statistics which DR. ROUTH, gives in his *Fallacies of Homœopathy*, the following abstract is taken.

Under Homœopathic treatment.				Under Allopathic do.	
Inflammation of the Lungs,	deaths per cent	5. 7.		do	24
" Plura,	"	3.		"	13
" Peritoneum,	"	4.		"	13
" Bowels,	"	15.		"	22
Typhus Fever	"	44.		"	85

Thus you will perceive, that according to the testimony of DR. ROUTH, who is writing against Homœopathy, he is forced to admit, that it cures *twice* as many as Allopathy.

"I wonder why any man should write such a book, having such damning facts as these before him!"

My dear Sir, prejudice is blind to all, but its own ideas.

LOCKE, compares it "to a cataract, on the eyes." But rest assured that the time is not far distant, when such facts as these will make even *les savans* of our Universities and Colleges rub their eyes and have them couched, so as to enable them to see clearly.

"But works which I have read on Homœopathy, attribute these results, in a great measure, to "Diet," "Regimen," and "Faith."

When people are so blind that they will not even allow facts to convince them, they must, of course, have recourse to something to explain away these facts, and therefore these writers resort to these subterfuges. But their fallacy must be apparent to all, from the following incontrovertible facts, namely, that Homœopathy is found to be just as efficacious among the *lower animals** and *children*, as among intelligent and grown-up people, and therefore this quibble about "Diet," "Regimen," and "Faith," bears on the front of it a flagrant absurdity, as any sane man will concede, that "Faith,"—with reverence be it spoken—is foreign to pigs, sheep, horses, &c. and diet not much attended to in their disease. I shall therefore waste no more arguments on this ridiculous subject.

"May I ask you, do you practice Midwifery ?

Yes, I do. Why do you ask me such a question ?

"Because I wanted to know if you used Homœopathic medicine in these cases ?"

Of course you are aware that the practice of Midwifery is as much a mechanical as a medical art, but whenever medicines are requisite, I use nothing but the Homœopathic, because I find them far more preferable to drugs; not that I would object to give a dose of Castor Oil in such cases; but I am thankful to say that in all the cases which I have attended since I became a Homœopath, I have had no occasion to do so, as I found a globule of Nux Vomica, Pulsatilla, Mucurius or Bryonia, answer every purpose.

"In cases of Flooding, do you only use Homœopathic medicines ?

I never use any other in these cases, and I have found them far more effectual in arresting it, than Allopathic medicine. In one word, Homœopathy is a system of medicine, and is therefore calculated for all and every complaint, whether Medical, Surgical or Midwifery, and as respecting Homœopathy in the latter, I have

* Witness, Messrs. AUSTIN'S, HAYCOCK'S, KNOWLES', MC. JUGGART'S, MORRIS', RUSSELS', &c. Veterinary Surgeons—practice thereof.

always found my lady patients, recover from their confinements far sooner than if they had been treated Allopathically, and this I attribute, in a great measure, to their not being dosed with Laudanum, Ergot of Rye, &c. in their confinements, as it is a notorious fact, that these medicines always create irritation in the system afterwards. *

"If these things be so, I fancy, Allopaths may soon

"Tie up the knocker, say they're sick, they're dead,"

as it cannot be supposed that people will continue to swallow nauseous and disagreeable compounds, and submit to other species of annoyances, if they can be as readily cured by the insipid and pleasant Homœopathic medicine."

"There can be no doubt, but that just, as sure as the Science of Astronomy destroyed the wild and visionary theories of Astrology, so sure will the Science of Homœopathy inevitably destroy that of 'conjectural' Allopathy. But this will require time, as great vested and pecuniary interests are opposed to it, but the giant Goliath (Allopathy) must eventually tumble, and that, by the apparently tiny globule, wielded by the Homœopathic David."

This is only what one may naturally expect, as "it cannot be supposed," as you say, "that people will continue to swallow nauseous and disagreeable compounds if they can be as readily cured by the insipid and pleasant Homœopathic globules."

Of course not. Just look at their contrast in *actual practice*. For instance, a child is ill, say of some Inflammatory ‡ complaint, the head of the little patient aches with pains; its mouth is parched; its appetite is gone; its temples throb; its face is flushed, sleep has forsaken it, and it is writhing in agony, tossing its little head from side to side in the hopes of gaining an easy position, and in fretful and moaning accents, faintly asking for some cold water to appease its thirst. An Allopath comes and orders his already tormented patient, a Calomel, James', and Rhubarb powder, a mix-

* See Cases of Midwifery in Appendix.

‡ Cases of Inflammation of Lungs, & Measles, in Appendix.

ture of Antimonial wine, Mindererus spirit, Camphor Julep and Tincture of Lavender; together with perhaps Leeches to the temples, and then departs. These heterogeneous compounds are duly mixed and sent to the bed-side of the little sufferer, but it refuses to take them. Take them however it must, and the nurse to make the medicine palatable mixes it in some preserves or honey, and after coaxing, &c. her little charge to no avail, the child, notwithstanding its kicks and other protestations, is drenched with the mixture and forced to swallow the powder *vi et armis*.

How much of it enters the stomach, under these circumstances, is a question.

By-and-by the hour arrives for a repetition of the dose, and with it comes a similar scene to the former; and thus the treatment goes on amidst cries and kicks and other terrible protestations, until either death, a cure, or a positive denial to take any more drugs, ends the scene.

But suppose a Homœopathist had been called in, all this painful scene would have been obviated as the child would have taken his medicine most readily, it being free from both *taste* and *smell*, so that you will perceive that Homœopathy is preferable to Allopathy in its *practical results* and also infinitely more pleasant in its *actual practice*.

"Look upon *this* picture and then upon *that*," and ask yourself which shall I henceforth adopt. Shall I continue to torture my patients and be a terror to all, but especially to little children, or shall I relinquish Lancets, Blisters, Cauterizing irons, Moxa, Calomel, Jalap *et hoc genus omne*, and adopt the gentle and agreeable system of Homœopathy, and then receive the smiles and cheerful greetings of young and old, instead of frowns and coldness!

"Supposing, that after having thoroughly investigated Homœopathy I should determine to practice it, I fear, I should have great difficulty in doing so, inasmuch as I don't think my patients would be satisfied with such simple looking medicine, nor would they willingly pay for what they would only consider as much water, and besides this, a principal part of my income is derived

from the medicine, as many of my patients will pay for it, but will not give anything for my attendance."

Of course, James, you must expect that, your patients would be sceptical at first, as regards the efficacy of the medicine; but this would soon vanish, as its salutary effects in disease would soon disabuse their minds of this idea, and as regards their not choosing to pay for such "simple looking medicine," I can only say, that you must endeavour to press upon them, that you are now practising your Profession *scientifically*, and therefore do not intend to make it a principal part of your practice to prescribe drugs, so as to swell your bill, but to give them medicine to relieve or cure them, and then to charge for your *skill* in doing so;—and moreover show them that by adopting the Homœopathic system they will save themselves, paying many a long Druggist's bill for injurious drugs.

Patients preferring to pay for drugs rather than talent and skill, has entailed upon the sick-public incalculable and numerous evils, and made Medical-men to convert a noble and God-like Profession into a drugging-trade.

Had Medical-men stood against this ruinous abuse of their Profession, the public would have had a greater respect for them, and fewer Chemists' shops would have reared their heads, to retail and propagate such poisonous and destructive proceedings over the length and breadth of the land.

This is a gigantic evil which requires curbing, and however Herculean the task, it must be attempted, as the destruction which these vendors of drugs are sowing broadcast over the land, is more ruinous in its principles than even gin-tipping itself, and for this reason; people when they go into a gin-shop, know the consequences of imbibing such Hell-fire compounds, and also know that the unanimous voice of the Medical Profession condemns such habits.

But on the contrary when they enter a Chemist's shop, they are to a great extent ignorant of the positive properties of the draught which they are about to swallow, and instead of being warned by Medical-men that such compounds are bad, they often carry with

them, their approval and permission, inscribed in cabalistic characters, in the shape of a "prescription." Prescription to what! to health? to longevity? to drink gin? to immunities from drugs? no! no! to none of these, but a *prescription*, sanctioned by the faculty, conferring a right to commence a system of drugging which will inevitably lay the foundation for disease, and like the potion of the gin-tippler, call for a *repetition of the dose*, and thus hurry their victims into a premature grave! What would be thought of the Medical-man who would compose all his prescriptions of *gin, brandy, rum, whiskey, &c.* and order his patients to take them to the gin-palace to be compounded? Would not such a monster be scouted and hissed, by all intelligent people, and considered a poisoner not only of the body but also of public morals; yet it would be a difficult question to decide whether his patronage of the gin-palace or the Druggist's shop would entail the most bodily and social injury.

Look at that gin-tippler, see his staggering gait, his trembling limbs, his emaciated body, his sunken and yellow eye, his parched tongue; behold his haggard looks; hear his irritable temper venting its anathemas on all around, follow him to his accustomed haunt, and listen to his boisterous laugh, the wretched conversation and the bacchanalian songs which proceed from his den of infamy, amid fumes of tobacco and gin. Turn away your eyes from gazing upon this sad picture, and contemplate one not of a more cheering but of a similar nature—see yonder young man, age has not wrinkled his forehead nor dimmed his sight; the glow of youth still radiates from his countenance and sparkles in his eye; approach still nearer, and behold his sallow countenance, his infirm tread, listen to his weak voice, his churlish and pettish temper; look at his emaciated frame and decayed teeth; hear him, on every change of weather, lament his many pains and aches; follow him to his home, see him retire to his bed-room to quaff his "three times a day" Pill and Potion, and when the shades of evening close around, *incited by these medicaments*, *

* As this may appear a novel statement to many; especially to those who do not know the effects which drugs produce, I beg to refer them to

rush like the drunkard to repeat those acts which primarily brought him to this state,—and ask yourself which is to be the most deplored, whether he who *knowingly* transgresses on his own health and comfort, or he who *ignorantly* does so, and that too sanctioned by Medical authority!

“If I really thought that drugs were so injurious as you seem to make them, I don’t think that I would ever write a prescription again, be the consequence what it might.”

My dear Sir, have you not hundreds of times witnessed their destructive nature both among the living and the dead?

“I can’t say that I have, I have certainly seen such cases as you have represented, and have also witnessed many morbid lesions in the internal organism, by *post-mortem* examinations, but all these I attributed to the effects of *disease* and not of *drugs*.”

Just so, and that is why you never look for the ravishes of drugs in the system, because you consider drugs as only possessed of *curative* properties, and forget altogether that every drug is essentially *poisonous* in its nature, otherwise it could do no good. Hence, on making post-mortem examinations, when you saw the Liver, or Stomach, or Lungs, or Bowels, &c. diseased, you debited all to disease and credited drugs with none of it; whereas perhaps drugs had the principal share in causing all these complaints.

“Why according to this, you would make it appear that every disease is a drug-disease, whereas we know that many diseases originate in the system itself.”

I do not mean to say, that every disease is a drug dis-

the *Materia Medica Pura*, Vol. iii, p. 94, 129, where they will find chronicled at large, the *moral* and *physical* effects of one of the most frequently prescribed drugs; mercury, designated by Allopaths their “sheet-anchor,” and there see that the very medicine prescribed by them, to cure the disease instigates the patient to commit afresh the *act* which has entailed upon him his present sufferings. This is a frightful disclosure, and only made with the intention of *frightening* people from such unscientific and irrational proceedings. Truly the remedy is in many cases worse than the disease,

A certain delicacy prevents me, entering into this question more in details in the present work, but I intend, ere long, to write a specific and special pamphlet on the subject.

ease, though I do mean most positively to assert, that if there was not a drug in the world there would be less disease, not that I mean to imply that drugs are useless, as I believe every creature of God is good, when properly used—all I mean is that being administered as they are at present by Allopaths in large doses, they are positively destructive to health and longevity. But hear what Allopaths themselves say on this subject. "I declare it," says DR JOHNSTON, "to be my most conscientious opinion that if there was not a single Physician, (Allopathic) Surgeon, Apothecary, Man-midwife, Chemist, Druggist or drug on the face of the earth, there would be less sickness and less mortality than now obtain."

DR. ELLIOTSON, says, "that it is very common to see persons who have been in our Hospitals, and taken much mercury fall into a state of consumption, * and that when it is given for organic disease of the Liver, it frequently breaks up the patients' constitution without affording him relief."

DR. MARSHALL HALL, says, "of the whole number of fatal cases of diseases of infancy, a great proportion occur from the inappropriate or undue application of exhausting remedies." He further says that this may be of use "in checking the ardour of many young Doctors, who are apt to think that if they have only bled and given calomel enough, they have done their duty, when, in fact, in subduing a former, *they have excited a new disease*, which they have not understood, and which has led to the fatal result." ‡

"What are we to think," exclaims an eminent writer, "of a system whose remedies are more fatal in their effects than the most perilous disease. Do we not daily meet with persons rendered increasingly miserable by the continual and excessive use of medicine! Do we not behold persons brought to Phthisis and Dropsy by

* Post-mortem examinations have discovered *Metallic Mercury* in the Mesenteric glands, or those of the bowels, in the salivary and many other glands, and in the cancelli of the bones, in those who had taken much of it during life. See THOMPSON'S *Materia Medica*, p. 266, and also "JONAS FARNEL, cap. 7, FALLOPINS, cap. 78, &c.

‡ See case of Poisoning by Drugs and Inflamed Bursa in Appendix.

excessive bleedings ; skeletons well termed by an ingenious Physician, 'living mercury mines,' imbecile children whose screams the horrid Practitioner has lulled with opium, and victims of Epilepsy whose skins are changed to a frightful blue by the internal use of Lunar Caustic."

Then again as regards "disease originating in the system itself," no doubt such do occur through errors in diet, mental shocks, climateric changes &c. ; but were fewer drugs used in *infancy* the system would be less liable and more able to bear up against these changes. Instead however of this the young voyager is no sooner launched on the waves of this boisterous world than that horrid system of drugging begins, and a spoonful of castor oil is the first treat it receives, and if, at all fractious next day, it is again treated, to "Grey Powder" (a mercurial preparation) and some Rhubarb, and thus the drugging system goes on, until neither the baby, the child, the adult nor the man or woman as the case may be, can do without it, every dose paving the way for another and laying the foundations of disease in the system.

Viewing the horrors and ravishes of drug-medication thus, as displayed from the cradle to the grave in thousands of our fellow mortals, it becomes those whose eyes are open to these facts, and whose hearts throb with lively sympathy for the injuries which are thus perpetrated upon the public, *without their knowledge*, to lift up their voices against these practices. And though in doing so the vested interest of many must be vigorously assailed, and the "craft" of many dear friends exposed, and consequently many enemies made ; still this must not deter the Medical Philanthropist from doing his duty towards the public, more than it did FATHER MATHEW from exposing the ruinous nature of intemperance, nor MRS. STOWE, from condemning the fiend-like tortures of slavery. No, though the whole drug-interest, the vested-rights of Universities and Colleges and Allopathic Practitioners, league themselves against the Homœopathists, he must neither fear their opposition nor frowns, nor heed the withdrawal of their favors, but be content to suffer a species of martyrdom

for his principles, and consider himself amply repaid in rescuing *one here* and *one there* from the tortures and penalties of drug-slavery, and ushering them into "the immunities of Homœopathy, where drug-slavery is unknown, where the law of bloodshed is abrogated, and where the cruel "Legree," "Cat-o-nine-tails," of Moxa, Burning-irons, Cupping, &c. are proscribed by the gentle and rational laws of Homœopathy.

"Infamy," exclaims the immortal HAHNEMANN, "be the award of history to him, who by deceit or fiction mains this art of ours, which is intended to succour the wretched! All-compensating, divine self-approval and an unfading civic crown, to him who helps to make our art more beneficial to mankind!"

"HAHNEMANN, who is he?"

Alas! he is not! He is gone, but his spirit lives and animates thousands. He, Sir, was, one of the greatest Physicians, Philosophers and Scholars, Germany ever produced, or the world saw. Even DR. FORBES is forced to admit from a perusal of HAHNEMANN's works, "that he was undoubtedly a man of genius and a Scholar, a man of indefatigable industry, of undaunted energy; surpassed by few in originality and ingenuity of his views, superior to most in having substantiated and carried out his doctrines into actual and most extensive practises." *

The Herculean nature of his labours may be guessed by the fact, of his having written upwards of *seventy* original works on chemistry and medicine; translated about *twenty four* works from the English, French, Italian and Latin languages on chemistry, medicine, agriculture and general literature, and proved *ninety* different medicines, besides attending to a large practice. Such, James, was the founder of Homœopathy—a man who amidst bitter persecution, and abject penury, for a considerable portion of his life, pursued his course of a medical reformer, until he attained his desired goal, and by so doing has earned for himself a never fading crown of honour and gratitude, from all, who are the happy recipients of the blessings of that system of

* *British and Foreign Medical Review.*

medicine, which in the Providence of God, he was made the harbinger of, and for which he nobly laboured and suffered, and was, at last, when the snows of wintry-old-age settled upon his Philanthropic temples, crowned a victor, and now, when his ashes are mingled with the clods of the valley, the gratitude of a succeeding generation, has enshrined his memory, in a marble statue in Leipsic, whence he was forced to fly from the persecution of Doctors and Apothecaries on account of the propagation of his doctrines.

For such we gladly wish to live,
And such, we gladly wish to die.

“Well, Hugh, I really must confess that this conversation has very considerably shaken my faith in Allopathy, as I now see that it has no claim to be styled a Science; that its remedies are uncertain, owing to their properties not being understood, and their frequent adulterations, rendering them either useless or hurtful, and this being the case, I only think it my duty to the sick-public over whom I am a legalized guardian, to study any other system which offers a more rational plan of cure and whose remedies are well understood and free from adulteration.”

James! you have quite cheered my heart. Oh! that every Medical-man in the world were alike minded! What a blessing would then accrue to suffering humanity. Consider that, *at this very moment*, millions of our fellow mortals, are prostrate on beds of languishing, writhing in the agonies of Fevers, Gouts, &c. &c. and innocently submitting to the combined tortures of disease and drugs,—not knowing that all their direful sufferings might be more speedily and infinitely more pleasantly alleviated by the tasteless, though potent, Homœopathic medicine.

Will the benighted state of the poor heathen, who can only

“See God in clouds, and hear Him in the winds,”

who ignorantly worships his wooden-god and bows down to stocks and stones; incite our sympathy and stimulate us to direct their minds from these dumb idols to the living and true God,—and will the agonizing cries of the African and the American slaves, heard only

repeated in the thrilling narrative of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* or the voice of the orator, arouse our every nerve and make us pant with ardour and lively emotions for their emancipations; and will not, I ask, the groans and the sufferings of our wives, our children, our brothers and sisters, as they writhe under the tortures of disease and drugs; similarly affect us, and arouse our energy and philanthropy to procure, by all possible means, their emancipation. Sure I am, this is a noble work, God-like both in its nature and tendencies, and happy, yea blessed is he or she, who will lend a helping hand to introduce into all Hospitals and sick-chambers, a gentle and efficacious system of medicine, instead of that cruel and inefficacious one now prevalent. Enrol yourself my dear James among this band of Reformers, and when about to

“Shuffle off this mortal coil,”

and bid adieu to all things here below, and appear before the tribunal on high, you will be able to exclaim, with your illustrious forerunner HAHNEMANN when on the brink of the grave; “*my* conscience is clear,” said he, “it bears me witness that I have ever sought the welfare of suffering humanity, that I have always done and taught what seemed to me best. Those who follow my example will be able, as I am, on the verge of the grave, to wait with tranquillity and confidence, till the time comes when they must lay down their heads in the bosom of the earth, and render up their soul to a God, whose omnipotence must strike terror into the heart of the wicked.”

* * * * *

After I uttered this, a long pause ensued; we both kept our eyes steadily fixed upon the carpet, at last James broke the silence by exclaiming “and these were the dying sentiments of HAHNEMANN, aye, worthy only a philanthropist, yes, that dread hour in which the soul raves round its battlements, will try our principles and bring our actions to the test, and I am certain, if I go on practising Allopathy, I cannot expect a downy pillow, in that hour, now that my conscience is convinced of its erroneous principles. The clock strikes twelve Hugh, I go, thanking you most heartily for your kind-

ness in telling me so much about Homœopathy, and promising you, that when I return home to-morrow, my first visit will be to Dr.—— the Homœopathist, and henceforth I will commence the study of Homœopathy.

My dear James, you quite delight my heart, and I now say to you in parting as HAHNEMANN did to the celebrated HUFELAND "If experience show you that Homœopathy is the best, then make use of it for the benefit of humanity, and give God the glory." "Good night," "Good night," Hugh.

CLAIRVOYANCE, AND THE PROVINGS OF HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINE BY A CLAIRVOYANT.

Clairvoyance, or seeing clearly, is a state of lucidity into which highly Mesmeric subjects pass readily, and is considered to be the deepest stage of the Mesmeric sleep. Sleep, however, properly speaking it is not, as the subject is generally able to converse rationally on any topic; and when in this state the whole external senses, hearing, feeling, sight, &c. are highly sensitive.

The manner of producing it, is by Mesmeric passes, made from the vertex of the head to the pit of the stomach. These produce this state of sleep, in the subject of whom I am about to speak, in about two minutes; the face soon assumes an anxious, then a most placid and Heavenly aspect, the eyelids begin to quiver and presently close, the head weighs from side to side, the breathing becomes quick, then slow, and the head gradually falls back, and in a few minutes after, the subject, says, that she is now *lucid*, i. e. able to see and read anything with her eyes shut.

Of all the phenomena of Mesmerism, this state of Clairvoyance is certainly the most interesting, as it is a "going out of the body," as it were "a shutting of the windows," i. e. eyes, as one has most beautifully expressed it—"that the house may be light."

This state of Clairvoyance frequently occurs naturally, as well as the other phases of Mesmerism, as may be easily verified by referring to the numerous well authenticated cases on record; particularly in the elaborate works of Mons. CAHAGNET, Mr. COLQUHOUN'S, *Isis Revelato* and DR. GREGORY'S *Animal Magnetism*.

If we would only consider, that as we exist at present, we are a *duality*, that is, possessed of two distinct natures, body and soul, in other words, matter and spirit, and that *spirit* is independent of matter and can and does exist without it—methinks that a great deal of the scepticism, incredulity and misconception entertained on this subject, would disappear. If we deny this proposition, we verily deny the phenomena of dreaming, as certainly the *spirit*, then visits distant lands, holds converse with imaginary beings, sees spread before it the most lovely panoramas, with all their variegated beauty, hears seraphic music and drinks in pleasure at every pore, though the *material* body remains as dead. Now, how to explain, the manner in which these pictures are depicted upon the brain, in all their varied hues and appearances, so as to give the sleeper the idea of *real reality*—although the eyes are perfectly shut and darkness reigns, is what, I cannot undertake to accomplish, sufficient, to know that such is the *fact*, and therefore, though I can't explain it, I am forced nevertheless to believe it, and thus it is with Clairvoyance, as the *fact* of the subject reading any book placed in his or her hand, although the eyes are shut and *held firmly* so by another person ;—describing localities where she never has been, when placed *en rapport*, with a person who knows these localities and thus reading their description from the tablets of his mind &c. and a hundred other phenomena, convince me that the ethereal nature of the subject alone does this. Many ingenious theories and hypothesis have been devised to account for these remarkable phenomena, but to my mind none of them is conclusive. I am inclined to explain them upon the basis of what is called the "Telegraph system of the Universe," but at the same time I state this merely as a conjecture, as I do not wish to dogmatise on a subject which puzzles the most learned and profound Metaphysicians and Philosophers.

If we consider that the whole atmosphere is perhaps but one stupendous panorama on which are depicted all our actions, words, &c., or as Professor BABBAGE, says "the air is one vast library on whose pages are for ever written, all that man has ever said or woman whispered,"

and that by reason of this "spirits in a distant world," as Professor HIRCHCOCK, says, "actually know what is passing here by the vibrations which our words and actions produce upon elastic matter," we can readily suppose, that it may be just possible that owing to the highly sensitive and spiritual nature of the Clairvoyant, she is able to read from this "vast library," past, present and future events, communicated to her brain by perhaps some photographic process of which we know nothing. In this way, I think, we may readily account for the power of mental reading, that is telling what any one is thinking of, who may be *en rapport* with her. We know well, that objects &c. which we see, every word which we utter, every thought which we indulge &c. makes an indelible impression on our minds and on the atmosphere, and this being the case, we may suppose that the Clairvoyant, from being connected with us, can read either from our minds, or from the physical atmosphere on which all our thoughts &c. are depicted, either past, present or future events, or subjects on which our minds have or are placed. * A volume might be easily written on this topic, but I merely throw out these hints for the consideration of those interested in investigating such etherial subjects, and now turn to something of a more practical nature, namely

THE PROVINGS OF MEDICINE BY A CLAIRVOYANT.

Whilst this sheet was in the press, the following interesting and instructive facts were elicited. It occurred to me that, as HAHNEMANN, says in his *Organon* § CCLXXXIX. that "every part of our body which possesses the sense of touch, is also capable of receiving the influence of medicines and propagating their power to all the other parts" why not test the effects of Homœopathic medicines, *by touch*, on the system of a

* I have at the present time a patient, who frequently passes into a state of partial lucidity, and who has more than once told me, when in this state, what I was actually thinking of; I being at the time *en rapport*.

Clairvoyant, as it is well known that their nerves are peculiarly susceptible to impressions, and that, in an eminent degree to dynamised medicine, and being fortunate enough to have a tolerable good Clairvoyant in this town, Miss. Winter, the daughter of a respectable tradesman, I requested his permission to test some Homœopathic medicine on her, with which he readily complied.

Feb. 1st., 1854, Miss W's *father* and she came in the evening, and he having thrown her into the Clairvoyant state by a few passes, I took the Aconitum Napellus bottle from my pocket-case of medicine, and gave it her, she looked at it, eyes firmly closed, and read "Aconitum Napellus 12," the label on the bottle, she then held it in her hand for a few minutes and said, "I feel a giddy and swimming sensation in my head, great trembling in my nerves, very hot all over me, and great weakness, I am certain this is a powerful medicine and would cure Fevers or anything exciting in the body."

I gave her next a large bottle of Stramonium Datura, *with no label on it*. She directly said, "I have a bad head-ache, and twitching pains about the back, shoulders, face, neck," (pointing over the left collar bone,) "head, chest and all over the body, I feel very queer, rather sick, one would be liable to take cold after using this medicine, &c."

I then gave her a bottle of Aconitum Napellus, Potency 18, no label on it; the moment she took it in her hand, she said, "there! I have just the same sort of giddiness and swimming in my head as I had with the first bottle, only this is more severe, I feel very hot, thirsty, and great languor and prostration, I feel as if Father had Mesmerised me to the chair, I have no power over myself"—she was going on, but I was called out and she had to leave off.

When in the Clairvoyant state, I asked her "how she knew these things?" she said, "when I take the medicine in my hand, I feel the effects of the medicine on my body, the same, as I feel the pains, &c. of those diseased, when I am put *en rapport* with them."

A few evenings after, I had her again in my study, and on this occasion, my friend, H. S. Mercer, Esq.,

'of Charlton Kings', was present to witness the phenomena. She was speedily put into the Clairvoyant state, but as Mr. Mercer, had never seen any one in the state of Clairvoyance, nor ever witnessed any of its phenomena, he was anxious to see some of them, so before proceeding to try her with the Homœopathic medicines, he went behind her back, and effectually prevented the possibility of her seeing with her *natural eyes*, by holding them securely with his hands. I now gave her a pamphlet to read, which she did readily; next the *Zoist*; this she read with great ease and pleasure, as she happened to open it, where is reported a case of Palsy, cured by Mesmerism. Next, the M.S. of the *Proving*s of *Medicine* by herself on the previous night; this she also read and seemed highly amused at. Next, I wrote Mr. Mercer's name on a slip of paper, and gave it to her, which she read instantly; Mr. Mercer still holding her eyes shut. She read several other things, and Mr. M. having expressed himself thoroughly satisfied in the genuineness of the phenomena, I gave her a bottle of Nux Vomica, 3; without any label, she held it for a minute or two, and then said, "I feel a *pricking* and twitching in all my nerves, great catching in my right arm" over the Deltoid muscle—"crawling all over me, working and shaking in all my body, particularly in my arms and legs, catching at my heart and chest, shivering, *quivering*, &c." I asked her what she thought this medicine good for? She instantly replied, "*it would cure all those sort of pains.*"

I then tried her with the 6th and 12th Potency of Nux Vomica, as I was anxious to see, if she would experience *greater* effects from them, than she did from the 3rd Potency, but she became confused, owing to the experiments which had been made upon her, before commencing to test the medicine, so I gave up any further attempt, as I now felt quite convinced that she had experienced the effects of the medicine; and also that, in order to test them properly, she ought not to be submitted to any other experiments, before commencing them, nor ought she to try more than one medicine during each *seance*, but allow time for the effects of the medicine to pass off, before she tried another.

In these brief and imperfect experiments, three most interesting facts were elicited, namely,

1st. The fact that medicines, dynamised, are capable of producing their pathogenetic effects upon Clairvoyants, as was quite evident, by the "jumpings" of the arms, &c. of Miss. Winter, when she held in her hands *Nux Vomica*. This was clearly seen by Mr. Mercer, and noticed by him, before I perceived it—also by the fact, of the *Aconitum*, making her face quite red, after which it became pale and her body cold.

2nd. The proof of the Homœopathic Law of cure, as given by her, who positively knows nothing of either Homœopathy or Homœopathic medicine, in her *natural state*—when she said that the *Nux Vomica* "would cure all those sorts of pains," which she experienced from it. This is a most interesting testimony.

3rd. The fact of her feeling more powerful effects from the 18th Potency of *Aconitum*, than from the 12th. I regret, that I had not time to test this more fully before this work came out, as it occurs to me that this is a very likely way to settle the much agitated question of the strength of the Dilutions, as they are called. I however intend to follow up this subject.

I may just state, that Miss. Winter knew nothing of what my intentions were in submitting her to these experiments, and that therefore, what she said, was simply what she felt and believed; nor had she any idea of what she either said or did, in the Clairvoyant state, after she was taken out of this state.

She is a very susceptible subject, and her Father, before leaving, exhibited a great many of what is called the Biological and Phreno-Mesmeric phenomena, such as depriving her of her memory, i. e. making her forget her own name and her Father's &c., destroying her identity, in making her believe herself to be anything or anybody he pleased to suggest, taking away her sense of hearing, feeling, tasting, smelling, &c.; rendering her perfectly powerless, neither being able to get up nor sit down, or speak, or, in fact, doing any thing but just as he wished; and by touching the Phrenological bumps, making her laugh, sing, pray, steal, benevolent &c., &c.; in fact, just playing upon her cranial bumps,

as upon the keys of a piano, and eliciting acts in perfect accordance with Phrenology.

Any one who doubts these facts may go, and witness them for themselves. I have no object, but one, in bringing these subjects before the public, and that is to endeavour to get them investigated and made available for curative purposes, and also to remove from the public mind, most erroneous and unjust ideas of a much abused and ridiculed, noble science. How far, I shall succeed God only knows. One thing however is certain, Mesmeism and Clairvoyance, are realities, and require only an unprejudiced investigation to prove themselves so.

APPENDIX.

As one *fact* is worth a million of theories, the following cases are published, to prove, that what I have advanced in the Dialogue, respecting the efficacy of H^om^oeopathic treatment has been verified by actual practice.

The names of the Patients are withheld, notwithstanding, that several gave me permission to use them, but whose kind offer I do not think right to accept, as I am very particular not to publish names.

ACUTE INFLAMMATION OF THE EYE.

August 15th., Mr.——, aged 40, has suffered from Inflammation of the right eye for the last six days. The present appearance of the eye is as follows:—Sclerotic and conjunctiva quite red and injected; cornea dull; pupil contracted; great intolerance of light, so much so, that he can only open the eye in the dark; continued watering of the eye; intolerable pain in the upper part of the eyeball; with intense pain on moving the eye; both eyes are agglutinated in the morning; exacerbation of all the symptoms about three o'clock in the morning. Pulse 80, tongue white and flabby; skin dry and hard, bowels confined, urine copious, severe head-ache, no sleep at night for last week. Had an attack of Inflammation in the same eye when a child. He is a strong, muscular and powerful man, neck rather short, face florid, (naturally,) regular in his habits. Before I saw him he had taken repeated doses of Blue-Pill and Salts, and had applied an Astringent lotion to the eye. I prescribed, two drops of Aconitum 3rd. potency, in six ounces of water, of which a spoonful was to be taken every hour, until I called in the evening; the eye to be bathed frequently with tepid water and the room to be kept dark.

Evening—only alteration, pulse reduced, Bell, $\frac{3}{4}$ om. duas, horas.

16th.—Eye much worse, no sleep last night, great mental agitation, bowels not opened. No medicine.

Evening—Bowels opened; eye no better. Habt. Arsen, om. 3 horas,

17th.—Only took two doses of the Arsen, as he said “it made him worse,” but notwithstanding I considered him better, and therefore ordered the medicine to be discontinued, as this slight aggravation of the symptoms evidently proved that Arsen was the Homœopathic specific in this stage of the disease.

Evening—Eye much easier and less injected.

18th.—Better, slept many hours last night—this is the first sleep he has had since the commencement of the disease. Complaints of a ticking, pulsating pain above the eyeball, with great watering of the eye. Continue Arsen, om. sex horas.

19th.—Stationary. Leave off Arsen, and Habt. Mer. om. sex horas.

20th.—Had a tolerable easy day yesterday, and slept well last night, until four o'clock in the morning when a very violent attack of ticking and pulsating pain came on in the eye; this lasted for about two hours. Continue Mer. om. quat horas.

21st.—Passed a good night, slight pain in eye at 5 o'clock, a. m. Can see a little, so as just to be able to discover objects in the room, eye less injected and can move it without pain.

19th.—The case went on from the above date, gradually improving, and in a few days time after the present date, he was quite well and out at his usual employment.

Now had I treated this case Allopathically, I would have bled copiously, applied blisters behind the ears and nape of neck, administered strong Cathartic medicine and Mercury, with lots of other such stuff, the consequence would have been, weakness and debility and a long and a tedious convalescence, whereas after the Homœopathic treatment, he was able to be out and attending to his usual employment, directly after the eye was well.

INFLAMMATION OF THE EYE, ACCOMPANIED BY TIC-DOLOUREUX.

June 28th.—Mrs.——, has suffered for the last three days, with intolerable pain in the right eyeball, cheek-bone and nose, with great intolerance of light, and a sensation, as if there were sand in the eyes, eye injected and very red, pulse 103, severe head-ache, thirst, &c.; bowels opened yesterday, (without medicine,) no sleep last four nights, can't open the eye.

To bathe the eye frequently with tepid water and to take Bell $\frac{1}{2}$ in Coch. aqua, om. 4^{to} horas, until easier, and to apply a bread poultice to the eye in the night

29th.—Pains continued very severe up to 7 o'clock last night, when they abated very considerably; can open the eye to-day and bear the light, eye much less inflamed and had some refreshing sleep last night. Cont. Bell $\frac{1}{2}$ occasionally.

30th.—Quite well.

INFLAMMATION OF THE LUNGS.

Miss L——, aged 6 years has been suffering from a cold for the last three days, has a hard dry cough which pains her much, breathing hurts her, skin very hot, thirsty, pulse 134 and small; keeps moaning incessantly, lies in a comatose state and can scarcely open the eyes, bowels confined, urine high coloured and scanty, severe head-ache, great pain in the chest on coughing or breathing, tongue coated and furred.

Physical signs, dullness on percussion, crepitant rhonchus and puerile respiration.

R. Tr. Acon. Pot. 3. gtt. i.

Aquæ. $\frac{3}{4}$ ij, misce.

Cap. Coch. Parv. om. iv. horas.

Next day—Had a comfortable night, skin moist, coughed but little, bowels opened several times, more cheerful and has taken some food. Cont. Med. om. vi. horas.

Next day—Progressing favorably, so much so that in four days from the time I saw the child she was quite cured of the Inflammation of the lungs.

Now contrast this with the prevalent treatment of Inflammation of the lungs, as stated by Dr. WATSON, in his *Practice of Physic*, a book, which is considered by Allopaths as the *ne plus ultra* of medical perfection, and whose directions are implicitly followed by nine-tenths of the Allopaths: He says, “a vein may be opened, if necessary, *two or three times*, in the *twenty-four-hours*.” * * * “When the Fever is no longer high, and the skin no longer burning, but the expectoration is still difficult, the dyspnoea (difficulty of breathing) considerable, and a sensation of pain or tightness, or compression is experienced, in the chest, then a *large blister*, is often productive of very sensible benefit, but it should be a large one. The patient should have a *waistcoat* almost, or at any rate, a *breast-plate of blistering plaster*!!” Nor is this all, for he goes on, recommending Calomel, Purging, Tartar Emetic, &c. &c. to be given at the same time!!!

Enough ! Enough ! I hope the time is not far distant when the eyes of the public will be opened to the prevalent "Distructive Art of Healing" as Lord BYRON called Allopathy, of which the above is a sample.

CASE OF APOPLEXY.

May 2nd. 1853.—Mr.———, aged 70, full habit of body, temperament sanguine, heavy make and short neck, has been for many years addicted to beer, (to excess;) but of late has been very moderate. Two days ago drank more than usual; following morning "seemed queer," refused his breakfast and during the day appeared stupid. Next day lost all power of speaking and in the evening lost all power over his voluntary muscles. I was now sent for and when I arrived I found him lying in bed quite insensible and powerless, breathing very deeply and loudly; mouth drawn to the left side; face very red; pulse 90 in right arm and full, but in the left very weak; no power over right arm; feet cold; eyes shut and pupils dilated, sensible to light. Took last night two "Antibilious Pills," bowels slightly moved this morning.

Ordered twelve leeches to the temples, cold to the head and warmth to the feet, and Bell. Tr. Pot. 3rd. every half-hour.

3rd.—Eyes open, got up this morning at 8 o'clock, and drew up the window blind, can't utter a word distinctly, keeps mumbling something, but his sons cannot understand him; passed a great quantity of urine during the night, pulse 100, can move all his limbs, great difficulty in swallowing. Habt. Op. Tr. Pot. 3rd. every two hours and Dr. JUNOD's "Hæmospasic Boot," • applied to leg.

7 o'clock, p. m.—Lies on his back, eyes shut; mouth open and breathing very heavily; pupils dilated, but sensible to light, water trickles out of the mouth; can't articulate a word, "Hæmospasic Boot" to be again applied and Habt. Op. at longer intervals.

4th.—A considerable quantity of blood was drawn from the upper extremities into the leg, by the action of the "Boot" last night, which appeared to relieve him; slept heavily during the night. Took a dose of castor oil and had two evacuations this morning; pulse 64, head cool, eyes open, can move all his limbs, but can't articulate a word. Habt. Sac. Lac. every two hours.

At this stage of the disease I was taken ill, and one of my Colleagues was kind enough to take charge of the case for a few

See description of this apparatus, p. 24, &c.

days. He informed me that he gave him, chiefly, Opium, and when I again visited my patient, I found him still progressing favourably, which continued uninterrupted, until the 20th. when he was quite recovered; using no other medicine in the interval than *Nux Vomica*, at long intervals.

Now there are many points in the treatment of the above case for which a pure Homœopath—i. e. one who pins his faith, implicitly, to all the *dicta* and *dogmas* of Dr. HAHNEMANN, would condemn me; such as giving castor oil, applying leeches and using Dr. JUNOD's Boot, but did not the results of these appliances, in the above case, justify their use? My duty, as a Medical-man, is to *cure* my patients, irrespective of all shibboleths of party, and not to stubbornly and stupidly refuse to use either a medicine or an appliance, which offers to benefit my patient; just because HAHNEMANN did not sanction it! Was HAHNEMANN, perfect? Did not the fierce opposition and persecution which he received from the Allopaths, *bigot* and *prejudice* his mind to the exercise of many excellent things in their system? I have a mind of my own, as well as HAHNEMANN, and though no one reveres the name of HAHNEMANN and appreciates more the splendid discoveries which he made in Science and medicine—than I, yet I do not consider him, as pure Homœopaths do, the pink of perfection, and therefore I intend to receive, as far as I am able to discriminate, the *many excellent medical doctrines and precepts* which he taught the world, and refuse those *few*, erroneous precepts which he dogmatically inculcates upon his disciples.

All Reformers whether in Science, Theology or Medicine, are more or less bigots and dogmatists, as the opposition and persecution which they receive from their opponents drive them to hating with a perfect hatred all and every of their opponents principles. Read the lives of Reformers and I think they will justify this conclusion.

These remarks are not made to dim any of the lustre, which *justly* shines on the brow and around the immortal crown of HAHNEMANN, no! his faults were *very few*, in comparison with his thousand excellent virtues; and the blessings which flow to suffering humanity from them, counterbalance ten thousand times, his few faults.

CONCUSSION OF THE BRAIN, WITH FRACTURE OF THE ELBOW-JOINT.

Dec. 27th. 1853.—Mr. ——— whilst walking along the path-way, owing to the slippery state of the path, slipped and fell

with great violence on his head and elbow ; producing concussion of the brain and fracture of the elbow.

I saw him at 12 o'clock, p. m. same day of accident and found him completely insensible and snoring most loudly ; mouth open and blood issuing from its corners ; eyes shut, with eyeballs turned up and pupils contracted ; head hot and bathed in a cold perspiration, no power whatever over any of his limbs. Ordered cold to the head, warmth to the feet, and *Habt. a spoonful of the following medicine every hour, until consciousness returned.*

R. Tr. Opii. Pot. gtt. iv

Aquæ. $\frac{3}{4}$ iv. Misce.

28th.—As I was apprehensive that my patient would be dead before morning, I requested his son to call in the morning and let me know how his father was. He came about 9 o'clock, and told me that his "father had not taken the first spoonful of the water in the glass"—that is the medicine—"more than ten minutes, until his breathing become easier and was altogether better, and now he is quite conscious and talks well, but does not recollect that anything has occurred to him."

Called at 12 o'clock and found him as above stated. He had taken only four doses of the medicine,

I now examined his elbow and found it very much bruised and the *olecranon* fractured. I applied an Arnica lotion, to reduce the swelling, and the next morning, the swelling having subsided, the arm was set and splints applied. The patient progressed most favourably and was able to be up on the second day after the accident. His elbow is now (24 Jan. 1854,) nearly well.

I think to an unprejudice mind the above case speaks volumes in favor of Homœopathy ! The patient was a very heavy and plethoric man, and up in years, yet he was cured without losing one drop of blood, or having administered any Calomel or purgative medicine, or having any blisters applied—all indispensable remedies, under Allopathic treatment in such cases—and what was the consequences he got up the second day after his accident, without any reduction of his strength, instead of being nearly bled and physicked to death !

ACUTE CASE OF DYSENTERY.

The following is my own case, and I quote it in preference to others, because I am at liberty to give full particulars.

In last Dec. being very busy and out at all hours, I got wet and had not time to change my clothes, the consequence was

that the next day I was seized with great languor and prostration, so much so, that I could scarcely walk. When I came in for an early dinner, I felt very shivery and as if cold water was trickling down my back, and when I sat down to dinner, great nausea came on, so that I could eat nothing. In a short time violent pinching, nauseating pain came on in my bowels and soon after I had an evacuation. I then took Dulc. Dil. 12 glob. i. in a spoonful of water, and went out to see several patients—was often in excruciating pain in my bowels, and when I came home about 7, o'clock, I had another evacuation, with great pain and sickness—repeated Dulc.—took a vapour bath and went to bed—all night in great pain and had frequent evacuations.

In the morning felt easier and took Mer. Dil. 12, 1 glob. in a spoonful of water. Went out on foot to visit several patients; had frequent evacuations during the day, and could eat scarcely anything—took *Mer.* at night and went to bed early, but the pain and tormina in my bowels increased rapidly after going to bed, and I had exceedingly painful evacuations about every half hour; took *Mer.* after each evacuation. Towards 3 o'clock in the morning I became exceedingly ill, and had to go to the close stool every five minutes, each motion accompanied with terrible pain, pinching and sickness. The excrements now became mixed with blood, with horrible tenesmus. Took *Mer. Corros.* every five minutes. Motions towards six o'clock in the morning nothing but blood. Continued *Mer. Corros.* after each. About eight o'clock, a.m. became easier: took some tea and dry toast, after which I fell asleep and awoke bathed in a perspiration. Had another motion but with much less pain. During the night I had twenty-seven evacuations! This being Sunday I was fortunately enabled to keep my bed, and towards six o'clock, p.m. I felt so much better that I got up and sat at the fire till ten o'clock, p.m. having a most voracious appetite, which however, I took care not to indulge. Went to bed at ten o'clock and slept most comfortably and got up next morning for breakfast, which I eat most heartily. Saw several patients in the study, and at eleven o'clock, drove out and during the day visited *twenty-three* patients, with as much ease as ever I did in all my life. Had a most capital appetite all day and enjoyed my food much.

Now had I been treated Allopathically, it is questionable whether I would have been able to leave my bed for several days, as the immense quantity of Calomel and opium, which I must have taken, would have completely prostrated me, and made my head painful and produced a Fever in my system.

Contrast this with the Allopathic treatment of a similar case,

in the person of Dr. CUMMING, as related by himself, he says, "I was *largely bled* at the arm, had *fifty leeches* applied to the abdomen, and during the first four days of the disease, in addition to extensive mercurial frictions, I swallowed, *two hundred and sixteen grains of Calomel*. True! I revived, or rather I did not die, whether in consequence or in spite of the above heroic treatment I will not venture to say. My face was swollen to an enormous size (from the Mercury) every tooth was loose in my jaws (from the Mercury) and for six or eight weeks I could eat no solid food; my constitution received a shock from which it never fairly recovered, and I was obliged to come to Europe on furlough." *British Medical Practice*, says, "he deals too much in heroics."

CASE OF CONSTIPATION OF THE BOWELS OF LONG DURATION.

A Medical Gentleman of ardent, impetuous and irritable disposition; given to much reading and hard study and writing, suffered for a long time from Constipation, and was obliged for many years before he tried Homœopathy to take daily doses of castor oil. He had tried all sorts of mixtures and pills, without any permanent benefit, and had taken so much of them that at last their very appearance almost made him sick. He, at last, after great persuasion by his wife, commenced taking two tea-spoon-fulls of castor oil every morning about five o'clock. His description of his taking this dose was truly ludicrous. He said that, "every morning, as regular as clock work, his wife nudged him with her elbow and said" "H——, get up, five o'clock; oil." At which alarm the idea of taking the oil, made the water run into his mouth, and he always thought that he smelled the oil. He would lie for a few minutes, feel his pulse, &c. and try to persuade himself that he did not want it, and once or twice did not take it, but during the day he paid the penalty, as he was as cross as a march-hare all day. After lying a few minutes he would roll out of bed, with a sigh, look at the oil on the mantelpiece, where it was always ready mixed up for him the previous night by his wife; turn away from it, walk about the room for a minute or so, look at the oil again, perhaps take it up, and turn his head away and lay it down, at last he would seize his nose with the left hand, hold it fast, and after one or two attempts to put it to his mouth, sum up resolution and quaff it off and pop into bed, still holding his nose firmly. This went on for some considerable time, until

the very sight of oil was disgusting to him. His frame was now becoming sadly attenuated, appetite bad, terribly irritable temper, hands trembling and suffering from debility. His case was now altogether serious, and being a man above prejudice and of a liberal and Philosophic spirit, he determined to try Homœopathy.

I gave him *Nux Vomica*, Pot. 12, glob. ij. for two nights, in a spoonful of water.

The following morning he said he had a more comfortable motion than he had had for years. I did not repeat the medicine this day, as I was anxious to try the effects of these two doses on his system. When he next presented himself—three days after the last dose—he had had, no evacuation, and expressed his astonishment, that he did not feel at all irritable; for, said he, “if I had gone three days without an evacuation under Allopathic treatment, I would have been almost mad, but to-day, I am quite myself and feel no inconvenience.”

I told him that this was *prima facie* evidence that the medicine was rectifying that perverted state of his secretions, which caused this irritability in his system, and that should he not have a motion for some days to come he would experience no inconvenience as the food which he now took was properly *assimilated*; pure blood was circulating in his body, instead of being loaded with noxious principles, and that, this being the case, his food was nourishing him and making but little fæces. To which he replied “I feel this to be the case, as I am certainly stronger than I was and enjoying my food amazingly.”

This Gentleman was for some months under my care, and therefore to enter into a full and particular detail of its treatment would be tedious, suffice it to say, that he is now in excellent health, and what is better, a firm convert to Homœopathy and in active practice every day. The medicines which he principally used, were *Nux Vomica*, *Pulsatilla*, *Mercurius*, *Chamomilla China*; changed according to circumstances.

From the time he consulted me, until the present; now about *three years*, he has never taken a dose of opening medicine, lost all his irritable feelings and is now (to use his own expression,) “able to laugh at trifles, &c. which would formerly have thrown him into a hurrican of passion.”

He writes me, “God bless you, my dear boy, and may your life be long spared to administer comfort and health to your Dyspeptic fellow mortals, and thus rid them of those horrid pills and mixtures and oil,—oh! horrid oil, I shudder when I think of you—to which I was so long an ignorant slave.”

Such cases as these accompanied with such cheering results, make one value as nothing the taunts and opprobrious epithets of Recusant and Quack, cast upon us by our illiberal and ignorant opponents.

CASE OF BRONCHITIS; ACCOMPANIED BY
SCARLET FEVER.

Oct. 7th.—Miss———, aged about 80, caught a severe cold which ended in Inflammation of the Bronchia. Under the influence of Pulsatilla and Nux Vomica, the Bronchial affliction was subsiding rapidly, but on the 7th. day, after her seizure, symptoms of Scarlet Fever, made their appearance, viz.—sore throat, redness on the skin, &c. &c. This, of course, in a Lady of her age, made the case a serious and complicated one, but, notwithstanding she was completely cured, in a short time, and ever since has enjoyed good health. The medicines which cured this case, were Aconitum Napellus, Phosphorus and Arsenicum Album.

I have two reasons for mentioning this case, the first is to show the curative effects of Homœopathic medicine in such a severe case, and the second is to point out the absurdity of those Homœopaths who refuse to give a dose of castor oil.

Now this Lady was not aware that I was treating her case Homœopathically, she had confidence in me and therefore committed herself entirely into my hands. Being a person of a naturally constipated habit of body, her bowels were very obstinate, and did not move, sometimes, for three or four days, which gave her great *mental* uneasiness, as she could not believe that all was going on right under these circumstances, so she kept continually importuning me to “give her some physic.” Seeing that the case was progressing most favorably, I did not consider this necessary, but she could not believe this, and therefore determined “to call in some other doctor, if I did not give her some physic.” Things having arrived at this crisis, and knowing that a dose of castor oil would do her no harm, but positive good, as it would remove that state of *mental* anxiety, which was acting unfavorably, and to a great extent keeping up that state of Constipation which, all wished removed,—for be it observed, there may be a *mental Constipation*, as well as a physical one, I *ergo* gave her a dose of oil, which effectually removed both those sources of Constipation. Now had I stupidly refused to have complied with her request, I would have been ousted, and

Mr. FOWLER, would have been sent for, and, at once, have removed the source of anxiety and thus have the credit for curing the patient, when, in fact, none was due to him, and I, poor I! who had brought my patient,—up to this period,—victoriously through all her sufferings would have been stigmatized and pointed out by the finger of public scorn, as the *doctor* who would have killed Miss——, had not Mr. FOWLER been called in.

Had my patient not been the subject for many years of a physical defect which rendered it impossible for me to explain, the nature of her much dreaded Constipation, the giving of oil, might have been obviated, as I could have thus removed the *mental* constipation, which kept up the physical one, but this not being the case, I was obliged to administer to her Psychological state, by a physical agent, in order to remove the Constipation, or else give up the case, when Homœopathy had gained the victory over it, and thus instead of either I or it, getting any credit, both would have been hooted and cried down. But acting like a rational man and giving the oil, Homœopathy has been extolled far and wide for curing such a case, and many converts have been made to it thereby.

CASE OF SCARLET FEVER.

Aug. 21st.—Miss—— a child aged 4 years, was seized with symptoms of Scarlet Fever, namely:—general fever, sore throat, cough, eyes watering, great intolerance of light, thirst, &c. As the symptoms indicated Bell. I gave Tr. Bell. Pot. 3. gtt. ij. in Aquæ ʒij. cujus Hab. Coch. Parv. om. 4^{to}. horas.

22nd.—Fever much abated and skin moist, child had a good night. Cont. Bell. at longer intervals.

28th.—Yesterday the regular Scarlet Fever eruption came out all over the child, and the tongue, for some days past, had presented that peculiar strawberry appearance, indicative of Scarlet Fever. Habt. Bell. om. 3^{ta}. horas.

30th.—Head, face and back of hands swelled and puffy, redness of the skin comes out and goes in at intervals. Cont. Bell. m. aneque nocte.

REMARKS.

From this date the child continued to progress favorably, under the use of Belladonna, but the efflorescence on the skin, the swellings of the hands, face, &c. kept coming and going, for some days, in a way, which rather puzzled me, as it was the

first case of Scarlet Fever, that I had treated Homœopathically.

It however occurred to me that, perhaps, this was owing to the dose of Bell. which the child was taking night and morning, so I ordered it to be discontinued, and the consequence was, that the efflorescence on the skin, the swelling of the face and hands, disappeared in a few days, and the child recovered most rapidly.

I adduce this case to show, first, how cautious one ought to proceed in giving Homœopathic medicine, and secondly, how necessary it is, that one ought to be able to judge, whether the symptoms present are those of the *medicine* or those of the *disease*, a thing which none, but those skilled in both the nature of disease and the properties of medicine, can discriminate.

Had I, for instance, been ignorant of the effects of Belladonna, I would, most certainly, have discontinued it, concluding that it was not suitable for the child, and have ordered some other medicine, the consequence of which would have been, as before mentioned, a producing of fresh symptoms in the child and consequently double confusion. But, knowing that the efflorescence produced by Belladonna is not exactly *identical* only *similar* to that of Scarlet Fever, I discontinued the Bell. and gave no other medicine and thus cured the child speedily.

It is precisely the lack of knowing the effects of drugs upon the system, that makes the generality of the cases under Allopathic treatment so tedious and complicated, as in the majority of cases, they are, as previously proved, treating symptoms, pains and sufferings, produced by the medicines which they themselves have given—with a laudible intention—but in *ignorance* of their properties.

Let both medical and lay amateur Homœopathists learn a useful lesson from the above and be careful, how they administer their much laughed at *innocent* globules, as they are sharpened weapons.

CASE OF LABOUR.

14th. March—Mrs. P——, aged 40, was confined with her eighth child. The labour was a tedious and difficult one. This Lady has always suffered very much in her confinements, and has been obliged to take a great quantity of Ergot of Rye to assist in expediting the pains. After each confinement, “the pains” were so severe, obstinate and tedious, that she had to take great quantities of Laudanum to lull them, and was never

able to leave her bed for eight weeks after her *Accouchement*, on account of the prostration &c., which afterwards ensued.

A few months before her confinement, this Lady happened to consult me, about Piles which always annoyed her in the latter months of Pregnancy and which were a source of great suffering to her in her confinements. She had always taken medicine for them from my predecessor Mr. RICHARDSON, but never found any relief therefrom. In one month, I succeeded, in effectually relieving her by Homœopathic medicine, and the consequence was that a principal source of her aggravated suffering, during her former confinements, was removed.

In her labour, this time, which was the first in which she had been treated, Homœopathically she had to take neither Ergot of Rye nor Laudanum, neither *before, in or after* her *Accouchement*. The only medicines I gave her were Pulsatilla, Chamomilla, Coffee and Belladonna, and the consequence was, that she was *up and well* on the *eighth day* of her *Accouchement*, instead of the *eighth week*, as she had to indure no *pains, produced and kept up*, by the enormous doses of Ergot of Rye, which she was obliged to take in all her former labours, neither had she to suffer from the stupifying and prostrating effects of the Laudanum which was administered to her to lull those pains and sufferings.

This is another instance wherein diseases and pains are produced by drugs and then drugs have to be administered to relieve these sufferings. Would to God that Allopaths would open their eyes to these facts! I seriously beg all Allopathic Accoucheurs to ponder this case. Do, I implore you, try Homœopathic medicine in diseases incidental to pregnancy and in labour itself, and if after giving it a *judicious* trial, you find it is not *ten times*, more preferable than all your Ergot, Laudanum, Chloroform, &c, &c, I will at, your request, burn every copy of this book, and more than this, declare that in it, I propounded *false* doctrines and deduced *erroneous* conclusions. Will this not induce you, Gentlemen, to give Homœopathy a trial? Can I offer more? Listen! do you hear the groans of yonder delicate Lady in her hours of nature's suffering and sorrow, and will you add thereto, by administering drugs, which may perhaps *primarily* relieve, but eventually aggravate her sufferings! No, Gentlemen, God forbid that I should be so uncharitable as to suppose you are callous enough to act so, *willingly*, as I know you give this medicine with a good intention, but this is no apology, if you still stupidly and doggardly refuse to practice a system, which offers a *comparative* immunity, from these sufferings.

I may add that this Lady has never enjoyed such excellent health, as she has done since this confinement, a fact which she

will be happy to attest which she attributes to being treated Homœopathically.

CASE OF MEASLES.

March 16th, Mrs. R——'s baby, aged two years, has a short dry cough, sneezes much, eyes suffused and watery, nose runs much, great intolerance of light, skin very hot, thirsty, pulse 140, very restless and peevish, yawns much, tongue white. Her sister has just had an attack of Measles, which however was checked immediately by suitable doses of Pulsatilla and Aconitum Napellus.

Habt. Acon. $\frac{3}{4}^o$ in Aquæ. $\frac{3}{4}$ iv. Cap. Coch. Parv. om. 4^{to}. horas.

17th.—Cough very bad, blood spouts from the nose when coughing, other symptoms much the same, pulse 130, Cont. Acon. om. 2nd. horas, if cough bad and blood comes from the nose.

18th.—Slight eruption over thighs and legs; fever much abated, no more bleeding at the nose, Pulse, $\frac{3}{4}^o$ in Coch. iv. Cap. Coch. om. horas.

20th.—Much better. To have a dose of castor oil in the morning.

22nd.—Improving fast.

REMARKS.

My experience in the treatment of Measles, by Homœopathic medicine, leads me to believe that Pulsatilla is a *specific*, if administered at the *proper stage* and in a *suitable dose*, and will in the generality of cases, cut the complaint very short, as in the above case. It may be interesting to some to know that this excellent medicine is prepared from the common Anemone Pratensis, (Ranunculaceæ,) a perennial, indigenous to elevated places, where the soil is dry and sandy. Who would think that,

“Within the infant rind of this *small flower*,
Poison hath residence and *medicine power*.”

Yet such is the fact, as it contains in its beautiful leaves, stalks, &c., an excellent remedy for many complaints, incidental to children and females.

CASE OF POISONING BY DRUGS.

Jan. 22nd, 1854, was called at 2, o'clock, a.m. to visit Moses Beale, aged 24, of 15, Grosvenor Terrace, found him in most agonizing tortures and quite delirious; tossing his head from side to side, kicking and jumping up in bed, eyes furious and cracking his teeth together occasionally, continually moaning and crying “Ah! ah!” and then coughing very much.

Upon inquiring into the nature of the case, I was informed that he had been in a delicate state of health lately, and that the Doctors considered him Consumptive. He had been taking medicine regularly, from an Allopath, up to the time of this attack.

He was in his usual health up to the middle of to-day, Sunday the 22nd. Jan., when he was seized with great sickness and retching, which continued until near midnight, the sickness was so violent that his attendants thought that he would disgorge his stomach, and the pain attending it was so great that it made him almost frantic. His bowels were also frequently acted upon with much pain; the pupils of his eyes were completely closed, so that he could see nothing; his face very red and eyes watering; pulse about 100 and full, and skin bedewed with a cold sweat.

From the above statement and the present symptoms, I was satisfied that he had been taking some powerful medicine, and asked to see it, when Mr. B——, (whose lodger Moses Beale was,) handed me a bottle of about a pint size, half full of medicine, saying that, "he was certain this medicine was too strong for him, as he had not commenced taking it long, before the sickness came on." I asked, if he had the prescription, which he produced, and the mystery was now solved, as I found that the prescription was for a strong mixture of TARTAR EMETIC; and Soap and Opium Pills. Two table-spoon-fulls of the mixture were to be taken every *four hours*! and *two* of the Pills every second night. We tried hard to get him to take some medicine to neutralize the *poisonous* effects of these destructive drugs, but he kicked and groaned and grinned with pain, and clenched his teeth and would not take it. I am satisfied he dreaded it, fearing it was the same medicine which he had been using.

I saw him again next morning, when he was much in the same way. His attendants informed me that they managed to drench him with a little of the medicine once or twice, but with great difficulty—Arrow-root he took with avidity.—As his head was very hot, ice was applied to it. Saw him frequently during the day and in the evening, had Dr. JUNON'S "Hæmaspasic Boot" applied to his leg, hoping that it might relieve his head, by drawing some blood from his upper extremities. The Boot was applied for about an hour and a half, and I was informed, that he seemed easier and calmer after it, but he died next morning at 7 o'clock.

REMARKS.

Comment on the above case is needless. The facts speak for

themselves. The mortar and pestle did their work. This is only one of the many thousand cases, wherein virulent poisonous drugs despatch the patient, and yet few attach any blame to drugs, but lay all on the shoulders of the disease. How is this? Just because, as I have hitherto fully proved, neither Allopaths nor the public know the real effects of drugs upon the system, and therefore they use them ignorantly and most incautiously.

I grant that the above case is an exception to the generality of cases of poisoning by drugs, inasmuch as the poor man was quickly despatched by them, whereas, in the every-day occurrences, they do their work *quietly* and *secretly*, in the sick chamber, under the eyes of anxious friends and medical superintendence.

Do I blame Allopaths for this? nay, I don't. Far, very far be it from me to be so uncharitable; as I am convinced, they prescribe medicine with a laudable and good intention, and are not aware of the destructive nature of the drugs. What I lament is, their ignorance of the nature of the remedies which they use, and that they will continue to prescribe them in total ignorance of their properties, and shut their eyes to the fearful havoc which they make upon the sick man.

But, I may be asked, how is this to be avoided? I reply, by first studying the action of medicine upon the *healthy man*, before giving them to the sick. Had the Doctors, who prescribed the Tartar Emetic *every four hours* and the *enormous* dose of Opium every second night, for poor Moses Beale, known this, he would *now*, in all probability have been a living man instead of a dead corpse, as I venture to affirm, that no man, who knew the action of Tartar Emetic and Opium on the healthy man would have given them in such large and frequent doses, in a sickly, weak and attenuated Consumptive patient. One glance at the provings of these two drugs in the *Materia Medica*, of the Homœopathists would have made them shudder at this.

I thought of having a Coroner's Inquest on the deceased, but on more mature reflection, I considered, my best plan was to lay the facts of the case *thus* before the public, as had I demanded an Inquest, however condemnatory of the treatment my evidence might have been, the Allopaths would have rushed in a body against me, and probably have overwhelmed my evidence, as I am only *one* against *forty*, and on such an occasion as this, their whole strength would have been summoned to the rescue of their "Art," as the battle cry would have been "Homœopathy *versus* Allopathy."

I however considered myself bound to submit these facts to the public, and it seemed almost a Providential occurrence that such a case should happen when this work was in the press, as it will give a convincing testimony to what I there say of the destructive property of drugs, as prescribed Allopathically.

JAUNDICE, ACCOMPANIED WITH INVETERATE ITCHING ALL OVER THE BODY.

Nov. 23rd.—J. M——, Esq., aged 45, of a nervous, bilious temperament, caught a cold in London, and has been ill for some days. When I first saw him, he was in bed suffering from a most horrible itching all over him, but particularly in pubes, back, legs, fingers, and arms. He was obliged to scratch himself so much, that he had literally torn and ploughed up his flesh with his nails, nor could he get any sleep night or day, the itching was so teasing. The whole skin was of a dark yellow colour. The eyes were very yellow, tongue white and very foul, urine just like coffee and full of bile, bowels sluggish and inactive, naturally of a constipated habit, no appetite at all, severe head-ache, spirits low and desponding, thinks he can't be cured, feels considerable nausea and has been sick. Took yesterday a Blue-Pill and Black Draught, and had a vapour bath last night, which induced considerable perspiration.

Habt. Mer. $\frac{1}{2}$ in Aqua, $\frac{3}{4}$ iv. Cap. Coch. mag. om. 4^{to}. horas and to repeat bath to-night.

24th.—Had a tolerable good night, less irritation; other symptoms much the same. Cont. Mer. maneque nocte.

25th.—Horrid irritation on skin, no sleep, bowels opened to-day, secretion whitish, urine very dark, tongue cleaner.

China. $\frac{1}{2}$ in Aqua, $\frac{3}{4}$ iv. Cap. Coch. mag. ter de die, repeat bath.

26th.—Tolerably good night, perspired copiously after bath. Cont. China.

27th.—Great itching all night, no sleep, bowels moved, secretion like white paint, urine very coffee-like. Habt. Mer. $\frac{1}{2}$ utend ut prius.

From this date the irritation and yellow colour of eyes and skin began to diminish, he had more refreshing nights, skin and bowels acted better, urine became more natural, appetite and spirits improved, and he progressed favourably, with occasional attacks of the irritation, until the 31st. Dec. when he was able to go out to dinner.

REMARKS.

The horrible irritation which attended this case of Jaundice, is quite an unusual thing, and rendered the case a very awkward and intractable one to manage, I never, in my Allopathic practice, recollect to have met with such a symptom. It was truly distressing, even for one to witness the way in which he tore himself; but, how much more so for him to endure! He might have exclaimed with the Priest who was tormented with Pruritus "*Je suis sur le gril et j'endure le martyre de Saint Laurent.*" However notwithstanding, this unfavorable symptom, which showed how fearfully deranged the fluids of the general system were—the patient was cured in little more than a month. The medicines Homœopathic to such an abnormal attendant of Jaundice, are Sulphur, Bryonia Alba, Mercurius and China, and these I found all potent to quell it.

I ought to state, that the patient was not confined to the house more than a week, as during the latter part of his treatment, he attended in a great measure to his occupation, involving much physical exertion and mental anxiety; things which tended to both retard his recovery and keep up the irritation—more especially as he is of a highly excitable nature. Nor was his convalescence protracted, by the system having to throw off the effects of Calomel, Mercury, Opium, quarts of queer mixtures, &c.; and to recover the loss of blood and other fluids, which, under Allopathic treatment, he must have submitted to, as during the whole of his treatment, he took neither Calomel, nor Opium, nor any purgative, nor did he lose one drop of blood, by either leeches, lancet or cupping—and hence his rapid recovery.

This Gentleman wished me to publish his name, but I declined it, thanking him for his offer.

SCORBUTIC ERUPTIONS, ON CHIN, MOUTH, NECK,
ARMS, ETC.

Jan. 19th, 1854—Master——, aged 4 years, has been afflicted for the last three years with running Scorbutic sores, as above stated, which have resisted all ordinary Allopathic treatment, and his parents feeling very anxious to have him cured, as they could not in his present state send him to school, consulted me about his case. I said, I believed, I could cure him, consequently he was placed under my care.

After a thorough examination of the case, I prescribed, Sulphur, Pot. 30. glob. i. in Aqua. Coch. Sumend alter nocte.

23rd.—Eruption is drier, and there has been considerably less itching at nights. Habt. Sac. Lac. om. nocte.

30th.—Very much improved, no discharge from the sores, cracked nature of the sores disappearing. Cont. Sac. Lac. om. nocte.

Feb. 6th.—Not so well, appearance of sore and other symptoms indicate Mercurius. Habt. Mer. Pot. 30. glob. i. in Coch. Aqua om. nocte, pour quat. noctes.

It is now the 13th. April, not three months since I first saw the case, and the eruptions on neck, &c. are nearly all gone. The only medicines which I gave were Sulph. and Mer. at suitable intervals and doses.

The Father of the child has favoured me with the following, which I have great pleasure in laying before my readers, and he also requests me to state, that he will cheerfully give any one ocular demonstration of the case, by submitting his son to their inspection.

“To Dr. HASTINGS,”

“Dear Sir,

From about 12 months old, my son, was troubled with an unsightly eruption or breaking out, apparently of a Scorbutic character, on his face, neck and limbs. None of the other children were troubled in the same manner. From twelve months to the completion of his *fourth* year, all means failed to get rid of the unsightly (to others, and to himself) irritating disease.

At this period I was casually introduced to yourself when you assured me that nearly all skin diseases, yielded to Homœopathic treatment.

After twelve weeks trial, at intervals, of the tasteless white globules, I am happy to say, the skin of the boy's neck, arms, and legs is restored to soundness—the only part not entirely cured, being the lower lip, the cure of which I doubt not the Homœopathic treatment will eventually complete.

Myself and wife are very thankful, as it would have been very unpleasant to others to have sent him to school; besides it was very troublesome and unpleasant to himself.

I remain, my dear Sir,

Yours respectfully,”

“Cheltenham,

April 13, 1854.”

INVETERATE CASE OF SKIN DISEASE.

Mr. F's child, 10 months old, has been subject to an eruption, since it was 10 weeks old. Has been under many Medical-men but derived no benefit. When the child came under my care, its eye-lids, forehead, sides of head, chin, bends of elbows and legs, and calves of legs, &c. &c. were literally covered with a red scaly eruption and large scabs, accompanied with great itching and oozing of a corrosive fluid. It was painful to look at the disfigured state of the child's face, nearly covered with scabs, and still more painful to see the way it tore and scratched itself.

As Mercurius was the medicine indicated, I commenced with it giving what I considered a proper dose and proper potency, and in one week's time, the eruption presented a more healthy appearance.

I do not intend to enter into a particular statement of the treatment of this case, as it was a most inveterate and complicated one, and one which required peculiar management, owing to the child having frequent attacks of Inflammation of the lungs, whilst under my charge the consequence of which was that the treatment for the eruption, had to be suspended at these times, and this together with other circumstances, made its cure of a protracted nature. My object is to show that notwithstanding all these unfavourable circumstances, the child was cured Homœopathically, when all other means had failed, a fact of which, I am happy to say, the parents of the child will give any one ocular demonstration. They also feel so grateful that they wished me to publish their names, but I declined it, for the reasons elsewhere stated.

SKIN DISEASE OF TWELVE YEARS STANDING.

Sept. 28th. 1854—Miss G——, aged 19 years, has been the subject of a loathsome skin disease ever since she was 6 years of age. During the last *twelve* years she has been continually using medicine for it, under the directions of many Doctors, but experienced no relief. Has tried Sulphur baths, innumerable, and taken pounds of Sulphur, internally; says the baths did her good for a short time, but the eruption always came out again; the sulphur always made her worse.

• This Gentleman gave me permission to use his name but I declined his kind offer, as my object is not to parade names before the public, but to state facts. H. H.

When she consulted me, her legs, arms, thighs, chest, back, abdomen, &c. were covered with a red scaly eruption, in large and small patches, accompanied with horrible *burning itching* especially at nights. She was in very low spirits, as the Doctors had told her that she could not be cured.

After having duly regulated her diet, I gave her Sulph. $\frac{3}{4}$ Misce in Aqua $\frac{3}{4}$ vi. Cujus Capt. Coch. Mag. maneque nocte.

Oct. 4th.—Eruption looks deader and drier and there has been less itching. Cont. Sulph. om. maue.

It is now the 28th. March, 1854, precisely six months since I commenced to treat this case, and it is now nearly quite well. The only medicines which she used, were *Arsenicum* and *Sulphur*; ten times more of the latter than the former, and it is a striking fact and one which tends to establish the superior curative powers of *dynamised* infinitesimal doses, to those crude Allopathic ones; that she had taken Sulphur in *large doses*, for nearly twelve years, with no benefit, but that when she took this *truly* Homœopathic medicine, for this complaint, in dynamised infinitesimal doses; six days had not elapsed until a positive and permanent improvement was evident.

Here was one of those cases in which Allopaths and Homœopaths agree, in the remedy to be given, but differ in the mode of its preparation and dose, the one aggravating the disease by their crude doses; the other curing it by the *same remedy properly prepared and administered*. Allopaths, I intreat you, learn a lesson from this case, and if you doubt what I say, come to me, *in an honest and enquiring spirit*, and I will give you the name and address of the patient, so that you may have these facts confirmed out of her own lips. Can I offer more?

INTRICATE CASE OF SKIN DISEASE OF TWENTY YEARS DURATION.

J. A——, Esq. aged 60, a retired Medical-man, has suffered for the last twenty years from a most horrible itching and eruption about the arms, in the perineum, on the scrotum, in the arm-pits, &c. and the irritation extended all along the urethra and troubled him much in urinating. On examining the perineum &c. I perceived numerous cracks, oozing a thin fluid of a most corrosive nature, the parts were very red and scurfy and completely raw. Whilst I was examining them, the itching was so intolerable, that he could not refrain from scratching them, until he brought blood. I shall never forget the way he tore

himself. I gave him a cloth to wipe himself with, and after he had done, it was completely saturated with an ichorous bloody fluid. He had tried every thing to cure it, lotions, ointments, stimulants, &c. in fact, had exhausted both the *Pharmacopeia* and *Materia Medica*, and had been under the care of numerous Medical-men, but to no avail, and as a last resource he consulted me.

Seeing the chronic and inveterate nature of the case, I told him, I believed I could cure him, if he would put himself under my care for at least six months, with which he readily complied, saying "I can't cure it myself, nor can, I fear, any other man. as I and many others have tried it for the last twenty years and have failed."

Never mind that, said I, you have never tried Homœopathy, so you will see what the much ridiculed globules, (by your Allopaths,) will avail in your case.

It is now about *three months*, since this Gentleman put himself under my care, and the result is that the eruption has all gone, neither is there any oozing or cracking in the skin, and the only thing that he now suffers from, is a little itching occasionally at nights, when in bed. He is still under my care, and I have no doubt but that ere long the itching at nights will also be subdued.

Here again my readers will perceive, that the tiny Homœopathic globule has effected more good in three months, than all the Allopathic medicine did in *twenty years*. The medicines which were given in this case, were Sulph. Petrol. Mer. Hep. &c.

When the cure is completed this Gentleman intends publishing the case himself for the benefit of others.

RHEUMATIC FEVER AND DROPSY.

G. S——, Esq., aged 72, has lived well and rather freely for many years, is subject to Gout and Rheumatism.

April 24th, was seized with an attack of Gout in right foot, and after the Gout was subdued a severe attack of Rheumatism came on which completely prostrated him for some time. Upon examining his abdomen, I found a considerable quantity of water there, and I now saw that I had not only Gout and Rheumatism to battle with, but also Dropsy of the bowels. This of course, in a man of his age and habits, made the case an exceedingly awkward and complicated one, and the consequence was, that he kept his bed for some months; during which time he was treated entirely Homœopathically, save one day that I had

him packed in wet sheets. In about six months from his attack, all traces of the Dropsy had disappeared, and since then he has enjoyed better health than he has done for some considerable time.

I may remark, that during the greater part of the time that this Gentleman kept his bed, a liberal quantity of wine and beer, was allowed him, and during his convalescence, he had a most vigorous appetite, although he never left his bed, day nor night, for months, unless to have it made. This astonished his friends and caused many to suppose, that he was "lazy," but it was no such thing, as the mystery consisted in this, that his appetite was not destroyed by swallowing *drugs*, as it is too often the case under Allopathy.

DROPSY OF THE CELLULAR TISSUE.

Feb, 20th. 1854.—Mrs.——, aged 53, has been of a very constipated habit of body all her life, but notwithstanding enjoys tolerable health. For some time she has had small festering places on her instep and heel, which discharged a clear fluid-like water; felt left leg and ankle stiff and painful, of late, and now perceives that it swells gradually. Upon inspection I found it quite œdematous and full of water, she said, "now Dr. don't decieve me as I am certain I am Dropsical." I said you certainly are, but I hope to cure you, if you will submit to proper regulations. She expressed cheerful compliance, and after having put her on a proper diet and regimen, I prescribed Mer. $\frac{r}{4}$ in Aquæ $\frac{3}{4}$ iv. Capt. Coch. maneque nocte and to have one glass of beer per diem.

24th.—Feels better. Cont. Mer. om. nocte.

27th.—No swelling in leg; festering places getting better, bowels opened this morning and urine very abundant, feels prickings and dartings about her like electricity. Habt. Pulv. Sac. om. nocte.

March 7th.—Had a severe pain in back to-day, in other respects doing well. Mer. om. nocte.

13th.—Has felt very poorly for last two-days, great pains in back, and leg swollen much. Pulv. Sac. om. nocte.

23rd.—Kept improving until to-day, when she walked out for the first time these many weeks, and drank tea with her daughter, came home, eat supper as usual, went to bed in ordinary health, but in ten minutes after she was seized with a

very severe paroxysm of shivering, so severe that it made the floor and windows of bedroom clatter. When I saw her—half-past twelve o'clock—she was very hot, shivering, breathing short and could only speak in a whisper, pulse 120, and very throbbing. She could not account for this coming on, *but I could*, and rejoiced to see it, as I believed it to be a crisis of her disease;—heaped blankets on her and gave her Tinct. Camph. gtt. ij. in Aquæ $\frac{3}{4}$ iv. Capt. Coch. om. 10. m. dum melior.

24th.—Went asleep after two doses of the medicine; was up this morning, after breakfast; “feels very queer and shaky.” No medicine, unless shivering came on.

27th.—Improving.

30th.—Was very sick after breakfast this morning, felt a sharp pain in region of heart, in other respects better. Habt. Ars. $\frac{2}{3}$ in Aquæ $\frac{3}{4}$ iv. Cap. Coch. maneque nocte.

April 4th.—Very much better, says “she is as well as ever she was,” neither pain nor swelling of leg.

RHEUMATISM AND SCIATICA.

March 7th.—Mr. B——, aged 27 years, has been poorly for some days. Three days since, felt acute pains in legs and arms, and in two days after, both knees, but particularly the right, began to swell and become very painful; the wrist and thumb of right hand were also swelled and painful. When I saw him he was suffering from all these together with severe pain in right hip and thigh, extending down to the knee. He could neither walk nor stand, and had had no sleep for the last three nights, owing to the severity of the pains. His skin was hot and dry, tongue coated, (white) urine high coloured, pulse 103, feels shiverings, followed by heats; took opening medicine yesterday, but found no relief; thirsty; no appetite and says “he has pains all over him,” never had Rheumatism before; can’t tell how he caught this.

Habt. Bryon, $\frac{1}{2}$ in Aquæ $\frac{3}{4}$ iv. ejus habt. Coch. mag. om. 4^{to} horas.

8th.—Had a comfortable night, slept well, was in a gentle perspiration all night, knees, arms and hip much better, can stand and walk to-day. Cont. Bry. om sex horas.

9th.—Much better. Cont. Bry. maneque nocte.

10th.—Continues to improve.

14th.—Not so well to-day, went into the shop yesterday and fears he caught a little cold, complains of a pain and stiffness, in pubes. Pulv. Sacch. maneque nocte.

15th.—Pain and stiffness, still continue. To have a hot sitz-bath, to-night, no medicine.

16th.—Pain and stiffness better; but complains of pains about him. North-east winds commenced to-day. Habt. Sulph., $\frac{3}{4}$ in Coch. Aquæ iv. Cap. unam. coch. p. r. n.

18th.—Cured.

CASE OF RHEUMATISM.

G. M——, Esq., aged 50, a gentleman from the country, sent for me to visit him at the George Hotel. He told me that he had a most acute attack of rheumatic fever about two months ago, from the effects of which he had not yet recovered, and though he had had the continual attendance of a Physician, he found himself getting worse every day, and now considered himself past cure. "But," said he, "I thought I would come and put myself under your care as a last resource."

I had attended this gentleman Allopathically, about twelve months previously. He was so much changed for the worse since I saw him, that I certainly should not have recognised him. His countenance had assumed a peculiar haggard appearance; cheeks sunken and flushed; malar bones projecting; eyes much blood-shot; anxious look; voice scarcely audible; tongue coated white; thirst; no appetite; cannot sleep at night; skin hard and hasky, with eruptions on several parts; bowels never moved without strong opening medicine; urine scanty and high coloured; can neither move his arms nor legs, nor get up from his chair without assistance, nor even turn his head round, he is such a martyr to rheumatism; reduced much in flesh; complains of severe pains all over him, but especially in the back, loins and epigastrium; pulse eighty, small and weak. I could not ascertain the medicine which he had used, as he had not the prescriptions with him; but he said that "he had swallowed gallons of medicine, and was completely tired of it." I was glad to hear him express himself thus, and I replied, "Well, sir, you will not have to take any nasty medicine from me, as I must candidly tell you, I have completely given up the old system of medicine and embraced Homœopathy." [Of this he was not aware when he sent for me.] Upon hearing this, his face brightened up, and he said, "I am glad to hear that, and though I

know little of Homœopathy, let me have anything rather than the old medicine." I rejoiced at this, as I had apprehended he would not allow me to treat him Homœopathically. I then ordered him a nutritive diet—his former medical attendant had been keeping him on milk and water—and prescribed for him *Sulph.* 30, two globules, *sumat. nocte.*

Following day, much better; had slept tolerably well during the night, and had a nice moisture on the skin; tongue rather cleaner, and Rheumatism easier.

Prescription.—Two drops of *Tincture of Sulphur* 3, in an ounce of water, a tea-spoonful night and morning.

Next day, still improving; bowels not opened; urine more abundant and clear; rheumatic pains nearly gone: can rise up from his chair without aid; walk about, go up stairs and undress, and get into bed himself, which he has not been able to do for the last six weeks; appetite much improved, and his mind now quite cheerful; feeling convinced that he is getting better.

Two days afterward, on going in to see him, I met him at the outer door of the hotel, looking quite cheerful, and able to walk well. The rheumatic pains were almost gone; the blood-shot appearance of his eye much better; the cutaneous eruptions disappearing; the bowels regular; appetite good; and, in fact, to use his own expression, "he was as well as ever he was." He continued to progress most favourably, taking a dose of *Sulphur* every night, and in a few days from the last report he was so much better, that his cure seemed to him something very astonishing.

CASE OF CONVULSIONS.

May 28th.—Master——, aged 4 years, has complained of pains in head for last two days, and his mother informed me that he had eaten scarcely anything for some days and appeared very heavy and stupid. Last night, when going to bed he was seized with a severe fit of convulsions which lasted for some time, and had repeated attacks during the night and all next day, scarcely ever free from them. When I saw him in the evening of the above day, he was in one, his face was scarlet, eyes rolled up, teeth firmly clenched, arms and legs stiff and contracted, head thrown back and pulse very high. I directly placed to his nose the *Belladonna Tincture-bottle*, and he had scarcely

taken more than two smells of it, until he appeared better, and soon rallied from the fit.

R Tinct. Bellad. Pot. 3. gtts. ij.

Aquæ, ʒij. M. Capt. Coch. Parv. om. hora, si parox. cont.

19th.—Had no fit, after I left, until three o'clock next morning and has had none since. Has eaten his breakfast heartily this morning and appears very well. Discontinue medicine.

21st.—Quite well, has only taken two doses of medicine since last report.

REMARKS.

The above case exhibits the superior adaptation of the Homœopathic system to that of Allopathy, in cases of convulsion, wherein the jaws are generally so firmly fixed that it is impossible to get any medicine down the throat, and the consequence is that Allopaths are obliged to either bleed their patients from the arm, or apply leeches to the head, or prescribe a warm bath, in order to check the fit. But a Homœopath requires to do nothing of the sort, as owing to the highly potentised nature of his medicine, he is able to make its effects tell upon the disease, by the patient merely *smelling* the medicine, as in the above case.

I am perfectly aware that this statement may cause a smile on the countenance of those *materialists*, who cannot believe such things possible, but before they set me down as a *fool*, I request them to call, and I will give them the address of the mother of the above child, who I am sure, will at once, vouch for the authenticity of my statement. And if this will not suffice, I will give them many other references to Ladies and Gentlemen, whom I have relieved in cases of Spasms, &c. by merely *smelling* the medicine. Can I offer more?

I make these propositions, because I am exceedingly anxious, not to leave the opponents of Homœopathy a single flaw, in the case, upon which to ground an indictment, and also to give those noble minds who are anxiously groping after *truth*, or anything likely to be beneficial to mankind, an opportunity of thoroughly investigating the subject.

ALIENATION OF THE MIND.

March 8th. 1852.—Jane H——, aged 26, has been ill for the last two years, during which time she has been continually under Allopathic treatment, and now given up and was

just going to be sent to an *Asylum*, when her friend consulted me about her case. Her present condition was brought on by unhappy love, she keeps continually brooding over her misfortune, spirits low and desponding, loves quietude, is of a religious mood, totally despairs of salvation, thinks the devil will have her; no inclination to go out or see anybody; thinks everybody knows her and knows her feelings, no inclination for work, has horrid dreams at night and starts up in a fright. says she is mad, eyes look stupid and heavy and her countenance quite melancholy; laughs at times, and then again will cry greater part of the day and can't tell why, hates her friends and won't see them, believes some one is pursuing her to destroy her, together with a thousand other strange fancies which I need not here relate. Her digestive, nervous and generative systems were very much deranged, and to these I first directed my attention and prescribed Nux Vomica $\frac{1}{2}$ in Chart. v. *cujus habet. unam maneque nocte.*

This case was under my care for exactly two months, and therefore to give the full particulars, would require almost a dozen pages of this work, which I cannot afford;—suffice it to say, that on the 8th. of May, exactly two months after I first saw her, she went out to service, quite recovered, and is still in the enjoyment of good health, a fact which speaks volumes for Homœopathy in mental diseases.

Indeed the influence which Homœopathic medicine has over the moral feelings is immense, and we know that it must of necessity exercise considerable power over the physical, as it is a physical impossibility to effect the one without also influencing the other:—witness the present case, wherein the *mental impression* produced by *blighted affections*, deranged the whole physical and psychical system.

Now the adaptation according to the law, “likes are cured by likes,” of Nux Vomica to the moral or mental symptoms exhibited in the above case will be evident, when I state that among many other effects which this medicine produces on the mind when taken by persons in health; are, “hypochondriacal, peevish, nervous, thoughtful and sorrowful humour, sometimes with inclination to weep, melancholy with great uneasiness respecting the health—desire for solitude, with repugnance to conversation; dislike to and unfitness for bodily and mental labour, frightful visions &c.”—in fact the symptoms produced by Nux, are a complete portraiture of both the mental and physical, in the above case, save, the “dispair of salvation, and the idea that

the devil would have her." But after having got her general system into a more healthy state, I was soon enabled to combat these also, as I found their antidote in Aurum, Pulsatilla and Carb. Baryta and Calcareo. Carb.

I have made these remarks to show the manner in which we treat disease, and to let Allopaths and the public see that we have a Polar Star to guide our cause, and to direct us to administer medicine on scientific principles, and I now challenge the whole College of Physicians and Surgeons, to show me a similar case treated Allopathically, in which they can give as rational reasons for selecting the medicines in the case, as I have done, and until they do this, I will write up on their College portals "*mene, mene tekel upharsin*," "thou art weighed in the balance and found wanting."

The above is no exceptional case, as in all and every complaint, we proceed in our treatment, on a precisely similar plan.

HOMOEOPATHIC TREATMENT *versus* ALLOPATHIC.

Some things *gain* by *comparison*, others lose. The following will speak for itself, and ought to convey a useful lesson to sceptics.

In the *Medical Times*, (edited by that champion of Allopathic treatment, of which the following is a specimen—Dr. Bushnan) 11th September, 1852, at page 262, the following case is reported:—

"There is at present under the care of Mr. Lloyd, an old man, by trade a carpenter, in whom, while in perfect health, the bursa in front of the left patella suddenly became enlarged. It was unattended by pain, but as it interfered with his occupation, by preventing him from kneeling, he at once applied for surgical advice. The gentleman whom he consulted passed through the tumour a single thin ligature thread, and allowed him to walk home. The Inflammatory process commenced almost immediately, and the rest of the day and the following day were passed in what he described as the most intense suffering. The next morning he applied for admission into the Hospital, the seton was at once withdrawn, and the *large abscess which it had occasioned was laid open*.* During the following week he progressed satisfactorily, when all at once *another attack of inflammation* took place, the *thigh and leg became much*

* The italics are mine, as I deem such legitimate practice worthy the attention of Allopaths.

swollen, and a large collection of matter was formed around the whole front aspect of the joint, which was attended with great local pain, and very serious constitutional disturbances. The second abscess has also been opened; the swelling is now much subsided and he appears likely to recover favourably, after having been, however, for some days placed in a critical position."

So much, then, for *legitimate* practice; now for a bit of rational practice, just for sake of contrast.

"Mrs. G——, aged 50, applied to me on the 8th ult., on account of a bursa, which had formed over the inferior portion of the left patella. It gave her no pain, and only attracted her attention by its size, which was about that of a walnut. I prescribed *Puls.* and *Calc. c.*, an eight days' course of each, intermitting a few days between them. In three weeks the bursa was completely gone."

Let the public "look upon this picture and then upon that." The seton practice of the Allopath had nearly finished the poor carpenter, and there is a great probability that the poor man will be dismissed the hospital "the shadow of his former self," with an ankylosed or stiff knee; rendered incapable of ever again using it.

Had a Homœopathist made such a mess of his patient's knee as these legalized Allopaths did, the immaculate *Lancet*—though stained with blood—would have sung out for an action for damages. But whatever cruelties their blood-stained proceedings may effect, and whatever dead they may lay prostrate, such are quietly chronicled as every-day occurrences. But only let an unfortunate Homœopathist act thus, and they thunder in his ears the terrors of "Mala Praxis," and even when he cures his patients by *gentle and rational* means, they call him Quack, and shout humbuggery. Which of the two, think you, gentle reader, is the greater Quack? The man with the seton-needle, making an opening in his patient's knee, causing inflammation and abscesses, which have to be opened by the lancet of the hospital surgeon, and thus placing the life of his patient in imminent peril—"a *critical position*," truly—or the Homœopathist, with no other instrument but the tiny though potent medicinal globule, curing his patient in a prompt and gentle manner?

I published this case in the *Homœopathic Times*, two years ago, and with it, the narration of cases must cease for the present.

Give me proof that they appreciate the *dose* of such I have given them, I promise them one of the second Edition, which I guarantee will not *asleep*, but keep them perfectly *vigilant*, wondering themselves, how doctors, &c. can discard from their *Materia Medica*, such an excellent curative medicine.

I am aware that by attacking the errors of Allopathy, as I have done, I have trodden on delicate ground, and will most certainly bring about my ears a swarm of enraged Allopaths, as human nature cannot brook the idea of having cherished precepts and principles exposed.

HAD COPERNICUS, NEWTON, LUTHER, HAHNEMANN, &c. contented themselves with *propagating their own ideas*, without attacking the errors of the Ptolemaic system, of Rome, of Allopathy, they would not have received the abuse which they did; but then the reformation in astronomy, religion and medicine, would have dragged a slow and tardy course. But attacking these errors as they did, nobly, manfully, philosophically and scripturally, they disturbed the venerable serenity of their abettors, and made them buckle on their armour of defence, with what result, let scientific, ecclesiastical and medical history testify.

Now, I have no doubt, but that this little work will cause a deal of agitation in the Allopathic *corps*, and, perhaps, stimulate them to hold councils of medical warfare, *as they did of late, to totally exterminate* its Author and Homœopathy from Cheltenham, but if its Author has truth on his side, which he believes he has, he need not fear all their heavy artillery, as *truth* is great and will prevail, in spite of all their opposition, and its abettor live in defiance of all their persecution.

At the same time, I must confess, I do not relish receiving the "cold shoulder" of my medical brethren; I would much rather receive, as in my Allopathic days, their cheerful greetings and smiles, but if this cannot be obtained, unless by the sacrifice of *truth* and *conviction*, I am content to be scouted by them and called "Quack" if they choose, for rational medicine's sake.

I do not court discussion for discussion's sake, or because I love it, no! I court it for *truth's* sake and that only.

With these observations, I now bid my readers good-bye, promising them, when I again enlist their attention, I shall have some new facts to place before them, and many more *hard nuts*, in the shape of "Cases," for Allopaths to crack.

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ERRATA.

- Page 20, line 28, *for* two says often, *read*, two often says.
55, line 27, *for* Plura *read* Pleuræ.
56, line 31, *for* Mucurious, *read* Mercurius.
95, line 30, *for* Intricate, *read*, Inveterate.
103, line 7, *for*, cause, *read*, course.

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